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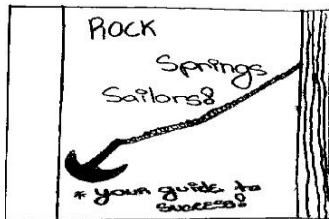
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Rock Springs PTO Newsletter

Issue 1

www.RockSpringsElementaryPTONC.com

September 2014

Principal's Prospective

We are looking forward to a fantastic school year! All of the staff at Rock Springs Elementary are committed to providing students an excellent education and a foundation for success. There is tremendous pride among the staff, students, and parents and it is evident in everything we do!

We also have much to celebrate with our school *Exceeding* growth as determined by the NC Board of Education accountability model. Our overall student performance is well above the standard, and it is because of the hard work and dedication of all stakeholders that this achievement can happen!

I am also looking forward to the "Run for the Rock" experience in October! Students and staff are already pumped up and anticipating this wonderful fundraising event. This is a great opportunity for students to have fun and raise funds to support our school at this same time. We hope to see you on October 10th! As a safety concern, please adhere to the procedures related to student drop-off in the mornings. Students are not to be dropped off before 7:30 am unless they are signed up for the before-care program through the YMCA. All student drop-off should be at the front of the school and students should enter through the front door of the main building. *It is important for everyone to follow these procedures and ensure the safety of all students.*

Thank you for sharing your children with us and we look forward to partnering with you for a great school year!

Sincerely,

Melia Neale, Ph.D., Principal

Important Dates

- ❖ September 22 & 23: Grandparents Breakfast, 8:30am
- ❖ September 22 & 23: Book Fair 8am-4pm, in Teaching Kitchen
- ❖ Denver Days: September 24-27
- ❖ September 25: PTO General Meeting, 6:30pm
- ❖ October 2: PTO Board Meeting, 9:30am
- ❖ October 4: Grounds Work Day, 9am
- ❖ October 10: Run for the Rock
- ❖ October 24: Fall Festival
- ❖ October 27: No School for students
- ❖ November 1: Grounds Work Day, 9am

Sailing Along with your PTO...

Rock Springs PTO hopes all students and staff are off to a promising start of the school year! We would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Neale and all new staff members and families to Rock Springs! We are pleased to have so many parents join our PTO so far. If you have not yet joined, we encourage you to do so. Classrooms with 100% PTO membership will be given an ice-cream party! Run For The Rock, our main fundraiser of the year, is scheduled for Friday, October 10. Please mark your calendars to attend and BRING THOSE PLEDGES! Our goal for the year is \$70,000 - that's right, and WE CAN DO IT!! Who knows what Dr. Neale will do if we hit our goal?! Funds raised from the Fun Run will be used towards items on the school SIT wish list. Last year, funds raised covered such items as classroom allotments, classroom copies, phonics program, Wordly Wise program, Reading Counts program, student planners, technology (3 Smartboards, 6 desktops, 2 laptops), technology software (Brain Pop, DIAL screening, staff development, Science materials and EOG testing resources). Surplus funds covered the cost of additional classroom technology and school risers for concerts and other performances.

We will keep you posted of all events via our newsletter, PTO website, flyers distributed to classrooms, electronic marque, and connect-ed messages.

A very special thank you to all our Executive Committee, Committee Chairs, and everyone who contributes in keeping the Rock Springs PTO smooth sailing! YOU ALL ROCK!

Best regards,

Torri Trexler - President (mattmtrex@aol.com)

Sunny Reeves - President-Elect (sunnyreeves@gmail.com)

Newsletter Sponsors

A huge **THANK YOU** to the Newsletter Sponsors: Dr. Lynn Reed at **West Shore Animal Hospital**; Elizabeth Restino at **Catawba Valley Family Medicine**; Jeff Pettit at **Denver Health and Fitness**; Dr. Wissam Nadra, Dr. Lesley Wallace and Misti Benton NP-C at **Lakeshore Pediatric Center**.

Thank you for your support of Rock Springs!

Thank you to Denver Health & Fitness for hosting a Back to School Zumba Event to benefit our school! Over 80 people participated and donated school supplies that were delivered directly to Rock Springs Elementary School.

Backpacks for Kids

This is a great organization that feeds less fortunate children on the weekends. On Fridays, these children take a backpack home filled with 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners and 5 snacks. To donate, please bring non-perishable food or a monetary donation to Rock Springs Elementary or to Denver United Methodist Church. Questions, please contact Shana Johnson (shanabjohnson@hotmail.com).

