



AROUND THE HORN

RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

MARCH 20, 2015

CURRICULUM NEWS AND NOTES

ELA 6 | BAUCK AND MARR

Students in 6th grade ELA with Ms. Bauck and Ms. Marr are finishing up an exciting unit on Justice and Forgiveness. We read [Touching Spirit Bear](#) by Ben Mikaelson and focused on story elements, learning about plot, character, conflict, setting, and theme.

Students will complete a final persuasive media project the week before Spring Break (due Thursday, March 26). After break we will prepare for the MCAs (Monday, April 20 - Friday, April 24) and begin a Storytelling/Lit Circles unit.

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IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, March 20
School Dance

**Friday, March 20 -
Saturday, March 21**
The Little Mermaid, Jr. at
Anthony Middle School

Saturday, March 21
History Day at South High School
Washburn Arts Council Fundraiser

**Monday, March 23 -
Thursday, March 26**
School Spirit Week

Thursday, March 26
Third Quarter Ends

**Friday, March 27-
Friday, April 3**
Spring Recess

Monday, April 6
Fourth Quarter Begins

ELA 7 | BAUCK

Students in 7th grade ELA with Ms. Bauck are finishing up a unit on The Diary of Anne Frank. We've finished the book and are watching the 1950s movie version, and will compare the two types of storytelling when done. We'll follow the movie by exploring a series of artwork a holocaust survivor called "Light of the Yellow Star."

Finally, after Spring Break, students will complete an in-class essay as the unit's final assessment. We will also spend the week after break preparing for the MCA test, which is Monday, April 13 – Friday, April 17. All 7th graders take a field trip to see the play of Anne Frank on Tuesday, April 21. After MCAs we'll begin a Literature Circles unit that will take us through the end of the year!

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SCIENCE 7 | FOWLER AND HOLLAND

We have just finished our Chemistry unit, hopefully that means no more unexpected fire drills. Our next and final unit of the year is Structure and Function of Living Systems. We will be focusing on the Human Body, a topic which is making most students a little nervous. We will start by investigating the digestive system. This may be the best and most disgusting part of the year.

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SOCIAL STUDIES 8 | JACQUES

We are excited to be kicking off our model UN unit this week! Students will research the countries that they represent and the global issues to be addressed. Please support your student by asking him/her about their partner, assigned country and area of global concern. Research will be done in and out of class for this project.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 (CONTINUED) | JACQUES

After completion of the UNA-MN Model UN curriculum, students have the opportunity to participate in a Model UN Conference; during the conferences students take the role of United Nations delegates, draft resolutions, negotiate, strategize, and formally present their country's positions within the parameters of the U.N.'s rules of procedure. This conference will be held during the school day at Hamline University. The date for this conference is Tuesday, May 12. Successful completion of a position paper is a requirement of attendance.

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SCIENCE 8 | FOWLER AND SCHULTZ

Did you hear about our field trip to the edge of the universe and back? Last week we hosted the Exploradome (a traveling planetarium dome) thanks to a generous grant from Mr. Richard Schulze. This was a very exciting way to kick off our final unit of the year: Astronomy!

Now we are investigating the motions of the earth, moon, and sun to explain predictable cycles including days/nights, years, seasons, and moon phases. This week we are fortunate to be working with Ms. Elissa on an arts integration project investigating shadows and the apparent path of the sun in the sky. Thank you, Ms. Elissa!

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SCHOOL COUNSELING | TIBBETTS

Minneapolis Public Schools would like to invite your 8th grade child to be a Fast Track Scholar this summer. This program will give them the opportunity to meet their new high school classmates and begin earning high school credits. Course offerings include Linear Algebra, Literacy, Physical Education, Health Science, Guitar, Theater, Drawing, Ceramics, Physical Science, Engineering, Robotics, Work Readiness, Web Design, Geography, and more.

