

## ***Family Flyer***

**May/June 2024**

### **Reminders/Special Messages**

- **Therapy Dogs, 6/7**
- **High School & Post Graduate Dance, Tuesday, 6/11, 1:00- 2:30 pm**
- **End-of-Year Celebration, Wednesday, 6/12 - ECC, Class 3, Class 4, Class 5, and Class 6**
  - Please RSVP by Friday, June 7
- **End-of-Year Celebration/Graduation, Thursday, 6/13 -HS & PG (Rain date, 6/14)**
  - Please RSVP by Friday, June 7
- **Extended Year Program: July 8 to August 9, 8:30 to 2:00 pm**
  - Please note, on our first day of ESY, July 8, we will be operating on a delayed opening schedule with arrival at 10:00 am.

### **Community Events**

- **American Young Voices - Children's Choir Concert, June 6.** Please click on the link to learn more about this educational musical opportunity. Should you be interested in attending with your family, please feel free to contact Mr. Kaplan, Rock Brook parent, who will be able to provide you with tickets. Mr. Kaplan can be reached at [kkaplan@americanyoungvoices.com](mailto:kkaplan@americanyoungvoices.com)
- **Spring Carnival, June 9**

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.

→ Click on the link to register

◆ [\*\*Spring Carnival\*\*](#)
- **20th Annual Autism Beach Bash, September 8**

Autism Beach Bash is held each summer on the 14th Ave. beach in Belmar, NJ and features a surf camp with Surfers Healing, a California based nonprofit specializing in working with children with special needs.

→ Click on the link for more information

◆ [\*\*Beach Bash\*\*](#)

★ ***Rock Brook School is not sponsoring these three community events 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.***



### Friend Finder

As we prepare for the upcoming break between the end of the 23-24 School Year and our Extended School Year we want to finalize the Rock Brook School Friend Finder. This booklet is to assist you with connecting with other RBS families. Participation is optional and we will only list families who complete the form link to be included. The Friend Finder will only be distributed to families who elect to be included.

- **Please complete the form link by Wednesday, June 4.**
- Two household families can have two listings. Meaning if parents live separately you may each be listed in the Friend Finder.
- All information listed on the form link will be included. Home address is optional.
- If you have any questions please contact Natalie Stewart at [natalie.stewart@rock-brook.org](mailto:natalie.stewart@rock-brook.org)



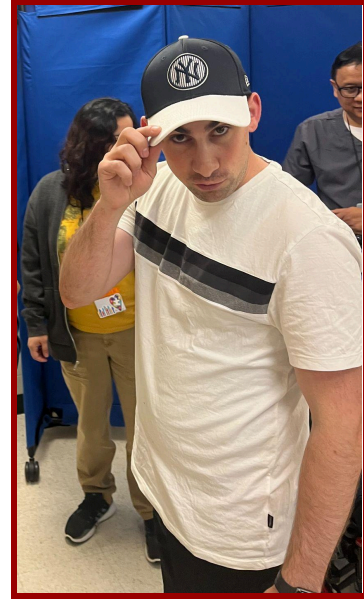
Please complete the Friend Finder Form Link listed here: [RBS Friend Finder Input Form](#)

### Teacher Appreciation Week!

During the week of May 6, we celebrated our incredible teachers and staff. We are fortunate to have such a caring and dedicated staff here at Rock Brook School. We appreciate all they do each and every day.

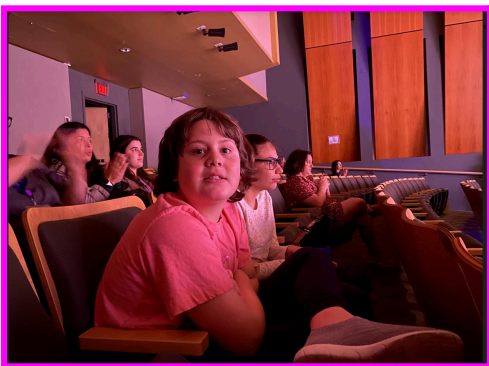
As a part of our celebrations during Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, students and staff celebrated together by wearing their favorite and craziest hats! We had a blast!





### **Pingry Trip**

Our middle school students were provided with the opportunity to see Disney's Moana performed by The Pingry Middle School Dramatic Arts Department. Disney's Moana is a musical adaptation of the Disney animated film, bringing the adventures of Moana and her village of Motunui to life onstage. Following the 60-minute performance, our students enjoyed their lunch with the talented cast.

