



## Family Flyer

October 2023



### Reminders/Special Messages

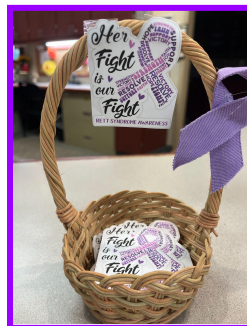
#### Thank you Mason!

Mason Kucharski, Post Graduate student, helped out our Early Childhood Center (ECC) by placing batteries in switch buttons for their classroom. The ECC students and staff were so grateful for his assistance.



#### Rett Syndrome Day

Students and staff were invited to wear purple earlier this month as we brought awareness to Rett Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder.



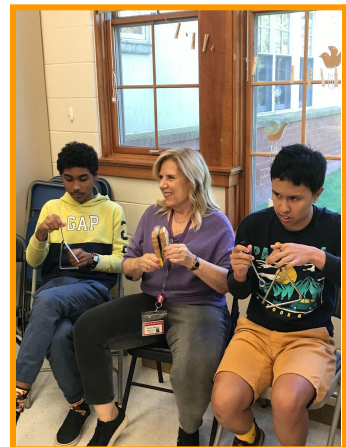
## Air Therapy Dogs Program

Our therapy dogs were back in action at RBS on Friday, 10/13 to visit with our students and staff. Our furry visitors included Lily, Journee, and McKenly. The students enjoyed their time with the dogs and learned some interesting things about the dogs such as their favorite food and what they like to do during the day.



## Art and Music

One of the interesting instruments your children have the opportunity to explore is the Korokiko. An ancient Japanese instrument that produces a gentle clatter that kids absolutely love and a wonderful introduction to music! This is a great toy for improving hand-eye coordination and other gross motor skills while experiencing the fun of playing music. This instrument provides rhythmic foundations that stimulate musical creativity. In music, students are learning about musical notation and using rhythm cards and rhythm sticks to follow rhythm sequences.



Ms. Janet is happy to share that our high school and post graduate students have been introduced to playing the recorder. In class, students are already playing some lovely tones and we look forward to sharing their progress as we learn simple fingerings and songs.

In arts and crafts, students have been painting with different mediums and created some fun fall projects. The projects are usually related to music themes. The classes plan to make beautiful sounding ocean drums and will be sent home by Thanksgiving.

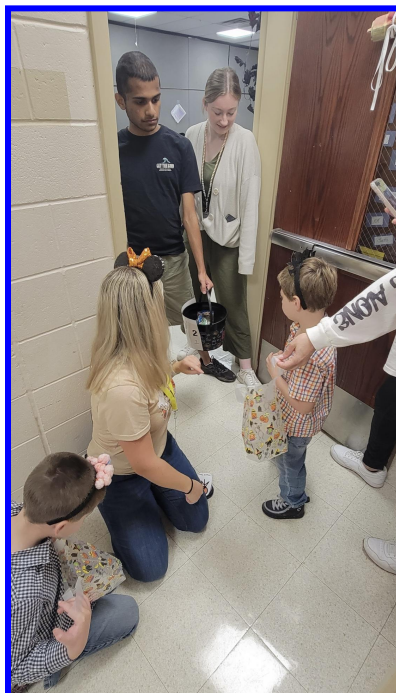




## Trick or Treat Activity

Last week, Natalie Romano, Speech Language Pathologist, led a trick or treat social skills activity for both ECC and Class 4 during their language lessons. In addition, students had the opportunity to implement these social concepts by having cross-class interactions with our high school and post graduate classes. As Natalie Romano shared, “Teaching the concept of trick or treating is a great way to target conversation exchange, social pragmatics, turn-taking, waiting, and following directions.”

Prior to the cross-class interactions, class discussions included the topic of Halloween and the concept of trick or treating by participating in a social skill story and using a total communication approach. After the social skill story, the students practiced the social exchange in class with peers. The students from ECC and Class 4 were so excited to trick or treat with high school and post-grad students. They all had a blast! !



