

Rock Island Elementary School
A Title I School

Cormic Priester, Principal

Stephanie Ballard, Assistant Principal



Rocket Newsletter



October | 2024

Dear Rock Family,

I am pleased to announce our 2024-2025 Teacher of the Year is Ms. Shawana Taylor. Ms. Taylor is one of our amazing 5th grade STEM teachers, while also serving as the 2nd -5th grade team leader. Ms. Taylor has been a part of the Rock Island Family for seven years. Ms. Taylor is amazing in so many ways. She has a remarkable way of connecting with scholars. She supports the Rock Island family in every possible endeavor. Her top priority in her classroom is to ensure that all her scholar's achieve their goal.

Ms. McMillan is our 2024-2025 School-Related Employee of the Year! Currently, she serves as our English Language Learner (ELL) Facilitator and Media Clerk. Ms. McMillan has been with the "Rock Family" for thirteen years. Ms. Mcmillan is a advocate for our scholars that need additional support with acquiring the English language. She is a cornerstone of our school community.

These remarkable "Rock Star" members of our staff will represent Rock Island well at the Caliber Awards. I congratulate them both on earning the recognition of their peers and school community to receive such a great honor.

Here are a few reminders for the upcoming weeks ahead. All scholars are to follow the school uniform policy daily. If your scholar is in need of a uniform, please feel free to contact our School social worker, Mrs. Margaret Green-Clarke at margaret.greenclarke@browardschools.com and/or at (754)322-8300.

Tuesday, October 8th, will serve as our first semester Title I Parent-Teacher Conference Night. You may contact your scholar's teacher for additional details. I must reiterate to you the importance of communication with your scholar's teachers. The use of Class Dojo is the ideal way to stay on top of all things RIE.

The week of October 7th – 11th is Attendance Matters Week and FTE WEEK. It's very important that you send your scholar to school daily. Funding for our school depends on your scholar's attendance during FTE Week. Please make sure that your scholar is present, all day, every day, especially during FTE.

I look forward to seeing everyone present at our next SAC/SAF meeting in the media center on Wednesday, October 25th at 2:30 pm. We will review our 2024-2025 School Improvement Plan in detail. You can access the 2024-2025 School Improvement Plan @ <https://www.browardschools.com/rockisland>.

Mrs. Cormic Priester, Proud Principal
Follow me on Twitter @PrincipalRIE

Important Dates

10/1 Watch D.OG.S. Meeting @ 5PM

10/3 No School

10/7 Scholastic Book Fair (All Week)

**10/8 1st/2nd Grade Field Trip
Parent Conference Night**

10/10 4th Grade Field Trip

10/11 5th Grade Field Trip

10/14 Teacher Planning Day - No School

10/23 SAC/SAF Meeting @ 2:30pm

10/29 3rd Grade Field Trip

10/31 Vocabulary Costume Parade/Trunk or Treat



School Hours

7:55 am School Day Begins

8:00 am Morning Announcements

2:00 PreK - 5th Grade Dismissal

Rocket Newsletter

Ballard's Bulletin

Dear Rock Island Families,

I hope this message finds you well. As we move further into the school year, I wanted to take a moment to share some important updates and highlights from our school community.

Academic Updates Our students have been working hard this quarter. Now that the baseline assessments have been taken, students are deep into their studies. It is essential that students arrive on time for school as instruction starts promptly at 8:00am.

Parent-Teacher Conferences Our parent-teacher conference night is scheduled for October 8th. This is a great opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress and any concerns you may have. Please keep an eye out for the sign-up sheets and reminders that will be sent home soon.