Box Tops

Box Tops for Education is excited to begin a new school year! Thanks to everyone who participated last year and helped us to raise over \$7000 for our school! We will be collecting Box Tops throughout the year, and we will have two contests. The top five submitters for the school from September through December will receive prizes. A new contest will run January through May, and the top five submitter's school wide for that time period will also win prizes. Please note that Box Tops will be collected at the end of each month, so mark these dates to turn in your Box Tops: 9/30, 10/31, 11/25 (this will be the **last day** to turn in Box Tops before the holiday break), 1/30, 2/27, 3/31, 4/30 and 5/22. All Box Tops submitted will be totaled throughout the semester, and prizes for the fall semester will be given out shortly after returning to school in January. Any questions, or if you would like to serve on the Box Tops committee, contact Peggy Reed (missp0622@yahoo.com) or Amy LeBorgne (koyalcsik@yahoo.com).

Family Focus

Please join us for our Annual Grandparents Breakfast on Monday, 9/22 (K, 2nd, and 5th), and Tuesday, 9/23 (1st, 3rd, and 4th) at 8:30am. Students may invite their grandparents or any adult to come have breakfast with them. The cost is \$6 per adult. You will be receiving more info on this event from your child's teacher. Any questions, please contact Jennifer Macaluso (jennifermacaluso@charter.net).

Fun Run

Can you believe it's that time of the year again...Run for the Rock time! Pep Rally is October 3rd, 2014 for students and staff only to get students EXCITED! Pledge cards will go home on the 3rd and the students will have the week of the 6th to collect pledges! October 6-9 the Fun Run committee will be coming to the classrooms and getting the students so excited for the FUN RUN on October 10th. We encourage all parents to come cheer your child on during the Fun Run on the 10th. Please look for notes from your child's teacher on the times your child will be running on the 10th. This is an extraordinary event and we are so excited that we are going for \$70,000 this year! Bring in those pledges!!! If you have any questions please email Julie Smith at juliehsmith15@bellsouth.net!!! WooHoo!

PTO Membership

The Rock Springs PTO is gearing up for a new and exciting school year. For those of you unaware of what PTO is, we are the Parent-Teacher-Organization that serves Rock Springs Elementary. The primary goal of the RSE PTO is to organize and implement programs and school activities to enrich the experience for all of our students. Research is clear – kids at schools with a broad base of involved parents perform remarkably better in many different measurements of success. Please take a minute to look at your membership form to see all the great things the PTO was able to fund from all their hard work last year. You can also download a form from the website at www.bellsouth.net. Come join us!! Any questions, contact Miranda Morales (mirandacmorales@gmail.com).

Scrip

UnitedScrip committee is hard at work and almost ready to send home its first envelope. The envelopes will go home Fridays, beginning Sept. 19th and are due back on MONDAY. UnitedScrip is very important to Rock Springs and a great fundraising opportunity for the school. UnitedScrip is a gift card program we use and has local and national retailers on the list. If you are looking for a gift for someone or just want to support our school by simply buying groceries or ice cream, UnitedScrip is for you. I hope to see our school raise a lot of money through Scrip this year! Any questions, please contact Jenn McGinnis (jen_mcginnis@bellsouth.net).

Reminders

Don't forget to relink your Harris Teeter card- our school number is 1195. They donate a percentage of your Harris Teeter brand products purchased to our school! Also, Target RedCard holders, please take advantage of their *Take Charge of Education* program. They donate 1% of your purchases to our school! Go to www.target.com/tcoe and get signed up!

Grade-Level & Other School News:

Kindergarten

We would like to welcome all kindergarten students and parents to Rock Springs Elementary School! Thanks for sending in your child's supplies and remember to sign and return your child's planner daily. Please watch your child's planner and red folder for important papers. We look forward to a great year!

First Grade

Welcome to first grade! We are so excited to begin a new adventure in learning!! Our "Firsties" have been getting to know each other, learning their new school routines, and reviewing kindergarten skills. We are working with each child to complete beginning of the year benchmark assessments (MClass). We look forward to sharing those results during our October parent conferences. First grade is a time of AMAZING growth in young children, and we are honored to share in this important journey with your child. Please continue to sign your child's planner and complete homework each night. Thank you!

Second Grade

Second grade is off to a great start! We have been practicing our procedures and learning routines. During the first part of the year, we will be focusing on story elements (characters, setting, problem, solution, etc.) and building our reading fluency. Please make sure to read at home every night. We will also be learning about place value in math. Studying math facts at home is a great idea to build math fact fluency! We are looking forward to a great year!

Third Grade

We have had a wonderful start to the new school year! Third graders are busy learning new procedures in their classrooms. On September 10th all 3rd graders will take the BOG, Beginning of Grade test. This will be a reading benchmark that will help us track your child's growth for this year. As a reminder, return all papers that went home in the PTO folder and don't forget to send in the \$8 for supplemental materials.

Fourth Grade

We are so excited to enter another fun, productive year in fourth grade! In order for your child to be as successful as possible, we encourage students to practice and learn all math facts. In fourth grade, we begin working with larger numbers and more complex problems, and being able to recall facts quickly is an essential skill. Online resources, apps, and flash cards are all helpful when learning math facts. We also encourage each child to do homework in a quiet, orderly location in order to maximize performance. We know this is going to be a great year!

