



# Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

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Brenda Nyhus, Principal

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL 04-08-2022



Dear Parents,

Next week, students in grades 3 and 4 will begin taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) in Reading and Mathematics. The MCAs are state tests that are given to measure student performance against the Minnesota Academic Standards that specify what a student should know and/or be able to do at a particular grade level. Your child's teacher will be communicating the dates and times of testing. Please make sure your child has a good night's sleep before the test, they eat a good breakfast, and you encourage them to take their time and do their best on the test. We appreciate all of your support in helping your child "Rock the Test"!

Our kindergarten students will be spending time with Artist in Residence, Roxane Wallace, next week. All of our students have an experience with a performing artist at each grade level. The artists are from the greater twin cities area and bring their expertise into this experience and tie it back to the learning that the students are doing in their classroom. We are very excited to give the kindergarten students their first Artist in Residence experience!

Have a fantastic weekend and cross your fingers for sunshine and warmer temperatures!

Warmly,  
Brenda Nyhus  
Principal

## Put it on your calendar

<b>April 11-14</b>	MCA Reading test for 3rd and 4th grade - make sure children are well rested and well fed.
<b>April 11, 13 and 14</b>	Kindergarten Artist in Residence
<b>April 12</b>	1st grade Spotlight Concert, High School Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.
<b>April 15</b>	<b>No school - school offices are closed</b>
<b>April 18-22</b>	MCA Math test for 3rd and 4th grade - make sure children are well rested and well fed.
<b>April 18 and 20</b>	1st grade Artist in Residence
<b>April 21</b>	Author Mary Casanova visits REAMS
<b>April 25-29</b>	Minnesota Obstacle Course - Phy ed
<b>April 27-28</b>	2nd grade Artist in Residence

## Peek at the Week

### Second grade book bracket

In March, the second graders participated in a Book Bracket! Each day second grade students read two books that were competing against each other. Each class would vote and the winner would move on. Right before spring break the winner was revealed! The winner was Maddie's Fridge! We enjoyed reading so many fun stories!



### Keeping time in first grade

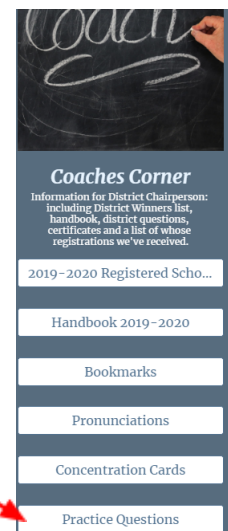
Students in First Grade are starting their time unit in math. All classrooms are using analog clocks and digital clocks to learn how to tell time to the hour and half hour. To practice, the First Graders use Clocks to move the hour and minute hand to practice and work with partners during their math class. Games are also a great way to practice telling time!



### B.O.B practice questions available

*Attention third and fourth grade Battle of the Books participants!*

The Battle of the Books is on 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.

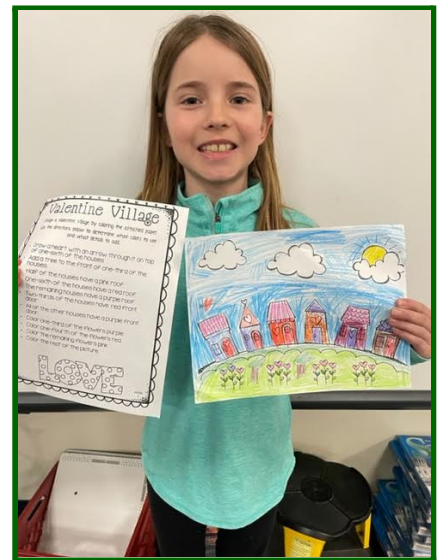
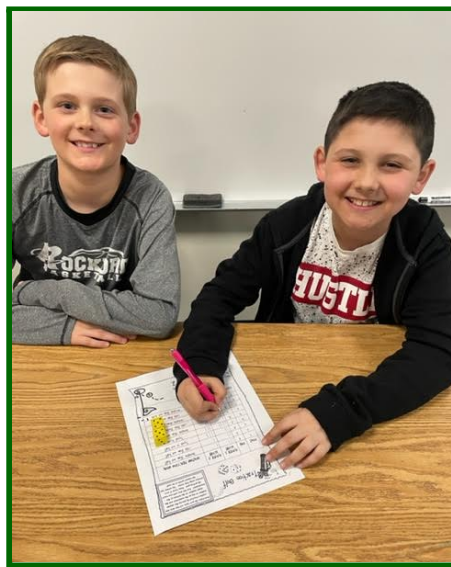


## Fourth graders meet the challenge

Students in Mrs. Miller's math class got to choose two culminating activities after finishing their fractions unit. The picture below with the squares may look kind of like a collage or just a 'shape picture', but it is actually much more! Students had to keep track of their squares (parts of the whole) and many students challenged themselves by cutting the squares into smaller pieces that had to be calculated into their total. The writing on the page is reflecting each colors' fractional part of the total picture.

Another option was the Heart Houses where students had to follow a set of directions telling what color to use on a fraction of the houses, drawing trees or flowers on a fraction of the yards, etc. If done correctly, all of the pictures should look the same. A third option was to play the game of Fraction Golf. Rolling dice and keeping tallies on how many "shots" it took to match a fraction for each "hole". I had to remind several students that in golf, the lowest score wins!!

There will be one more fun challenge for these kids to try before we get serious about MCA testing.....students will have to take fractions of words to spell out clues to find a special treat!



## Other Opportunities

### 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](https://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](https://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.