



Ravinia Blue News

Message From Kathy

Welcome to Ravinia Nursery School 2017-2018. The start of the year has gone very smoothly. Here at Ravinia we subscribe to the principal that "it takes a village to raise a child." Our many events at the beginning of the year are wonderful proof that Ravinia parents and teachers feel the same way and are not only very invested in their children but our school as well. Thank you to everyone who attended the new parent coffee, our orientations, the popsicle party and most recently the fall festival. And a special thank you to everyone who worked hard on these events to make them possible. As I looked around these events I realized that Ravinia is not just a great school for young children but a wonderful early

childhood community made up of extraordinary children, teachers and parents.

A successful early childhood experience involves a cooperative partnership between these three entities. It is obvious that this partnership is off to a very good start. The parents are trusting our staff and our school as well as supporting us not only with their children but all these activities. The teachers are trying to make the children feel comfortable and secure, establish routines, set out wonderful materials and plan a variety of activities and experiences for them throughout the day. The children are working hard to learn the rules and routines make new friends, follow directions and most importantly play and enjoy themselves. As

parents and teachers we all want our children's early childhood experience to be a very positive one. These experiences often lay the groundwork for the attitudes and aptitudes throughout their school life. The better the foundation we are able to lay now will most assuredly impact the experience ahead of them in school.

Looking ahead we will have two wonderful opportunities for you to make more connections to the school. The first will be special guest day for our twos and preschoolers and then early November, parent teacher conferences for all the preschool classes. If you have questions before then or just want to check in, please feel free to contact either myself or one of the teachers. We will make every effort to get back to you as soon as possible. I am looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.
Sincerely, Kathy

Registration Coming to You

As hard as it is to believe we are beginning to think ahead to **School Year 2018**. In preparation for our Open House (on November 4th) we have distributed registration forms to all of our current

families. Please fill them out and return them by **October 25th** to ensure you child's spot in the Class of 2018. Also if you know of anyone that may be interested in learning more about our school and

programs please encourage them to call the school for details and to schedule a tour.

October 2017

October

- 9 - **No School**
Columbus Day
- 10 - **No School**
Teacher In Service Day
- 21 - Special Guests Day
- 26 - C & D Class Didier Farm Field Trip
- 26 - Halloween Parties T/Th
Two Cans
- 27 - Halloween Party for W/F
Two Cans
- 30 - Halloween Party for
Preschool Classes and Parent
& Child Classes

November

- 4- RNS Open House 10am - 12pm

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President's Message

Just as always, the new school year here at Ravinia Nursery School is off to a wonderful start. The positive energy at all the "back to school" events was exciting to see. I want to extend a warm welcome to all of the new RNS families and a welcome back to all of our returning families. It seems as though the transition into the school year could not have gone any smoother as all the classrooms are beginning to really settle into a routine. Thanks to our wonderful teachers, life in the classroom is off to a great start and the learning has already begun to take off.

This fall has included a lot of fun at RNS outside of the classroom as well! A few highlights have included:

The New Parent Coffee - New families were able to get familiar with the school and meet new friends while enjoying time on the playground. A huge thank you to Morgan Rosenberg for organizing such a successful and well attended event!

The Popsicle Party- Families had a great time seeing friends and meeting new faces out on the playground. The weather cooperated beautifully and a great time was had by all. Special thanks to Meredith Rago, Cathy Curran, and Erin Figenholtz for all their hard work in organizing it.

Frost Fundraiser - Thank you to all of our families for coming out for ice cream in support of RNS and to Alissa Rissman for organizing.

Teacher Home Visits- What a special way to allow the children to give the teachers a peek into their world and spend some one-on-one time with their teachers.

The Fall Festival- A HUGE thank you to Michelle Genser, Ashley Kelly, and Lindsey Pate - (as well as the MANY, many parents, grandparents, alumni and other volunteers) - for putting on such a spectacular Fall Festival! There was so much preparation and dedication that went into making this event what it was and it would not be the same without everyone's help. I think it's safe to say everyone had a blast!

All that fun, and it's only October! Keep reading the newsletter to find out about some of our other upcoming events:

- **A Beelow's Fundraiser**
- **Special Guest Day**
- **An Undernighter**
- **Fall Food Drive**
- **Grocery Dollars**
- **Open House**

We certainly couldn't do all we do at RNS without your continued parent support. If you think you may want to volunteer or get more involved at any point throughout the school year, please reach out to either Kathy or me. The Little Blue School is what it is because of our families and their continued involvement and support.

