



Family Flyer May/June 2026

Reminders/Special Messages

- **High School & Post Graduate Dance, Tuesday, 6/9, 1:00- 2:30 pm**
- **End-of-Year Celebration, Wednesday, 6/10 - Pre-K, ECC, Elementary, and Middle School Classes**
 - RSVP required by Friday, 6/5: [Click here to RSVP](#)
- **Graduation & End-of-Year Celebration, Thursday, 6/11 -HS & PG**
 - Rain date, 6/12
 - RSVP required by Wednesday, 6/3: [Click here to RSVP](#)

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week!

During the first week of May, we celebrated our incredible teachers and staff. We are truly fortunate to have such a caring, compassionate, and dedicated team here at Rock Brook School. Their commitment to supporting our students each day makes such a positive impact on our school community.

We sincerely appreciate all they do!

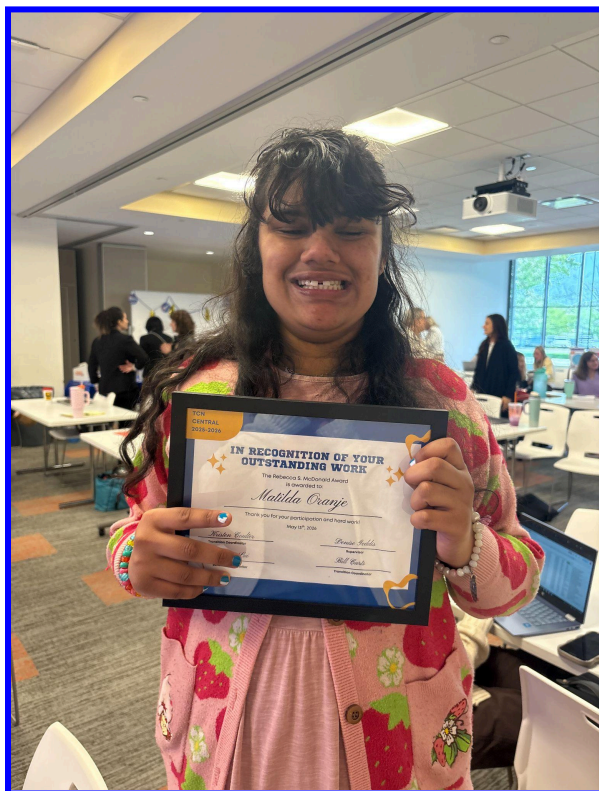
A graphic with the text "THANK YOU TEACHERS AND STAFF" in colorful, bold letters. The word "THANK" is in yellow, green, and blue. "YOU" is in red and blue. "TEACHERS" is in blue, red, and green. "AND STAFF" is in yellow, red, and green.

Congratulations, Matilda!

We are thrilled to share that Matilda Oranje, Post-Graduate Student, was honored with the Rebecca S. McDonald Award at Bellworks in Holmdel, NJ!

The Rebecca S. McDonald Award is presented to senior and/or aging-out students who have demonstrated outstanding success in transition activities as they prepare to move into the adult world. This recognition is a true reflection of Matilda's hard work, growth, and determination.

Matilda, we are incredibly proud of you and excited for all that lies ahead. The entire Rock Brook School community celebrates you!



Pictured left to right: Andreas Oranje (Matilda's dad), Matilda Oranje, Post-Graduate Student; Monica Wall, Transition Coordinator; and Jenie Vargas, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction.

Mother's Day Tea

We hosted a special Mother's Day Tea for all of our incredible moms and caregivers. The event provided time for great conversation while guests enjoyed tea and pastries together.

In addition, families had the opportunity to join their child in the classroom for a fun activity and spend meaningful time together at school.

