



# From the Raven's Nest...

for Friday, September 17, 2021

Dear Families,

**THIS WEEK AT RMS...** Well it has been a busy week with new classes, our first PAC meeting, Meet the Teacher night, and the start of our Exploratory programs, Music Programs and athletic teams. The energy in the school is palatable and we are looking forward to a great year. We continue to endeavour to share timely and specific information with you so that you can stay informed and updated about the various events and happenings here at RMS. Please also visit our website, and specifically the Parent Info page, in case you have missed any of these updates.

## What's happening at Rockheights next week:

### Monday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup> - Federal Election in our Gym

- Ultimate frisbee practice from 2:50 – 4pm on the field
- Cross country practice at lunch

### Tuesday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup>

- First Touch Rugby games at Shoreline
- Cross country practice at lunch

### Wednesday, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> – Music Pizza sales start today

- First Ultimate Frisbee games at Rockheights

### Thursday, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> Student Verification Forms due to office

- Touch Rugby practice from 2:50 – 4pm on the field

### Friday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup>

- Terry Fox Run – Twonies for Terry – We will be collecting change for the Terry Fox Foundation
- Ultimate frisbee practice from 2:50 – 4pm on the field
- Cross country practice at lunch

### Looking Further Ahead:

### Sept 27 – Oct 1 Truth and Reconciliation Week

Monday, Sep. 27 Professional Development Day (No School for students)

Wednesday, Sep. 29 Orange Shirt Day at Rockheights (wear orange)

Thursday, Sep. 30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No School)

Monday, October 11 Thanksgiving Holiday

Tuesday October 12 RMS PAC meeting



## **School Forms and Parent Connect** As it

happens every year, we need to ensure that we have updated information for your child and the emergency contacts in their lives. That is why we have sent home the package of forms this week and ask that you to review and complete them this weekend and return them with your child on Monday September 20.

These forms include **The Student Verification Form, Our School Code of Conduct** and the **Student Emergency Release Form.**



In an effort to reduce the amount of paperwork, the district has also moved to an online system for many of the student permissions. This can be done through Parent Connect which is an online tool that allows you to give permission for a variety of reasons from field trips, to Photo permissions, to Google accounts and volunteer driver forms. Many of these documents have been uploaded so permission can be given without the cumbersome forms.

Please go to <https://parentconnect.sd61.bc.ca/> , create an account and the documents should be there to complete. For more information about signup and use of Parent Connect, please visit <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/parent-student-resources/parent-connect/>

**Information for our new RMS families!** – A refundable deposit of \$20.00 is required from all new Rockheights students. This deposit is for educational resource materials. This deposit is refundable when students leave the school provided all materials have been returned. If families do not request the return of this deposit, it is used for the maintenance and expansion of the learning resources available to students.

This deposit can be sent in by cash, cheque (payable to Rockheights Middle School) or online using the School Cash Online system at <https://sd61.schoolcashionline.com/>



### Animals in the Classroom!

One of the unique aspects of the Rockheights community is that fact that we welcome several four legged friends(dogs) to the school community. Many of you may have already heard about the opportunity that students have to walk these friends, or even just sit with them as a means to calm down when that is needed. Research shows that dogs in the classroom has shown to increase Social Emotional Learning, Cognitive and even Reading Skills. We do realize that for some students they may have had negative experiences with dogs, and if your child may be made anxious by exposure to dogs please let their Advisory teacher know so we can ensure that everyone feels safe in our school.

Music Update... This Wednesday we will be selling "Pizza by the slice" for \$2.50 per slice out of the music room.

All proceeds go to support our music program and to provide incredible opportunities for students!



Lastly, I just wanted to thank those of you that have already gotten involved in your child's middle school experience, either by joining the PAC or attending the Meet the Teacher or just initiating conversations with your child's teacher. We do appreciate your willingness to be active in our school community.

Sincerely, *Mr. Maxwell*

RMS PAC News:  
Have you joined  
the RMS PAC  
Facebook group?

This is a spot to connect with other parents, get updates on PAC events, and even enjoy the occasional meme!

**If you are interested please check out the Facebook group at by searching "Rockheights Middle School PAC"**