



AROUND THE HORN

RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

MAY 25, 2016

CURRICULUM NEWS AND NOTES

6th grade ELA

Students in 6th grade Language Arts are finishing up our class novel *Touching Spirit Bear* this week. Our summative assessment is a persuasive writing and discussion activity called Philosophical Chairs (similar to a shared inquiry discussion). Next week Ms. Elissa will join us for a final arts integration project. We are so proud of all that students have accomplished this year!

6th Grade ESL:

Students in 6th grade ESL literacy class will be ending the year with arts integration. We just finished reading a nonfiction article that described the effects of cyberbullying. Students have been working on anti-cyberbullying posters that Ms. Elissa will help us turn into a more permanent art fixture for Ramsey. Once we finish the arts integration project, we will end the year practicing sequencing events in a text, finding and using text evidence, and writing acrostic poems.

7th Grade Science

The last project of the year is the Human Body Project. Hopefully, you have been hearing a lot about this already. It consists of a model of a part of a body system and a report on the system and its connections to other systems in the body. The project is due on May 31st. After that we will end the year with FROG DISSECTION! The best part of the year.

7th and 8th Grade AVID

Students in both grades are working on a culminating research project and presentation on a career of their choice. Students are researching the educational requirements, work environment, skills needed, pay/benefits, and other aspects of a chosen career.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 26th

Band Concert 7:00

May 24th-26th

BOGO Scholastic Book Fair
8:30-4:00 Ramsey Cafeteria

May 27th

All Student ipads returned to
Ramsey

May 30th

Memorial Day – no school

June 6th

8th grade trip to Valley Fair

June 7th

Last day of school

8th Grade Science - Schultz

8th grade scientists are working hard to finish our EARTH IN SPACE unit. After investigating surface features of planets and moons in our solar system and inferring the processes by which they formed, we will be focusing on preparing for our final end of unit test. Students will take unit test on Thursday, June 2nd. It is essential that students complete their study guide and get their questions answered before the test so that they are fully prepared. Students will also be taking the 9th grade physical science preassessment next week on Tuesday, May 31st. Details about this preassessment were sent home on a handout last week. Please let me know if you have any questions about the end of the year in 8th grade science.

8th Grade Global Studies

Students are finishing the year learning about South and Southeast Asia. After exploring the physical geography of Asia we are focusing our attention on India's history with Great Britain. Students are learning about Ghandi's civil disobedience movement and are amazed that Ghandi inspired Martin Luther King! Students will finish the year comparing the population and economies of India, Japan, and China.

6th, 7th and 8th grade Visual Art

We are working on our third and final Unit: Painting and Color Theory. Students are exploring three types of paint; tempera, glaze and acrylics. Our final lesson will be an acrylic paint dessert painting using a monochromatic color scheme with a complementary color accent.

This week and next students will take home all of their artwork from the semester. Make sure you ask to see their creative talents!

6th and 7th Grade Beginning Band, 6th and 7th Grade Varsity Bands - Nelson

6th and 7th grade beginning band students are putting the final rehearsals together to perform a spring concert on May 26th. After the concert, students will complete a reflection on the performance and begin a short Band Olympics unit, testing long tones, different scales and other musical feats of endurance! Instruments will also be checked in for the year by June 3rd. Students are encouraged to continue over the summer if possible, please let me know if you would like a form to check out an instrument. Students must be attending Ramsey in the fall and enrolled in Band.

8th Grade Concert Band - Nelson

8th Grade beginning band students are putting the final rehearsals together to perform a spring concert on May 26th. After the concert, students will complete a reflection on the performance and begin a short Band Olympics unit, testing long tones, different scales and other musical feats of endurance! These music olympic events will help to prepare Concert Band members for a successful high school band experience. All instruments should be checked in by Friday June 3rd. If you need an instrument over the summer, you are

encouraged to check with the high school band director of the school you are attending to set that up. Please let me know if you need help finding contact info for any high school band director.

6th and 7th grade beginning strings students - Nelson

6th and 7th grade beginning strings students are putting the final rehearsals together to perform a spring concert on May 24th. After the concert, students will complete a reflection on the performance and begin a short unit identifying and selecting repertoire. Students will also complete any unfinished assessments during this time. All instruments should be checked in by June 3rd unless you are checking one out for the summer (you are encouraged to do so!) Please let me know if you would like a form to check out an instrument during the summer.

Ramsey Community Education Super Summer Classes – Monday-Thursday, June 13-July 21

For youth entering grades 6-9, Fall 2016

Six weeks of summer fun! Classes include Bike Explorers, Badminton, Basketball, Cooking, Improvisation, Graffiti/Street Art, Graphic Novel, Spoken Word Poetry, & Musical Theater. *(Class times and fees vary. Some scholarships available.)*

Musical Theatre at Ramsey!

Musical Theatre Camp – A one-week summer intensive June 13-16, that culminates in a cabaret-style showcase.

Little Mermaid, Jr. – be part of a full scale musical this summer. Rehearsals are Mon-Thur, 1:15-3:15pm.

Technical Theatre – Learn about technical theatre and be part of the crew to help run the show!

Visit <http://youth.mpls.k12.mn.us/ramsey> to download a flyer and link to our online registration site. If you have questions, call 612-668-3450 or email joellyn.jolstad@mpls.k12.mn.us

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Return student ipads Friday!

Teachers will be collecting student ipads, cords and chargers on Friday. If a student doesn't return all items, his or her family will be contacted and charged for replacement.

Ramsey PTA Volunteer End of Year Celebration!

