

ROCHELLE ELEMENTARY DISTRICT #231
444 N. 8TH STREET
ROCHELLE, IL 61068

September 6, 2013

Todd Prusator, Supt.
tprusator#@d231.rochelle.net

815/562-6363

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sept. 11 11:30 & 11:43 AM Early dismissal for School Improvement

HEALTH OFFICE NEWS

Health Office Staff and Phone Numbers:

Joelle Builta, RN (District Nurse)	RMS	562-7997
Michele Gittleson, Health Aide	Lincoln School	562-4520
Melissa Capes, Health Aide	Tilton School	562-6665
Pam Odle, Health Aide	May School	562-6331
Colleen Esterday, RN	Central	562-8521
Angela Bosnak, Health Aide	All schools	

ASTHMA

It seems like asthma is on the rise. In fact, asthma attacks tend to peak just after school starts. If your child suffers from asthma, please make sure that the health office has the necessary medications your child may need at school. Please contact your child's school health office for information on how to have your child's inhaler at school.

MEDICATIONS

Children are not allowed to have any medications in their backpacks or lockers. Tylenol, Advil, cold medication, cough drops, asthma medication, medications prescribed by doctors or purchased over the counter, must be kept in the health office. The health office will need a note from your child's doctor to take *ANY* medication at school. Only necessary medications will be given during school hours. Please bring any medication your child will need at school to the health office. Medication prescribed by your doctor needs to be in the original container, with your child's name, medication name, strength and directions printed on the label. Please contact your child's school health office to receive the appropriate forms so your child may have the medication they need while in school.

INSURANCE

If your child is not covered by medical insurance, the State of Illinois offers the All Kid program. More information on this program can be found on the Internet at <http://www.allkidscovered.com/> or by calling 1-866-ALL-KIDS (1-866-255-5437). Also, the State of Illinois offers the All Kid program. More information on the is program can be found on the Internet at <http://www.allkidscovered.com/> or by calling 1-866-ALL-KIDS (1-866-255-5437)

LICE

The health offices are already beginning to see children with head lice. Unfortunately, lice must be present on the scalp for more than four weeks before it can readily be seen. This means children already had lice when they started school. When a student is found to have lice, the health office staff will check the other students in the classroom. The health office staff cannot check the entire school for lice on a monthly basis. You can help the health office by checking your own children on monthly basis. You can also educate your children on how to prevent lice. Do not share combs, pony tail holders, headbands, hats, headphones, ear buds, helmets, pillows, etc. If you find that your child has lice, please contact your child's health office. We want to help you and your child through this process. The most effective way to rid your child of head lice is combing the hair with a nit comb 2-3 times a day for 1-2 weeks. If the nits are not removed daily, lice will continue to hatch. Additional information about lice can be found at www.headliceinfo.com

TILTON SCHOOL NEWS

Jennifer Derricks, Principal

815/562-6665

TILTON YOUTH CHOIR

Tilton School Youth Choir will begin practice again on Wednesdays from 3-4 pm in the music/art room starting on September 4th, 2013. Tilton Youth Choir is open to 3rd-5th grade students. It is not too late to sign up! Any questions/comments Email Miss DeJaeger at tdejaeger@d231.rochelle.net

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

On Friday, August 23rd the fifth grade at Tilton School took a memorial walk down to Cooper Park. The fifth graders discussed the history of Rochelle and visited the war memorials. Students read and discussed each war memorial. Even though it was warm, the students did a great job sharing their ideas.

ART NEWS

Mrs. Elson's classes are off to a great start. All levels are studying about line and the basic art elements. Ask your child if they can draw dots, circles, straight lines (horizontal, vertical and diagonal), angle lines and curved lines.

Watch for the Famous Artist board which will be starting soon. After the completion of each lesson, three to six art works are chosen from each class and hung in the hallway and become "Famous Artists of the Week." These art works are also saved for the open house art show in the spring. Stop in to see them! --Happy creating, Nan Elson

CENTRAL SCHOOL

Justin Adolph, Principal

815/562-8251

NEW STAFF

We have several new faces at Central School this year. We would like to welcome them to the Cougar Family. They are:

1st grade bilingual – Hannah Busching
2nd grade bilingual – Cosme Becerra
2nd grade – Becky King
3rd grade bilingual – Yuliana Cintora –
Tech Aide – Dan Mallory
Library Aide – Stephanie Rodriguez
Reading Aide – Yazmin Nambo
Classroom Aides – Angie Herrera
Custodian – Ed Troha

Amy Hayden has transferred from Title I reading teacher to a fourth grade and Susanna Guzman-Holland has transferred to Title I reading from a first grade classroom last year.

