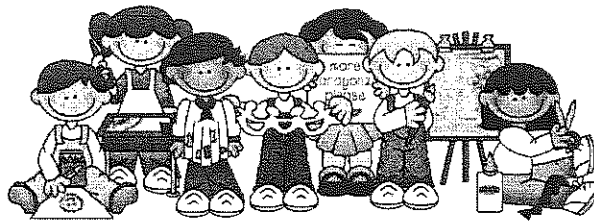


September, 2017



6950 Knowledge Avenue
Rudolph, WI 54475
715-424-6784
Roxanne Filtz, Principal

THINK Academy News

Hello THINK Families!

Welcome back to another great school year!

As we say goodbye to the summer season, we can look forward to a new season of great beginnings! Our kindergarten students celebrated their very first “first” day of all day school. Our 4K students celebrated their very first “first” day of formal schooling. Our fifth grade students celebrated their last “first” day at THINK Academy. Our new students celebrated their first “first” day at THINK Academy as well. It was an exciting first day for everyone.

A new school year is also the perfect time to start fresh for all of our students. No matter what happened last school year, now is the time to look forward, not backward. The same is true for you as parents. I encourage you to take the time to listen to your children when they are excited about what happened at school. If you are picking them up after school, absorb their excitement as they meet you at the door. A child’s attitude toward school starts at home. If parents are excited about school, then children will also be excited about school. The staff at THINK Academy works extra hard to make learning exciting through engaging activities, lots of movement and chances to get outside and refresh the brain. I am looking forward to an exciting and successful year of learning and growing at THINK Academy.

Here are some reminders about the procedures at THINK Academy. The school day starts at 8:45. The front doors will be open to students at 8:30. **Please do not drop your students off any earlier than 8:30** as our staff holds meetings in the morning and may not be available until 8:30. School is done at 3:45. We ask that parents wait by the front doors for their children instead of walking down to the classrooms. Too much traffic in the halls at the end of the day is distracting for students and makes it difficult for teachers to end their day successfully with the kiddos.

Students need to be in the classrooms, ready to learn, no later than 8:50. If your student is arriving to school after 8:50, you must walk them in and sign them in with the office because they are considered late. This year I will be more deliberate in tracking absences. A student is allowed 10 absent days a year - both excused and unexcused (this includes vacation days as well). Tardy instances count toward absent days. If your student is reaching the 10 day absent mark, I will send home a letter informing parents. After 10 days of being absent, I will schedule a meeting with the parents before referring the issue for truancy. If at any time you have concerns about your child’s attendance, please come and talk with me. Communication is the best tool we can have.

I plan to spend time in the classrooms each week, working with students and keeping informed about what is happening in our classrooms. Please reach out to your child’s teacher first if you have concerns. If you are not satisfied with that discussion, then please reach out to me. Our goal at THINK is to make sure every student has a positive experience both in and out of the classroom. I look forward to an exciting and rewarding year! Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help your child enjoy THINK Academy!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Roxanne".

Mrs. Roxanne Filtz

Allergies...

THINK Academy is seeing an increasing number of people, young and old, with severe and sometimes even life-threatening food allergies. For this reason, the staff as a whole has agreed upon a new "snack" policy for our building. Please The policy and snack guidelines in its entirety will be sent home next week, as it is currently being reviewed by one of our specialists. Thank you for your understanding.

Special's Calendar

For Art, Music and Physical Education, we generally run on a Monday - Friday schedule. For example, depending on the homeroom, Music would be on Mondays and Thursdays. PE is every day but Fridays. Art is on Fridays. In order to get the required hours in during the year for each of these areas, sometimes we need to treat a specific weekday as a different day. A specific example...Tuesday, October 4th will be treated as a "Monday". Please see the attached specials schedule for the different grade levels. On the flip side will be the specials "calendar". Please ask if you have any questions. It sounds confusing, but really isn't, once you get the hang of it. Thank you!!



Birthday Lunch with the Principal

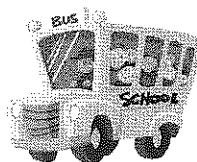


The first Birthday Lunch is scheduled for Thursday, September 14th. September birthday students have lunch with the Principal, Mrs. Filtz. Happy September Birthdays to the following:

Jenna O'Shasky, Eli Molepske, Sophia Doerrler, Noah Linzmeier, Kendall Baneck, Adelia Joosten, Easton Hartjes, Samantha Schmick, Anton Rosenthal, Adam Ashbeck, Levi Graf, Morgan Young, Carl Rosenthal, Brandi Neidlein, and Nolita Carroll!

Bus Transportation Info - Important

As a reminder, your child's bus number, stop location and pick-up time can be found online in Skyward Family Access. Check the left panel "Student Info", click on that and then "View Bus Schedule."



