

## Upcoming PTSA meeting:

Tuesday, November 14  
4:30-5:30pm—RMS Library

RMS PTSA Newsletter

November 2017

**Stacey Callison, PTSA President**

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## Stay up to date:

RMS PTSA Website:  
[www.rmsorptsa.org](http://www.rmsorptsa.org)

RMS PTSA Facebook page  
[https://  
www.facebook.com/  
RMSORPTSA/](https://www.facebook.com/RMSORPTSA/)

## PTSA Needs YOU!

If you are interested in chairing or volunteering for a committee please contact us:  
[rmsptsa@gmail.com](mailto:rmsptsa@gmail.com)

Hello! Have you ever wondered how your support of PTSA actually helps our RMS students, faculty and staff? Our board takes each and every dollar of support and strives to use it as wisely as possible to benefit our school.

Your support of PTSA – through fundraising/donating, membership, and volunteering – directly helps RMS to become an even greater school.

Our recent fundraiser efforts raised almost \$10,000 to be invested back into the school and its programming. The majority of that money has been earmarked for Teacher Requests, and it is awarded through a mini-grant program in which the teachers apply for funding for specific projects and activities.

This year's teacher request effort again includes support that will benefit every student in the school:

- ♦ subscribing to academic magazines for foreign language and English/Language arts classes
- ♦ underwriting field trips to help pay for students unable to pay for themselves
- ♦ purchasing safety equipment for ECC
- ♦ paying for math competition fees and transportation so that all of our Mathletes may participate
- ♦ acquiring Geiger Counters for science classes
- ♦ purchasing quality headphones for social studies classes
- ♦ providing supplies for the school health clinic
- ♦ paying for an assembly during Black History Month
- ♦ underwriting the cost of academic programming provided by SECME and Titan's extracurricular clubs

In recent years, Teacher Requests have also been used to refurbish the library with all new tables and chairs, provide safety fencing around our wetland, supplement classroom libraries with new books, and support the construction of the playground.

Throughout the year, funds raised by PTSA via donations and memberships are used for a wide variety of other school support. PTSA pays for the landscaping around the school that helps beautify our campus, we provide teacher appreciation hospitality events, we supply snacks for the students during major testing weeks (TNReady), and we fund the end of year celebration at the Oak Ridge pool.

As you can see, it takes all of us to make RMS such a wonderful learning environment for all of our students.

Your support, through donations, memberships, fundraiser purchases, and volunteer hours help us to help RMS. We welcome any contributions you can make during the year and look forward to working with you. Thank you for all your support!



## **RMS Announcements**

### **ORDER YOUR 2018 YEARBOOK!**

Your 2018 RMS yearbook won't be \$30...it won't be \$25....and it might not even be \$20! This year, we have a major price drop to just \$15! The \$15 "early bird" price will be offered until January 19, 2018. After 1/19/18, the price will go up to \$20 - still a lower cost than last year's yearbook! The RMS yearbook will still have a hard cover and just as many full-color pages as always! Order online now at [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com). The school code is 17202. Options such as name stamping and plastic covers are only available by ordering online.



If you prefer not to order online, payments will also be collected at school from November 13-17. Payments by check are strongly encouraged and can be turned in to the homeroom teacher from 11/13-17 ONLY; the cancelled check will serve as proof of purchase. Cash payments must be given directly to Ms. Kinder so a receipt can be given.

Please contact the yearbook sponsor Ms. Kinder for questions: [jkinder@ortn.edu](mailto:jkinder@ortn.edu).

### **MATHCOUNTS**

Meets every Monday in Room 234 until 4pm. MATHCOUNTS is a great opportunity for students to work collaboratively on math problems. Questions? Please contact Michelle Brown [mbrown@ortn.edu](mailto:mbrown@ortn.edu).

### **RMS SKI CLUB—2018 at Ober Gatlinburg**



We will take four trips to the mountain this Winter on Wednesdays. Our dates have tentatively been scheduled January 10, 17, 24 and 31.

