

THE WEEKLY WILDCAT UPDATES 2017-2018
Week of October 16, 2017

Below are important reminders to help you stay involved and engaged with your student's upcoming events at Rocky Hill Middle School.

Follow us on [-https://twitter.com/RockyHillPRIN](https://twitter.com/RockyHillPRIN) (daily updates Monday-Friday!)

The RHMS main office hours are 7:45am until 3:45pm. A reminder that the main office for our school closes at 3:45pm each day. The phones are not answered after this time and all messages left will be picked up the following morning at 7:45am.

Attendance: To report an absence for the day, please leave a voice message on the attendance phone line at 301-601-3195. Please include the full name and grade of your student. For questions about absence calls you may have received, please also call the attendance line (301-601-3195) and leave a message with your name, your student's name and your phone number. In the event that you have an unexpected early dismissal, please call 301-353-8282. (See link) [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/homeroom/ATTE NDANCENOTE_rev%20Sept%202015.pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/homeroom/ATTE%20NDANCENOTE_rev%20Sept%202015.pdf)

Early Dismissal/Absence Form: Parents wishing to pick up their children at any time, prior to the 3:00pm dismissal, must send in a note with their child to be processed in the main office at the beginning of the day. RHMS has prepared a form for your convenience. (See link) [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/EarlyDismissalAbsence Form.pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/EarlyDismissalAbsenceForm.pdf)

Our weekly Sunday evening email has three sections:

1. RHMS Events/Information and Calendar
2. RHMS Reminders
3. PTA News and Updates

1. ROCKY HILL EVENTS/INFORMATION:

IMPORTANT--- Please have your child memorize their address and write it in the front page of their agenda book. As we are trying to ensure students ride the correct school busses we are finding many students who do not know their home address.

After School Activity and Bus Information:

After-school activities are scheduled on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:00-4:25pm. Students hear about activities during morning announcements and during lunches. Activity buses are provided each day and leave school at 4:30pm. Please take this opportunity to discuss which route your child should take (activity bus stops on our website) to get home and have them write it in their agenda book—Bus 1, Bus 2 or Bus 3. Please review the route they should walk—as activity busses do not use the same routes as the regular school bus.

Additionally, for students who walk home, please review the route they should take. All students who are car riders need to be picked up NO LATER than 4:25pm. Please be on time.

Lifetouch Portrait Day

Tuesday, October 17 – This will be a 7-Period Day so that photos can be taken through PE classes. Please consider ordering your photos on line. Use code on picture day flyer. Flyer available on RHMS website.

Parent conferences:

We will hold scheduled parent conferences on November 10 from 1:00-4:00 pm. The grade level team leader or counselor will contact parents to set up a specific time to discuss plans for students needing more support to excel academically in middle school.

We will hold **arena style conferences** on **November 17** from 1:00-4:00 pm. You can drop by and meet with any teacher you would like to talk to about your child-- these are 6 minute meetings to give you a chance to meet with multiple teachers. We will send more information about the conferences in the next few weeks. Parents can also contact teachers using email or phone calls if you have specific concerns if this date/timeframe are not conducive for your schedule.

Monday, Oct. 16 – 34567

- **Cedar Ridge Adventures Field Trip (group 2) -7th Grade**
- No after school activities
- Have you signed up for the RHMS Color Fun Run yet? (see PTA section below for more details)

Tuesday, Oct. 17 - Periods 1234567

- Archery (3:05-4:25pm) Grade 6 ONLY (Mr. Leck - Gym)
- Softball vs. Baker (Girls Home/Boys Away) (Coaches: Contact Mr. Brian Lucas-Girls Team & Mr. Gerry Delescavage-Boys Team)
- Cross Country Meet @ Baker MS (Coach: Mr. Sean Stevenson)
- Drama Rehearsals (3:05-4:25pm) – Honk Jr. (Mr. Heinemann - Rm. 105)
- Green Team (3:05-4:25pm) (Ms. Evans - Rm. 260)

Wednesday, Oct 18 – Periods 12345

- Leo Club (7:15-7:45 am) Room 258 (Mr. Stevenson)
- Archery (3:05-4:25pm) Grade 7 and Grade 8 ONLY (Mr. Leck – Gym)
- Boys/Girls Softball Practice (3:05-4:25) – (Coaches: Mr. Delescavage/Mr. Lucas)
- Cross Country Practice (3:05-4:25pm) – (Coach: Mr. Sean Stevenson)
- Chess Club (3:05-4:25pm) - (Room 140) (see October events section for details)
- Drama Rehearsals (3:05-4:25pm) – Honk Jr. (Mr. Heinemann - Rm. 105)
- Model UN (3:05-4:25pm) – (Ms. Fong – 358)
- M.O.R.E. Club (3:05-4:25pm) (Mr. Sullivan – Cafeteria)
- SGA (3:05-4:25pm) (Mr. Conley - Room 167)
- Yearbook (3:05-4:25pm) - open to all (Ms. Belman - Room 376)
- **String Orchestra Cluster Concert @ CHS, 7:00pm; 7 & 8th grade string players performing**

