



November 2023 Newsletter

Kindergarten Center

www.rutherfordschools.org/kcenter/

November 7	Schools Closed, Election Day
November 9-10	Schools Closed, NJEA Convention
November 13	Tutoring Begins <i>Teachers will reach out to individual families with day and time if a child needs additional support.</i>
November 13-20	Rutherford Food Pantry Drive - Collecting Nonperishable food items as well as personal care and cleaning items
November 16	Lunch Portal Opens for December Orders, 8:00 am
November 22	Celebration of Thanks One Session Day, 12:45 Dismissal, Bring a snack. No Lunch Served
November 23-24	Schools Closed, Happy Thanksgiving!

Absences

- Call the main office to report an absence at **201 438-7675 ext. 6219**
OR
- Email kcenterattendance@rutherfordschools.org with your child's information. Upon return, please provide a written note regarding their absence(s) signed by a parent/guardian as well as a note from the physician if applicable.

All absences must be reported to the main office. Please report your child absent by 9:00 am.

A child must be present for 4 hours to be marked present for the day. Students who are absent more than 18 days may be retained as noted in the Student Handbook however sick children should not attend school. Please provide the proper documentation for health related absences for our records in the event 18 days are accumulated. Your cooperation is appreciated.

(Late) Arrivals

If your child arrives after the doors have closed, they must be signed in at the main office. At no time shall a child be dropped off, unattended, when school is in session. As stated in the Student Handbook, students will receive a detention on the sixth tardy and on every third tardy thereafter. A parent conference will be held to address tardiness. During the first Trimester, it is understood that kindergarteners and families are adjusting to the new norms, however, this will be enforced following the Thanksgiving break.

Allergies and Medical Information

All medical forms are available online and Nurse Erica Farrell can be contacted at 201 438-7675 ext. 7278 or efarrell@rutherfordschools.org. Please be sure Nurse Erica is notified of any changes or updates regarding any medical situations as the year progresses.

Attitude of Gratitude

This month we are focusing on gratitude and fostering an *Attitude of Gratitude* throughout the month. Our culminating activity will be for students to create a classroom quilt. Each piece of the class quilt will be decorated by individual students representing something(s) or someone they are grateful for and will then share with their classmates. These quilts will be displayed within our school.

Celebrations

Birthday celebrations are food free and no food is to be distributed from home at any time. To celebrate your child on their special day, students may bring in a party favor, donate an item such as a book or game to the class, and/or have a guest reader. Additionally, party invitations will be distributed at school **only if** the whole class or all boys/ all girls are invited. Please contact your child's teacher directly to coordinate.

Dismissal

Students are dismissed from the designated dismissal doors at 2:35. Parents/guardians must meet their child directly at their class dismissal area to ensure a safe dismissal. Parking in crosswalks and blocking driveways pose safety hazards and is inconsiderate to our neighbors. If your child is being picked up by someone that is not on the authorized dismissal list, please be sure you have contacted the teacher prior to the start of the day.

Dress for the Weather

Students go outside to play on a daily basis. Remember to label all additional clothing items. Children will not go outside if it is raining or in heavy snow however if you decide to send your child in boots for inclement weather, please send a pair of shoes that they can participate in PE or outside play if applicable.

Drop-off Line

The drop-off line begins on Highland Cross and continues north on Sylvan Street. Please follow the staff's directives as you pull up. Cars are to pull all the way up to the driveway and pull up directly to the car behind them. Once stopped in the drop-off lane on Sylvan Street, please have your child exit the car **independently**. Parents/Guardians are not permitted to exit the car when utilizing the drop-off lane. Staff is there to supervise, however, your child must be able to independently exit the car. This includes unbuckling and opening/closing the door. If your child can not, you must park and walk your child to the front of the building.

Extra Set of Clothes

If you have not already done so, please place an extra set of clothes with undergarments (in a labeled ziplock bag) inside your child's backpack in case of a spill or accident. The clothing will be kept at school. This is separate from that requested by Bulldog Care. Be sure to return a new set of clothes in the event your child needed to change while at school.

Lost Items

To reduce the number of items in our Lost and Found Box, which will be located in the north lobby, please label all clothing items (sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets, hats etc.) with your child's name or initials. From time to time we will have all items outside the school for parents to go through.

Lunch

Parents must provide a drink and lunch for their child daily. Please see the options below:

Lunch from Home: Please provide a lunch meal, snack and drink. The school does not heat lunches or provide drinks. Glass containers are not permitted to be sent to school. Please practice opening containers independently and be sure to send utensils/napkins.

PTA Lunch: The PTA provides pre-order lunches from various local businesses. The specifics regarding the lunches have been shared directly by the PTA. They offer Bagels on Tuesdays, Pizza on Wednesdays and Jim Dandy's on Thursdays.

Ordered Lunch: The Kindergarten Center falls under Lincoln School for lunch ordering and you **must** select Lincoln School as the school when prompted. Specific information regarding the lunch service has been shared. The district will notify families via email as to when the lunch portal is open for each month. **Lunch orders are not accepted after the closing date of the portal.**

If a child does not have lunch, they will receive an extra lunch or crackers.

Playground/School Grounds

Bulldog Care has priority to use the outdoor school grounds beginning at 3:00 daily. Should you allow time for your child to play following dismissal, please be sure to leave school grounds by 3:00. All children must be well supervised by their adult. Children should be in sight of their adult at all times and should refrain from playing on the stairs, ringing the bells to the building, throwing rocks or any other items, standing on top of the climbing "rock" on the playground or being physical with other children. **It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to maintain the safety of our students.**

Respect

Throughout the month of October the Kindergarten Center focused on learning about and showing respect through various activities. Most recently, students shared their House Projects that are now beautifully displayed throughout the building! Well done!

Rutherford Food Pantry Drive

Please help us collect personal care and cleaning items for the Rutherford Food Pantry. The food pantry serves many families in need within our community. Please send your items to school beginning November 13th through November 20th. A collection box is located in the lobby.