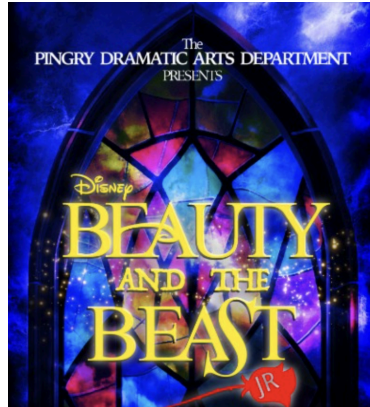
It was a wonderful day, and we are truly fortunate to have such supportive families as part of our Rock Brook School community!



Pingry Trip

Our Middle School, High School, and Post-Graduate classes attended a live performance of Beauty and the Beast at The Pingry School.

Following the performance, our students had the opportunity to meet the cast, who are Pingry students, and enjoy lunch together. It was a wonderful experience and a great opportunity for social interaction and community engagement.



Field Day

We had an incredible Field Day with picture-perfect weather!

Our Field Day featured a range of activities, including arts and crafts, music, and volleyball. As a part of the day, we all enjoyed a treat from Siren's ice cream truck. Throughout the day, our students had a wonderful time encouraging one another and participating in a variety of events.



A special thank you to our incredible staff and parent volunteers who helped make the day such a success.



Music and Art Update

As we approach the end of the school year, we are excited to share some highlights from our Music and Art programs!

🎓 Graduation Songs

Students in our High School and Post-Graduate programs have been practicing graduation songs chosen by our two celebrants, Matilda and Jenna. We invite you to listen along at home:

- What If I Can? – The Self Regulation Song: [What If I Can?](#)
- Friendship is Magic – How The Magic of Friendship Grows: [Friendship is Magic – 'How The Magic of Friendship Grows](#)

🎵 Ukulele Program

This year, students in High School, Post-Graduate, and Middle School 1 have been playing ukulele during our Thursday music program. We are proud to share that many students have progressed beyond taped chord markers and are now pressing down on colored chord stickers — a wonderful milestone! We have also added new songs for students to practice at home:

- Iko Iko (My Bestie): [Iko Iko \(My Bestie\)](#)
- Thunder: [Thunder](#)
- Best Day of My Life: [Best Day of My Life](#)

Our younger students also enjoy strumming and feeling the vibrations of the ukulele during their sessions — often with the support of a teacher assistant holding the instrument so students can strum freely.

🎨 Art

During Art classes, students have been exploring the expressive styles of Eric Carle and Claude Monet, focusing on expressionism and the use of color.

We can't wait to share your children's favorite music activities during our End of Year celebrations. Stay tuned!



A Moment from Movement

As we near the end of the year, we're proud to share the incredible progress our students have made in Movement class! Throughout the year, students have built strength, coordination, posture, agility, and bilateral skills. As they improved, tasks became more complex—such as incorporating dribbling into soccer practice, playing full kickball games, and following multi-step directions.



Students who required support followed similar pathways with assistance, ensuring everyone could participate meaningfully in these engaging activities. The growth we've witnessed is truly remarkable, and we couldn't be prouder of our RBS students!

For more on the benefits of team sports in adaptive populations, please see the articles below.

- [Project Play](#)
- [New Research Demonstrates the Power of Sport For People With Disabilities](#)

Security Drills: Our students continue to do an excellent job following all necessary procedures during our emergency drills. In June, we will be partnering with the Montgomery Township Police Department for an all-school evacuation drill.

RBS Facebook Page: Please like, follow, and share today!
→ [RBS Facebook](#)



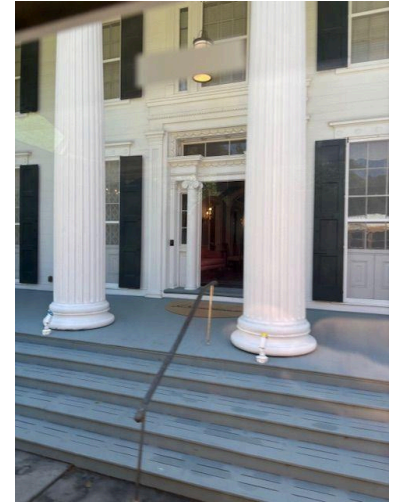
Spring Carnival

In early May, the annual Spring Carnival for Children with Special Needs was held at Drumthwacket, the official residence of the Governor of New Jersey.



