



Rice Elementary Contact Information:

Phone: (480) 424-8500

Attendance: (480) 424-8503

Health Office: (480) 424-8502

Fax: (480) 224-9271

Office Hours: 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

School Hours: 8:35 AM - 3:05 PM

Early Dismissal time is 11:35 AM.

School Website:

<http://www.cusd80.com/Rice>

Ms. Burrell's Contact Information:

Room: C3

Remind App: @1burrell

Email:

burrell.kristian@cusd80.com

welcome

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I welcome your family to Robert J.C. Rice School and to Room C3. Kindergarten is a once in a lifetime experience in your child's life. It is not only the beginning of their formal education, but it is the first step toward life-long learning and social participation. New experiences and friends will make this year a special time for your child and your entire family.

You, as parents and/or guardians, have played and will continue to play an important role in your child's school success. You were his/her first teacher. I hope you will be confident in placing your trust with myself and the other Rice staff as we will do our best to guide your child's academic and social learning each day.

We have a fun year ahead of us filled with lots of learning and adventure. Let's get the journey started!

Sincerely,
Ms. Burrell
Kindergarten Teacher





ABC's of

Kindergarten

Ms. Burrell Room C3

Attendance & Absences –Please help your child get to school on time because instruction will start right away. If your child is going to be absent, please call the school (480-424-8500). If your child is going to be absent for an extended period (a week or more) please notify me as well as the front office.

Arrival 8:10am-8:30am- To ensure safety of students and staff, Rice is a closed campus. Parents are not to be on the playground *before or after school*. Kinder students will report directly to the Kindergarten playground.



Behavior (see tri-fold in folder)-Rice holds high expectations for both academics and behavior through our school wide program called PBIS. The kindergarten team uses the "Keys to Success" behavior program that teaches important life skills and qualities that students need to become successful citizens. Students will learn 4 keys: Be respectful, Be inclusive, Be safe, and Be engaged. Each key has indicators which will be taught and modeled extensively throughout the year. Your child will have a weekly Behavior Star Chart which also serves as a daily home-school communication tool. Your child must have his/her Behavior Star Chart signed daily by a parent/guardian. Your child will receive his/her individual chart the second week of school and every week during the year.

Behavior Incentives (see yellow tri-fold in folder)-

Daily: Students who keep all 10 stars on their Behavior Star Chart each day will get a Rhino Reward to save and "buy" items from the Rhino Rewards Store.

Weekly Key Club Inductee: Each Friday, one student will be inducted into the Key Club for demonstrating excellent behavior or improvement. Instructions will be sent home that outline the week's activities.

Weekly: Each Friday, all students will be given the opportunity to trade in their Rhino to select classroom rewards.

Binders (AKA Rhino Binder)- Your child's Rhino Binder is meant to bridge the communication between school and home. Inside is a variety of resources to utilize. The right side (back) of the binder will be for papers that can stay at home (i.e., class work, flyers, forms, etc.). The left side (front) of the binder will be for papers that need to be returned to school (i.e., homework, order forms, etc.). Be sure to check your child's binder every evening: review and celebrate your child's work and make sure it returns to school daily. **Please return the binder daily.**

Birthdays (see red note in folder)-To ensure celebrations are inclusive of all students and to promote sustainability, we celebrate with a fun read aloud in kindergarten.

BIRTHDAY BOOK- Choose ONE option below:

1. Child brings a favorite age-appropriate picture book from home to be read aloud. This will be returned home once we read it as a class.
2. Child picks a favorite book from our classroom library for us to read while celebrating his or her special day.

OPTIONAL: Goodie Bags OR NON-EDIBLE ITEM:

Your child MAY bring in _____ goodie bags or a non-edible item for the students in our class. If your child is bringing in multiple items, please ensure it is prepackaged in goodie bags.

Due to several food allergies/dietary restrictions we cannot have any edible treats or items. Thank you for your understanding.

Book Orders- Scholastic makes it fun, easy, and inexpensive to either start or add to your child's library collection. Occasionally Scholastic flyers will be sent home to review and order books ONLINE for your children.



Snack- Please provide a small **HEALTHY** snack for your child to enjoy in the afternoon. Some examples are fruit snacks, granola bar, small bag of chips or Goldfish, etc. I suggest labeling their snack and putting it in Ziploc bag in case they do not finish it. No drink is needed. **Keep their snack separate from their lunch box so they don't get confused.**



Visitors- We are a closed campus. No adults may be on the playground. Visitors are allowed on campus for prearranged appointments or volunteer times. Sign in at the main office and receive a visitor's pass.

Volunteers- A SignUp Genius Link will be available on Rice's weekly newsletter for school copy volunteers/helpers. More in classroom opportunities are to come! Be sure to have a volunteer sheet on file with the office (see form in folder).



