

ROBERTSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September/October 2010

Principal Mr. Mike Baker
Asst. Principal Mrs. Laurie Campbell



Tuesday, Sept. 14th
OPEN HOUSE
6:00-8:00 PM

Mr. Baker's Box

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The 2010-2011 school year is off to a wonderful start. We began our first week with fifth grade and new student orientation, on Friday, August 13. Many of our new student and parents attended and were eager to learn about the school.

As a continuation of the Life Skills program which began last year at Robertsville, we held student assemblies and a community assembly the third week of school called "Rachel's Challenge". Many students and parents alike signed a banner indicating that they intend to follow through on their pledge to accept five challenges:

1. Look for the best in others – Eliminate Prejudice
2. Dare to dream – Set Goals – Keep a Journal
3. Choose Positive Influences – Input Determines Output
4. Display Acts of Kindness - Kind Words and Actions = Huge Results
5. Start a Chain Reaction with Family and Friends

Training also occurred for students interested in helping start a "Chain Links Club" at Robertsville to take practical steps to implement the five challenges.

Over the summer our building underwent renovations with new HVAC systems installed in the 5th grade wing, Encore wing and gym lobby/locker rooms. A new HVAC control system has also been installed throughout the building which should make us much more energy efficient. The front awning was remodeled and a new security fence has been installed near the gym area. Remodeling of the front entrance into the office area is scheduled to begin during Winter Break.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Book Fair
- ◆ Open House
- ◆ Fall Fundraiser
- ◆ Picture Day

Please join me in welcoming several new staff members to the RMS family:

- Brenda Dunn - RMS Cafeteria Manager
- Katie Durden - 5th Grade Math Teacher and Volleyball Coach
- Paula Ferland - 8th Grade Teacher
- Cathy Ginel - 7th Grade Science Teacher
- Chris Layton - Physical Education Teacher and Head Football Coach

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Last year we piloted an online program called Study Island in our social studies classes. The program was such a success that we are making it available for all of our students in core academic subjects this year. Look for more information in the near future about how to log-in to Study Island. We hope our students will utilize the program from home as well as at school.

An afternoon change this year at both Robertsville Middle School and Jefferson Middle School is the loss of our intramural program and the late bus service. This was brought about due to state budget cuts. Some clubs have adjusted by deciding to meet in the mornings, but some clubs will continue with afternoon meetings.

Clearly we have some exciting changes at RMS this year! I look forward to working with you and hope to see you at the Student Council sponsored Pizza Dinner and for Open House on Tuesday, September 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Baker

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year. Wow! Are we off to a great start? First, let me introduce myself – my name is Cathy Dunning and this is my first year as PTSA President. I'm the parent of a sixth grader – Lucas Dunning and this is my first time ever in the position as PTSA president. Whew! So bear with me in this transition period. I promise to do this best possible job for the RMS Staff and students. Secondly, welcome! With that said, I can't do the job alone. This is my message to the parents, grandparents, and caregivers:

GET INVOLVED. MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

As a PTSA volunteer, I was able to work in the school, get to know the office staff, and teachers of all grade levels. Guess what! It's not that scaring or time-consuming. Everyone is here for the same purpose...to make sure our children get educated so that they can thrive in the future.

Stay in touch with your child's school. Know whom they spend their day with and know what's going on in their world. We are going to try to help you stay involved by keeping you informed of opportunities. Contact me and say "yes" I want to volunteer.

Have a great year!

Cathy Dunning, President RMS PTSA



Here are some ways you can "Get Involved":

- * Attend Open House
- * Chaperone Field Trips
- * Attend sporting events
- * Register for ListServ
- * Join PTSA
- * Get your children involved in clubs and activities
- * Look for volunteer opportunities with the school or PTSA

Concentrate on: What you can do, not what you cannot do. ~ Unknown



Notes from the clinic

7th Grade immunizations—Please make sure your 7th grader's immunizations are up to date with the new state guidelines. Most students entering 7th grade this year will need to have a second Varicella Vaccine, and a Tdap booster. These vaccines must then be recorded on the new state immunization form, which the physician must complete and then the Certificate of Immunization is to be turned in to the RMS Clinic. The RMS immunization records will be audited by the state after October 1, 2010. PLEASE help us be up to date and complete [this process](#) before [October 1!!!!](#)

Medications---Remember that students are not to [be in possession of](#) any medications while at school. The clinic does not have stock medications that the nurse or other school personnel can distribute to the students. Any medication to be given to a student at school must be **brought by the parent/guardian** to the school nurse, and the appropriate paperwork must be completed. Medication forms may be downloaded from my website, or from the main OR Schools website under Pupil Services.

