



A NOTE FROM MRS. AMAYA

Dear Families,

I want to congratulate and thank all our parent chaperones for a wonderful experience at Camp Arnold. We could not have done it without your willingness to spend three nights and four days with 90 middle school kids. It was, in my opinion, one of our best excursions. The food was good, the lodging was nice, and the view! Wow, the view took my breath away—it didn't hurt that the weather was spectacular. I am positive all the chaperones were exhausted, as were the teachers and kids, on Thursday. I am grateful to each of you for your dedication, flexibility, and patience while at camp. The students are writing reflections of their experiences of camp which they will share at our conferences.

Speaking of conferences, November is almost here. We have been in school for two months and your students are back in a routine. Even with our October camp break, students have made gains in their learning. November is the time when we lead the students through a series of lessons that help them set goals, both academic and social, for the year. Your student will share these goals, in addition to their progress and challenges thus far at RSAR, with you at our goal setting conferences. This year the conferences will be held the afternoons of November 29th and 30th. This is the week AFTER Thanksgiving. Students will be dismissed early from school those two days so that we can hold conferences. These are student led conferences—your child will

be leading the way and talking about the steps planned for the rest of the year. Teachers will be near to support and answer questions. Each year I am in awe of the interactions that occur between our students and parents. It is a chance for you to see what your child is learning and how he/she is growing. We hope that you will attend. Sign up forms and additional information will be sent out in the next two weeks.

The end of the first quarter is Tuesday, November 6th. All teachers have shared in each class that on Monday, October 29th any missing grade will be inputted with a score of 64. Don't panic! This does not mean the score will stay that way. It is way to elevate their level of concern. Once the assignment is turned in, the paper will be graded and recorded. No first quarter papers will be accepted after November 6th without prior teacher approval.

I am excited to announce that for the first time in Renaissance history we will be partaking in the "Battle of the Books." 6th grader Lisa Leite asked if we would be able to participate. To be honest, I didn't realize that middle school had the "Battle." After investigating and talking to the librarian in charge, we are in! Thank you, Lisa! Teams will be formed with in the next two weeks, with permission slips, as well as rules, sent home and posted on-line. There are 14 books total. I had read one already and plan to read all of them!

Finally, I would like to remind our community that any meetings, clubs, or use of our building should always be set up through Sarah Simmons, our office manager. This allows her to be aware and answer questions students may have about meetings and activities.

Thank you for all of you support. We are off to a fabulous year. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with your children.

Sincerely,

Karen Amaya

WRITERS IN RESIDENCE

ACTION: Please sign and return WITS permission slip

This week we began our Writers in the Schools (WITS) program. During our first semester we are pleased to have Danny Sherrard teaching poetry to all the classes. Danny is a published poet and has the honor of being both the National and World Champion of Slam Poetry. Ours kids are going to create incredible works...again. Jourdan Keith will return in February to work with RSAR students to produce short stories.

ART

Do you have any home design, food network or similar magazines laying around your house collecting dust? If you are looking for a way to recycle them- please bring them to RSAR, we will turn your trash into art! Ms. Amaya is collecting magazines to be used throughout the year in Art for collages and other art projects. Please drop them off in Ms. Amaya's room.

PERFORMING ARTS

VOLUNTEER NEED: If there are any parents interested in helping Mrs. Daman with orchestrating performances and coordinating volunteers for production, please reach out to Mrs. Daman as soon as possible. Thank you for all of the help that parents continue to provide to our program.

1. Sara Joy is a local professional dancer, choreographer and teacher who enjoys working and creating dances with middle school students. Mrs. Daman met Sara at a professional work shop this summer and found an instant connection together. In August, Mrs. Daman met with Sara to discuss the possibility of her coming in and working with a multi-age group of students to create a piece for this year's dance concert. We started the choreography workshop on Tuesday, October 23rd. [We will be meeting every Tuesday from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm until the dance concert in January.](#) If you are interested in participating or having your student participate please contact Mrs. Daman.
2. The 10th Annual Thrill the World event at the Redmond Town Center is happening tomorrow, Saturday, October 27th. Students who are getting their make-up done onsite, please make sure you arrive between 12:00 – 12:30. Otherwise make sure you should be at the Redmond Town Center by 2:00 pm at the latest in order to register. Every participant needs to register at the registration table before 2:30 pm. The performance will start at 3:00 pm. If anyone is still interested in volunteering with me at the Thrill the World event on Saturday, please go to the www.redmondzombies.org website and on the right hand side of the page you can register to volunteer. These hours can also be turn-in to our PTSA for family contribution hours.

