Dear Families,

June 14 is Flag Day, when we commemorate the adoption of our country’s flag in 1777. The week of June 14 is designated as National Flag Week. During this time, many United States citizens raise and fly the American flag in observance. They may also recite the Pledge of Allegiance, sing the national anthem, or celebrate with parades and other events.

Established in 1949, Flag Day gives us an opportunity to look back on the history of our iconic red, white, and blue flag. According to popular historical legend, Betsy Ross made the first American flag in 1776. This design featured an alternating red-and-white horizontal striped field with five-pointed white stars arranged in a circle within the blue portion of the flag. The 13 stripes represented—as they still do now—the original colonies.

Since the original design, the American flag has been officially modified 26 times. The current version with 50 stars (one for each state) has existed since 1960 and is the longest-used version of the U.S. flag. It is also one of our nation’s most widely recognized symbols.

Nicknames for the flag include The Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner. There is also detailed etiquette around the use, display, storage, and disposal of the flag.

So this Flag Day, I hope you’re able to take a moment to reflect on our flag’s storied heritage and significant symbolism.

Wishing you a safe and happy summer!

Sincerely,

Pearl Tokar

*Our flag carries American ideas, American history and American feelings. It is a whole national history: It is the Constitution. It is the Government. It is the emblem of the sovereignty of the people. It is the NATION.* – Henry Ward Beecher, 1861
**Dates to Remember…**

**June**

- June 5 – 9  Book sale – previously enjoyed books for sale
- June 7  Nacho sale to benefit the Even Start Scholarship Fund
- June 8  Ice Cream Social 11:30 a.m. for Even Start classes, outside weather permitting
- June 9  Even Start Graduation, 9:15 a.m. last day of school for Even Start students
- June 14  Flag Day
- June 18  Father’s Day
- June 21  First Day of summer

**A look ahead…**

**September**

- September 7  Meet the Teachers – Open house at Good Shepherd School, 3288 East Henrietta Road, Henrietta, NY
- September 11  Even Start program begins

**Congratulations to:**

- all of our four year old students going on to kindergarten. Best wishes!
- all of our dads as they celebrate Father’s Day on June 19.
- all the students on their achievements throughout the year.

**Did you know that...**

- the last day of Even Start classes is June 9? It is also the Graduation for the Even Start students. Please wear red, white and blue.
- June 14 is Flag Day?
- Even Start classes will begin again the Monday after Labor Day, September 11?
- the staff had a nice luncheon on Staff Appreciation Day? The teachers each received a gift.

**Thank you to…..**

- Michelle Whitt and Betsy Marshall for all the parenting classes they offered throughout the year.
- all the classroom staff for their dedication throughout the year.
- Todd Jones and the Transition Class for their work in the classrooms this year and for their help with several events throughout the year.
- all moms who attended the Mother’s Day Tea on May 12. The children prepared cards, gifts, food and entertainment ahead of time and were extremely excited about the celebration.
- Michele Mihalitsis for everything she does to make the Even Start classes and special events run smoothly. We appreciate all you do.
- the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra for a wonderful Tiny Tots concert to all Even Start classes on May 16.
- Pam Harper for serving nutritious snacks throughout the year.
- Michelle Whitt for her ABC Music and Me program.
- the Transportation Department for busing the children to the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra’s Tiny Tots Concert.
- Anita Tichacek from the Town of Henrietta for letting us borrow trikes for the Trike-a-Thon in April.
- to Kim Fiscus and Michele Mihalitsas for picking up and returning the trikes to the Town of Henrietta.
- Judy and Brian Cook for their generous donation to our Garage Sale to be held in July.
- everyone who brought us desserts for our staff appreciation day.

**Even Start September Registration**

There are still openings in all of the early childhood classes for September.

Please call Linda McGory at 359-7919 for more information and to register.
ESOL Summer Session
July 11–August 17

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
at the Good Shepherd School
9:00 -12:00 noon
Taught by: Ms Bonnie Healy

This class is for current/returning students only.

Participants must attend all 3 days a week and are required to attend the full 6 week session.

This is a fast paced class and is limited to the Intermediate and Advanced level students.

Registration will begin on Friday May 12th.

If you have any questions please contact Pat Hantzis
(585) 359-7918
phantzis@rhnet.org

Participants are welcome to register their children for our preschool program during the time they are in class.

