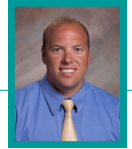


RMS Newsletter

April 2018



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The 2017-2018 school year is into its final quarter. With the arrival of spring, begins the planning for the 2018-2019 school year. At RMS we have a lot of wonderful exciting things planned for our students. The teachers and staff at RMS are excited about continuing with our master schedule that allows our students to be exposed to all of our courses offered. This will also allow for our 8th grade students to continue to have the opportunity to earn HS credits in several classes, which in turn will open up many doors for them as they become Freshmen.

As we return from Spring Break, Mr. Kreamer, Mrs. Murphy and I will begin to work with our students on their 2018-2019 schedules. For the incoming 6th graders and soon to be 7th graders, there is no selection of courses outside of Band and Choir. Every student in 6th and 7th grade next year will take every course offered; therefore there is no class request option. For the soon to be 8th graders Mr. Kreamer has sent home the course selection sheet, and will begin working on scheduling those students.

WELCOME CLASS OF 2025: 6th Grade Orientation will be April 19th 6:00-7:00 pm.

We will begin orientation in the RMS gym. We are asking your students to bring their school issued Ipad with them to orientation (Riddle will send the Ipad home with them on the 19th). RMS staff will be introducing you to "CANVAS". This is the learning management system used for daily assignments and grades at RMS. Canvas has a parent app we will also be helping you download and set up at this time.

ISTEP ROUND 2: RMS will be completing round 2 online ISTEP April 23rd – April 27th.

RMS teachers are offering study tables every Tuesday and Thursday after school until 4 pm. Please check Canvas often to keep up with your student's grades, and see their assignments on a daily basis. F.A.S.T. FRIDAY's – (Friday After School Study Tables) are every Friday from 3-4:30 pm for students whom are missing assignments.

If at any time you have a question or concern; Please do not hesitate to contact us at RMS. My email address is: oscar.haughs@zebras.net, and our school phone number is: 574-223-2280.

Thank you for your time and dedication to your students!

Oscar C. Haughs
Principal RMS

8th Grade April Field Trips

April 10: Mrs. Eber's Career Readiness field trip

April 11: The 8th grade will go on a field trip to visit Manchester University. More information will go home the week we get back from spring break!

April 20: The 8th grade will go on a field trip to visit the Century Career Center in Logansport.



RMS Band Concert

The RMS bands will present their spring concert in the middle school gym, on Tuesday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m. The students have been practicing hard on their concert selections and hope you will attend. The concert is free to the public.

Hope to see you there!

Mr. Danhauser

21st Century Scholars

The 21st Century Scholarship provides students up to four years of undergraduate tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana. If you attend a private college, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a four-year public college. Students must apply before June of their 8th grade year.

The 21st Century Scholars application is only available online. Eligible 7th and 8th grade students, and their parents or legal guardians, can access the online application at www.Scholars.IN.gov. Ap-

plications must be submitted by June 30 of the student's 8th grade year. Please review income eligibility requirements online before applying by visiting www.Scholars.IN.gov/enroll

What you need before you apply: A valid email address, this is an email address that the student has access to use.

Student's Social Security Number, date of birth, mailing address and contact information. Parent or guardian's Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, if applicable-

2016 taxable gross income amounts for all members of the household. If applying after December 31, 2017, please use 2017 gross income.

Need Additional Help??
Stop by Rochester Middle School and we will help you apply at our Parent Center. Feel free to call or email Mr. Kreamer with questions: 574-223-2280 ext. 6005 or nathan.kreamer@zebras.net
Parent Center Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. to noon

8th Grade



Science-Your student is currently working on our weather unit. Our focus this month will be on climate vs. weather. We will also learn how climates vary over time, how they are classified, how the oceans affect climate, and what causes the seasons. Lastly, we will understand how human activities affect our climate and if we can make a difference in the future climate.

Social Studies-Welcome back! The students will be busy giving their U.S. President presentations they worked on before spring break. Talk to your student about the Presidents they chose and what they learned about them. We will also learn about the society and culture in the United States before the American Civil War.

