

Tiger Tales



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Rockfish Elementary School
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From the Principal's Pen...



FEBRUARY 2021! When we began school year 20-21 none of us ever imagined that our teachers would still be delivering virtual instruction and our students would still be learning remotely at the midpoint of this third reporting period. However, our Little Tigers have continued to learn, even though RFES hallways have not heard their jubilant sounds of excitement nor seen the joy of expectation on their happy faces this year. It excites me to see the progress and growth they have made.

Parents, I appreciate those of you who have been diligent to work with your children at home during this time. It does make a difference in their academic development. Until we return to in-school instruction, please continue to encourage them to strive for excellence and assure them of your pride in their accomplishments. While remote learning is not the ideal, I urge you to maintain a positive attitude when talking with your children. Your tone will pave the way for their success as they log in for instruction each morning. I also want to express my gratitude to parents who assure their children are logging in promptly to their virtual classrooms each and every day. *Every minute counts!*

It can't be said often enough: homework is an essential part of the academic process whether children are learning in a classroom at school or in a virtual classroom at home. In addition to reinforcing academic skills and concepts, homework helps students develop exceptional skills that include responsibility, self-motivation, and task management.

Reminders: Progress Reports will be available on the Parent Portal on Monday, February 8. Review the report with your child and contact his/her teacher if you have any questions regarding progress for this period.

Monday, February 15 is a teacher workday/student remote learning day - students have assignments to complete but will not log in to their classrooms.

Tuesday, February 16 is a student holiday/required teacher workday - students do not have immediate assignments and do no log in to their classrooms. This would be a great day for students to read a good book and AR test or to catch up on missing or incomplete assignments.

Happy Valentine's Day

Pre-K

Happy February to everyone! Pre-K progress reports are available to view online as of January 29. Our Pre-K students have been eager to show how much they have grown! Please let me know if you need help viewing or have any questions about your child's progress report. Monday, February 15 will be a student remote learning day/teacher workday. Tuesday, February 16 is a student holiday/required teacher workday. Thank you for all you do each and every day for Rockfish's youngest learners!

2021 February



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- 8 ~ SIT Meeting - 2:45 pm
- 8 ~ PROGRESS REPORTS available on the Parent Portal
- 9 ~ AR Family Night - Grades 2-5
- 14 ~ HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
- 15 ~ Student Remote Learning Day - Teacher Workday
- 15 ~ Student Holiday - Required Teacher Workday

From the Media Center

Since we remain in virtual learning at home, and our students continue to use EPIC to read ebooks, here is a reminder of how you can access ebooks and put books on hold at the CC Public Library to pick up curbside: You may apply for you and your child online at <https://cumberland.nccardinal.org/eg/opac/register>. The card will allow your child to check out books and other materials, use available computers, and give him/her access to numerous online databases such as Brainfuse that offers assistance with homework and test preparation. This will allow your children to download ebooks to any device they have. You may also sign up for a temporary e-card membership to access the free online resources from the CC Public Library through their website at <http://www.cumberland.lib.nc.us/ccpsite/content/free-downloads>.

Another online resource available to all North Carolina students is [NCWiseOwl](http://www.ncwiseowl.org/) at <http://www.ncwiseowl.org/>. If prompted, the password is wiseowl19. Keep encouraging your children to "Read, Read, and Read Some More!"

From the Counselor's Corner

February's character trait is TRUSTWORTHINESS. People who are trustworthy are honest, loyal, and keep their promises. Children can virtually practice trustworthiness in many ways, such as taking their assessments on their own, not turning their camera off and walking away from class, completing their assignments, etc. Parents and guardians, if you think Mrs. Zahm, RFES School Counselor, can help your child in any way, do not hesitate to reach out by email at sarahzahm@ccs.k12.nc.us or by calling the school (910-424-5313) and leaving a message.



RFES MISSION STATEMENT

Rockfish Elementary School is committed to providing a quality education for all students within a safe and supportive atmosphere where all feel secure, loved, and challenged.

Kindergarten

We are excited about the growth we see in our kindergarten students! They are learning to identify more sight words and are tapping out sounds in unknown words. We introduced a new vowel, the letter *Ii*. Remember, in kindergarten, we focus on the short sound of the vowels.

Our students continue to meet new Alpha friends in our Journeys reading program. Small groups are continuing, and kindergarten students are reading! We are focusing on writing skills through dictation.

In math, we are adding and taking apart numbers within ten. This can be a challenging concept for our children, but we are confident they will excel in these skills! Have your child add and subtract using household objects. Counting objects at home will greatly benefit them in class.

We are learning about the weather in science as we share experiments online. In social studies, our students are exploring different landforms as they continue to learn about their world.

We appreciate your continued support at home!



Terrific Third Grade



Third grade is all about Geometry! We have been learning about polygons and quadrilaterals. Along with geometry, our students have enjoyed learning about police and service dogs in the community. They have done some amazing research probes on Martin Luther King Jr. and Groundhog Day. We continue our exploration of the Solar System as we learn about the Inner Planets.

We are proud of the fantastic work our students have been doing. The third grade team loves seeing all those smiling faces on the camera each day. Thank you for all the support from home — keep up the great work! We appreciate it!

Fabulous Fourth Grade

Hello 4th Grade Family! We will spend the next few months working with fractions in mathematics. In order to be successful, it is imperative that students memorize their multiplication facts. In ELA we will read stories from Journeys to practice finding main ideas and supporting details while making inferences. Students should continue working on their fluency. In science we will complete our energy unit and begin discussing Earth and its processes. Social studies standards will allow us to tie Black History Month themed instruction into our lessons on the impact of various cultural groups settling in North Carolina.

We continue to provide individualized instruction through small groups. Please encourage your child to attend. We welcome Mrs. Gendron, remediation teacher, to the fourth grade team. As a retired and former Rockfish teacher, she is very well prepared to assist us with helping your child be as successful as possible.

Fourth grade students are required to read for at least 30 mins daily and take AR quizzes based on what they have read. Each child has a set AR reading level and point goal to reach.

Please check PowerSchool to see your child's academic progress and track missing assignments. Thank you for all you do. We appreciate you!

First Grade



Welcome to Fabulous February! It's hard to believe we celebrated our 100th day of school on January 27. This month, we will celebrate Valentine's Day and Black History Month. First graders will thrive in all subjects while learning the fundamentals and first grade skills necessary to get to the next level. We will continue to grow and shine bright like true Rockfish Remote Rockstars!

Second Grade

A few reminders for the third nine weeks: Be sure your child is completing Istation and SuccessMaker daily. All student assignments should be submitted to your child's teacher weekly. Students should do their best to AR test weekly to reach their AR goal!

Thank you for a great year so far!

KIDS' CORNER!



What did the calculator say to the pencil on Valentine's Day? "You can count on me!"

What did the farmer give his wife for Valentine's Day? "Lots of Hogs and kisses!"

What do you call a very small Valentine? "A Valen-tiny!"

Why did the deputy sheriff lock up his girlfriend? "She stole his heart!"

Fifth Grade

- ✓ Thank you to all our parents who make sure their child is in class on time each day. Every minute counts when teaching and learning skills.
- ✓ Your child can do SuccessMaker at home. Many have fallen behind the amount of time they need per week so please encourage your child to work on it during his/her free time.
- ✓ Please make sure your child is reading and testing for AR. Independent reading is the key to improving your child's reading level and ability.
- ✓ Please check PowerSchool grades weekly. You can see if your child is missing assignments that may be turned in. We can only adjust Q3 grades.
- ✓ Thanks again for all of the assistance you provide us with your child. We could not do this without your help!

