

RAMSEY AROUND THE HORN

MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Monthly Newsletter for Ramsey Families

Volume 2, Issue 9
May 2014

An Update from Principal Marietta

For our last newsletter this year, I thought we could reflect on all that has occurred in the last school year. However, the planning and preparations for next year leave little time to look back! We are halfway complete in adding a new group of teachers. Our intention is that the new Ramsey staff members are not all teaching on the same team. Therefore, not all teachers will be teaching in their current assignments. It is also important to express that we can not accommodate requests for a specific teacher. We take great pride in knowing that all of our teachers are of extremely high caliber.

We are anticipating some building renovations for next year, the biggest of which is the auditorium. It is also likely that we will have some construction to accommodate the Washburn-Ramsey collaborative. This will include adding science labs and increasing bathrooms. The programming for this is still being explored, but we hope to have a public engagement plan in the near future.

The other thing we are exploring is how to sustain some of our efforts implemented in the first year. This includes our 1:1 iPad program. The use of the iPads has truly transformed elements of how we learn. The devices themselves have been used in every class every day, and they are showing some signs of wear and tear. We are exploring some usage fees to support a replacement plan for the coming years. We will be communicating this to families once it is finalized. As with anything, we will work with families to ensure all students have access regardless of the financial circumstances of the family.

It is an honor for me to continue to serve you and your children here at Ramsey. If you ever have any questions or concerns, always feel free to reach out to me directly. You can [e-mail me](#) any time. Have a safe and joyous summer!

Contact Information

[Join Our E-Mail List](#)
[Ramsey News Archives](#)
[Ramsey Middle School website](#)
[Ramsey PTA website](#)
[Parent Portal](#)
[After-School Classes](#)

612-668-4040

Important Dates

Thu, May 8 & Fri, May 9
7 pm
Bye Bye Birdie Musical

Thu, May 15
7 pm
Spring Band Concert

Fri, May 16
7th-Grade Field Trip
to Base Camp

Fri, May 16
Twins Game

Mon, May 19
3-5 pm
Plant Order Pick-up

Tue, May 20
After-school 5K on
WHS track

May 20-23

Ramsey Musical Debuts Tonight

It's opening night of the musical *Bye Bye Birdie!* Join us in a small Ohio town where a big rock star is saying farewell to his fans before being drafted. Everyone is invited to performances on Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the door. Children under 5 are admitted free with an adult.

Students in the cast should report to dress rehearsal directly after school today. Dinner will be provided at 5:30 p.m. On Friday, cast members need to be at Ramsey at 6 p.m. to prepare for the 7 p.m. performance.

Get Ready for Spring Concerts

Band students will be performing at the Spring Band Concert on Thursday, May 15 at 7 p.m. Students should report at 6:30 p.m. with their instrument and music. Attire is the Ramsey music shirt and jeans.

Choir and orchestra students will be performing in the Spring Concert on May 22 at 7 p.m. Students should report at 6:30 p.m. with their instrument and music. Attire for orchestra students is the Ramsey music shirt and jeans. Choir students should wear all black (which can include the Ramsey music shirt if they have one).

7th Graders Heading to Base Camp

All 7th-grade students are going on a day trip to Base Camp on Friday, May 16! Base Camp (201 Bloomington Road) is a place where students will participate in a full day of climbing, archery, leadership development, and fun outdoor and indoor activities! Located in the century-old Cavalry Drill Hall near Fort Snelling, Base Camp is owned and operated by the Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America.

The cost of the field trip and transportation is \$20 per student. The cost covers transportation to and from Fort Snelling as well as a day of activities for Ramsey students to build community and develop leadership skills as they move into 8th grade. Some scholarship funds will be available. If you are able to donate a small amount for another student to attend, we would be grateful.

The fee and both sides of the permission form must be completed and returned by Friday, May 9. Verbal approval will not be accepted. The form should be returned to the student's advisor.

9 am-4 pm

Half-Price Book Fair

Tue, May 20

9:30 am Coffee and
Conversation with
Principal Marietta

6:30 pm PTA Meeting

Thu, May 22

7 pm

Spring Orchestra &
Choir Concert

Mon, May 26

Memorial Day

NO SCHOOL

Fri, Jun 6

Last Day of School

Fun Activities Planned for Last Day of School

We are planning an active day for the last day of school! Students will be competing in Advisory Olympics in the morning, eating a picnic lunch, and having a choice for their afternoon activity. To help facilitate a smooth and fun day, we are looking for parent volunteers to help run the olympic games, serve lunch, and supervise afternoon activities. If you are interested in helping out, please [e-mail Bridget McGinnis](#).

