



From the Principal's Pen...

SEPTEMBER 2020 - Greetings and welcome to another great year of learning at Rockfish Elementary School where we always *Expect the Best!* While the beginning of school was different for our staff, students, and families, we began the year with the same tradition of hope, expectation, and common purpose that exemplifies who we are at RFES.

I am very proud of our staff; they worked long hours and went to great lengths to be prepared when their students logged on the first day. When you can, take time to express your appreciation to your child's teacher.

I am very proud of our students; they are making progress while working diligently to learn in a nontraditional environment. Let's all speak words of encouragement to them and urge them to always do their best.

Parents, I am also very proud of you and thankful for your efforts. Most of you stepped out of your comfort zone to help your child prepare and adjust to remote learning. I'm aware that many of you had to rearrange work schedules to accommodate online schedules for your child. The process has not been easy, but I believe the end results will be worth our struggles as we work together to ensure success for all our children.

We are attempting to keep in close contact with all RFES families through every medium available to us, so please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or issues you may have.

From time-to-time, we describe our community as **Rockfish Strong** or **Rockfish Proud**, and we are. This year we can attach another apt attribute to our character: **Rockfish Ready**. Once again, our RFES community has proven that we are ready to do whatever it takes to get the job done, and we do it TOGETHER.

FROM THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Boy!! I have really missed our students! Visiting our virtual classrooms and seeing them engaged in learning these last couple of weeks has brought me much joy. Boys and girls, I am so very proud of you, and you can be proud of yourselves - you are working hard and learning how to be a great virtual student.

Parents, if there is anything I (Mrs. Zahm, RFES School Counselor) can do to support your child in anyway, please reach out to your child's teacher or email me at sarahzahm@ccs.k12.nc.us. I will also be hosting "Virtual Lunch with the Counselor." My goal is to eat lunch with one child a day virtually. If this is something your child may be interested in, please reach out to me or your child's teacher. Mrs. Hall and I are here to help your children in any way possible.

PRE-K

Our youngest Rockfish Tigers are off to an excellent start for the 2020-21 school year! Everyone is adjusting well to virtual Pre-K! They are gaining an understanding of the rules and routine. Parents, your child's physical is due on or before Wednesday, September 16! We appreciate your cooperation with this matter and look forward to a great school year!

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students are showing great progress with their virtual learning! In English language arts, they are learning to recite the alphabet and identify rhyming words. They are learning to recognize shapes and positional words in math and will be creating a timeline of their life events for a social studies project. Positional words are being reinforced in science. Parents and guardians, thank you for all you do to support your child.

The Kindergarten Team hopes that all our families have a safe and Happy Labor Day!

FIRST GRADE

Greeting families! It has been a great school year so far. We know virtual school is definitely an adjustment, but our students have been doing very well! We have seen great participation and engagement. Keep up the good work students!

As a reminder, we will be using Canvas daily beginning on Monday, August 31, with graded assignments. Please continue to work with your children on remembering their passwords and login information. As always, thank you for all you do!

SECOND GRADE

- Please encourage your child to memorize their PowerSchool number (username) and password.
- Practice nightly logging in to the following:
 - Student CCS Email
 - Canvas
 - AR
 - Epic Website
- Students should begin reading daily for 20 minutes. They can use books from home or from their class Epic account.
- Students should practice basic addition and subtraction math facts daily.

We Honor the American Worker on

HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL!
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2020



TERRIFIC THIRD GRADE

Third grade students are the best!! We are off to a great start, and they are doing a great job with all the challenges of our new remote learning experience. Students have been working with the beginning concepts of multiplication. They have learned about lab safety and even helped teachers conduct a gummy bear experiment. Each day we are learning something new and making progress as we learn how to use Canvas and complete assignments. We are so proud of all their effort and we appreciate all the parent support from home. Thank you so much!

FIFTH GRADE

- ✓ Every fifth grade student should be working toward earning their individual AR Goal by reading for thirty minutes daily. Independent reading is the best way to increase their reading level. Have them read out loud to you so you can ask them about what they have read.
- ✓ We will continue testing multiplication facts weekly. If your child scores below an 80% they will have Weekend Math Warrior that is due the following Monday. Please check with them and see how they did on the test. They should know!
- ✓ Thank you so much to our wonderful fifth grade parents for working so diligently with your children. We appreciate all the time you are taking to make sure your child is proficient and ready for the school day. If you have any questions, we are here to answer them.

FABULOUS FOURTH GRADE

Thank you for a great start to this 2020-2021 school year! Our students, parents/guardians, and school staff have adapted well to the unique circumstances we are facing.

Students now have the ability to read and take AR tests at home. The AR program will close each day at 7:00 pm. Students should be reading for at least 20 minutes every night with the purpose of increasing fluency and comprehension while aiming to reach the set AR goal. In order for your fourth grade student to be successful in mathematics this year, we ask that you please encourage the memorization of multiplication facts (0-12) as much as possible while at home. We will study magnets in science during the month of September. Students may want to participate in some of our science activities by experimenting with their own magnets at home. We will continue learning about North Carolina in social studies.

Thanks so much for your support and flexibility as we learn to navigate the waters of this "new normal" together.



HAVE YOU READ A GOOD BOOK TODAY?



"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."
~Dr. Seuss

NOTABLE QUOTES...

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.
~Nelson Mandela

The best teachers are those who show you where to look but don't tell you what to see.
~Pinterest - Momcaster.com

When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.
~Dalai Lama

Every day is a great day at Rockfish Elementary School.
~Mrs. Crawford, RFES Principal

From the Media Center

September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. You can 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 the available computers, and give him/her access to numerous online databases such as Brainfuse that offers assistance with homework and test preparation. The card will also allow your child to download ebooks to any device they have.

Another online resource available to all North Carolina students is NCWiseOwl at <http://www.ncwiseowl.org/>. If prompted, the password is wiseowl19.

KIDS' CORNER!



Why did the math book look so sad? Because it had so many problems!

What has hands but can't clap? An analog clock!

What do you call a dog that can tell time? A watch dog!

OUR 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