



Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

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Brenda Nyhus, Principal
Michael Rask, Counselor

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL 10-08-2021



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had a wonderful week at REAMS. Our kindergarten students were able to take the first field trip in over a year and students are outside reaping the benefits of the warm weather we have had. However, we all know, sooner or later, the outside temperatures will start to fall.

As the weather turns colder, and the cold and flu season descends upon us (in addition to COVID), we are all working together to help kids stay healthy so they can be at school and feel their best.

Here are a few things that kids can do to stay physically and mentally healthy

- Wash Hands-regular hand-washing dramatically reduces the passing of germs.
- Be Active **Every Day** -regular to moderate exercise can reduce the number of cold and flu episodes that occur over the course of a year.
- Put away the video games and head outside!
- Get Plenty of Sleep - well rested kids are healthier kids and better learners.
- Eating healthy-good nutrition helps fight off germs.
- Keep Warm - be sure kids are dressed for the weather.
- Remember to send a sweatshirt or jacket for recess and the bus ride (if your child comes home without their sweatshirt have them look through the lost and found items).

Have a happy weekend and enjoy the beautiful fall colors!!

Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal, REAMS



A Peek at the Week

REAMS students send kind messages

On Monday, Oct 4, students at REAMS did their part to spread joy and kick off National Bullying Awareness Month (October) by “chalking” cement spaces around the elementary school. Armed with pieces of chalk, students decorated the sidewalks with messages celebrating kindness, love, Rocket Pride and acceptance.

“The relationships we build in school can have lasting, lifetime implications for better or for worse,” said Michael Rask, new counselor at REAMS and organizer of the Kindness in Chalk initiative. “Sometimes all someone needs to hear or see are kind, positive words to remind them that they are cared for and they have a village of people here to support them. At an elementary level, an event like Kindness in Chalk enhances positivity and helps kids feel good about themselves and gives them a greater sense of belonging.”



Fire Safety Week - Kindergarten

This week Kindergartners had an introduction to Fire Safety this week. Fire Safety is an important topic for children to learn and understand. We practiced "STOP! DROP and ROLL!", we went on a scavenger hunt for fire safety tools around our school, and On Wednesday, we had a fun field trip visit to the Rockford Fire Department! As of this week, we have learned three letters and sounds and also introduced our first three sight words! We are busy building a strong foundation of reading skills for our young learners!



Positive expectations - First grade

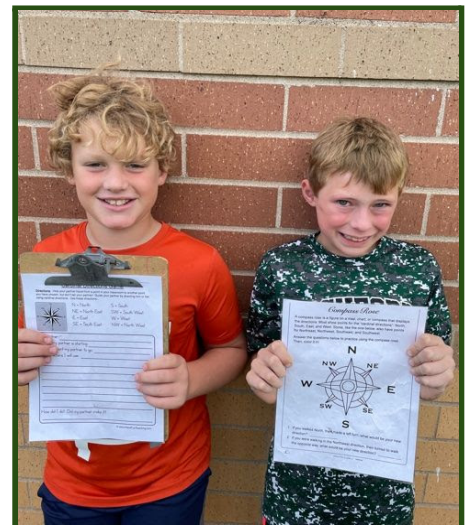
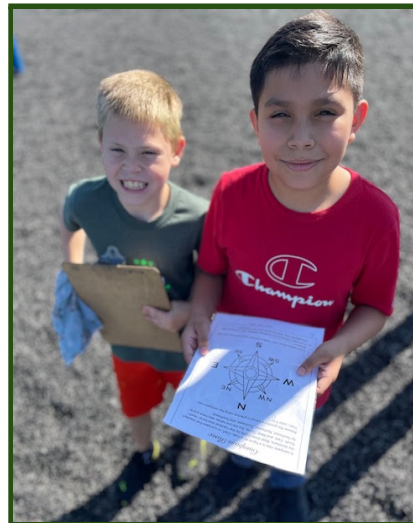
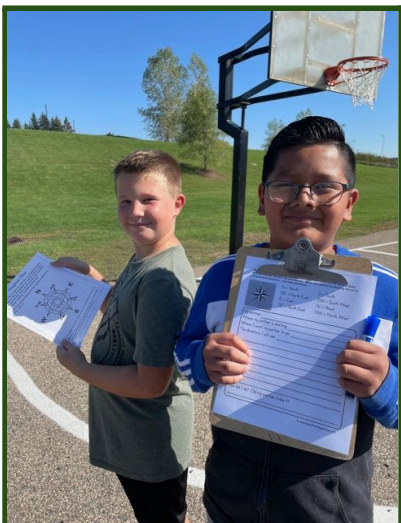
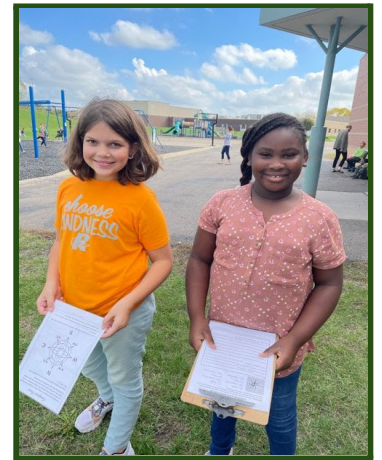
First graders have been working hard at getting back into the routines of school. We took the first couple weeks to carefully teach and model class rules and routines. We take time at the beginning of the year to do this because then the students know what is expected of them and they know how to do certain things on their own. Having this predictability allows teachers to spend more time in meaningful instruction. We also work hard during those first weeks to establish a positive learning community in our classrooms. We do this by learning one another's names, discussing ways to show you care about each other, and discussing problem solving strategies.



