

REAGAN MIDDLE SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2025

A message from Mr. Magnafici...

We are excited to begin another great year at RMS! As we move into our second year of grade-level teaming, we are already seeing how this approach supports student success. Last spring, RMS students showed strong growth on the IAR with a 12.5% increase in Reading and a 7.5% increase in Math for those meeting or exceeding standards. This year, we are focused on reaching our goal of 90% or better attendance for each student while continuing to expand clubs and activities that give students more opportunities to get involved. These efforts are designed to strengthen both academic achievement and student engagement, while also supporting our social-emotional learning goals and fostering a positive school climate and culture for all. Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff; it makes a lasting difference and helps create the positive momentum we are seeing at RMS!

Builders Club Advisor - Ms. Brigitte Becker 2025-26 Builders Club Officers will be elected at 9/17 meeting.

Builders Club volunteered for United Way Day of Caring Saturday, September 13th. Members helped the Garden Club clean up the landscaping along the riverfront



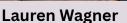


6th Grade Bridge Project



Students of the Month!







Owen Breitzka

<u>Student Council</u> Advisor - Ms. Brigitte Becker

2025-26 student council officers will be elected a 9/24 meeting. The week of 9/29 - 10/3, student council will sponsor dress-up days for homecoming week.

Monday: Celebrity Day
Tuesday: Dynamic Duo Day
Wednesday: Color Wars
Thursday: USA Day

Friday: School Spirit Day

Technology Class

We're off to a strong start in Technology class this semester! Over the past few weeks we've worked with Xello and Scratch:

Career Exploration with Xello
Through interactive lessons and career
exploration tools, students learned
about their interests, strengths, and
possible future career paths. They
created personal profiles, explored
real-world careers, and began thinking
about how their education today
connects to their goals for tomorrow.

Creative Coding with Scratch

Students are learning the basics of block-based coding by creating their own interactive stories, animations, and games. It's a fun and hands-on way to develop problem-solving and logical thinking skills while exploring computer science fundamentals.

<u>Student Artwork:</u> Here is a small sampling of art produced by the talented students at RMS.









Grade Level Report

6th Grade

Math is focusing on distance and direction in our first unit. We are investigating penguin habitats and using math skills to choose habitats that will best support the declining penguin population in South Africa.

Social Studies is using the 5 Themes of Geography to study the world.

Science began the year learning about the processes and skills of science and engineering. Their first topic is an overview of Earth's Systems and subsystems. Students just completed an engineering project in which they had to design and build a bridge to cross a 50 cm canyon that could support 50g of mass. Moving forward, they are beginning to learn about the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, and the distribution of Earth's water to reinforce the understanding of the Cross-Cutting Concepts of systems and cause and effect relationships that shape our world.

7th Grade

Language arts students kicked off the year with narrative writing in our Amplify curriculum. Students practiced routine writing with focus and detail to capture the feeling of a particular moment. Next, students analyzed moments in Ji-li Jiang's life while reading and discussing Red Scarf Girl, a memoir of growing up during China's Cultural Revolution. As students read, they track how Ji-li's understanding and feelings about what is happening to her society change over time. Students conclude the unit with an essay discussing these changes in the main character throughout the story.

We are finishing our first unit with the new version of our math curriculum. Our big idea for this unit connects our math topics to how math is used while sailing a ship. Students have learned about adding negatives, unit rates, and triangles ad are making connections to sailing on a ship. At the end of the unit, students will be creating a sailing challenge that you might find on a sailing video game.

In science, our 7th graders are diving into the amazing world of living things in the biosphere! From microscopic organisms to towering trees and wild animals, students are learning how all life on Earth is connected.

In Social Studies, we have focused on how to read a Historical Timeline/Calendar specifically related to events and where they fell with respect to being labeled as BC/BCE (Before Christ/Before Common Era) and AD/CE (Anno Domini/Common Era). Special attention was spent on the development of Prehistoric civilizations during the Stone Ages that began as "hunter/gatherers" and the eventual growth of agriculturalism through settlements developing in the Mesopotamian region.

8th Grade

Social Studies students are diving into the events leading up to the American Revolution. They have been exploring significant topics such as the French and Indian War, the Stamp and Sugar Acts, the Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party, as well as learning about the Sons of Liberty. We are also taking time to honor our local first responders by writing thank you notes. This activity aligns with our 911 curriculum and allows students to express their appreciation for those who serve our community.

In ELA, 8th graders have been learning to "read like writers." They have practiced paying attention to the craft of writing: to the moves a good writer makes to shape the way we see a scene or feel about a character—to stir us up, or surprise us, or leave us wondering what will happen next. Students are closely reading a variety of short, engaging examples of narrative non-fiction, analyzing both the themes and the techniques of each author, and practicing applying these techniques to their own narrative writing.



More Bridges!



RMS Band & Choir

Some of the high schoolers came to help welcome the new band students, and 8th grade band got to play at the Friday night football game again!





