

WEEKLY UPDATE – 2.8.18

Head of School Message - Ms. Martha

Welcome to February in Wisconsin!! As we navigate our way through the snow and illnesses, we are still reminded about how the seasons are vital for children to understand how the earth works. We hope for healthy children and nice snow to play in. Looking at animal and people tracks in the snow is always a fun activity with children if you can make the time. We may as well enjoy the winter as long as it is here!

No School Tomorrow

There is no school tomorrow in order for staff to participate in professional development.



Panera Fundraising Night **TONIGHT**

Flyers were placed in parent mailboxes a couple weeks ago for our Panera fundraiser. Bring the flyer to the cashier when placing your order and they'll donate a portion of the proceeds from the purchase to the school. The event will take place on Thursday, February 8, from 4 to 8 pm. Lost your flyer? No problem! Extra flyers are available on the table next to the parent mailboxes.

Montessori Compass App Notice

Our Toddler House parents send out messages almost daily, and the Children's House sends out messages every Friday. If you are using the compass app on your phone, the weekly messages will show up under the "reports" icon. We have also heard that sometimes parents are not receiving the email that the daily/weekly report is available. If the email from compass is not in your promotions/junk folder (some email programs will do that), please let Melissa know at mbadger@rockprairiemontessori.com.

♥ Valentine's Day

Please see the following messages on how the various classes organize card delivery:

Toddler House

Students are invited to bring in cards for Valentine's Day. We will exchange cards on Wednesday, February 14th. Please send 15 Valentine's cards with your child. The children will be making Valentine's bags and will deliver the cards themselves. Therefore, it is important that the cards are NOT labeled with the names of each child; you can say "Friend" instead. Of course, you may label them with who they are from!



Children's House

Please send in 27 valentines and leave the "To:" blank or put "My friend" in that spot. These just need your child's name on them. If you want to include a small treat with the valentine, that is fine. Bags to hold the valentine's are provided.

Elementary

We ask on February 14 for students to bring a card for everyone (if they wish to participate). There are 36 children in the class. Please have your child just sign their own name and leave the recipient blank. Please no toys, trinkets, candy, or treats. We would like to focus on friendship and kindness during that week. Homemade cards are encouraged.

Landmark Study Finds Positive Impact of Public Montessori Programs in South Carolina

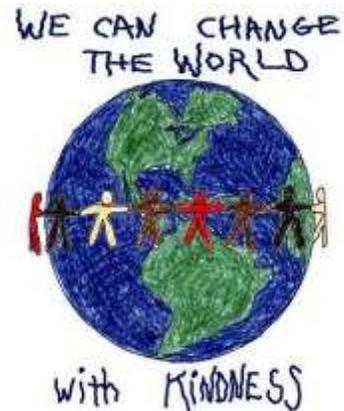
The Riley Institute at Furman University has completed a five-year study of Montessori education in South Carolina's public schools. Showing evidence of positive impact on students, it is the most comprehensive study of public Montessori programs ever conducted in the United States. [Click here to read more.](#)

Kindness Week Next Week!

The week of February 12-16, Elementary will celebrate Friendship and Kindness Week. They would like to extend kindness and friendship to others in our community, focusing on helping students and families in need. Each day students are asked to bring in a donation to help others. They invite our whole RPMS Community to participate as well! There will be bins in the front vestibule or near the classroom for the donations. Each day has a theme with an associated charity that will receive the donations:

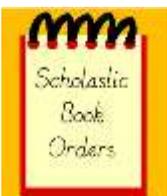
- Monday: Packaged Canned goods ([Echo Janesville](#))
- Tuesday: Travel Hygiene Items ((mouthwash, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, lotion)
([Project 16:49](#)-Homeless Youth)
- Wednesday: School supplies (Project 16:49)
- Thursday: \$5 gift cards for gas/fast food (Project 16:49)
- Friday: Diapers (Local charities)

Items can be brought in each day, or all together in one trip.



Note About Re-enrollment

If you are intending to send your child to school next Fall, we will need you to please go into your child's account (which can be done via the TADS link sent to you) and complete the enrollment for the 2018-19 school year. You can do this by going through each tab, and clicking on "continue and submit" until you get to the final submit button. At that point your child will be officially enrolled. If you are not sure if you completed the enrollment, please feel free to check with me or Amber in the front office, and we can check for you.