Questions about your child's bus route, pick-up and drop-off specifics should be directed to Safe Way, 715-423-1117. New students should receive information by U.S. mail concerning bus details. The District's contact person for other questions related to transportation is Ann Arendt, 715-424-6700.

School Volunteers

Parents are reminded to apply to be a classroom volunteer through the WRPS District website. Click on "Community", "Volunteer Opportunities", and then "In School Volunteer Information". Scroll to the bottom and click on the gold "I want to Volunteer" button. The deadline to submit applications is November 30th. You need not re-apply if you were approved last year. If you aren't sure whether or not you have been approved, call the school office at 715-424-6784, x-0.

Your THINK Academy Staff

Mrs. Filtz, Principal
Mrs. Krueger, 4K
Mrs. Zieroth, 5K
Mrs. Smihal, 1
Miss Schneeberg, 2nd
Mrs. Kuntz, 2nd
Mrs. Holtz, 3rd
Miss Scherbarth, 4th
Ms. Grossbier, 5th
Mrs. Briggs, Reading Intv.

Mrs. Matulewicz, LD
Mrs. Hall, Speech
Mrs. Larsen, Art
Mrs. Thompson, Music
Mr. Mlodik, Physical Ed.
Mrs. Boon, Guidance
Mrs. Ashbeck, Psychologist
Mrs. Forcier, Nurse
Mrs. Jestadt, Librarian

Mrs. Miller, Math
Mrs. Marzofka, Secretary
Mrs. Fuller, Library Aide
Mrs. Ashbeck, Lunch Aide
Mrs. Young, Sp. Ed. Aide
Mrs. Slattery, Health Aide
Mr. Moore, Custodian
Mrs. Brehm, Cook
Mrs. Mrozek, 4K Aide

SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 12 - PTS Meeting, 5:30 pm
Sept. 14 - Learn the Routine Night
Sept. 14 - Birthday Lunch
Sept. 22 - Picture Day

Learn the Routine Night-September 14

On September 14 from 5-6 pm, you will have the opportunity to learn about what your child will be doing in school each day and what their routine will be like. Each teacher will do a 30-minute information session; one from 5-5:30 and the other from 5:30-6 pm. This is a great way to meet other parents, see your child's classroom and learn about routine and expectations. A reminder flyer will be coming home next week.

Sorry, we can't share lunches here...

Due to several student allergy issues, students are unable to share or trade lunch items between each other during their lunch period. We ask all students to keep their lunch to themselves please. Items can fall on tables or in front of a student with allergies and cause severe reactions. Thank you.

THINK ACADEMY SPECIALS SCHEDULE

2017-18

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:50 – 9:20					
9:20 – 9:50					
9:50 – 10:20					
10:20 – 10:50					
10:50 – 11:20					
11:20 – 11:50	MU – 5 (11:30 – 12:00)			MU – 5 (11:30 – 12:00)	Art – 5
11:32-11:55-12:15	Kindergarten lunch/recess				
11:40-12:00-12:20	1 st Grade lunch/recess				
11:45-12:05-12:25	2 nd Grade lunch/recess				
11:50-12:10-12:30	3 rd grade lunch/recess				
11:55-12:15-12:35	4 th Grade lunch/recess				
12:00-12:20-12:40	5 th Grade lunch/recess				
12:35 – 1:05	PE – 2 MU – 1		Art – 1	PE – 2 MU – 1	PE – 2 Art – K
1:05 – 1:35	PE – 4 MU – 3			PE – 4 MU – 3	PE – 4
1:35 – 2:05	PE – 3 MU – 4		Art – 2 (K)	PE – 3 MU – 4	PE – 3 Art – 4
2:05 – 2:35	PE – 1 MU – K			PE – 1 MU – K	PE – 1
2:35 – 3:05	PE – K MU – 2 (K)		Art – 3	PE – K MU – 2 (K)	PE – K Art 2(S)
3:05 – 3:35	PE – 5 MU – 2 (S)			PE – 5 MU – 2 (S)	PE – 5

Reading Connection

Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

September 2017

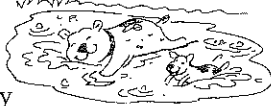
Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

Book Picks

Read-aloud favorites

■ *Big Dog and Little Dog Going for a Walk* (Dav Pilkey)

A pair of dog friends loves to take walks—especially if it involves splashing and rolling in mud! Your youngster will laugh as he tags along on this messy journey. (Bilingual version also available, with each page in both English and Spanish.)



■ *A Rock Is Lively*

(Dianna Hutts Aston)

They come in all shapes and sizes, melt if they get hot enough, and sometimes arrive from outer space. What are they? Rocks!



Using poetic language, this nonfiction picture book introduces your child to colorful varieties.

■ *May I Have a Word?* (Caron Levis)

Once upon a refrigerator, the alphabet magnets set out to tell a story. But when C and K begin fighting about who stole whose sound and who is hogging all the good words, it looks like there will be no “happily ever after.” F is for *funny* in this tale about the importance of teamwork.