Emergency Contact information----PLEASE keep your contact information current. I hope I won't need to call any parents, but it is best to [keep accurate information on file for emergency situations](#).

Lets all have a great HEALTHY year. I would love to spend more of my day promoting healthy living here at RMS. I hope to be visible to students throughout the building, encouraging more walking, encouraging more physical activity in all aspects of our day. There are certainly many things that can be done at home to encourage a healthier lifestyle for all of us. So think about where you can add a few extra steps in your day, another serving of veggies or fruits, some family activity, take a walk or play an active game together.

Meg V. Evans, RN
Nurse
Robertsville Middle School
865-425-9196
mvevans@ortn.edu
<http://rmfs1.ortn.edu/myschool/mvevans>

RACHEL'S CHALLENGE

On Monday, August 30th, our students heard a powerful story of kindness and compassion. RMS hosted an event called Rachel's Challenge, a national organization in memory of Rachel Scott. Rachel Scott was the first victim in the tragedy at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. When Rachel was 13-years-old, she traced her hands on the back of her dresser and wrote, "these hands belong to Rachel Joy Scott and will someday touch millions of peoples hearts." Two weeks before she died, Rachel wrote an essay in which she wrote, "If one person will go out of their way to show a little compassion, it will start a chain reaction." During the assembly, students watched video clips of Rachel's friends and family who spoke about Rachel's legacy and her way of reaching out to others. Our students were challenged to eliminate prejudice by looking for the best in others, to set goals, to choose positive influences, to be kind to each other and to start a chain reaction. As a result of Rachel's Challenge, Robertsville is forming the Chain Links Club, a club designed to continue the momentum of Rachel's Scott's message. This club is open to any student and will focus on making RMS a more welcoming school and encouraging students to perform random acts of kindness and to show compassion towards others.

Tarah Childress
7th & 8th Grade - School Counselor



Naka shi - Oak Ridge
Middle School Exchange
August 2010

As part of the Sister City organization and the Oak Ridge Schools Student Exchange Program, Robertsville Middle School is honored to host five students and one teacher from Naka-shi, Japan. The RMS delegation selected to host and then to travel to Japan in July 2011 includes the following 8th grade representatives pictured below: Evan Jeter, Abbygail Ochs, Abby Colvais, Grace Malone, and Kerrigan Davis. Ms. Abbie Wilmore, RMS orchestra teacher pictured below, traveled to Naka-shi this past summer and is hosting English teacher Kyoko Kudo. The Japanese guests and their hosts will have a busy week. Events include a dinner at Jefferson Middle School, a welcoming reception at the Chamber of Commerce, and a farewell celebration at Briarcliff Pool. Also during the week-long exchange, students will attend school daily and participate in special activities and trips to Ripley's Aquarium, the AMSE, the Friendship Bell/Civic Center, Walmart, Big Ed's Pizza and other local areas of interest. RMS students and staff feel privileged to participate in the middle school exchange program and look forward to the July 2011 trip to Naka-shi, Japan.



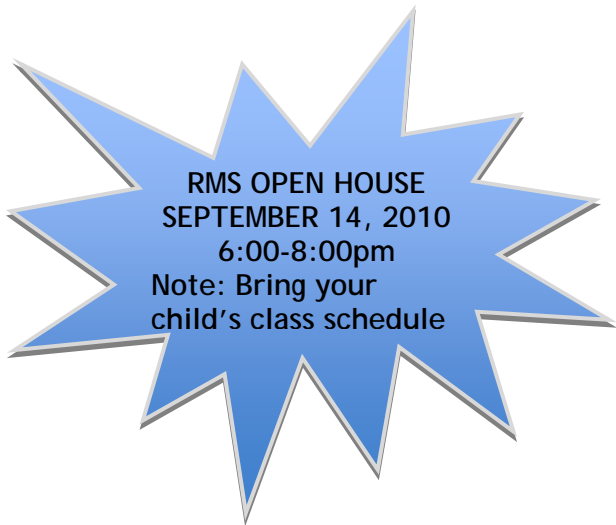
The Robertsville Teen Living classes have elected their FCCLA officers for the elective classes. Plans are being made for officer training that will include planning the year's meetings and activities for each of the groups.