English-For the last 9 weeks, 8th grade students will be continuing to work on their reading skills using Reading Plus and Let's Go Learn. We will continue our study of poetry and figurative language with a Poet vs. Poet activity that mimics March Madness bracket activity. Finally, students will be working on being about to put together a five-paragraph current events essay, which will assist them with their writing in their high school classes.

Math-Eighth grade Math students will spend time getting ready for the second round of ISTEP testing which happens at the end of April. We will also work on getting ready for our Reality Fair field trip by choosing occupations. In May, Pre-Algebra students will start a project in which they will need a poster board for. Algebra students will start preparing for the Final Exam they will take at the end of May.

7th Grade

The **7th grade science** classes are currently studying the States of Matter and will finish up this topic of study this week. The key concepts to be learned are: 1. How do particles move in solid, liquids, and gases? 2. How are the forces between particles different in solids, liquids, and gasses? 3. How is temperature related to particle motion? 4. How are temperature and thermal energy different? 5. What happens to thermal energy when matter changes from one state to another? We will also discuss the behavior of gases, Boyle's Law & Charles's Law. Next week

will begin a new chapter studying matter and atoms. **7th grade math** will come back from spring break with our tennis shoes on, and running, to get ready for the next round of ISTEP testing just three weeks away. We will be studying inequalities, probability, and statistics. Hopefully, we will have some time for review in there also. It would be a great help, for parents of 7th grade students, to suggest that they practice any IXL math skill at the 7th grade level. **7th grade social studies** students will be learning about the geography, culture,

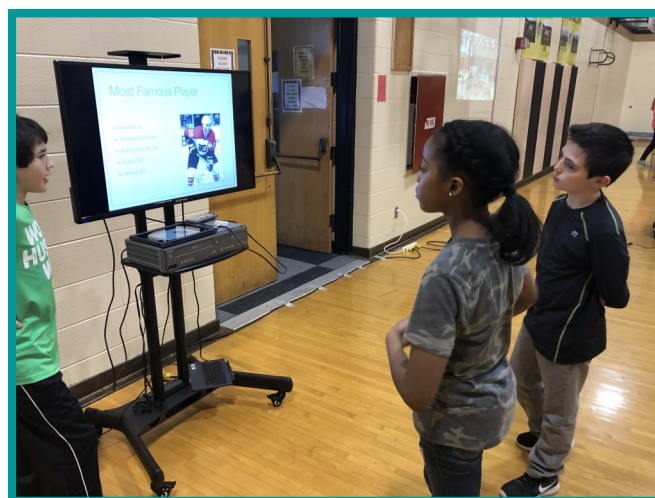
and history of the Korean Peninsula. The students will learn about countries that we once divided and later unified. They will then use the information to present a plan to unify the Koreas. **7th grade English** students will be working on learning and applying proper research skills. Students will cover skills that involve finding proper information, writing a bibliography, checking the accuracy of online information, and writing a proper citation. They will also be practicing skills for the upcoming ISTEP sections.

20% Time



Students in 2 sixth grade classes recently participated in 20% Time. This is an intrinsically motivated project for students to pick a topic that interests them and develop a project around that topic. Students complete their English work in 4 days and use every Friday (20% of their time in English for the week) to complete their research and their design project. Students participate in Pitch Day, where they propose their topic and project idea to an adult and receive feedback, which is always a very beneficial part of the process. They also seek out adult mentors to help them go deeper in their learning and push them in their knowledge of their topic.

Topics this year include Alcatraz, The Moon Landing Hoax, Light Pollution, History of RHS Wrestling, Disney, Competitive Swimming, Pugs, Super Mario Brothers and a wide range of many more topics. Congratulations to all students who participated on an AMAZING JOB!!



Homework Hotline



“Homework isn’t always easy. That’s why the Homework Hotline is here to help. It’s a free math and science tutoring service for Indiana and other students in grades 6-12. Tutors are Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology students who major in math, science or engineering—which means they’re more than equipped to help with virtually any math or science homework problem.”

