

# Semester One 2017-2018

## Bulldog Bulletin



### **Back To School 6th grade** **By: Ryan Brenner**

RMLS welcomed a new batch of students this year. Some new 6th graders at Ludlowe Middle School find it exhilarating to be at a new school. Many feel it's very different than their 6 years in elementary school. According to 6th grader Shea Sabrowski in Crew S, "It's weird, and a little different" to be at a new school. However, Shea said it doesn't make him feel homesick "because I've been to a school before." As for the biggest differences between elementary and middle school, Shea said, "There are a lot more classes, and you don't switch with your class." When asked what his favorite new class is, Shea said, "I like computers because it is fun and interesting."

The feelings of excitement and the challenges of switching schools appear to be mutual across the 6th grade body of Ludlowe Middle school. According to 6th grader Jason Lackey in Crew M, "You get more freedom and more time between classes." When asked what the advantages are, "There's more lunch food, you get to go into town after school, and after school clubs."

### **Back To School 7th** **By: Eli Moyse**

On September 1st, the busses pulled in carrying the new 6, 7, and 8th graders ready to start anew. I walked into the 7th grade hall, I saw all of my new teachers. I was excited but also very nervous. When I got into homeroom, (Mrs. Manware) I started to settle down and get prepared for my next class. After that my classes went smoothly. By the end of the day I was satisfied but tired. I returned home to rest replenish and do it all over again. It seems that for most of the students it was a great start, and the students and staff worked together to make it a great experience for everybody.

### **Mountain Workshop**

**By: Arushi Mallarapu, Anders Domke, Michael Sigal, Sam Graziano and Landon Arsenault**

On October 3, students in the 6th grade had the privilege of going to the Mountain Workshop at Calf Pasture Beach. Calf Pasture Beach is a historical landmark found in Norwalk Connecticut. The beach was used as a camping ground and a disembarkation ground by almost 2,600 British soldiers led by William Tryon. Today Calf Pasture Beach is a popular beach with a playground, restaurant, and many game courts.

Before leaving the entire 6th grade was divided into three teams; red team, green team and purple team. Students got bandanas of their respective color and were divided once more into 12 sub-teams. After a 40-minute bus ride through traffic all the kids were psyched. It was their first field trip as upgraded middle schoolers.

Once students reached the beach they were divided again, at the moment colors didn't matter as anyone with numbers 1 to 6 had to go to the Olympic games and 7 to 12 was to go to the big games. The Olympic games consisted of many small and fun games in which you could earn points. There were games such as "Hole in One" and in that game the entire team had to balance a ball of a certain color and try to get it to fall through a hole with lining of the same color into a bucket of the same color. Another of the many fun Olympic games is the "Tic-Tac Toe Run". In this game students run to the tic tac toe board and place one of the three bandanas in a square to block the opposing team from getting three bandanas of the same color in a row.

By using teamwork in each of the games to win the “tournament”, all the sixth graders were pumped and enthusiastic about the next set of games. After a nice lunch provided by Stew Leonard’s students were quickly grouped together and whisked off into the next adventure.



After the first half of the day was done students were divided by bandana colors and headed to the field games. Those consisted of three more large scale games. The Green group went off for the “PVC go carts” challenge. Here, students are divided in no specific order and are given a bag in which there were

different sized PVC pipes and some other things as well. The objective was to make a go cart that could hold a funnel that was balancing a tube. Everyone at that station had their cart break at some point along the race! It was hard, but exciting to work for the students, many working with other kids they had never met before.

The next game was a class favorite, The Raft Challenge. This game was a water game and was a nice way to cool off in the hot weather. Given different lengths of rope, long wooden planks and inflatable tubes students had to make a raft that would hold everyone in their group and get them to the buoy and back.

The last game was an Indiana Jones themed game. Students formed a big circle and some were then told to form a smaller circle facing the others. Then one student was picked to run around in the circle of people. The rest of the team had to pass a giant ball around to try to tag the runner out.

The day was legendary, and students report that they had a lot of fun. For the afternoon ride home, the dean surprised students with coach buses.



**Below are a few of the activities that students completed while attending Mountain Workshop.**

#### Building A Raft



Using four pieces of wood, rope and floats, student at the 2017 Mountain workshop got to build a raft and go around a buoy. “If you were on the green team you would have known all about. It was a complete wreck” said an anonymous student. “Might as well consider our raft like the

Titanic.” Some student rafts broke apart as they approached the buoy. The broken rafts were a challenge to get back to the shore, but all students succeeded in the end. Jack Sarty said the he “loved the raft building” and his ship did not sink. Anna Korchinski said that she did not like it at all.

#### Making a go cart

Students on the Mountain workshop field trip also enjoyed creating a go-cart. Students had to build a go-cart out of pipes and roll it across a course with a ball on it. If the ball fell out then students had to stop and put the ball back on. One anonymous student said “ours went pretty well but failed miserably about half way through.” A few people struggled with the task but in end most students enjoyed it.

**Chess Club**  
**By: Eli Moyse**

RLMS has a new chess club this year. Mr. McAleese is the club advisor. Mr. McAleese agreed to run the chess club was because many incoming sixth graders from Riverfield had a chess club and wanted to start one this year. The administration needed a teacher to cover it and Mr. McAleese was available.

Mr. Mac was a chess fan himself. In 6th, 7th, and 8th grade and was in the club at his school. There are already 15 people in the club spanning to more than just the 6th graders from Riverfield.

