

WHERE EVERYBODY IS A SOMEBODY!

Welcome to Rutland Middle School

Information for new grade 6 students

Spring 2017

What will the first day of school be like?

September 5th is the first day of school. When you arrive at RMS, you will find student lists posted at various areas of the school. These lists will help you find your Mentorship classroom. You will need to find your name on one of the lists, look for the room number, then make your way to that classroom. If you have any questions, there will be lots of adults and WEB leaders to help you find your way.

Once you are in your Mentorship classroom, you will meet your teacher and classmates. Your teacher will give you more information about the rest of the morning.



WEB orientation for all grade 6 students is on August 31 from 9 am to 11:30 pm in the gym. This orientation will help you get ready for your new school. A WEB leader will be calling a few days beforehand to invite you to this fun morning. Every grade 6 student will be assigned to a grade 8 student who will be their WEB leader for their whole year of grade 6. This leader will be trained to help you deal with some of the

pressures that you will face when you enter middle school. They will help make the transition to middle school easier for our grade 6s.

Your Grade 8 WEB leaders will provide you with a fun morning of activities to help get ready for the first day of school. You will go on a tour and find out more about RMS. At this time, you'll find out everything you need to know about the first day of school.

What should I bring on the first day of school?

You should come to school prepared with your school supplies. A list is available on the RMS web site. Your teachers will tell you about any extra supplies you will need for their classes. The first official day of school, September 5th, is a half day.

Check out the RMS website
www.rms.sd23.bc.ca

**Come to the Grade 6
RMS Parent Night!
Monday, April 24
6:30 - 7:30 pm
Everyone is welcome!**

What do I do if...? In case you are late or have to leave early!

What time will school start?

School starts at 8:55 a.m. but our first busses arrive at 8:30 a.m. and the school is open for students at this time. You should start moving to your first class **BEFORE** the bell rings at 8:50 a.m.

What do I do if I am late for school?

If you arrive late to school you must report to the office to sign in. You will be marked as an excused late if you have a note or if your parent has called the school. It is **VERY IMPORTANT TO SIGN IN!**



What do I do if I am going to be absent from school?

Your parent or guardian should call the school and report your absence. The number is (250)870-5109. Someone is available to answer the phone from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. After that, our night service is available to leave a message.

What do I do if I have a doctor's appointment or have to leave school early?

Let your teacher know first. Your parent or guardian needs to phone the school or you need to have a note from home. Then, when it's time to leave, go to the office to sign out.

What do I do if I get sick when I'm at school?

Ask your teacher if you can go to the office. Someone will contact your parent/guardian for you. If your parent/guardian is unavailable, you can wait in the sick room until they are contacted or you feel better.

Staying organized next year

Will I have homework?

You will have homework most nights because homework is not just work assigned by your teacher to complete at home. Homework is also studying for tests, reviewing, correcting, organizing and reading.

What is a Student Agenda?

It is a daily organizer where you will keep track of your assignments, homework, due dates, tests and other

information. Your Mentorship teacher will help you organize your agenda.



What is the School Handbook?

It is a calendar that provides you with detailed information about Rutland Middle School, including a map if you get lost! It is information that you will be taught in your Mentorship class. You will get your School Handbook/Calendar on one of the first days of school.

Lockers in Middle School

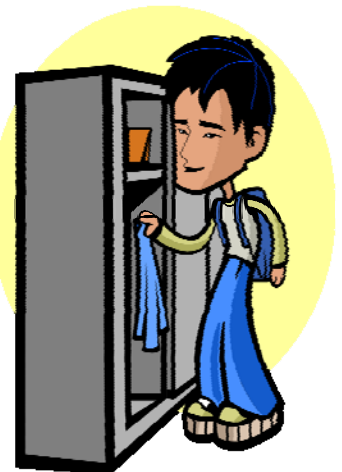
Does everyone get a locker?

Yes, everyone gets their own locker. Make sure you record your combination privately and tell no one! It is all right to decorate the inside of your locker but this must be done in good taste. Throughout the year and at the end of the year you will be responsible for cleaning your locker. Advice: Don't put

stickers on your locker, as they don't come off easily at the end of the year.

What if I forget my locker combination?

Don't panic! (Even some of the grade 8's forget their combination.) You can get your combination from the office at any time. Just ask.



What to wear

What is the dress code at RMS?

At RMS you can wear almost anything you like if it is in good taste. Clothing with foul language, inappropriate messages, or reference to drugs or alcohol is unacceptable. You need to dress appropriately, which means that clothes designed for the beach (spaghetti straps, bare backs, short shorts, bare stomachs) should be worn at the beach, not to school. If you are not sure if it is suitable, don't wear it!

