

ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
CLASSICAL ACADEMY

# The Knightly News

September 4, 2020

Good afternoon RMCA Family,  
Another great week under our belts. Kids were fantastic this week. I want to thank all the parents who put their trust in RMCA each day. We had over 95% attendance rate each day this week. Our kids are healthy and happy and it is so great to have them back in-person. I cannot wait for the middle schoolers to be back next Tuesday.

Our weekly COVID reminder: Please make sure to remind students to continue our safe practices of handwashing, social distancing, and mask wearing so we can continue our in person learning as long as we can. Please remember to stay home if you are showing any symptoms. Reach out to your doctor for any next steps.

It is that time of the year again in which we are looking to fill our final open seats of enrollment for the year. We are asking for the support of our wonderful parent community in bringing our amazing school programming to as many families as possible. We could use your help in several ways:

Please share your positive thoughts and experiences at RMCA with your friends and neighbors. This is often the time of year that parents are looking for new options and avenues of school choice, especially since we are back in person. For every referral of students, we will give your student free Spirit wear and 3 volunteer hours.

Please log on to [www.greatschools.com](http://www.greatschools.com) and Google and write a positive review of your experiences as part of our community. So many families are looking to these resources as ways to engage our community in seeing how we serve families.

Please log on to our school [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/rmca) and share and like our posts on your timeline.

I want to continue to thank our amazing staff, students, and parents for such an amazing start to the school year. Enjoy the extended weekend and get some rest. See you out front on Tuesday Morning.

Principal Mac



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Front Office Hours  
7:30— 4:00

Attendance email

Nancetta Westcott  
[nwescott@rmcacs.org](mailto:nwescott@rmcacs.org)

Front Office: 719-622-8000

Fax: 719-622-8004

## Fall Picture Day



We will not be sending Order Flyers home with students this year. Be sure to preorder your pictures at [inter-state.com/order](https://inter-state.com/order). **Do not send money with your student!**

September 24, 2020

ES – 49608F <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/49608F>

MS – 49609N <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/49609N>

September 28, 2020– Remote Learners Only

ES – 52665Z <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/52665Z>

MS – 52666R <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/52666R>

**Please make sure you email address is correct in PowerSchool. Order information will be sent to the email address in PowerSchool.**

**Submit an  
Anonymous  
Report**

**safe<sup>2</sup>tell Colorado**

Make a Report. Make a Difference.



**1-877-542-7233**



Anonymously report anything that concerns or threatens you, your friends, your family or your community.  
We are open 24/7, 365 to take reports.

Parents are key players in creating safer schools and communities. Safe2Tell Colorado provides the only anonymous way for students, parents and community members to report unsafe and risky behaviors before they grow out of control. Each year, Safe2Tell Colorado receives thousands of reports on bullying, cyber-bullying, suicide threats, mental health concerns, child abuse, substance abuse, violence, planned school attacks, and other concerning behaviors. Each concern reported to Safe2Tell Colorado allows for caring, concerned adults to effectively intervene in the life of a child or youth who is struggling. Safe2Tell Colorado wants everyone to know - telling isn't "snitching." Telling is when you need to keep yourself or someone you know safe from threats, harmful behaviors or dangerous situations.

Not sure if you should use Safe2Tell? If you don't, who will? We need your help to improve your school and community. By calling, you can help stop a friend from committing suicide, get another student off drugs, or stop a bully from making other people miserable. If you have information about the following topics, please call.

To make a report, call 1-877-542-7233 from anywhere, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The call is free. You may also make a report by clicking on the yellow conversation box adjacent to this paragraph that reads Submit a Tip or download the Safe2Tell mobile app on the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#). Remember, your identity is safe. No one will ask for your name or number. There is no caller id., no call tracing, no call recording and no call forwarding. We only want to hear your concern and try to help.

The anonymity of all Safe2Tell Colorado reports is protected by C.R.S. 07-197. This means the reporting party remains UNKNOWN by Colorado State Law.

## Nurse's Notes

### Notes from the Nurse:

- Please keep your contact information up to date in the event that we need to reach you urgently for any reason.
- Please make sure you are screening your students for COVID symptoms before arriving at school every morning. DO NOT send your child to school if they are sick.



