

THE SPARTAN SPECIAL

Quarter 3 Important Dates

by Gisell Morfinjuan

February 13th: 8th Grade
Career Day

February 16th: Presidents Day-
NO SCHOOL

February 17th: Latino Family
Night

February 18th: 8th Grade RHS
Counselor visit

February 23rd: 8th Grade
Parent Night at RHS

February 25th: 9th Grade
Registration for 8th graders

February 27th: SPRING
DANCE! Theme: SPRING BREAK

February 27th: Academic
Achievement Awards
Ceremony

March 9th & 10th: Spring
Conferences

March 25th-27th: Spring Play

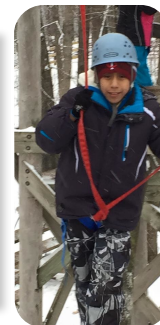
April 7th: End of Quarter 3



Into the Wild: EAGLE BLUFF

By Sarah Walz

Quarter Two was full of adventure in all grades, but the tradition of Eagle Bluff remains a favorite at RMS. Sixth grade students traveled to Lanesboro, MN for an action packed week of fun and adventure! Eagle bluff was a great experience for almost everyone and that is a lot of people!!! Students and staff were able to try new things and test their strength outdoors. A few of the best activities were wood burning, hiking, rock wall climbing, animal tracking, and hanging out with kids and staff in the wilderness. Thank you to all of the teachers, parents, and staff that made this great trip happen. Also, thank you to everyone who donated to make this possible.





CONGRATULATIONS MRS. OBERLE!

Mrs. Oberle, 7th grade math teacher at RMS, is up for nomination for the 2015 Minnesota Teacher of the YEAR! Mrs. Oberle takes an innovative approach to teaching math by using the flipped classroom model and using technology to engage and assess her students learning. She is a great leader and support for the students and staff at Richfield Middle School. Mrs. Oberle is a previous winner of the Golden Apple Award as well!

Way to represent RMS!

Multicultural Holidays!

By Tenzin Zompa

Basically everyone knows about the holidays that are most popular. Like Christmas and Thanksgiving, but most of those people don't know much about any other holidays besides their own. I've decided to tell you about a few maybe "not-well known holidays".

Ramadan: This holiday marks the time period of the seventh century when the founder of Islam, the Prophet Mohammed, received the holy words of the Koran that's from Allah. This year Ramadan starts the evening of Wednesday, June 17th and ends the evening of Friday, July 17th.

Cinco de Mayo: This holiday celebrates the expelling of French troops from Mexico. Cinco de Mayo is not a May Day celebration at all, as some people think. It is held on the fifth of May.

Losar: Losar is the Tibetan New Year. It's celebrated on the month of February, but the exact date varies every year according to the lunar calendar. It is a three day festival, but most families celebrate it at home with friends. This year Losar is on February 19th to February 21st.

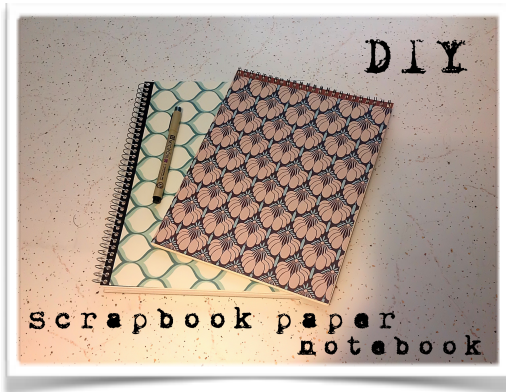
Junior Optimists Opt into ACTION!

By Alexandra Medvec

On February 6th, RMS Junior Optimists have an opportunity to help out at a chili dinner at Woodlake Lutheran church which is the church located across from RMS. This opportunity is made possible by the Richfield Optimist Club. This event takes place from 4:00-7:00PM. During Para Appreciation Week, the RMS Junior Optimist club made thank you cards for all the paras in the school to tell them that they appreciate them. That's what's going on in Junior optimists!



Junior Optimists created posters of what they envision technology to look like in the district!



