



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

### *What time will school start?*

School starts at 9:05 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 9:00 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. We even have locks for you. There is no need to bring one from home. 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 11:04 am. On Wednesday, the break happens at 9:59 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?*

Lunchtime runs from 12:24-1:03 pm. Students may eat their lunch in the cafeteria, the main hallways, outside, or an open classroom which is supervised by a teacher. During lunchtime, the upstairs and resource room hallways are off-limits.

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. After eating, students are encouraged to go outside to play.

## 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.

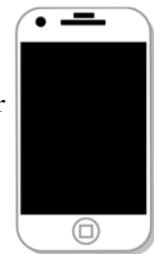
### *Can I use my cell phone at school?*

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.

Students bring cell phones and iPod's to school at their own risk. The school will not be held responsible for loss or damages to these items when they are brought to school.



## **WHERE EVERYBODY IS A SOMEBODY!**

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

Check out our website for more information about RMS

*See you in  
September!*

### **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 23 - 6:30 - 7:30 pm (gym) - New Grade 6 RMS Student Parent Night
- June 7 - 6:30 - 7:30 pm (gym) - Voodoos Unveiled Night
- June 13 - 10:15-12:15am (gym) - New Grade 6 Welcome BBQ. Feeder schools bring their grade 5 students for food, a tour, and fun!
- Aug 27-29 - WEB leaders will call grade 6's to invite them to WEB orientation.
- Aug 30- 9:00-11:30am - WEB orientation in the gym.
- September 4th - 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

