



Pictures from ESY 2017



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Rock Brook Family News - September 2017

Important Upcoming Dates

SEPTEMBER 2017

28 Back-to-School Night
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

29 Pizza Lunch Begins

OCTOBER 2017

2-5 Week of Respect

6 **RBS Closed for Students**
Staff Development

12 Parent Meeting/SCOTUS
What Parents Need to Know
7:00 pm

14 PNO
5:30 - 9:30 pm

16-20 School Violence &
Vandalism Awareness Week

17 mixed bag Sale Begins

27 RBS Halloween
Celebration

From the Director Mary Caterson

Welcome to the 2017-18 School Year! It has been a doozy so far with hurricanes, earthquakes and forest fires in our country. We are grateful that we have not had to deal with those kinds of challenges and our daily school routines are in swing. Rock Brook students know about community service and under the leadership of the Safety Patrol, will be conducting a fundraiser for hurricane victims. They plan on doing it in December & look forward to your participation.

Mary

By Mary Caterson, Rock Brook School Director

Information about PSSDs...

Private Schools for Students with Disabilities (PSSD) in NJ serve more than 11,000 children ages 3 – 21 who have complex disabilities.

Federal and State Laws require all students with disabilities receive an appropriate special education at no cost to parents. **Come to the workshop on 10/12 to find out more about the SCOTUS ruling on the meaning of the word "appropriate".**

Public school districts place students with disabilities in private schools when the in-district programs cannot meet a child's needs.

Public Schools pay tuition; rates are set annually by the NJDOE. Districts pay a "per diem" or daily rate for each day school is in session. The daily rate is charged even if your child is absent as they are an enrolled student.

Many private schools in New Jersey are tax-exempt charitable organizations established for the benefit of the students they serve. (RBS is a 501(c)3).

By Katie Hardgrove, Rock Brook School Principal

We are all adjusting to the new 2017-2018 school year. Since RBS school times have changed, we would like all families to use the arrival and dismissal procedures listed below. **Also if you have a child who normally takes the bus and you decide to drop them off or pick them up from RBS - it is your responsibility to notify your child's bus company.**

MORNING DROP OFF:

The school day starts at 8:40 am. Students may start entering the school at 8:35 am. There is a designated parent drop-off and pick up section in front of the school between the dumpster and the second walkway. Please pull up to the car line behind the other parent cars. If there is not a space, please do not double park, but pull back around the circle until one becomes available.

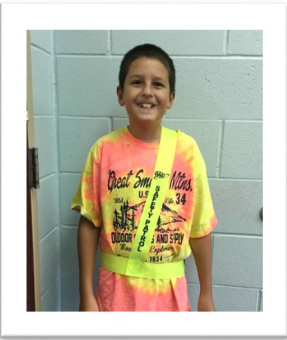


AFTERNOON PICK-UP:

The school day ends at 3:00 pm. **Dismissal for parent pick-up starts at 2:45 pm.** Students will wait on the bench in front of the school /weather permitting. In inclement weather students will wait under the overhang. RBS does not have an aftercare program so **all students need to be picked up by 3:00 pm.**

Please be advised that in order for the RBS staff to account for the well being and security of every student at dismissal, staff will not be available between 2:40 - 3:00 pm. If you need to speak to a staff member directly please park your car in a visitor spot and sign-into the school. Thank you for your help!!



We look forward to seeing you at Back-to-School Night, Thursday, September, 28th from 6:30—8:30 pm.