The eighth grade class elected DJ Greene as president; Jackie Aramburo as vice-president; Blair Beeler as secretary; and Aislyn Peacock and Madison Seiber for refreshments team. Mrs. Ford stated that this team of leaders will make decisions about the FCCLA team wear that will soon be ordered. She noted the maturity of the group in congratulating each other as the winners of the officer elections were announced and observed that the class as a whole offered to serve on committees and to be helpful and supportive to the team of officers.

Seventh grade election results included President Taylor Warford; Vice-President Jazmyne Maddox; Secretary Gracie Clark; and Refreshments Team Brookale Anderson and Tamia Soles. This group of leaders will participate in officer training and will be encouraged to help with the planning details of the monthly meetings. Mrs. Ford is excited to be working with the organized and committed team of leaders for the seventh grade class.

Congratulations to all of the officers.

UPCOMING EVENTS



RMS OPEN HOUSE
SEPTEMBER 14, 2010
 6:00-8:00pm
 Note: Bring your
 child's class schedule

Fruit Smoothies Coming RMS Cafeteria

According to food services, we will begin offering fruit smoothies around the middle of September in the Robertsville cafeteria. It will be offered in a 14oz size for \$1.75. The flavors offered will start with strawberry, banana, wildberry, and raspberry. They were introduced this year at ORHS and JMS and the students love them.



It's PICTURE TIME!

McEachern Studios will be at Robertsville on Friday, October 1, 2010, to take yearbook portraits and sell pre-paid portrait packages. Students will receive flyers with more detailed information prior to picture day.

Package prices start at \$15.

Make-ups will be Tuesday, November 2, 2010

STUDENT COUNCIL PIZZA PARTY



The Robertsville Middle School Student Council is a student government organization. Student Council officers are elected in the spring of each year and serve their terms the following school year. This year's officers are President Abby Ochs, Vice-President Thomas Colburn, Secretary Abby Colvais, Assistant Secretary Danielle Wooten, 7th and 8th Grade Public Relations Officer Samantha Powers, and 5th and 6th Grade Public Relations Officer Nancy Pont-Briant. Homeroom representatives are chosen in the fall after school has started. Each homeroom has a representative and an alternate elected by the class. Meetings are held monthly and each homeroom representative must give a report of the meeting to their homeroom.

Each year, the RMS Student Council has many activities. In the fall, we sponsor a Pizza Dinner before RMS Open House. We host a teacher appreciation lunch during American Education Week. The officers and representatives bring salads and desserts and the Student Council buys party subs. The Student Council also supports Angel Tree by collecting money and buying gifts for 32 children for Christmas. In the spring we have a Valentine dance for 7th and 8th grade. We have a 5th and 6th grade party every 2 years.

Open House Pizza Dinner

Sponsored by RMS Student Council

Join us in the Robertsville Cafeteria

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

For Dominos Pizza, cookies and soft drinks.

5:00--5:45 p.m.

\$6.00 for adults and students 12 and older

\$4.00 for children 11 and under

Grade Level Schedule

5th Grade - September 13
6th Grade - September 14
7th Grade - September 16
8th Grade - September 17

RMS SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
September 13-17, 2010
RMS Media Center
Visit @ Open House September 14
5:30-8:00pm

Please put the RMS Book Fair, which is sponsored by the Library on your calendars! Each of your children will have the opportunity to shop at the book fair and the proceeds help us bring wonderful authors to RMS. Recent authors were Deborah Wiles, Chris Grabenstein, Deborah Ellis, Kerry Madden and even Rick Riordan, author of the Lightning Thief series! We are looking forward to visits from Roland Smith on October 7, as well as Kimberly Angle in December.

The Book Fair will be open for parent shopping during Open House, Tuesday, September 14 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Please plan to stop in and visit. While you are here, you will have the opportunity to submit your child's name into a drawing for free items from the Book Fair. The only time you can do this is during Open House. Please only submit one ticket per RMS student. "Fluffy" will draw the names over WRAM on Wednesday morning, and all of our students will be waiting to hear their names called!

