



# Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

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Brenda Nyhus, Principal

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL 03 - 11 - 2022



Dear Parents,

We appreciate everyone who has taken the time this week to connect with teachers during our spring Parent Teacher Conferences. Thank you so much for collaborating with us, in whatever fashion works, so we can best support your children. They are the reason we are here and your partnership is appreciated!

Our counselors have been starting each day on the morning announcements with "Mindful Moments." They have been giving our students a couple of minutes to learn and practice different calming techniques through deep breathing. It is a wonderful way to start each day and they are giving your kids tools that they

can use in stressful situations for the rest of their lives! Ask them about their belly breathing and hot air balloon breathing techniques!

Have a great weekend, enjoy the beautiful spring weather ahead, and don't forget to turn your clocks ahead an hour for daylight savings this weekend. YEA to another hour of daylight in the evening!

Warmly,  
Brenda Nyhus  
Principal



## Kindergarten Field Trip

Mn Children's Museum



## Put it on your calendar

**March 13** Daylight Saving Time begins - turn clocks forward  
**March 22** 4th grade Spotlight Concert, 6:30 p.m. High School Auditorium  
**March 28 - April 1** Spring Break



## Peek at the Week

### RTR students 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:** Kora Lyrek, Colton Haase, and Harper Darula

**First grade:** Conley Freed, Bianca Mattila, and Anna Maggert

**Second grade:** Kyler Vogel, Griffin Dixon and Amelia Mitchell

**Third grade:** Willa Morgan, Elias Hammer, Henry Modrow and James Schindler

**Fourth grade:** Hidaya Haji, Emma Langerud, Max Freeland and Estelle Bergs



### Kindergartners SHOW Their brain power

Conferences are this week, and the kindergartners are showing off everything that they have learned so far. They have come such a long way from the first conferences back in the fall. They have learned all their letter sounds, plus all the digraphs! (Sh, Ph, Ch, Wh, and Th). They are using their knowledge to read words that back in September they never thought they would be able to read!

We also went on a Field Trip! We went to the children's museum and did so much exploring. The kindergartners got to play pretend in a kid-sized city, they got to explore a jungle gym, visit Thomas the Tank Engine, and so much more! They had an amazing time, and we are so thankful that we were able to give them this experience.



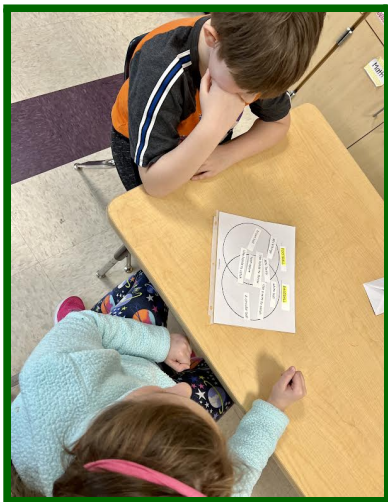
## Students learn about musical form

Students in third grade music have been learning all about musical form. Musical form is labeled using letters and creates the patterns that most music follows. Students have been able to get up out of their seats and move in different patterns to represent musical form. Third graders are having a ton of fun learning about musical form visually, audially (through sound), and kinesthetically (through movement)!



## Comparing and contrasting in second grade

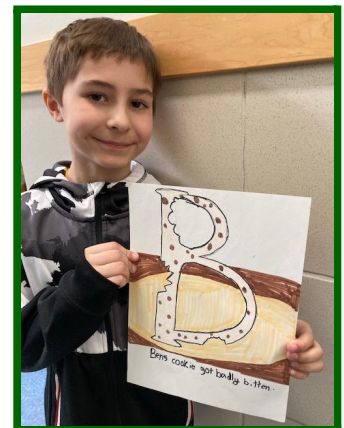
Students in second grade learned all about comparing and contrasting this week in literacy. Venn Diagrams can be used to demonstrate comparing and contrasting. They had an "indoor snowball fight" and worked to fill in Venn Diagrams to reflect the similarities and differences between different things from M&M's and Skittles, to apples and bananas, to story characters.



