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Important Dates

- Mar 20 - Mar 24:** 8th Grade Reading MCA Tests
- Mar 27 - Mar 30:** 6th Grade Reading MCA Tests

Wed, Mar 29: Plant Sale Order Forms Due
Fri, Mar 31: NO SCHOOL
Apr 3 - Apr 7: NO SCHOOL – Spring Break
Mon, Apr 10: H2O for Life Begins
Tue, Apr 11: Site Council Meeting, 5 pm, Ramsey Media Center
Apr 17 - Apr 21: 7th Grade Math MCA Tests
Tue, Apr 18: PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm
Fri, Apr 21: Twins Game, 7:10 pm
Sun, Apr 23: Battle of the Bands, 3 pm, The Junction
Apr 24 - Apr 28: 8th Grade Math MCA Tests

[See the full calendar for more info](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last Call for Yearbook Pictures!

We're looking for great pictures of Ramsey students to be included in this year's yearbook. Did you get any good shots at Camp St. Croix? Do you have photos from your student's band or orchestra concerts? Do you have pictures from your student's fall soccer season? We may not use all photos, but we'd love to have lots of pictures to work with!

Please email photos to ramseyscommunications@gmail.com, and include a description of the event and names of people in the photo. To be included in this year's yearbook, all photos must be submitted by **Friday, March 24**. Thank you!

Yearbook order forms will be available in late March/early April. Stay tuned for more information.

Ramsey Plant Sale

It is time for our Annual Plant Sale! This is a fundraiser for the PTA that we hold each spring. This year, our plants come from Gertens again. These plants have proven to be beautiful and hearty!

[Plant sale order forms can be found here](#). Feel free to share them with friends and family members. Forms and payment are due in the office by **Wednesday, March 29**. Please print and fill out the forms, and make sure that you include your name and a contact number. A very limited number of catalogs with all of the plants in them are available in the office. An [electronic version of the catalog](#) is also available.



Order pickup is on **Monday, May 15 from 12-6 pm**. There are **NO REFUNDS** for plants that are not picked up.

It has been brought to our attention in years past that people would like to buy Native Grasses as part of this sale. Please know that it is too early in the season for the grasses to be available.

In addition, we have been asked about the use of neonicotinoids. Here is the statement from Gertens in regards to that: "Gertens is very aware of issues and questions concerning the use of neonicotinoids and other insecticides. Gertens refrains from using neonics on any bedding plants grown in six count

packs, veggies, and culinary herbs. Also the seed sources from which our plants come from are neonic free. We do selectively apply neonicotinoids to some larger planters, hanging baskets and 4 ¾" potted annuals. This selection process is based upon certain plants having particular vulnerability to specific pests and/or terminal plant diseases spread by those pests. If necessary, we try to apply early in the plant growth cycle which reduces total amount of product used and environmental impact later once the plants are moved outdoors. Also there is a chance that some starter plugs that we purchase from propagators could have been treated with neonics."

Please help us make this year our most successful year ever!

Sincerely,

[Paula Huber-Williams](#) and [Melissa Waskiewicz](#)

Plant Sale Committee Chairs

Sixth Grade Reading MCAs

Sixth grade reading MCAs are coming up March 27-30. Students in 6th grade have worked to make growth goals based on their performance on the MCAs last year. If you have a student in 6th grade, please ask them about this goal and what their plan is for meeting this goal.

Seventh Grade Parent Survey

Do you have a 7th grader? We want to hear from you! Any parent of a 7th grader is invited to [take this survey](#) to provide feedback.

EVENTS

Ramsey Rocker Rendezvous March 25

Dance and mingle with fellow Ramsey parents for an evening of food, drinks, and music. Special guests, "Staff Infection" (the Ramsey staff band), will preview their performance for the Battle of the Bands. Wear your favorite rock concert T, or dress like your favorite rock star, and help the Ramsey Arts Council raise funds for new risers for the Ramsey Auditorium. [Click here for tickets](#).

Who's Ready for Baseball?

Join the Ramsey, Burroughs, Lyndale, and Green Central school communities in cheering on the Minnesota Twins vs. the Detroit Tigers on **April 21 at 7:10 pm**. Your entire family is invited to join us for fun and baseball at a discounted price. A great opportunity to meet new families and new friends outside of the classroom. Seats are limited, buy yours now! **Ticket sales close on Wednesday, March 29.**



Two options to purchase tickets:

- [Buy seats online](#) with credit card. Online purchases include an extra \$1.54 fee to cover credit card processing costs (total cost \$11.54).
- Buy seats with a check made out to Ramsey Middle School PTA. Tickets are \$10 each. Mail your check to Ramsey PTA, 1 W. 49th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55419.

Contact Angie North at ramseytreasurer@gmail.com with questions. We look forward to seeing you at the game!

