



ROCK BROOK SCHOOL

# Family Flyer

November 2024

## Special Messages & Reminders

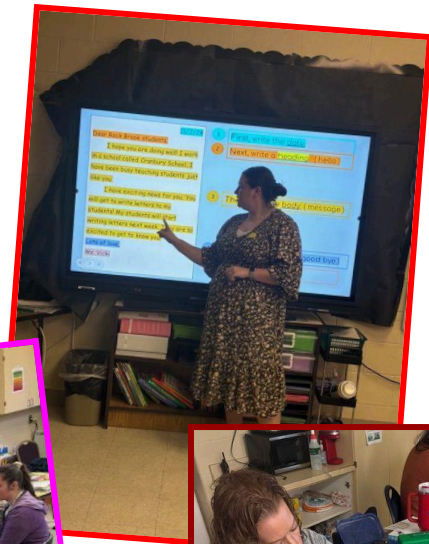
### Parent-Teacher Conferences

It was great to see so many parents in-person and virtually during our Parent-Teacher Conferences. Thank you so much for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.



### Pen Pal Project

Our middle school classes and high school 1 are partnering with Ms. Vicki Addonizio, former RBS middle school teacher and current teacher in the Cranbury School District, in a pen pal activity. Vicki joined us this month to talk with those specific classes to launch this exciting activity.



## Amazing Adaptations

A naturalist from the Somerset County Parks Commission Environmental Education gave a wonderful hands-on presentation for our students about animal adaptations. Students had opportunities to learn about animals such as owls and turtles.



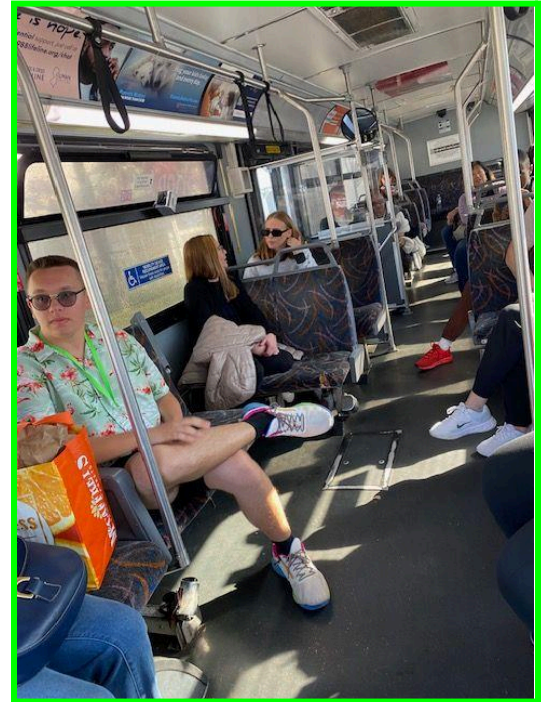
## High School & Postgraduate Students Visit to Pingry

Our HS and PG classes enjoyed a trip to Pingry to watch a 90-minute performance of Clue. Following the performance our students had the opportunity to have lunch with the talented cast.



## NJ Travel Training Program:

Our postgraduate students took a NJ Transit bus to a designated bus stop in the Princeton community. The students gained practical experiences in navigating the public transportation system and learning how to pay for bus fare. This travel training opportunity is from a partnership with the New Jersey Transportation Independent Program (NJTIP) from Rutgers University and the Greater Mercer TMA (Transportation Management Association).



## Middle School 1 (MS1)

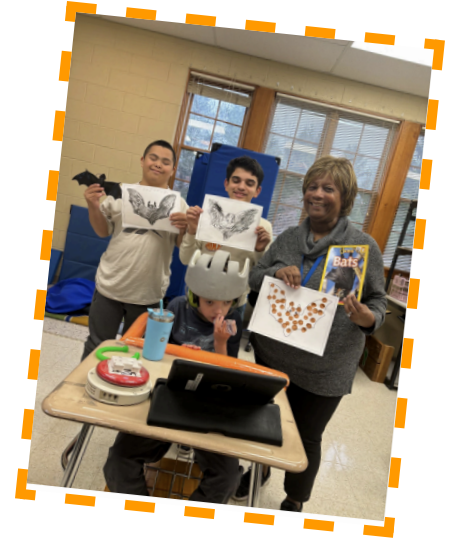
MS1 students have worked hard at putting together a bake sale to fundraise for our recent trip to Norz Hill Farm! The trip was a hit; students navigated a corn maze, went on a hayride, saw numerous animals, and picked pumpkins.