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FIRST AND THIRD

Mrs. Casey's third graders will be spending their year as buddies to Mrs. Hunley's first grade class. During their first visit, they took turns reading to each other. They also played Top

It and a Dice Addition game. They will continue to learn from each other throughout this school year. This has been a highlight for all students to kick off our school year. They always look forward to the next shared learning experience.

FOURTH GRADE ROCKS

Ms. Hayden's class is rockin' 4th grade already! They've been learning about a process called neurogenesis, which is what makes our brain cells grow. They've been taking lots of movement breaks to grow new brain cells as they tackle 4th grade subjects, such as learning place value to the millions, mastering their multiplication facts and reading more challenging books. They are looking forward to growing new brain cells so they can start their new science unit about plants and their nonfiction writing unit also.

ALERT NOW CALLS

If you are not receiving the alert now calls on your phone, please give us a call to update your information. We may not have the correct number in our system or may have no number at all. The system is only able to send the call out to one number, so make sure you give to us the cell phone or home number you want to receive the call. If you would like the call to go to a daycare person, etc., please give that number to us.

OUR BILINGUAL TEACHERS

In kindergarten, we have Mrs. Maria Lopez-Galvan a native Spanish speaker from Mexico City. She graduated from Rockford College in 2008. She previously taught in Belvidere in different educational settings, Spanish to middle school students at St. James Catholic School, K-1 ESL at Capron Elementary and Crosby Elementary in Harvard. Mrs. Galvan joined our bilingual team last year. You'll always see her smiling and her kindergarten students engaged.

In first grade, we have Ms. Hannah Busching, a recent graduate of Augustana. She is a second language Spanish speaker from Silverspring, MD., but has lived most of her life right here in Rochelle. She learned to speak, read, and write Spanish while attending RTHS, Augustana, and studying in Ecuador. She practiced her Spanish by working at the Hand-in-Hand Mission Center and by visiting various states in Mexico. Her teaching experience includes teaching English to refugees and also teaching Bible classes. Don't be surprised if you catch her singing; something she loves to do.

In second grade, we have Mr. Cosme Becerra. Born and raised in East Chicago, Indiana, he learned English starting in kindergarten and spoke Spanish at home. He is a 2003 NIU graduate majoring in biological sciences and Spanish. He has taught Spanish at RTHS. If you attend a wedding, a quincenera (sweet fifteen birthday celebration for Latin American girls), a special party, or school events, you might see Maestro Becerra playing some fun music. He likes to DJ!

In third grade, we have Ms. Juliana Cintora who was born in Chicago but grew up in Guanajuato, Mexico. She is a 2007 NIU graduate. Ms. Cintora returned to the United States when she was 14 years old. It was then she was introduced to a new language – English. Her determination and dedication to keep focused in school and to learn English paid off when she finished high school in only three years. Ms. Cintora credits her parents for their support and encouragement to not give up. She became a teacher to empower students to achieve their dreams. If you see her students paying attention in class, it is because she wants her students to become bilingual teachers. Talk about GRIT!

Someone new in our Title I reading program is a Mrs. Guzman-Holland who taught a first grade last year. She will be providing reading services to our bilingual students. She is a Rockford College graduate with a Master’s Degree in Reading. This is her 11th year as a bilingual teacher. She taught second grade for two years in Belvidere, one year in an ESL pull-out program and the second year in a self-contained bilingual classroom. In Rochelle, she taught first grade for eight years. Now she is looking forward to the new experiences the reading room will bring. You might see her dancing in the hallways – she is a “folklorico” dancer!”

Stop by Central School to meet our bilingual teachers and say “Hola!”

MAY SCHOOL

Steve Stewart, Principal

815/562-6331

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The caterpillars have arrived. The kindergartens are raising Monarch butterflies. The plans, with day old caterpillars, arrived on Monday, August 26th. They are the size of a grain of rice. We will be feeding them and watching them grow and change. We should have chrysalis around September 5th. We hope to have butterflies around September 16th. Ask a kindergartener about the growth and change of our caterpillars!!

