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Students Take Learning to New Heights Inside Hot Air Balloon

Who:

Students from World of Inquiry School No. 58

What:

Hot air balloon demonstration

When:

Thursday, January 23, 2025, 9:10 a.m.

Where:

World of Inquiry School No. 58
200 University Avenue
Rochester, NY 14605

Details:

World of Inquiry School No. 58 students will receive a unique educational experience that will take them to new heights! A hot air balloon will be making a special appearance inside the school’s gym, offering students a lesson in the science and wonder of hot air flight.

The opportunity has been made possible through the generosity of the Rochester Education Foundation’s (REF) Smile Program, which supports PreK – 6 schools throughout the District. The Smile Program, created by local philanthropist Dave Beck, funds field trips and experiences that deliver a well-rounded education and put smiles on students’ faces.

During the event, students will learn about the mechanics of hot air balloons, the science behind their flight, weather patterns, historical significance, balloon operations, safety protocols, and much more. The experience will begin with the inflation of a hot air balloon using fans inside the school’s gym. Once inflated, students will be invited inside the balloon to explore its construction and strength.

Weather permitting, students will then move outdoors to watch the assembly of the balloon’s basket and burners, where they will have the opportunity to examine the equipment up close, including the drop lines, instruments, and other items carried in the basket. The balloon’s burners will then be ignited, creating a noisy and powerful experience for the students.

Hot air balloons will visit six more elementary schools in March and April. After appearances at a total of seven schools, more than 3,500 students will have benefited from this unique learning opportunity, which has been funded by REF’s Smile Program and REMAX Realty Group.

Founded in 2005, REF’s mission is to provide programs and resources to improve learning and success for all City of Rochester students through partnerships with educators, businesses, and the community. For more information, visit www.rochestereducation.org.