



News from the Nest

Hello, Riverwood Ravens! Here is this week's edition of News from the Nest. Remember that tomorrow is a teacher workday and no school for students. We will wrap up our Apex Fundraiser this week with the Color Battle on Thursday during enhancements. Students have been excited to participate in activities at lunch and are doing a great job! Spring sports tryouts begin on Tuesday and any student participating must have a current physical uploaded into Final Forms, as paper copies cannot be accepted. Let's make it an EXCELLENT week at Riverwood Middle!

New/Time Sensitive/Important Information:

Upcoming Important Dates

Monday 2/19	Tuesday 2/20	Wednesday 2/21	Thursday 2/22	Friday 2/23
Teacher Workday	Apex Fundraiser 3:30pm - Spring Sports Tryouts	Apex Fundraiser 3:30pm - Spring Sports Tryouts	Apex Fundraiser Color Battle 3:30pm - Spring Sports Tryouts	
Monday 2/26	Tuesday 2/27	Wednesday 2/28	Thursday 2/29	Friday 3/1
	6:30pm: PAC Mtg			

EXCELLING RAVEN Award

Congratulations to Ms. Monique Headley, 8th grade ELA teacher, who was chosen as this week's Excelling Raven by Mr. Lawrence, who had this to say about her...

"I am passing the Excelling Raven Award to Mrs. Headley! Her ability to capture kids' hearts in her class can be witnessed throughout her classroom from day to day. Her positive and encouraging attitude toward the students and staff has a great impact on the entire school. Her willingness to be a team player and ensure the success of all students not only in school but also in life! Displaying EXCELLENCE Always shows her support for the school and her community making it such a joy to work beside and a joy to watch the growth for her and those she comes into contact with on a daily basis!"



Apex Fundraiser Updates

Thank you so much for all your support thus far. The **Weekend Challenge** is here and our goal is for every family to get one donation over the weekend! The top student in each grade and 3 raffle winners will get to dump color powder on one of the Assistant Principals!!! It's going to be awesome and our kids are super excited!

Help us reach our goal by making your first or additional pledges. All students received pledge information last week from their homeroom teacher prior to the kick-off pep rally. Even better is to share your student's links with Family & Friends to assist our efforts too!

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As of Friday morning, here were the totals:
As a school we have raised \$4312!

Our Top 5:

1. Team Hattan at \$1030
- 2 Team Witmer at \$600
- 3 Team Duke at \$485
- 4 Team Collie at \$340
- 5 Team Lawrence at \$230

Thanks so much for your continued support and helping our school!

Teacher Recognition & Morale Boosters

We are so fortunate to have parents and families that support us ALL THE TIME! You may not have known, but our Excelling Raven of the Week recipient is rewarded with a gift card (between \$5-10) when they are selected, courtesy of the generous donations from you! In order to continue to recognize our excellent teachers and provide some morale boosting activities this spring, we are asking for additional gift card donations of \$5-\$10 to any local establishment. If you are able to help with this, gift cards can be dropped off to Ms. Pegues in the Front Office between 7:00-4:00 each day. **Thank you!!**

Softball & Baseball Equipment

As a reminder, softball and baseball bats and bags are not allowed on buses. Students trying out for and playing softball and baseball must use carpool or walk to/from school. Equipment should be taken to the locker rooms upon arrival in the morning and not taken to homerooms. Contact Coach Riley, AD, with questions or concerns.

Riverwood Middle School PTSA Updates:

Mark Your Calendars for these upcoming PTSA Events!!

Health & Wellness Fair

Come on out to Archer Lodge Community Center for Riverwood Middle School's Health and Wellness Fair from 10 am until 2 pm.

There will be lots of vendors and giveaways including: Partner's TKD, American Red Cross, Clayton Audiology, JoCo EMS, Partnership for Children, Archer Lodge Parks and Rec, Medical.Me Training, and many more!

Spring Book Fair Volunteers Needed!

Mark your calendars! The spring book fair runs March 11th-March 18th.

Volunteers can sign up with the link below.

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/4090B48AFAE2BA7FA7-47823011-rmsspring>

Spring Spirit Nights

Boba Beans-Feb 26th 3-7pm: Help show your support for RMS by joining us tonight for a delicious Bubble Tea from 3-7 pm at Boba Beans Bistro at 50 Neuse River Parkway, suite 1 in Clayton. Please mention RMS Spirit Night when you order.