ROCHELLE C.A.N. DONATES 120 BACKPACKS AND SUPPLES TO LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN

On August 5th and 6th, and for weeks leading up to the beginning of the school year, district counselors helped to distribute backpacks to local students. Rochelle C.A.N. board members donated 120 backpacks to be distributed to needy students in the district. The backpacks were filled with many useful school supplies for students to enjoy throughout the new year. Many smiles were shared and even some tears were shed among appreciative families and students. This was the first year that the organization initiated the project and they plan to continue it again next year with even more backpacks. Rochelle C.A.N. board members would like to thank the individuals who helped us to distribute the backpacks to our students and families.

READING AT MAY

Please don't forget...encourage and have your child....READ....READ....READ! Your child should read to you and/or you can read to them for at least 20 minutes a night.

ROCHELLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mike Valentine, Principal
Rick Dornink, Ass't Principal

815/562-7997

PERSONAL INFORMATION UPDATES

Please remember to call the RMS office when you have a change of address, change in employment or a change in phone numbers. It is very important for the school to be able to reach a parent in the case of emergency or with important information.

RMS MEALTIME UPDATE

Please remember to send lunch money to school with your child. You can also go to our website: www.d231.rochelle.net. Scroll down to the **MEALTIME** page. On this page there are complete instructions for adding money to your child's account. At RMS if your child reaches a negative balance of \$20 on their account, they will no longer be able to get a lunch or breakfast.

If you have questions, please call the main kitchen at [815-562-4626](tel:815-562-4626).

SIXTH GRADE OVERNIGHT LOCK-IN A SUCCESS!

If the sixth grade took a vote, hands down, our sixth grade lock-in would be voted a success. Our sixth grade team of teachers was very impressed with the appropriate and respectful behavior of the students. We couldn't stop talking about how valuable this time was to enjoy fun activities and games, time spent just hanging out and getting to know each other. Honestly, Friday morning we were tired, but felt a huge reward in taking time to build camaraderie and deeper relationships. Our close knit group of students and teachers will no doubt have a special, successful school year. A huge thank you to parents for their support, teachers for their time and organization of the event, and students for their respectful behavior.

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Rochelle Middle School counselors are dedicated to helping students be successful in all life areas. Assistance is available to enhance academic performance, study habits, and attendance. The counselors are also available to help students reduce behavior problems, mediate peer conflicts, and to assist with social/emotional and family concerns. This year Mrs. Graff works with 6th grade students last names L-Z and all of 8th grade and Mrs. Bruhn works with 6th grade students with last names A-K and all of 7th grade. Mrs. Graff and Mrs. Bruhn will be running weekly social academic instructional groups for selected students. Students can sign up to see

their counselor in the main office. Counselors will also see students based on referrals from parents, teachers, and administrators.

Because counseling is based on a trusting relationship between counselor and client, the counselors will keep information shared by students confidential except in certain situations in which there is an ethical and legal responsibility to limit confidentiality. Under the following circumstances school counselors are mandated reporters:

1. If the child reveals information about hurting themselves or another person.
2. If the child reveals information about child abuse and/or elder abuse.

Please feel free to contact your child's counselor with questions or concerns. If you do not want your child to meet with the school counselor, or to participate in groups, please contact Mrs. Graff or Mrs. Bruhn at [815-562-7997](tel:815-562-7997) to inform them. You can also contact us by email at vgraff@d231.rochelle.net or mbruhn@d231.rochelle.net

LINCOLN SCHOOL NEWS

Tony Doyle, Principal

815/562-4520

LINCOLN LEOPARD LOGIC - "Excellence is never an accident."

FIRST GRADE IS 'OH SO SWEET'

Hi Everyone!

We would like to welcome you to our first grade Lincoln School Family! We have worked hard over the summer to make our new building into our first grade home. We welcome all of our families as we explore and learn all about our new building. First grade is already busy learning our routines and procedures in First Grade. We have loved learning and participating in our Daily Five centers while Alphie (our classroom owl) watches over us. We read to self, listen to reading, read to someone, complete word work, and write in our Morning Message journals. --the fabulous firsties, Mrs. Tobler and Mrs. Downey

SECOND GRADE LINCOLN LEOPARDS

Second graders (and their teachers) were very excited to begin this school year in a brand new building. We are making new friends and building our Leopard Pride as we get to know each other better every day. This year we will be sharing many new experiences together and making lasting memories. Reading is the foundation to educational success. **Please ensure that your child reads often at home as this will make a positive impact on his/her success in the classroom.** ~Mrs. Kida and Mrs. DaCosta

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