Contact Linda McGory at 585-359-7919 if you are interested.
R-H Even Start 25th Anniversary Birthday Celebration on May 10th

A special thank you to the following people sharing their memories with the audience about their experiences with the R-H Even Start Program: Kay Lyons, Judy Cook, Nella Corryn, Neila Barkety, Susie Chen, Marcel Mutsindashyaka and Aysha Humayan.

Thank you to the 25th anniversary celebration planning committee for all their suggestions, ideas, time and dedication for planning and implementing a successful program.

Thank you to Kim Fiscus for creating the program and typing the Memory Book.

Thank you to Stephanie Freida, Graphic Artist for finalizing and printing the Memory Book and program.

Thank you to all of whom attended the program and celebrated with us on that day.

Thank you to all staff members for their help and dedication with all aspects of the program.

During the celebration the following staff members were recognized for their years in the Even Start Program:

**R-H Even Start Staff Recognition**

Kay Lyons 25 years, director, preschool teacher, volunteer
Pearl Tokar 25 years, student, preschool teacher, coordinator
Pam Harper 25 years, student and staff member, supervisor
Michele Mihalitsas 20 years, classroom teacher and supervisor
Michelle Whitt 20 years, classroom teacher, music teacher, parent educator
Pat Hantzis 15 years, adult literacy program assistant
Celeste Nicholas 10 years, classroom teacher

Rush-Henrietta Central School District
Thank you to everyone who came to celebrate with us. It was a wonderful celebration with the children and adults dressed in their native clothing, children performing songs and the adult students singing “Happy Birthday” in their native languages. A special thank you to Good Shepherd Church for allowing us to use the Chapel for our celebration.

Children are singing and dancing as part of the program. Thank you to Michelle Whitt for coordinating the music portion of the celebration.

Eshaal Raza is cutting the cake with teacher Angeli Wong’s assistance.

Adult literacy students singing happy birthday in their native language.

Thank you all for celebrating with us.
Char Jobes  
Scholarship  
2017-2018

Applications for this scholarship are available from Linda McGory in the library. This scholarship was created in memory of a former employee, Char Jobes, who passed away unexpectedly. The initial money for the scholarship was raised in recognition of the 20th Birthday of the Even Start program.

To qualify, a family must:
- have a child(ren) who would be three years of age, or older, by December 1st of the year enrolling in an Even Start preschool class.
- exhibit financial need, which would prohibit or limit their ability to pay tuition in the Even Start Program.
- have a parent enrolled in English as a Second Language class.
- be a resident living in the Rush-Henrietta School District boundaries.

Auerbacher ESOL Family Scholarship For  
2017- 2018

Applications for the Auerbacher ESOL Family Scholarship for next school year are available from Linda McGory in the library. The Rush-Henrietta Even Start Preschool Program has been given money from the Dr. Auerbacher Trust Fund to provide a scholarship to a school district family for free tuition in the Even Start Preschool Program for their preschool-age child(ren) so their parent can attend an ESL class. The education of children who need English as a second language is of special interest to Dr. Ernest Auerbacher, a former assistant superintendent, and this will be what the scholarship money will support.

To qualify, a family must:
- live within the Rush-Henrietta School boundaries.
- have a parent enrolled in English as a Second Language class.
- have a child who would be three years of age, or older, by December 1st of the year enrolling in an Even Start preschool class.
- exhibit financial need, which would prohibit or limit their ability to pay tuition in the Even Start Program.
News from the Infant and Twos Room

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us this year. They enjoyed playing with their friends that they made this year. Miss Michelle’s ABC Music program was one of the children’s favorites and they looked forward to it every day.

Graduation is coming up quickly and we hope to see everyone there.

Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing your child again in September when they move to the threes room.

Karen Minotti and Chris Miner

News from the Preschool 1 Room

Can't believe it's the end of the school year. We had a great time, learned new things, did lots of fun activities and especially made new friends.

During May, we learned about spring, flowers, baby animals, birds, insects, bugs and farm animals.

We celebrated Even Start’s 25th birthday, and all the children did a great performance, it was a fun filled day. We also celebrated Mothers' day, the children worked hard in learning the poems and did a superb job in singing songs to their mothers. Thanks to all mothers for attending the Mother's Day Tea.

We also attended the Tiny Tots concert. It was a nice opportunity to listen to music and learn about different musical instruments. All the children were so excited to ride the school bus.

