



Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

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Brenda Nyhus, Principal

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL 04-14-2022

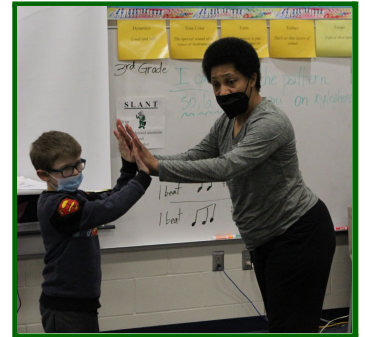


Dear Parents,

We have completed the first week of MCA testing (Reading) with our third and fourth grade students. They will be completing the Math portion of the test next week and the week after. I am so proud of how hard our students worked on their tests and how respectful and quiet they were in the hallways.

A few of our grade levels have begun or will begin their work with an artist in residence. The Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School staff partner annually with many local artists who provide experiences for students at REAMS in the areas of dance, drama, music, visual arts, and diversity

during the school year. The valued partnerships give students the opportunity to work with many of the artists for two or more sessions. The teachers have become masters at connecting the work that the students have with the artists to the core curriculum to enhance the learning.



Over the years, our students have had such a wonderful respect for these artists and what they learn from them. They definitely make connections on a deeper level of learning with these incredibly talented individuals. The goal is to ensure that each child has the opportunity to expand their learning in a fun and creative way at REAMS. Ask your child about their experience as they participate with these visiting artists!

Spring is such a special time for students to share their skills and talents in a variety of ways. We have many special events happening at REAMS in the next few weeks. Students will be involved in field trips, classroom presentations, Grandparents Day, Track and Field Day and Arts and Academics performances in the coming weeks. Please watch the calendar for these upcoming events. We invite you to be a part of these special events with your child. Thank you so much for all of the wonderful ways that you collaborate with staff and are involved with your child at school.



Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal

Put it on your calendar

April 15

No school - school offices are closed

April 18-22

April 18 and 20

April 21

April 25-29

April 27-28

MCA Math test for 3rd and 4th grade - make sure children are well rested and well fed.

1st grade Artist in Residence

Author Mary Casanova visits REAMS

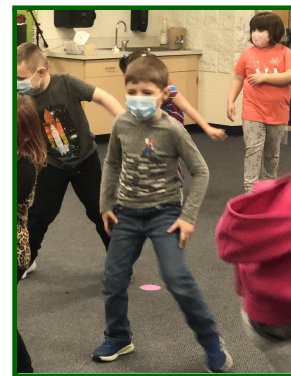
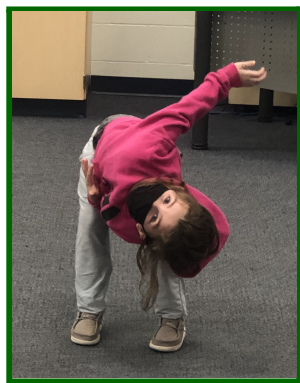
Minnesota Obstacle Course - Phy Ed

2nd grade Artist in Residence

Peek at the Week

Kindergarteners and plants have a lot in common

Dance artist Roxane Wallace worked with kindergarten students this past week using B.A.S.T.E concepts (body, action, space, time, and energy) to engage with creative movement activities. Students explored and created still shapes, movements, and locomotor movements to reinforce what they were learning about the different stages of the life cycle of a plant. Students pretended to be seeds, to spread their roots down and their stems up as they reached for the sun, and they were pollinating birds, bees and butterflies. The movement activity helped expand and reinforce student's plant learning from the classrooms. Students were allowed to use their creative minds by bending, twisting, and shaking different parts of their bodies, and even experimented with low, medium, and high positions. There were lots of smiles and a whole lot of learning!

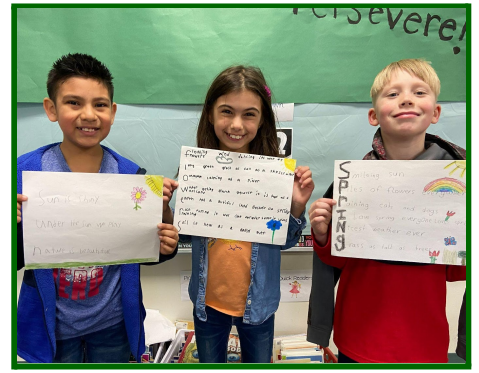


About Roxane Wallace

Roxane Wallace is active in the arts as a performer, teacher, dancer, and choreographer. Originally from California, she holds a BA in Philosophy from the University of California at Berkeley. Constantly engaged in her field, she has worked with choreographers and directors of both regional and international acclaim earning her the "Best Dancer" title in the 2004 City Pages "Best of the Twin Cities", a 2007 MN Sage Award for Outstanding Performer, and the honor of being named a McKnight Artist Fellow in Dance. Mrs. Wallace was seen nationally and internationally as a principal artist with Stuart Pimsler Dance and Theater Company for 15 years. Currently, Roxane is a company member of Time Track Productions, a teaching artist for the Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts and the VocalEssence WITNESS program and is an instructor at Zenon Dance Studio and School.

Warmers days ahead in third grade

Despite our recent bout of poor weather, students in Ms. Matheson's class have been dreaming of warm, spring days. Third graders have been learning about types of figurative language including things idioms, similes, metaphors, and more. They were challenged to put this knowledge to the test by writing a spring themed acrostic poem. These poems were the perfect practice for the young poets.