THESPIAN CLUB

Thespian induction will be Friday, November 2nd at 2:15 pm – 3:30 pm. Parents are encouraged to attend if they can and all thespians and inductees should dress nicely for the ceremony. A list of students who have volunteered to bring food for the ceremony will be sent out on Saturday. Mrs. Daman will send out a formal invitation to those new inductees and their families Sunday. We are excited that we will be adding an additional 14 students to our Thespian community. The membership fee a one-time payment of \$15.00. The check can be turned into the office and made out to RSAR.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCE- NOVEMBER 29TH AND 30TH- Early Release at 10:30 AM

Thursday November 29th and Friday November 30th will be student led conference. Students will be dismissed early from school those two days so that we can hold conferences. Students will be dismissed at 10:30 AM. Please note that the EHS bus schedule will remain the same so you will need to arrange a ride home for your student on those days. Teachers will communicate signups and more information in the next few weeks.

PTSA REFLECTIONS – DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 2nd

Please see attached flyer for more information

YEARBOOK

Our first yearbook meeting will be held on Wednesday October 31st from 12:35-1:00PM. This will be an interest meeting. We will discuss what being a part of Yearbook looks like, the commitment level, and the roles that students will need to fulfill throughout the year. We will be discussing our theme and cover for the 2018-2019 yearbook as well.

Starting November 7th, Meetings will be held weekly on Wednesdays from 12:35-1:30 PM unless otherwise noted.

If you have not pre-ordered your students yearbook now is the time to do it! The cost of the yearbook is \$25, and forms can be found the main office.

SPIRIT WEEK- OCTOBER 29TH- NOVEMBER 2ND

Monday- Pajama Day
Tuesday- Twin Day
Wednesday- Halloween (Costume Day)
Thursday- Throwback Day
Friday- Opposite Day

WE SCARE HUNGER

Our school is participating in a canned food drive to support Northwest Harvest. The Guilds are holding a competition to see who can collect the most non-perishable food donations. The winning Guild will receive a class party. The canned food drive will run until November 16th.

LUNCH PROCEDURES

Students may purchase food in the Eastlake Commons cafeteria or bring their own lunches. Students can purchase lunch with cash or their student account. Adding money to student account: 1) use myschool bucks or 2) have student bring check to EHS kitchen cashier. **RSAR DOES NOT ACCEPT THE LUNCH MONEY.** If your student brings their own lunch be sure that they pack healthy foods. Please do not allow your student to bring soda or energy drinks.

STUDENT LAPTOPS

Trouble Connecting at Home

If your student is having difficulty connecting to your wireless network at home, please follow the steps below:

- a. Before you leave campus – shut down your computer
 - i. This mean go to the Start Menu>Power Options>Select Shutdown
 - ii. If you do not shut down, then a restart will be needed at home before you try to connect to DirectAccess.
- b. When the student gets home, power on the laptop
- c. Connect to Home WiFi
- d. Then the student will need to wait about 1-5 minutes while the device connects to Direct Access.
 - i. If no connection is made with in 5 minutes, restart the laptop
 - ii. After the restart – connect to home WiFi and let DirectAccess connect (allow the 1-5 minutes)

Laptop Insurance Options

Families may wish to protect against liability for lost, damaged or stolen property by reviewing their insurance options. Some homeowner's policy may offer coverage and some may offer this coverage if a rider is acquired. In addition, Lake Washington School District has arranged for an insurance option for families wishing to purchase a specific additional insurance to cover their student's laptop. This insurance can be purchased from Worth Insurance Group. The premium is \$63.60 per year and covers accidental damage and theft (police report required). The deductible in this policy is \$0. This insurance can be acquired directly by going to <https://www.worthavegroup.com/portal/lakewashington>. The company also offers coverage for other personal technology devices. If you chose not to purchase the optional insurance or do not otherwise have coverage, you will be responsible for fees for damaged or lost/stolen equipment as defined above.

