



# WILMA RUDOLPH LEARNING CENTER NEWSLETTER

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

APRIL 2018

Hello Rudolph Families!

It's hard to believe that we are back from Spring Break already! It sure doesn't feel like spring with the snow we had this week! Did you know that April is Autism Awareness Month? To show our support as a school please dress your child in a blue shirt on Mondays in April (9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th).

Not only are we celebrating Autism Awareness month in April, we also will be celebrating Earth Day! Don't forget to send in your empty paper towel rolls for Ms. Anna. Ms. Anna and the other Rudolph teachers will be focusing on lessons regarding nature, earth science and the environment this month.

As you know Ms. Liza was on leave, and we are happy to say she is back! Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to her via phone or email [eareed@cps.edu](mailto:eareed@cps.edu).

Don't forget to mark your calendars! There are no classes for students on Friday, April 13th. This marks the end of quarter 3! Please join us for Report Card Pick-up on Wednesday, April 18th from 12:00pm-6:00pm. We look forward to seeing you. This is a great time to talk to the teachers and staff regarding your child's progress and the home-school relationship is so important. Also on the 18th we will be asking you to participate in the annual 5 Essentials school survey. Please see Ms. Liza with any questions. Finally, the 18th is also the day for elementary schools' LSC elections. Please come out and vote!

As I write this letter, I am honored to say that I celebrate my 2nd year anniversary as principal at Rudolph! Words cannot express how thankful and humbled I am to serve the Rudolph Community. Thank you for entrusting me with your children. I absolutely love being principal, to me it is more

than a job, it is my life's calling. I look forward to our continued journey together as we work to educate, provide opportunities, and explore new adventures for our students and the entire Rudolph community. AP Galati and I believe in an open door policy, and we always welcome visits and conversations with parents. You are always welcome to call, email me [hadacres@cps.edu](mailto:hadacres@cps.edu), or even pop your head in the office for a visit.

Here is to hoping for some better weather as they say... "April showers, bring May flowers".

Yours in Education,

Principal Holly



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy Autism Awareness Month! As we are celebrating all month long with our blue shirt Mondays, please know that at the Resource Center for Autism and Developmental Delays (RCADD) every month is Autism Awareness Month! They have resources, referrals and trainings at no cost. Check out the attached training flyer for dates/times and workshop descriptions.

I also wanted to pass along some information regarding the Illinois Respite Coalition. They are an organization that currently has funding available for short term respite care. Respite care provides temporary relief for the primary caregiver of an individual with special needs. There is no age

limitation of the child in order to receive respite funding. The only requirement is that the family finds the respite provider. This can be someone that the family knows, such as a grandparent, an aunt/uncle, or a family friend. If you have a child with a developmental disability, like autism, please call 773-205-3627 to see if you would qualify for assistance. There is also additional information located in this newsletter below.

We had one fun March with our Women's History presentations, where we learned all about influential women. We also worked on the CORE words "HOT" and "COLD" during the Month of March, which were utilized by our students throughout our earth and space science themes. The April CORE

words are "IN", "OUT" and "WHERE", which are being incorporated into a variety of instructional and functional activities during the school day. Please see some examples of opportunities to use (model and reinforce) these core vocabulary words of the month at home in this newsletter.

I hope everyone had a wonderful first week back after break. We look forward to seeing you all during Report Card Pick-up on Wednesday, April 18th from 12:00pm-6:00pm.

Yours in Education,

Assistant Principal Galati



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**RCADD**  
Resource Center for Autism  
and Developmental Delays

**2018 WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM	An overview for families and professionals that addresses the core characteristics of autism spectrum disorders. <b>Also offered in Spanish.</b>	2 PD hours or 2 EI credits
TIPS AND TOOLS FOR HOMES AND SCHOOLS	Classroom & home strategies meant to address academic/social/leisure goals of a child with autism and/or developmental delays. Content focus on early education. Participants will leave with visual tools to use at home or in the classroom. <b>Also offered in Spanish.</b>	4 PD hours or 2 EI credits <b>**Spanish — 2 PD hours only</b>
VISUAL SUPPORTS FOR SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING	Strategies meant to support social-emotional development in young children and prevent challenging behavior. Participants will leave with visual tools to use at home or in the classroom.	2 PD hours EI credits not available
BUILDING LITERACY SKILLS IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM	Strategies meant to create a more positive and enjoyable reading experience and to reduce frustrations that may occur. Participants will be better equipped with creative ideas to build and promote literacy in children with autism.	2 PD hours EI credits not available
THE 7 CONSIDERATIONS OF AUTISM: ASD & THE IEP	Learn to advocate for a student with autism by becoming familiar with the state guidelines surrounding autism spectrum disorder and the development of the IEP.	2 PD hours EI credits not available

# APRIL CORE VOCABULARY

The core vocabulary words of the month for April are *WHERE* and *IN/OUT*. These words are being incorporated into a variety of instructional activities and functional activities during the school day. We encourage you to use the visuals provided and model these words for your students at home using some of the suggestions below. Remember, use Aided Language Stimulation by touching the picture the same time you are saying the word to give your student a visual and verbal model of the new vocabulary.

## WHERE

Activities	Ways to model
Planning outings	Model WHERE when talking about leaving the house, such as Where will we go? Where will we eat? Where will we shop? Where will we play? Where will we stop?
Looking at pictures	When looking at photos of people or past events, talk about them and model questions like, "WHERE is that?", "WHERE is he/she?", "WHERE are they eating?", etc.
Reading a book	Use WHERE when reading with your student to practice labeling and describing. "Where is the big bear?" "Where is the red flower?". Where's Spot? By Eric Hill is a great story to repetitively ask "Where" the main character is.

## IN/OUT

Activities	Ways to model
Toys and Games	Look for toys/games where objects are put in and out. Look for opportunities to model IN and OUT as you play, e.g. stacking cups, blocks, playdough, Connect 4, puzzles, etc.
Cooking	Describe what you are doing as you cook. "I'm putting it IN the bowl", "I'm taking this OUT of the oven".
Taking photos	Take photos of people/toys or objects IN and OUT of things at home or in the community. E.g. a toy dog in and out of a car, a friend in and out of a box, a banana in and out of a bowl.