DIY: Scrapbook Paper Notebook

By Sarah Walz

Materials:

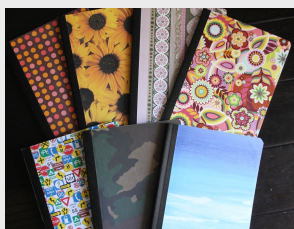
- Book/notebook
- mod podge/liquid glue
- Paint brush/Sponge brush
- paper (Scrap book paper, magazine cutouts, pictures)

Instructions:

1. Measure the paper, pictures, or cutouts to cover your book
2. Cover your book in mod podge/liquid glue (With Paint brush/sponge brush)
3. Then cover with the paper while the mod podge/liquid glue is still wet



4. Be creative and put cool designs and buttons on it (optional)



FINE ARTS

Artist Feature:

Mr. Christianson!

By Ava Schneeberger

1. What is music?

"Music is communication, expression, and fun!"

2. What would you recommend for beginners?

"Music explorer/Recorder karate."

3.)What is your favorite instrument?

"The saxophone, that was the first instrument I learned to play!"

4. Any things to tell our readers?

"Music can take you places for example I got to play on a cruise because I practiced a lot!"



Top Hits

by Ava

- 1 All About That Bass
- 2 Shake it off
- 3 Bang Bang
- 4 Fancy
- 5 Problem
- 6 Dark Horse
- 7 Let It Go
- 8 Wrecking Ball
- 9 Happy
- 10 Chandelier



DRAMA CLUB!

By Zenden Ugden

This years drama club is off to a huge success! Drama club is a club where students through 6th,7th,and 8th can try many things. In this club, you can practice your acting and even have a chance at being in the school play! If you don't want to actually act in the play, everyone who wants to join can do something like helping backstage, designing makeup or costumes, running the lighting, building the set, or stage managing. This year, the drama club will be putting on the school play, March 25th-March 27th. Come check it out!



By Kim Hernandez

Have you heard of the latest craze? Listen to K-Pop aka Korean Pop. It is a musical genre mixing together electronic, hiphop, pop, rock, and R&B. This type of music is originally from South Korea, but is now popular in the US!

Top 10 KPOP hits

- .BTS-War of Hormone
- .NU'EST good bye bye
- .GOT7-stop stop it
- .Block B -Her
- .GD,Taeyang- good boy
- .Cool -let me love you
- .Beast -good luck
- .INFINITE-back
- .EXO-K overdose
- .B1A4-Solo day

Check them out- HOPE you enjoy!!!

ENTERTAINMENT

Horoscopes

What Shall the Future Have in Store For You?

Aquarius: Jan 20-Feb 18: Your actions speak louder than words, so tone down eye rolls a tad! The world would be boring if everyone agreed all the time, so learn to agree to disagree this quarter.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20: Your goals are not clear at the start of the quarter. Make sure to have a balance of fun and work so that you stay on track for the path to success.

Aries: Mar 21-Apr 19: You are feeling a bit jealous at the start of this quarter. Be sure to let your own talents shine and don't feel bad about others succeeding around you too.

Taurus: Apr 20-May 20: You are feeling apprehensive about a big life change. Go with the flow and everything will turn out great.

Gemini May 21-June 20: You may be questioning the people that you hang around with. Are you surrounding yourself with people who let you be yourself? Have the confidence to not settle for anything less.

Cancer: Jun 21-Jul 22: This is a great quarter for you to try new things. Sometimes new things are a bit scary, but once you give it your best- great things will come.

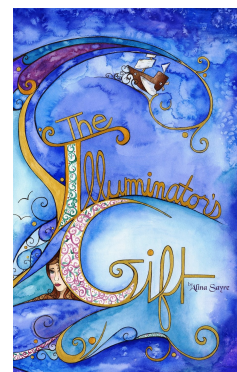
Book Worm's Delight

The Illuminator's Gift by Alina Sayre

By Geneva Pennington aka "Flying In The Shy"

The Illuminator's Gift, by Alina Sayre, is one of the best books I have read ever. The story starts out with Ellie Altess, a twelve year old orphan being returned from her third family and being dropped off at her forth orphanage, Sketpool. Their at the orphanage she meets Jareal, a wild spunky red head who is desperate to make Ellie befriend her.. One night the owner of the orphanage tells a bedtime story. A story of a rescue fleet and floating ships and islands and Ellie is enchanted by the story. Its just a bedtime story, right? RIGHT? Wrong. Miss Sylvia, the owner of Sketpool, tells them of an academy at one of the floating islands from the stories. Jareal and Ellie are very excited to attend, but they find that it will take over a week of traveling by boat. SKY boat. They meet some odd faces in the ship. Owen, a near-sighted bug collector, Connor, a bitter bully, Vivian, a beautiful book-worm, Jude, a gardening doctor, and cold Capitan Daeven. I think this book is fantastic! Any girl (or boy) who's ever felt out of place, Ellie's story will speak to her (him). Any person who's ever Been forced into being mean, Connor's back story yells to the reader.