Students will have an extended lunch period on the last day of school so they can enjoy a picnic lunch and sign each other's yearbooks. The PTA will provide hot dogs and buns. Any parent donations of food are appreciated, and parents are welcome to join us. Each student is asked to bring something to share (by advisor):

Bauck--chips

Cisco--chips

Constant--treats

Cedarleaf-Dahl--treats

Gibbs--fruit

Halbach: fruit

Halvorson: drinks

Hedge: drinks

Henderson: drinks

Holland: veggies

Kragthorpe: veggies

Krasean: ketchup

Loch: mustard

Marr: forks

Niemiec: forks

Pena: napkins

Posse: napkins

Rademacher: plates

Schultz: plates

Sommers: plates

Suo: cups

Van Der Werf:cups

Thank you for your contributions!

Yearbooks are Coming!

Yearbooks will be ready for distribution during the last week of school. There will be a limited number of books available for those who haven't pre-ordered. Thanks to the Yearbook Club students for showing up early on Tuesdays and for making the book happen. And a HUGE thank you to Melissa Flint and Jennifer

Song for providing vision, photos, guidance, and adult supervision.

PTA Update

PTA Meeting on Tuesday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m.

The May PTA meeting will recap the year and look forward towards next year. If you can't attend the evening meeting, feel free to drop in at 9:30 on the morning of the 20th for coffee and conversation with Principal Marietta.

Plant Orders Available May 19

Plant sale orders will arrive at Ramsey on Monday, May 19. Please pick up your order in the parking lot near Door 10 between 3 and 5 p.m.

Twins Outing Next Week

Ramsey, Burroughs, and Lyndale families will be catching pop flies and eating peanuts and Cracker Jacks at Target Field on May 16. We look forward to cheering on the Twins as they take on the Seattle Mariners!

Half-Price Book Sale Starts May 20

Fill your bookshelves for summer reading! The spring Half-Price Book Fair will be held Tuesday, May 20 to Friday, May 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Many volunteers are needed for this event. Please sign up on the [Rhinooteer Google Doc](#).

Volunteer Opportunities Ahead!

There are many chances to get involved during the last month of school. Please [sign-up here](#) to be a Rhinooteer!

Summer Reading Challenge Starts in June

This summer, all Ramsey students (current and future) will have a chance to participate in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge. This year's theme is "Under the Stars," and your student will get a unique ID and password to register online and track his or her reading over the summer. We hope to set a record! Look for more info coming home with your student soon. Great book ideas will be available at the Scholastic Half-Price Book Sale later this month. When students return in the fall, there will be a celebration and an event with a local author for those who complete the challenge.

Lace Up Your Running Shoes

Get the whole family geared up for this spring fitness

event. The Family 5K will be held after school on Tuesday, May 20 at the Washburn track. If you are interested in volunteering, please [e-mail the PTA](#).

Join the First-Ever Wiffle Ball Tourney

Join forces to form a team and participate in the inaugural Burroughs/Ramsey Wiffle Ball Tournament. We will bracket up to 32 teams in a double elimination tournament to be held on Saturday, May 31. Proceeds will go to the Ramsey PTA.

Who can participate?

Anyone (kids & adults)

Location

Open field on Minnehaha Parkway, just south of the Lynnhurst Community Center and Burroughs

Team Size

Between 5 and 8 players

Team Formation Ideas

6th-Grade Boys Team

Teacher Team

7th-Grade Dads Team

Moms and Daughters Team

Cost

\$50 per team

Sign Up!

Send an [e-mail to Amy Hemer](#).

5th Precinct Hosts Open House

The Fifth Precinct Police Station (at 3101 Nicollet Ave.) is hosting its annual Open House for the public on Tuesday, May 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. This is a great opportunity to learn about the police department and have fun doing so.

The department has many police units that attend, including K9, Mounted Patrol (horses), the Bomb Squad members with their robots, and much more.

The police band will be playing music, and there will be free food and refreshments. If you have questions, call the precinct at (612) 673-5705.

Send Us Your Submissions

If you have any suggestions or contributions for the next issue of *Around the Horn*, please [send an e-mail](#)

[to the editor.](#)