

Tiger Tales



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

MAY 2021!! I want to express my deepest appreciation to all of our amazing students, staff, and RFES families. In this out-of-the-ordinary school year, you have gone above and beyond the scope of your experiences and worked untiringly to ensure success for our children. It has not been the easiest of years, but by working together we have increased our capacity to teach and learn and multiplied our base of knowledge; in the doing, we have learned a lot about ourselves. It is truly a blessing to be part of such a great school community.

Our EOG assessments will begin the week of May 3. Parents and students will be reminded of the times and dates, and we will post them on our website: www.rfes.k12.nc.us. Students who are remote learners only will attend school in-person at Rockfish on the days their specific grade level tests are administered. If your child is a remote learner, you will receive further information. It is important that students get plenty of sleep and rest during this time. Attendance is also very important. Parents, I ask that you will assure your children arrive to school on time each day and that you plan ahead so it will not be necessary to take them out of school while the assessments are being administered. Encourage your children to do their best but do not make them overly anxious. When students enter the testing phase, it is vitally important for them to have confidence in their abilities.

EOG Assessment Dates:

- Friday, May 7 – ELA (Grade 5)
- Tuesday, May 11 – ELA (Grades 3-4)
- Tuesday, May 11 – Math (Grade 5)
- Thursday, May 13 – Math – (Grades 4) Science (Grade 5)
- Thursday, May 13 – Math – (Grades 4) Science (Grade 5)

Final awards assemblies will be held virtually and in classrooms for our students. You will be notified if your child will receive an award. Due to health restrictions, no one from outside the school will be permitted to attend the assemblies in-person; however, parents may log on and attend virtually. Assembly dates and times will be sent by your child's teacher. Summer break for RFES students will officially begin with a two-hour early release (12:25) on Friday, May 21.

IMPORTANT: If you know your child will not be returning to Rockfish next year, please send a note to the teacher or contact our data manager, Ms. Bedsole. This will help us determine class sizes and assign teachers for 2021-22. It will also be beneficial to register your child early in the summer at his/her new school.

Students, as you participate in exciting activities with family and friends, you should schedule some time each day for reading. It will make an enormous difference in your reading skills when you return to school in August. Enjoy your summer and be safe!!



- 3-7 ~ School Staff Appreciation Week
- 7 ~ Last day for AR - TURN IN ALL LIBRARY BOOKS
- 9 ~ HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!
- 10 ~ SIT Meeting - 2:45 pm
- 21 ~ LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS - 2 hr. early release - 12:25 pm
- 24-27 ~ Required Teacher Workdays
- 28 ~ Teacher Workday
- 31 ~ STAFF HOLIDAY!! MEMORIAL DAY
- June 1 - Teacher Workday - Last Day for Staff!!

From the Media Center

Students in Grades 2-5 should be at 100% of their AR goal for the fourth quarter on May 7, 2021. We are approaching the time of year when our students must return their Media Center materials, which are due Friday, May 7. Please help your children find all of their media books by the week of May 3 so they will be able to clear the Media Center. Overdue notices will be delivered to students by May 14 for any outstanding books or fines. Please feel free to contact the Media Center if you have any questions. Thank you!

From the Counselor's Corner

It has been wonderful transitioning into Plan A and seeing so many smiles through eyes. Before we know it, summer break will be here. I hope everyone has a safe, happy, healthy, fun, and restful summer. I will miss you all and look forward to seeing you in the new school year. Fifth graders, I send you the best of wishes for middle school and hope nothing but success and happiness for you and your futures.



Parents, the mental health of children in our world is statistically at an all-time low. Check out the documentary "Childhood 2.0" on Amazon Prime or YouTube to learn about the dangers children are facing due to the rise in social media networks and mobile devices. It is a must watch for all parents, educators, and people working with/dealing with children. As a counselor and mother, I encourage everyone to watch this movie. You will learn eye-opening information that will help you protect your children.

Pre-K

The 2020-21 school year is quickly coming to an end! We have enjoyed having your child in Pre-K and cannot wait to see what next year will hold for these upcoming kindergarteners; each one has grown and learned so much. Please keep working and reviewing over the summer! Friday, May 21, will be the last day of school! It will be a two hour early release. Enjoy your summer!

