

Week of Respect activities organized by School Counselor, Jessica Gosses



Fall Fun at RBS



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Rock Brook Family News - October 2016

Important Upcoming Dates

October

- Oct 28 Halloween - In-School Activities
Trunk-or-Treat begins at 1:00 pm
- Oct 31 RBS Early Dismissal -1:30 pm
Staff Development

November

- Nov 4 mixedbag Sale Ends
- Nov 6 Daylight Savings Ends
- Nov 10 Sibling Visit Day 10:00 - 11:00 am
- Nov 11 Holiday Sale - In School for Students
- Nov 14-16 Parent Conferences
- Nov 14-16 Early Dismissal for Students 1:30 pm
- Nov 14-18 Book Fair In-School
- Nov 15 RBS Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- Nov 23 Early Dismissal for All 1:30 pm
- Nov 24-25 RBS Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- Dec 3 PNO 5:30 - 9:30 pm
- Dec 9 Early Dismissal for Students 1:30 pm
Staff Development
- Dec 23 Early Dismissal for All 1:30 pm
Winter Break
- Dec 26-30 RBS Closed - Winter Break

January 2017

- Jan 2 RBS Closed - Winter Break

Professional Development On-site and Off



We are committed as a staff to continue our learning and exposure to new ideas to help us deliver thorough and thoughtful programs to our students.

Off Site - Philadelphia

The annual ASHA (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) Convention will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia on November 17-19, 2016. This is the main annual event for speech-language pathologist, audiologist and speech, language and hearing scientists. More than 14,000 professionals attend. It provides opportunities to learn about the latest research, how to improve clinical skills, and more treatment techniques as well as to gain new tools and resources. There are half day short courses, seminars, poster sessions and special technical sessions. The Exhibit Hall is huge and filled with many different vendors to sample and discuss products. Most of our speech pathology staff will be attending the Convention since it is local this year.

On-Site- Staff Development Day

Friday, September 30th, was an on-site Staff Development Day for all RBS staff. We learned more about how to implement the new IEP program, IEP Direct. We are hoping that this new format will make our IEP process more efficient as it appears to be more user friendly for staff. Additionally, a majority of our sending districts also have it so we are able to coordinate the document online.

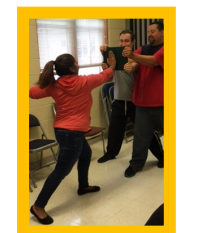
We were also fortunate to have Master Jorge Lee from ATA Legacy of Hillsborough lead us through team building activities. With support from each other, we are able to achieve more. Just take a look at us breaking boards!!

From the Director, Mary Caterson


Hello Everyone,

We try to pass along to you resources and all types of information that we receive that we hope will be helpful. A website that I like is Disability Scoop (www.disabilityscoop.com). The articles aren't too long so you can actually read most of them without a major time commitment. The topics range from the increase in SSI benefits in 2017 (0.3%; an automatic cost of living adjustment) to graduation rates of students with disabilities (they are rising) to the new series on Netflix about someone with Asperger's. Check it out and let us know any other websites that you like and find interesting. Thanks!