Water Bottles- Your child needs to bring a cold-water bottle from home every day. I suggest putting a sock around your child's water bottle to prevent any messes. Disposable water bottle donations are all always appreciated.

Dismissal- Kindergarten dismissal is 3:00pm, which is 5 minutes before the rest of the school. **PLEASE BE PROMPT. If you plan to change the method of transportation that your child normally uses after school call the front office at least an hour prior to dismissal.** Rice Parent Pick-Up is in front of the school. Stay in your vehicle, obey traffic signs, and always use the green number/name plates in your front passenger side dash window. Bus riders will be escorted to the busses by staff members. A Kids Express leader will pick-up the students and take them to the MPR.

Dress Code- Please visit the CUSD webpage to locate the Student Handbook for further information (pages 36-37)

- Hair: "properly groomed, styled, and within acceptable color ranges."
- 4" inseam length shorts
- No spaghetti straps are allowed. Please have your child use the 2-finger test when determining if a strap is wide enough.
- Hats are not permitted inside the building.
- I highly recommend sending your child in sneakers each day. Even though we do not have PE every day, the children will be playing in the wood chips each day at recess.

Dress code will be **strictly enforced**, so please review the student handbook if you need the details.



Homework- Your child will be assigned homework Monday through Thursday. Each day will consist of various activities that relate to classroom learning, an optional game or puzzle to play, phonogram, sight/spelling word practice and nightly reading. Homework should take 10-15 minutes per night. Homework is due every Friday.



Lunch & Breakfast- Breakfast is served before school starting at 8:10am. Price is \$2.25. Lunch cost is \$3.25. Students receive an entrée, veggie/fruit, and drink (milk or juice). You can access menus on [CUSD's website](http://www.cusd.org). MySchoolBucks (www.myschoolbucks.com) is where you can create an account and add money on it for your child.

Kinder Lunch is from 11:20-11:40am- Please pack your child a lunch that they can easily open by themselves and consume within 20 minutes. Staff is not allowed to heat up student lunches. Students will eat first and then go out to recess.



Newsletters- A weekly classroom newsletter will be sent via email. Also, every week you will receive a Rice Rhino School Newsletter. Be sure your email is updated on Infinite Campus as it is e-blasted through Infinite Campus portal.

Spalding-

Phonemic Awareness → Sounds, syllables, blending and segmenting words, rhyming, onset and rimes.

OPR → Students will learn 70 phonograms during our daily Oral Phonogram Review (OPR).

Phonics → the relationship between letters and sounds-Written Phonograms (WPR). Students are taught Manuscript for handwriting. Students will be tested on 10 Written Phonograms each week. WPR tests will be in 2nd Quarter.

Spelling Words → 6 words per week

Students are tested on Fridays for spelling. This will begin 2nd Quarter.

Into Reading-

Phonemic Awareness → Rhyming, syllables, segmenting and blending sounds, etc.

Sight Words → Identify with fluency

Students will learn close to 100 sight words. We will start with 1 word per week, then move to 2 words and eventually learn 4 words every week.

Text Comprehension → Text types, main idea and details, retelling, compare/contrast, author and illustrator roles, identify front cover/title page, text and picture relationship

Fluency → Read & understand grade level books appropriately

Vocabulary

Write from the Beginning-

Goal: Write 3 detailed sentences with correct sentence structure & detailed picture to match. We have several Animal Friends that will help your child learn sentence structure. Our writing units also integrate Science and Social Studies.

My Math-

Students will learn Kindergarten Arizona Math Standards through our district-adopted math program, My Math. Some concepts we will work on:

- Count by ones and tens to 100
- Identify numbers 0-20
- Count quantities up to 20
- Add and subtract math facts fluently up to 5
- Addition and Subtraction up to 10
- Sorting and classifying
- Identify and describe 2d and 3d shapes
- Tons MORE!

Second Step: Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)-

This program gives students the tools to excel in and out of the classroom. Students learn invaluable skills that help them navigate their way through school as well as their community.

Progress Reports & Report Cards on Infinite Campus

Students will receive an online behavior progress report mid-quarter through Infinite Campus. Student's behavior will be graded on the following scale:

Excelling (E)

Satisfactory (S)

Improving (I)

Needs Improvement (N).

At the end of each quarter your child will receive a grade in: math, reading, writing, language, and behavior. Subjects will be graded by: Meeting Standards (MS), Progressing (P), AC (Area of Concern)

Conferences will be held in August and February.



Testing-

DIBELS 8 Early Literacy

Assessments-Students will be tested 3 times a year to determine literacy progress.

Into Reading- Assessment of your child's progress occurs bi-monthly throughout the year.

Spalding- There will be a spelling and phonogram test every week starting 2nd Quarter.

Math- Assessment of your child's progress occurs frequently throughout the year.