Community Involvement We are grateful for the continued support from our community. If you or someone you know is looking for ways to support our school with incentives to celebrate student achievement and positive behavior, please contact our Community Liaison, Ms. Bellamy at 754-322-8300.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we can ensure that our students have a successful and enriching school year.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ballard
Assistant Principal



- **Spirit shirts are for sale!** Please see flyer at the end of the newsletter.
- **Become a member of the PTA.** It is only \$10 for the membership, and it gives you the ability to vote on how we spend our funds at the monthly PTA association meeting. This doesn't lock you into volunteering or being present at all the PTA events, it's just a quick and easy way to support our school.
- **Volunteer.** The PTA is a 100% volunteer-run organization, so you can support the PTA by offering your skills and time. We have several open coordinator positions, so please take some time to see if you would be able to help in any way. And the best part about volunteering for the PTA is you become part of a bigger community here at Rock Island AND become more actively involved in your child's education!



Broward School Attendance Policy (policy 5.5) states:

All compulsory age students are required to attend school every day of the 180-day school year or the equivalent on an hourly basis pursuant to the state board of education. Parents of children of compulsory school age are responsible for their child's daily school attendance. Because poor academic performance is associated with nonattendance, schools will respond in a timely manner to prevent the development of patterns of non-attendance, which may indicate early signs of truancy. Schools will collaborate with appropriate local and state agencies that are involved in truancy prevention, intervention, and judicial action.

Additional information related to attendance can also be found in the current edition of the code of student conduct approved, as school board policy.

Rocket Newsletter

Ms. Juin, ESE. Specialist

Greetings Parents,

I would like to encourage all parents of students with disabilities to be active participants in developing your child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The IEP process is a collaborative effort between school and home. Parents are encouraged to attend the IEP meetings regularly, have conferences with both the general education/ESE teachers and providers to ensure our students are meeting proficiency and working to their full potential. We value your input and participation and look forward to continuing working collaboratively with you to create a strong partnership. If you need to schedule a meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Mrs. Green-Clarke, Social Worker



The number one factor for students' success is attendance. Regular attendance is crucial for success in school. To make this happen one tip is to develop a routine. The routine involves getting everything your child needs for school ready the night before (set out clothes, shoes, backpack, and jacket).

Also, make sure that your child goes to bed early enough to get a good night's sleep and is up in time to get to school on time. The first quarter ends on 10/11/24, and we will be looking for students with perfect attendance to be awarded a gift certificate from Flanigan's Seafood Bar and Grill.

Rocket Newsletter

School Counselors Corner

October 2024



School Counselor Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to October! As we settle into the school year, our focus this month is on fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all students. October is also National Bullying Prevention Month, and we will be engaging students in various activities to promote kindness, respect, and inclusion.

greetings & salutations!

Our school counseling program is dedicated to supporting your child's academic, social, and emotional development. We encourage you to talk with your child about what they are learning and reinforce these positive behaviors at home.



If you have any concerns or need additional support, please do not hesitate to reach out to our counseling office. We are here to help every student succeed.

Ms. Stephenson

October Tips for Parents: Empowering Positive Growth

- 1. Promote Kindness and Inclusion-** Discuss the importance of treating others with respect and kindness. Encourage your child to include others in activities and to stand up against bullying.
- 2. Monitor Screen Time:-** Set limits on screen time and encourage activities that promote physical activity and face-to-face interactions. Be aware of what your child is accessing online and discuss internet safety.
- 3. Foster a Growth Mindset-** Praise your child's efforts and progress rather than just their achievements. Encourage them to view challenges as opportunities to learn and grow.

Upcoming Events

- October 1- Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) Meeting
- October 3, 2024- No School
- October 8- Parent/ Teacher Conferences
- October 8- M.O.M.S. (Moms of Marvelous Students) Meeting
- October 23 - SAC/SAF Meeting
- October 31- Trunk or Treat





Technology Resources

- ToyTheater.com
- Didax.com
- iReady
- KhanAcademy

Family



- Create arrays using Play-doh
- Play a shopping game to practice adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers
- Plan a day of cooking that includes changes in states of matter or chemical changes
- Come up with multiplication fact families for items that come purchased in packs.
- Grab a circular while shopping and create your own shopping game at home to practice adding decimals

ASK THESE QUESTIONS TO GET YOUR CHILDREN THINKING ABOUT THEIR LEARNING THIS MONTH!

