



From the Principal's Pen...

OCTOBER 2020 - Even though our daily routines may have seemed a bit topsy-turvy these past months, Mother Nature has been consistent. Continuing on with her customary cycling of seasons, she has brought us to fall. Fall never disappoints: She will charm us with her spectacular configurations of color, enchant us with her elegance, and dazzle us with her daring dances of leaves across our lawns. Parents, take time to observe the beauty of fall around you and discuss the science of seasonal transitions with your children.

Our first grading period will end on Monday, October 12, and report cards will go home on Tuesday, October 20. Please go over the report card with your child and discuss the grades he/she has earned. Awards assemblies will be held remotely. Teachers will send out information to let you know if your child earned an award along with the time and date of your child's assembly.

At this point, all Cumberland County Schools will remain on remote instruction through the first semester. We ask that you continue to follow the remote schedule for Rockfish Elementary and assure your child is on time and in attendance each day. Our students need every minute of allotted time for their remote instruction and learning – *Every Minute Counts!* If you have questions or issues, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to facilitate success for you and your child.

Important: Directives regarding Halloween observances within our community have not been issued as of yet. However, if permission is granted for observing Halloween by trick-or-treating from house to house in your neighborhood, your children should be accompanied by a responsible adult, and all candy should be carefully examined before it is eaten. We want all our RFES Tigers to be safe!!

FROM THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

It has been a joy popping into virtual classrooms to meet our RFES students and teach classroom guidance lessons.

September's character trait is Respect. Remind your children to show respect to themselves, other people, items in their care, and the environment. Children can also show respect by muting their mics, raising their hands, helping out around the house, using kind words, and using good manners.

October's character trait is Responsibility. Children can take responsibility by doing their best in virtual learning to pay attention, log in on time, and complete their assignments. To help children take responsibility for virtual learning, make sure they are learning in areas with minimal distractions, getting plenty of exercise, and reaching out to their teacher if they need help. Positive parental feedback is also an important component in helping motivate children to strive for higher levels of learning.

I have enjoyed having daily virtual lunch with students. If you think this is something your child could benefit from, if you would like me to meet with your child one on one, or if I can help in any way, please email me at sarahzahm@ccs.k12.nc.us.

OCTOBER 2020 DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 13 Student Remote Learning/Teacher Workday (no live instruction)
- 14 Student Holiday/Required Teacher Workday

PRE-K

Our Pre-K children are adjusting well to virtual learning. Parents, we thank you for all your help with making these first weeks a success! Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming dates: Tuesday, October 13, will be a student remote learning/teacher workday (no live instruction). Wednesday, October 14, will be a student holiday/required teacher workday. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at school or by email.

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students will be introduced to their Alpha-friends from our Journeys reading program. We are continuing to work on recognizing upper and lowercase letters and to identify beginning sounds.

We studied the different ways to make a number in math and will focus on how to compose numbers to five.

Students will be talking about maps in social studies and learning about motion in science.

Thank you to our families for your continued support at home as we work together for your child's success!

FIRST GRADE

Greetings families! Our first graders continue to work hard each and every day. We are so proud of how quickly they have adapted to online learning and continue to stay engaged each day. Please remember to have your children continue to complete their online Canvas assignments each week. These are essential for practicing the skills they are learning each day. As always, thank you for all that you do!



It's October...
Rake up the leaves
Shiver in the dawn
Pick a pretty pumpkin
Summer time is gone
It's October...

SECOND GRADE

We have had an amazing time with remote learning in second grade! Our students are quickly learning to navigate Canvas and other digital tools. Parents, please make sure your child is logged in to Canvas at the beginning of each day. Students should be reading daily. Epic is a great online resource for students to find books on their level. AR goals have been set, so students should be testing on books throughout the week. We are working hard on our basic addition and subtraction facts. Daily practice will help!

TERRIFIC THIRD GRADE

Third grade students are rising to the challenge! We are very proud of our students and how well they have learned to complete and turn in assignments. They are making great progress in learning to navigate Canvas!

We continue to work with multiplication and division strategies as they apply to solving word problems and will move forward with addition, subtraction, and rounding very soon. Please keep working on basic fact fluency with your child. Every bit helps them commit those facts to memory.

Our reading skills are getting stronger every day! We have worked on drawing conclusions and cause and effect relationships. Please encourage your child to set aside time every day to read independently. AR is available to students, and goals are set in the program. Parents can look up AR book levels at home by going to ARBookfind.com. Thank you for your support at home! It is greatly appreciated!

FABULOUS FOURTH GRADE

Happy Fall! from the fourth grade team! We've had a great six weeks so far this year, and we've watched our students become increasingly successful with remote learning. In math, we are moving into Cluster 3, which will involve adding and subtracting, identifying and relating place value, and writing numbers using multiple forms. Please continue practicing multiplication facts at home. In ELA, we will continue developing reading fluency, reading comprehension, and other literature and language skills through in-depth analyses of our weekly Journeys texts. Students should continue working towards reaching their AR goals for this nine-weeks. Upon conclusion of the Force and Motion unit in science, students will begin exploring properties of matter and minerals. In social studies, we are learning about how North Carolina has changed over time. Thank you for your continued support of our teachers and students!

FIFTH GRADE

- Every fifth grade student should be working toward earning their individual AR Goal by reading for thirty minutes daily. Utilize EPIC to get books online. Independent reading is the best way to increase your child's reading level. Have your child read out loud to you so you can ask them about what they have read.
 - We start class every day at 8:00 a.m. Please make sure your child is on time.
 - We will continue testing multiplication facts weekly. If your child scores below 80% they will have Weekend Math Warrior, which is due the following Monday.
 - Orchestra begins soon. Look for information from your child.
 - Classwork and homework completion are important. Please check with your child to make sure they are doing their part. Missing assignments are noted in PowerSchool.
 - Thank you for all you do to assist with your child's learning. It will pay big dividends in the future!
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From the Media Center

A special message from Mrs. Brooks (Public Librarian and former RFES Media Specialist): Students may access eBooks from the Cumberland County Public Library while at home. The following link will provide information on how to get started with online access:

<https://ccplbulletins.blogspot.com/2020/03/library-provides-e-card-for-all.html>

Programs offered through our Cumberland County Public Library include:

NC Kids Digital Library

eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, videos and read-alongs for young readers through OverDrive's digital reading platform. All that's needed to get started is a library card.

SIRS Knowledge Source Package

Homework and research for elementary and middle school students with articles, images and activities.

TumbleBooks

A library of animated, talking picture books that teaches kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love.

TumbleBookCloud Jr.

Designed for grades 3-6. Includes read-along chapter books, non-fiction books, graphic novels, audiobooks, and videos. Works on most tablets and smartphones.

Thank you for helping us out, Mrs. Brooks.

NOTABLE QUOTES...

If you are not willing to learn, No one can help you! If you are determined to learn, No one can stop you! ~Ziz Ziglar

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest. ~Ben Franklin

*I'm so glad I live in a world where there are *October's**

~ L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

KIDS' CORNER!



What do you call a dinosaur that is sleeping? A dino-snore!

What do you call a duck that gets all A's? A wise quacker!

What goes up and down but doesn't move? Steps!

If an electric train is traveling south at 10 miles per hour and the wind is blowing North at 10 miles per hour, which way does the smoke blow? Electric trains don't have smoke!

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