Hi, my name is Kimberly Griffiths and I am the school nurse. This will be my first year at RMCA, my 6th year in school nursing. I received my nursing degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 2003. I have experience in public health nursing and maternal/child health. I am lucky to be the mother of three beautiful girls and one adorable dog. I recently got engaged to my best friend and highschool sweetheart. I am a Colorado Springs native and love all that our beautiful state has to offer. In my free time I love to do arts and crafts and spend time with my family.



Hi, my name is Yajaira Gentry and I'm your nurse assistant here at RMCA. This is my first year here. I'm from Puerto Rico born and raised there. I moved to the USA 14 years ago. I have 3 wonderful kids. We love to travel. We are a Military family so we have been blessed with the opportunity to visit many countries. I'm super excited to work here at RMCA!



## Important Information

### **Still needing a backpack and supplies?**

The Salvation Army Fountain Valley Corps is hosting a “Backpacks and Hot Dogs Drive-Thru Event” on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Children must be present in the vehicle to receive a free backpack filled with school supplies. The address is 208 Cunningham Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80911.

### **Employment Opportunity**

Hello Parents!

We have a lunch aide position open and are looking for the most qualified people to care for our students as they are eating their lunch and playing at recess. This job is the perfect position for parents who would like to work at RMCA and have a schedule that works with being a parent. If you or anyone you know would be interested in this fun opportunity they can apply on the RMCA website or use this link: <https://rmcacs.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=201>

### **Cold Weather**

Colorado is known for its crazy weather! Be sure to watch the weather forecast and send warm coats for students on colder days. If it is too cold we will keep students in for inside recess, but want to give kids the opportunity to be outside and get their wiggles out as much as possible. The weather forecasters are predicting snow on Tuesday!



## Important Information Cont'

### **Masks**

We will continue to follow the state recommendations for students and staff members on wearing masks and facial coverings. Students ten and younger may wear masks and facial coverings. Students eleven years and older and staff members must wear masks or a facial covering. We ask that students wear masks and facial coverings without words or images that could be scary for our younger students.

### **Cell Phones and Smart Watches**

Students need to have their cell phones turned off and put in their backpacks before they enter the building in the morning. If students have their cell phones out of their backpacks the phone will be sent to the office. Smart watches may be worn if used as watches. If smart watches are used to take pictures, record, text, or place a phone call they will be taken to the office. Parents will be called and will need to pick the phone or smart watch up from the front office.

### **Water Bottles**

Please send your child with a water bottle each day. The drinking fountains have been turned off and covered for student safety. We have a touchless water bottle filling station available near the gym if students need to refill their water bottle through the day. Parents have donated some water bottles for students who have forgotten to bring one.

### **Cold Lunch:**

Our lovely lunch aids are looking forward to seeing your children during their lunch and lunch recess. It would be helpful if your child spent a little time practicing how to open the containers and packages sent in their cold lunch boxes. Sometimes those plastic lids are tough and the Gogurt and Lunchable packages are tricky. Our lunch aids have always been happy to help them, but we are also trying to limit the contact others have with your child's food. Don't forget to send spoons and forks for their fruit cups and other lunch items!

# Rocky Mountain Classical Academy

Encore Updates  
September 2020

Mark your  
Calendar



Date	Event
10/15 & 10/16	Parent/Teacher Conferences



## PE

In Physical Education students are running for the mileage club. Please be sure to send students to school with non-marking running shoes on their PE day. (You are welcome to send an extra pair of shoes for students to keep in their classroom.) Please also bring a water bottle; the drinking fountains are closed.

I do encourage students to wear a mask as much as possible. During strenuous exercise the state has lifted the mask rule for PE and I do strongly encourage students to keep social distance. As is possible, I take students outside for exercise. After the strenuous activity, students drink from their own water bottle and are socially distanced. We then get hand sanitizer and continue with our PE activity.

I am looking for a Parent Coordinator for American Heart Association week in February. I did just receive the prizes from AHA from last year and I plan to pass those out soon.

I look forward to passing along a love of exercise to your students.

Coach Wil Winter  
Elementary Physical Education Teacher  
[wwinter@rmcacs.org](mailto:wwinter@rmcacs.org)



## ART

Greetings from Ms. Parrish in the Art Studio!

It is quite exciting to see the joy and eagerness of learning and of creating art in the eyes of my students! You will see that over the next month, your children will be bringing home works of art that did not get to make it home last school year - due to the pandemic. I am very happy to be getting these creations passed back to my artists.