STUDENT ABSENT/LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL:

Students that are taking math over at EHS, if they are absent/late you will need to notify both RSAR and EHS about your students' absence.

Absences- An absence may only be excused within 48 hours. Parent/Guardian communication is required for excusing an absence or late arrival. You can email sasimmons@lwsd.org or leave a voicemail at (425) 936-1544. Please spell the last name of the student clearly and provide a reason for the absence/tardy.

Late Arrival- If your student is arriving to school late they need to check in at the office **before going to class**. You do not have to sign the student in but if the student does not stop by the office the absence put in by the teacher will NOT be changed into a TARDY and you will likely receive an attendance call.

Early Dismissal – Please come into the office and sign your student out. You do not need to call or email ahead of time. Please just come into the office, sign your student out and your student will be called out of class to leave with you. You must sign your student out in order for them to leave campus.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

- **YEARBOOK:** Wednesdays 12:30-1:30 PM- FIRST MEETING IS ON 10-31 12:30-1:00PM
- **LGBTQ CLUB:** Every other Tuesday 2:00-3:00 PM
- **FRENCH** Fridays 2:10- 3:10 PM Please see attached flyer for more information on how to sign up.
- **SPANISH** Thursdays 2:10- 3:10 PM Please see attached flyer for more information on how to sign up.
- **ROBOTICS** – PTSA is looking into starting and sponsoring a robotics club- Please email Mrs. Simmons if your student would be interested in joining. More information will be provided as it becomes available.
- **JUNIOR THE SPAIN CLUB-** Please see Mrs. Daman for more information.
- **NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY (NJHS)-** We are looking to get NJHS started this year but we need a parent volunteer to step in and help lead the group with Mrs. Bawa. If you are interested please email Monique Wirrick at mwirrick@outlook.com.

We are continually looking to increase learning and experiences for our students. We are open to a variety of activities/clubs/enrichment classes. Do you have an idea for a club, let us know!

LOST AND FOUND:

Please remind your student to look in the lost and found for any items they may be missing throughout the year. Items left in the lost and found are donated twice a year.

2018/2019 School Calendar

OCTOBER 29- NOVEMBER 2	SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEK
NOVEMBER 2	THESPIAN INDUCTION CEREMONY @ RSAR 2:15-3:30 PM
NOVEMBER 2	SCHOOL DANCE @ RSAR 7PM-9PM
NOVEMBER 6	LAST DAY OF FIRST QUARTER
NOVEMBER 12	NO SCHOOL- VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 19	OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL (DURING SCHOOL)
NOVEMBER 21	EARLY RELEASE @ 10:30 AM
NOVEMBER 22-23	NO SCHOOL- THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
NOVEMBER 29-30	STUDENT LED CONFERENCES- EARLY RELEASE @ 10:30AM
DECEMBER 13	6 TH /7 TH GRADE FIELD TRIP TO SAM
DECEMBER 24- JANUARY 4	NO SCHOOL- WINTER BREAK
JANUARY 8	RENAISSANCE CHOICE SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT @ 7PM
JANUARY 15	DANCE CONCERT @ 7PM
JANUARY 21	NO SCHOOL
JANUARY 25	LAST DAY OF FIRST SEMESTER
FEBRUARY 14-18	MID WINTER BREAK
FEBRUARY 26	TALENT SHOW @ 7PM
MARCH 9	NO SCHOOL
APRIL 8-12	SPRING BREAK
MAY 5-11	SPRING PLAY PRODUCTION WEEK
MAY 24	NO SCHOOL
MAY 27-28	NO SCHOOL
JUNE 18	8 TH GRADE PROMOTION
JUNE 19	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

50th NATIONAL PTA
REFLECTIONS[®]
2018-2019

HEROES AROUND ME

Who's your hero?

Students in Pre-K through Grade 12 are encouraged to participate in the 2018-2019 National PTA Reflections Awards!

It's easy to participate:

1. Reflect on this year's theme: Heroes Around Me.
2. Create an original work inspired by the theme.
3. Celebrate your achievements and win prizes!

Arts Categories

- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

Deadline November 2nd 2018

For more information contact Jo Richardson at: art@jo-richardson.com

For rules visit: <https://www.wastatepta.org/events-programs/reflections/>

