



Robbie's Report



The Robinson Park School PTO Newsletter
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What's the PTO working on in January?

Happy New Year to all of our RPS families! We wish you the very best for a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2019!

Cris Johnson will be bringing his "Wacky Science Show" to the students of RPS on Thursday, January 10th! This is a high energy STEM based assembly that will teach the students about science using contests, sound effects, music, comedy, and there will be LOTS of opportunities for kids to volunteer, and more. For more information you can visit Cris's website <https://elementaryschoolassemblies.com/science-appreciation/>.

The January PTO meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 9th at 6:30pm in the RPS library! We would love to meet some new RPS family members. Please consider joining the PTO to find out more about what's going on at RPS and to participate in the planning of extra activities for our students! We would love to get your input!

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 **Join our PTO Facebook Group**

"Robinson Park School PTO"

Get the most up to date information and friendly reminders for school activities.

RPS Buddy Classroom Program



The PBIS team started talking about Buddy Classrooms last spring and just rolled this program out last month. Buddy Classrooms are a way to promote a positive school culture. Classes are paired up and teachers work together to allow the students to get to know each other as learners, friends, and a way for the "Big Kids" to take a leadership role, and for the "Little Kids" to have a student to look up to within the building. Teachers at RPS are paired up across grade levels and are just getting started! A range of activities that could be done include, sharing stories; writing stories; sharing good news with their buddies; the list goes on and on!

Mark Your Calendars

Important January Dates to Remember...

- January 1 (Tuesday): New Year's Day – no school
- January 2 (Wednesday): School is back in session
- January 9 (Wednesday): PTO Meeting, 6:30pm in the library
- January 10 (Thursday): Cris Johnson's "Wacky Science Show"
- January 18 (Friday): ½ Day of school for students, 12:20pm dismissal
- January 21 (Monday): Martin Luther King Day – No school

Looking Ahead into February...

- February 18-22: Winter Vacation – no school

4th Grade Tile Project

During the month of January, the fourth graders will be working on their tile project. This project originated with the RPS fourth grade class of 2007. For this project, each fourth grade student will work on personalized designs for their tile during their art time. Potterville Pottery will assist with this project by coming in during the fourth grade special times for a full week to allow the students to paint their individual tiles. After these tiles have been glazed and set at Potterville Pottery they will be returned to RPS and installed in frames in the 3rd/4th grade hallway prior to the end of the school year. These tiles remain on display in the hallways - the early ones are in the cafeteria and they have since been framed to now fill the hallway outside of the gym and the beginning of the third and fourth grade hallway. The students love looking at the old tiles as we walk down the hallways. They find siblings' and friends' tiles as well as ideas for their own. It is always so rewarding for the students to see their completed projects displayed at the end of the school year. Our fourth graders will always be remembered here at Robinson Park School! Additional information regarding specific dates and volunteer opportunities will be sent home with students in the fourth grade classrooms in the coming months.

What's in next month's issue of Robbie's Report?

- Bingo for Books
- Black History Month Classroom Activities
- Is there a topic that you would like to see in next month's issue? If so, please e-mail sarahbrittain12@gmail.com!

Alternate Lunches Month of January

- Week of Dec. 31st: Wow butter and fluff or yogurt pack
- Week of Jan. 7th: Grilled cheese or yogurt pack
- Week of Jan. 14th: Deluxe Salad or Sandwich of the day
- Week of Jan. 21th: Wow butter and fluff or yogurt pack
- Week of Jan. 28th: Grilled cheese or yogurt pack



Principal's picture of the month!



A message from Mr. Bernier

Happy New Year to the RPS community! I hope that you had a restful break, and were able to spend time with family and friends, and that children come back refreshed and ready to begin an important stretch of learning time. Though there is still more than half of the school year left, once January comes, it tends to go by very fast! There will be two vacation weeks coming up, and likely a couple of snow days sprinkled in. Before we know it, we will be thinking about next year. MCAS and other end-of-year assessments creep up on us quickly, so it is important to squeeze as much as we can out of the next couple of months. If your children are making New Year's resolutions, perhaps they can be along the lines of getting enough sleep or exercise/play, or limiting screen time, as these can have a large impact on readiness to learn when in school. We at RPS are looking forward to what the new year brings and are very thankful for the people who make up the RPS community.

Fill the RPS Recess Toy Box



The toy box that the children have for their recess playground toys is empty! We would like to fill this with some items for the children to play with outdoors during recess. We are looking for donations of new or used toys such as balls (rubber, tennis, soccer, basketball, football, etc.), floppy discs (soft Frisbees), cones, sidewalk chalk, heavy duty hula hoops, jump ropes (preferably the kind that won't knot), or any other items that you think children might have fun with on the playground. Please keep us in mind when you clean out your used outdoor toys! The children will appreciate it! Thank you!

Cold and Flu Season



The cold and flu season is upon us. Germs are everywhere! It is hard to completely avoid sharing our germs, especially in an elementary school environment, so we need to do our best to minimize the spread of these viruses. At RPS, we encourage the students to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer several times during the day. We also wipe down the tables and other areas where these germs are most commonly spread. The best place for your child to be is at school, however, if they are seriously ill (fever, vomiting, diarrhea, significant cough that will disrupt a classroom, or any other conditions that you think may be serious or contagious to others), please keep your child home from school. They must be fever/vomiting/diarrhea free for 24 hours before returning to school. If they will be absent, please call the office to let us know that your child will be staying home for the day. A parent/guardian must send a hand written note to the office in order for the absence to be excused. If the child is out longer than 3 days in a row, a doctor note is required.

Save the Date...

RPS TechnoTrot 5K

Date: Sunday, April 7, 2019
Location: Robinson Park School
Time: Race starts at 1pm

Each year RPS hosts a 5K run, or 2-mile walk, to raise money used to purchase interactive technology, resources, and programs that will engage our students and inspire learning. More detailed information will be sent home at a later date.

School Cancellations and Delays

Sign up to receive real time text alerts for school closings or delays. Go to www.wwlp.com/text-alerts. Fill out the form (mobile number, name, e-mail address), then in the WWLPCLOSINGS box type "Agawam Public Schools". When Agawam schools are closed or delayed you will get a text message to let you know! School closings will also be communicated by the major Network TV stations, on-line, and this information will be posted on the RPS PTO Facebook Page and the Agawam Public Schools Facebook Page.



Ways to Help Robinson Park School...

- Collect and send in Box Tops for Education.
- We collect aluminum can tabs to donate to Shriners's hospital.
- Save your coke tops and send them in or enter your codes at <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/schools/> to donate money to RPS.
- Register your Stop&Shop card in the A+ School Rewards program.
- Register your Big Y card in the Education Express program.
- Amazon: Start at Smile.Amazon.com. Choose Robinson Park School PTO as your charitable organization and start shopping as you would on your regular Amazon account.
- Clean out your closets and donate your unwanted clothing in the donation bin located behind the school.



DONATE WITH
Stop&Shop **Coca-Cola GIVE**



Do you want something added to next month's newsletter? If so, please contact Sarah Brittain at sarahbrittain12@gmail.com