Each week students will participate in lessons led by the instructors of the Gatlinburg Snow Sports Center, and they will also have plenty of free time to practice their skills. We expect our students to exhibit excellent behavior and represent our school well. We will have several RMS staff members with the club each week. However, due to nature of this activity, students must be able to function with a high degree of independence at the resort in order to check out/return equipment, be on time for the required lesson, and meet the group for departure. Our schedule is very tight to make the Ober tram, so students must be efficient and prompt! We

leave at 1:00 on Wednesdays and we return to RMS around 9:00.

Ski Club is primarily open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students; however, we do open membership to 6<sup>th</sup> graders if we have room on the bus. Ski Club members are expected to be in good standing for academics, behavior, and attendance. Plan ahead now if you think your student might be interested in participating in Ski Club. Fees are not finalized, but based on last year's costs we expect the cost to be approximately \$230 (includes lesson, lift ticket, bus transportation, equipment rental, and club shirt). Several of our skiers received Ski Club memberships as part of their Christmas gifts. This may be a good option for your family. All participants must wear appropriate clothes and they MUST have good gloves. Snowboarders are required to wear wrist guards. ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR A HELMET!!! Helmets will be part of the rental package. We are looking forward to a great ski season. **THINK SNOW!!!**

Todd Livesay & Laura Scott

### **Oak Ridge Middle School Soccer**

ORMSS is holding tryouts for our Spring 2018 season. All RMS & JMS 6-8 grade boys are invited to try-out by attending both of the following: Tuesday, November 14 & Thursday, November 16, 5:30-7:30pm at the OR Boys & Girls Club. Rain dates will be announced if needed. For questions, please contact [ORMSSoccerTeam@gmail.com](mailto:ORMSSoccerTeam@gmail.com).



## 8th Grade Announcements:

### Eighth Grade Williamsburg Trip Planning

#### Underway!

Did you know that the eighth grade at Robertsville has taken a trip to Virginia's Historic Triangle for the past 25+ years? It's time to start planning for the 2018 trip! Dates for the trip are June 2-4. The cost of the trip covers two nights at the Great Wolf Lodge (and its huge indoor water park!), meals, and guided tours of several historic sites including Jamestown Settlement, Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. Detailed information has been distributed to eighth graders—so ask your student!

### Eighth Grade Yearbook Ads on Sale Now!

Purchase an advertisement in the 2018 RMS yearbook to honor your 8th grader! Each ad is \$40, and the deadline is December 5. Please see the flyer sent through the Canvas inbox for more details. Hard copies of the flyer have also been distributed to eighth graders. Please contact Ms. Kinder ([jkinder@ortn.edu](mailto:jkinder@ortn.edu)) if you have questions or need a copy of the flyer/order form.

**TREMONT INSTITUTE** Twelve 6th/7th graders who were recommended by their teachers, attended the Tremont Institute from Oct 1-3. The students hiked to a waterfall, searched for salamanders, participated in a cooperation course, a night hike, and identified native trees. During a program by the Appalachian Bear Rescue Group, students role-played rescuing and caring for abandoned bears. Students also viewed live birds of prey and learned about their characteristics during a raptor bird program by the Smoky Mountain Raptor Center. It was a wonderful trip - not only did RMS students learn a lot, but they represented our school very well!



## EASY FUNDRAISING FOR RMS...READ THIS!

RMS PTSA is enrolled in the rewards program for Kroger and Amazon Smile. Signing up for these rewards does NOT take away from any other benefits that you already receive from these businesses (ex: fuel points/discounts). Linking RMS to your card helps our school receive funds to better our school and programs for our children. We would really appreciate you taking the time to add RMS to your accounts at Kroger and Amazon. Anyone in your family or friends can also link their accounts!!!! If you had your card linked last year, whether to RMS or another school, you have to link it again this year and hope you choose Robertsville. We thank you so much for your participation!