Grade 2

- How can you use models to show 2-digit addition with regrouping?
- Explain how place value strategies and breaking apart addends into tens and ones help to solve 2-digit addition problems.
- **Online Manipulatives:** Hundred Chart, Ten-Frame, Number Line, Base Ten Blocks

Grade 3

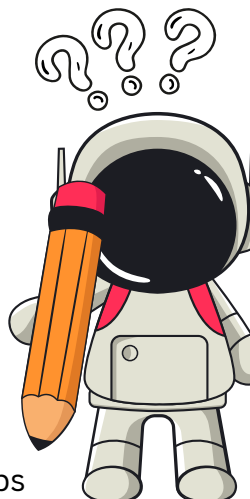
- Write the related multiplication fact that can be used to complete each division fact. Describe how knowing the related multiplication fact helps you to solve: $56 \div 8$, $27 \div 3$, and $63 \div 9$.
- Explain the multiplication patterns you find in even and odd numbers.
- **Online Manipulatives:** Multiplication Chart, Place Value Chart, Base Ten Blocks

Grade 4

- What strategies can I use when estimating?
- How can using the Distributive Property help you to multiply?
- What are some methods you can use reliably to multiply by a two-digit number?
- **Online Manipulatives:** Multiplication Chart, Number Chart

Grade 5

- Share and show two ways to estimate products and whole numbers.
- Describe how to model multiplication with decimals.
- **Online Manipulatives:** Number Line, Place Value Chart, Base Ten Blocks, Decimal Strips



ELA NEWSLETTER

Reading is our Super Power!

Did you know that reading can give you super powers? It's true! When you read, you can:

- Become a superhero: Imagine yourself flying through the air, saving the day, all thanks to the stories you've read.
- Travel to new worlds: Visit far-off lands, meet amazing creatures, and experience different cultures.
- Discover new things: Learn about history, science, and even yourself through the pages of a book.

This October, let's celebrate the power of reading together at Rock Island Elementary's Annual Literacy Night Trunk or Treat on October 31st. Join us for fun activities, games, and of course, lots of reading! More information coming soon!!!

Literacy Community Event of the month-October



Island SPACE CARIBBEAN MUSEUM

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF BROWARD

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

CARIBBEAN BOOK FAIR

Kids and Young Adults Day

- ✓ Author Readings
- ✓ Creative Writing, Song Writing, Acting and Illustration Workshops
- ✓ "Freedom to Read" Panel
- ✓ Lyrical Performance Showcase

Sat, October 26

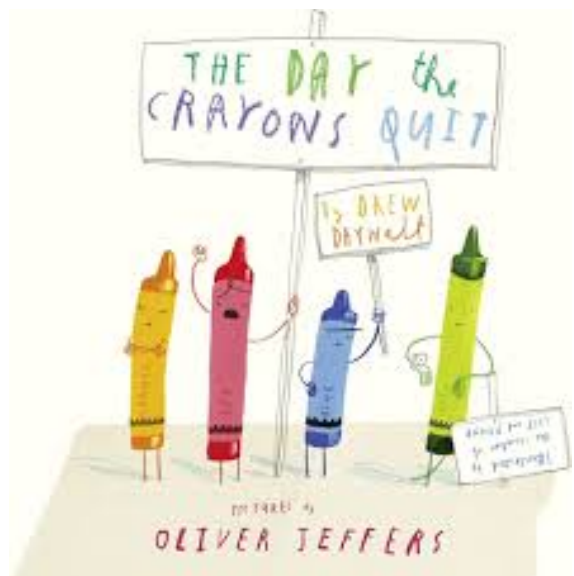
11:00am - 2:30pm (Kids Sessions)
3:00pm - 6:00pm (Young Adults Sessions)

RSVP: islandspacefl.org/bookfairyouth

ROCKET READ OF THE MONTH

Encouraging the Love of Reading at Home!