The Rochester Museum and Science Center gave an interesting presentation about dinosaurs. The children were so excited to learn about the dinosaurs. The Memorial Day Parade the children participated in was enjoyed also.

In June we will learn about summer, sea animals, fish and jelly fish. Thursday, June 8th we are having an ice cream social at 11:30 am, all parents are invited. Our last day of school will be June 9th and we will have the Even Start Graduation at 9:15 am.

Have a great summer.

Sobia Zulfiqar and Celeste Nicholas

News from the Preschool 2 Room

May was a great month in our class. On May 10th was the 25th anniversary/birthday celebration of the Even Start Program. It was a big success and the children’s performance was great. They did a wonderful job!

On May 12, we were excited to celebrate Mother’s day with a tea party. Our classroom was filled with love, hugs, kisses and laughter. The children entertained their moms and grandmoms with songs and poems. They also gave them cards and potted flowers. We all had refreshments together and enjoyed ourselves.

Thanks to the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra for the Tiny Tots Concert. It gave the children an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful music. They also were excited to ride the school bus for the first time. It was an unforgettable experience.

The year is almost over and summer will soon be here. During the school year, we have learned a lot both academically and socially and have grown in all areas.

Since May, we have been very busy practicing every day for graduation. We hope everyone who attends the ceremony will enjoy our performance.

In June, we are going to learn about farming, farm animals, and farm produce. “Old McDonald has a Farm” and “The Farmer in the Dell” are sure be their favorite. We can’t wait to start.

Goodbye to all of you. We wish you a fun, safe and wonderful summer.

Angeli Wong and Lindsay Vaeth

“While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about.”
- Angela Schwindt
Even Start Graduation
Friday, June 9
9:15 a.m.
Please join us in the gymnasium.
Wear red, white, and blue.

Cool Foods for Hot Days
- jello
- popsicles
- freezer pops
- pudding
- hard boiled eggs
- lemon ice
- fudgesicles
- chilled apples or oranges
- yogurt
- cottage cheese
- cheese cubes
- banana covered with peanut butter
- chilled raisins
- fruit cups
- chilled celery and carrot sticks
- fruit dip
- chilled strawberries

Staying Safe While Having Fun in the Sun

We’ve compiled some tips from dermatologists and the Skin Cancer Foundation for taking care of your skin all year round:

- **Seek** shade, especially between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun’s rays are strongest.
- **Do not burn.** Sunburns are caused by excessive exposure to UV light, usually from the sun.
- **Avoid** tanning and UV tanning booths. Exposure to UV light causes premature aging and other kinds of skin damage.
- **Cover up** with tightly woven clothing, in addition to a broad-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses. Some companies now even make sun-protective clothing and swimsuits.
- **Use** broad-spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher. Dermatologists recommend products with at least four percent zinc oxide and/or four percent titanium dioxide.
- **Use sunscreen every day.** Even in the winter! Here in New York State we experience intense UV exposure all year round. Also, did you know that UV light penetrates window glass at home and in cars?
- **Apply** one ounce (two tablespoons) of sunscreen to your entire body 30 minutes before going outside. Your skin needs time to absorb the sunscreen in order to properly protect you. Never use sprays or aerosols.
- **Reapply** sunscreen every two hours or immediately after sweating, swimming, or rubbing.
- **Keep** newborns out of the sun. Sunscreens should be used on babies over the age of six months.
- **Find out** if any prescription medicine you are taking makes you more sensitive to sunlight.
- **Examine** your skin head-to-toe every month. Keep an eye on any irregular moles or lesions on your skin.
- **See** your doctor every year for a professional skin exam.

We will be having a Family Services Garage Sale on August 10 and 11 at Good Shepherd School. This sale will benefit the Even Start Scholarship Fund.

Donations will be accepted beginning July 5th (no televisions or computers please). Please bring your donations to the library.
History about Father’s Day

Sonora Dodd, of Washington, was one of the first people who had the idea of a “father’s day.”

Sonora wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart. Smart, who was a Civil War veteran, was widowed when his wife died while giving birth to their sixth child. Mr. Smart was left to raise the newborn and his other five children by himself on a rural farm in eastern Washington State.

