

***THE WEEKLY WILDCAT UPDATES 2017-2018**
Week of 10/23/2017

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> (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/ATTENDANCE%20NOTE_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/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.

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.

Please see below for RHMS SGA Spirit Week activities!

Monday, Oct. 23– 23456

SGA Spirit Week – 'Pajama' Day

No after school activities

Have you signed up for the RHMS Color Fun Run yet? (see PTA section below for more details)

Tuesday, Oct. 24 - Periods 71234

SGA Spirit Week – 'Hat' Day

Archery (3:05-4:25pm) **Grade 6** (Mr. Leck - Gym)

Softball vs. Neelsville (Boys Home /Girls Away) (Coaches: Contact Mr. Brian Lucas-Girls Team & Mr. Gerry Delescavage-Boys Team)

Cross Country Meet vs. Neelsville @ Home (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 25 – Periods 56712

SGA Spirit Week – 'Sports/Talent' Day

Archery (3:05-4:25pm) **Grade 7 and Grade 8** (Mr. Leck – Gym)

Boys/Girls Softball Practice (3:05-4:25) – (Coaches: Mr. Delescavage/Mr. Lucas)

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)

Rec-Xtra Book Wars (3:05-4:25pm) (Abita - Media Center)

Choral Cluster Concert @ CHS, 7:00pm

Thursday, Oct. 26 - Periods 34567

SGA Spirit Week – 'Color by Grade' Day

Grade 6 – wear Black

Grade 7 – wear White

Grade 8 – wear Red

Archery (3:05-4:25pm) **Open to all** (Mr. Leck – Gym)

Drama Rehearsals (3:05-4:25pm) – Honk Jr. (Mr. Heinemann - Rm. 105)

Science Club (3:05-4:25pm) (Ms. Evans, Rm. 260)

Softball vs. Kingsview MS (Girls Home/Boys Away) (Coaches: Contact Mr. Brian Lucas-Girls Team & Mr. Gerry Delescavage-Boys Team)

STEM Club (3:05-4:25pm) (Room 143) (see October events section for details)

Band Cluster Concert, Grades 7-12 @ CHS, 7:00pm

Friday, Oct. 27 -Periods 12345

SGA Spirit Week - 'Pink Out Day' for Breast Cancer Awareness Day

RH Readers Club **during lunches** (Media Center)

No after school activities

Have you signed up for the RHMS Color Fun Run yet? (see PTA 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.

Athletics

Basketball season is just around the corner...do you have YOUR paperwork in? Make sure to keep those grades up and see Ms. Brouillard today for whatever paperwork you need! You need a current physical form signed and dated by the doctor within the last 2 years and a parent permission slip to participate. Don't wait till the last minute! Paperwork is due NOVEMBER 27th!

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/SR-8.pdf>

Wildcat Open Archery Tournament

Come out and see what all the buzz is about competitive archery. Rocky Hill will be hosting Montgomery County's first NASP archery tournament. NASP stands for National Archery in the Schools Program. There will be 170 archers from Maryland and Virginia participating. The competition will be held in the Clarksburg High School main gym. Archers will be competing from 9:00 AM through 4:30 PM. Drop in and see why there are over a million kids in the US participating in this national organization.

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. A power point with additional information regarding the trip is 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

8th Grade Smithsonian Field trip permission slip deadline is TOMORROW, Monday, October 23, 2017. 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>

Intramurals:

Archery continues through the month of October with a school-wide archery tournament during the week of October 31-November 2. Contact Mr. Leck for details. Flag Football intramurals will begin Tuesday, November 7th and will meet Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays until November 16th. All skill levels are welcomed to attend...Pick up an intramural permission slip from the Girls PE office.

Men Organized to Raise Engagement (MORE)

M.O.R.E. meets every other week—The next meeting is next Wednesday, November 1 at RHMS right after school. For more information please contact: Sullivan Phillips at kaphung19@gmail.com OR Raymond James at Raymondjamescompliance@gmail.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

2. Reminders:

Picture Retake Day- If your student did not get their photo taken by Lifetouch on Tuesday, October 17th, Lifetouch will be back on Thursday, November 30!

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%20Properties/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!

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)

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.commonsense.org/education/digital-citizenship>

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

If you have any questions, please to contact [Laurie A Abita-Gramtages@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Laurie_A_Abita-Gramtages@mcpsmd.org)

3. PTA Notes:

Wildcat Day is coming! We need parent volunteers to pass out ice pops to students Tuesday, October 31st from 2-2:30pm. If you can volunteer please sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4aaba92da64-wildcat2>

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>

Book Fair: The Fall Book Fair is coming November 3rd-10th in the Media Center. If you can help volunteer please sign up using this link <https://volunteer.scholastic.com/#/experience/signup/EEhUreoJt>

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.

Upcoming PTA Dates:

November 3rd-10th: Book Fair

November 4th: Color Fun Run

November 17th: Staff Appreciation Lunch

November 30th: Vendor Bazaar

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

PTA Updates:

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>
- **Spirit Wear Sale:** Orders placed online will be available for pick up at parent conferences on Nov 17th. We 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

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