



From the Raven's Nest...

for **THURSDAY, May 18, 2023**

Dear Families,

Aprilmayjune... This time of year goes by so quickly, a colleague of mine calls the three months by one word "Aprilmayjune". It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of May and there are many celebratory activities to keep track of. This week we have our Human Library event and we are still trying to recruit "books" to take part so if you are interested in taking part please see the information below.

What's happening next week at Rockheights:

Monday, May 22nd - Victoria Day Holiday- no school for students

Tuesday, May 23rd -

- Dungeons and Dragons Club at Lunch
- Pizza day – please preorder on www.schoolcashonline.com
- Golf program after school
- Track and Field meet at UVic

Wednesday, May 24th - Human Library Event

- Div 3 Bike Trip to Portage Park
- 3pm- 5pm Raven's Club after school today

Thursday, May 25th

- SUBWAY Day for those that ordered
- Division 7 Bike Trip
- Track and Field meet at UVic

Friday, May 26th

- Grade 8 leadership activities in the afternoon
- Div 8 bike trip to Portage Park

Looking Further Ahead:

**May 30 – PAC Gr 8
recognition planning**

**May 31 – Music
Concerts at the School**

**June 13 – RMS PAC
meeting**

June 16 – CC Afternoon

From the Library Learning Commons...

April and May have proven to be busy, eventful and filled with a love for reading in the Library Learning Commons. We had our Reader's Choice initiative which aimed to promote reading and conversation around a curated selection of diverse books. The first annual Readers' Choice winning book for Rockheights was *Borders* by Thomas King, "A powerful graphic-novel that explores themes of identity and belonging, and is a poignant depiction of the significance of a nation's physical borders from an Indigenous perspective." I am so impressed that the students of Rockheights chose this important and current piece of literature as their choice. **We also are pleased to announce the grand prize winners of a collection of 7 beautiful books to take home. Congratulations to Cam A. in Div.12, Evy G. in Div. 1, Jack D. in Div. 3, Mason R. in Div. 1, and Faith M. in Div 8.** A huge shout out to all the beautiful local businesses that donated and supported us including **Starbucks, Esquimalt Recreation, Munroe's Books, Esquimalt Roasting Company, and Parachute Ice Cream.** How amazing for the kids and the Rockheights Community to have so much local support to promote reading.

Another exciting piece to share is that we were awarded almost **\$2000 in grant money from the Times Colonist Raise a Reader program.** Mrs. Hutchinson took two groups of 5 students each to spend the entire amount on manga, graphic novels and novels of their choice. We supported small local books stores and had

an incredible experience of filling our baskets full of student chosen books. **Thank you to the Times Colonist and the annual book drive that supports literacy.**

Warmly,

Michelle Hutchinson- Rockheights Library Learning Commons



Pizza reminder! – If you are interested in ordering Pizza for your child please do so using SchoolCash Online **before Sunday at midnight**. All pizzas are on whole wheat crust and pre-orders are required.

SAVE THE DATE – Grade 8 Recognition Planning meeting-

We will be having an important meeting for any parents able to help with the Grade 8 Recognition ceremony. The ceremony will be the Monday of the week of June (June 26 at 10am) but **we will be having a planning meeting on Tuesday May 30 at 6:30 in the Library Learning Commons at the school.** We hope you can join us!

LAST CALL for Rockheights Human Library – Wednesday May 24

Do you have a unique hobby or an interesting job? Are you an entrepreneur, an artist, or do you have a fascinating life story that you would be willing to share? Rockheights is planning a Human Library Event! We are looking for Human "Books" who would be willing to have a conversation with our students. We are looking to provide a safe environment for the sharing of diverse life experiences, stories, and perspectives in order for students and the community to grow and develop an awareness of one another.

If you answered yes to any of the above questions then we need you! (Or if you have a friend or relative that you think would be interested then please share this with them as well.)

We know that middle school is a time for students to explore and try new things. Many of you were probably inspired by people you met when you were the age of our students and this is a chance to maybe pass that on to our students. The "Human Library" is an activity where people are the books and students get a chance to meet some adults that are willing to share some of their experiences. It is not about doing a formal presentation about your experiences but rather having an informal conversation with our students about what you have experienced or what inspired you in the direction of your life. Participants can come for a couple of hours, for the morning or afternoon or for the full day depending on your availability.

If you are willing/interested in taking part in this event, then please complete the form found at: <https://forms.gle/VGKFiHtz7nVUzLC49> and I will connect with you to get you more details.

If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to email me directly at amaxwell@sd61.bc.ca Thanks!

Athletic Leadership application: If your child is interested in being a part of Athletic Leadership next year here at RMS, please encourage them to see Mr. Roy for application information. All applications need to be submitted by Friday June 9!

I know that this is a busy time of year. Whether you were a part of last weekends Buccaneer Days, or are a part of the Highland Games happening this weekend at Topaz Park, or just trying to stay on top of the day to day challenges of raising teenagers, life is busy! We hope that you are able to take some time to relax and enjoy a great long weekend.

*Sincerely,
Mr. Maxwell*