



December/January

RGS Parent Newsletter

Caring Project

RGS students really showed that they care by donating \$355.51 for our caring project this year! The money will be donated to Whimpy's Fund which provides gifts to needy families who otherwise might not have received gifts for Christmas. Thank you parents for encouraging your children to donate to such a worthy cause.

Holiday Parties

Our holiday parties will be held on December 21st. Each teacher will be sending more information home about the specifics of each classroom's party soon. We again ask that parents do not bring pre-school age children to the parties.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Again this year our school collected food items for needy families. Items were donated to the Old Stone Church food pantry. Thank you children, parents, and staff members for all your contributions and to the P.T.O. volunteers who organized the food drive.

School Closings

If we have to close school due to inclement weather, you will be notified by telephone by our automated School Messenger system. The system will automatically call the number we have listed as your primary telephone number in the office. School closings are also reported by local Rockford television stations. Please do not call the school to ask if we are in session.

We want to keep the phone lines open to take phone calls about absences and any problems with buses. Thank you.

Brrr! Dress Warmly

The winter temperatures have arrived! Please remember to send your child to school with outside weather gear - a warm coat, hat, scarf, gloves, and boots, when the snow starts to accumulate. The children are outside before school starts in the morning when the temperature and/or wind chill is 20 degrees or higher. For the morning and afternoon recesses, they go outside if the temp/wind chill is 15 degrees or above. So please - send that cold weather gear - and label items with your child's name! There are several winter wear items on our Lost and Found table already. If your child is missing something, please come check out the Lost and Found in the hallway outside our cafeteria.

Honesty

Our character trait at RGS for January is Honesty. The daily pledge that we recite together is, "I will be honest by telling the truth and admitting my mistakes." The Berenstain Bears continue to do a great job introducing the traits each month. Being honest shows that you are a person who is also respectful, responsible and caring. You show you are honest when you tell the truth, keep your promises, and act respectfully. We remind children that playing by the rules, not cheating, and admitting when one makes a mistake are also ways to show you are an honest person.

Visit our District website: www.rockton140.org

Some things parents and siblings can do at home to help your children be honest:

Read a book and talk about how the characters in that book showed honesty or other the character traits we've covered this year (respect, responsibility, caring).

Catch them being honest. Expressing your approval is a powerful way to reinforce honest behaviors in your children.

Model the kind of honest behavior you want your child to adopt. You are your child's most powerful teacher.

Yearbooks!

Pre-order your yearbook now. Yearbooks cost \$16.00 and checks should be made payable to The Rockton PTO. Pre-orders are due Friday, December 21st. A special thank you to Stacey Heiar who graciously volunteers her time creating our yearbook. There will be another opportunity to purchase yearbooks in February.

Kindergarten/Preschool Screening

Our kindergarten/preschool screening for children ages 3 - 5 will be on March 12th - 14th. More information will be coming home in January.

Important Dates

December:

- 4th - PTO meeting 6pm WPES lounge
- 10th - Booster Club meeting 4:30- SMMS
- 12th - Second Grade Concert 6:30 p.m.
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- 19th - Board of Education Meeting,
6:00pm, RGS Library
- 21st - Red and Green day
- 21st - Last Day before Winter Vacation

January:

- 7th - School Resumes
- 7th - Booster Club meeting 4:30- SMMS
- 8th - Market Day pick-up 4:30 WPES
- 11th - End of second quarter
- 15th - PTO meeting 6 pm WPES lounge
- 17th - Report Card day 1st/2nd grades
- 18th - No School - Teacher Institute
- 19th - Ice Hog Game - PTO Fundraiser
- 21st - No School - Martin Luther King
Day
- 23rd - Board of Education Meeting,
6:00pm, RGS Library
- 25th - Crazy Sock Day