

Family Flyer

April 2024

Reminders/Special Messages

- **Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)** Testing window remains open through 5/24 - (Grades 3-8, and 11)
- **Field Day, 5/31** - Parent Volunteers Welcome - We are looking forward to our upcoming Field Day. This year, we are seeking parent volunteers to participate in this fun day to help facilitate games for the students.
 - Should you be interested in joining us on this day, please RSVP by sending an email to Thomas Connolly, Principal by Friday 5/3. (thomas.connolly@rock-brook.org)
- **End-of-Year Celebration, 6/12** - ECC, Class 3, Class 4, Class 5, and Class 6 - RSVP to follow
- **End-of-Year Celebration/Graduation, 6/13** -HS & PG - RSVP to follow
 - Rain date, 6/14



Michelangelo Visits Rock Brook School

Students and staff had the opportunity to meet and interact with Michelangelo, a miniature therapy horse from Hope's Promise Farm in Chester, NJ. He visits residents at assisted living facilities/nursing homes/group homes and students at schools for children with special needs. Michelangelo brought smiles to everyone he met at RBS.

◆ [Hope's Promise](#)

Michelangelo also has a picture book that has been published about him. The book is titled, *Michelangelo, The Little Therapy Horse*.



Take Your Child to Work Day!

We had many participants this year and had a day full of activities and fun! Thank you to all of our guests for joining us. We hope to see you next year!



Spring Carnival, June 9, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Hosted by the Governor and First Lady and the Drumthwacket Foundation, the **Annual Spring Carnival for Special Needs Children ages 4 to 12** is held every Spring. Bounce houses, art projects, face painting, balloon twisters, treasure hunt, and pony rides make for a memorable day.

On-line registration opened on Monday, April 29 at 9:00 am.

- [Spring Carnival](#)

Rock Brook School is not sponsoring this event and will not receive any benefit from you attending. We are sharing this information as we feel you and your family may enjoy this opportunity should you be interested.

Rock Brook is in the News! Click on the link to read the article featured in the TAPinto Bridgewater

- [Rock Brook School Students Enjoy a Visit from the Montgomery EMS](#)

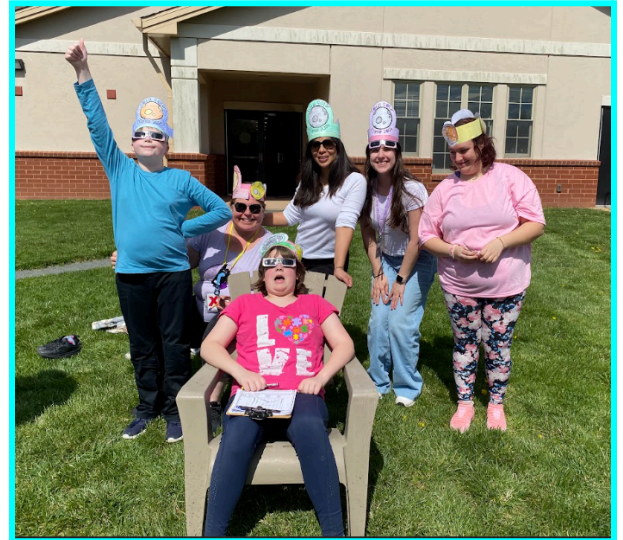


What's Happening **Around the Building!**

Class 5- Solar Eclipse Fun!

★ **Teacher - Vicki Addinozio**

Class 5 participated in observation and research activities leading up to, during, and after our recent April 8th Solar Eclipse! Students spent time learning about eclipses in our previous science unit. They read nonfiction books and researched all about eclipses leading up to and in the week after the eclipse. On the day of the eclipse students practiced safe observation routines. The class observed what the sun looks like normally with eclipse glasses. During the eclipse, our class participated in an observation picnic! We brought out a picnic blanket and recorded our observations at timed intervals. We had a great day!



CLASS 6 - Here's the Buzz!

