



News from the Nest

Hello, Riverwood Ravens! Here is this week's edition of News from the Nest. Progress reports will be sent home this week, as we are already halfway through the final quarter of the school year. Remember that Spring Break is April 14-18 and the main office will be closed during this time. We know that students are excited about our upcoming Spring Break, but we will maintain firm and consistent expectations for learning this week. There are only **19** instructional days left before EOGs and we want to make sure our students are well-prepared. Let's make it an EXCELLENT week!

We're "Raven" About...

- Our 6th grade team, Enhancement team, and student volunteers from Beta Club, Chorus, and Band who helped make Rising 6th Grade Night a HUGE success!!
- Our 8th grade team and parent volunteers who made our 8th grade dance a night to remember for our students!! It was spectacular!
- Our students who woke up extra early on Saturday morning to attend the first Saturday Academy for EOG Prep! Don't miss the next 2 opportunities on 4/26 and 5/3 from 9-11AM.

New/Time Sensitive/Important Information:

Upcoming Important Dates

Monday 4/7	Tuesday 4/8	Wednesday 4/9	Thursday 4/10	Friday 4/11
4:15PM: BB,SB, GS vs. CMS	Last Chance Due Date	4:15PM: Conf Track @ Clv HS	Q4 Progress Reports 4:15PM: BB,SB, GS @ ALMS	Fun Friday in Enhancements 3:05PM: SPRING BREAK BEGINS!!!!!!!
Monday 4/21	Tuesday 4/22	Wednesday 4/23	Thursday 4/24	Friday 4/25
Book Fair				
	3:00-4:30PM: Book Fair Family Extended Hours 4:15PM: BB,SB, GS vs. SCMS		4:15PM: BB,SB, GS @ MGMS	

Happy Assistant Principal Week to Mr. Whitaker, Ms. Gore, and Ms.

Williams!!! 🎉

Thank you for everything you do for our students, staff and families!! We appreciate you!

Excelling Raven

Congratulations to our newest Excelling Raven Ms. Kim Copeland, 8th grade Science teacher! She was selected by Coach Wheeler who had this to say about her... "Ms. Copeland is a dedicated 8th-grade science teacher who goes above and beyond for her students. Not only does she excel in teaching science, but also takes time to run the Beta Club ,help with 8th grade dance and field days, and many other things within our community.

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Beyond the classroom, she supports the track team. Our shot putters would not have the knowledge and skill without her help! Ms. Copeland is very kind and caring and is always willing to lend a helping hand to students and staff.”

Thank you to **9 Bar Coffeehouse** for sponsoring our Excelling Raven recognition for the 2025 spring semester! Stay tuned to see who the next Excelling Raven will be...

Ravens Academy for EOG Prep

Once again, we will be hosting Saturday EOG Prep for our students in all tested grades/subjects with two Saturdays left on 4/26 and 5/3 from 9-11AM. Students can be dropped off between 8:45-9:00AM and must be picked up at 11:00AM.

These sessions will be in addition to our weekly afterschool sessions that will run through Thursday, May 8th. More information can be found [HERE](#). If students have a permission form on file, a new one does not need to be completed to attend Saturday Academy.

URGENT NEED: EOG Proctors

Due to recent changes to NCDPI testing guidelines, we are in even more need of proctors for EOG testing! Proctors help ensure we are in the best position to achieve our highest possible academic success by maintaining secure testing environments. If you or anyone you know would be able to help, please complete the [Sign-up Form](#) and Ms. Jill Boudreau, Testing Coordinator, will reach out to volunteers.

Save the Dates: Important EOY Events

Please save the dates important for your family for our end-of-year school events.

Clayton High School Dance Team Tryouts

Rising CHS students interested in trying out for the dance team can find information [HERE](#).

Summer Opportunity for Students

C.A.R.S. Summer Camp at Wake Tech is a fun opportunity for students to learn more about automotive repair and service! For more information, watch the YouTube video [HERE](#). Scholarships are available for week 1 and 2 sessions!

Truancy Letters

Some families have received a Notification of Truancy for their student(s). While my name is on these letters as principal of RMS, they are actually sent via a third party vendor contracted by JCPS to notify parents at the 3rd, 6th, and 10th unexcused absences. If you receive a letter and would like additional information about the unexcused absences, please reach out to Ms. Carolyn Pegues at the front desk or Ms. Casey Carson (Data Manager.) If there are extenuating circumstances that you would like to make us aware of regarding your student's absences or if you have questions above and beyond unexcused absence dates, please contact one of our School Counselors (Kayla Mallard or Mackenzie Boyd) and/or our Social Worker (Danielle Pleasant.)



Stay tuned for additional updates in
News from the Nest weekly



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Riverwood Middle School PTSA

Upcoming PTSA General Meeting and 25-26 PTSA Board Elections

Our final PTSA general meeting and elections for next year's PTSA officer board positions will be held on Monday **April 28 at 7pm** in the RMS cafeteria. You can join virtually or in person.

Open positions include President and Vice President of Committees. Anyone who is interested in serving on next year's board can email the President with their interest at the email riverwoodptsapresident@gmail.com. If we do not get them filled the PTSA will cease to exist, don't assume someone else will do it. We would even consider Co-Presidents, if anyone is interested. PLEASE consider a PTSA Board position! The support of our PTSA is VITAL to our school culture and student success!

RMS Spirit Wear

The RMS PTSA spirit wear website is live and ready for orders! All orders will be delivered to the student's homeroom. https://www.nesspressnc.com/store/c265/Riverwood_Middle_School.html.

To **join the PTSA** for the school year, please click here:

<https://rmsptsa.givebacks.com/store?limit=21&live=true> You don't have to volunteer to join the PTSA.