Its so un-put-downable!



Leo: July 23-August 22: Things have been going very smoothly for you lately, Leo. All of your wishes have been coming true. Be sure you continue putting the work in so that things stay solid for you.

Virgo: Aug 23-Sept 22: Lately you have been asking yourself a lot of tough questions. Even though it is hard to find the answers, keep asking and seeking ways to answer the tough circumstances you are going through.

Libra: Sept. 23-Oct. 22: Keep your standards high for friends, crushes, and expectations of yourself. Don't let others persuade you into downgrading. You will only sell yourself short.

Scorpio: Oct. 23-November 21: You know you have been putting in hard work, but things don't seem to be paying off. Don't forget to reward yourself for putting in the effort. It will pay off.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21: You have been feeling extra stressed about something that is out of your control. In the words of Elsa, LET IT GO!

Capricorn: (Dec 22-Jan 19): Positive things are on the horizon for you Capricorn. Keep thinking positive thoughts and working towards that goal of yours. Who knows, you may get an answer you weren't expecting!



MOVIE REVIEWS:

My name is Kaliisa Echols, and I am reporting on movie reviews. Most of these movies are on Netflix. These movies are AMAZING, I hope you will watch them.

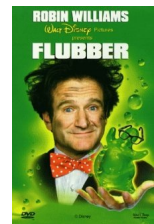
Flubber: In this movie Robin Williams played Professor Philip Brainard. This movie is funny and cool, It is also on Netflix. He invents things. The cool thing that he makes is something that's green and is called flubber. If you like things that bounce around wildly, then watch this movie.

My Girl: This movie is one of my favorites. In this movie a girl named Vada [Anna Chlumsky] is a tomboy. Her mom died when giving birth. This movie is sad and funny. The other kids think she's a freak. They made another one My Girl 2. Both movies are on Netflix.

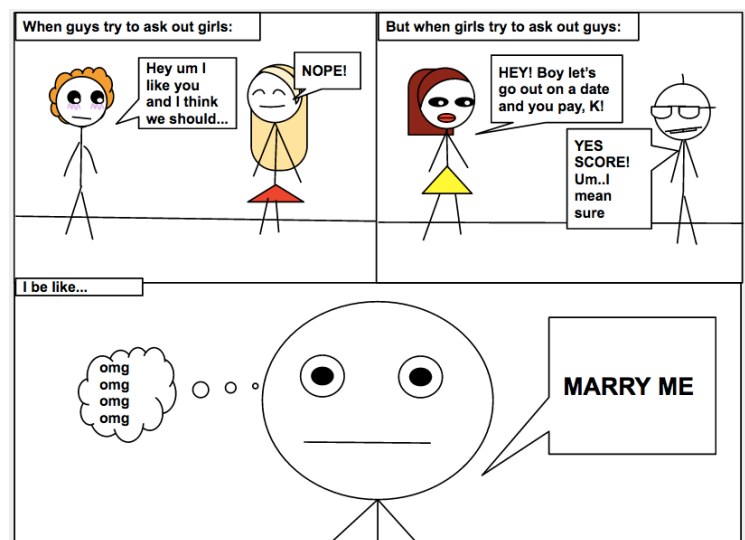
Step Up Revolution: This is one of the BEST dance movies ever. In this movie there are two main characters, Emily and Sean. Sean is the leader of a crew called the mob. My favorite parts are when they dance. They made about 5 step up movies including the one that they are making now [Step Up All In].

Matilda: I have seen this movie a million times and I still love to watch it. Matilda is a very smart girl who loves to read. She has really mean parents, and the world meanest principal [Ms. Trunchbull] the only person nice to her is her teacher [Ms. Honey]. This movie is AMAZING!

Hopefully you liked the movies and watch them! #Kaliisa Echols



"BLUSH" Comic by Darith On





Word Search

How many weird things can you find?