Can I wear my hat?

All middle schools in the Central Okanagan Public Schools require students to remove headgear, including hats, when they enter the building. You are welcome to wear your hat outside, but please store it in your locker during the day.

Remember to wear comfortable clothing for WEB orientation..

During some activities you will be sitting on the floor.

FOOD NEWS

Will there be a break during the day?

There is a 15-minute nutrition break on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 10:53 am. On Wednesday, the break happens at 9:47 am. This is the time to use the washrooms, eat snacks, go to lockers and get a breath of fresh air.

Can you chew gum during school?

If your teacher allows it, you are allowed to chew gum in some of your classes. Gum is not allowed in the gym and the band room. Students can be asked at any time by an adult to discard their gum and are expected to do as they have been asked.

Can you leave school during lunch?

No. Like all middle schools in SD23, RMS is a "closed campus" school. You can't leave for lunch unless you have permission from your parents saying that you can go home for lunch. If you live close enough to walk home for lunch without an adult, we need to have a



note on file in the office saying you have your parent/guardian's permission to do so. You cannot take friends home with you.

What is the lunch routine?

Lunch is divided up into "eating" and "play" time. Grade 6 and 8 students eat lunch in a designated classroom, while grade 7 students eat in the cafeteria. You can bring a lunch from home. We also have a PAC-sponsored Hot Lunch Program. RMS also has vending machines which have a selection of healthy snacks and drinks.

During "play" time, students are encouraged to go outside. When the weather is wet and cold, the library, gym, and auditorium will be open for students, too

CELL PHONES AND IPODS

Can I use the school phone?

A student phone is available to use if you have to speak to your parents to re-arrange plans or other important reasons. It is not for use to make social arrangements with friends. To use the phone during class time you need a phone pass from your teacher. The phone is available for use before and after school, at break and lunch.

Can I use my cell phone at school?

If you bring a cell phone to school, you will need to keep it in your locker during class time unless your teacher has given you permission to use it in class.

Can I use my iPod or MP3 player at school?

If your teacher has given you permission, you are allowed to use your IPOD's and other MP3 players during breaks and at lunch. The volume on your IPOD should be kept to a minimum in order to not disturb those around you.



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RMS New Phone Number: (250) 870-5109
RMS Fax Number: (250) 870-5009
RMS Website: www.rms.sd23.bc.ca

Check out our website for more information about RMS



What types of activities does the school have?

RMS has a wide selection of clubs and sports teams such as rugby, field hockey, volleyball, basketball, and golf. Every Wednesday, we also have a block of time called Enrichment. During Enrichment, there are activities such as Band, Robotics, Cooking, Computer Coding, Outdoor Education and much more.

Will I be 'cut' from a school athletic team?

Not in 6-8 middle school. We have a 'no cut' policy. If you attend practices and work hard you will play for the team. If you want to enjoy your middle school years, the most important thing is to **GET INVOLVED!**

What is Mentorship?

Your Mentorship class is an advisory period where you get to know one teacher very well and that teacher gets to know you. Your Mentorship will include students from grades 6,7, & 8. It is also a period where you learn about social skills and the School District 23 Attributes of a Learner

Is there a lot of peer pressure to do things that you shouldn't do?

Most of the students say that their friends don't pressure them into doing things they don't want to do. Unfortunately sometimes other kids can make things awkward. You need to remember to do only what you're comfortable with and what you know your family thinks is right. Friends who make their friendship conditional upon you doing or saying things you don't want to, are not really true friends.

We have lots of people at RMS to help you deal with peer pressure. These include your Mentorship teacher, classroom teachers, counsellors, WEB leaders, Aboriginal Advocates and administrators. Please come and talk with someone if you are feeling uncomfortable.

Will I be able to make friends?

Some kids already know kids from other schools. Others just introduce themselves. Mentorship, core classes and Enrichment classes are great places to make friends. The best thing to do is be yourself and you will make new friends. Also, RMS has many great teams and clubs just waiting for you. Get involved in your school and you'll meet all kinds of people.

Important Dates

- April 24 - 6:30 - 7:30 pm (gym) - New Grade 6 RMS Student Parent Night
- June 27 – 9:45-11:45am (gym) - New Grade 6 Welcome BBQ. Feeder schools bring their grade 5 students for food, a tour, and fun!
- Aug 28-30 - WEB leaders will call grade 6's to invite them to WEB orientation.
- Aug 31- 9:00-11:30am - WEB orientation in the gym.
- September 5th - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm - The first day of school is a half-day. School busses will be running on that day.

School District #23
Attributes of a 21st
Century Learner

Learner

Thinker

Collaborator

Contributor

Innovator

