



DOLPHIN DIGEST

A NEWSLETTER OF ROSA M. PARKS MIDDLE SCHOOL June 2011



**"If you want to make your dreams come true,
the first thing you have to do is wake up."**

The end of the year has arrived, and we are saying farewell to our eighth grade students. I hope that each of them will work to maximize their opportunities in high school. For the rising ninth graders this really is a new beginning.

For the rising seventh and eighth grade students, who will now be taking on leadership roles among their peers at Rosa Parks, there are several items I'd like to highlight. The **Extended Year Program (EYP)** will begin on Tuesday, July 5, 2011. Four summer school classes will be offered at Rosa Parks: *Reading Intervention 6*, *Math Intervention 6*, *Math Intervention 8*, and *Focus on Algebra*. Reading intervention classes for students going into the 7th and 8th grades will be offered at Farquhar Middle School. Farquhar will also offer a *Math Intervention 7* class that will be open to Rosa Parks students. Mr. Jason Volz is the Extended Year Program coordinator. Please contact him with questions at 301-924-3180, or by email, Jason_Volz@mcpsmd.org.

The **orientation program** for any **incoming sixth grade students** will occur throughout the month of July. Families should have received their child's assigned dates. If there is any conflict with students attending during their assigned time, please contact Ms. Kreis in the Counseling Office, 301-924-3190.

Throughout the summer students should work on their **summer math and reading packets** a bit at a time to help retain skills learned this school year. If students need help with any portions of the summer math packet, we are planning to hold two evening help sessions in August (pending budget approval). The dates are to be determined. Please look for updates in my summer mailing.

I would like to congratulate **Mrs. Jen Van Petten**, and the RPMS band and orchestra on two extraordinary concerts. I continue to be amazed at the talent of our young musicians. I also want to congratulate **Ms. Natalie Roots**, **Ms. Sharon Henson** and **Mrs. Evey Herschler** on an outstanding Spring musical. Rosa Parks is indeed bursting with talent!

I also want to give a huge thank you to **Mrs. Michele Setton** who has served as our PTA President for the past two years. Michele has been a tremendous advocate for you and your children. She has been exceptionally supportive of school initiatives, and she has spent many hours collaborating with me and the PTA membership. Thank you, Michele!!

I encourage each of you to enjoy time with your families this summer. Encourage your children to stay physically active and to read a lot so that their minds stay sharp as well.

Have a restful, rejuvenating summer vacation!

GRADE 6

Science 6



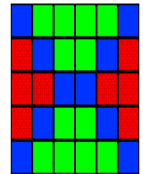
6th grade Science students in most Science classes are finalizing their Alternative Energy projects, and have done a great job constructing their solar collector models. Teams of students will test their solar collectors outdoors on June 1st, weather permitting. The project packet is due June 3rd. Students will have a unit exam on their Alternative Energy unit during exam week, which begins June 9th. A review packet will be provided sometime the week before exams. 6th grade Science teachers would like to commend their Science students for working so hard this school year.

Social Studies 6

Social Studies is in the midst of exploring our Culture Unit. We have finished our study of the five major religions of the world. We used this information, and the principles of culture to investigate millennial civilizations that existed around the world including the Gupta, the Carolingian, the Maya, the Heian, the Abbasid Caliphate, and the Kingdom of Ghana. In our investigation of these civilizations we worked to identify how culture and values impact decision making in government, the economy, and social structures. Students have spent the last week researching a country of the student's choice using the library and the computer lab. We will finish up our quarter looking at how the millennial cultures have changed over time and what forces motivated their changes. We will end by looking at how these changes have caused cultural conflict in their nations.

Math 6

Unit four is in intro into learning algebra and understanding the relationship with functions. In this unit, students learn to distinguish between arithmetic and geometric sequences in addition to extending them. They investigate patterns graphically and symbolically, represent patterns in tables or graphs, and generalize patterns into a rule or function. Analyzing graphs globally leads to a deeper understanding of functions. Vocabulary is crucial for this unit.