1-877-ASK-ROSE (1-877-275-7673)

(www.askrose.org)

Textbook Rental Statements were mailed out in early March.
Payment is due by May 25,2018

6th Grade

The final quarter is upon us!! 6th grade has some very exciting things happening as we end out the school year. First of all, we are welcoming all new 6th graders for the 2018-2019 school year to RMS on April 19 for 6th grade orientation. It seems like just yesterday our current students were joining us for this informative and fun evening!

After spring break the 6th graders will be doing some of the teachers' favorite activities. Mr. Bailey's **social studies** class will be working through the Stock Market Game. Students are placed in investment groups and given \$100,000 to invest. Through the program, students learn about how companies work, how to make smart investment choices, and how to determine

risk. By the end of the year, students will be very well educated on how best to get a profit through investment! In **English** with Mrs. Atkinson, the students will be reading the novels Number the Stars or The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, while learning about the Jewish Holocaust during World War II. Please use this time to discuss some of these injustices with your child and how it relates to their lives today. Mrs. Brower has a great activity planned for **math** as well. Students will be creating carnival games and hosting a probability carnival for other students in the building. It is always amazing to see what kinds of creative games and prizes the kids come up with! Finally, in **science** with Mrs. Dunwoody, the students will be learning

all about energy transformation. While all the details are being finalized, the 6th graders will be participating in some type of STEM project to demonstrate their knowledge of this topic. During the second round of ISTEP, students will also be creating an apparatus to keep an egg safe as we throw them off the top of the football bleachers. Students always have a great time doing this! As always, please keep up to date on Canvas and contact us with concerns!

Study Skills & Preparing for College & Careers



6th Grade Study Skills

Sixth Graders have completed surveys to discover their preferred learning styles, or how they learn best. Students researched study strategies and created individualized PowerPoints displaying strategies that can help them in reading comprehension and in memorizing facts throughout their lifetime. Next, students chose to apply a study strategy to a class subject. Sixth Graders wrote down what they would like to see in five different areas of their lives and wrote them on a star. Then they wrote four SMART Goals with multiple action steps. Students will complete a consumer life skills online program called, “Fool Proof.” This program will help students look to research instead of advertisements to help them make purchasing decisions, develop personal responsibility, and comprehend opportunity cost. Sixth Grade Success students have been studying the automobile and they are assembling a CD, rubber band powered car.

7th Grade Study Skills

Seventh Grade Study Skills students have created online brochures, advertising healthy habits to achieve a healthy mind. Students created posters with study tips. Study Skills students also created brochures for Sixth Graders, sharing advice on how to be successful in school. Seventh Graders discovered their preferred learning styles and personalized study strategy recommendations by completing two surveys online. They can use any of the study strategies throughout their lifetime as tools to help them comprehend and memorize information. Students have been working on improving their vocabulary and comprehension skills by reading Newsela articles, taking quizzes, writing main ideas, and including two details from the stories. Seventh Graders will be reading and responding to articles written in the Scholastic Choices Magazine. Students will be reading from a new, “Straight-A Study Skills,” book together in class. I have also shared study strategies with the students from a book called, “How to Get All A’s.” Seventh Graders will complete a consumer life skills online program called, “Fool Proof.” This program will help students develop personal responsibility, comprehend opportunity cost, and to rely on research instead of advertisements.

Preparing for College & Careers Class

PCC students have been analyzing their skills, interests, and strengths through textbook reflections as well as online and paper surveys to find careers and career clusters that match each student’s characteristics. Students have been assigned to request interviews with three individuals about their careers. Eighth Graders have been learning about careers that are in demand in Northern Indiana, called the “Hoosier Hot 50 Careers.” Students have researched local careers and conducted online job searching in the U.S. Eighth Grade students have researched Indiana college costs and they have conducted career research and created career PowerPoints. The students have responded to a practice SAT writing prompt for Criterion. Next, students will apply the Five Step Decision Making process to a Criterion writing prompt. PCC students will be participating in a budgeting simulation at the Junior Achievement Finance Park. In class, students will prepare by studying taxes, social security, banking, saving, stocks & bonds, credit, renting, and budgeting.