# RMS NEWSLETTER – October 2023

Our monthly newsletter will be sent home (digital and paper copy) on the last Tuesday of every month to give you a snapshot of what is to come in the upcoming month at RMS.

## Kudos Corner!

- Huge shout out to our parent volunteers that have committed to serving on our PSSC to support school growth and improvement.
- Shout out to the students and staff for being prepared and taking our emergency drills seriously. We are confident that should we be faced with emergency situation our students know what to do to keep themselves and others safe.

## National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

ASD-W will be wholeheartedly recognizing this very important day and honoring Indigenous children whose lives were taken, as well as survivors, their families, and communities. Please remember that September 30th is not only about a day, a shirt, or a color; it's about taking meaningful and tangible steps toward ongoing relationship building. This is only possible if the learning is integrated throughout the entire school year. We will be having a school wide assembly on Thursday, September 28 focusing on the TRC, acknowledgement, and teachings.

## **RMS Dance Information**

Who doesn't love a good Halloween COSTUME party?!? RMS is having our Halloween dance on Thursday, October 26 from 6:30-8:30pm. The cover is \$5 or \$4 with a donation of a nonperishable food item. There will prizes for the best costume so get creative! There will also be a Halloween themed photo booth. Students will use their own phones to take pictures. Please discuss with your child if you do not wish for them to be in pictures as they may end up on social media. Displaying expected behavior at the dance will ensure an invitation to attend future dances. A friendly reminder to families to please arrange for pick up promptly at 8:30pm. All dance chaperones are staff members, a prompt pick up after a long day is always appreciated. Join us for a SPOOKTACULAR time! Friendly reminder – you must be at school the day of the dance to attend the dance in the evening.

## GSA – Gay Straight Alliance

GSA will be starting the first week of October at RMS. GSAs are student led and centered groups that create a safe and accepting environment for LGBTQ+ students and their allies. Research shows that a GSA club leads to "positive and lasting effects on student's health, wellness, and academic performance. It can also protect students from harassment based on sexual orientation or gender identity and improve school climates for all students in the long-term." - gsanetwork.org

GSA is open to everyone. Stay tuned to announcements and check out the Club Hub for more information.

#### Sports News

In Tigers Sports news...our fall sports are just getting underway. We had our first cross country meet last week at Killarney Lake and our participants had very strong races. There is one more mini meet this week and Districts will be Oct. 3 at Hanwell Park Academy. Our soccer leagues are also just getting started with our first games this week. An email will be sent home when our sporting events have been added to our new school website.

## RMS Best Buddies program is back for another year of fun and friendship!

Best Buddies is an in-school friendship club that focuses on fostering friendships between students both with and without intellectual disabilities. We want students to recognize their similarities, not their differences, and learn to accept everyone for who they are, bonding over what they have in common. We meet on a weekly basis and participate in a variety of fun activities. Best Buddies is open to everyone!

If you have any questions ask Mrs. Muise or Mrs. Hanscomb or better yet, stop in and join us on Wednesdays at lunch in Mrs. Hanscomb's room.

## <u>BiPoC</u>

Ridgeview has been committed to increasing the safety and inclusivity of our school. Through learning, celebrating, and sharing the histories of our BIPoC and multi-cultural students and staff we aim to provide a community and support system for BIPoC RMS family. Whether you identify within a particular community or are an ally, we welcome you to the BIPoC Committee and hope to see you Mondays, first half of lunch!

## Art Club

Calling all artists and creatives! Art Club is happening Tuesdays during the whole lunch hour. This month we are starting with rock painting and deciding on a project we will be working on throughout the year!

## Student Leadership

The Student Leadership Committee is back this year at RMS! Mr. Sandford and Ms. Sarchfield will be facilitating our strong leaders in various activities and projects to make our school a more welcoming and positive community. Meetings will Thursdays first half of lunch, and we are encouraging all students to come and share their ideas! This is your opportunity to have your voices heard and your visions come to life!

## ASL Club

Students who are interested in learning American Sign Language are encouraged to meet in Room 109, Ms. Adams' classroom on Mondays at 12:30 pm. Everyone is welcome!

## "SNEAK PEEK"

There will be an "All-Girls STEM club" starting in November on Mondays after school.

## Staff of the Month - October

For the month of September, we are celebrating our entire RMS staff. Our staff has taken an "all hands-on deck" approach to support one another. We have many new staff members on our team this year. Our staff has stepped up to help make their transition to a new school community a positive experience. The problem solving, communication, and teamwork that went on behind the scenes to build the additional grade 8 Prime class was commendable. A well-deserved round of applause to the entire RMS staff! Thank you for all you do every day to make RMS a positive learning and working environment.

#### Amanda Piron Principal

**Angela Thomson** Vice-Principal



## **Upcoming Events:**

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation – No School

October 2

Thanksgiving – No School → October 9

Wellness Week > October 1-7

World Teacher's Day ➤ October 5

World Mental Health Day ≻ October 10

#### School Improvement Planning Day – No School for Students > October 13

Safe Schools Week

October 16-20

Picture Day – Wear your best smile! > October 17

## Halloween Dance

October 26

#### Student Recognition Ceremony > October 27

Halloween – we invite all students to wear orange and black – no costumes or masks ➤ October 31

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