

Spotlight on Specials (May Edition)

Art, Music, Spanish, PE, Technology & Library

RLS "Specials" enrich the educational experience of our students. We are blessed to be able to provide such quality programming! Each month we would like to share a brief summary of what your child is up to in specials. Enjoy this month's edition of "Spotlight on Specials".

RLS Choirs will sing the National Anthem on Education Day at the Durham Bulls Game on May 6th.



Art (Mrs. Diagonale)

The Fine Arts Night is right around the corner! After celebrating moms, special guests and grandparents at RLS, be sure to head to the school on May 14th to see all the amazing artwork created by grades K-5. Throughout the year, students have studied and implemented the many elements of art and art principles in their artwork. You'll see all sorts of work with color, line, shape, pattern, value, texture, form and space.

Throughout May we will be adding last minute details to our pieces, writing artist statements, collaborating on group decorating projects, and even finding time to do one last project for the year. We don't stop creating until our very last art class on May 31st.

You can see all our projects on a continuous basis with monthly lessons, pictures, and art links on the [RLS Art Room Website](#).

Music (Mr. Unger)

Music 5 – Music K are working on mini-musical "It's Cool in the Furnace" – featuring narrators,

soloists, and rappers with chorus – to be presented at the Fine Arts Night, May 14.

RLS Choir (1-4) and Chorus (5-8) are rehearsing selections which are/will be presented in Chapel Worship; at the Fine Arts Night Concert; and the National Anthem sung at the Durham Bulls game, May 6.

RLS Band (5-8) members are rehearsing their selections for the Fine Arts Night and the Resurrection Music School Recital, April 27/28. The May 14 Fine Arts Night Concert will also include the RLS Choir (1-4); RLS Chorus (5-8); RLS Band (5-8); Music 5, Orff Demonstration; Music 4, Recorder Choir; Music 3, ChoirChimes; and advanced soloists.

Spanish (Mrs. Elhert)

In April, the 4th and 5th grade students finished up their unit of study on Mexico. They heard about the mathematical and astronomical accomplishments of the Mayan Indians and saw an old fashioned slide show of my travels to the ruins of Chi Chen Itza and Tulum. Students reviewed Spanish animal names as they saw my Mexican collection of paper mache and clay folkloric arts. We also sang a modern version of the traditional song, "La Bamba".

As the school year comes to a close the students will have an opportunity to write their own original skit using some of the most used questions we have learned in Spanish class over the years. The students always enjoy performing skits with original characters and props. We will also play a final round of Spanish Jeopardy to review many of the things we have learned. Watch for your child's Spanish folder to come home on May 20th as it contains all our work and vocabulary lists from this school year! Our final day will be a "Dia Divertido"-Fun Day, and we will be playing a number game.

The kindergarten and first graders finished their unit on foods and recently celebrated Oruga, the caterpillar's birthday. We wished him a "Feliz Cumpleaños!" and learned some words related to Birthday celebrations. The boys and girls will also be seeing a short video about a boy in Spain's Birthday party, giving us the opportunity to compare Spanish traditions to our own.

We will be finishing the school year learning about the animals that we see at "El Zoológico". We will sing a silly song about "el gorila", "la jirafa", "el elefante" and "el canguro". Students

always enjoy meeting my zoo animal puppets and talking about their sizes and colors. Our last day of class will be a "Dia Divertido"-Fun Day!

Physical Education (Coach Carter)

PE is gearing up for Grandparents Day, dancing through the decades for grades 3-5! Our K-2 classes have been working on cooperative games and will be explaining what PE means to them, with sidewalk chalk (be sure to check it out if you walk up, during the month of May).

Our middle school teams finished up a unit in handball and will now rotate through May playing Waboba ball (a whacky version of softball) and Kick ball. May is also the time to get ready for Field Day, which is June 3rd this year. There will be a school wide email with details and a sign up genius after Grandparents Day.

That's all from the Coach's Corner!

Technology (Mrs. Altieri)

Over the past few months in Technology Special, the fourth grade class learned about becoming better Digital Citizens in our online world. I use resources from Digital Citizenship Curriculum from Common Sense Media to have discussions, group activities, worksheets, and online activities to engage the students. They even produced a new song as a group activity on the topic of giving credit to others. Here is a list of topics we covered in 4th grade:

- Private and Personal Information (What kinds of things you should keep to yourself when using the Internet?)
- Powerful Passwords (How to create the best passwords)
- Our Online Tracks (aka digital footprint)
- Keeping games fun and friendly (when online)
- Super Digital Citizen (How can we be upstanders when we see cyberbullying?)
- Creative Credit (for your creative work and others)



- We also use Digital Passport, which is a program designed with games to reiterate the lessons learned.

If you want more information or interested in learning something new, go to commonsensemedia.org. It is a wonderful family resource.

Library (Mrs. Diagonale)

It warms my Librarian heart to announce that The North Carolina Children's Book Award Committee has announced *Read the Book, Lemmings!*, written by Ame Dyckman and illustrated by Zachariah OHora, the winner of the picture book category with 18,797 votes. It was the top favorite amongst our own K-2 students.

Throughout April, students in all grades enjoyed poetry as it was National Poetry Month. Many of the students have poems they can recite by memory. Serve up some chili at your house and see if they can recite of our favorite poem.

Last book check out is May 16th with all books due back at school by May 23rd. Please be sure that all Library books are returned and any missing books are paid for. Students last Library class is May 23 as the Library will be closed for Inventory on May 29th and 30th. As always, check the Library website for parents resources and calendar for fun things to do over the summer.

Invite your friends and neighbors to join in the FUN!!