The chess club meets every Thursday and students don't have to know how to play chess to join. The current club members are very friendly and eager to teach more people how to play.

**New Teacher Ms. Zanella**  
**By: Grace Kenney**

Another new teacher welcomed by RLMS is Ms. Zanella. Ms. Zanella has a way of making you feel welcome in her classroom, and if you have met her you will agree. Ms. Zanella teaches cooking and sewing, also known as Family Consumer Science. She actually worked here last year in a different department and was also a former student at RLMS. She loves to see all the familiar faces, especially her old teacher, Mr. Boocks!

Ms. Zanella has an extensive sewing background, but also loves to bake. Her favorite cookies to bake are coconut macaroons! She also has a love for gardening, kale happens to be her favorite thing to grow in her garden, and her guinea pig's favorite, too. All in all, Ms. Zanella is an amazing teacher and super nice. She is a fantastic new addition to RLMS.

**2017-2018 Ludlowe Middle School Walk-a-thon**  
**By: Riley Malone**

On October 6th Roger Ludlowe Middle School held their 2017-2018 school year Walk-a-thon. It was an exciting day of fun and games. The Walk-A-Thon is held every year buy PTSA, students and staff to raise money for RLMS.

Via a raffle drawing held a lunch during the week leading up to the event students could win one of three prizes. These were the hamster ball race, inflatable bouncy house and bungee run. While all the kids were walking or playing the DJ was playing some awesome music to set the mood. While all the kids were talking and walking even the staff were having a great time. The great week of spirit week leading up to the walkathon got everyone excited for the upcoming Friday. It was definitely a great day for Ludlowe Middle School. In the end the fundraiser was a huge success and it raised over \$30,000 for RLMS.

### **Spirit Week** **By: Eleni Gold**

The RLMS 2017 Spirit week was a huge success. All the new 6th graders loved it. On October 2, Comfy pants was the first spirit wear. Hannah Lund, a 6th grader said, "I really like the idea of spirit week." Hannah thinks that it was a very fun week. Ella Bross, another 6th grader, says that she is very excited for the walk-a-thon this year.



October 3, was jersey day. Students and staff at RLMS was wearing their favorite sports jersey. It ranged from the Yankees and the Red Socks to the Patriots and the Giants. Anna Korchinski, another 6th grader said, "I liked that you could look around and see everyone favorite team." Jersey day was a great day for students to share how much they like their favorite team.

On October 4, RLMS showed their American spirit by wearing red, white, and blue. Morgan McGowan, another 6th grader says, "I love red, white, and blue and I love how everyone is wearing those colors at school, and showing their American spirit."





On October 5, RLMS wore some crazy socks. Some had polka dots and stripes, and others had pom poms and animals. Jack Sarty said, " Yes I liked crazy sock day. I saw panda socks and those were very cool."

Friday October 6, students and staff wore "Spirit Wear" for the walk-a-thon. The PTSA sold RLMS spirit wear all week at lunch and RLMS was well represented for their final day of Spirit Week.

### **6th Grade Computer Applications Class** **By: Shea Sabrowski**

One of the many classes offered to the 6th grade class here at RLMS is the Computer Applications class. Many 6th graders think having a computer class in middle school is really cool. The computer class is working on many new things like PowerPoints and they are even writing letters to two famous people: Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart.

According to Roger Ludlowe students in Mr. Mcaleese's class, when asked "What is computer class like?", Eleni Gold noted "it is fun because you get to do a lot of fun projects". Landon Arsenault said that computer class is fun and interesting "because we learn new things about computers that i might not know about."

- What projects do you work on in Computers? We just recently finished a fun project called "My Big Fat Lie!"

### **Gordon Korman Visit** **By: Dedeep Singu**

Gordon Korman is a literary legend born on October 23, 1963, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Mr. Korman wrote his first book for a seventh grade English project when he was twelve. He is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of more than 75 books for kids and young adults.

His writing career began at the age of twelve, when his seventh-grade English assignment became his first novel, which was then published while he was a freshman in high school. Now, decades later, he is a full-time writer, with more than 17 million copies of his novels in print. He now

travels 40,000 miles each year talking with groups of students about reading, writing, and his many books.

Some of his great reads are *Swindle*, *Schooled*, *Ungifted*, *The Hypnotists*, *Masterminds*, and *The Twinkle Squad*. Gordon Korman's books are recommended to students from grades 3-8 and in Fountas and Pinnell his books average up to the level R which is at a good level for most middle school students.

His visit had RLMS excited. A lot of the students and teachers in the building have read several of his books and when he mentioned some during his speech a cheer went up for some of the school favorites.

**New Teacher Welcomed to RLMS**  
**By: Vicky Sgaglione**

As some students and staff might not know, Mrs. Reilly the sixth-grade social studies teacher is new to RLMS. Mrs. Reilly came to RLMS because she was looking forward to teaching middle school and she wanted to make a connection with middle school and her elementary school years. Her favorite thing about RLMS is that all of the staff are easy to work with and that she loves that all of the kids are excited to learn which allows her to learn and challenge herself. She loves all of the subjects, but social studies is her top choice. Mrs. Reilly has been teaching for 14 years. Some other schools she worked at are North Stratfield, Stratfield, Riverfield, Sherman, Jennings and Mill Hill.