



## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

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Dear Parents:

It is the end of February and the school year is rapidly passing by! Please make sure that your student attends school each day on time. We have less than five weeks until the CRCT.

Our students continue to excel in many areas. Several Rome Middle School students have been recognized for excellence at the school board meetings this year. We have several students that have made all district and all state middle school band and/or chorus. Spring sports are underway with more students participating than ever before, and our drama club is working hard on the upcoming spring production.

We have much to be thankful for at Rome Middle School.

Greg Christian, Principal

## UPCOMING CRCT/SATURDAY SCHOOL ASSISTANCE

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The dates for the CRCT are fast approaching! The CRCT will be administered to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students during a two-week period spanning from April 7<sup>th</sup> through April 20<sup>th</sup>. In order to be promoted to the next grade, students must pass the CRCT and their academic classes. Failure to pass the required portions of the CRCT and/or required academic classes will result in retention in the same grade. As you can tell, this is a very high stakes test. It is the desire of the faculty and staff at RMS that all students do well on the CRCT and that they continue to work hard in order to pass their academic classes, thus ensuring their promotion to the next grade. Parents, you can help improve your student's chances of being successful in these two areas by doing the following:

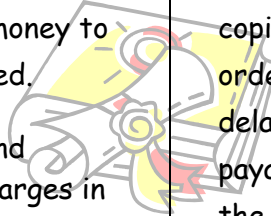
- Contact your child's teachers to see if he/she is completing work and progressing satisfactorily
- Check to see if your child is missing assignments and ensure that they are made-up.
- Make sure your child attends school every day unless he/she is sick
- Send your child to Saturday School to get extra help with homework and preparation for the CRCT.

There are only 5 more Saturday School opportunities remaining. Don't miss this great opportunity to get some one-on-one individual tutoring from RMS teachers!

## CAFETERIA NEWS

RMS is still collecting Box Tops for Education. Send in those box tops to Ms. Vaughn so she can redeem them for money to help keep the Wolf Buck Table stocked.

Ms. Vaughn also asks that students and parents take care of all lunchroom charges in a timely manner. The year is coming to a close, and all charges must be paid.



## YEARBOOK NEWS

Yearbooks are being printed as you read this newsletter! There are a few unreserved copies remaining. We will continue to take orders until we are completely sold out. Don't delay! The cost is \$40. Please make check payable to RMS. Order forms are available in the front office and the counselors' office. Return completed order form and payment to Mrs. D. Ray.

## Georgia Young Authors Writing Competition

The purposes of the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition are to

- Encourage students to develop writing that represents their best efforts.
- Provide a context for schools to support and celebrate the writing successes of all students.
- Encourage and recognize student achievement in writing throughout Georgia.

All students currently enrolled in Georgia public schools, kindergarten through twelfth grade, may submit writing entries for the system level competition; however, the maximum number of writing entries any local system may submit to the state competition is one per grade level.

Any type of student writing is permissible. Entries may be short stories, poetry, essays, journals, personal narratives, reports, or any other original student writing.

### YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHORS WRITING COMPETITION 2009-2010 Sample Rubric

Directions: The categories are divided into four domains as reflected in the Georgia Performance Standards: Ideas, Style, Organization, and Conventions. The maximum score is 50 points. The maximum points in each sub-category in the domains are 5.

Judge's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Number \_\_\_\_\_

DOMAIN	SUB-CATEGORY	MAXIMUM PTS.	TOTAL POINTS
<b>IDEAS</b>			
40%	Depth of Development	5	
	Sense of Completeness	5	
	Focus	5	
	Relevance of Detail	5	
<b>STYLE</b>			
20%	Voice	5	
	Diction	5	
<b>ORGANIZATION</b>			
20%	Sequence of Ideas	5	
	Appropriate Organizational Strategies	5	
<b>CONVENTIONS</b>			
20%	Clarity of Meaning	5	
	Overall Mechanics	5	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>			

COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**RMS 2009-10  
School Winners**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Pathfinder**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ashley Alred  
*"Earth's Orchestra"*

**Nautilus**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Bailey Howell  
*"Teenagers Texting While Driving"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Rachel Manak  
*"Trip to Montana"*

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Rachel Jochimsen  
*"The Time is Now"*

Honorable Mention:

Joquebeth Morillon *"Should Young Teenagers Date?"*

**Sea Wolf**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jessica Chacko  
*"Rain"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Jessica Chacko  
*"Papa's Sock Drawer" (Based on a True Story)*

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Magellan**

**Prose**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Robert Bradshaw  
*"Father I Never Knew"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Hudson Walker  
*"Mouth of the South"*

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Annagrace Gaines  
*"The Worse Afternoon Experience"*

Honorable Mention: Missy Rooks  
*"?Minnie Me?"*

**Poetry**

1<sup>st</sup> Place (Poetry): Lucy Lansing  
*"Music"*

**Voyager**

**Prose**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Becky Mathews  
*"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kento Landot  
*"Trail of Tears"*

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Alondra Monterrosa  
*"My Beautiful Nightmare"*

Honorable Mention: Taylor Dempsey  
*"The Trail of Tears"*

Honorable Mention: Kate Butcher  
*"Untitled"*

**Poetry**

1<sup>st</sup> Place (Poetry): Victoria Liss  
*"Why Don't We See"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Poetry): Ashleigh Morris  
*"Two Sides to Every Moon"*

