



Rockford Middle School

Center for Environmental Studies

Paul Warzecha, Principal
6051 Ash Street | Rockford, MN 55373
Phone 763-477-5831 | Fax 763-477-5832
www.rockford.k12.mn.us

October 7th, 2022

Dear RMS-CES Families,

We have had a fantastic homecoming week with students being respectful and responsible engaging in the dress up days for homecoming week. In my opinion, homecoming week is about coming together and celebrating who we are as a community. Thank you to all of our parents for having conversations ahead of time with your children about dress up days to ensure that homecoming week was a success. As we enter the end of October I would like to put a reminder that we do not allow costumes at the Middle School as they can be a significant distraction to the learning process. Thank you for understanding and please reach out if you have any questions.

Our fall conferences are coming up on Tuesday, October 18th from 3:30-7:30pm. Teachers have emailed invitations with a link to make an appointment to all families. You should receive your email by the end of the day today if you haven't already received it. Due to time constraints, we are limited to one 10 minute conference per student. Please take a moment to secure your conference time. Let me know if you have any questions.

Please know that every week I make a video for students encouraging students in their growth both as a person and a learner. My previous videos have highlighted taking care of yourself to accomplish your goals, the importance of using manners to show value to others that we interact with and making sure we intentionally choose positive interaction to grow our relationships with others. My focus for next week's video is going to be on the importance of arriving to classes prepared and on time.

With our school having a focus of being a center for environmental studies I would encourage you to have conversations with your child of all the amazing changes that fall brings and the beauty that fall brings.

Wishing you a fantastic weekend!

Paul Warzecha
Principal



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UPCOMING EVENTS

DATES TO CHECK OUT:

Monday, October 10th, 2022-Wednesday, October 12th, 2022-7th Grade Osprey Wild Trip

Tuesday, October 18th, 2022-Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, October 19th, 2022-NO SCHOOL, Staff Development Day

Wednesday, October 19th, 2022-Friday, October 21st, 2022-NO SCHOOL MEA Break

Tuesday, October 25th, 2022-6th Grade Baker/Lake Rebecca Field Trip

Friday, October 28th, 2022-District Choral Festival

Monday, November 7th, 2022-No School/Staff Development Day

Wednesday, November 23rd, 2022-Friday, November 25th, 2022-Fall Break

NEWS AND NOTES

RAS FALL MUSICAL "The Wizard of Oz"



RMS-CES RAS Fall Musical "The Wizard of Oz"

The participation fee for middle school students is \$90. The fee will be assigned a few days after auditions have ended. [Please click HERE for the Calendar](#)



Please click [HERE](#) for more information about becoming a substitute in RAS!

JOSTENS SCHOOL PICTURES



Picture Retake Day will be OCTOBER 27th

RMS-CES Picture Day was on Thursday, September 14th. If you would like to order pictures,

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[VIEW AND ORDER PHOTOS HERE](#)

FREE & REDUCED LUNCH FORMS:

If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to fill out this [FORM](#). Students who qualify may be eligible for **Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT)** to purchase food for days they are not in the school building. Our school also receives state funding for technology based on qualifying families! For more information or a Spanish version, click [HERE](#).

LOST & FOUND

Last year more than 10 large lawn bags of lost and never found clothing were donated to a local thrift store. Please label your student's items and have them check often for items that they may have misplaced or left behind. Items left before MEA Break will be gathered and donated to a local thrift store.



MENTAL HEALTH-Exercise & Mental Health

Here is our [monthly newsletter](#) from the School Based team at Nystrom & Associates.

YEARBOOK'S FOR SALE



The 2022-2023 yearbooks are on SALE now!

Please click [HERE](#) to order!

Cost is \$20

RMS-CES ATTENDANCE LINE



Please use our [ATTENDANCE LINE at 763-477-7525](#) to call your child in absent.



ROCKET BOOSTER'S INFORMATION

Please click [HERE](#) for **School Store Hours!**

Please click [HERE](#) for information about the **Tailgating Homecoming Event**



Please click [HERE](#) for information about our 2022-2023 Meal Rates Return for Nutritious School Meal



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Please click [HERE](#) for more information about the Rocket Launch Monthly Giving!

INFINITE CAMPUS ANNUAL UPDATE:



Be sure to complete your Annual Update!

It is very important to ensure the school district has current household and contact information for all students. Before school starts, be sure to log in to your Parent Portal account to complete the Annual Update. This online update will replace the emergency forms you have received in the past. Keeping household information updated will help families stay connected and be informed of upcoming events, and will ensure you receive information regarding any important announcements.