## Figuratively speaking, third grade is fun

Third graders are using all kinds of fun, new language! We are learning about figurative language this week. Figurative language includes similes, metaphors, alliteration, onomatopoeia, and idioms. One project for alliteration was to read the book *The Z was Zapped* by Chris Van Allsburg, and then students drew their own alphabet letter and wrote an alliteration about it (see pictures).

**NOTE:** The winner of the traveling trophy this week for Read to the Final Four is Ms. Matheson's class!! Way to go!!





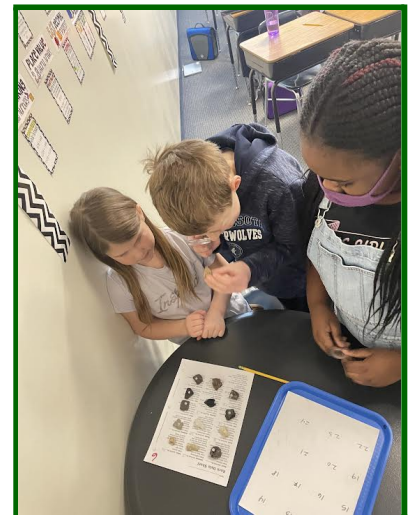
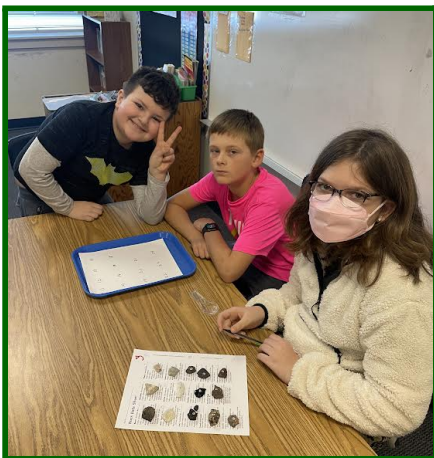
## First graders and bossy r vowels

First grade students have been working on reading and writing words with r-controlled vowels. An r-controlled vowel is any vowel followed by an r. The r changes the sound that vowel makes (which is why we sometimes refer to them as bossy r vowels). The er, ir, and ur all make the same sound /er/ as in her, bird or fur. We have done a variety of activities to become familiar with this vowel pattern and to have practice reading and writing it. One fun activity we did was to create treasure maps using ar words, we call it the “pirate sound”. Students then wrote directions to get to their treasure using ar words. We will continue to work on recognizing these words in our reading and writing.



## Fourth grade is as hard as rocks

Rocks and Minerals is the current science unit in 4th grade. Students have been exploring various properties of rocks and minerals. Also, students discussed the difference between a mineral and a rock. Students will be conducting three tests on the mineral samples; luster, hardness, and streak. Students will then use that knowledge to identify the three types of rocks: Sedimentary, Igneous and Metamorphic from our kits. If you are traveling out of state and notice different or unique rocks in an area, see if they can identify them!



## Other Opportunities

### RAAA youth fastpitch softball

*Not an ISD 883 Sponsored Event*

Registration for the 2022 summer RAAA youth fastpitch softball season is now open at

<https://www.raasports.com/summer-registration>

#### Registration Deadlines

- 6U and 8U House registration closes on March 31
- All late registrations will incur a late fee added to their registration.

### 2022 RAAA Baseball Registration starts soon

*Not an ISD 883 Sponsored Event*



THE 2022 RAAA BASEBALL SEASON IS ALMOST HERE

8-14 YEAR-OLDS = REGISTRATION IS JAN 31 - MARCH 1  
5-7 YEAR-OLDS = REGISTRATION IS FEB 28 - APRIL 4

REGISTER NOW:  
[HTTPS://WWW.RAASPORTS.COM/RAAA-BASEBALL](https://www.raasports.com/raaa-baseball)

*Please contact us at [raabaseball@raasports.com](mailto:raabaseball@raasports.com) if you have questions.*

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