

## **RHEEMARKS: January 9**

Dear Rheem Team Families,

If the last couple of years weren't crazy enough for us, welcome to 2022. As we navigate the challenges of the new Omicron variant, I want to thank all of you for your continued diligence and support when it comes to keeping our school and community safe. As a kid, one of my favorite quotes was, "Tough times don't last, but tough people do." These are definitely tough times, but please remember we are all in this together, and no matter how challenging it gets, we'll make it through...together.

Please be sure to read the contact tracing protocols below to help us keep our schools open.

### **This Week at Rheem:**

#### Monday, January 10:

- Cultural Proficiency Committee 3:30-5:00 at Los Perales

#### Tuesday, January 11:

- MSD Governing Board Meeting 6:00-9:30 in-person and virtual (JM Library or [Zoom](#))
- Lunchtime Dance Club hosted by Ms. Seli (during recess)

#### Wednesday, January 12:

- Wednesday Schedule (All K-5th grade students 8:25 – 1:50)
- Lunchtime Garden Club hosted by Ms. Inzeo (during recess)

#### Thursday, January 13:

- Regularly scheduled Thursday

#### Friday, January 14:

- Regularly scheduled Friday

#### Monday, January 17:

## Positive COVID Results and Contact Tracing Protocols

### ***Positive case result protocols:***

If your student (or a family member living in the home) tests positive for COVID-19, please follow the following protocols:

For a **POSITIVE** case

- Isolate and quarantine the positive case (and others if they are unvaccinated)
- contact the school via email ([lfitzinger@moraga.k12.ca.us](mailto:lfitzinger@moraga.k12.ca.us), [esmith@moraga.k12.ca.us](mailto:esmith@moraga.k12.ca.us), [bsullivan@moraga.k12.ca.us](mailto:bsullivan@moraga.k12.ca.us)) or phone
- if your student tests positive, in your email, please let us know the day symptoms presented themselves (or if your student is asymptomatic, the date of their positive test)

For an **EXPOSURE** to a positive case, please let us know...

- If your student is fully vaccinated and has it been two weeks since their second vaccine dose.
- When was the last time your student was around the positive person?
- Is your student experiencing any symptoms?

### ***Contact tracing protocols:***

The following information will help us with the contact tracing process. As you can imagine, it gets pretty cumbersome to identify and contact all students/staff who are considered "close contacts" (a close contact is anyone who has been within 6 feet of a person who tests positive for a cumulative of 15 minutes in one day). To make it more thorough, guidelines also require us to go back two days from either symptom onset or a positive test to initiate contact tracing.

Here are some other things you can do to help us with the process (if you haven't done so already):

- If your child is fully vaccinated, please upload their vaccination card to [THIS LINK](#) on ParentSquare.

- [Register with Primary Health](#) and give consent for the district to provide COVID-19 testing to your student. This will save time if your child requires testing as part of a modified quarantine.

Just in the last week, Rheem and MSD staff spent countless hours walking families through the quarantine and contact tracing process, so your consideration of the items mentioned above is very much appreciated.

## **Mark Your Calendars for the Upcoming Events**

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Monday, January 17 (No School)
- Read-a-thon begins January 18 through February 15
- PTA Association Meeting Wednesday, January 19, 7:00 PM location TBD
- TK/Kindergarten Parent Night Thursday, January 20 - 6:00 PM location TBD

## **The Last Word...**

If history has shown us anything, it's that each generation has its own events and struggles that change their way of acting and thinking. In fairness, some generations had to deal with much more than others, i.e., for people born at the turn of the 20th century: World War I (1917-21); 1918 Influenza Pandemic; Great Depression (1929-33); and World War II (1941-1945).

For our generation, COVID-19 has been that challenge to reshape the way we think and act. From masking, social distancing, testing, vaccinations, and so much of what drives our daily life revolving around how we respond to the virus. Just like our forefathers and foremothers at the turn of the last century, it is a steadfast resolve to work together that will see us through these times. I know I have said this many times, but thank you for all of your amazing support and understanding through these challenging times.

There is no place like Rheem,  
Mr. Sullivan