

# RAMSEY AROUND THE HORN

MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Monthly Newsletter for Ramsey Families

Volume 2, Issue 7  
March 2014

## An Update from Principal Marietta

With Spring coming soon (we hope), there are many key changes underway here at Ramsey. We are deep into the planning stages for next year. We had a Prospective Teacher Night this week to talk about the hiring process, and I can say once again that we will have the best teachers available for your children. We are excited to hire another round of teachers for next year!

As we put all the pieces into place for our third year, there may be some changes in programming. With our Site Council and key leaders, we are exploring all options for what our Ramsey program will be able to offer next year and into the future. We have been assured that we will continue with the 1:1 iPad program. This is significant, as much of our instruction has now shifted to be supported through the use of this technology. We will use our mission to guide us as we make program-related decisions. We will be able to provide you with more details in the months to come.

March is Kindness Month at Ramsey, and we will be putting an emphasis on positive peer relationships. The Student Council and Dare2BeReal student leaders have planned various activities in support of this initiative, including Random Acts of Kindness, No Name-Calling Week, and Mix-It-Up at Lunch. The month will end with a Spirit Week, March 23-28, and an assembly on Friday, March 28. We encourage parents to ask students about these activities.

Finally, all students will be taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) in reading and math during the month of April. Minneapolis Public Schools has a [test-taking tip guide](#) online for families, and your student's teachers can assist in directing you to additional resources. Please do all you can to prepare your children for their test-taking experience.

## Contact Information

[Join Our E-Mail List](#)  
[Ramsey News Archives](#)  
[Ramsey Middle School website](#)  
[Ramsey PTA website](#)  
[Parent Portal](#)  
[After-School Classes](#)

612-668-4040

**Sat, Mar 15**

8:30 am

Get Lucky Run  
Cheer Station

**Tue, Mar 18**

9:15 am Coffee and

Conversation with  
Principal Marietta

6:30 pm PTA Meeting

**Mar 23-28**

Spirit Week

**Fri, Mar 28**

School in Session

Weather Makeup Day

**Fri, Mar 28**

Last Day to

[Order Yearbooks](#)

**Mar 31-Apr 4**

NO SCHOOL

Spring Break

Thank you for your continued support! As always, please feel free to [e-mail me](#) with questions.

## Help Ramsey's PTA Get Lucky!

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This Saturday, the Ramsey PTA is partnering with Team Ortho at the Get Lucky Triple 7K--also known as the Half Marathon. We need at least fifteen volunteers (students, parents, or friends) to help cheer on the runners. It's an easy way for our school to earn \$500!

Our cheer station will be at the half-way turn-around on Shepard Road at Gannon Road in St. Paul (which is just east of Highway 5/West 7th). Parking and getting to our location should be VERY easy.

Ramsey volunteers need to be there starting at 8:30 a.m., and we should be done about 10:30 a.m. Wearing green is encouraged, and we'll have some extra green accessories if you forget to bring your own. To sign up, [go to the Rhinoteer volunteer document](#), or [send an e-mail to the PTA](#).

## Order Yearbooks by March 28

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Ramsey yearbooks are on sale for \$15 and can be ordered online now! [Click here](#) to order yours today. Order forms will also go home in backpacks next week. After March 28, the price increases to \$17. We want every student to have a yearbook. Please consider donating extra money to help those who cannot pay full price.

***Did you take photos of Ramsey activities this year?*** Please send your high-resolution photos to [the Yearbook Club](#) with a description of the event.

## Get Ready for the 6th Grade Math Competition

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Encourage your 6th grader to participate in the Minneapolis Public Schools district math competition. It's a fun day of math that ALL students can enjoy. While there are awards for top scores, any student at any level should feel comfortable competing.

Students will compete in teams of four, but they don't need to form a team beforehand; we can build a team on the spot. The competition takes place Saturday, April 12, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at North High School.

Fri, Apr 11  
Movie Night and Raffle

Sat, Apr 12  
8 am-1 pm  
District Math Challenge

Mr. Halvorson and Mr. Niemiec will have more information soon. [Practice challenges](#) from past years are available. For more information, [view the MPS website](#).

## Spring After-School Classes Begin This Week

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If you are interested in after-school classes this spring, please [view the class information](#), which includes new options such as Afro-Cuban Drumming, Middle Eastern Cooking, and the musical *Bye, Bye Birdie*. [Sign-up](#) is already underway this week.

## PTA Update

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### **Next PTA Meeting: March 18**

Please join us on Tuesday, March 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center. Teachers from the ELA department will be presenting.

If you can't make it to the evening meeting, please join us on the morning of the 18th at 9:15 for coffee and conversation with Principal Marietta.

### **New PTA Officers Needed**

We are looking to fill three positions for the 2014-2015 school year: Vice-President (2-year commitment, leading to President in the second year), Secretary (1-year commitment), and Treasurer (1-year commitment). If you are interested, please [e-mail Bridget McGinnis](#). For more information about the PTA, [visit the Ramsey website](#).

### **Volunteer Opportunities Ahead!**

There are many chances to get involved this spring. Please [sign-up here](#) to be a Rhinoteer!

### **Box Tops Make a Difference**

Thank you from the PTA for clipping Box Tops. We raised \$150 from September to February! Please continue to turn them in year round.

## Join Us for Movie Night and a Raffle

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It's Ramsey movie night on April 11! During the movie, the PTA will be holding a raffle to raise funds for field trips, Sports Boosters, and Arts Boosters. If you have items to donate, please [e-mail Bridget McGinnis](#) or sign up on the [Rhinoteers Google Doc](#).

## Believe It or Not, Spring is Coming!

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Think sunshine. Think warm temperatures. Think flowers! Ramsey's PTA will be participating in a plant sale through Gerten's this year. Order forms will be available soon. ***This will be a pre-order opportunity only.***

Plants will be ready for pick up on Monday, May 19 from 3 to 5 p.m. Volunteers are needed on May 19 to organize plant orders. If you can help, please sign up on the [Rhinooteer Google Doc](#).

## Ramsey Families Can Cheer for the Twins

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Dust off those Mauer jerseys and dig out those Twins caps. Ramsey, Burroughs, and Lyndale families are invited to purchase tickets as part of a block for the May 16 game at Target Field. Flyers for the outing will be coming home soon. These discounted tickets (\$11 each) will be given out on a first-come basis.

## Stock Up at the Half-Price Book Sale

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Fill your bookshelves for summer reading! The spring Half-Price Book Fair will be held Tuesday, May 20 to Friday, May 23. Many volunteers are needed for this event. Please [sign up on Rhinoteers Google Doc](#).

## Get Ready to Run

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Get the whole family geared up for this spring fitness event. The Family 5K will be held after school on Tuesday, May 20 at the Washburn track. If you are interested in volunteering, please [e-mail the PTA](#).

## Send Us Your Submissions

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If you have any suggestions or contributions for the next issue of *Around the Horn*, please [send an e-mail to the editor](#) by April 4.