Math 7

In the fourth quarter, students will be focusing on Unit 5. In Unit five, students extend their understanding of arithmetic and geometric patterns or sequences and develop an understanding of functional relationships. Students represent, interpret, and analyze functions using tables and graphs. Students will need to bring graph paper to class on a daily basis.

English 6

Heading into the final weeks of school, students will engage in a Shakespearean mini-unit in preparation for future encounters with Shakespeare's work between 7th and 12th grades. Students will work in collaborative groups to present a scene from one of the following plays: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It*, or *Romeo and Juliet*. We will begin working on a study guide for the Semester 'B' exam by June 6.

Reading 6



Reading 6 students have begun their study of printed and online newspapers. We have learned about the layout of the front page of The Washington Post and the various sections of the paper. As we prepare to learn about news article writing, reporters from The Sentinel and The Washington Post will visit classes to talk about their experiences. Students will have an opportunity to write their own news story and develop an editorial supporting or refuting the use of security cameras in schools.

“Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow,
That I shall say good night till it be morrow.”

- *Romeo and Juliet*. Act II. Scene 2

English

7th graders may be able to relate to Juliet when she uses this oxymoron to express how leaving a person or situation can be both “sweet” and “sorrowful.” How sweet it is that students are coming to the end of another school year while at the same time, they may feel just a little sadness (maybe!) as they say goodbye to friends and teachers. Students will finish the school year by writing a multi-paragraph essay related to a character’s influence on the outcome of Shakespeare’s play, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Following the final exam for Unit 4, students will receive their summer reading assignment. A copy of the assignment will also be available on the Rosa Parks website.

READ 180 – Grade 7

Read 180 students are completing the final workshop in the R-book. They are reading a memoir and an interview with the author of *Breaking Through*. The comprehension focus for this unit is making inferences. Students will concentrate on the use of adverbs and correcting sentence fragments while writing a personal narrative. Students will take a final Scholastic Reading Inventory test at the completion of the unit, and a report of their yearly reading comprehension progress will be sent home.

Social Studies

7th Grade World Studies students will finish the last few weeks of school studying the Renaissance and European Explorers. This will make for a smooth transition for all 7th graders moving up to 8th grade U.S. History next year. As 8th graders, students will start off the year learning about the 13 colonies.

Science

Grade 7 science has been a challenging and exciting year. Throughout the year, students developed lab science skills and learned to consider different perspectives when analyzing data. Learning to work and think like a scientist is one of the MCPS objectives for science. Students are currently finishing the Forensics unit. Our main investigation was to trace the cause of food poisoning in Contagion City. We started by analyzing the symptoms of the sick people and then diagnosed the pathogen as Salmonella. Using chromatography and gel electrophoresis, we traced the contaminated salad back to the factory and farm and even found the area of the farm that originated the contamination. We will finish up the unit making recall videos to warn the public.

Math 7

Students are on Unit 5, Functional Relationships, determining patterns from a sequence of numbers, identifying arithmetic and geometric sequences, determining the rule and graphing linear equations, computing and graphing function tables, and completing transformations. The transformations include a reflection (flip), a rotation (turn), and a translation (slide). Students will be receiving the Unit 5 review packet in preparation for the Unit 5 County assessment which will be administered as the semester exam.

IM

IM students are finishing the year with probability. Students will be reviewing simple to more complex situations. The final exam will be the end-of-unit test for unit 7. Students should have received a study guide for the unit which is due on their teacher’s specific due date.

Grade 7 – Con't

Algebra

This has been a very successful and challenging year for all Algebra students. The 7th grade classes came in 1st, 3rd, and 4th in the Math Madness Competition. The HSA 's are completed and students are now gearing up for the final exam. Algebra students are finishing Unit 7, and as they look at exponential functions, they will explore exponential growth and exponential decay. Next year it's off to Honors Geometry!