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Urban Air-March 28th 4-8pm: Kick off spring break the right way by showing your support tonight from 4-8 pm for RMS at Urban Air 7800 Poyner Place, suite 1 in Raleigh. 20% of the proceeds will go back to our school. You MUST mention Riverwood Middle School Spirit Night at the register and fill out a waiver form. <https://www.urbanair.com/sign-park-waiver/>

Culvers-April 24th 5-8pm: Join us tonight at Culver's in Clayton (1159 US Hwy 70) for a delicious Butter Burger or Concrete Mixer. 10% of tonight's sales will go to RMS. Please Mention Spirit Night when you order.

9Bar-May 24th All Day: It's our last spirit night of the school year! Grab a smoothie, bagel, or signature coffee from 9Bar in Riverwood Athletic Club from 6 am to 4:30 pm.

RMS Athletic Boosters Updates:

Apex Color Battle Fundraising starts this week!! Look for details coming home on Tuesday.

From Previous Editions & Still Important:

It Takes a Village

Thank you to the many parents and students that reached out to me or Clayton PD Thursday evening to ensure that we were aware of a potential threat towards our school. Because of these reports, we were able to work that evening with CPD and our JCPS Security Officer to ensure that this was NOT a credible threat and that our students and staff are safe. Safety is my TOP priority as your Principal and I appreciate the teamwork and collaboration with our parents, families, and community to ensure our safety! Please continue to encourage your students that if they SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING and let us know.

After-School Tutoring

Riverwood Middle School has begun our after school tutoring program. Our goal is to support our students as they work towards achieving their academic goals. The tutoring program will allow students to work closely with staff members on math, ELA, social studies, and science curriculums, homework help, and more.

Please take time to let us know if your child will be able to attend these sessions. You may return this form to your child's homeroom teacher or submit it electronically by going to [the online sign-up form](#). Schedules will be communicated to parents and students by email once they are finalized. Feel free to email elizabethadams@johnston.k12.nc.us if you have any questions.

Attendance Spotlight from School Social Worker - Ms. Pleasant

February-If your child is absent please send a written note from the parent/guardian or doctor with the child's first/last name, reason for absence(s), date of absence(s), and homeroom teacher's name on the day they return to school. Medical notes should be provided if your child went to the doctor. No note will result in an unexcused absence. Please call the school periodically and speak with someone to check on the status of your child's attendance and provide notes for absences if needed.

RMS Student Clubs

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Interested in getting involved in a club? Check out the before/after school clubs available now linked [HERE](#). Don't see anything you're interested in? Talk to Ms. Mallard, your grade level administrator, or Ms. Sawyer about starting a new club.

RAVENS Spirit Fridays

Students are invited to join the staff in showing their RAVENS school spirit every Friday! Feel free to wear a RMS shirt or school colors (orange, teal, black, white, gray). We'd love to see our entire school family showing RAVENS SPIRIT each week!

Visitor Guidelines Reminders

As a reminder, measures are in place to help us keep students and staff safe while they are in our building. When you come to a school's front doors, press the button on our buzzer system at the main entrance to allow you to be greeted by Ms. Pegues or another office staff member. We will ask to see your ID, as this is a district protocol. Please be sure to have your ID readily available when you come to check out your child or conduct other business on campus during the school day. Once you are provided entrance to the school, please walk directly through the Weapons Detection System. Items that routinely cause the systems to false alert, due to their shape and composition, are eyeglass cases, laptops, umbrellas, and 3 ring binders. Keeping these items in your vehicles, as opposed to bringing them with you into school, will expedite the process for gaining entrance into the office area. If the detection system happens to alert as you're passing through it, please wait for direction from an employee who will assist you in gaining access to your destination. We thank you for your support as we strive to make our schools as safe as possible for students and staff.

FREE Breakfast & Lunch for ALL RMS Students

RMS is fortunate to be one of the JCPS schools that can provide FREE breakfast and lunch to our students! All students are strongly encouraged to participate in these free meals each day and we are happy to see more students taking advantage of this opportunity! The menu for RMS students is linked [here](#).

Bus Transportation

Students needing bus transportation MUST register with the district. Please visit the JCPS Transportation site linked [HERE](#) for additional information.

Carpool

Please follow the direction of the staff directing carpool and bring patience this week. It will be slower this week but by the 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 or 2:55 pm.** Until then, carpool drivers must wait on the side of Athletic Club Blvd at the end of the school.

Amazon Wish List

With feedback from our teachers & staff, we have created an Amazon Wish List. Please help us provide morale boosters and classroom supplies for our amazing Ravens Staff throughout the 23-24 school year! Visit our wish list [here](#). THANK YOU to those that have already helped us clear our list! We appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness!

Let's make it an EXCELLENT week, Ravens!

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