LEADERS OF TODAY



College Of The Quarter

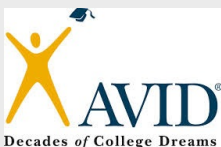
AUGSBURG

Augsburg College is the perfect place to make your college dream a reality. It is located in Minneapolis so it is close by and offers lots of support to make college graduation a success.

You could be an Auggie if...

- You like to learn with—and from—people of diverse backgrounds.
- You love the excitement of Minneapolis, but also want a close-knit campus.
- You're motivated by hands-on learning and want to get involved in the classroom and beyond.

Have you participated in a college-readiness program like TRiO or AVID and kept up your grades along the way? If so, you are eligible to receive a minimum scholarship award of \$12,000 each year for for four years. That is \$36,000!



Admin Advice

By Brenda Rojas

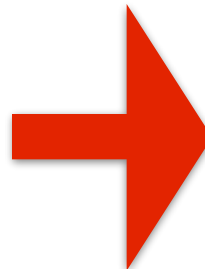
Mr. Boie is the Dean of Students at Richfield Middle School, this is his second year. He previously has taught and coached for many years at Richfield High School. He helps all students to be the best they can be.

Q: What advice would you give students going into Middle School?

A: "I would just tell students to be willing to ask for help. It's hard for new students because they start with one teacher, and then they move into middle school and have seven teachers."

Q: What advice would you give to all students?

A: "Just to admit their mistakes. Everyone makes mistakes, and we should all take responsibility."





Dear Spartan!



Dear Spartan is an advice column. Don't forget to write in to "Dear Spartan" with your questions and concerns that need advice. They could be answered in our next issue!

- Dear Spartan,
- How do you know if a person is really your friend?
- - Fake Friendend
- Dear Fake Friendend,
- Well it's clear you are having problems with your friend. Having fights with them? Do they have other friends? Do you think they are gossiping behind your back? It may be up to you to decide if they are your real friends. Does it seem like they want to be your friends? Ask yourself these question and find the answer yourself. It could be hard to accept the fact that your friend really isn't your friend, but it's your choice if either want to forgive or stop being friends with them.

Dear Spartan,

My parents are divorced and they will let me choose where to spend the holidays.

-Two Choices

Dear Two Choices,

I see your choice is really hard for you, and your parents will understand that too. You could spend your holidays with your parents in many ways, let me show you a few examples of what you can do. 1) Do the every other holiday with one parent and spend the other holidays with the other parent. 2) Spend the day before/after with one parent and the day of the holiday with the other. 3) If you live with one parent for a majority of your life, you could spend the holidays with the parent you don't spend most of your time with. I hope this gives you some ideas. Good luck.

Dear Spartan,

What can I do to keep my baby sister out of my room?

-Nosy Sister

Dear Nosy Sister,

All siblings go through this kind of thing. The best thing you could do is to tell your little sibling, nicely, to stay out of your room. If she endlessly bugs you for wanting to play with your stuff, you should let her; of course if it's something very private you don't have to let them. Maybe she wants to play with you. That's a symbol of love and she misses you. You love her and you know that. So show it. I bet you're way less busy than you say you are. If that's the case love her back. If it's not, consult your parents and see what they can do.

Dear Spartan,

What do you do if your teacher is mean?

-Teacher Probs

Dear Teacher Probs,

If your teacher is mean, you can always be nicer to them and they might be nicer to you. A lot of teachers are mean because they have to deal with other kids who always get in trouble and make them frustrated. Get your work in on time, so she doesn't have to talk with you constantly. I have also learned in the past that if you do nice things around the classroom, your teacher will appreciate your presence.

Dear Spartan,

How do you tell if someone is harassing you?

-Harassed

Dear Harassed,

One way you can tell if someone is harassing you is if they keep doing something when you tell them to stop. If you feel like this person is harassing you, you could always write a harassment form in student services. When someone is harassing you it usually involves something sexual, racial, personal, or bullying. If any of these things are happening to you, what you should do is, if you are afraid of telling people what is happening, tell a friend. Tell that trusted friend to tell an adult you both trust.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE



Social Media Safety Tips

by Geneva Pennington

Everyone loves the internet. It's helpful, entertaining and it's HUGE! There are some

websites we call social media like Facebook, Twitter, And Instagram. But...no one told you social media was dangerous! not in the way you'd think. People can steal your identity, find out where you live, and hack into your computer! Luckily with danger, there is protection, like a helmet. Safety can include things such as virus protectors and using your common sense.