## Rock Brook School Video PenPal Program

Mr. Dave Goldberg, InformationTechnology (IT), has provided an opportunity here at Rock Brook School for our Class 4 students to connect with a school in India. The Disha School serves a similar population of students as Rock Brook. Click on the link to learn a bit more about the school ([Disha School](#)).

Dave had a thought to establish communication between students of both schools as he has connection to the school through a friend. Since Disha School is 9-1/2 hours ahead of us, live remote sessions were not practical, so it was decided to conduct this communication through video sharing.

For this program, Rock Brook School students and Disha School students create short and simple videos about themselves and explore cultural similarities and differences. This program is such a wonderful way to connect our students with others in a meaningful way. As this begins, we are looking to expand it to our other students throughout the building in the near future.

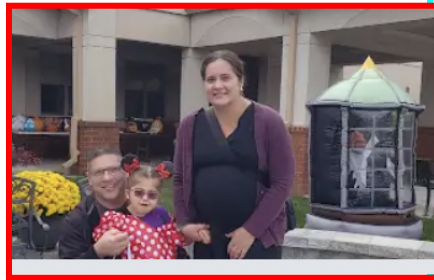
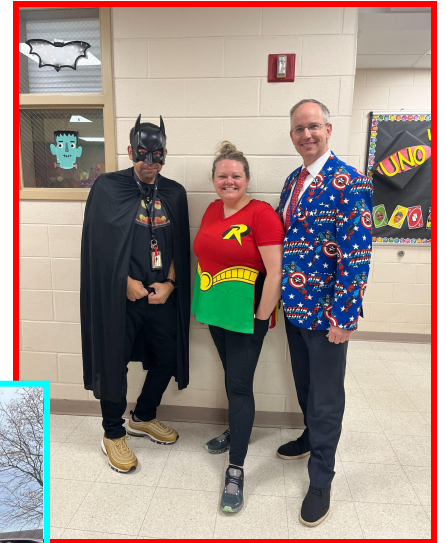




## Halloween Trunk-or-Treat Celebration

We had an amazing school-wide Trunk-or-Treat celebration last week. From our student and staff costumes, Trunk-or-Treat providers, to our families who came as spectators, it was all wonderful to be a part of! We appreciate everyone's participation and it was nice to have our school community come together for this special event.

A special thanks to our Trunk-or-Treat providers. Thank you for coming to the school to set up your cars which looked absolutely amazing and were so creative! We all enjoyed stopping by your cars to pick up some delicious treats!



**RBS Facebook Page** Please like, follow and share today!

- [RBS Facebook](#)

## **Message from our Nursing Team**

- ★ As we continue into the cold & flu season please be diligent to keep our school safe and stay home when feeling ill!
- ★ Handwashing is super helpful in keeping everyone healthy through this season!
- ★ Reminder of our illness policy
  - Fever > 100.4F will be sent home & must be fever free WITHOUT medications for 24 hours before returning to school
  - Diarrhea, excessive sneezing/cold symptoms will also be excluded for at least 24 hours, must have improvement of symptoms WITHOUT medication

**A doctors note with alternative diagnosis and clearance for school is the best way to keep our school safe and diagnose between a common cold, RSV, Flu, and COVID-19.**

**Please contact our health office at [nurse@rock-brook.org](mailto:nurse@rock-brook.org) for any questions/concerns!**







November 2023		
11/9	Thursday	12:30 Early Dismissal for Students and Staff
11/10	Friday	School Closed for Students and Staff
11/16	Thursday	12:30 Early Dismissal for Students / Afternoon and Evening Conferences
11/17	Friday	Therapy Dogs, 9:00-10:00 am 12:30 Early Dismissal for Students / Afternoon Conferences
11/22	Wednesday	12:30 Early Dismissal for Students and Staff
11/23 & 11/24	Thursday & Friday	Thanksgiving Recess