Fifth Grade

Counselor

Welcome back Rock Springs students!! I hope you had a wonderful summer. This year during classroom guidance we will learn about having good character, bully prevention, careers, and problem solving. Congratulations to 5th grade students chosen for our Peer Helper program during the 1st nine weeks! The environment club will be starting soon and would like everyone to take advantage of the many recycling programs here at Rock Springs. The aluminum recycling trailer, which benefits the club and the Lincoln County Fire Department's Burned Children's Fund, is located in the staff parking lot. Our textile recycling bin is located at the front of the school. Textiles include clothes, shoes, bags, belts, towels, blankets, sheets, etc. Please have these donations in bags when depositing them in the bin. We also have ink cartridges and cell phone recycling inside the building. Please let me know if you have any questions about our recycling programs. Thank you to those volunteers proctoring for our 3rd grade beginning of the year test, we really appreciate your support. It is exciting to be back, it is going to be a great year!

Media

This year we will host a back-to-school "Sneak Peek" book fair for 2 days ONLY! This is a small book fair that will offer a glimpse of the items that will be coming to our full Book Fair in November. The book fair will be open in the teaching kitchen on Monday, September 22 and Tuesday, September 23 from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Due to the limited space and time frame of this fair, whole classes will not attend the book fair. Interested students, parents, grandparents, and staff are invited to shop from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM on Monday and Tuesday. Happy Reading!

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Monday – Friday: 7 AM – 5:30 PM

Saturday: 8 AM – 12 Noon

www.westshoreanimalhospital.com

*Lincoln County Schools
Elementary Lunch Menu*

September

Menu subject to change without notice

*Peanut Butter and Jelly with Yogurt and
Grahams will be offered as an entrée
each day. Fresh Fruit and Resins will be
offered everyday as a Fruit choice.*

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Elizabeth Restino, MD
& Kelly St. George, FNP

Now scheduling new patients. For an
appointment, please call 704.483.0340.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15 Corn Dog Golden Mountain with Roll Crinkle Cut Fries Garden Salad Sliced Peaches	16 Chicken Filet Sandwich Chef Salad with Roll Sweet Potato Waffle Fries Steamed Broccoli Pear Crisp	17 Beef & Cheese Nachos Chicken & Cheese Fajita Pinto Beans Carrot Sticks with Ranch Very Berry Applesauce	18 Cheese Dippers with Marinara Sauce Oven Fried Chicken w/Roll Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Strawberry Cup	19 Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza Garden Salad Steamed Corn Pear Halves
22 Ham & Cheese Sandwich Beef Teriyaki with Roll Carrot Sticks with Ranch Crinkle Cut Fries Tropical Apples	23 Chicken Nuggets with Roll Chef Salad with Roll Mashed Potatoes Green Peas Mixed Fruit	24 Hot Dog with Chili BBQ Sandwich Coleslaw Baked Beans Grapes	25 Turkey Gravy with Rice Tangerine Chicken w/Rice Glazed Carrots Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Oranges	26 Pepperoni Pizza Garden Salad Tater Tots Rosy Applesauce
29 Bagel Bites Deli Turkey and Cheese Sandwich Green Beans Garden Salad Sliced Peaches	30 Chicken Tenders with Roll Chef Salad with Roll Crinkle Cut Fries Steamed Zucchini & Squash Orange Wedges			

News from the Galley

Welcome back Rock Springs students and parents. Our Child Nutrition Department has been busy already getting kitchens set up to serve our customers. Please help me welcome to Rock Springs cafeteria new employees Alene Rudisill, Jessica Schrum, and Karen Pruitt. Returning employees are my assistant, Selena Cobb and myself Carla Svendsen, Manager. We look forward to serving you. Included in your packet of information that was sent home by the school, is a free and reduced form for school meals. This application needs to be filled out and returned to the CN Manager as soon as possible. If your child received free or reduced school meals last year, their status will remain the same for the first 30 days of school. After that, charges will be applied to any student's account who has not submitted a 2014-2015 free & reduced application. Cost for student meals this year is \$2.45 for lunch. Reduced lunch price is .40 cents. Breakfast is free for all Lincoln County Students. Adult meals will remain at \$3.50 for lunch and \$1.50 for breakfast. School policy will not allow charging of any adult meals or a la carte items at any time. If your child has a food allergy, you will be required to submit to the CN Manager, a Special Diet Form. This is available on our Lincoln County School website or you may contact me. This form needs to be completed by parents and your physician and returned to the CN Manager as soon as possible. Our Grandparents breakfast is scheduled for September 22nd and 23rd. More information will follow soon on this. Monthly menus will be sent home again this year to all elementary school children and they are also available on our website. As always, we welcome all comments and suggestions and we look forward to seeing you all this coming school year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carla Svendsen or Selena Cobb at 704-736-1017 Ext 63221. Thank you for supporting your Rock Springs Cafeteria.