Algebra Prep

Students have started unit- 4 –Geometry and Measurement. We are applying the properties of equality and proportionality to solve problems involving congruent and similar figures, finding measures of interior and exterior angles of a triangle and graphing plane figures that are similar to a given figure (dilations). We are also applying the properties of two- and – three dimensional figures to solve problems and determining relationships among length, area, and volume and describe how a change in one measure affects the others.

GRADE 8

Students have started unit- 4 –Geometry and Measurement. We are applying the properties of equality and proportionality to solve problems involving congruent and similar figures, finding measures of interior and exterior angles of a triangle and graphing plane figures that are similar to a given figure (dilations). We are also applying the properties of two- and – three dimensional figures to solve problems and determining relationships among length, area, and volume and describe how a change in one measure affects the others.

Students in **Advanced US History** are finishing the year with Document Based Questions on the causes of the Civil War, Emancipation Proclamation, and Reconstruction. They are also completing and sharing their Civil War projects and preparing for the countywide semester assessment during exam week.

Science classes are finishing up the school year with a geology unit called, "Restless Earth". We learned about the Earth's interior, plate tectonics, continental drift, types of faults and stresses, plate boundaries, earthquakes, volcanoes, and how we measure each of these natural events. Each student was responsible for creating an educational tectonic tour brochure or PowerPoint in which they selected five locations that are tectonically active from around the world. Then they research each location to learn where it was, the type of plate boundary it was on, and what types of interesting geological features were located at each location. They also needed to include how the geological features, such as volcanoes and rift valleys, were formed.

Spanish 2 students are wrapping up the travel unit and will begin oral exams on June 6th. They have been working very hard speaking all in Spanish this quarter, and will enjoy a piñata next year for their efforts. ¡Bravo!



Thank you for your many years of service to Rosa Parks!

Enjoy your retirement!!!

Mrs. Evelyn Herschler



**Congratulations to the following
“Students of the Month”
for the months of
February, March, April & May!!!**

6th Grade

Madison Adams
Lauren Boulay
Isabella Bowman
Drew Garbrick
Ricky Jackson
Wallace King
Heath Klotz
Brianna Koenick
Alexander Le
Lexi Paidas
Julia Romas
Madison Rubin
Sergio Rosales
Catherine White
James Vouzikas
Genevive Zillich
Nicole Sciotti
Emma McCabe
Ke'Aundra Jackson
Evi Hoang
Emily Hughes
Mezghan Akbar
Julia Knipe
Gabe Coxson
Jordan Risher
Meghan Kimberling
Dwight Daniels
Daishaun Carroll
Danielle Tobb
Veronica Schmidt
Ian Brunk
Matthew Migliozi

7th Grade

Melanie Schupler
Rama Sylla
Carly Opar
Erin Reilly
Grant Sutherland
Megan Enright
Maynard McAplin
Daniel Rivera
Tyler Golson
Danielle Pignone
Allison Hunt
Esmeralda Sanchez
Savannah Hartzoge
Paalieu Jallow
Monica Keilsohn
Patrick Collins
Pritika Paudel
Eric Bergman
McKenzie Bina
Sara Casareto
Aaron Cooper
Jason Denny
Taylor Dunn
Casey Hopkins
Sam Hudson
Loren Kimmel
Caitlin Mercado
Susanna Park
Rebecca Phillip
Amari Smith
Wyatt Thompson
Allison Thron
Emily Yankanich
Ben Cooper

8th Grade

Andrew Kotsiras
Brandon Greulich
Mariella Saviola
Jenny Weschler
Emma Hierholzer
Marlo Lee
Aaron Auerbach
Annie Feinroth
Moaz Hassanin
Mageb Mofor
Caitlin Loh
Richard Deriso
Tony Persaud
Julia Gajewski-Neme
Samantha Berger
Gavin Schmuckler
Lauren Cosca
Danielle Banda
Meagan Barrett
Carlos Barinas
Kevin Chatlin
William Goniprow
Peter Ho
Ezra Katz
Debbie Moon
Morgan Offord
Dakontee Roberts
Jamilah Silver
Shiffali Singh
Nick Wallace
Molly Wholihan
Caroline Yun

BAND AND ORCHESTRA 2010-2011

Congratulations to all RPMS Band and Orchestra students for another exciting school year filled with exciting school and community performances.

