

PAW PRINTS



Web-Version

Volume 2 Issue 19

June 4, 2009

Rock Creek Forest Elementary School
Mr. David Chia, Principal
Mrs. Stacy Ashton, Assistant Principal

Principal's Update

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank staff and parents for all the hard work and effort during this past school year. Our students have continued to learn much about themselves and the world in which we live. I am proud of our children and the many achievements they have accomplished this year. As we prepare our students for their future, we take pride in what we are able to accomplish each day at Rock Creek Forest Elementary School. We continue with our purpose to *develop every child as a leader* and we look forward to a new school year after our summer break. During the summer months, I know you will all enjoy the extra family time with your children. Staff will appreciate the time to rest, relax and are rejuvenated for the 2009-2010 school year. We are looking forward to our weekly "*Monday Morning Town Meetings*" as a school and we are excited to move ahead with helping our students develop the 7 Habits of Happy Kids.

Please look in your mailboxes for the summer school newsletter in late July. We will have updated staffing information as well as school news to share in this mailing.


Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Over, Mrs. Ashton and I will keep the front office open throughout the summer so please feel free to contact us should you have any questions in preparation for the next school year. Enjoy your summer and we will see you in August!

Mr. Chia
Principal


Developing Every Child as A Leader

School News

Student News

 We congratulate all our fifth grade students as they are promoted to sixth grade on June 15th! Way to go! We are *very proud* of each of you!

Recognition of Service Assembly

 On June 16^h at 9:30 a.m. in the gym, there will be an assembly to recognize students in grades K-5 who have provided a service to Rock Creek Forest. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Ashton at 301.650.6410.


Annual Book Exchange on June 8, 2009!

The Book Exchange will take place on Monday June 8 during the school day.




Donations are being accepted through June 5th.


Summer Leadership Team Meeting

 The *tentative* data for the summer Leadership Team/School Improvement Plan meeting is Tuesday, August 11, 2009 from 8:00 am to 10:00 am in our staff lounge. A confirmed date will be sent in the July summer mailing. We hope many parents will attend to review our achievements from 2008-2009 and our goals for 2009-2010.

Summer School

 Summer school is a great opportunity for your child to reinforce reading and math skills taught during the school year. RCF is encouraging students to attend summer school. Parents that need assistance completing the forms should contact us at 301.650.6410. Please contact Mrs. Ashton for more information.

Media Center Update

 **All books were due back to the Media Center on May 29th.** If a book can not be found at home, the easiest way to clear it from your child's record is to pay for it. At every Media Center class, Mr. Padilla and Mrs. Barry talk remind students who have overdue books out. We encourage the students to take responsibility to find the books and bring them back to the library. If your child receives a notice from the Media Center about an overdue book, please ask

your child about it. **In June, report cards are not distributed until outstanding library fees are paid in full.** If you have questions about overdue and/or lost books, please contact Mrs. Barry at 301.650.6410.

Class News

Kindergarten - As the year comes to an end, we remember all the fun learning days your child had in kindergarten. We are very proud of the progress that our students have achieved. During this summer, please continue to practice the skills that were taught in Kindergarten. Please take time to enjoy your summer with family and friends. Practice your reading every day. Reading is always fun!



Report cards will be sent home the last day of school (June 16th)! We wish you a great summer and an awesome next year in first grade.

The Kindergarten Team - Isa Barnet, Silvia Goncalves, Veronica Lay, Brooke Mayhew and Dolly Xeron

First Grade - The fourth marking quarter is almost finished and the last day of school is Tuesday, June 16th! As we finish up towards the end of the year, students will have fun reading and practicing plays in Language Arts! Our focus for writing continues to be on personal narratives. Writing personal narratives are a great way to integrate our social studies unit on "telling about ourselves," as students can write about personal family traditions. In math, we will continue to work with money and begin re-teaching math concepts learned throughout the school year. Problem solving, fact families, and practicing our addition and subtraction skills will be emphasized as well. Further, in our science unit, we will continue to focus on weather, as we enjoyed our science presentation here at RCF. Our end of the year first grade party will be Thursday, June 11th at 1pm; volunteers are needed... ☺ Please continue to have your child read with you every night and throughout the summer. Reading together is so important. Thank you all for all the

ways you help your children learn, as well as support us! We couldn't do it without you! Have a wonderful and safe summer!