To complete the annual update, log in to your Parent Portal Account and select "More". From there, select "Online Registration", then select "22-23 School Year Annual Update for Existing Students". The

information that is in our system will auto-populate for parents to review or update. Please be sure to submit your annual update as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Christa Larson at larsonchrista@rockford.k12.mn.us or 763-477-9165.

EXPLORE 4-H DAY



Please click [HERE](#) to learn more about the 4-H Explore Day

RAAA WRESTLING



Please click [HERE](#) to view information about registering your child!

ALL NIGHT GRAD PARTY FUNDRAISER INFORMATION



Please click [HERE](#) to view the fundraiser information



Please click [HERE](#) for Fire Prevention Week

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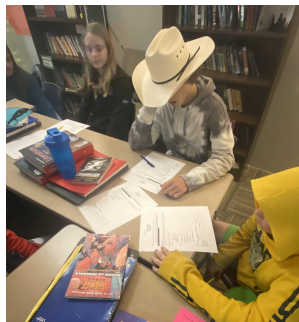
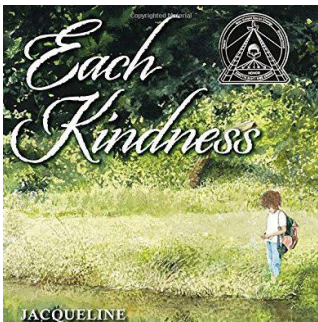
HOMECOMING WEEK HIGHLIGHTS



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CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. HENDRICKSON



This week, students began building a solid foundation to analyze literature throughout the year. In our Introduction to Literature Unit, we first read **Jacqueline Woodson's book, *Each Kindness***, in which teams connected their prior

knowledge of story elements to important literary terms. Next, we reviewed genres of literature, studied Academic Vocabulary, the concept of Conflict and the beloved Plot Diagram before analyzing the short story, "The Elevator". Armed with a framework of knowledge, LA8 students are ready to dig into all kinds of literature, both in and out of the classroom!

5TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. MATEYKA

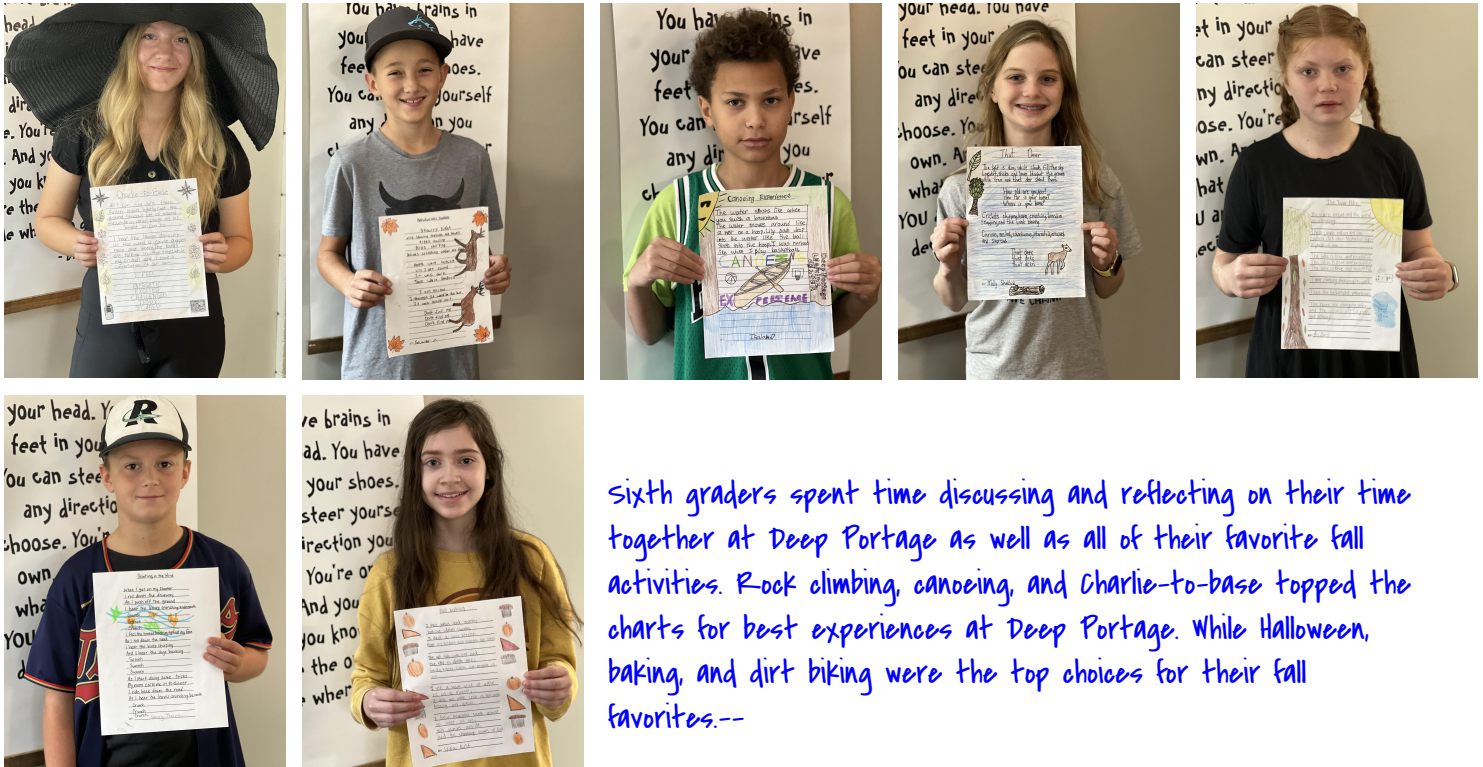


Fifth grade readers had an exciting past week that began with a field trip to Baker Park/Lake Rebecca. Many students enjoyed the experience with a variety of items, whether it be the prey/predator game, or observing animal pelts and skulls, or working together to complete a cooperative activity with their naturalist. The rest of the week focused on becoming familiar with book drawings and book talks. Students enjoyed their read to self time, whether it be in



their book nooks or if they were chosen to have a chair for the day. Fifth grade readers are reading a lot and finishing books towards their "Magic 40!"

6TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. KORZENDORFER



Sixth graders spent time discussing and reflecting on their time together at Deep Portage as well as all of their favorite fall activities. Rock climbing, canoeing, and Charlie-to-base topped the charts for best experiences at Deep Portage. While Halloween, baking, and dirt biking were the top choices for their fall favorites.--

7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS-MS. UDALLA

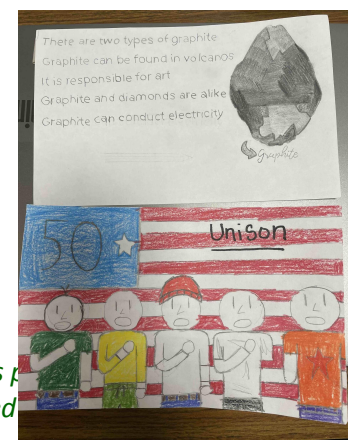


It has been a great start to 7th grade Language Arts. The year started with a review of literature genres and the benefits of reading 20 minutes a night. Seventh grade students have certainly shown their love for reading with frequent visits to the media center, many books being checked out from the class library, and their excitement when getting a new sticker upon finishing a book. Please check their folders to see how much they are reading! It's awesome!

We also started "Book Tasting Friday." Every Friday we "taste a portion" of a new book.

Students look forward to hearing a chapter of a new book each Friday. This little taste has encouraged many students to check-out the Friday books and finish reading them. Students are enjoying the read aloud of

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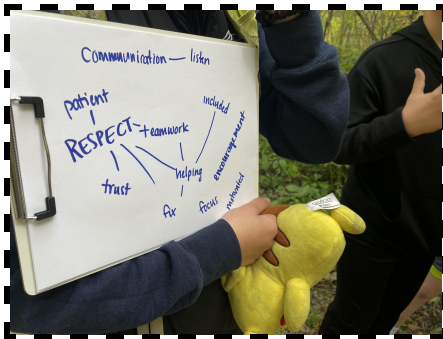
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the novel "Starfish" by Lisa Fipps. Not only has this novel given us many opportunities to practice making inferences and finding textual evidence to support our inferences, but it also touches on many issues that are relevant to middle school students. Along with inferencing, there has also been a great focus on vocabulary. Each week students will focus on one or two Latin or Greek roots and prefixes and suffixes. We started the year with three roots - uni, lect, and graph, as well as the prefixes ir- and non-. Students created drawings of many of the words that contain one of the roots or the prefixes. The drawings are added to our word wall inside the classroom. The goal is to have a classroom full of roots which means hundreds of new and familiar words added to each students' vocabulary!

5TH GRADE FIELD TRIP TO BAKER



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