In March, the Symphonic Band and Advanced Orchestra performed at the Montgomery County District Festival and received superior ratings. Their rating qualified them for the Maryland State Band and Orchestra festivals which were held in May.



Both the Symphonic Band and Orchestra refined their prepared performance for the State level and earned another superior rating and received the following comments from the judges: "Your sense of artistry is astounding," "I have never been a fan of this composer until hearing your performance," "One of the most musical orchestras I have heard in some time!" "Excellent attention to detail...signs of outstanding teaching and dedicated students!"

This school year marks the 10th year in a row the bands and orchestras have earned such high ratings at the county and state levels. Bravo to our many talented musicians!!!

Many RPMS musicians were selected to represent the school in a variety of honors ensembles and performances within the community this year. These students were recognized at the annual Spring Concerts for their achievement. Congratulations to the following students:

Montgomery County 6th Grade Honors Band:

Evi Hoang, Eric Lane, Kristi Johnson, Kenny Wahl, Genevieve Zillich, Alana Tay, David Robbins, Danny Vo, Alex Le, Karl Matousek, Eric Braker, Alexi Tzamaras, Skylar Herman, Kalen Murray, Eric Schwartz, James Vendetti, Kiana Robinson, Fernando Fisk, Caden Abramowitz, Josh Lieberman, Samuel Lee, Sam Margol

Montgomery County 6th Grade Honors Orchestra:

Annie Shigo, Chloe Siakam, Andrew Tagg, Caroline Tippet, Toni Williams, Veronica Schmidt, Sydney Abramowitz, Erynne Dixon, Stella Ho, Abaigael Murphy, Nina Linkletter, Eva Minahan, Madeleine West, Brian Whaley, Daniel Katz

Montgomery County Junior Honors Jazz Band:

Chad Lilley and Brett Orenstein

Montgomery County Junior Honors Band:

Chad Lilley and Roshan Mathew

Montgomery County Junior Honors Orchestra:

Hannah Kim

Maryland State Junior Honors Band:

Chad Lilley

Maryland State Junior Honors Orchestra:

Hannah Kim

Maryland Classic Youth Orchestra:

Brian Han, Hannah Kim and Ian Poe-Yamagata

Global Mission Church Youth Orchestra:

Kaitlyn Heo

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Montgomery County Solo and Ensemble:

Amanda Hayes-Puttfarcken, Maryann Agnello, Carly Weed, Ryan Carter, Catherine Jou, Gilly Reed, Brian Han, Ashmiu Koroma, Chad Lilley, Erin Reilly, Gracie Vendetti, Kristen Russell, Brett Orenstein, Marisa Mancini, Roshan Mathew, Rebecca Phillip, Carly Opar, Andy Sousane, Danny Pletcher, Abby Palmer, Molly Bayewitz, Sara Casareto, Rama Sylla, Skylar Herman, Josh Lieberman, Matt Green, Kiana Robinson, Kalen Murray, Karl Matousek, Catherine White, Genevieve Zillich, Brianna Koenick, Kristi Johnson, Ian Poe-Yamagata, Hannah Kim, Kaitlyn Heo, Caitlyn Loh, Kate Payson, Larisa Quirk, Junie Wu, Jean Yu, Joan Kim

Maryland State Solo and Ensemble:

