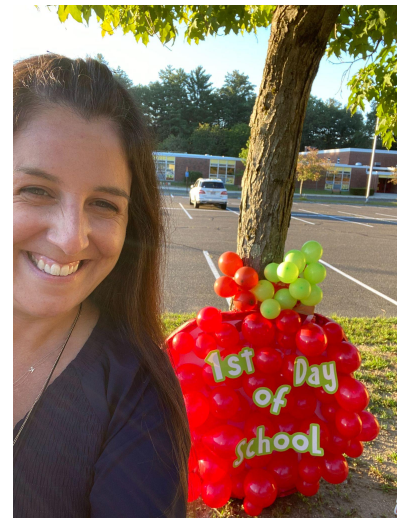


Principal's Weekly Update—Week of September 5, 2022

Greetings RK Finn Ryan Road Elementary School Community!

We had such a fantastic start to the school year this past week! Sunny, milder days welcomed our students into the hallways of RK Finn Ryan Road Elementary School and into the classrooms and spaces where they will spend this school year learning, having fun, and making memories.

It was such a pleasure to see students quickly learning and remembering routines and rejoicing in opportunities to make new friends and visit with those from past years and places.



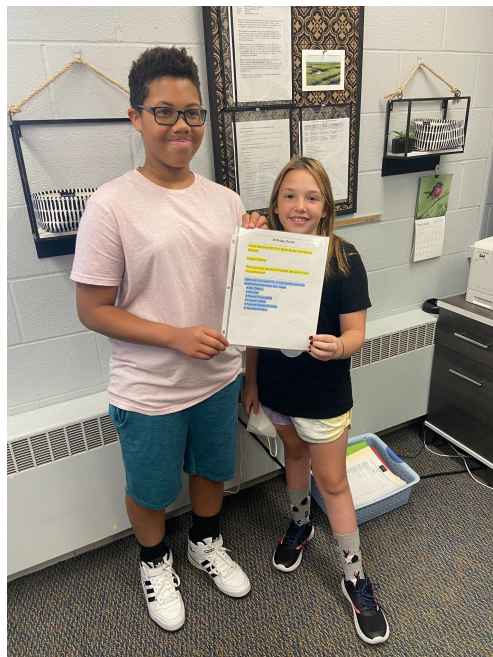
In addition to the excitement that comes with the start of a new school year, we had the opportunity to engage in some RK Finn Ryan Road traditions and celebrations:

- **Hopes and Dreams Bubbles:** Our entire school came outside on Friday, September 2 to celebrate the start of the school year and thank our amazing students and staff for making our community so special. We created a circle on the blacktop and were able to blow bubbles as we thought about our hopes and dreams for this year. Students were exceptional listeners and it was nice to spend some extra time enjoying the sunlight and the opportunity to be together as a full school.



Happy Friday & Birthday Announcements:

- We are looking forward to keeping the tradition of announcing staff and student birthdays each week on Friday mornings. Students in Grades 3, 4, and 5 will help us read a short message, share the names of those we are celebrating, and even select a song for us to play. Thank you Gina and Emma for being our first helpers and Happy Birthday to all those who celebrated another trip around the sun this week!



RK Finn Ryan Road Loves and Learns about Nature!

- This little creature was wandering outside our entryway last week. One of our Kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Egitto took a quick (and very clear!) picture of this insect. Do you know what kind of insect it is? We will let you know next week but if you find out in the meantime, you can tell us!



With Appreciation -

- **Welcome Back Staff Lunch** - Thank you to Local Burger and the Igneri family for providing lunch for our entire staff on Monday, August 29th. Even our new Superintendent (who was visiting all of the buildings to say hello!) was able to enjoy a cheeseburger!



- **Welcome Back Staff Breakfast** - Thank you to all of our generous caregivers who provided breakfast (and beautiful flowers) for staff and beautiful flowers on Wednesday, August 31 to help keep everyone well-fed and energized as we prepared for the first day of school!



- **Garden Clean Up** - Thank you to Stacia Potter, the PTO, and the caregivers who came to help prepare our garden for students to work with School Sprouts later this month! It will be wonderful for students to examine the beautiful sunflowers (and their seeds), check out the corn husks, and explore the many different herbs which are growing in the garden.



Reminders:

[RK Finn Ryan Road Supportive Staff List](#)

- I have attached our **Supportive Staff List to the link above** here and we sent home a copy with our Welcome Letter for the 2022-2023 School Year. We have an incredible team of nurturing and skilled adults who work together to help our students thrive.

After School Options:

- **YEP:** We will continue to hold YEP (Youth Enrichment Programs) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2:10-4pm. YEP runs three 6-8 week sessions throughout the school year. We'll send more information about YEP classes soon.
- **Girls on the Run:** The other option for after school activities is Girls on the Run, and I have attached that flyer to this weekly update. GOTR will be starting on Tuesday, September 13 after school (2:15pm) and running (ha!) until 3:45pm

- YMCA: The YMCA. Hampshire YMCA runs an afterschool program at the school until 6pm. Space is limited. contact the Hampshire YMCA directly for more information.

Important Upcoming Dates & NPS School Calendar

September 7: First day of School for RK Finn Ryan Road Elementary School Kindergarten!

Stay up to date with all of our school activities on our School Website's Calendar!

<http://www.northamptonschools.org/rk-finn-ryan-road-calendar/>

As always, we hope that all families and caregivers feel welcome, comfortable, and valued at our school. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns. I am happy to meet with any of you or we can talk on the phone anytime.

Karen Albano, Principal
RK Finn Ryan Road Elementary School