It was wonderful to see many of our families enjoying a great day that included bounce houses, art projects, pony rides, a treasure hunt, food trucks, and so much more.

In addition, Governor Mikie Sherrill was in attendance and spent time visiting with families and guests throughout the event.



Allaire Community Farm

Through rescued animals, gardens, and a supportive farm environment, Allaire Farm serves individuals with special needs, at-risk teens, veterans with PTSD, and families facing cancer. Their mission is to nurture growth, mental wellness, and community connection, year-round, in all seasons.



This farm is located in Wall, New Jersey.

- ★ [Click here for information](#)
- ★ *Rock Brook School is not sponsoring this community experience 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.*

Special Parent's Respite Events - Support for Families. Fun for Kids

Special Parents is a community service organization that partners with local businesses, schools, and non-profits to offer meaningful respite to parents and caregivers of children with special needs.



During these events, trained volunteers provide 1-on-1 care for children with special needs and their siblings in a safe, inclusive, and carnival-like environment tailored to meet a variety of needs. While the children enjoy games,

activities, and entertainment, parents or caregivers are treated to a complimentary lunch or dinner at a local restaurant of their choice.

These events are designed to provide:

- Quality time and peace of mind for parents
- Fun, inclusive activities for children
- A supportive and welcoming community for all families involved

Click on the link for more information: [Special Parents Night Out](#)

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

Requesting Accommodations Made Easier with the IBCCES Accessibility Card (IAC)

Requesting accommodations at amusement parks or attractions can often feel overwhelming. Fortunately, many destinations are now offering more inclusive options to ensure everyone can enjoy the fun.

The International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES) has developed the IBCCES Accessibility Card (IAC) — a *free digital resource* designed to simplify the process of requesting accommodations at participating attractions.

The IAC can be used by individuals with a wide range of needs, including those who:

- Are autistic
- Use a wheelchair
- Are blind or have low vision
- Are deaf or hard of hearing
- Have cognitive or mobility challenges
- Experience sensory sensitivities
- Are accompanied by a service animal

The IAC helps communicate accommodation needs clearly and can help streamline the process upon arrival.

For more information or to apply for a free card, visit: [Accessibility Card Information](#)

★ *Rock Brook School is not sponsoring this accessibility card and will not receive any benefit from it. We are sharing this information as we feel you and your family may benefit from this resource.*

Best Day Foundation

These events are being held on Saturday, August 8 and Sunday, August 9, in Brick, NJ.



BEST DAY FOUNDATION 2026 EVENTS

Making Waves. Creating Smiles. Changing Lives.

Join Best Day Foundation in 2026 for unforgettable beach days where children with special needs experience the joy of surfing, bodyboarding, and connection, all in a safe, supportive, and fun environment!



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Children with special needs ages 4–24 are invited to join us for a FREE day at the beach with one-on-one support from trained volunteers.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Be part of something truly meaningful! No experience necessary—just bring your energy, positivity, and willingness to make a difference.

Event Dates and Locations

<p>Florida Saturday, March 21, 2026 Kruesler Park, FL</p>	<p>New Jersey – Brick Beach III Saturday, August 8, 2026 Sunday, August 9, 2026</p>
<p>New Jersey – Long Branch Saturday, June 27, 2026 Sunday, June 28, 2026 Saturday, July 11, 2026 Sunday, July 12, 2026</p>	<p>Virginia – Virginia Beach Saturday, August 15, 2026 Saturday, September 19, 2026</p>

Together, we create the BEST DAY EVER.



Scan the QR code to learn more or register to volunteer/participate!



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