



Family Newsletter



RPA Students Top ALL Other Rockwood Schools on 20 18-19 State Tests!



The 2018-19 Oregon State School Report Cards were recently released and showed the RPA students far-outperformed peers attending other schools serving Rockwood! In addition to posting twice the percentage of students reaching state standards in English Language Arts and Math, RPA is the only school serving Rockwood that earned a “HIGH” rating relative to student progress! We are so proud of our entire RPA community and especially of our students! We are especially excited that we are on track for another amazing year in 2019-20!

Parents: RPA is a bright light in Rockwood and we want to make sure all parents of elementary-age students are aware that there is a FREE School of Choice and that their children can attend! Please share this important information with friends who have school age children. We still need to recruit about thirty students to support the annual budget. As per established policy, RPA will only accept new students until mid-January. **SPREAD THE WORD!**

NEW FOOD PROGRAM BIG HIT”

Last year “Food quality” was identified by families as the most pressing area for improvement. We listened! Thanks to a partnership with Reynolds Food Services Department RPA meals are now prepared on site and include nutritious “options” for students.

IMPORTANT: We are trying to get 100% free meals for our students. If you have not completed an application for the Free & Reduced Meal program RPA strongly encourages ALL families to apply and take advantage of this great program. **IT’S SO EASY!** Applications are available in the RPA Front Office OR can be downloaded from the school’s website (www.rockwoodprep.org)

A Note from PTO

If you would like to help out with fundraisers or other volunteer opportunities contact the PTO.

pto@rockwoodprep.org

We look forward to seeing you at the Meeting on
Dec. 12th @ 3:30pm

POSSIP

Responses Show overwhelming Parent Satisfaction!

On behalf of Mrs. McCollum and Mrs. Barnard I will like to thanks RPA parents for the great feedback we are getting from parents on the weekly Possip reports.

POSSIP lets you (parents/guardians) share feedback every week through text or email. You can choose to share your name – or you can share anonymously. You can also let us know if you want follow up.

We are currently getting around fifty weekly responses. This is a slight increase over past years but we still would love to see more families participating.

If you are not getting weekly text or e-mail prompts, please contact the main office and provide your current information (mramos@rockwoodprep.org).



Dec 11th - NO SCHOOL
Dec 12th - 3:30 PTO Meeting
Dec. 16th-20th Penguin Patch!
Dec- 23 to Jan 3rd – WINTER BREAK

FROM THE TEACHERS



We are excited to start second quarter and move on to more challenging activities. In November we are starting to track reading fluency. We begin spelling this and in math we are working on story problems and subtraction. Please make sure to send your student with weather appropriate clothing and coats for outside. We are also accepting snack donations. The Kinder Team



1st grade is working hard and having lots of fun! In math, we're learning number families and building equations using them! Be sure to practice counting backward by ones, tens, and hundreds. In spelling we're working on the spelling words with the "ing" ending and silent "e" ending. Please be sure your kiddos are wearing warm clothes with this chilly weather! Keep practicing your reading at home. Warmly, Ms. Schubert and Ms. Cortez



2nd grade has been having so much fun! In spelling we're working on the "ough" ending as well as when to use a "c" or "k"! In math, we're gearing up for start and end number family problems which will be following the kids for many future grades! In language we're reading about Mrs. Hudson and Zelda who are always getting in sticky situations because Mrs. Hudson doesn't write clearly. Please remind your child to bring warm clothes (with names on the tags) now that the weathers getting chilly! Also, a reminder that homework will always go home on Mondays and be due back at the end of the week. We're excited for our first movie night this Friday! Sincerely, Ms. Tate and Ms. Bond



Third grade is moving right along! In language we are adding more part of speech, and learning to use different sentence types! Math keeps us on our toes with traditional fractions, and fractions on a number line, as well as telling the difference between start and end problems and problems that compare two things. We are finishing up reading about adventures on an island with dinosaurs and moving onto Leonard, who wants to invent the next big thing! We are looking forward to a great second quarter!

Ms. Lybarger and Miss Crickett



It has been a productive quarter with your kiddos and we are very proud of them. Thank you for attending conferences. It was so insightful and gave us a better understanding of what your child needs in order to be successful in the classroom. In reading, students finished the *Wizard of Oz* and have started *The Ugly Duckling*. Vocabulary is becoming more difficult, so please look for homework that will assist your child in this area. In math, students are working on start and end problems, long division, triple digit subtraction problems and triple digit multiplication problems. Division has been the most difficult, so any extra work at home would be appreciated. Science is getting exciting, as we are teaching students about engineering and constructing towers. It is STEM based and is very hands on.

. If you would like to volunteer in the classroom, please get those background checks turned in. We could always use help with copying, organizing, bulletin boards, etc. Thank you for all that you do!

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Nickelby and Mr. Morgan



Hi all!!! 5th grade is on the move! In math, we are learning how to multiple fractions by whole numbers and how to write millions numbers in multiple ways. In language, we are writing narrative stories of our choosing while learning all the parts of a narrative and what is included. In reading, we are reading about Persephone, her travels and hardships she faces and in spelling we are doing a lot of group work to help study for tests! We are having such an awesome year so far and are looking forward to second quarter! Report cards are out now for quarter one so if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mr. D or Ms. DeRemer With love, 5th grade!!