★ Teacher - Jennifer Small

We have worked hard on our independence and functional life skills in our classroom. This month, we made quesadillas and bagels with three choices (i.e., vegan butter, plain, and vegetable cream cheese) and blueberry muffins. During these cooking lessons, we use measuring cups to measure liquids (i.e., water, vegetable oil). The students collected all the tools and ingredients needed for the recipe (i.e., they gathered the materials needed from the refrigerator and cabinet in our classroom). The students experienced new foods and flavors.

Students are working and progressing very well with our updated "Life Skills/ADL" section of our classroom (picture below). The students have been folding towels, hanging clothes on hangers, sorting gift cards, and matching socks. When we go on class trips to Shoprite, the students place cold items in the refrigerator and non-perishable items in the cabinet (i.e., bread, tortillas, canned goods, snacks, plates, and plastic utensils).

In reading, we read about Holi, Eid, and rainstorms. We will continue reading about Autism Acceptance Month, where students identified words (i.e., Autism, April, acceptance, skills, talents, strength, and support). Within the next couple of weeks, we are receiving our butterfly kit. Each student will watch their very own caterpillar's day-to-day development and transformation, and we will read "Welcome Back Butterflies" and "Hello Butterfly" (i.e., new vocabulary words: eggs, larva, pupa, and adult). The students are excited to observe the caterpillars each morning upon their arrival.



Physical Movement/Gym

★ Teacher - Jennifer Dinardi

Swing... batter, batter! Students are learning the fundamentals of baseball through wiffle ball with Coach Jenn Dinardi. Whether they are hitting off a pitch/tee, manning a base or cheering on their classmates, everyone has the opportunity to participate as a team player in our spring sports league. Please take the time to ask your child about their wiffle ball experiences and connect this knowledge to the game of baseball.



Music

★ Teacher - Janet Campbell

This year at Rock Brook School we started an additional Music Appreciation program for HS1, HS2 and Post Grad students. The students are learning how to draw line and space notes on the staff, a C major scale and also how to draw a treble clef. We play recorders and have learned basic fingerings to be able to play along with the following videos. A few students accompany the recorders by playing similar notes on the desk bells and/or resonator bells. Continuing our study each month of a Classical Composer we are studying Mozart. We're preparing our songs already for Graduation and enjoy many additional musical activities.



Musical Notation:

- [The Music Staff - Getting Ready To Read Music](#)
- [The Musical Staff: Lines and Spaces](#)

Recorder:

- [VMM Recorder Song](#)
- [How to Play the Recorder](#)
- [B.A.G. Medley: Recorder](#)
- [Eye of the Tiger Recorder Play Along](#)



Mozart

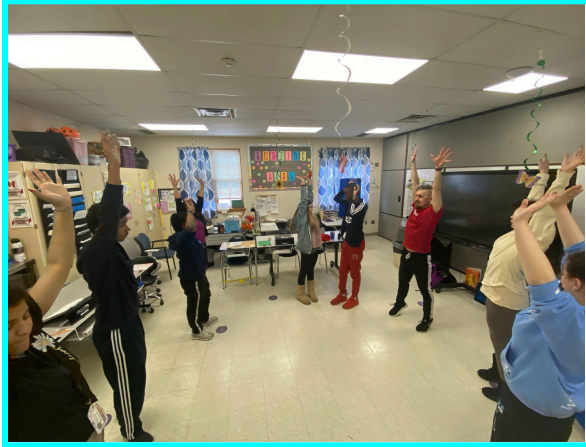
- [Meet Mozart: Composer Biography for Kids](#)



Dance

★ Teacher -David Kieffer

Rock Brook students practice stretching and breathing at the end of their dance class with Mr. David. We're always trying to get our students to become more mobile and improve their healthy habits.



Security Drills: This month students participated in a fire drill, as well as a non-fire evacuation drill. Our students continue to follow all the necessary procedures when we are conducting our emergency drills.

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