



# Rush Creek Elementary Newsletter

October 2018

## Calendar Events

### October

- 4..... Apex Fun Run
- 5..... Student Council-Maple Grove  
Crimson Day
- 9..... Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 9-11.... PTO - Scholastic Book Fair
- 10..... Lifetouch Picture Day
- 11..... Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 12..... Mid Trimester 1
- 15..... Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 17..... Student Council – Hat Day
- 18-19... **No School** /Conference  
Release Days
- 24..... Wear Orange Day
- 25..... TAG Parent Meeting
- 26..... Rocky's Way Day
- 31..... Fan Friendly Day

### November

- 6..... **No School**/Licensed Staff  
Workshop
- 13-14... Vision & Hearing Screening  
Gr. 1,3, & 5
- 15..... Lifetouch Picture Retakes
- 15..... Student Council Meeting
- 16..... PTO Turkey Bingo

## Principal's Corner

Rush Creek Families,

We are joining numerous schools within Osseo Area Schools and across the country, celebrating Friendship/Anti-Bullying month this October. We will launch our Friendship/Anti-Bullying events on Monday, October 22 and will continue with activities throughout the week:

- **Monday October 22 - Thursday October 25-** Project Connect- classrooms will create a paper chain containing links with student messages for a safer school. These chains will be displayed in the hallways.
- **Wednesday, October 24 –Wear Orange Day-** All school photo
- **Thursday October 25 - Friday, October 26 –** Buddy classes will engage in an activity and build community across the school through relationships.
- **Friday, October 26 – Rocky's Way Day-** dress in your Rush Creek apparel or wear the school colors (red and black).
- **Wednesday, October 31- Fan Friendly Day-** wear your favorite team apparel and focus on positive competition and sportsmanship.
- Throughout the entire month, we will engage in activities and discussions that support anti- bullying and friendship.

These October events support our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) work – Rush Creek Raccoons value **Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best**. These values have been identified and embedded in our Rush Creek practices. Such activities also deepen relationships within our building, which research indicates as *foundational* for successful schools.

As a staff, we are energized with the focus on friendship, its alignment to our PBIS work, and how it is inclusive of all families/staff/age groups. I am confident it will provide a positive frame for the 2018-2019 school year.

Please note: With our October theme of Friendship/Anti-Bullying, we will not be coordinating any Halloween parties/parades on October 31 - nor will students be dressing in costumes on this day.

Thank you for your continued support of Friendship/Anti-Bullying Month.

Respectfully,

*Josie Johnson*

Principal

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## Notes from Secretary – Lynette Johnson

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### Attendance Information

To report a student's absence or if they are going to be late, please call Rush Creek at 763.494.4549 and Press 1 for the attendance line before 9:20 AM. If you are calling after 9:20 please report your child's absence to our main office. Students will be marked unaccounted for if the main office does not receive a message from parent/guardian regarding student absence.

### Peachjar

All Rush Creek Elementary communication is exclusively on Peachjar. Parents/Guardians will receive an email every Wednesday of new flyers for the week. Please click *view all* to make sure you see all the important information. If you are not receiving flyers, please check with the office to make sure you have a current email on file. Flyers can also be accessed through the Rush Creek homepage by clicking the Peachjar icon.

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## Notes from Nurse - Lynn Wontorick

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Hello Rush Creek Elementary School Families and Staff,

My name is Lynn Wontorcik. I am so excited to be the new school nurse for Rush Creek. I have lived in the neighborhood for over twenty years and my children attended district279 schools. I have spent a significant portion of my nursing career working with medically fragile children and their families.

With the flu season quickly approaching, I would like to remind everyone of pertinent district rules:

- ❖ Students should not be in school if they:
  - have a temperature of 100 degrees or above
  - have a contagious illness
  - are experiencing vomiting, diarrhea or other symptoms of illness that may prohibit active participation in school routines
- ❖ Students should be free of elevated temperature, vomiting, and diarrhea symptoms for 24 hours prior to their return to school.

Please keep in mind that if your student needs medication, including over the counter medications like Tylenol, at school for any length of time, we will need a medical authorization on file. Forms can be found under Health Services on the district website <https://district279.org/student-families/student-services/health-services/23-services-departments/454-health-services-parent-information>.

If your student has a chronic medical condition or a health concern, please email me at [WontorcikL@district279.org](mailto:WontorcikL@district279.org) so we can set up a time to discuss your student's needs.

My goal is to team with you to ensure your student's health and safety while they are at school. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance. Looking forward to meeting everyone so please feel free to introduce yourself if you see me on campus!