I'm looking forward to another year filled with laughter, joy, and learning at RNS. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

Anne Mucha
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Technology At RNS

- ◆ ravinianurseryschool.com for calendars, snack list, lunch bunch helpers, board meeting dates, school forms, fundraising links and school information.
- ◆ Please "Like" us on Facebook-this will ensure you receive posting and photos about RNS.
- ◆ Check out events photos on our Shutterfly.com photo share website.
- ◆ Please make sure you are signed into The MySchoolAnywhere app, the school's online directory. This will be the system that will be used to sign up for conferences in November.
- ◆ If you have any question or need help please contact
lauren@ravinianurseryschool.com



Special Guest Day

On Saturday morning, October 21st, Ravinia Nursery School will be hosting Special Guest Day. Each child will be able to bring one special guest for a one hour "mini day". The room will be set up in much the same manner as a normal school day. Everyone, big and little, will be able to enjoy playing throughout the room. We find this day often brings out the child in many of our special guests. There will also be a clean-up, circle time, snack and weather permitting time to play outside.

Many families ask what we mean by "special guest." A special guest could be a parent that has been unable to spend time at our school, or a grandparent, aunt or uncle or anyone that your child feels especially close to and comfortable with. We do



ask that the special guests are not their siblings as the intention of this day is to spend time with an adult of their choice. **Children who attend our morning program, which includes "A" Class, "B" Class and the "T/Th" Two Cans**, will bring their special guest from 9:15 to 10:15 and afternoon groups "C" and "D" Class and the "W/F" Two Cans will come from 11:00 to noon. If your family is unable to participate during this special day, please be assured that your child will be able to bring his/her special guest during the school year. Just let us know a little ahead of time, so that it does not conflict with anything else that might be scheduled.

Two Great Upcoming Fundraisers!!

School Days **Tea Collection** online fundraiser will be October 9th-16th. Shop online during this event and receive 15 % off plus free shipping and 15% of the proceeds will go back to RNS. Link with promo code will be sent in October.



Save the Date for our **Beelow's** fundraiser, Thurs, November 9th! Time TBD.

Back by popular demand! This great event for moms and dads will feature a cocktail hour with complimentary appetizers, guest bartenders and more. More info to follow.

Fall Festival Thank You!

To kick off October, the little blue school held a very big event. Despite record-setting heat the week leading up to the Fall Fest, we were graced with a gorgeous blue sky and summer-like temps for our annual Fall Festival! A beautiful early October day gave way to many fun activities including face painting, Bozo buckets, cupcake walk, pumpkin painting and more. New this year, Ms. Aimee helped our children sing their hearts out as they picked family favorites. I think a parachute even made its way out on the grassy picnic area! Pony rides filled the RNS parking lot, along with remnants of nearly 200 cans of silly string! A frown was not to be had by any of the children that came out to play especially as photographer Brenda Robles tried to capture each special moment. Despite all the

activities, the kids settled in for a picnic lunch and enjoyed many yummy treats from the bake sale. The creativity of this year's bake sale was incredible and determining what to buy was the most difficult decision of the day! From various shaped rice krispy treats, to Twinkie cheerleaders and football players, it was one amazing treat after another. Special thank you to our event organizers Michelle Genser, Ashley Kelly and Lindsey Pate, as well as our volunteers, both big and little, for helping with games and baking—we truly couldn't have done it without you! In the coming days, make sure to check out the photos of the event on our Shutterfly account. For those that would like to see their family photos and purchase the digital images, we'll be posting sample shots in the next

few weeks! Finally, thank you to all of our local donors including: First Bank of Highland Park, Highland Park Bank and Trust, Chipotle, Jewel, Sunset, Abigail's, A/C Alexandra Collectibles, Arrive Dolce, Backyard Grill, Baker Boys, Beanstalk/Sprout Kids, Beauty & Balance Salon, Blaze Pizza, Campus Colors, Claim Company, Coffee Speaks, CPK, Cross Roads Car Wash, Dairy Queen, Essential Evolution, Frost, Goodies, Il Forno, Josh's on the Square, Kona Grill, Lake Car Wash, Lotus Nails, Michael's, New Balance, Potbelly, Principessa, Queens Nails, Salon Vole, Scout & Molly's, Serene Nails, Spa O, Starbucks, Staples, Style Shack, T&T Lovely Nails, Target, Tony and Bruno's, Tryst Beauty Salon and Spa, Uncle Dan's, and We Orbit.