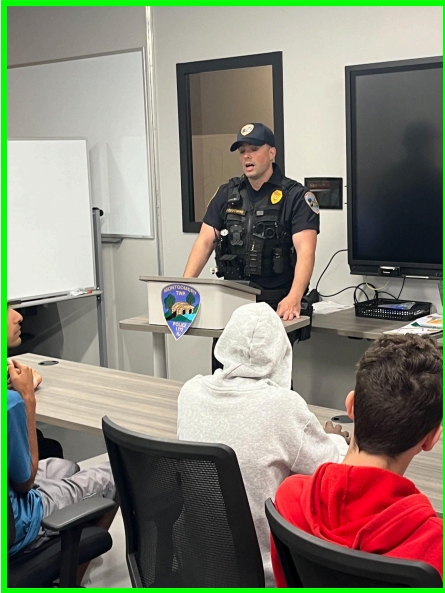


### **Police Visit**

Our high school and post-graduate students enjoyed a visit to the Montgomery Police Department. Officer Coutinho and Officer Chin escorted the students and staff through the facility to see their large conference room, holding cells, and they had the chance to



get an up-close look at a patrol car. Students also had the chance to ask questions throughout the tour. We had a great time!



### Field Day

We had an incredible field day on Friday, May 31! There were a variety of activities which included, arts and crafts, target games, music and field games. Students also enjoyed ice cream from Siren's Treats, an ice cream truck from Hunterdon County.

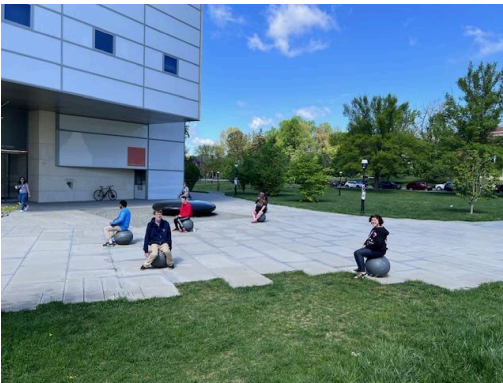
Thank you to all of our special guests and volunteers for your time and support throughout morning to help make this day run so smoothly!





## High School 1

Students have been busy studying weather systems. The class has been learning about different weather conditions, ways to measure the weather and the different types of severe weather that can occur. They have also been exploring scientific ways to measure and predict weather and the impact of geological events on Earth's surface. Project Based Learning activities include students working on skills as it relates to the high school garden. They are learning about the importance of sustainability and caring for the environment. The students planted cucumbers, zucchini, peas, carrots, sunflowers, cosmos, wildflowers, and various herbs. We also completed a butterfly unit. We will release them into the garden. The students have been enjoying our weekly trips to Impact Gym, ShopRite, and cooking on Thursdays. We recently had a field trip to WaWa and walked around the campus of Princeton University.



## High School 2

Students continue to enjoy functional academic skills, as well as learning about money, shopping, budgeting, and social skills. On a weekly basis, we go shopping at Shoprite to enhance our social, as well as functional math skills. Students are being exposed to world news, current trends, and entertainment news. Our class engaged in an awesome science project creating Oblock. The substance presented as gooey, soft, smooth, and hard to the touch!



We also enjoyed Michelangelo, a small miniature horse who came to visit from Hope's Promise in Chester, NJ. He was the most gentle and sweetest horse, who was soft to the touch and engaging.

We continue to enjoy our time and Impact Gym, specifically working on making our bodies stronger with fun realtime gym activities.

Students in HS2 continue to utilize their learned functional academic skills by participating in school-based work skills learning, as well as Work Based Learning (WBL) experiences. Students enjoy jobs in various locations in the community, such as Job Lot, TrisPharma, Princeton YMCA, and Impact Gym. These experiences are beneficial to their job skills and very rewarding. We are so grateful to our sponsors and so proud of our hard working students too!



HS2 as a class has recently taken on the challenge of the Coffee Cart. This internal job at RBS includes preparing coffee, filling orders, and delivering coffee to everyone in the school. The students are doing an amazing job and loving every minute every minute of this opportunity.

### **Positive Language = Positive Behavior**

In the school setting we talk about using positive language. Positive language is the professional use of words and tone of voice to enable children to learn in an engaged, active way. Learning to use positive language with children takes time to incorporate. As you continue to include positive language with children, consider the following suggestions below;

- Instead of saying “don’t be rough” when playing with a sibling, consider saying “be gentle.”
- Instead of “you can’t have a cookie until you finish your dinner” try saying “once you finish your dinner, you can have a cookie.”
- Try using “It’s ok to be upset,” instead of “stop crying.”
- Try “maybe we can play later,” instead of saying “you can’t play with that.”
- Instead of saying “don’t shout,” try saying “talk softly, please.”





By using positive language you convey a belief in children's abilities and intentions, you help them internalize a positive identity and develop more awareness and self-control. As a bonus, your language helps those within earshot form a positive perception of the child, which further enhances the child's self-perception and helps to promote positive behavior.

**Security Drills:** Our students continue to follow all the necessary procedures when we are conducting our emergency drills. For specific drills, we are partnering with the Montgomery Township Police Department.



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