Parent Communication / Involvement / Support at RBS	School Counselor Ms. G. Jessica Gosses, M.Ed., LPC										
<p>Rock Brook’s Back to School Night Thursday, September 28th 6:30 - 8:30 pm.</p> <p>This program is designed for parents to hear from the school director, principal, meet their child’s teaching team, learn about what is planned for the Fall and visit with other Rock Brook Parents.</p>	<p>Meet our newest member of the RBS Safety Patrol. Congratulations! M. B. will be helping at RBS by announcing staff & student Birthdays!</p> 										
<p><u>Evening Parent Meeting</u></p> <p>Empowering Parents: SCOTUS Demands more from School Districts: What Parents Need to Know.</p> <p>Presented by: Hinkle, Fingles, Prior & Fischer, Attorneys at Law Mary Caterson, RBS Director Jessica Gosses, RBS School Counselor</p> <p>When: Thursday, October 12, 2017 Time: 7:00 pm Where: Rock Brook School (No Childcare) RSVP: Please let us know if you plan on attending by Tuesday, October 10, 2017</p>	<p>Week of Respect Oct. 2-5th and School Violence & Vandalism Week Oct. 16-20th</p> <p>Rock Brook Students and Staff will be participating in these two nationally recognized school programs. Ms. G. has a schedule of activities planned out for our students. Details will come out closer to each week so that you can help your student plan for the days events. Afterschool you can discuss what your student did at RBS.</p>										
<p><u>Parent’s Night Out / PNO</u></p> <p><u>Our 1st Parent’s Night Out for the 2017-2018 School Year is Saturday, October 14th.</u></p> <p>PNO is scheduled for the following 4 dates: October 14th December 2nd February 3rd April 14th Plan ahead - they are always a lot of fun!!</p> <p><u>Online link to form to RSVP</u></p>	<p> <u>SCHOOL SUPPLIES</u></p> <p>Thank you to all of the RBS Families that have already donated many of the requested school supplies. Listed below are the items that we still could use a few more of.</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>* Colored Markers</td><td>* Glue Sticks</td></tr><tr><td>* Velcro Dots, strips or tape</td><td>* Scotch Tape</td></tr><tr><td>* Hand Sanitizer</td><td>* Pencils</td></tr><tr><td>* Crayons</td><td>* Baby Wipes</td></tr><tr><td>* Construction Paper</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	* Colored Markers	* Glue Sticks	* Velcro Dots, strips or tape	* Scotch Tape	* Hand Sanitizer	* Pencils	* Crayons	* Baby Wipes	* Construction Paper	
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<p> mixedbag Fundraiser 10/17/17 -11/3/17</p> <p>mixedbag designs is a great fundraiser RBS started a few years ago. The company offers bags, lunch boxes, scarves, and gift items. Again this year they have a separate kitchen catalog. Start thinking “Holiday Gifts”. All orders are due back to RBS by November 3rd. Checks get made out to: Rock Brook School so you can take multiple payments from friends and family members. Samples will be at Back to School Night!!</p>											
<p>Just as a reminder, we have the parentReach Emergency Notification Alert System that will notify you with a phone call when we have a delayed opening or are closed due to inclement weather. On the caller ID it will say Rock Brook. <u>You need to answer and say hello to hear the message.</u></p>											

Speech Corner - By Miss Mariya - Speech Classroom 2
<p><u>Breaking the Barriers: AAC in the Water</u></p> <p>by: Mariya Rakhmanchik, M.S., CCC-SLS</p> <p>Whether your child is at the beach, lake, or waterpark, in the pool or bathtub, or simply playing in the sprinklers or at a water table, communication does NOT and should NOT stop just because water or sand are involved. What can you do?</p> <p>Creating a low-tech communication board that is waterproof and floats is a great option. Your child's Speech-Language Specialist is a great resource to reach out to help find target vocabulary that focuses on a variety of communicative functions, as well as create this board using your child’s symbolset system. You can use Aided Language Stimulation (ALgS) and other specific teaching strategies (i.e., use AAC to model AAC language) to model and expand upon communication skills. Point to the symbols as you talk to your child, model its use, and encourage your child to use this board to communicate with you! Create many communication opportunities to use the board for multiple communication functions. These may include to gain attention (e.g., “look”), direct another person’s actions (e.g., “go fast”), request by action (e.g., “want float”; “go up”), request by object (e.g., “want” + “noodle”), request assistance (e.g., “I want help”), refuse/reject (e.g., “stop”, “all done”), request continuation (e.g., “more” + “splash”), take turns (e.g., “I go”; “you go”), comment (e.g., “I like”; “cold water”), etc...</p> <p>Here are a few ideas on how to make communication continue to happen in these elements!</p> <p><u>Materials:</u></p> <p>Communication board (i.e., vocabulary represented as symbols) printed out on cardstock</p> <p>Large baggie with zip lock seals (size needs to fit around the communication board)</p> <p>Laminate (use a heat seal laminating machine)</p> <p>Scotch heavy duty packing tape</p> <p>Pick an option: foam garden kneeler pad: one with a cut out handle works best for the pool, rectangular Styrofoam plate, small kickboard, piece of cardboard around the same size as the high-tech AAC device, waterproof clipboard, or a baseball card holder sleeve.</p> <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <p>Create and print the communication board. Laminate the sheet 2-3 times. Cut out board leaving an edge of ½ inch of laminate space around entire parameter to keep your board waterproof. After laminating, you have many choices: (1) Attach board to cardboard via packing tape and place inside zip lock bag. (2) Put board in baggie and seal pushing excess air out so it lays flat. Place baggie on whatever you are attaching board to (i.e., (choose an option from materials section) and use the packing tape to wrap multiple layers around entire baggie repeatedly in once piece without cutting tape to start again.)</p> <p><u>References:</u></p> <p>Ahern, K. (2014, 6 22). <i>AAC in the water</i>. Retrieved from http://teachinglearnerswithmultipleneeds.blogspot.ca/2014/06/aac-in-water.html?m=1</p> <p>Canfield, Th, Cumley, J., Gierach, J., Lones, G., Maro, J., Obukowicz, M., Pallaske, M., Reed, P., Rozanski, D., Sheets, L., Stindt, K., Walser, P., Weingarten, Sh., (2003). <i>D.E.S.K. (designing environments for successful kids)</i>. Retrieved from http://www.wati.org/content/supports/free/pdf/DESKDec08.pdf</p> <p>Senner, J.E., Harris, Sh. (2013). <i>Creative solutions to overcoming barriers</i>. Retrieved from http://www.talcaac.com/Senner%20Harris%20OPPL%202013.pdf</p>
