



RENAISSANCE SCHOOL OF ART AND REASONING

RAVEN REVIEW

APRIL 1, 2016

Congratulations

January

Ravens of the Month

Emily Heimbigner and Frederick Setser



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Attendance Notification:** Starting Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, if your student is marked unexcused absent you will receive a robo call from us at 10:00 am. Calls will go to the primary phone number you indicated for your student. In order to avoid these calls, please contact the school office **by phone** no later than 9:30 a.m. if your student is late or absent. Please **do not email absences**, call the office at 936-1544.

**Field Trip Forms:** Permission Forms for the UW Engineering Days are due on Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup>. This is an **ALL SCHOOL** field trip. If your student has misplaced their form please have them come to the school office to pick up a new one.

**Lost and Found:** The lost and found racks are overflowing. Any items not claimed by April 18<sup>th</sup> will be donated to the local youth shelter.

**Camp Meeting for Fall 2016:** ALL CURRENT 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and INCOMING 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE PARENTS. Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Eastlake Theater. Information regarding our new camp location at Nature Bridge in Port Angeles will be discussed. Permission packets and payment information will be handed out. Nurse Houtchens will be there to discuss medication procedures and forms for camp. Camp dates are: September 28 – 30. All forms and payment must be turned in by June 13, 2016.

**Performance Meeting for Parents:** Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the PA room at Renaissance. Important information regarding SHREK will be discussed.

**National Honor Society:** Inductees were announced today at the school assembly. Induction Ceremony will be held on Monday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm on the Renaissance campus. Invitations were handed out at the assembly.

**We Day Attendees:** Were announced today at the school assembly. Permission packs were handed out and are due back Wednesday April 15<sup>th</sup> to the school office.

**8th Grade Celebration:** Departing on Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and returning on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Hold the date. Details coming soon!

April 1, 2016

Dear Parents,

Spring is in the air! The sun has come out, at least for a few days, and the excitement can be felt on our campus- for spring break, for our upcoming play, for the opportunity to sit on our benches and read quietly. I hope that all of you enjoy time with your children next week. The end of the third quarter is upon us. It swept in and out and the fourth quarter will only move more quickly. It is packed with SBA testing, fieldtrips, *Shrek*, and lots of learning.

In my years teaching, this can be the hardest time for students to focus. The anticipation of summer trips, the longing for sleeping in late, and the lazy days of summer can pull students away from their studies. I ask for your continued help this quarter by checking in on your student often, talking to him/her about work being done, checking skyward for missing work, and communicating the importance of effort and perseverance in school work.

It is not always easy being a parent, especially the parent of a middle schooler. But I believe it is the most important job in the world. Their brains are developing at the same rate as an infant! So much going on—new synapses being created, old ones being “cut”; no wonder a middle schooler is frustrating to be around at times. I am including in this week’s Raven Review a letter that Mrs. Fabish passed on to me. Many of you may have already read it, but it is worth rereading. Maybe as you read it you will recognize yourself as the writer when you were a teenager. I certainly did. I can honestly say that my parents never gave up “the fight” and it made me a better person.

Your kids are worth “fighting” for; so hang onto your end of the rope! Your child will be thankful in the end.

On another note, although tied to spring and all the good that comes with the sun, is an observation the staff made this week. Students are leaving campus during STAT. Some students stay for the rehearsals and feel they do not need to attend STAT. This has caused problems with disruptions when returning to campus or not being able to locate students. Because of this, it was agreed to begin rehearsal at 2:30 on Tuesday and Thursday. We will require that all students stay on campus during this half hour of time. We will still hold STAT until 3 pm for those students who do not need to rehearse. Please have your student pack a snack to help keep energy levels up. Rehearsal will end at 4.

It is my hope with this schedule change that students will use the half hour to accomplish some homework. It will also enable kids to get home at a reasonable time. Mrs. Daman has handed a hard copy of the schedule to each student. She will also post the schedule on Haiku. Please note that the week of May 8<sup>th</sup> is extremely busy. Teachers are aware of this and the workload will reflect this busy and exciting time.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or positive comments.

Sincerely,

Karen

# Letter Your Teenager Can't Write You

By Gretchen Schmeizer

June 23, 2015

Dear Parents:

This is the letter I wish I could write.

This fight we are in right now. I need it. I need this fight. I can't tell you this because I don't have the language for it and it wouldn't make sense anyway. But I need this fight. Badly. I need to hate you right now and I need you to survive it. I need you to survive my hating you and you hating me. I need this fight even though I hate it too. It doesn't matter what this fight is even about; curfew, homework, laundry, my messy room, going out, staying in, leaving, not leaving, boyfriend, girlfriend, no friends, bad friends. It doesn't matter. I need to fight you on it and I need you to fight me back.

I desperately need you to hold the other end of the rope. To hang on tightly while I thrash on the other end – while I find the handholds and footholds in the new world I feel like I am in. I used to know who I was, who you were, who we were. But right now I don't. Right now I am looking for my edges and I can sometimes only find them when I am pulling on you. When I push everything I used to know to its edge. Then I feel like I exist and for a minute I can breathe. I know you long for the sweeter kid that I was. I know this because I long for that kid too, and some of the longing is what is so painful for me right now.