We will also have a table set up with classroom teacher "Wish Lists". Please consider buying a book for your child's class to share. You may stop in at any time during the week to look at the Wish Lists.

We look forward to seeing you at the Book Fair!!

Carol Husband

2011 RAM yearbook will be on sale at school from October 11-15, 2010 ONLY.

6th Grade Tremont News

Sixth grade students will have the opportunity this year to attend the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont for a weekend trip in the spring.

The date for the trip is April 1-3, 2011. We will leave RMS on Friday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. and return Sunday afternoon.

The cost of the trip is \$175 and covers transportation, lodging in the Tremont dorms, delicious meals, and programs by the Tremont staff and other organizations.

Students can pay in three installments with the first deposit of \$75 due by Sept. 16. This deposit is nonrefundable. The other two payments of \$50.00 will be due the week of Nov 29 and the week of Jan 10, 2011.

The students who choose to participate in this trip will be required to attend a few meetings in January, February, and March. These meetings will be after school and will provide more information regarding the trip. Students must meet the field trip guidelines as described in the 2010-2011 *RMS Parent and Student Handbook*. If fewer than 50 students make reservations with the \$ 75.00 deposit, then the trip will be cancelled and deposits will be refunded.

Interested parents can be considered as chaperones, but need to let their child's science teacher know by Sept 16. The trip includes an eight-mile hike and parent chaperones will be charged \$164.00 to cover Tremont's base price.

The cost is \$25, cash or check to RMS. Students should turn in money to the homeroom teachers. Parents may combine payments for multiple students on one check. With your payment, please clearly submit each student's name and homeroom. No extra copies will be available at the end of the year, so students must pre-pay.

Another option is to order and pay for your yearbook online! Visit www.yearbookforever.com during the whole month of October to place your order and pay by credit or debit card. A \$1 processing fee will be added to each transaction. Optional upgrades such as name stamping and plastic covers are available as add-ons ONLY through the online ordering system. The online ordering deadline is October 31!

Please direct questions to Ms. Kinder at jkinder@ortn.edu.



Robertsville will host two authors this year. On October 7, adventure author Roland Smith will visit RMS. In December, Kimberly Angle will speak to 5th and 6th graders. Since Mr. Smith's visit is first, I will devote the library column to his book.

A former zookeeper, Roland Smith is the author of dozens of novels and non-fiction books for children and young adults. Many of those books have been featured in Scholastic book fairs and have received numerous state and national awards. Summaries of some of his books are listed below.

Peak--As the son of famous mountaineer, Peak Marcello has climbing in his genes. In this intense and action packed novel, Peak tries to become the youngest person to reach the summit of Mount Everest. While training to reach the summit, he befriends a young Nepalese boy and comes to realize some things in life are more important than records. *Cryptid Hunters and Tentacles*--After their parents (famous nature photographers) disappear in South America, Marty and Grace are taken care of by their eccentric uncle. What makes him so bizarre? He is obsessed with cryptozoology and travels the world searching for these legendary creatures. In *Cryptid Hunters*, they venture to Congo to search for a mythic dinosaur. In the sequel, they head to the South Pacific to find giant squid. Constant twists and turns and Smith's unique sense of humor make this series very popular with middle schoolers.

Elephant Run--Set in Burma during WWII, this novel features a renegade elephant named Hannibal. Having been attacked by a tiger, Hannibal can no longer be trusted to work on teak plantation. Indeed, everyone fears this giant animal as he roams the jungle. However, after the Japanese army invades Burma and captures Nick and his friend Mya must depend on Hannibal to help rescue their fathers.

IQ--Independence Hall and White Hall--In this series, Smith illustrates his talent as a mystery writer. Q and his new stepsister Angela find themselves caught in a web of International intrigue and danger as they try to solve the mystery of Angela's mother, a spy who may or may not be dead. Their searches for clues lead them into danger.... and discovery.

Roland Smith will speak to all students at RMS during his visit. The media center will be selling copies of his novels during the Book Fair. Please check the RMS web page for more details. As always, students who purchase a book will be invited to autograph party.