RNS OPEN HOUSE

Ravinia Nursery School is set to host its annual Open House on Saturday, **November 4th from 10am -12:00pm**. The Open House provides prospective students and their families a chance to come in and see what makes our little blue school so special. This is also the first chance for new families to register for the 2018/2019 school year. Please help us to spread the word. If you know of a family that may be interested, let Kathy or Anne Mucha know and we will make sure to send an invitation their way!



Food Drive

We will be hosting a food drive for the Moraine Township Food Pantry the week of **November 6th**. Please keep an eye out for a flyer coming home in the next few days with more details. The standard items they would love are cereal, pasta, fruit (canned or cups) graham crackers, crackers (all kinds) and pancake mixes. With the upcoming Thanksgiving holidays it would be nice to donate items for them to

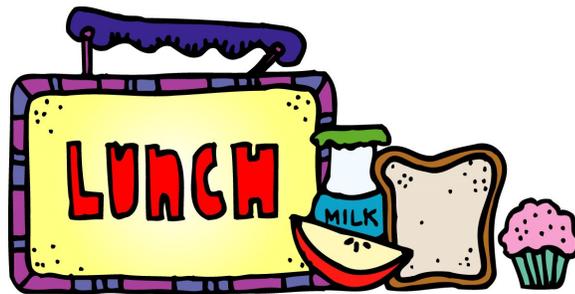
create a standard Thanksgiving meal - canned corn, canned green beans, boxed stuffing, packaged potato dishes, packets of gravy.

Again, a reminder and more information will be coming soon. Please feel free to contact Katie Cohen with any questions or suggestions. katiedaluga@gmail.com



WINTER/SPRING LUNCH BUNCH

Be on the lookout for the Lunch Bunch sign-up in mid-October! The Winter/Spring Lunch Bunch Session will run from January to May. The program is a great opportunity for AM and PM students to enjoy a packed lunch together, to participate in an interactive story time, and to enjoy some extra playtime with their friends. If you have any questions please email RNslunch-bunch@gmail.com. Thank you!



Future RNS Students Born

Two of our Ravinia families welcomed new additions this summer.

- * On June 30th the Toushin Family welcomed Jackson, who was 7 lbs 11 oz and 21" long. He came home to **Rose** who is in our W/F Two Can class.
- * On July 10th Logan Silverman was born, weighing 9 lbs and 21 ½" long. Logan's big sister, **Harper**, is in the W/F Two Can class.
- * Then rounding out the end of summer was Calvin Patrick Meyer who arrived on September 21st and was 7lbs 2 ozs and 19 ½ "long. He came home to big brother **Jacob** who is

in our C class.

- * On September 27, the first full week of fall, arrived Logan Sung Bae Park, weighing 6lbs 6 ozs and 21" long. Waiting for his arrival was big sister **Evie** who is in the A Class.

We all can't wait for these little boys to officially become part the little blue school.

In addition to all of our school family births, our own **Lynn Miller** became a grandmother in September. On September 17th, continuing the all boy trend,

Evan James McNamara was born. He weighed 6lbs and 8ozs and was 19" long. I am sure he will soon be enjoying his grandmothers' musical skills.

Congratulations to all.



Thank You

To Anderson Kinsey (D Class) and his family for donating the book, My Daddy is a Pretzel, and Yoga Activity Cards to the school, in honor of his fifth birthday.

To Neena Edison (C Class) and her family for donating the book, Uni the Unicorn and the Dream Came True, to the school in celebration of her fifth birthday.

To Irving Ashpole (A Class) and his family for donating a Duplo Mickey Mouse Train and the book Where the Wild Things Are, to the classroom, in honor of his fourth birthday.

Hurricane Harvey Diaper Drive

To Nadia Skillrud (A Class) and her family for donating a Play Food to the classroom in celebration of her third birthday.

To Ashley England (Sasha T/Th and Noelle Heniser C) for donating four cases of zip loc bags to our school.

Thank you everyone so much for the Hurricane Harvey Diaper Drive! We collected and donated \$260 to the Texas Diaper Bank. Also, thank you for contributing diapers to our local areas in need as well. This diaper drive will be continuing throughout the year. Please feel free to contact Katie Cohen with any questions or suggestions.
katedaluqa@gmail.com

Reminders

- Label, label, label all of your children's items that come to school, including lunch boxes. Many of you share the same wonderful taste.
- Check your child's cubbies and bags daily for notes. Also be sure to check the wonderful photos and informational blurbs that are sent to you via email throughout the week.
- When your child is ill, please call or email the school to let us know.
- Check your child's extra clothes and replenish when he/she uses the items. The teachers will help out with this by sending reminder notes when clothes have been used.