■ *Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do* (Kathryn Heling and Deborah Hembrook)

Your child can use clothes on a clothesline and rhyming clues to match people with their careers, then turn each page to see a worker in action. This simple story brings all the characters together for a party at the end.



Reading at school, reading at home

“How do I help my child learn to read?” That’s a common question for many parents. Ask your youngster about the kinds of reading she does in school, and use what you discover to support her at home. Try these ideas.



In a group

Let your child play “reading group” with her stuffed animals or dolls. Suggest that she give each “student” a book and “teach” reading strategies she’s working on like breaking big words into smaller chunks or using pictures to figure out hard words.

With you

When your youngster brings home books from school, set aside time to snuggle up and listen to her read. You’ll get an idea of the reading level that’s right for her and see what topics she enjoys and is learning about. *Note:* If she has

an at-home reading log, have her fill it out, and sign it if required.

On my own

Your child likely has time in school each day to read all by herself. Her teacher may call it “DEAR” (“Drop everything and read”) or SSR (“Self-selected reading”). Try holding a daily “DEAR” time at home for at least 20 minutes. Each person picks any reading material (book, magazine, newspaper) and reads anywhere—on a couch, on the porch, or stretched out on the floor.♥

A writing nook

A cozy space can inspire your youngster to enjoy writing regularly. Consider these suggestions:

- Help your child find a quiet spot. He might use a chair tucked in a corner of the living room or a lap desk on his bed.
- Let your youngster pick out cool writing supplies at a dollar store like colored pencils, fancy paper, or gel pens. Then, he could arrange them in a box or basket to keep in his nook.
- Look for everyday ways to encourage writing. You might say, “Grandpa’s birthday is next week. Why don’t you make him a card?” Or invite your child to add a few items to your grocery list. Suggest that he write stories, poems, and plays, too!♥



Create a comic strip

With lots of pictures and just a few words, comic strips are easy and fun for beginning writers to make. Here's how.

Change a favorite. Suggest that your youngster write new words for a comic strip he likes. Help him cut one from the newspaper and glue it on a sheet of paper. Cover the words with masking tape. He can add his own words in the bubbles or on the paper around the strip. What will each character say or think in his version?



Start from scratch. Have your child divide a piece of paper into frames. Then, he could invent a character or use one from real life—maybe his comic will be about the funny adventures of his cat. Encourage him to draw a picture in each frame and add speech bubbles to tell the story. To help him along,

ask questions like “What happens first?” and “How does Elvis the Cat’s adventure end?” *Idea:* He might like to create a series of comic strips about his character.♥

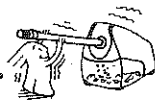
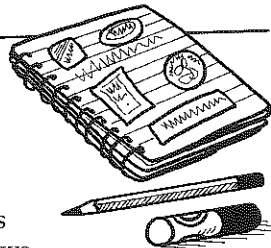
Fun with Words

Words all around

Even before youngsters learn to read, they get excited when they recognize words on road signs, stores, and food packages. Encourage your child to collect words to make a book she can read all by herself. She'll begin to connect the letters she sees with the sounds they make.

Find words

Give your youngster a notebook. When she spots a word she knows, she could write it or cut it out and glue it on a page. For instance, she might clip “Eggs” from an empty carton or the name of a favorite restaurant from a take-out bag.



Q&A Tell me a story

Q My daughter often asks me to tell her stories at bedtime, but it's not always easy to make them up on the spot. Any suggestions?

A Hearing stories develops your daughter's listening and language skills. You may find it easier to tell stories you're familiar with.

Children love stories about people they know—especially themselves and other family members. Flip through photos at bedtime, and have your youngster pick one that she likes. Her newborn picture could lead to a tale about the day she was born. Or a childhood snapshot of you may inspire a story about the games you played or what you learned at school when you were her age.

Another idea is to retell fairy tales or other children's stories that you know. If you're feeling creative, try changing the story as you go. For example, turn *The Three Little Pigs* into *The Three Little Bananas*.♥



Read your book

After your child has filled a few pages, let her read her book to you. She'll build confidence in her reading ability because she'll know every word!♥

Parent to Parent

“I love you” notes

My son Danny has always loved it when I tuck an “I love you”

play after school?” The notes made Danny feel special and gave him extra reading practice.

note into his backpack. When he was learning to read, I asked his teacher for a list of words he was working on. Then, I used those words in the notes.

Sometimes I'd write simple messages like “You are number one!” Other times, I wrote a question, such as “What game should we

Now secret notes are a tradition at

our house. Danny's little sister Jamie is starting to read this year, and he writes notes to put in her backpack. And when I opened my suitcase on a business trip recently, I had a big smile when I discovered a note from Danny to me!♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children's reading, writing, and language skills.

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