Scot Smith
Librarian Media Specialist

"TOGETHER WE CAN"

The Reflections Program will be in full swing this fall. This year's theme is "Together We Can ". The Reflections Program provides the opportunity for all students to demonstrate their skills in the arts.

Students are encouraged to produce an original, artistic entry in the categories of literature, musical composition, photography, visual arts, dance choreography, and film/video production that incorporates this year's theme.

Parents and students can obtain more information on the Reflections Program at http://www.ptareflections.org/cs/about_reflections.

The Reflections Program entry form and information will be available at the beginning of October, but students may begin working now on their Reflections entries. The RMS student deadline for submitting original writing, music, and/or artwork is November 4, 2010. The parent volunteer contact is Mrs. Rachel Carlson, who can be reached at carlson_or@yahoo.com.

Geography Bee Club

Students in all grades are invited to join the Geography Bee Club. This club serves to enrich students' knowledge of all areas of geography, to explore technology related to geographic study, and to promote the school and state levels of the National Geographic Bee.

Our club tries to make geography fun for kids. During club meetings, students will use technology, have competitions, play games and puzzles, and complete group problem-solving activities.

Students in the club participate in the RMS Geography Bee, held in November, and our school winner competes in the Tennessee State Geographic Bee in April

The club meets each Monday afternoon from 2:45-4:00. Meetings take place in Room 228 (Mr. Hamilton's room) or Room 206 (Computer Lab).



MATHCOUNTS

MATHCOUNTS is a great opportunity for students who enjoy challenging themselves mathematically. Students work in groups to complete problem sets while competing against other groups. Preparing for the regional competition in February is also part of the fun.

MATHCOUNTS will meet every Tuesday starting September 14.

Contact Michelle Brown or Lee Spurling if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!

Wrapping paper, candy, flowers, gift items, etc.

Prizes at all levels

COMING SOON! FALL FUNDRAISER

- * September 24 - Fundraiser informational sheet goes home with students
- * September 30 - Fall Fundraiser Kick-off Assembly
- * October 1 - Product order forms/packets go home with students
- * October 15 - Deadline for turning in funds

Volunteers are needed! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Cathy Dunning @ catdunning@comcast.net or Mary Stephens @ mps50@yahoo.com.



RaMS 2010 Sports

RaMS 2010 Football

Head coach: Chris Layton

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
AUG 17	TUESDAY	CAK	OAK RIDGE	6:30
AUG 26	THURSDAY	HARRIMAN	OAK RIDGE	6:00 *
SEPT 2	THURSDAY	CLINTON	CLINTON	6:30
SEPT 9	THURSDAY	WARTBURG	WARTBURG	6:30 *
SEPT 16	THURSDAY	WEBB	WEBB	6:30
SEPT 23	THURSDAY	ROCKWOOD	OAK RIDGE	6:00 *
SEPT 30	THURSDAY	CHEROKEE	OAK RIDGE	6:00 *
OCT 7	THURSDAY	JEFFERSON	OAK RIDGE	6:00 *
OCT 14	CHAMPIONSHIP/BOWL GAME		TBA	

* DISTRICT GAME



RaMS 2010 Robertsville Cross-Country

Date	Opposing Team	Location	Meet Time	Depart	Return
Sept. 7	Panther Creek Invit.	Morristown	6:00	3:00	9:45
Sept. 13	Westview	RMS	5:30		
Sept. 22	Maryville	Maryville College	4:30	3:00	7:45
Sept. 28	Jefferson	JMS	5:00		
Oct. 5	City Meet	JMS	5:00		

RaMS Volleyball 2010

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	Result
13-Sep	Mon	Horace Maynard	RMS	6:00pm	
15-Sep	Wed	Lake City	Lake City	6:00pm	
16-Sep	Thur	Jacksboro	Jacksboro	5:00pm	
		Lafollette	Lafollette	6:00pm	
21-Sep	Tue	Norris	RMS	6:00pm	
23-Sep	Thur	Elk	Elk	5:00pm	
27-Sep	Mon	Wynn	Wynn	6:00pm	
29-Sep	Wed	JMS	JMS	5:00pm	
5-Oct	Tue	District	Clinton HS		
6-Oct	Wed	District	Clinton HS		