This year, due to scheduling and other conflicts, the RMCA Art Department will not participate in the Original Works fundraising program. We do hope to pick this up again in the future as circumstances allow - thank you for understanding.

I am looking forward to many great artistic adventures filled with curiosity, discovery and the creative expression.

Warmly,  
Ms. Parrish  
RMCA Art Director / K - 5 Art Teacher.  
[cparrish@rmcacs.org](mailto:cparrish@rmcacs.org)



## LATIN

Salvete, omnes! It is so good to see everyone and have everyone back for another school year. We have been reviewing our materials from last year for the first couple of weeks to get ourselves back to thinking about Latin, and each grade has big things planned for September.

Kindergarten is starting off by learning the Latin ABC's and pronunciation and then will start to learn "People and Family Words."

First and second graders are going to review those "People and Family Words" with classic children's stories: "The *Fabula* of Peter Rabbit" for 1st Grade and "Goldilocks *et Tres Ursi*" for the second graders (retelling the stories with Latin vocabulary put into the stories for comprehension.)

3rd Graders will get right into Roman culture with a unit all about chariot-racing, one of the favorite pastimes of the Romans.

And after getting up to speed, the 4th and 5th Graders will jump into Chapter 6 in "Latin for Children" to continue from where we left off. It has been great seeing all of the students already, and it is going to be a great year!

James Booth  
[jbooth@rmcacs.org](mailto:jbooth@rmcacs.org)



Hello RMCA Families!

We are slowly getting back into the groove here in the library.

Extra precautions have been put in place to ensure center areas are thoroughly cleaned and students are keeping proper distance while in the library.

#### New Library Policies:

- Students will check in and out their own book.
- Returned books will be placed in a bin and quarantined for at least 72 hours before returned to the shelf.
- Students are required to bring their own supplies, including: 2 sharpened pencils, crayons or colored pencils, scissors, and a glue stick along with their yellow Library folder and Library book.

Students will begin taking books home this month! Please make sure their book is kept in a safe place, away from younger siblings and pets. Also, please be mindful of leaky water bottles in backpacks. They can ruin books and other belongings rather quickly! Ziploc bags work great!

Also, if you have any interest in hanging out in the beautiful Library, I could really use your help! Books are returned daily and need to be placed back on the shelves. No experience necessary; Training is available!

**\*\*Help is needed daily from 3pm–Carpool\*\***

Skip waiting in the carpool line and get some volunteer hours in! Please email me if you are interested and let me know which days you are available.

I look forward to seeing you in the Library!

Kamrine Finney  
[kfinney@rmcacs.org](mailto:kfinney@rmcacs.org)  
(719)550-5326  
Library/Media Specialist

Daily Volunteers  
Needed!

Contact Mrs. Finney  
if you are interested.



## Music

Welcome back to all of our RMCA young musicians!

It is wonderful making music again with students in the music room!

Here is what each grade will be working on in the coming weeks:

**Kindergarten** is learning about musical opposites. We will be listening and moving to music that helps us identify high/low sounds, fast/slow tempo and loud and soft dynamics.

**1st Grade** will begin to work on coordination between their left and right hands using different instruments to show new melodies using 1-3 new solfege notes.

**3rd grade** will practice composing and reading new rhythmic patterns. These patterns will help us practice independence as we layer rhythms together.

**4th grade** is starting to review what they know about reading music on the staff. We will continue to practice recognizing notes and reading patterns from the staff using both notenames and solfege.

**5th grade** is laying the groundwork for our ukulele practice. This means reviewing rhythm notation, note names and coordination so that we are ready to pick up this fun string instrument in the coming months!

As always if you have any questions or concerns feel free to reach out to Miss Rafoth at [drafoth@rmcacs.org](mailto:drafoth@rmcacs.org)!

Dana Rafoth - RMCA Elementary Music Teacher -  
[drafoth@rmcacs.org](mailto:drafoth@rmcacs.org)

RMCA PTO Membership Application  
<https://forms.gle/rCJUMbBmuidqFozP7>



## ROCKY MOUNTAIN CLASSICAL ACADEMY PTO NEWSLETTER – SUMMER EDITION 2020

### From Your PTO Officers

Happy Summer RMCA Parents!  
Your PTO has been meeting on and off all summer long trying to come up with ways to still connect with our RMCA Families. We are still in the process of determining what we can and cannot do under the circumstances.