In class, students are practicing their skills with coins and using a calculator to total their grocery purchases! In addition, students have also participated in word study of tier 1 and 2 vocabulary words. Activities consist of a 'word of the week', defining vocabulary words, using them in sentences, and using the word throughout the day in practical situations. The students are also very excited to be participating in a pen pal activity with Ms Vicki, from the Cranbury School District.



## Middle School 2 (MS2)

In MS2 science, we've been learning about how to classify animals by their characteristics. So far, we have investigated bears, birds, deer, spiders, sharks, dolphins, and bats, and the dormouse. In addition, students will be observing and exploring animal habitats and learning about animal babies. Stay tuned for our future adventures with animals, as well as some participation in a few upcycling projects.



## Movement Class: Seeing Things from a Different Perspective

In movement, students have been seeing things from a new point of view by learning simple inversions with Coach Eliana. To be inverted is to be upside down, in-part or in-whole. Inverting comes with a variety of benefits, including increased circulation, self confidence, and energy. Students had the opportunity to engage their core and other muscles to achieve different shapes and took time to reflect and rest in other inverted positions. Students in accessibility chairs tilted back and raised their feet to access similar benefits. If your child needs an energy boost, feel free to encourage them to lay back and lift their legs. Sometimes, it's the perfect trick!



## ***Out of My Mind*, a Disney Original Movie**

Click on the link to view the official trailer for this movie. ***Out of My Mind*** is about Melody Brooks, a sixth grader with cerebral palsy. Melody is non-verbal, has mobility issues, and struggles to communicate with others, but her mind is sharp. Because of her physical limitations, Melody lives with the daily frustrations of people underestimating her

→ [\*\*\*Out of My Mind\*, Official Trailer\*\*](#)



**Student Absences:** In the event your child is going to be absent, please call the Program Secretary in the main office by 9:00 am at 908-431-9500, ext.110. Our automated system is available 24 hours a day for your convenience and please be sure to call the school each day your child is absent. In addition to contacting the main office, you may contact the teacher as well. Upon your child's return to school from illness, please provide a note to the homeroom teacher which will be delivered to the nurse. For students with a serious illness, accident, or hospitalization, medical clearance to return to school is required. As a note, if contact is not provided by the parent regarding a student absence, the school will make contact with the parent.

**Student Early Pick Up:** Should you be picking your child up early from school on a particular day, please notify the main office 908-431-9500 and your child's teacher so we are aware of your child's early dismissal from school.

**Staff Supervision re: Arrival:** On regular days, staff supervision of students begins at 8:25 am. At 8:25 am students may exit their vehicle as directed by staff.

**Dismissal:** Parents who may be delayed in picking up their child or have a change in transportation arrangements, must notify the main office and the child's teacher to make them aware. Communication can be provided through a phone call and/or email to the main office and the teacher.

**Calendar:** [2024-2025 School Calendar](#)

**Change of Information:** Please notify the main office immediately of changes to contact or emergency information, i.e., address, telephone numbers, email addresses.

**Recess/School Safety:** As the cold weather is here, please be sure your child dresses for the season and has a jacket/coat, hat, gloves, etc. as we will continue to go outside for recess even when the weather is cold. In addition, safety drills will continue through the winter season and students need to be prepared to exit the building as directed.

**Security Drills:** All schools in New Jersey are required to conduct two emergency drills (one fire drill and one security drill) each month. This month we conducted a **fire drill** and a **non-fire evacuation drill**. Students followed all our safety procedures as prescribed.

**Message from the School Nurse:** The recommendations from the New Jersey Department of Health for children and adults include following the steps below to help prevent the transmission of infections such as influenza;

- Cover your cough and sneezes
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Wash hands frequently, especially after coughing and sneezing
- Stay home if you're sick, especially with a fever
- ★ As a reminder, students who are experiencing cold and flu symptoms with a fever, need to be fever-free for at least 24 hours, without fever reducing medication before returning to school. In addition, any intestinal issues need to also be resolved without medication for 24 hours. Should your child be exhibiting symptoms, you are encouraged to contact the school nurse ([nurse@rock-brook.org](mailto:nurse@rock-brook.org)).



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