Our Rocket Read of the Month is **"The Day the Crayons Quit"** by Drew Daywalt: A funny and imaginative story about a boy whose crayons go on strike. The Day the Crayons Quit is a hilarious and imaginative story about a boy named Oliver whose crayons go on strike. Each crayon has a unique personality and complaint, from Red's feeling overworked to Brown's feeling unappreciated. The book is full of humor and creativity, making it a fun and engaging read for kids of all ages.

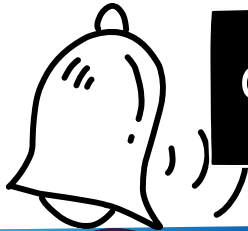


PRIMARY NEWS

WITH MS. JORDAN

We are already in October; I can barely believe it. This month we will celebrate the Fall season at our annual Family Literacy Night! This is a night you don't want to miss. Over the past few months, our Kindergartens and First Graders have been busy learning new skills in reading and math. Homework is sent home every Monday and due on Friday. Create a homework schedule with your scholar so they can get used to completing their homework assignments each week. Lastly, check your scholar's backpacks frequently for flyers and other updates that go home.

1.



October 5 is World Teacher Day!



October 5th is World Teacher Day! This month consider having your child make a homemade card for their teacher. Teachers are the glue to our society. It is through teachers that all other professions begin. If you have not met with your child's teacher, please do so soon. Conferences can be set up via ClassDojo or the teacher's email.




COMMUNITY EVENTS

Happy Fall, Ya'll! The Fourth Annual Pumpkins & Palm Trees Fall Fest returns to The LOOP on Sunday, Oct. 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Celebrate the season South Florida-style with a free, family-friendly day packed with festive fun. Enjoy live music, a vibrant lineup of local vendors, a children's arts & crafts CORNER, and lawn games where you can compete to win exciting prizes. It's the perfect way to welcome a new season to the shore.

2.





A vibrant Halloween-themed illustration featuring several children in costumes. At the top left, a green dinosaur with orange stripes and a broom is on a pumpkin. In the center, a boy in a black and white skeleton costume is on a pumpkin. To his right, a boy in an orange dinosaur costume is on a pumpkin. Further right, a girl in a purple witch costume is on a pumpkin. At the bottom right, a boy in a mummy costume is on a pumpkin. The background is decorated with a spider web, a purple bat, a purple spider, and several pieces of candy. The text is centered in a light green box.

ROCK ISLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VOCABULARY Costume Parade

October 31, 2024 @ 9:00am

Pick out a costume. Choose an adjective that best fits your costume. Make sure you bring your word with you. Masks of any kind are not allowed.

Open to all RIE families.



FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

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APLICACIÓN DE INFORMES DE ACTIVIDAD SOSPECHOSA

Enviar reportes sobre seguridad de forma rápida y sencilla

Al acceder a FortifyFL, los estudiantes pueden brindar una descripción de la amenaza, compartir fotos y videos, y (de forma opcional) enviar su información de contacto.

Anónimo o no

Tú decides si deseas incluir tu nombre y tu información de contacto.

Conveniente

Enviar un reporte es fácil y rápido usando nuestra aplicación móvil o nuestro sitio web.

Incluye fotos y videos

También puedes incluir fotos o videos junto a tu reporte.

Se envía rápidamente a las autoridades

FortifyFL envía tu reporte de forma automática a las agencias de cumplimiento de la ley y a los oficiales escolares apropiados.



Tus oficiales escolares

El reporte se envía a los oficiales escolares locales.

Cumplimiento de la ley local

El departamento policial o la oficina del sheriff local recibirá copias de tu reporte automáticamente.

Oficiales a nivel estatal

Los oficiales a nivel estatal también tienen acceso a tus reportes para asegurar que se tomen las medidas apropiadas.

FortifyFL es una herramienta para reportar actividades sospechosas que te permite enviar información a las agencias del cumplimiento de la ley apropiadas y a oficiales escolares. FortifyFL fue creado y fundado por la 2018 Florida Legislature como parte de la ley Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

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