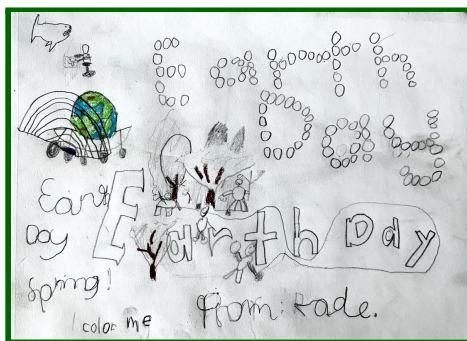
First grade Spotlight Concert was a crowd pleaser

On Tuesday, April 12, First Grade students performed their spotlight music concert. They brought in the true spirit of spring by singing songs about the earth, colors, nature, trees and kindness. Great job First graders. Thank you to all the families for supporting your children through the arts and in everything they do.



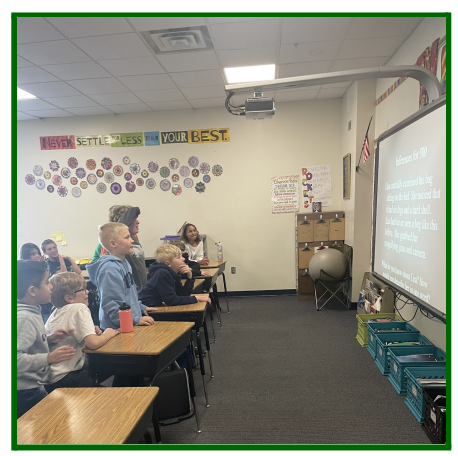
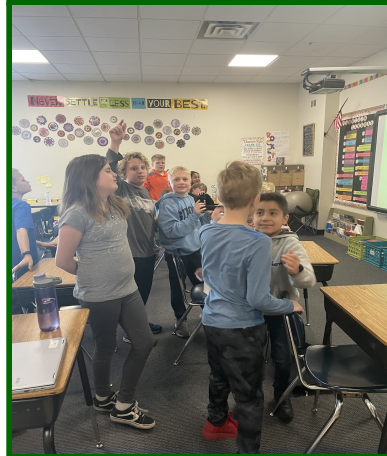
First grade express ideas through illustrations

First grade Visual Arts students communicate their ideas about Earth Day, trees blooming, spring weather, and spring animals through multi-media illustrations.



Fourth graders meet the challenge

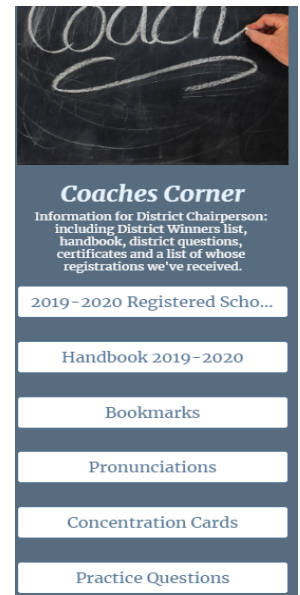
This week, Ms. Lemke's students were engaged in a Jeopardy game to help them prepare for their reading MCAs on Tuesday and Wednesday. The MCA jeopardy had six categories on topics such as story elements, main idea, figurative language, cause and effect, context clues/ inferences, and nonfiction story structure. Each category had five questions that range in point value from 100-500 which also related to difficulty. One hundred point questions were easier than 500 point questions. The students were split up into two teams and got to pick which questions they wanted to answer based on point value. If one team got the question wrong, the other team had the opportunity to steal if they answered it correctly. The team with the highest number of points won!



Battle of the Books practice questions available

Attention third and fourth grade Battle of the Books participants!

The Battle of the Books is May 4! If you would like to test your book knowledge, visit AKASL Battle of the Books for access to practice questions. Scroll down to the Coaches Corner to find Practice Questions. Download the "3/4Practice" questions using password Patience#2022 writing process: dealing with writer's block, drawing on personal experience, using the five senses; show, don't tell, and the use of conflict.



Other Opportunities

Free weekend food program

Not an ISD883 sponsored event

Every Meal is a nonprofit organization with a mission to fight child hunger through our community and school partnerships. Every Meal strives to make a difference in the lives of children by focusing specifically on food gaps- the times when children aren't at school to access meal programs. Every Meal supports families with programming over the weekends, summers, and extended school breaks. Providing children with wholesome food is the focus of Every Meal.



Every Meal is free for all families!

- No qualifications required for enrollment
- Every Meal does not collect information from families; privacy is protected
- Families may enroll in the program at any time throughout the school year
- School staff discreetly deliver the food bags to students weekly

For more information or if you want to sign up to receive a free bag of food every week, please contact your child's school counselor!

Become a Girl Scout

Not an ISD883 sponsored event

Friendship, adventure, and making a difference—it all starts here.

Whether they're sleeping under the stars, creating the most colorful work of art, or teaming up with their new friends to build a robot, Girl Scouts grow into their strongest, kindest, most resilient selves. Watch your child make a difference in the world—and in themselves.

Join Girl Scouts today at GirlScoutsRV.org/Join!

Join now for a discounted rate and a free welcome gift! For just \$35, your child will receive:

- Discounted Extended Year Membership, valid April 2022 through September 2023 (\$50 value). Offer valid April 1, 2022 through July 31, 2022. Financial assistance is available.
- Exclusive access to a virtual national Girl Scout event on May 19. Registration closes May 13.
- A welcome kit that includes a Girl Scout memory book and your child's first patch! While supplies last.

New troop leaders (and their accompanying Girl Scout) can join for FREE! Explore troops in your community and register at GirlScoutsRV.org/Join or scan the QR code on a mobile device to learn more. All girls in Kindergarten through grade 12 (Fall 2022) can join Girl Scouts.