These are tips for you! lets get started:

- Always report cyber bullying you see or are a victim of to a trusted adult.
- Never put your birthday of last name in a username, keep these private
- Never take a picture of your house, that includes the address. Keep all pictures appropriate
- When you go online don't interact with anyone who acts suspicious. Some cases you have to leave it be, but in other cases you can report that user if they're being too bad. If the behavior becomes harassment or you feel in danger, you can call the police.
- Any thing that says anything like "Doctors hate this diet tip!" or "Ellen has been lying to us all!" That's just a link to a virus website...or a phony article.

DONT BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR. ITS NOT ALWAYS TRUE! Stay safe internet users!



California Smoothie

Ingredients:

- 7 large fresh strawberries
- 1/3 cup orange juice
- 1 cup lemon yogurt (if you don't like lemon you can use plain or vanilla)

Steps:

1. Freeze the strawberries for about 1 hour
2. Blend all ingredients in a blender until smooth
3. Pour in a glass and serve! :)

makes 1 serving takes about 1 hour and 10 min.

You Better Check Yourself Before You Wreck Yourself: Peer Pressure

By Martina McBorrough & Kaliisa Echols



Have you ever been tempted to do something just to be cool or fit in? It is sometimes hard as a middle schooler to always do the right thing when you want to impress your friends. Some people may do things they usually wouldn't do like act stuck up, bully others, cause fights or create drama. Instead of doing these things, remember to stay focused on who YOU are and make good decisions. This is your one chance in life! You can't take back the mean things you did or said, so BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE! You only go to middle school once.

#YOGTMSO!



SPORTS & CLUBS

Student Council

by Brenda Rojas

The student council has been very busy this year. It is run by Mrs. Yunker and Ms. DuPont and it is full of great student leaders from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. The Student council makes decisions on what is best for the students here at RMS. They also run the school store during lunch for students to buy school supplies, pens, pencil bags, and more! . The school store is open on Monday's, Wednesday's, and Friday's. The student council is also planning the Spring Dance coming up on February 27th from 5pm till 8pm. We calculated your votes...and the winner of the dance theme is...SPRING BREAK! Be sure to buy your tickets ahead of time and dress in your best. Also, scan the QR codes around the school to fill out a song request form so you can hear the songs you want played at the dance!



SPRING DANCE!

FEBRUARY 27th



Nordic Skiing!



Boys Basketball!



Tech & Journalism Club

by Melat Debebe & Tenzin Zompa

Tech club is an after school program that makes the morning announcement videos. It is run by Mrs. Obando and Mrs. Davisson! They learn how to edit and direct these videos. This club is a great chance to build leadership. Also it is a great chance to build new talents. The teachers there will show you these new talents. Tech Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday, they put a lot of effort in the morning announcement videos...Don't forget to thank them!

SPORTS & CLUBS



**Student
Athlete: Kate
Melssen
7th Grade Girls
Basketball**

by Kaliisa Echols

Q:How old were you when you started doing sports?

A: 4 years old

Q: Have you played another sport[s]?

A: softball, swimming

Q: Do you have any siblings that you play sports with?

A: sister, Liz

Q: Why do you like this sport?

A: its fun to be with with other girls my age, playing my favorite sport, running around

Q: How do you balance being a student and an athlete?

A: I make sure time for homework after school, and keep my grades up so i can keep playing

Q: What is your favorite subject in school?

A: Science!

Q: Do you focus more on school than sports or both

A: Definitely both!

Chess Club

by Sarah Walz



I went and interviewed Mrs.Jimenez and she told me she loves to give kids a space to relax ,chill and play chess. Chess is going great already and lots of people are already signed up. Mrs.Jimenez is very experienced with after school activities she has also been in charge of dance and soccer. She told me that kids get a lot out out of chess, you meet new kids, and you get to know new people with a common interest.

Come try out chess- Tuesdays & Thursdays!



Cheerleading

Cheerleading is a brand new sport at RMS! It has been off to a fun and successful start. Girls gather during lunch and after-school to practice cheers to perform at the boys basketball games. The ladies are even getting awesome new uniforms! The girls have choreographed their own cheers to songs like "Tuesday" and other great beats to pump up the crowd. Overall, the girls have brought a lot of support, spirit, and fun to the boys games!

Wooooop!

THANKS FOR READING!



RMS NEWSPAPER STAFF 2014-2015