SCHOOL COUNSELING (CONTINUED) | TIBBETTS

All students will receive an invitation letter and course selection form in Advisory during the week of Monday, March 23 – Thursday, March 26. If you have questions, please contact me at the address below:

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SCHOOL DANCE | JANICEK

As a reminder, our spring dance will be held tonight, Friday, March 20, from 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM in the lower gym. In addition to the dance, we will have games and snacks in the cafeteria and a movie in the choir room. The suggested donation is \$2 to help us fund this dance and many more events to come.

We could still use any volunteer help available, so, if you are available, please join us! If you can come as early as 3:00 PM, we need help with set-up, so meet us in the lower gym/cafeteria. If you can stay late, help us clean up afterwards. If you can come in the middle, we can always use more adults in the rooms.

For those of you who have a child on Student Council, please note that your child must stay until we are finished cleaning up (sometime between 6:00 PM and 6:30 PM).

Please email me with any questions; I will answer as quickly as possible. Thank you!

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HISTORY DAY | SOMMERS

Several students will be representing Ramsey Middle School at the citywide History Day event tomorrow, Saturday, March 21 at South High School:

- **Anna Keefe** and **Kathryn Ramach**, for their exhibit “Alan Turing and the Creation of the Bombe Machine”,
- **Antony Machado**, for the exhibit “Herb Brooks – Miracle on Ice”,
- **Jacob Thiags**, for his exhibit “Teddy Roosevelt and the National Parks”,
- **Marlena Shoemaker** and **Anika Johnson**, for their exhibit “The Creation of Barbie: Effects on Society”,
- **Lucia Telleria**, for her exhibit “The Legacy of Sister Elizabeth Kenny”,

HISTORY DAY (CONTINUED) | SOMMERS

- **Madilyn Nguyen** and **Clare Daggett**, for their exhibit “Adolf Hitler, Chancellor of the Nazi Party”,
- **Hailey LaSalle** and **Anna Melnyk**, for their exhibit “Elizabeth Blackwell”,
- **Elle Miller**, for her exhibit “Jonas Salk, Creator of the Polio Vaccine”,
- **Mira Van Hunnicks**, for her exhibit “Sanger: Advocate for Women’s Health”,
- **Claudia McCarron** and **Ella Meintsma**, for their exhibit “Gandhi’s Peaceful Protests”,
- **Eli Zukor Zimmermann** and **Bruno Bertoldo Zwicky**, for their website “The Simpsons Changed TV”,
- **QuQu Holman**, for her website “Alice Paul and the Fight for Women’s Rights”,
- **Audrey Foxen** and **Alex Kurtyka**, for their website “Adolf Hitler”,
- **Isaac Walsh**, for his website “John Muir and the Founding of the Sierra Club”,
- **Charles Klage** and **Eli Knaus**, for their website “The Manhattan Project Under the Leadership of J. Robert Oppenheimer”,
- **Matilda Prentice**, for her website “Penicillin – Leading Medicine into the Age of Antibiotics”,
- **Yasmine Dietrich** and **Ariana Nieves-Juvland**, for their website “Marilyn Monroe”,
- **Per Alexander**, for his website “Judge Miles Lord; United States v. Reserve Mining”,
- **Cady Kocanda** and **Abby Oscarson**, for their website “Ruth Handler – The Creator of Barbie”,
- **Aidan Thomas**, for his performance “Revolutionary Advancements in the Field of Cardiovascular Surgery”,
- **Sophie Bierman**, for her performance “Bob Dylan: Affecting Music”,
- **Cena Passons**, for her performance “Harriet Tubman”,
- **Mandie Flint** and **Phoebe Schwartz**, for their documentary “Park Dreams – The Legacy of Theodore Wirth”,
- **Cole McQuinn** and **Rory Kliewer**, for their documentary “Jim Henson: Paving the Way to Childrens’ Television”,
- **Laura Weil** and **Emma Haugstad**, for their documentary “Peter Ueberroth & The Legacy of the 1984 Olympic Games”,
- **Eva Forsline** and **Helen Bartlett**, for their documentary “Jim Jones & the Legacy of the Jonestown Massacre”,
- **Emma Foley**, for her documentary “Coco Chanel: Building a Legacy”,
- **Gretchen North**, for her documentary “Anna Sewell’s ‘Black Beauty’”, and
- **Isabel Yopp**, for her paper “Legacy of the Salt Satyagraha”.