Respectfully,  
Lynn Wontorcik, BSN, RN, PHN

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## Lunch Menu

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### Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

Pancakes / Chicken Drumstick / Salad Bar  
Sausage Links  
Oven Crisp Tri Taters  
Potato Crunch Broccoli  
Fruit Choices

### Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Cini-Mini/ Turkey Sandwich / Salad Bar  
Sausage Links  
Oven Crisp Tri Taters  
Oven Roasted Carrots  
Fruit Choices

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## Notes from Volunteer Coordinator - Heather Locketz

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The 2018-19 school year is off to an amazing start! The support of our dedicated volunteers is a huge asset to our school. Whether you can commit to a weekly volunteer opportunity, or occasionally, we appreciate your presence at school. I look forward to working with all of our parents throughout the year.

### Volunteer Guidelines

In order to help ensure the safety of students, staff, and volunteers, our school district has established a procedure to be followed at all sites. **All school day volunteers (including field trips), will be required to:**

- **Complete an application.**
- **Sign in and sign out of the building** each time you volunteer.
- **Wear a nametag** during your volunteer service hours.

### Field Trip Notice:

Volunteer Application forms must be completed by ALL field trip chaperones. **If your application is not on file, your name will not be included in the classroom drawing for chaperone selection.**

Volunteer Application forms can be found on the Rush Creek website, or you may pick one up in the main office. Please feel free to reach out to me at [locketzh@district279.org](mailto:locketzh@district279.org) with any questions you may have regarding the Rush Creek volunteer program.

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## Notes from TAG - Laura Thompson

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### TAG Identification Information

Students are identified for TAG programming based on the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), the NWEA/MAP assessment, classroom observations and teacher recommendations. All 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students and new 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the CogAT sometime during the weeks of October 1 – 30<sup>th</sup>. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade schedule is as follows:

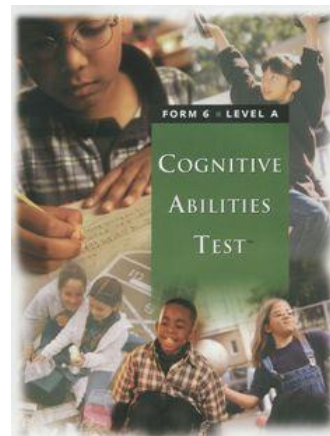
**Felton:** October 15, 16 & 17 11:40-12:40

**Burns:** October 15, 16 & 17 10:00-11:00

**Hritzko:** October 10, 11 & 12 10:00-11:00

**Toov:** October 1 2:00-3:00 and Oct. 4 & 5 10:30-11:30

**Wolff:** October 3, 4 & 5 2:00-3:00





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## PTO News

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The school year is off and running now! We have really enjoyed seeing so many families at our community building events! Thank you to everyone that stopped by at Open House and to our General PTO meeting. We are grateful to have so many talented and dedicated volunteers.

### Rocky's Fun Run with Apex:

We have had a great week and half of Apex so far! We are looking forward to our big run on Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup>! Parents are welcome to come and cheer the kids on! We hope to exceed our goal of \$60,000 this year. All money raised goes to the PTO General fund to support classroom funding, student enrichment, educational para support and much more! Final numbers will be announced by mid-November.

### B-I-N-G-O is coming! Friday, Nov 16<sup>th</sup>!

The planning committee for Turkey Bingo is already working hard to make this annual tradition a success! A few updates to this family favorite: MORE seating, Online Ordering, Food Drive and Surprise Bingo Callers the students are going to LOVE! Plan to spend time with neighbors and friends, do some holiday shopping at the Silent Auction and be thankful for our amazing school!

### Art Adventure

Art Adventure is a student enrichment program organized by the Minnesota Institute of Art. You can learn more about Art Adventure here: <https://vimeo.com/138873424> Stay tuned for more information about how you can be involved!

### Upcoming Events!

Rocky's Fun Run with Apex  
Scholastic Book Fair  
Turkey Bingo

October 4<sup>th</sup>  
October 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>  
November 16<sup>th</sup>

### 2 Easy Ways to Support Rush Creek Elementary:



You shop. Amazon gives.  
Welcome to  
**amazon**smile

Those little rectangles add up fast! Bring your **Box Tops** to school any time. And, when you shop **Amazon Smile**, Rush Creek earns! [Follow this link to support Rush Creek!](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1722725)  
[http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1722725.](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1722725)

*We thank you all for your ongoing support and participation in PTO sponsored events. If you have any ideas or want to be more involved, please email us at [rushcreekpto@gmail.com](mailto:rushcreekpto@gmail.com). Finally, don't forget to like us on Facebook!*



**Rush Creek Elementary PTO**

Marie Hensel, PTO President