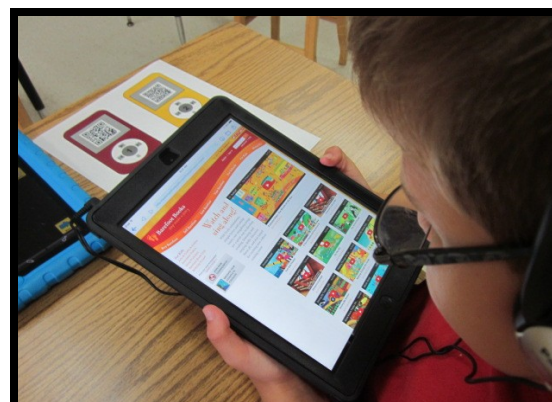




Technology at Rock Brook.



RBS Safety Patrol



Rock Brook School * 109 Orchard Road * Skillman, NJ 08558

www.rock-brook.org * Telephone: 908-431-9500 * Fax: 908-431-9503 * info@rock-brook.org

Rock Brook Family News - September 2014

Important Upcoming Dates

October

- Oct 3 Pizza Lunch Begins
- Oct 4 Parent's Night Out 5:30-9:30pm
- Oct 13 RBS Closed for STUDENTS - Staff Development
- Oct 31 Halloween - In-School Activities / Details to Follow

November

- Nov 1 Parent's Night Out 5:30-9:30pm
- Nov 6 Sibling Visit Day 10-11 am
- Nov 11 RBS Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- Nov 17-19 Parent Conferences
- Nov 17-19 Early Dismissal for Students 1:30 pm
- Nov 26 Early Dismissal for All 1:30 pm
- Nov 27-28 RBS Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

"New Monthly Feature for Rock Brook Family News"

Interesting Research

A small but newly published study from the MIND Institute at the University of California published in the Journal of Autism and Social Development analyzed seven babies at high risk for autism. Their parents received 12 weekly sessions on how to more effectively improve their babies social communication and play. By 3 years of age, five of the seven babies were considered to be developing normally and had no diagnosis of autism-spectrum disorder. Four of the seven had older siblings diagnosed with autism.

Researchers believed repeated social stimulation and making engagement with other people more appealing helped the babies learn more about social information, which is necessary for learning language and communication skills. This study is thought to be the only one to focus on such young children at this time.

Maybe these babies would have caught up anyway and there are many other considerations about parameters of the study. Because it was a small study, the researcher will try to replicate with a larger, randomized trial. It does add to the body of evidence that confirms that early intervention is important.

From the Director

Mary Caterson

Dear Parents,

As we return to school this fall we look forward to working with you to help your child develop skills that enable them to succeed and be happy in their lives. This means focusing on solution talk...not problem talk...solution thinking rather than problem thinking...and tasks for solutions that will facilitate achievements.

We look forward to many discussions and solutions this year!

Mary Caterson

Thank you to Parent Volunteer Ada. She helped us put together our new Technology Tables.



Rock Brook is live on facebook!!! Check it out and make sure you like our page.

Parent Involvement / Support at Rock Brook School.

Rock Brook will be Attending:
Please Join Us!!



Sunday - October 5 - Walk Now for Autism Speaks-Central NJ, ETS-Princeton, NJ

Rock Brook will host a table. If anyone would like to help at this table we will be there from 10 am - 12 pm. We would like families sign up as a RBS group to participate in the 1 mile walk at 12:00 pm.

For more information:
<http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/faf/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=1100629&lis=1&kntae1100629=7506785987394F289F73B9F153EC0C0C&team=6150892&tlteam=0>



Fall Plant Sale

This fall we are excited to offer Fall Flowers from Ace Greenhouses. This is where we get the plants for our Mother's Day plant sale in the Spring. They are of fantastic quality and available at very reasonable prices. We will let you know when your order is in.

PNO

Our 1st Parent's Night Out for the 2014-2015 School Year is this Saturday, October 4th. It's not too late to sign up. Please send in your form tomorrow. It should be a lot of fun.



Box Tops for Education

RBS earns cash for our school with these little pink rectangles. If your child wants to tape or glue them on to a collection sheet at home please check out:
www.boxtops4education.com/learn/flyers.aspx

Collection sheets are listed on the left side. You can use any one - it doesn't have to be the current season or theme.



Target

If you have a Target charge card you can register it to have a 1 % of your charges made at Target donated to Rock Brook. Go to the Target Red Card site and find the Benefits Tab. Then enroll in the Take Charge of Education program and select Rock Brook as the recipient. There are no fees to set this up. **We just received a check from Target for the 2013-2014 school year program and it was \$489!!!!**

Used Printer Ink Cartridges



Donate your used Printer Ink Cartridges. Class 7 recycles them for cash. The money is then used during the Winter Holidays to purchase food and gifts for local food banks and other groups with Holiday Wish Lists.

Please contact Christy Tracey at Rock Brook with any questions.
christy@rock-brook.org

Speech Department News

September - Back to Routine!

September is the time of year when the word "routine" seems to take precedence. Organization and time management are equally just as paramount when most of us are trying to cope with the end of summer and the "back to school" demands. Use of schedules, calendars, and ever growing "to do" lists are just some of the ways we try to tackle the task of establishing a routine.

The same can be true for many of our students as they take on the start of a new school year. Even though most children will not express this need, we do know that children benefit greatly from structure, organization and routine. September is a great time to implement some of the following organizational strategies, and thereby work to establish some healthy routines. Good luck!

- Post weekly calendars/schedules for your child to refer to for daily events and routines.
- Post monthly calendars/schedules for your child to refer to for monthly events and holidays.
- Designate a "launch pad" or location for your child to keep their book bag and lunch box.
- Set up a time for homework and pick a dedicated homework spot.
- Create a homework supply kit for quick accessibility to school supplies.
- Establish a routine of packing snacks and lunches, as well as selecting clothing, the night before and be sure to include your child in the duties.
- If possible, incorporate story-time/reading into the bedtime routine to ensure daily literacy activities.

Please feel free to ask your child's Speech Language Specialist for help in creating any needed calendars and/or schedules.

Miss Maggie's Technology Room!

Welcome to another year of Technology and Digital Learning here at the Rock Brook School. The students kicked off the year exploring QR Codes! What is a QR code?

A QR code looks like this:



(Give it a try - you'll like where it takes you.)

A QR code (quick response code) is a type of 2D matrix bar code that is used to provide easy access to information through a smart phone, or here at RBS, through our iPads. Surely you have seen these around. You may have seen QR Codes in a magazine advert, on a billboard, a web page or even on someone's t-shirt. Our students have been using QR codes to access various e-books, short stories and related reading comprehension activities. We will continue to explore the world of QR Codes, and all that we access with them, throughout the year!