Calling all Ramsey volunteers! There are hundreds of people who have volunteered at Ramsey this year. We are so thankful and appreciative of their time and talents. We're throwing an end of year open house soiree to properly thank our volunteers for all they have contributed this year and to invite incoming 6th grade parents to join in the fun and get connected. Please join us for a night of stimulating conversation, great drinks and delicious snacks-you'll be glad you did!

When: Sunday, June 12th from 7-8:30pm

Where: Beth Gyllstrom and Dan Anderson's home

Who: current Ramsey parent volunteers and new incoming 6th grade parents

Why: to thank our wonderful volunteers and celebrate our many successes
to look ahead to next year with excitement and energy
to meet incoming parents and welcome them into the Ramsey family
to have fun with other Ramsey parents who are committed to making Ramsey the best it can be

Please join us for a fun night of conversation and connection!

Drinks and tasty nibbles will be provided. See you there, Ramsey PTA

RSVP: Robin Langevin - langevinrobin@gmail.com

Scholastic Book Fair Going on Now

The Scholastic Buy One Get One FREE Book Fair is in the cafeteria Tuesday through Thursday, May 24-26 from 8:30am-4:00pm.

New this year: For every purchase, students may put their name in a drawing to win a prize! Six prizes will be awarded!!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-spring>

Greeter Program Is A Big Success With Students, Staff And Volunteers!

We had a record turn out of Greeters on Friday with 11 parents, including 7 rookies.

Said first-time greeter, Linda Heath, "So much fun, I could seriously do that every day!" Linda, we love your enthusiasm, but for now it's just on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Even the students are loving it. Check out this quote from a 7th grader, "Yeah, it's okay." As any middle-school parent knows, that's high praise!

Please come if you can! Just 20 minutes on a Tuesday or Friday morning. You will brighten the students' day, and your own. The more the merrier.

Thanks to our musicians!

Thank you to Karl, David, Brian, and Steven of the Melvilles who performed last Friday and to Leslie Mallory who played Tuesday. Students and Staff loved the music, and we hope you come back next year!

8th Grade Recognition Events

Friday, June 3 - 5:30-8:30

A semi-formal dance and party will take place in the Ramsey Cafeteria. The dance will be hosted by A-List Entertainment. A-List does an incredible job of encouraging all the kids to dance and join in the fun, by fostering a sense of inclusion. There will be a DJ, lights, dancers, a photo booth and light refreshments and beverages will be served. Students should plan to eat dinner prior to arrival.

Tuesday, June 7

9:00-10:00 Morning Recognition Ceremony

Reception at 10:00

This ceremony, in the newly renovated theater, will celebrate and recognize our students' achievements as their middle school experience concludes. The ceremony is open to families and will be followed by a cake and punch reception in the cafeteria.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Spirit Wear!

Volunteers are needed to help sell Spirit Wear at the upcoming music concerts. Volunteers will not miss the performances. If you will be there anyway...

[Spirit Wear Sales for Spring Concerts](#)

8th Grade Dance Chaperones

Help is needed chaperoning the 8th Grade Dance! There are many opportunities to be a wallflower at this fun event. Your child won't even notice you are there!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-8thgrade2>

7th Grade Last Day Fun!

The 7th graders are walking to King Park in the last day of school. Some parent help is needed to make this a fantastic last day of school.

[7th grade Last Day of School Celebration](#)

PTA NEWS

The PTA is looking for your ideas about meetings and communication. Please take a minute to complete this brief survey. Thank you!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DQ866X5>

The 2nd Annual Ramsey Open

It is right around the corner--June 11th! Time to dust off the racket and join us for another fun, competitive night of ping pong and bootlegs to support our favorite middle school!

New this year:

- Sign up as a player OR just support as a spectator. Either way, it's guaranteed to be an entertaining evening.
- New! Junior Tournament! Any 2016-2017 Rhino is invited to sign up to compete the following day, June 12th (incoming 6th graders and their parents encouraged to sign up!)

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

The Graffs, Hemers and Bastians

Sign up here! Bracket space is limited:)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-ramsey-open-tickets-25045332263>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1st-only-amateur-ramsey-open-tickets-25045787625>

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention former Burroughs Families!

Ice Cream Social to honor Mr. Cadotte

Join us Monday, June 6, 4-6:00 pm: Current and former Burroughs families are invited to an ice-cream social to celebrate and say farewell to our fearless leader! This event will be open-house style, so come when you can, and enjoy a sweet treat with Mr. Cadotte, who is retiring after 18 years at Burroughs.

The Ramsey Middle School mountain bike team is looking for more riders!

No experience is needed. Join the team and have a blast with fun people riding your bike in the woods!

Current 6th and 7th graders are eligible for next year's Ramsey Middle School team and all current 8th graders are eligible for next year's Washburn High School team.

Practices are 2-3 times a week and run July-October. There are 5 races in Sept. and October where riders challenge themselves to their greatest potential.

Want more info? Here are three options:

1. Please join us on May 14 anytime between 10-1 for a team registration/information party at Charlie's Tangleown Bike Shop at 322 W 48th St, S. Mpls.
2. Talk to 6th grader Nico Alexander, 7th graders Eleanor Dolan and Sudie Hall, 8th graders Per Alexander and Isaac Lowenthal-Walsh or art/stem teacher Ms. Butler.
3. If you would like more information from the coach, please contact Tonja Sahaydak at: tonjasahaydak@gmail.com.

Riders learn bike safety, road and trail etiquette, trail-side maintenance, fitness and nutrition, and technical skills needed for riding on mountain bike trails. **All levels and abilities are welcome.**

Follow the link for this week's Around the Horn, or read on for the text only version.