

KINDERGARTEN NEWSLETTER

January 2026

What We Learned

Reading and Writing

Kindergarteners have been working hard in phonics expanding letter knowledge to include o, d, c, u, g, and b, practicing their sounds, identifying them in words, and forming each letter correctly. Students are blending and stretching sounds to read new words, tapping out sounds to spell, and applying their phonics skills in their writings, as they more readily label and generate simple sentences.

Math

Students have **compared numbers** from 0–10 by counting and drawing objects and deciding which group is greater than, less than, or equal to. Kindergarteners explored classifying objects into categories based on given characteristics (color, size, etc.) and organized information by groupings and comparing the totals.

Upcoming Events

- **School Reopens:**
 - Jan. 5
- **School Closed:**
 - Jan. 19 MLK Jr. Observance
 - Jan. 23 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- **One Session Day:**
 - Jan. 22 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- **Great Kindness Spirit Week:**
 - Jan. 26, Monday, **Pajama Day**
Dreaming of Kindness!
 - Jan. 27, Tuesday, **Bright Colors**
Bright with Kindness!
 - Jan. 28, Wednesday, **Superhero**
Kindness is a Superpower!
 - Jan 29, Thursday, **Mismatched**
It is okay to be different!
 - Jan. 30, Friday- **School Spirit**
Team Kindness

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Reminders

Rutherford Public Library

Students will be visiting the Rutherford Public Library starting in January with their class and will be able to borrow items. It is the responsibility of each family to return items to the library. Your cooperation in advance is appreciated.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for 15 minutes meetings. Your teacher will provide an update of your child's academic, social, and emotional performance within their school day and is available to answer any questions. It is imperative that all be respectful of the assigned start and end times so please arrive promptly and leave respectfully.

Google Calendar

The district and school calendar are updated regularly. Please follow to stay up to date!

Parent Academy

The Rutherford Parent Academy provides information sessions for parents on a variety of topics. Please consider attending. If you are unable to attend, or are interested in topics previously discussed, all sessions are recorded and available on our website!

Autonomy Builds Self-Worth!

As a child develops, the need for parents to step back and "Let Go" can be challenging; however, the importance of this is instrumental to developing as a student! Learning to button, zip, and snap clothing or containers may seem minor, but it is necessary! These small victories teach competence and independence, paving the way for larger accomplishments, such as tackling complex math problems or advocating for one's own learning needs. Every step toward self-sufficiency builds a child's confidence, ultimately nurturing their sense of self-worth.

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School Wide

January Let Grow

To truly succeed, children need opportunities to problem-solve and work independently, both at school and at home. Our goal is to foster the resilience, joy, and independence that comes from meaningful play and problem-solving; The simple joy of playing without constant over-supervision; and the feeling of accomplishment when something went wrong and figure out how to fix it. In the new year, we ask you to "let go" a little more and allow your child the space to grow and surprise you with what they can do on their own!

Great Kindness Challenge Spirit Week

TGKC encourages students to be proactive in kind acts, fostering a culture of compassion, unity, and respect. The corresponding spirit week is a fun, visible enthusiasm that helps students internalize kindness as a habit and inspires countless good deeds throughout the school community.

Absences/Late Arrivals

Please report a child's absence by email or calling **no later than 9a.m.!**

kcenterattendance@rutherfordschools.org

or

201 438-7675 ext 6219 (Main office)

Late arrivals are disruptive to the students' learning. Please be mindful of arriving promptly. Children with a significant number of tardies will miss a lunch recess.

Health Update

A child must be symptom free without the use of medicine for 24 hours before returning to school.

This includes:

fever
diarrhea
vomiting

If you have concerns regarding your child's health, please contact, Nurse Erica Farrell, directly. efararell@rutherfordschools.org

Maintain good hygiene by establishing healthy habits for your family including hand washing with soap and water for 30 seconds, elbow covering coughs and sneezes, and effectively blowing nose. **PLEASE HELP TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S INDEPENDENCE WITH THESE!**