We will have more information for you at our first PTO meeting. Make sure to follow RMCA PTO on Facebook for updates!

-Your PTO officers

### 2020-2021 PTO Meeting Dates:

August 24	September 15
October 12	November 17
December 7	January 19
February 8	March 16
April 12	May 4

Meetings take place in the  
Middle School Art Room  
6:00PM to 7:30PM

*We will have food at  
every single meeting.  
So come have a bite to  
eat and help us make  
this an amazing year!*

### Upcoming Events

Jeans For Dreams  
Annual Sign Up  
Smencil Sales: ONLINE  
for 2020-2021

CLIP ON HAND SANITIZER  
& ADULT AND CHILD FACE  
MASKS FOR SALE!

[www.rmcapto.org](http://www.rmcapto.org)

### Volunteer Opportunities

To Be  
Determined

### contact info:

Email:  
[pto@rmcacs.org](mailto:pto@rmcacs.org)

**President:** Phil Ray  
[PRay@rmcacs.org](mailto:PRay@rmcacs.org)

**Vice President:** Kristine Tucker  
[KTucker@rmcacs.org](mailto:KTucker@rmcacs.org)

**Vice President:** Amie Conner  
[AConner@rmcacs.org](mailto:AConner@rmcacs.org)

**Secretary:** Karen Ginter  
[KGinter@rmcacs.org](mailto:KGinter@rmcacs.org)

**Treasurer:** Jennifer Kazakov  
[JKazakov@rmcacs.org](mailto:JKazakov@rmcacs.org)

Like & Follow us on Facebook  
**RMCA PTO**

## Support your School! Show your Pride!

School is almost here! Are you ready?

PTO has updated our online store to help meet any needs that you may have. We're also selling Smencils online with delivery to classrooms.

Visit [www.rmcapto.org](http://www.rmcapto.org)

Order yours today!



Lunch



# My Kid's Lunch

Starting on Tuesday 9/8/20, RMCA will be adopting new USDA rules and will be providing free hot lunch to all RMCA students who want to have a meal. The new rules allow us to provide lunch for all Preschool and K-8 students free of charge. This will increase the amount of students who want to have a meal, so please be patient with us as we perfect our ordering.

## All Meals: Fresh Fruit, Milk and Entrée

**At RMCA we are invested in our students' health and are committed to offer healthy food to our students.**

Monday 9/7/20	Tuesday 9/8/20	Wednesday 9/9/20	Thursday 9/10/20	Friday 9/11/20
<b>Happy Labor Day</b>	Chicken Sausage Biscuit 100% Juice Spiced Peaches  <b>Penne Pasta &amp; Meatballs in Marinara Cinnamon Apples Romaine Salad Ranch Dressing</b>	Blueberry Scone 100% Juice Whole Orange Chicken  <b>Tenders BBQ Sauce Buttermilk Biscuit Fresh Banana Celery, Ranch Dip</b>	Waffles, Syrup 100% Juice Craisins  <b>Beef Soft Tacos Cheddar Cheese Tortillas Seasonal Fruit Refried Beans</b>	Pumpkin Bread Applesauce Dried Papaya  <b>Grilled Turkey &amp; Cheese Panini Whole Orange Steamed Carrots</b>

**Extra Milk \$.60**

**Lunch \$2.95**

### **Volunteers**

**If you have not done so, please make sure you have completed the volunteer application.**

**You must complete an application to volunteer.**

**Click on the following link**

**<https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/MzEzMTplbi1VUw==>**

Due to COVID-19 only 5 volunteers will be allowed in the building per day. A Sign-Up Genius will be sent out at a later date with more details or email teacher for at-home work.

### **Volunteer Hours**

Donations are accepted for volunteer hours. Please bring item (s) to the front office with a receipt. Hours will log accordingly.

## Parents and Guardians

### You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.\*

You can participate in this free service\* just by sending a text message of “Y” or “Yes” to our school’s short code number, **67587**.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with “**Stop**”.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the [Student Privacy Pledge™](#), so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



**Opt-In from  
your mobile  
phone now!**



**Just send  
“Y” or “Yes”  
to 67587**

**i** Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes:

SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a “text message”. Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as “short code” texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers. If you’ve ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

\*Terms and Conditions – Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See [schoolmessenger.com/txt](http://schoolmessenger.com/txt) for more info.

