



AROUND THE HORN

RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

JANUARY 30, 2015

CURRICULUM NEWS AND NOTES

SCIENCE 7 | FOWLER AND HOLLAND

As we start the second semester we will be continuing our chemistry units. We are focused on mixtures and solutions. Students are learning about the properties that make up substances and how to use those to identify the parts of a mixture. Students will be using their knowledge to design and conduct a controlled experiment and write a scientific explanation.

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ELA 8 | CONSTANT AND MILLER

We have begun reading the classic To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee. We're excited to share this book with kids. In our experience 95% of 8th graders report this as one of their favorite books by the end.

IMPORTANT DATES

**Friday, January 30 –
Saturday, January 31**
Seussical, Jr. Performances
7:00 PM

Saturday, January 31
Start and Dismissal Time Survey Deadline

Monday, February 2
Ramsey Community Education
Winter Session After School Classes Begin

Wednesday, February 4
6th Grade Vision Screening Test

Thursday, February 5
Multicultural Night

**Friday, February 6 –
Saturday, February 7**
Northpoint Health and Wellness Center
Free Dental Clinic

Wednesday, February 11
6th Grade Vision Rescreening Test

Friday, February 13
No School (Parent-Teacher Conference Day)

Monday, February 16
No School (Presidents Day)

**Friday, February 20 –
Friday, March 20**
Virtual Garage Sale

Saturday, February 28
School Request Application Deadline

ELA 8 (CONTINUED) | CONSTANT AND MILLER

Most of our reading and work with this text will be done in class, and students are expected to continue reading choice books as homework. If a student is absent from school, however, they are expected to read a chapter from To Kill a Mockingbird for each day gone in order to keep up with the class and to ask what else needs to be made up upon their return (or through email). Please help your child take on this responsibility if absent from school.

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SCIENCE 8 | FOWLER AND SCHULTZ

Following Intersession, 8th grade Science students will return to investigating our changing Earth. Having completed our studies of earthquakes and volcanoes, next we turn our attention to minerals, rocks, and the rock cycle. We have the great fortune of examining numerous rocks and minerals collected and donated by our former Minneapolis Public Schools district science specialist, Jim Bickel. Thank you, Mr. Bickel, for helping us appreciate why rocks rock!

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WINTER AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES | JOLSTAD

Winter after school classes at Ramsey Community Education start on Monday, February 2. Registration forms for the winter session of after school academic and enrichment classes are now available. Please call 612.668.3450 for more information, or click [here](#) or copy and paste the following URL address into a web browser to download a copy of the registration form:
<http://www.youth.mpls.k12.mn.us/ramsey>

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A GREEN IDEA | GREEN TEAM

Ramsey Middle School's Green Team has organized a fundraiser that you can be a part of, without paying any money! What we would love for you to do is donate old cell phones that you might otherwise throw away. We will have a bin for them right by the school office at all times. Then, at school activities such as plays, movie nights, and other get-togethers, we will bring it to the auditorium right by the ticket booth.

You may be wondering what we could possibly use these for. Some of us also had the same question when a member of our team brought up this idea. We then did some research and found an answer. The Minnesota Zoo has a program that recycles old cell phones called "Recycle for Rainforests." What they do with them is donate the working ones, and then sell the unusable ones for the metals. All of the money raised is then used to preserve the rainforest and the animals living there in Africa.

So, if you would like to help our effort to help save the rainforest, then simply bring an old phone of yours or anyone else's you know and drop it in the box. We appreciate your support of our green idea.

REUSE, RECYCLE, AND RAISE FUNDS FOR RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL | PTA

10 Reasons You Should Be Spring Cleaning

10. Because that exercise equipment you got for your New Year's resolution is already looking for a new home.
9. Because that desk of little Billy's hasn't fit him since Kindergarten; time to donate it and find the right size.
8. Because you have moved those boxes from four different homes; time to go through them and see what you really can live without.
7. Have you looked under your bed lately?
6. How long have those items been in your garage?
5. If the games have all their pieces, why wouldn't you find a good home for them?
4. Because you have said to yourself many times, "Somebody else would use this more than I do."
3. Because you always have to have the latest and the greatest, so spread the love and donate your not-so-old gear.
2. Because you know reusing and recycling is the way to go
1. Because all of the proceeds from the sale of your goods will be going to Ramsey Middle School!

Look for details on how to donate your items in next week's communications.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MULTICULTURAL NIGHT | PTA

Volunteers are needed to help at Ramsey Middle School's Multicultural Night on Thursday, February 5. Sign up by clicking [here](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-multicultural), or by copying and pasting the following URL address into a web browser:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-multicultural>

NEED DENTAL CARE? | PTA

Northpoint Health and Wellness Center is hosting a free dental clinic for all children in low-income families in need on Friday, February 6 and Saturday, February 7 from 8:00 AM-3:30 PM. Their address is 1313 Penn Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55411. Please call 612.543.2500 for more information.