After Sonora became an adult she realized the selflessness her father had shown in raising his children as a single parent. It was her father that made all the parental sacrifices and was, in the eyes of her daughter, a courageous, selfless and loving man. Sonora’s father was born in June so she chose to hold the first Father’s Day celebration in Spokane, Washington on the 19th of June, 1910.

Even before Dodd, however, the idea of observing a day in honor of fathers was promoted. Dr. Robert Webb conducted what is believed to be the First Father’s Day service at the Central Church of Fairmont, West Virginia in 1908. It was Dodd’s efforts, however, that eventually led to a national observance.

President Calvin Coolidge, in 1924, supported the idea of a national Father’s Day. Then in 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday of June as Father’s Day.

Summer is almost here and you are likely looking for summer activities for kids that are affordable and will not break the bank.

Far too often we over-look the simpler things that children find entertaining.

- Go to the library once a week. Check out books, join story time, and see if there is a reading club you can participate in.
- Go camping. Front yard, back yard, in the living room, or make it a weekend trip in another town.
- Go to your local recreation center
- Go to the park. Hello, that is hours of free entertainment.
- Go on a worm hunt
- Go fishing
- Catch a free outdoor movie
- Jump around at a local splash park or water playground
- Take a dip in a public swimming pool.
- Chill out on a beach
- Play hopscotch
- Build a marble run using household objects
- Make your own movie
- Stargaze
- Create art projects using found objects
- Create a backyard obstacle course
- Visit local nature preserves
- Visit a local fire station
- Take a bike ride
- Paint rocks for your garden

Creative people are curious, flexible, persistent, and independent with a tremendous spirit of adventure and a love of play.

- Henri Matisse
  French painter
  1869–1954
Keep Kids Reading All Summer Long!

Did you know that when kids read over the summer they are likely to leap ahead when they head back to school? It’s called the “Summer Leap,” and you can keep your child’s skills sharp by encouraging them to read all summer long.

There is a free online reading program through Scholastic Books that invites children to log their reading minutes all summer. This year’s theme is “Happy Camper” and it’s all about believing in kids and encouraging them to be the best independent readers they can be. As kids log their reading minutes throughout the 18 weeks of summer, they will unlock stories from some of their favorite authors. Plus, throughout the summer, kids will earn digital rewards and learn about great new books to read. You’ll also find daily tips, book lists, and a new “Ask the Experts” book recommendation feature for parents on the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge website.

Are you ready to take a reading adventure this summer?
Let's get started! (May 8-September 8, 2017)

To learn more about the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge go to www.scholastic.com/summer.

Here is a partial list of Scholastics recommended books by age group:

AGES 3–5
(By Title, Author & Illustrator)

- Frog on a Log?
  Kes Gray & Jim Field
- Gaston,
  Kelly DiPucchio & Christian Robinson
- Goodnight, Already!
  Jory John & Benji Davies
- Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site,
  Sherri Duskey Rinker & Tom Lichtenheld
- Green is a Chile Pepper: A Book of Colors,
  Roseanne Greenfield Thong & John Parra
- Hey, Seymour!
  Walter Wick
- How Do Dinosaurs Stay Friends?
  Jane Yolen & Mark Teague
- I Wish You More,
  Amy Krouse Rosenthal & Tom Lichtenheld
- Last Stop on Market Street,
  Matt de la Peña & Christian Robinson
- Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa,
  Anna Dewdney

AGES 6-7
(By Title, Author & Illustrator)

- 8: An Animal Alphabet,
  Elisha Cooper
- Batman’s Dark Secret,
  Kelly Puckett & Jon J Muth
- Dr. Kitty Cat is Ready to the Rescue: Posy the Puppy,
  Jane Clarke
- Eerie Elementary: The School is Alive!
  Jack Chabert & Sam Ricks
- Elephant & Piggie: I Really Like Slop!
  Mo Willems
- Emma and Julia Love Ballet,
  Barbara McClintock
- Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World’s Most Famous Bear,
  Lindsay Mattick & Sophie Blackall
- Fly Guy Presents: Snakes,
  Tedd Arnold
- Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs,
  Mo Willems
- Magic Tree House: Balto of the Blue Dawn,
  Mary Pope Osborne & Sal Murdocca
Rush Henrietta Even Start Program
Registration/Contract Form
for
2017-2018 School Year

The Rush-Henrietta Even Start Program agrees to provide early childhood education services in compliance with New York State regulations and the National Association for the Education of Young Children guidelines.

