

# Tiger Tales

Rockfish Elementary School  
5763 Rockfish Road  
Hope Mills, NC 28348  
December 15, 2016  
Volume 6, Issue 4



## Mission Statement

Rockfish Elementary School is committed to providing a quality education for all students by providing a safe atmosphere in which all children feel secure, loved and challenged.



## December 2016

- 16 ~ Barnes & Noble Book Fair - 4-8:00 p.m.
- 20 ~ Early Release for all students - 12:15 p.m.
- 20 ~ All Day Dine Out - Rudino's - Hope Mills - Mention Rockfish!!
- Dec. 21-Jan. 2 ~ Winter Holidays - NO SCHOOL!!

Looking ahead...

## January 2017

- 1 ~ Happy New Year!!
- 2 ~ Holiday - NO SCHOOL!!
- 3 ~ Students/Staff Return to School
- 3 ~ PTA Dine Out Arby's 4-8 p.m. Hope Mills
- 5 ~ PTA Board Meeting 2:45 p.m.
- 16 ~ Holiday - NO SCHOOL!!
- 17 ~ All Day Dine Out - Rudino's - Hope Mills - Mention Rockfish!!

"Don't forget to read a book today!!"



## From the Principal's Pen...

DECEMBER 2016!! In the midst of colorful decorations and excitement for the season, RFES teachers are still busy teaching, and our students are still all about their business of learning!! The weather may have caused a few bumps in the road, but it didn't slow us down.

An important aspect of this season has always been giving. If your family is accustomed to gift giving, consider the priceless gift of time for one another. Time is a gift that will be remembered when all other gifts are broken, worn out, or discarded.

Parents, we are nearing the midpoint of our school year. Please be reminded that in education, EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!! We cannot afford to lose one minute of teaching and learning time with our students. Promptness and regular attendance are vital to learning. Please make every effort to ensure that your children are in attendance and on time each day. Chronic absences and tardiness are being reported to the social worker for follow up.

We are all looking forward to our Winter Holiday break that begins in just a few short days. Tuesday, December 20, will be an early release day (12:15 p.m.) for all students, and RFES will be closed for the Winter Holidays December 21, 2016 through January 2, 2017.

**Students and staff will return to school on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.**

Be safe as you enjoy this time together with families and friends. Students, please take time to read some great books over the holidays.



We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.

~ Aristotle

## From the Media Center

The Media Center is sponsoring a magazine fundraiser January 31- February 3, 2017. You can renew current subscriptions or buy new subscriptions. Forty percent (40%) of the subscription price is returned to Rockfish to purchase books for our Media Center. Feel free to order **now** or you can wait until the packet comes home. Magazines make a great gift and you can purchase gift subscriptions. If you want to order early, log in to [www.gaschoolstore.com](http://www.gaschoolstore.com). Enter the code **1061555**. All orders will count toward a student's prize whether ordered now or in January. Thank you for helping us bring wonderful books and resources to our Media Center for students to enjoy reading.

Additionally, if you are in need of some special gifts for the upcoming holidays, come to our Book Fair at Barnes and Noble on Friday, December 16, anytime between 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. Each student who comes to Barnes and Noble that evening will receive a homework pass, and the class with the most students coming will receive a maker space party in their classroom. During the Book Fair, we will have special guests come to share some holiday books and caroling. The RFES PTA will be offering free gift wrapping with donations welcome. Mark your calendars and come out to enjoy an evening with some good stories.

Reminder: All student books are due back to the Media Center before winter break. Please help your child find his/her books so they can be returned. Happy Holidays!

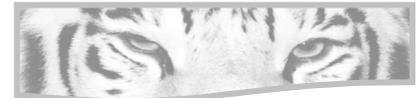
Happy Reading!



A book makes a great gift!!

*Expect the Best*

# Classroom News and Views:



## Kindergarten

Way to go kindergarten on your first field trip! You looked amazing and represented RFES with great behavior. Your performance in the winter program was spectacular--well done! **Math:** we are working on adding and subtracting numbers to 10. **ELA:** we are working on blending, sight words, reviewing letters, and academic language. **Science** and **social studies:** we are studying about the different holidays people celebrate. Thanks for sharing your child with us! Have a super winter break and be safe.

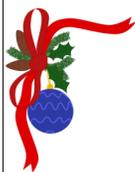
## First Grade

First Graders continue to tap and blend their way through the year! They are doing a great job learning to read new words and read sentences with fluency. In math, students continue to master basic math facts, find missing addends, and even balance equations. Who new first graders could do algebra? In science, we blasted off to a new unit where we are discovering facts about the sun, the moon, and differences between the sky during the day and at night. Classes even took a "trip" to see the night sky with shooting stars and watched the moon go through different phases. This month students are also taking a trip around the world to learn how different cultures celebrate holidays. Finally, our first grade friends will use their vivid imaginations to write what they would do if they were a snowman for a day! Here's to a happy holiday season filled with tons of learning!



## Second Grade

Thus far, our school year has been awesome! The children are working hard to master math fluency facts 1-20 and to proficiently write answers to comprehension questions in reading. We are also continuing to estimate and measure using inches and centimeters. In science we are working with weather. Students should understand that the sun is a source of energy and that it influences weather and climate. During the month of December, we have studied international holidays in association with historical figures. Second grade teachers would like to give a shout out to all our students who went on the field trip. They were the best behaved students in the entire auditorium! Thank you for all you do at home with your children to help them learn.



*From:*

*Our Heart to Yours!*

*Love,*

*The Rockfish Elementary  
School Family*



## Terrific Third Grade

Word Problems! Third graders have begun solving all different types of word problems! We began by solving problems with just one operation then moved to determining if the problem should be solved using multiplication or division. We will progress to working with all four operations and solving two step problems. Please help at home by ensuring your child exhibits all the thinking skills involved in solving problems for homework.

Our third graders are doing a great job this nine weeks with AR goals. We are impressed with how students have kept themselves on track and earned their goal in steps. Slow and steady will help with awesome progress. We are excited about giving out many more awards at our next assembly!

Finally, please keep working on basic multiplication facts at home. We will continue to review and test in class for our fact fluency skills. Having these facts committed to memory will really help students as we move forward with higher level math skills.

## Fabulous Fourth Grade

Fourth graders are hard at work this second quarter. We have begun division in math using the partial quotient method. Parents, continue to encourage your child to master multiplication facts. Science rocks at the ROCK!! Our students are thoroughly enjoying going to the Science Lab once a week. Both of our field trips to the Crown Auditorium have put our students in the holiday spirit. Encourage your child to continue working towards his/her AR goal on a weekly basis.



**A little school joke to chuckle about:**

**Q:** Who is your best friend at school?

**A:** Your princi-pal!!



## Fifth Grade

- ✓ We enjoyed our fieldtrip to the "Best Christmas Pageant Ever" performance on Wednesday, December 14.
- ✓ Classroom celebrations are scheduled for Monday, December 19. We need your donations for pizza and refreshments on or before Thursday, December 15.
- ✓ Please remember to check student planners for homework and notes.
- ✓ Homework is essential practice. When it's not completed students are unprepared for review lessons the following day.
- ✓ Parents, please remind your child to bring all necessary school materials and supplies in order to be prepared for the school day.

As always, we appreciate your support!