Battle of the Bands



The 3rd Annual Ramsey-Washburn Battle of the Bands is coming soon: Sunday, April 23, from 3 to 6 pm, at The Junction.

For families new to Ramsey, this event features Ramsey and Washburn student and staff bands, facing off for bragging rights (and an amazing traveling guitar trophy beautified by our own Ms. Cedarleaf-Dahl).

There's still room for a couple of bands from Ramsey, so if you're considering signing up, the time is now! [Bands can sign up here](#). This is a first come, first booked, sign-up process. **Please make sure to review the guidelines and enter all needed information.** May the best band win!

Sixth Grade Math Competition May 6

Save the Date for the MPS 6th Grade Math Competition! After competing in a preliminary competition at school, four teams of Ramsey students will participate in the District Math Competition at North High School on May 6, 2017. Teams will check in at 8:30 am. Awards are presented at 2:00 pm.

Event organizers are in need of many volunteers. If you'd like to help, or would like more information, [visit the district website](#).

VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED

Treats for Teachers

Show our wonderful Ramsey staff how much they are appreciated by supporting "Treats for Teachers." Bring or send in a treat for the staff to enjoy on the first Wednesday of each month. Treats can be a simple bag of fruit, a veggie tray, baked goods, chips and dip or salsa, a family favorite, or anything you would like to send in! Contact Heidi Knaus with questions at haknaus@yahoo.com or [sign up for any of the Treats Days](#) this year.

AAA Batteries Needed

The Math department at Ramsey is requesting donations of triple-A (AAA) batteries for use in graphing calculators. These calculators are shared and used across all math classrooms at Ramsey and tend to run out of batteries at this point in the school year.



Please send in packs of new AAA batteries with your students to drop off in Room 323 (Ms. Novak's classroom) or Room 322 (Ms. Krasean's classroom/Math Center), from March 1 through March 31.

It's one very practical and easy way to help keep Ramsey students charged up about math. Literally.

AFTER SCHOOL

Washburn Summer Soccer Camp

The camp runs Tuesday June 27, through Thursday, June 29, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am each day at the Washburn stadium turf. Camp is open to boys and girls entering 6th, 7th or 8th grade in Fall 2017. Cost: \$55.00 per camper (includes t-shirt)

For more information, see the [Washburn Soccer website](#).

PTA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ramsey Rendezvous 2017

We have a great list of Rendezvous for this year—on sale now! We have a wide array of social offerings, all of which go to support Ramsey! Some of these fill up quickly, so make sure to check out what's available and check back, as we have additional parties pending. See the [Ramsey PTA website](#) for details and ticket information for these fun upcoming events!

What's a Ramsey Rendezvous, you ask? You may already know them as Great Gatherings, Adventures, or FUNdraisers from your elementary school. But for those uninitiated, Ramsey Rendezvous are social gatherings that Ramsey parents host in their homes and elsewhere. All proceeds help support and enhance Ramsey activities. Events range in price and activities in order to appeal to varied interests. Have a great party idea and willing to host or co-host? Please contact Beth Gyllstrom at ramseyfundraising@gmail.com.

Morning Greeters—Now Fridays Only!

The Morning Greeter & Musician program will now be Fridays only—the most celebratory day of the week.

Come at 8 am, meet other parents, hear from the Principal, welcome the students and be done by 8:30. Sometimes we even have coffee.

Hope to see you all there!

[Be a morning greeter.](#)

[Play live music.](#)

PERFORMING ARTS

“Annie Jr.” at Anthony Middle School

Anthony's 2017 Musical, “Annie Jr.,” opens tonight at 6:30 pm.

Showtimes:

March 22 - 23: 6:30 pm

March 24: 7:00 pm

March 25: 2:00 pm

General admission tickets are available at the door, \$10 for adults, \$5 for children.

“Sweet Charity” at Southwest High School

Southwest's Spotlight Musical, "Sweet Charity," opens Thursday, March 16 at 7:00 pm. Follow the misadventures of Charity Hope Valentine and her associates at the Fandango Ballroom as she sings, dances, laughs and cries her way through comical situations in the hope of finding true love.



Showtimes:

March 16-18, 7 pm; March 19, 2 pm

March 23-25, 7 pm; March 26, 2 pm

March 16, Name Your Price at the door

March 17, Alumni Night (Special Alumni discount \$5 off adult or senior ticket, at the door or online! Online code: SWALUM. Please stop by the Alumni table in the lobby for a button and name tag. Alumni will be recognized before the start of the show)

Visit the [Southwest Theatre website](http://SouthwestTheatre.org) for tickets and information.

Do You Have News to Share?

Send all stories, ideas, and comments to the *Around the Horn* editors at RamseyMSCommunications@gmail.com.

Deadline for submission is Friday the week before publication at 5:00 pm.

MAIN OFFICE	(612) 668-4040
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SCHOOL CLOSING INFO
SCHOOL MESSENGER INFO
MPS LUNCH MENUS