The First Grade Team - Olga Allen, Debbie Cunningham, Nancy Morgan and Melissa Sanders

Second Grade - Second Grade - We are finishing our end-of-the year reading tests. It is exciting to see how the children have grown in this last quarter and throughout the year! We will also focus instruction on reading/following directions and non-fiction text. Please continue to read over the summer. Some of the following questions can be used for discussion:

- *Who are the main characters?*
- *What are their character traits?*
- *Where is the setting (time and place)?*
- *What is the problem in the story and how is it solved?*
- *What lesson OR new information did you learn from the story/book?*

Whatever your summer schedule is, include reading and your child will be off to a great start in third grade! In **math** we are working on our unit 5, which focuses on the foundations of multiplication (repeated addition) and division (repeated subtraction), as well as money. Please continue to practice basic facts at home to build speed and accuracy. Our study of liquids in **science** will come to an end by June 4th. Students will continue to explore and describe a variety of liquids and how they interact with other solids, liquids, and gasses. On these warm days you can experiment at home by making ice-pops and cool drinks like lemonade. Watch solids dissolve and liquids change! In **social studies** we are reading for information about famous leaders and identifying their character traits. Discuss with your child leaders you admire and what makes them affective, positive leaders. In **writing** we are focusing on story elements and writing folktales. Students writing should be organized with a clear beginning, middle and end. We continue to expect students to use correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

Reminders:

Please return all books
June 5th is field day

June 12th is our field trip --- please bring or pre-order a bag lunch

The Second Grade Team - Lyndsay Fetrow, Ronnie Vicenzi, Erin Lisa, Yamalis Nieves and Eva Pacheco

Third Grade - The third grade team continues to work hard as we come to the end of the school year. In math, we will be continuing teaching Unit 6, dealing with measurement, location, and time. In reading, we will be finishing reading to be informed, and we will be completing our texts on fantasy. In writing, we will be finishing our study of poetry. In science, the students will be finishing the unit on sounds, and the students will be presenting their sound projects to the class. And finally, in social studies, we will discuss how cultures change and develop and will discuss the Aztec city of Tenochtitlan.

The Third Grade Team - Nicole Cohen, Rodrigo Godinez, Veronica Kheradmand and Matt Rosenthal

Fourth Grade - We would like to wish all our students a wonderful summer.

The Fourth Grade Team - Jan Bloom, Maria Garcia and Laura Perez

Fifth Grade - Our Reading and Writing classes finalized the Candace Wolf program, "Honoring Our Elders". During the final weeks of the year we will continue to focus on Directed Reading Thinking Activities, (DRTAs) in order to further strengthen our students' reading comprehension skills in preparation for middle school next year.

Math 5 - Math 5 students will finalize their studies related to probability and have their final end of unit examination administered.

Math 6 - Our students are currently preparing for the final end of unit examination related to the study of Probability. This examination will be followed by a brief re-teaching and re-testing session for units 4 and 5.

Science - The Maryland School Assessment in Science was administered on May 4th and 5th. Our final unit of study in Science for this school year continues to focus on cells and heredity.

Social Studies - We will complete our study of American history with the westward expansion

and territorial gain of our country and the consolidation of its infrastructure.

Family Life - Our Family Life and HIV prevention sessions end on May 29. Students have demonstrated much maturity and responsibility in dealing with this highly sensitive matter. Thank you for taking on an active role in supporting your child during these instructional sessions.

We continue to prepare for our 5th grade promotion exercises scheduled for June 12 and June 15, 2009. We would like to extend a word of appreciation to the parents and their committees for having collaborated with us during the preparation phase of our culminating activities. Our Science and Technology night activities were exciting and fun for all of the parents and students who attended.

The Fifth Grade Team - Mary Crilley, Marvin Kopit, Eric McDonald and Ivelisse Yordan-Torres



Calendar

- | | |
|---------|---|
| June 5 | Field Day Grades 1-5 |
| June 8 | Book Exchange, Media Center |
| June 15 | Fifth Grade Promotion (10:00 am) |
| June 16 | Last Day of School
Student Service Recognition (9:30 am)
Early Dismissal: 1:00 p.m. |
| Aug 11 | Leadership Team Meeting (8:00 am) |
| Aug 13 | Jump Start to Kindergarten |
| Aug 28 | Kinder Open House (1:30 pm - 2:00 pm)
Grade 1-5 Open House (2:00 - 3:00 pm) |
| Aug 31 | First Day of School |

Paw Prints is published on the first and third Thursday of each month with school information for parents. The first Thursday edition (odd issue numbers) includes grade level news and the third Thursday edition (even issue numbers) includes teacher specialist news. The web-version is modified from the hard copy version that you receive in Backpack Thursday.



*Rock Creek Forest Elementary School
8330 Grubb Road
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815
301-650-6410*