I agree to the enrollment of my child, ________________________, in the Rush-Henrietta Even Start Program for the following days:

☐ a.m. session
   or
☐ p.m. session

(M Circle the days you want to attend)

Tuition is due monthly please refer to the payment agreement (attached).
Cost of Program: $13.50 per morning, per student

Payment Plan

I, ________________________, understand and agree to comply with the following payment plan:

I understand my child must be 3 years of age or older by December in order to attend. I agree to pay the monthly tuition on or before the first day of the month my child attends. Tuition is due monthly on or before the 1st of the month for check or cash payments. *Credit card payments will be charged between the first and seventh of the month prior to service. There are NO sick days, payment is required even if my child is sick or absent. I am aware that I must give a two weeks advanced notice when withdrawing my child. I will be charged for the two weeks whether or not my child attends.

* Example: for October service credit card payments will be processed between the 1st and 7th of September.

If my family takes a vacation outside of the school calendar vacation days, I agree to pay for child care fees while we are gone or my child will be exited from his/her class.

Families who leave the program and want to return the same school year will be charged a $20.00 re-registration fee.

__________________________________________  __________________________
Signature                                      Date

03/13/17
Rush Henrietta Even Start Program
Registration/Contract Form
for
2017-2018 School Year

A parent needs to be a student registered in the Adult Literacy program if their child is registered in the infant/toddler room.

The Rush-Henrietta Even Start Program agrees to provide early childhood education services in compliance with New York State regulations and the National Association for the Education of Young Children guidelines.

I agree to the enrollment of my child, ________________________, in the Rush-Henrietta Even Start Program for the following days:

M T W Th F
a.m. session only (Circle the days you want to attend)

Tuition is due monthly please refer to the payment agreement (attached).
Cost of Program: $13.50 per morning, per student

Payment Plan

I, ________________________, understand and agree to comply with the following payment plan:

I agree to attend Adult Literacy classes every day my child attends the Even Start program (infant/twos). I agree to pay the monthly tuition on or before the first day of the month my child attends. Tuition is due monthly on or before the 1st of the month for check or cash payments. *Credit card payments will be charged between the first and seventh of the month prior to service. There are NO sick days, payment is required even if my child is sick or absent. I am aware that I must give a two weeks advanced notice when withdrawing my child. I will be charged for the two weeks whether or not my child attends.

* Example: for October service credit card payments will be processed between the 1st and 7th of September.

If my family takes a vacation outside of the school calendar vacation days, I agree to pay for child care fees while we are gone or my child will be exited from his/her class.

Under NO circumstances may an adult student leave the building while his/her child is in the Infant/toddler room.

Families who leave the program and want to return the same school year will be charged a $20.00 re-registration fee.

______________________________  _________________________
Signature                        Date

03/13/17
Mother’s Day Tea
May 12th, 2017

Beautiful table arrangements for our beautiful mothers.

Some handmade Mother’s Day gifts

Treats to serve with our tea.

Special mommy hugs

Enjoying each other’s company.

This is how we hold our fingers to drink our tea.
Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Extended Day Program

Available for students enrolled in the UPK program at the Good Shepherd School.

Hours of operation:
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
Following the Rush-Henrietta Central School District calendar.

Minimum sign up of three days/week
Staff-to-student ratio 1:8

Rates
Annual registration fee: $20.00 per child

Care for those who attend morning UPK:
Before Care 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. $6.50 per day
After Care 11:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. $20.50 per day
Both $27.00 per day

Care for those who attend afternoon UPK:
Before Care 7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. $17.50 per day
After Care 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. $9.50 per day
Both $27.00 per day

Care available for non-school days:
6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. $39.00 per day

Activities include arts and crafts, music, gym, outside time, and interest centers.

Interest centers include sand/water table, easel, writing center, housekeeping, puzzles, blocks, manipulatives, playdoh, cars and trucks, dinosaurs/animals, etc.

Snack will be provided.

Pearl Tokar, Coordinator of Child Care Services
(585) 359-7912
ptokar@rhnet.org
or
Kim Fiscus (585) 359-5522
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HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

Return this form to Pearl Tokar

RUSH-HENRIETTA
Central School District
2034 Lehigh Station Road
Henrietta, New York 14467
Phone: (585) 359-5000
Fax: (585) 359-5045
www.rhnet.org

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Dr. J. Kenneth Graham, Jr.