EXPECT THE BEST

Kindergarten

Kindergarten students transitioned nicely to face-to-face instruction. They are learning Rockfish procedures and enjoying seeing their classmates and other friends at school. We continue to work on blending and segmenting words, creating new words by substituting letters, and recognizing vowels and consonants. We have met all our Alpha friends! In math, students are counting by tens and ones to 100, working on adding and subtracting, tackling word problems, and sharing strategies in class.

We introduced Life Cycles in science and discovered different animals and how they live. Students are identifying the characteristics of living and non-living things. After studying differences and similarities in each other, we celebrated our unique talents and accomplishments in a class talent show!

The kindergarten team is looking forward to recognizing the academic achievements of our students at the end of the year awards day.

Thank you for your continued support at home at home!

First Grade

Hello Fabulous Firsties and Hello Marvelous May! We are in full swing in spring and flying high during Plan A (Blended Learning Model). We are learning about time and money in math. In ELA, we are reading like rock stars, blending words like pros, and writing complete sentences and paragraphs like the champs we were trained to become. This month, teachers will complete end of year assessments, and during our final awards ceremony, we will recognize those students who have exemplified excellence in academics for the 4th quarter. We are confident that our students will finish strong in this last victory lap of the year. The last day of school is Friday, May 21. Second Grade here we come!

Second Grade

Hello! We are quickly approaching the last day of school. This month, our students will be completing a few end of year assessments. In second grade, we will review all math concepts learned throughout the school year and take a summative math assessment. Students will also complete their final STAR test to see their reading growth from the beginning to the end of the year. Please continue to have your child log on to Istation and SuccessMaker daily. This 2020-21 school year was quite challenging for all of us, and we appreciate all you did in support of your child's education. We hope you have a wonderful and restful summer! See you next year!

KIDS' CORNER!



How do we know that the ocean is friendly? "It waves."

What did the little ear of corn say to the mama ear of corn? "Where is pop corn?"

What animal comes to a baseball game? "A bat."

What happens if you throw your beach ball into the ocean? "It gets wet."

Terrific Third Grade

We are excited to have our students back in the building with us! We have been very busy with many new concepts! Third graders are always reviewing multiplication facts while working with previous math concepts and learning new ones. We are also learning how to compare and find equivalent fractions using fraction bars and number lines. In science, we are still working on the skeletal system and learning all about our major bones and joints. We will cover the different branches of government in social studies and learn about the different functions they perform within our government.



Please keep working on IStation and SuccessMaker during the week! Students work on them in class and extra practice at home will make a difference. We are in the 4th quarter or our AR goals and working hard at reading independently to challenge our comprehension. Thank you for all your support from home.

Fabulous Fourth Grade

Parents, thank you for your assistance with a smooth transition into Plan A. We are so glad to have the majority of our students back in the building with us. They have been enjoying the team building activities we completed during science and social studies. During this last month of school, students will have the opportunity to explore life sciences and learn more about North Carolina's past while reviewing the reading and math standards taught this year. We are also preparing for the end of grade reading and math tests. Students arriving to school on time, attending school each day, and spending their class time on task will be essential for their testing success.

Fifth Grade

- ✓ Thank you for all your assistance as we navigated through this school year. It is so nice to have more of our students in the classroom on a daily basis.
- ✓ Remind your child to complete their required assignments and submit them on asynchronous days.
- ✓ Students should continue to work on SuccessMaker at home! Many have fallen behind with the amount of time they need per week.
- ✓ This is the last quarter for students to make their AR goal! Independent reading is the key to improving your child's reading level and ability. Encourage your child to read.
- ✓ Please check PowerSchool grades weekly. We are in our last quarter. You can see if your child is missing assignments that need to be submitted.
- ✓ Have your child study science definitions and concepts that are being taught in class. Mastery of the terminology is key to understanding science. We are finishing Forces and Motion and getting ready to do our Weather unit.

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.

EXPECT THE BEST