Proper cold appears to have made its arrival. I mean, this weather isn't going to scare a native of Alaska or anything but it certainly makes it more difficult to drag myself out of the bed in the morning. ("Can't those dogs learn to walk themselves?") Anyway, bundle up and all that.

As for the red hot action within the classroom:

Our progress in math continues apace. This is algebra so it's all letters and formulas and balancing equations now. If this sort of thing confuses you then think about attending the next ATPP meeting (January, I think). I will be leading a brief seminar in important aspects of the math curriculum and how you can help your kiddo at home. More info soon, of course.

We are on a solid lesson/day pace in Reading but, if I'm honest, the more exciting stuff is transpiring in Writing class where we have begun the Narrative unit. Stories! Nobody doesn't love at least one. Mrs. Peoples has been joining us several days of the week and we're well into the process of creating our own ending to an existing zombie story. (Zombie movies are the best monster movies- fight me!) Also, ask your kiddo about the short stories of Mr. Roald Dahl. They're right up my alley.

We continue, bit by bit, to become more financially literate. Try this: look your child in the eye and say, "Buy low..." If they don't instantly respond with, "Sell high!" then I've not done as good a job as I had hoped.

Finally, we studied the countries and capitals of South America. Our class performance improved over the Central America quiz but were still not geography whizzes. I'd bet a paycheck your kiddo remembers the name of South America's largest lake, though. Go ahead and ask them!

Signing off from the 6th Grade. As always, thank you for your time and trust.



English Language Development is happening in the classrooms! Mrs Garcia and myself support our second, and sometimes third language learners. We communicate with the Teachers so that our linguistic help benefits the whole class. Rich descriptions and colorful words are popping up in their writing and even on the playground! Our Green Room library downstairs, has a growing collection of bilingual kids books. We love your kids, and we are here to help them succeed! Thank you, Mrs Garcia and Mrs Peoples mpeoples@rockwoodprep.org



Mr. Nelsen's Silly Joke of the Month!

Q: What did one plate whisper to the other plate?
A: Dinner is on me!

Your Students School Attendance is IMPORTANT.

How important is attendance?

The attendance rate is important because students are more likely to succeed in academics when they attend school consistently. It's difficult for the teacher and the class to build their skills and progress if a large number of students are frequently absent. In addition to falling behind in academics, students who are not in school on a regular basis are more likely to get into trouble with the law and cause problems in their communities.

Benefits of daily attendance

By attending class regularly, your child is more likely to keep up with the daily lessons and assignments, and take quizzes and tests on time. There are other benefits as well: **Achievement:** students who attend school regularly are more likely to pass reading and math assessments than students who don't attend school regularly. **Opportunity:** For older students, being in school every day gives them a chance to learn more about college and scholarship opportunities, and to take the important exams they need to build a successful academic record. **Exposure to the English language:** Regular school attendance can also help students who are learning English by giving them the chance to master the skills and information they need more quickly and accurately even in other subjects! **Being part of the school community:** Just by being present at school, your child is learning how to be a good citizen by participating in the school community, learning valuable social skills, and developing a broader world view. **The importance of education:** Your commitment to school attendance will also send a message to your child that education is a priority for your family, going to school every day is a critical part of educational success, and that it's important to take your responsibilities seriously including going to school.

What you can do:

As a parent or guardian, it is possible to plan ahead in order to limit your child's absences, make school attendance a priority, and help your child from falling behind if it is necessary to miss a day of school. You can do this in the following ways.

Help your child get to school on time every day.

Follow the school's guidelines and attendance policy, and report excused absences immediately.

Check homework. Check each night to see that your child understands and completes the day's homework assignments.

Take an active role. Stay involved with your child's daily experiences at school by asking how the school day went, and then listening carefully to what your child shares with you both the successes and struggles. Make it a point to meet your child's teacher and friends.

Locate potential sources of anxiety. If your child frequently appears upset or reluctant to go to school and cannot tell you why, schedule an appointment with his or her teacher or school counselor to talk about possible sources of the anxiety.

Keep updated on school events and announcements. Read the school documents that your child brings home and take note of important announcements and dates, such as back-to-school night and parent/teacher conferences.

Try to limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to medical appointments or illness. If possible, avoid scheduling doctor's appointments during the school day. Allow your child to stay home only in the case of contagious or severe illnesses.

Schedule family events with your child's school schedule in mind. Plan holiday celebrations or family trips during weekends or school vacations. In the case of family emergencies or unexpected trips, talk to your child's teacher as far in

advance as possible and set up a way that your child can work ahead or bring important homework on the trip.

Plan ahead. Encourage your child to prepare for the next school day by laying out clothes the night before and helping to fix lunches.

Promote good health. Make sure that your child eats a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, and has opportunities to exercise every day through a sports team or playtime outside.

Create a restful environment. Finally, make sure that your child can relax before bedtime by doing something quiet, like reading rather than do something stimulating, like watching television. Ensure that your child gets enough quality sleep ideal

IT IS GETTING COLD!!!

**REMEMBER TO DRESS YOUR CHILD IN A WARM COAT and SWEATER
EVERY DAY**

Also, if you have any lightly used coat or sweaters that you can't use, please drop them off in the main office so we can provide to children in need.

Thank You!

amounts range from 8 to 12 hours. Getting enough sleep will help her get up on time, be refreshed in the morning, and feel ready for a full day of learning ahead!