### \*\*\*\*\* GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY\*\*\*\*\*

When you sign up for the rewards program at Kroger, it shows on the bottom of your receipt. When a student brings in a receipt showing you are signed up for community rewards, they will be entered into a drawing for a Kroger gift card! Only one entry per family.

So let's get this straight. All you have to do is link your loyalty card to RMS. You will earn money for the school (**easiest fundraiser EVER**) and will be entered into a drawing for a gift card! So before you start shopping for Thanksgiving dinner or buying gifts for the holiday season, link your accounts!!! Here's how:

#### **KROGER**

- ♦ Sign into your Kroger account at Kroger.com or set up an account with your Kroger card if you haven't registered your card before <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>
  - ♦ Click on your name to access your information ("My Account")
  - ♦ Choose account summary
  - ♦ At the bottom of the page you will see "community rewards"
  - ♦ Click "Enroll"
  - ♦ Type in Robertsville Middle Schools PTSA's number 49201 Highlight "Robertsville Middle School PTSA 49201" and click enroll
  - ♦ You are now officially linked to our account to earn money for the school through your purchases
- If you have any problems, please call Kroger at **1-800-576-4377**



#### **AMAZON**

- ♦ Go to Amazon.com and login to your account or set one up if you will shop on Amazon.com any
- ♦ Search for amazon smiles charity choices
- ♦ Click [Change Charitable Organization](#) at the top of the page
- ♦ Now click on #1 Sign in to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
- ♦ On the right hand side you will see Or pick your own charitable organization:
- ♦ Type in Robertsville Middle School and click search
- ♦ This will bring up Robertsville Middle School PTSA – click SELECT on the right hand side
- ♦ Click the box that says:
- ♦ Yes, I understand that I must always start at **smile.amazon.com** to support Robertsville Middle School PTSA
- ♦ Then you click start shopping



Once you have linked your account to RMS PTSA, you will just have to shop on Smile.Amazon.com for Robertsville to earn money!



## Band & Chorus

### RMS Band Performances

11/30;        Holiday Concert  
6:30pm; 6pm    (5th & 6th Grade)  
call time

11/30;        Holiday Concert  
7:30pm; 7pm    (7th & 8th Grade)  
call time

### RMS Chorus Performances

November    Fantasy of Trees  
TBA



12/18; 7pm    Holiday Concert All Grades at ORHS

December    Caroling at Estates of Oak Ridge & Briarcliff  
TBA

December    Methodist Medical Center Turkey Day Ensemble  
TBA

December    McGee Tyson Performance

## Basketball

Date	Home/Away (Location)	Time	Opponent
11/13	Away	5 (GJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	Jacksboro
11/16	Home RMS	5 (BJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	Clinton
11/20	Away	5 (GJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	LaFollette
11/30	Home RMS	5 (BJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	Horace Maynard
12/4	Away	5:30 (GV) 6:30 (BV)	Cleveland
12/7	Home RMS	5 (BJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	LaFollette
12/11	Away	5 (GJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	Clinton
12/14	Home RMS	5 (BJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	Jacksboro
12/16	Away ORHS	4:30 (GJV) 6 (GV) 7 (BV)	Jefferson
1/6	Home ORHS	4:30 (BJV) 6 (GV) 7 (BV)	Jefferson
1/9	Away	4:30 (BJV) 5:30 (GV) 6:30 (BV)	Whittle Springs
1/11	Away	5 (GJV) 6 (GV) 7pm (BV)	Horace Maynard
1/20-25	Away JMS	AAA Area 2 Tournament (GV & BV)	
1/27-2/3	Away Sevierville	East TN Sectional Tournament	



## **WAYS YOU CAN HELP!**

There are so many ways parents and students can help make our daily lives at RMS as productive, healthy and enjoyable as possible. Here are a few ways you can help:

### **FIELD TRIPS AT RMS**

Please support field trips by sending in requested payments! Our students are fortunate to have field trips. Not every school offers the opportunity to go to a play or musical performance or to tour a museum related to something the students have studied. Unfortunately, with school funding becoming ever tighter, field trips are not something that can be paid for by the RMS budget. It is necessary for parents to pay the costs of the field trips to the extent that they are able.

