



# March 2024 Newsletter

## Kindergarten Center

[www.rutherfordschools.org/kcenter/](http://www.rutherfordschools.org/kcenter/)

### DATES UPDATED

March 1	Read Across America-See attached calendar. <b>Spirit Day- Flashlight Friday!</b> Bring a book and a flashlight!
March 4	Read Across Rutherford Day- RHS students and the Bulldog visit! <b>Spirit Day-Dress like <i>The Cat in the Hat</i>, wear Black, Red &amp; White</b> or show school spirit in <b>blue</b> and white! Library Tales*-Mrs. Bomzer
March 5	<b>Spirit Day -Oh, the Places You'll Go!</b> Wear a shirt from your favorite place
March 6	<b>Spirit Day-Fox in Socks</b> , Wear fun/silly or mismatched socks. Trimester 2 Ends
March 7	<b>Spirit Day-What Pet Should I Get?</b> Bring a stuffed animal to school
March 8	<b>Spirit Day-Snuggle up with a good book!</b> Bring a favorite book and and wear your pajamas (no slippers)
March 11-22	PTA's APEX Fundraiser-Details to follow
March 13-14	Creative Recyclables Assembly
March 15	<b>Spirit Day-Beach Day-Bring a favorite book and beach towel</b>
March 18	<b>Spirit Day-Green Day!-Dress up in <b>green</b>!</b>
March 20	Chick Eggs arrive from Quiver Farms <b>One Session Day-12:45 Dismissal</b> ; Bring a snack
March 21	Outdoor Yoga for students-Bring a yoga mat or beach towel Lunch Portal <b>Opens</b> for <b>April</b> Orders
March 25	Report Cards viewable via Parent Portal
March 28	EZ Ride Bike & Safety Assembly
March 29	Schools Closed, Good Friday

## 2024-2025 School Year

Information regarding your child's school assignment for Grade 1 will be sent out in a letter from the respective principal in late spring. Registration for students entering kindergarten in September of 2024 has begun. Please help us spread the word that new kindergarten registration, those entering kindergarten in the fall, is open and all entering are encouraged to do so in a timely manner to help us best prepare for the incoming class. Your help is appreciated!

## 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](mailto: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.**

### **APEX Fun Run**

The APEX team will be empowering students at the Kindergarten Center March 11 through March 22 to believe that they can be leaders to help make our world a better place! Students and classes will be challenged to share their lessons with those at home and help raise money for the PTA. With a focus on fitness and leadership, the final event will be the **APEX Fun Run** on March 22! Daily information will be posted on Dojo and shared by the PTA!

### **(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.**

### **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. 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.

### **Chick Eggs Arrival**

The PTA is sponsoring a chick hatching program through Quiver Farm Projects Inc. for the children at the K-Center. We are anticipating their arrival on March 20. The classes will view the eggs in an incubator daily and after a few days at the K-Center, the eggs will hatch. The observations made each day are sure to make memories of a lifetime!

### **Creative Recyclables Assembly**

The Montclair Art Museum Team will be visiting the Kindergarten Center on March 13 and March 14. Students will create three-dimensional sculptural objects using recyclable objects.

### **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.

**Extra Set of Clothes**

Students will be bringing home their extra set of clothes to be replaced with a more seasonal set of clothing. Please be sure to return the extra set promptly. Clothing should be in a labeled ziplock bag and include undergarments and socks. The clothing will be kept at school. This is separate from that requested by Bulldog Care.

**EZ Ride Bike & Safety Assembly**

The EZ Ride Bike and Safety Team will be visiting the Kindergarten Center on March 28 for a presentation to help the students learn how to bike and walk safely!

**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. Coccoz	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 including Bagels on Tuesdays, Pizza/Pasta on Wednesdays and Jim Dandy's on Thursdays. Drinks are not included so please be sure a drink is sent to school daily.

**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.*

### **Outdoor Yoga**

As the weather finally begins to look like spring, we look forward to our spring yoga sessions on March 21, April 25 and May 16. Please dress to participate and bring your towel or yoga mat on these days.

### **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.**

### **Read Across America**

NEA's Read Across America Day is March 2, 2024. Read Across America is aimed at opening up the world of reading to children in every community! A month of exciting activities have been planned by our teachers to further promote a love of reading. Please see the attached calendar.

### **Summer Enrichment Academy (SEA)**

Registration for students entering kindergarten through grade 3 will begin in early April. Students will be involved in thematic units centered around a high interest topic. Teachers will integrate math, science, social studies, and language arts through the unit of study. Students will get to explore, delve deep into topics, and use their creativity to share what is learned. The goal is to get the children excited about learning, use higher level thinking skills, foster creativity, and have fun with friends.

### **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.

*\*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.*