Amanda Hayes-Puttfarcken, Maryann Agnello, Carly Weed, Ryan Carter, Catherine Jou, Gilly Reed, Brian Han, Chad Lilley, Brett Orenstein, Marisa Mancini, Roshan Mathew, Rebecca Phillip, Carly Opar, Andy Sousane, Danny Pletcher, Karl Matousek, Catherine White, Genevieve Zillich, Ian Poe-Yamagata, Hannah Kim, Kaitlyn Heo, Caitlyn Loh, Kate Payson, Larisa Quirk, Junie Wu, Jean Yu, Joan Kim

“Sweet Success”



The following 6th grade students were presented with “Sweet Success” certificates and cupcakes for showing great improvement in areas such as organization, study skills, homework, and being prepared for their classes. Teachers, counselors, and administrators were all in attendance to congratulate the students.

Erica Wragg, Peyton Fallas, Mary Stout, Jack Rubin, Seseung Oh, Mikaela Morales, Megan Taylor, Shahana Jawed, Mezghan Akbar, Matt Koch, Willy Brenner, Tanner Young, Luke Ferris, Eric Lane, Michael Graney, Sara Graham, Amanda Allen, Pauline Nsimba, Cody Carlson, Owen Followell, Heath Klotz, Ally Wright, Daishaun Carroll, Emily Hughes, Mana Robinson, Lucy Lyons, Jonas Buckberg, Mitchell Johnson, Alison Seymour, Josh Krauss, Christian McNeace, Ben Schipper, Sam Septoff, Nacala Robinson, Annie Shigo, and Anna Kalbacher

News from the Health Room

Please remember to plan to pick up your students medications from the health room by the end of the half day on June 16th. If you are unable to pick them up it is important that you notify the health room staff. All medications not picked up will be destroyed.

Summer Packets

Summer English/math packets for incoming 6, 7, and 8 graders will be disseminated by their English/math teachers. For math, students are to work on completing the packet a little everyday in order to have it all completed by the end of the summer. In order to earn full credit next year, students must show their work on separate paper, numbered and labeled. Summer packet answers due date is September 2 and deadline date is September 9. [Digital copies of the Packet](#) and answer keys will be located on the Rosa Parks website. Also look for two possible math help dates in the summer depending on funds. See you all next year! For the reading assignment, all students are required to read two novels and complete two graphic organizers (included in the packet). The graphic organizers are due on August 31st, the third day students are in school.



Wednesday, June 1	8:25 a.m. - 7 th Grade Awards Assembly
Thursday, June 2	TAP – Ambassador Recognition in Media Center 8:25 a.m. - 6 th Grade Awards Assembly 4:10 p.m. - Activity Buses Depart
Friday, June 3	8 th Grade Field Trip – Depart @8:00 a.m. and return @6:30 p.m. 6 th Grade Locker Clean Out 2:45 p.m. - Friday “Boys Hoops”
Saturday, June 4	8 th Grade Dance (7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.)

Week of June 6

Monday, June 6	7 th Grade Locker Clean Out Sherwood High School Graduation
Tuesday, June 7	TAP – Project Change Presentation 2:45 p.m. - Yearbook Club 4:10 p.m. - Activity Buses Depart
Wednesday, June 8	EXAM REVIEW DAY TAP – Dolphin Dollars Awards 4:10 p.m. - Activity Buses Depart
Thursday, June 9	FINAL EXAMS for Periods 1 and 3 4:10 p.m. - Activity Buses Depart
Friday, June 10	FINAL EXAMS for periods 2 and 7

Week of June 13

Monday, June 13	FINAL EXAMS for periods 4 and 6
Tuesday, June 14	FINAL EXAMS for period 5 – Make-ups TAP – Yearbook Distribution
Wednesday, June 15	Make-up Exams
Thursday, June 16	School Carnival - Grades 6,7,8 Last day of School Students dismissed at 12:10 p.m.



Students return to school on Monday, August 29, 2011