Following this there may be a few students who qualify for the state event on Saturday, May 2!

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SPIRIT WEEK

Ramsey Middle School will be celebrating Spirit Week starting Monday, March 23. The themes are:

- **Monday, March 23:** Twins Day -- support the baseball team or dress like your BFF (and bring in your Twins Game Ticket Order!)
 - **Tuesday, March 24:** Back to the Future/Blast From the Past
 - **Wednesday, March 25:** Pajama Day
 - **Thursday, March 26:** Superhero (real or made-up) or Super Rhino (school colors/Rhino gear) Day
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GET LUCKY RUN | PTA

Thank you to the Student Council members and families that joined us last Saturday to cheer on the runners at the Get Lucky Half Marathon. We did see Assistant Principal Angie Martin as she lead her group of runners past us, and the Student Council raised \$550 for their efforts!

BATTLE OF THE BANDS | PTA

The window for signing up for this event is almost closed; sign up now by clicking [here](#) or by copying and pasting the following URL address into a web browser:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17pNZme2xlHAOpeBYio-XiNmXx9VwZ7ZSwSVoWxQm8tQ/viewform?usp=send_form

YEARBOOKS | PTA

Ramsey yearbooks are now on sale! For easy online ordering click [here](#), or copy and paste the following URL address into a web browser:

http://link.entourageyearbooks.com/YBStore/YearbookStoreMain.asp?yearbook_id=15693

Paper order forms can be dropped off in the main office. Also, if you have photos of any school activity, please send them to yearbookramsey@gmail.com, and be sure to label the event.

RAMSEY RENDEZVOUS | PTA

Ramsey parents: Check out our two new Ramsey Rendezvous events! The first is a Somali Tea and Culture event on Saturday, April 18. You don't want to miss this opportunity to learn more about Somali culture and savor some tasty treats.

Next up, escape to a Fantasy Island-themed party on Sunday, June 28, where you'll mix, mingle, eat, drink and enjoy the musical offerings of Ramsey's very own Mr. Nelson and his band.

RAMSEY RENDEZVOUS (CONTINUED) | PTA

Check out all of our Ramsey Rendezvous offerings and get your tickets by clicking [here](#), or by copying and pasting the following URL address into a web browser:

<https://sites.google.com/site/ramseyptafundraising/ramsey-rendezvous>

TWINS GAME | PTA

Join a huge number of Ramsey families on Friday, May 1 at 7:10 PM when the Twins play the Chicago White Sox. Let's all take this great opportunity for our community to get together outside of the classroom, have fun, meet other families, and cheer on the Twins to victory!

Through this group everyone can purchase Twins tickets at a discounted rate of only \$11. Ramsey will be recognized on the big board in left field starting in the 4th inning too!

Order forms by clicking [here](#), or by copying and pasting the following URL address into a web browser: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzzuMUSybj6UEJhUTd0SzhTdkk/view> or in the main office.

Return forms (with checks) to the envelope in the main office. We need to order the tickets right after the end of spring break, so please return the by Tuesday, April 7! Or better yet, before spring break!

ULTIMATE FRISBEE | PTA

Ramsey Middle School students can join an Ultimate Frisbee team this spring. Registration is open to boys and girls interested in this co-ed, worldwide, non-contact sport. Teams of seven players work together to win points by moving a flying disc into the opponents' end zone. It's fun and fast-paced. No previous Ultimate experience is necessary.

The team will practice near school (Fuller Park) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:50 PM-5:30 PM this spring with games on weekends against neighboring middle school teams. To register and find more information, click on Spring League at www.youthultimateprogram.org.