**Stardust**

**Prose**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Rhesa Detweiler  
*"Free"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kayla Riley  
*"There It Goes"*

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kaneisha Smith  
*"Civil War Letter"*

Honorable Mention:

Kaneisha Smith *"Southern Mississippi Tribune-Gambling Girl"*

**Poetry**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jessica Cole  
*"Escape"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: McKenzie Meeks  
*"Fall"*

**RMS School Overall  
Winners 2009-10  
GA Young Author's  
Competition**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**\*Jessica Chacko "Rain"  
(Poetry)**

**Bailey Howell "Teenagers  
Texting While Driving"  
(Prose)**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Lucy Lansing "Music"  
(Poetry)**

**\*Becky Mathews "Santa  
Claus Is Coming to Town"  
(Prose)**

**\*Submitted to the District  
Competition**



## WOLF OF THE WEEK

### Nautilus

Kylee Fritts, Marquelle Moore, Simran Patel, Brady Drake, Evan Davis, Kelli Lambert, Courtney Henderson, Neel Patel, Raquel Natividad, Micah Chapman, Rachel Jochimsen,

Adolfo Orozco, Timothy Ray and Kristen Raley

### Voyager

Becky Matthews, Christian Valasquez

### Sea Wolf

Orelia Tomas, Mark Stevens, Jennifer

Olivo, Torie McGowan, Anna Kate Johnson, Erika Reyes, Roczana Aquilar, Brooks Busby, Fortino Pineda, Elijah Donner

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Parents, we are having a problem with many of our students not turning in excuses when returning from an absence. Students need to bring in either a parent excuse or a doctor's excuse when they have been absent. The Rome City Schools protocol states

that when a student reaches 5 unexcused absences, a referral must be made to the school social worker who works closely with the Rome Floyd Truancy Team and Floyd County Juvenile Court. In many cases, the parent may have sent an excuse with

the student, but it does not make it to the teacher or to Ms. Colvin, who inputs attendance. Please help remind your student to turn in excuses promptly upon returning from an absence.



## SATURDAY SCHOOL

There are only 5 more Saturday School opportunities remaining in this school year. Please encourage your student to take advantage of this opportunity to get caught up on missing assignments, get individual tutoring in subjects in which they may need extra help, and get prepared to take the



upcoming CRCT. Saturday school is held at 3 different neighborhood sites from 10:00 - 12:00.

- Willingham Village (West Rome)
- Graham Homes (East Rome)
- Green and Gold (North Rome)

There are two RMS teachers at each site.

Students do not need to pre-register in order to attend; they may simply show up at the site. There is no cost to attend! The remaining Saturday School dates are:

**February 27, March 6,  
13, April 3, 10**

Remember, the administration of the CRCT will begin the week of April 12<sup>th</sup>!

# CAREER CRUISING

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## What is Career Cruising?

Career Cruising is an online interactive career resource which provides excellent career guidance and planning system. People of all ages use this tool to explore careers, explore education and training options, and build their own portfolio.

The Career Cruising website is available to all RMS students and parents. It is a great tool with which to begin career exploration with your student. Parents and students can access this website on any computer by going to the following site and using the information provided below.

[WWW.CAREERCRUISING.COM](http://WWW.CAREERCRUISING.COM)

USER NAME: **rome**

PASSWORD: **wolves**

Below is a brief overview of the options available on the Career Cruising website.

### ASSESSMENTS:

#### **Career Matchmaker**

Answer questions about your likes and dislikes

to find careers that match up with your interests.

#### **My Skills**

Rate your level of skill in 45 key areas to see how your skills match up with the careers that you are interested in.

#### **Learning Styles Inventory**

Discover how you learn and retain information and find tips on how to improve your study habits to suit your learning style.

### EXPLORE CAREERS:

Search by: Index, School Subjects, 16 Career Clusters, Military Careers, Career Selector

### EXPLORE SCHOOLS:

Search by: Schools, Programs, Compare Schools, School Selector, Planning Timeline, Financial Aid

**PORTFOLIO:** Save your results and build your own portfolio



Another website that is available to all RMS students and parents is GCollege411.org. This website is designed to help students, beginning in middle school, with career planning, high school planning, college planning, financial aid planning and building a portfolio. Students can utilize this website throughout their middle school, high school and college years. Simply go to this site and set up an account. This is a free service provided by the Georgia Student Finance Commission.



## Help Your Middle Schooler Develop Leadership Skills

Many people think of a leader as one who gives direction. To some extent, that is true. But real leadership--a desirable character trait--has more to do with listening, learning and being an example.

Your child can develop leadership if he is:

- Caring. Effective leaders care. They look for someone who could use help. And then they step up.
- Open to new ideas. Leaders know they don't know it all. They always listen to others.
- Organized. Leaders plan ahead. They know that leaving projects to the last minute usually produces poor results.
- Optimistic. Leaders prepare. They trust the people they work with. They are enthusiastic. They expect things to go right and because of their leadership, things usually do.
- Flexible. Leaders don't get stuck in the rut of doing everything the same way every time. They are willing to try new things

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