

Welcome to the RMS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band!

Dear Parents,

I just wanted to take a moment to give you a timeline of events for the RMS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band over the next few weeks of school. Thank you for allowing your child to be a part of the Ringgold Tiger Band program. Being a part of a school band program provides many opportunities for them. I am excited about working with these students this year, and for years to come. Here is the timeline of events.

**Monday August 21st – 22nd** - Students will get the opportunity to try their top three choices of band instruments, choosing from the following (Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, and Percussion). This will take place during band class. I will talk one on one with the students, and send the final recommendation home with your child, and then they will discuss it with parents. It will then be time to begin looking to purchase or rent an instrument for the school year.

**Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> – RMS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Recorder Concert at the Ringgold High School Theater at 7PM.** (Students will need to report to RHS Bandroom at 6:30pm). The students will be working on recorders for the next few weeks in order to prepare them for playing band instruments. We will be learning the basics of how to read music while working on the recorder.

**Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> – Ringgold Middle School Instrument Sale from 4-7 (drop in) in the RMS Bandroom** - This will be the time when parents can rent an instrument from Gadsden Music Company. They offer instruments for purchase or for a monthly rental fee. Once we determine what instrument your child will play, then you can either rent from Gadsden Music Company or find an instrument that is of a reputable and reliable brand name elsewhere. Sometimes students use instruments that have been passed down through the generations. This is ok, as long as the instrument is in good working order.

**Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup> – RMS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Fast Start on their Instruments AFTER SCHOOL from 3:30-5:30 in the RMS Bandroom.** This important after school practice will help get the band students introduced to the basics of their instrument. (How to open case properly, how to put the instruments together, how to hold the instruments properly, formation of lips, how play the first few notes, and other basic principles for their instrument.) There will be experienced instructors for each section that will be here to work specifically with them on the basics of their instrument. It is crucial that your child be at this event in order to get a great start on their instrument. If there is a conflict of schedule, please let Mr. Garland know.

Thanks for your support of your child and the Ringgold Tiger Band Program!

- Aaron Garland, RMS Band Director

Questions? Email: [agarland.RMS.catoosa.k12.ga.us](mailto:agarland.RMS.catoosa.k12.ga.us) or call 706 935 3381