I need this fight and I need to see that no matter how bad or big my feelings are – they won't destroy you or me. I need you to love me even at my worst, even when it looks like I don't love you. I need you to love yourself and me for the both of us right now. I know it sucks to be disliked and labeled the bad guy. I feel the same way on the inside, but I need you to tolerate it and get other grownups to help you. Because I can't right now. If you want to get all of your grown up friends together and have a "surviving-your-teenager-support-group-rage-fest" that's fine with me. Or talk about me behind my back – I don't care. Just don't give up on me. Don't give up on this fight. I need it.

This is the fight that will teach me that my shadow is not bigger than my light. This is the fight that will teach me that bad feelings don't mean the end of a relationship. This is the fight that will teach me how to listen to myself, even when it might disappoint others.

And this particular fight will end. Like any storm, it will blow over. And I will forget and you will forget. And then it will come back. And I will need you to hang on to the rope again. I will need this over and over for years.

I know there is nothing inherently satisfying in this job for you. I know I will likely never thank you for it or even acknowledge your side of it. In fact, I will probably criticize you for all this hard work. It will seem like nothing you do will be enough. And yet, I am relying entirely on your ability to stay in this fight. No matter how much I argue. No matter how much I sulk. No matter how silent I get.

Please hang on to the other end of the rope. And know that you are doing the most important job that anyone could possibly be doing for me right now.

Love, Your Teenager

# National Junior Honor Society Inductees

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Maya Adelman  
Amelie Barga  
Camille Brennan  
Annabelle Ellis  
Victoria Hvidtfeldt  
Grace Maslen  
Abigail McClure  
Toshiro Mitsunaga  
Helena Smith  
Paige Stainsby  
Olivia Woolsey

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Jessica Batzel  
Ameya Deo  
Nicole Kabat  
Medhini Kapa  
Laasya Lanka  
Jade Nelson

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Erika Elam  
Julianne Farley  
Millitha Madur  
Inbar Ofek  
Reece Wharton  
Sophia Wu

## NJHS Officers for 2016

Presidents:	Reece Wharton	Laasya Lanka
Vice Presidents:	Nicole Kabat	Ameya Deo
Secretary/Historian:	Julianne Farley	Jessica Batzel
Treasurers:	Sophia Wu	Maya Adelman
Community Service Coordinators:	Medhini Kapa	Helena Smith
Membership Coordinators:	Amelie Barge	Paige Stainsby

# WE Day Attendees

KABAT, NICOLE
BARGA, AMELIE
WILSON, BAILEY
NELSON, JADE
WOOLSEY, OLIVIA
BATZEL, JESSICA
MONAHAN, JACOB
LANKA, LAASYA
WILLIAMSON, AVA
HOFFMAN, QUINN
KALENKOVICH, ANASTASIA
WHARTON, REECE
BUHNER, ASHLEY
PRIETO, SEBASTIAN
KELLER, ADDISON
HVIDTFELDT, VICTORIA
SNYDER, LIZZY
MILLER, MYCHAL
RABINOWITZ, SADI
DEO, AMEYA
TELLEZ, ISABELA
MITSUNAGA, TOSHI
ELLIS, ANABELLE
MUSSER, ERNIE
RITTENHOUSE, SPENCER
SHAKHOVETS, SOFYA
FARLEY, JULIANNE
LUNDIN, EMMA
CROSHAW, KAITLYN
GILMER, ELLERY
SMITH, HELENA
STAINSBY, PAIGE
ADELMAN, MAYA

# 2015/2016 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

April 4 - 8	Spring Break
April 18 - <b>NEW</b>	Honor Society Induction Ceremony 7pm
April 20	We Day - Key Arena
April 22	UW Engineering Days Field Trip - all school
April 25	SBA ELA Testing - All School
April 25 - <b>NEW</b>	Performance Parent Information Meeting 7 pm - PA room
April 26 - <b>NEW</b>	EHS Welcome to the Pack <u>6:00 for Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders</u>
April 27	SBA ELA Testing - All School
April 28	5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Play "The Mercer Girls" - All School Assembly
April 28 - <b>IMPORTANT</b>	Fall Camp Meeting - All Parents          EHS Theater
May 9 & 10	Rehearsals (Times TBA)
May 11 & 12	Shrek Jr. Musical - EHS Theater 7:00 pm
May 17 - <b>NEW</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> gr to Pacific Science Center
May 21	Shrek Jr. Musical at Redmond Senior Center 12:00- 1:00
May 23	SBA Math Testing - All School
May 25	SBA Math Testing - All School
May 26	8 <sup>th</sup> grade to MOHAI
May 26 - <b>NEW</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> grade to Olympic Sculpture Park
May 30	No School
May 31 - <b>NEW</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> grade to Pacific Science Center
June 2	MSP Science Testing - 8 <sup>th</sup> grade only
June 3	School Dance - RSAR Campus 7:00 - 9:00 pm
June 8	Lap Top turn in day
June 10	End of Year BBQ and yearbook distribution
June 14	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony - EHS Theater 7:00 pm