



February 2024 Newsletter

Kindergarten Center

www.rutherfordschools.org/kcenter/

February 5	Library Tales - Ms. Sayre
February 6	Library Tales - Mrs. Parkinson
February 7	Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
February 8	Visit to Lincoln or Washington for Author, Beth Ferry Presentation
February 9	Spirit Wear Day-Wear your favorite Team Jersey
February 12	Library Tales - Mrs. Kratzer
February 13	Penguin Pointers Assembly 100th Day of School! (if no snow days used) Library Tales - Mrs. Rim
February 14	Valentine Card Exchange (No candy)-Dress in Red or Pink
February 15	Lunch Portal Opens for March Orders
February 16	Schools Closed - Winter Recess
February 19	Schools Closed - Winter Recess
February 20	Library Tales - Ms. Cocoz
February 26	One Session Day-12:45 Dismissal No Lunch Served; Bring a snack
February 27	Library Tales - Ms. Ruglio

**Please note all books borrowed from the Public Library during the Library Tales visit must be returned directly to the Rutherford Public Library. Do not send them back to school for any reason.*

Health Office/Medical Information

- Please keep all children home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol/Motrin.
- Any student that has vomiting and diarrhea must stay home for 24 hours until the symptoms have passed.
- Please be sure to follow up with the pediatrician if your child has a productive or persistent cough.
- If your child was seen by a physician, please provide a note to the school.
- Head Lice: Please continue your part by checking your child's hair daily. Please notify [Nurse Erica](#) if you identify head lice or have a question about it.
- **Doctor notes are required for gym and recess accommodations.**

Absences

To report an absence, call **201 438-7675 ext. 6219** or Email kcenterattendance@rutherfordschools.org

Please report absences by 9:00 am.

Provide your child's name and teacher and upon return, please provide a written note regarding their absence(s) signed by a parent/guardian and/or a note from the physician regarding their absences.

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. Please provide the proper documentation for health related absences for our records in the event 18 days are accumulated. Your cooperation is appreciated.

100th Day of School!

It is hard to believe that the students are approaching their 100th day of kindergarten. The 100th day of school will be celebrated with fun activities! Practice counting with your child to by 1's or see how far they can count by skip counting by 2's, 5's or 10's to 100 as a fun way to celebrate our 100th day!

(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, 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, as we start the 2nd Trimester, **all students are expected to be arriving on time and as noted, students will receive a lunch detention on the sixth tardy and on every third tardy thereafter.**

Author Visit

Author Beth Ferry will be visiting and presenting for students Kindergarten to Grade 3. Kindergarteners will be attending the presentation at Lincoln or Washington School with their class and classroom teacher on February 8 via a district school bus. **Your teacher will provide additional information respective to the school your child will be visiting.**

Celebrations

Food/candy will not be distributed from home at any time. To celebrate your child on their birthday, 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. Valentine's Day will be recognized with a card exchange. All may participate by bringing in a card for each classmate. Teachers will provide the numbers of students in the class. 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.

Dental Health Month

February is National Children's Dental Health month. This month, Nurse Erica will be visiting the classrooms to help promote dental health and general hygiene. If you are in need of assistance obtaining dental healthcare, please contact Nurse Erica.

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.

Early Dismissal and Delayed Opening

You will be notified via the Connect 5 System regarding any change in schedules. **In the event of an early dismissal, students will be dismissed at 12:45 pm.** Please note that **Bulldog Care does not run its afternoon program on early dismissal days due to emergency closings and students must be picked up at the end of their day.** There is no lunch on these days and students should be provided a substantial nut-free snack if the decision is made prior to the start of the day. **In the event of a delayed opening, lobby entrance doors will open between 10:30 am and 10:45 am. Bulldog Care does not run the before care program on delayed opening days.** There is no lunch on these days and students should be provided a substantial nut-free snack. Dismissal procedures remain the same.

Library Tales

Each class will be visiting the Rutherford Public Library. Our town librarian will provide them the opportunity to explore the various resources available and read the class a story. Students will be transported to the library via district school bus or on occasion walk. Any items that your child borrows from the library must be returned directly to the library. The school is not responsible for items. Library cards do not need to be sent into school or created prior to. Dates are scheduled from January through June of 2024:

Mrs. Bomzer	January 30	March 4	April 22
Ms. Cocoz	January 23	February 20	May 28
Mrs. Kratzer	January 9	February 12	May 21
Mrs. Parkinson	January 8	February 6	April 23
Mrs. Rim	January 22	February 13	June 14
Ms. Ruglio	January 16	February 27	June 11
Ms. Sayre	January 2	February 5	April 17
Mrs. Witalis	January 29	March 12	May 13

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. 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.

Penguin Pointers Assembly

Jenkinsons Aquarium will visit the Kindergarten Center on February 13. Students will learn about penguins and their habitats!

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.**

Update Contact Information

It is imperative that the Kindergarten Center have the most updated information regarding parent information and emergency contact information. It is also important that parents have identified someone that is local who is available in the event that your child needs to be picked up early due to illness or unplanned school closures. Contact Ms. Liz in the main office if any changes need to be made.

Valentine Card Exchange

The Kindergarten Center's Valentine Card Exchange will be held on Wednesday, February 14th. Each child may participate by bringing in a card for each of their classmates.

February 14, Valentine's Day

Student Card Exchange

The Kindergarten Center's Valentine Card Exchange will be held on Wednesday, February 14th. Each child may participate by bringing in a card for each of their classmates. A letter with the number of students in your child's class will be sent home from your child's teacher. Please remember that food and candy are not allowed to be distributed.



March 2, Read Across America



Reading Across Rutherford Project

National Read Across America Day is recognized on March 2 as a way to celebrate reading in children in communities throughout the county. Throughout the month of March, teachers will be planning and organizing various activities to further promote the love of reading. The Kindergarten Center will start off the month of March with the annual Reading Across Rutherford Project. This project entails a photo of your child reading somewhere in Rutherford. Suggestions/ideas for pictures may be your child reading with a pet, reading in a park, reading a street sign or store front. Please attach the photo to the template that will be sent home later this month and return by **Thursday, February 29th.**

