



# FEBRUARY



**PAWS for a Moment & Come to RCE's Book Fair.** Thursday, January 31, 8:00am-4:00PM; Monday, February 1- 8:00am-4:00pm; Monday, February 5, 7:30am-8:00pm; Tuesday, February 6, 7:30am-8:00pm, and Wednesday, February 7, 7:30-10:00am.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thursday, February 1- Chick-fil-a night at Derby Chick-fil-a from 5:00-7:00pm.

Monday, February 5-Robotics assembly for 3rd-5th grade students at 2:30pm.

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Monday, February 5 and Tuesday, February 6, from 4:00-8:30pm. If you haven't signed up for a time to meet with your child's student, please do it soon. School will not be in session on Thursday, February 8 and Friday, February 9.

### PASTRIES WITH PARENTS!



Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grades will have 'pastries with parents' from 7:30-8:00am on **Tuesday, February 6.**

2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 5th grades will have 'pastries with parents' from 7:30-8:00am on **Wednesday, February 7.**

Thursday, February 8 and Friday, February 9- Conference Release Days. No School.

Tuesday, February 13-2nd grade will participate in 'Splash', a swimming program at YMCA.

Tuesday, February 13-PTO skate party at Roller City from 6:00-8:00pm.

 Wednesday, February 14 -Valentine parties 3:00-3:40pm

Monday, February 19- Presidents' Day holiday. NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, February 20 - 2nd grade 'Splash' at YMCA

Wednesday, February 21-School Site Advisory Council meeting at 6:00pm in the office conference room.

Thursday, February 22 - 3rd grade Family Night from 6:00-7:30pm.

Tuesday, February 27- 2nd grade 'Splash' at YMCA

Tuesday, February 27-Ruth Clark PTO will meet at 7:00pm.

***\*\*Parents, Just a reminder that school hours are 8:25am-3:50pm. Students need to be in their seat ready to learn by 8:25am.***

The cafeteria opens at 8:00am for breakfast. If your student is going to eat breakfast at school, they need to be here at 8:00am.

For the safety of our students, please use the sidewalk when you are coming to bring or take your student. Please **do not** walk in the bus drive. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

## Literacy First:

Word Study and Oral Language are a big part of your child's day. The purpose of word study is to address phonics skills, spelling patterns and vocabulary growth. Oral Language and Word Study are crucial skills that begin in Pre-K and continue throughout your child's education.

Some of the ways your child practices word study at Ruth Clark include: sorting words, keeping a word study notebook, looking at language and its history, doing word hunts, webs or ladders, illustrating words, writing ABC books or homophone books, doing activity cards and playing games related to oral language.

According to a Harvard research group, "frequent family dinner is the single most important factor in the development of a child's vocabulary" (Harvard Research, 1996).

Some things you can do to develop your child's oral language at home are listed below.

- Talk, discuss and converse. Having conversations with your kids increases their vocabulary and ability to communicate.
- Have your children answer questions using complete sentences.
- Ask your child to share his opinion and tell you why he feels the way he does.
- Use words that seem "big," and then explain what they mean and how they fit in the conversation. · Visit <https://www.familiesalive.org/dinnertable/> and use their dinner conversation starters each evening.
- Use your child's spelling words in conversations.
- Allow each family member to select a "word of the week." Post the word and then each person should see how many times they can use that word that week.
- Play a guessing game. "I'm thinking of a word that starts with "br" that is something you use to paint a house." (Brush) "I'm thinking of a word that starts with "tr" that is something we do to the bushes when they get too large." (Trim)

If you have any questions about Literacy First please feel free to contact your child's teacher, myself or check out the official website: [www.literacyfirst.com](http://www.literacyfirst.com).

Shenae Stein

Learning Facilitator