Whenever a teacher plans a field trip, he or she sends home a permission slip that includes a polite request for payment. The school cannot require payment from anyone, and no child will be denied the opportunity to participate, regardless of whether he or she pays. Parents won't receive repeated reminders to send in payment for field trips. But if payment isn't received, there will be a shortfall and the field trip may need to be canceled or the money will be borrowed from another field trip, and that next event will not happen.

PTSA has pledged to use some of the fundraising moneys raised this year to underwrite field trips to help cover the cost for people who truly cannot pay. But it is imperative for everyone who can pay something to do so. When the majority of people do not send in money, as is often the case at RMS, field trips become unsustainable. If we wish for these opportunities to be made available to our kids, we need to support them by sending in money when asked to the extent that each of us is able.

### **CLINIC SUPPLY DONATIONS NEEDED**

RMS Health Clinic:

- 1) Boxes of tissues
- 2) 3 oz paper bathroom cups (our RMS Clinic uses up to 200 cups each month!)
- 3) Cough drops—honey lemon preferred and a small amount of sugar free (our RMS clinic uses 1-2 bags a month!)
- 4) Quart size Gatorade or Powerade, preferably lemon lime or "frost" and not the red, blue or purple
- 5) Granola bars or Nutrigrain-type bars-nice to have a variety (gluten free, nut free are much appreciated too)
- 6) Fruit snacks—Vitamin C ; no high fructose corn syrup if possible
- 7) Ziplock freezer bag for ice (sandwich and quart size)

## **RAMS Staying Active and Involved!**



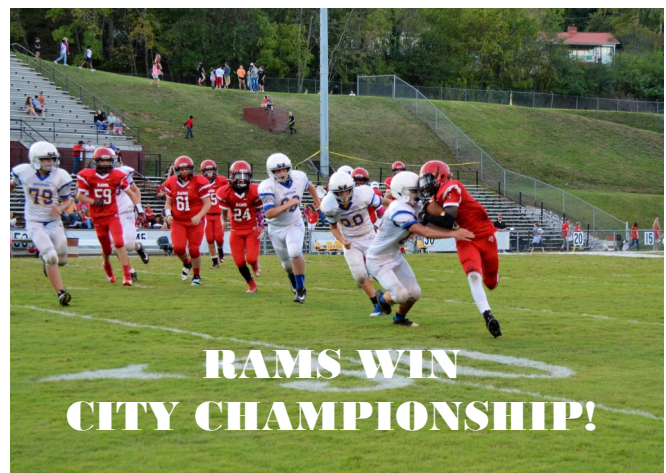
RMS Interact Club members recently hosted a booth at the Oak Ridge Flea Market to help raise funds to sponsor a student named Pria in India. They sold household items, baked goods and even canned drinks.

### **GENTLY-USED CHILDREN'S BOOKS NEEDED FOR RMS INTERACT CLUB**

During the month of November, RMS Interact will be collecting gently-used children's books that they will distribute to children along the parade route at the Oak Ridge Christmas Parade. Interact is a service club, sponsored by Rotary International, and each year RMS Interact and Rotary collaborate in this way to help promote literacy. If you have any books to donate, please send them in to school during the month of November. Collection bins will be placed around the school in the office lobby, gym lobby, and in Mrs. Douglas' room.



**ECLIPSE  
2017!**



### **Upcoming Holidays:**

Thanksgiving: 11/22-11/24/2017

Winter Break Early Dismissal:  
12/19/2017

Winter Break: 12/20/2017—1/2/2018

Martin Luther King: 1/15/2017

*Special thanks to Ms. Kinder for many of the photos used in this edition.*