Riverwood Middle School Athletic Boosters

The Athletic Boosters Club is always looking for support! If you're unable to volunteer your time at concession stands or events, we would greatly appreciate any donations to help support our student-athletes. You can find the donation link on our [Linktree](#).

Upcoming Events:

Spring Sports Banquet - May 1st @ 6:00 PM (RMS Cafeteria)

Stay Connected!

Be sure to check out our [Linktree](#) for important information.

Stay connected by following us on Instagram and Facebook.

From Previous Editions & Still Important:

EDvantage Tutoring: JCPS & EDvantage Tutoring through NCVPS is offering a limited number of 30-minute tutoring sessions during the 4th quarter for any middle school student. ELA, Math, MS Math I, and Science sessions will be provided after school hours from 4:30-6:30 pm, Monday-Wednesday. Click on the fliers linked for more information: [JCPS + EDvantage Tutoring Program Flier](#) and [JCPS + EDvantage Tutoring Program Flier in Spanish](#).

Important Message from Nurse Sanders

We are seeing an uptick in the number of students who are attending school with fevers and leaving early, or who are returning to school after having fevers just one day prior with the use of fever reducing agents. Please refer to [this document](#) for more information.

We want all of our students and educators to remain healthy and safe while in school. Thank you!

Weekly Math & ELA Homework

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All students in grades 6-8 will be assigned weekly homework in their math and ELA classes moving forward. This HW will be given on Friday or Monday of each week and due the next upcoming Friday. It will consist of math problems and a few short reading passages and questions that can be completed all at once or a few each night. This homework will review content previously taught this year, as well as, build on foundational skills from prior years for our students. Our goal is to help our students retain their knowledge and build a strong foundation as they matriculate into the next grade and ultimately into high school. Please reach out to your student's math and/or ELA teacher for additional information or with questions.

Follow us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/RMSRavens>

Sportsmanship & Support at Athletic Contests

The Riverwood Ravens are excited to welcome all fans to our athletic contests this school year! In conjunction with Johnston County Public Schools and the Johnston County Middle School Athletic Conference, we would like to remind everyone that our athletic contests are an extension of the classroom and part of the school setting. We ask that everyone remain positive, refrain from negative comments or behaviors, as well as treat others with respect and the way they would want to be treated. We ask for a show of appreciation and support of all athletes, coaches, and officials throughout all athletics events. We are thankful that our fans have the opportunity to support us and make our athletic competitions possible. Thank you for joining us in demonstrating Excellence in All Ways at Riverwood Middle School! - RMS Administration

Positive Behavior Incentives & Rewards

Each day, our students have the opportunity to earn positive behavior points/tickets for demonstrating the [RAVENS Core Beliefs](#) in their classes, the hallway, cafeteria, etc. In addition to our RAVENS core beliefs, students participated in creating their grade level Social Contracts in which they came to consensus on how they wanted to be treated by each other, how they wanted to be treated by their teacher, how their teacher wanted to be treated by them, and how they could resolve conflict in an appropriate way. A copy of the grade level social contracts can be found below.

[6th Gr Social Contract](#) [7th Gr Social Contract](#) [8th Gr Social Contract](#)

This year, we will have Fun Friday every 2-3 weeks in which students can cash in points/tickets to participate in fun activities during AIR Time. In order to participate, students cannot have any missing work (outside of an excused absence) and cannot have been assigned ISS or OSS during the previous 3 weeks. Students have been earning LOTS of points in their classes and are excited to cash them in for our fun activities!

Technology Use Agreement Forms

All students should have received a paper copy of the JCPS Technology Use Agreement Form in Homeroom the first week of school. These forms MUST be signed and returned in order for students to have access to their Chromebook during the school day. Students will be issued a Chromebook to use during the school day only. No Chromebooks can be taken home and must be charged in the classroom ChromeCart each night.

RMS Carpool

Carpool drops off and picks up in the front of the school, entering off Athletic Club Blvd. Please follow the direction of the staff directing carpool and bring patience this week. It will be slower this week but by the

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end of the week, things will be running smoothly and we will get you and your child through the line quickly.

Remember that you cannot enter the carpool lane before 7:00 am in the morning or 2:55 pm in the afternoon. Until then, carpool drivers must wait on the side of Athletic Club Blvd at the end of the school.

Breakfast & Lunch is FREE for ALL RMS Students

Breakfast will be available at the beginning of each grade level hallway for students to grab & go to their Homeroom each morning. Menus can be found at tinyurl.com/JCPSTMenus.

Student/Parent Handbook

Please review the 2024-25 RMS Student/Parent Handbook linked [HERE](#) and also available on the RMS website.

Over-the-Counter Medications - A NEW CHANGE

If you have a student that will be taking over the counter medication at school this year, please be aware that they, too, will need a physician signature. Please complete [THIS FORM](#) and bring medications to the Front Office to Nurse Sanders. She is at RMS on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays each week.

Late Arrivals and Early Check-Outs

Students arriving after the 8:05 AM tardy bell must check-in in the main office. Parents do not need to accompany students for late arrivals. Students will check themselves in using the office Chromebooks. A note is required for medical appointments in order to be excused.

Students may be checked out early by a parent/guardian or adult listed on the Student Info sheet completed at Open House/Orientation. Parents must come in to check out a student and sign them out using the office Chromebooks. **Please remember that students cannot be checked out after 2:45 PM.**

Voluntary Student Accident Insurance

If you are interested in purchasing voluntary student accident insurance for your student, please visit www.k12studentinsurance.com. The site contains [enrollment instructions](#), enrollment application, [claim forms](#), and coverage details ([English](#) and [Spanish](#))

Thank you all for your continued support of our Riverwood Ravens and have a great week! - MJS

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