What's My Destination? Fourth grade

Fourth grade Social Studies students are faced with several Map and Globe standards and they were able to get into the great outdoors (with the beautiful weather) to practice using a compass rose. Students worked with a partner and had to follow verbal directions to get to a predetermined location. One partner held a paper copy of a compass rose, and the other had to guide their partner using cardinal directions (north, south, east, west) and intermediate directions (NW, NE, SW, SE).

"This was actually harder than using a real compass!" said one 4th grade student who has some experience with navigating. When using a real compass, it's easy to find true directions. But when it's a paper copy, the holder of the compass needs to be sure to always hold the compass pointing due north and then they have to look at where the other directions are in relation to due north. Many students were surprised at where the true north actually is...when asked, most students either pointed up to the sky or pointed toward Buffalo! Not anymore!



RTR Superstars shine bright

The Respect, Trust and Responsibility (RTR) Superstar program promotes a culture of being kind to others, being accountable, honoring uniqueness and always doing the right thing at REAMS. Throughout the week, students who show exemplary acts or behaviors of respect, trust and responsibility are recognized as RTR Superstars and receive a special Star Student token from the school principal.

Kindergarten	Collin Pollock and Chloe Stewart
First grade	Mila Bidne and Adriana Rocha
Second grade	Porter Lewis and Brynn Young
Third grade	Ethan Dallin and Brady Freed
Fourth grade	Bridger Campbell and Dominik Karpitski



Picking up your child at the end of the day? Please use the drive through lane

If you are picking up your child at the end of the day (dismissal), please stay in your vehicle and use the drive through lane to pick up your child. Because of the age of preschoolers, parents of preschool children must meet/drop off their child at the preschool doors.

We are asking parents of K-4 students to use the drive through lane rather than parking the vehicle and waiting for your child in the parking lot median. Allowing children to cross the parking lot to meet their parents in the median creates an unsafe environment for everyone. Parents of K-4 students, please use the drive through pick-up lane at the end of the day. Thank you.

Please do not bring personal play equipment to school sporting events

Student-owned basketballs, footballs, etc. brought from home to school sporting events are not allowed. These items will be confiscated at the venue and may be picked up at the concession stand after the event has ended.

Other Opportunities

Rockford Prom Volleyball T-Shirt Quilt Raffle

(Not an ISD 883 Sponsored Event)

Tickets

\$5

Available at home volleyball games through Oct 14.

Winner

Need not be present to win.

Will be announced during the varsity home game on Oct. 14.