Thursday, Oct. 19 - Periods 67123

- Archery (3:05-4:25pm) Open to all (Mr. Leck – Gym)
- Boys/Girls Softball Practice (3:05-4:25) – (Coaches: Mr. Delescavage/Mr. Lucas)
- Cross Country Practice (3:05-4:25pm) – (Coach: Mr. Sean Stevenson)
- Drama Rehearsals (3:05-4:25pm) – Honk Jr. (Mr. Heinemann - Rm. 105)
- Science Club (3:05-4:25pm) (Ms. Evans, Rm. 260)
- STEM Club (3:05-4:25pm) (Room 143) (see October events section for details)

Friday, Oct. 20 -Periods 45671

- No after school activities
- Have you signed up for the RHMS Color Fun Run yet? (see PTA section below for more details)

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

myMCPS Portal is here!

myMCPS Portal is a central location for students and their parents, guardians, or other authorized adults to access academic and demographic information. See the links below for a comprehensive How-to-Guide to lead you through the steps of using this new resource that has taken the place of Edline. Use the Student Emergency Information link to the left to update your contact information. Please be patient with us as we all learn how to navigate its use.

If you have not yet received your parent myMCPS access code through the US mail, please contact laurie_a_abita-gramatges@mcpsmd.org via email for a copy of your access code.

- [myMCPS website](#)
- [myMCPS Parent Brochure](#)

6th Grade Field Trip

The 6th graders will be going on a field trip November 20 and 21st to Bar-T Mountainside in Urbana, MD. This trip will support our environmental focus in 6th grade. Informational letters and permission slips were sent home w/students on Friday through their Period 5 teachers. A PowerPoint with additional information regarding the trip was shared with students and has been posted on the RH Website in the News Section on the front page. Stayed tuned for more information and updates! If you have any questions, please contact Lorie Quinn @ Lorie.Quinn@mcpsmd.org.

8th Grade Smithsonian Fieldtrip November 3rd

Permission slips went home last week and will be collected in the Wildcat Den until Monday, October 23rd. Cost is \$14.00 per student and students must bring a bagged lunch. We are looking for chaperones for this trip. Please check off “yes” for chaperone on the permission slip if you would like to attend this trip with us.

The PTA Book Fair is Coming!

Howdy Pard'ners! There's a new sheriff in town fixing to bring y'all the best Scholastic book fair this side of the border. Hang your hat in the media center on Friday, November 3rd through 10th from 7:30am-

3:00pm and round up some good reads. Itchin' to volunteer? Then sign up here:
<https://volunteer.scholastic.com/#/experience/signup/EEhUreoJt>

Men Organized to Raise Engagement (MORE)

M.O.R.E. meets every other week—Next meeting is this Wednesday, October 18th at RHMS right after school. For more information please contact: Sullivan Phillips at sulli_33@yahoo.com

Chess/STEM Clubs: It's not too late to join the Chess or STEM club. Please see the PTA website for registration and payment forms (<https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>) or register online at <http://www.letusteachyou.org/> For more information please contact: Craig Harris at charris@letusteachyou.org

FLES: Foreign Language classes being offered in French or Spanish for 6th graders after school. Registration closes October 17th (if there is not enough interest by this date classes will be cancelled for the year). Spanish class will begin October 18 and French class will begin October 19th. Please see the PTA website for registration and payment form <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms> For more information please contact: Urdouina Mbanaso at murumbanaso4@gmail.com or call Big Learning at [301-592-0861](tel:301-592-0861).

Archery: Because of the large amount of participants attending Archery Intramurals during the first week, Mr. Leck has decided to make the following changes: TUESDAYS: 6th GRADERS ONLY; WEDNESDAYS: 7th & 8th GRADERS ONLY; THURSDAYS: All grade levels may attend. This is to allow the maximum amount of participation and for students to have more chances to shoot. Please make sure your child has an Intramural Permission slip signed and turned in to Ms. Brouillard, as well as know how they are getting home after school.