Mary



Parent Communication / Involvement / Support at RBS			
<h2>HALLOWEEN AT RBS</h2> <p>We will be having a parade and visiting trunk-or-treat cars at <u>1pm on Friday, 10/28</u>. This will be followed by a dance with treats.</p> <p>Please sign up via the email you received from sign-up-genius!!</p> <div>    </div>		<div>  <h3><u>Box Tops for Education</u></h3> <p>Please send in all of those little pink rectangles by <u>October 21st</u> so that our parent volunteers can get them submitted by the November 1st due date. If you want you can batch them in groups of 10 to assist them with the submission.</p> </div> <div>  <h3><u>Used Printer Ink Cartridges</u></h3> <p>Please donate your empty printer ink cartridges. The cartridges get recycled for cash and then the money is used to purchase food and gifts for the local food bank.</p> </div>	
<h2><u>Shoes over Orthotics</u></h2> <p>Did you know that Zappos has a filter for “shoes over orthotics”? Hover the computer mouse over the main “shoes” menu. A pop up menu will appear. On the right look under “Specialty Shoes” and there is a link to “Orthotic Friendly”. http://www.zappos.com/orthotic-friendly-shoes~q</p> <div>  <p>There is also a very cool converse style that is called “Converse Easy Hi”. Just search online for it and you will see lots of different choices.</p> </div>			
<div>  <p>mixedbag designs is a great fundraiser RBS started a few years ago. This school year we are trying it as a Fall event so that you can “think” Holiday Gifts. All orders are due November 4th. The company offers bags, lunch boxes, scarves, and gift items. Again this year they have a separate kitchen catalog. Checks get made out to: Rock Brook School so you can take multiple payments from friends and family members. There are some samples at the school if you want to see their products.</p> </div>		<p>SIBLING DAY - 11/10/2016 - 10-11 am </p> <p>siblings are invited to join us at RBS for a discussion & activity with school counselor Jessica Gosses. Afterwards they can spend time in their siblings classroom.</p> <div>  <p>Holiday Sale - 11/11/16 - GS Troop visits RBS and our students “Buy” gifts for their family and friends. It is a lot of fun. Make sure you complete the Yellow Form and return it with cash - \$1 per gift by October 27th.</p> </div>	
<h3><u>Casey’s Corner - by RBS Student Casey</u></h3> <p>Have you ever heard of the YMCA Camp Bernie? I spent 2 days there and it was fun. My dad and I stayed overnight and here are some of the things we did: archery, Stream Ecology, wall climbing and a low rope course. We also had a reptile show and a campfire! I had an awesome time and recommend Camp Bernie for all children! If you’re interested here is the phone number: (908-832-5315) and e-mail info@campbernienymca.org</p>		<h3><u>Guest Feature Article - by RBS student Larry</u></h3> <p>September 29th was back to school night. It was a night when our parents came to school and the teachers taught the parents what their kids are doing in school this year. The parents learned a lot.</p>	
<p>We are very excited to present the two articles above. They were each carefully written by a Class 6 student with the assistance of Resource Room Teacher or the Occupational Therapist. Great Job Casey and Larry.</p>			

Speech Corner - by Miss Chrissy - HS	
<p>Benefits of Joint Reading</p> <p>Parental involvement in children’s academics has proven to be very beneficial to their success in school. Children’s early reading experiences with their parents prepares them for formal instruction in literacy. Being involved in your child’s reading directly influences their language and literacy skills. Specifically, positive impacts on their comprehension and expressive language skills has been reported. Parental involvement in children’s reading is more impactful to their literacy development than is family background, social class, and parental education. Although the most beneficial joint reading starts when your child is young, it can be beneficial at any age, such as elementary and high school. It’s never too late to engage your child in literacy practice.</p> <p>During joint reading, parents and children take turns reading from the pages with whatever language skills and imaginary skills are available to them. Usually parents take the lead in reading the story, pausing for their child to fill in an idea, and encourage them to take over the story whenever they wish to. Often times, the parents allow the child to take the lead and scaffold as needed.</p> <p>Here are some examples/ideas to help promote joint reading with your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your child questions. For example, for a beginner reader, ask simple wh- question (e.g., what, where, when, why). For a more advanced reader, ask your child to make predictions, ask how the characters feel, and ask what your child has learned. Identify and discuss new vocabulary words. Choose themed books to elaborate on words from a particular category. Play games with words, such as a synonym or antonym game. Make a word web by writing or use picture symbols (whatever is applicable). Hone in on prepositions and play a “Simon Says” game and have your child work on following directions (e.g., Simon says put the ball under your chair) and link these ideas to the book. Have your child retell the story (using the pictures to help if needed). Story retelling is a very beneficial skill which helps your child demonstrate comprehension, fosters imagination, and helps make connections to their world. 	
<p><u>Scholastic Book Fair</u> <u>November 14-18, 2016</u></p> <p>We will be hosting our book fair in the Fall this school year. What a perfect time to pick up some books to read with your RBS student. Our book fair will be open during school hours and parent conferences. We can accept cash, checks and credit cards.</p> <div>  </div>	<p><u>We look forward to seeing you during our Fall Parent Conference time, November 14 to the 16th.</u></p> <p>On-going communication between school and home helps us all as we promote skills for school requirements, home demands and community activities. These conferences are meant to be a two-way conversation; for you to learn from us and also for us to learn from you. Our mutual insight into a student’s strength and needs, learning styles and out of school learning opportunities and experiences can help us understand the children and improve our instructional and therapeutic approaches. See you soon!</p>