

# RMS NEWS



## A Note from the Head of School

Dear Rochester Montessori School Community,

As we reach the midpoint of our academic year, I want to express my deep gratitude for your continued trust and partnership in your child's education. What a joy it is to observe your children's growth, curiosity, and enthusiasm within our Montessori environment.

As we look ahead to the next school year, I encourage you to consider the profound benefits of continuing your child's journey at RMS. The Montessori path is intentionally structured into three-year cycles, respecting that children develop and master academic topics at different speeds. This design allows your child to build upon their learning progressively, ensuring a deep and comprehensive understanding of concepts.

## We Celebrate

**Niniek Pranato**  
Assistant Guide, Willows



**20 Years with RMS!**

In the third year of each cycle, students often take on leadership roles, mentoring younger peers and reinforcing their own knowledge. This experience not only solidifies their academic skills but also fosters confidence, independence, and a sense of responsibility.

Moreover, research indicates that children in Montessori classrooms demonstrate stronger social-emotional skills compared to those in traditional settings. Our multi-age classrooms promote collaboration, empathy, and effective communication, essential skills for lifelong success.

At Rochester Montessori School, children thrive in an environment tailored to their individual needs, nurturing their innate love for learning and preparing them for future challenges.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community. We look forward to supporting your child's educational journey in the years to come.



Warm Regards,  
Kelley Flanders

Please enjoy the January edition of  
A.M.S. Family Connection

## Library Project Update



We are closing in on our \$15,000 library fundraising goal! Thank you to all of you have given. We have started to take our library to the next level. Come in and check out exciting changes to the library:

- new picture book area, with user-friendly book "cubbies"
- new organization
- separation of nonfiction book sections into Picture/Early Readers and books for older readers
- A new book display
- New books!

We are working with Follett to install and implement new operating system/software. That will allow students to check out books and look up books.

We are planning to have a big celebration for families when the project is complete, later in the spring. Stay tuned! Meanwhile, the library is operating on an "honor system". Students in E1, E2 and Middle School may borrow a few books, returning them to the carts when they are finished.

THANK YOU for helping to make this amazing resource even better for our students and community (and if you haven't yet given, there's still time! Scan the code above or go to the school website and click on the "Give" tab at top right).



Scan to visit  
[giveMN.org](https://giveMN.org)

## Mark Your Calendars!

ROALD DAHL'S  
**Matilda**  
THE MUSICAL JR.

**RMS PRESENTS**  
Roald Dahl's  
Matilda The Musical Jr.

**Friday, February 28th**  
**Saturday, March 1st**

**RCTC Hill Theater**  
**851 30th Ave SE, Rochester**

Watch for tickets sales and  
Matilda merchandise  
announcements, coming soon!

# Community Project: Festival of Trees

## Middle School Work Shines Bright

This winter, RMS Middle School students contributed their creativity and teamwork to the Hiawatha Homes Festival of Trees, a cherished Rochester event supporting individuals with disabilities.

Planning started in early October, when students expressed interest in designing a tree. After sketching ideas and voting on themes, they chose DRAG'N IN THE HOLIDAYS as their centerpiece design. Students collaborated to craft decorations and ornaments, sourcing materials from local shops and the art guide Sharri's collection.

On November 25th, students set up the tree at the Kahler Hotel. During the opening night Gala, Olmsted Medical Center underwrote the tree and donated it to a Hiawatha Homes residential home, where residents loved its magical dragon design. Students also created and donated three mini trees—a Skiing Tree, Sports Tree, and Zen Bonsai Tree—for the silent auction.

This project provided invaluable lessons in teamwork, creativity, and community service while connecting with the IB curriculum's focus on global citizenship. It continues our school's legacy of contributing dozens of trees to the annual festival, which has raised over \$4 million since its inception in 1986.



**Save  
The  
Date**

**January**

29: Acorns Chinese Spring Festival Celebration

**February**

- 6: El Wonders & Heroes, 10am
- 10: RMCC Meeting
- 13: Cypress Parent Visit, 3pm
- 13: Middle School Night at Museum Parent Event, 6pm
- 17: School is Closed, President's Day
- 19: Parent Education Night: Sensorial, 6pm
- 28: Matilda Performance (2nd performance March 1st)

**RMS Spring Apparel**



[bonfire.com/store/rms-school-store](https://bonfire.com/store/rms-school-store)

# Winter at RMS



**TODDLERS**



**CHILDREN'S HOUSE**



**ELEMENTARY**



**MIDDLE SCHOOL**