2. Reminders:

PE Uniforms:

PE uniforms will continue to be sold until sizes sell out. Cold weather is coming so get your hoodie and sweatpants before we run out! Online purchases can be made at:
<https://osp.osmsinc.com/MontgomeryMD/BVModules/CategoryTemplates/Detailed%20List%20with%200Properties/Category.aspx?categoryid=BY372>

You can also send your son/daughter in with a check made payable to RHMS or cash. They should bring it to their PE teacher who will take care of their purchase! Thank you for supporting your RHMS PE department where every cent goes back into equipment purchases for our students!

PE News!!!!

Congratulations to the following PE students for earning a “Wildcat of the Month” t-shirt for showing PRIDE in PE class every day during the month of September!

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Marvelous Aniugo	Devine Aniugo	Abigail Dailey
Anna Bonapace	Elizabeth Barlow	Jeanne Lubika
Ashley Gray	Sarah Edwan	Molly McGrath

Ayah Hamouda	Abbas Jivan	Hazel Parada
Kurt Hull	Ayush Patel	Elijah Phillips
Lauryn Lederer	Daniel Torres-Rivera	Fiona Rizvi
Trinity Turner	Taiwan Veney	Joshua Ventura

Parent/Student School Checklist:

A checklist has been created to minimize forgotten items. We encourage the use of this checklist, as it will help cut down on class interruptions. As staff, teachers, and parents we are committed to assuring that instruction is not disturbed due to classroom interruptions. (See link)

[http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/homeroom/ParentStudentChecklist\(1\).pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/homeroom/ParentStudentChecklist(1).pdf)

LAST CALL for 2016-2017 yearbooks. We have leftover yearbooks from last year. They are \$15 and can be purchased with cash or a check made out to Rocky Hill MS. See or contact Ms. Belman at Lisabeth_S_Belman@mcpsmd.org with questions.

Common Sense Media Lessons Coming Soon! Digital citizenship, the practice of being safe, smart and ethical while online, has become an area of focus for educators and families as the 24/7 digital lifestyle becomes increasingly pervasive at school and home. The curriculum, which covers issues such as privacy, cyberbullying, internet safety and other digital dilemmas will be taught across math, world studies, English, science and health classes to all Rocky Hill students during the 2017-2018 school year.

Click this link to access more information about the Common Sense Media Digital Citizenship program:
<https://www.common sense.org/education/digital-citizenship>

Use this link to access the Family Tip Sheets provided by Common Sense Media:
<https://www.common sensemedia.org/educators/lessons/family-tip-sheets/en>

If you have any questions, please to contact Laurie_A_Abita-Gramtages@mcpsmd.org

3. PTA Notes:

Spirit Wear: Spirit Wear sales are continuing online. To access the online store please use this link <https://www.selectspiritwear.com/shop4/pc/viewcategories.asp?idcategory=806> Items will arrive in time for pick up at parent conferences. We also have other items on sale with the "Be You" theme. Please see the paper form on our website at <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms> These items are on sale while supplies last. Any questions re: spirit wear please contact Melisa Biedron at melisa299@hotmail.com

Box Tops: Please send in your Box Tops to school in a Ziploc bag. All Box Tops may be dropped off in the main office. Please make sure the Box Tops you send in have not already expired (unfortunately expired ones do not count as money towards our school). Any questions please email Christie Chan at cschan2@verizon.net

Color Fun Run: Registration continues to the day of the event, Saturday, November 4th, but Color Run t-shirt and sunglasses are not guaranteed. Registration forms can be found in the main office or on the PTA website <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>

Directory: All PTA members receive a copy of our Directory in November. If you have a business and would like to purchase ad space (deadline Friday, October 20th) please download the form here from our PTA flyers page "Directory Ad - PDF" <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms> or contact Noreen Kilby noreen.kilby@gmail.com if you have questions.

Upcoming PTA Dates:

November 3rd-10th: Book Fair (volunteers please see sign up <https://volunteer.scholastic.com/#/experience/signup/EEhUreoJt>)

November 4th: Color Fun Run

November 17th: Staff Appreciation Lunch

November 30th: Vendor Bazaar

January 10th: PTA meeting (snow date Jan 17th)

PTA Updates:

- **Birthday Announcements Are Back!** Please download the flyer from our web site (<https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>) and send in \$15 to recognize your student's birthday in scrolling lights on the electronic sign along route 355
 - **Wildcats Care Food and Personal Hygiene Drive:** Please see tab "Wildcats Care" on the PTA website <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/wildcats-care> Items can be sent in any time to the main office clearly labeled "Wildcats Care"
 - **PTA Membership Form:** It's never too late to join! We still have both tumblers and car magnets to offer with each membership. <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>
 - **Sign-Up Genius Link:** Looking for a way to help, please check out our Sign Up Genius for all PTA activities and events. We are still in need of a Black History Event Chair. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4aaba92da64-rhms1>

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