Scholastic Update

Those that ordered Scholastic books in January can pick up their orders in the vestibule by the parent mailboxes. Thanks to your orders last month, the school earned \$305 worth of books for our school! Booklets for February ordering will be out next week.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences appointment slots have been posted on SignupGenius. This is a great time to celebrate your child and discuss their progress with their teacher. **Parents of Kindergarten students who have Ms. Ellen or Ms. Monica are asked to sign up only for the kindergarten conference time; your child's morning progress report will be included at that time. Parent of students who have Ms. Mary in the morning (including her kindergarten students) should use the regular sign up for Ms. Mary's conferences.** Please also note that conferences are being done during the **entire day** of Wednesday, February 28 (no school day) and the **evenings** of February 27, March 1 or March 7-8 (depending on class).



[Click here](#) to sign up for Ms. Stacy's Conferences

[Click here](#) to sign up for Ms. Tracey's Conferences

[Click here](#) to sign up for Ms. Ellen's Conferences (non-Kindergarten students)

[Click here](#) to sign up for Ms. Monica's Conferences (non-Kindergarten students)

[Click here](#) to sign up for Ms. Mary's Conferences (including Kindergarteners who have Ms. Mary in the morning)

[Click here](#) to sign up for a **Kindergarten Conference** (Kindergarteners who have Ms. Ellen or Ms. Monica in the morning)

[Click here](#) to sign up for an **Elementary GRADES 1-3 Conference**

[Click here](#) to sign up for an **Elementary GRADES 4-6 Conference**

Bids 4 Kids - Looking for Donations

Not sure what to donate? We are looking for:

- Bottles of Wine (for wine pull)
- Items to help pull baskets together such as sporting equipment, home improvement and decor, art, beauty items, memorabilia, kids' fun, wellness, experiences, etc.
- Baskets (to put items in)
- Sponsorships

If you have a business you'd like to ask for donations, we have on the table in the vestibule: B4K Letter of Request, Donation form and Sponsorship form (which lists levels of sponsorship). Remember that donations count for volunteer hours! (approx. \$10 = 1 volunteer hour).

The event will be Saturday, April 7, starting at 6 pm at The Armory in downtown Janesville. This year's theme is Wild West - so start looking for those cowboy boots and hats! **Tickets bought in advance (in the school office are \$10 each; admission at the door will be \$15.**



EVENTS

Finding Events

Besides our weekly update, events are also posted on our [online Parent Google Calendar](#).

No School - Staff Inservice Day - February 9

No School, Conference Prep Day - February 23

No School - Spring Conferences - February 28

March 26-April 2 - Spring Break (school resumes April 3)

Bids 4 Kids "Wild Wild West" - Saturday, April 7, 6-10 pm (*Tickets on sale soon!*)

Spring Pictures - April 11 (Toddler, Elementary and Siblings) and April 12 (Children's House)

SAVE THE DATE! - April 25, 6 pm: Dr. Paul Epstein Presentation/Discussion on Middle School and Montessori education. Child care will be available.

All Montessori Compass photos will be deleted on June 1, 2018 to plan for the next school-year. Throughout the school year please download any photos you would like to keep.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Family Volunteer Hours

RPMS families are asked to contribute 10 volunteer hours before the end of April 2018. Parent meetings, parent education events, and conferences are included in these hours; double attendance means double the hours! Always refer to the Weekly Update for volunteer opportunities. Families can log their volunteer hours in the binder found in the school foyer, or online at: <http://bit.ly/Vol1718>. *Any unfulfilled hours will be invoiced at \$10/hour after April.*

Selling Scrip Cards at School



We need volunteers to sell Scrip cards on school days, during the busy times of day. This helps us stay in compliance with the IRS in having the majority of the program run by volunteers. Tasks include taking orders for inventory/non-inventory stock, taking money, and distributing in-stock cards. Help is always right across the hall in the front office! **Don't worry**

if you can't commit to every single time for your time slot that month. Whatever you can make would be great!

To sign up for shifts in February, please go to:

www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4da8ae2ba2f94-scrip6

To sign up for shifts in March, please go to:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0D4DA8AE2BA2F94-scrip7

Bids 4 Kids Volunteer Signup Coming Soon!

We will need help with various one-hour slots for the April 7 Bids 4 Kids including taking registration, manning the wine pull, selling raffle tickets, running games, and silent auction checkout. Stay tuned for more information coming in the next couple of weeks!