

RHEEMARKS: December 12th

Dear Rheem Team Families,

With one week left before Winter Break, a lot is going on this week at Rheem, so please jump right into Rheemarks.

Please note that **Friday, December 17, is a minimum day for all students.** On Friday, all students arrive at 8:25. And will be dismissed at 12:12. Remember, there is no lunch served on minimum days.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, December 13:

- “Rheem Cares Holiday Gift Drive” toys and gift cards are due
- Spirit Assemblies in the MUR

Tuesday, December 14:

- Lunchtime Dance Club hosted by Ms. Seli (during recess)
- MSD Governing Board Meeting 6:00-9:30 in JM Library

Wednesday, December 15:

- Rheem Store open
- Wednesday Schedule (All K-5th grade students 8:25 – 1:50)
- PTA Executive Board Meeting (8:45-10:00 in the MUR)
- Lunchtime Garden Club hosted by Ms. Inzeo (during recess)
- Rheem DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Parent Group Meeting 3:30-5:00 in the MUR

Thursday, December 16:

- Regularly scheduled Thursday

Friday, December 17:

- Minimum Day (all students 8:25-12:12)

School News and Highlights

2nd grade International Celebrations: This week, each 2nd-grade class will be hosting an International Party to celebrate all the work they have done studying different cultures. It is an excellent opportunity for students to experience other games, activities, and foods

from cultures around the world. Kudos to Mr. Thomson, Mrs. Webster, and Ms. Guidi for all their hard work.

Rheem Store Experiences: The Rheem Store is open again this Wednesday for students to redeem their hard-earned Rheem Bucks. Not only do students have a chance to purchase fun little novelties like fidget toys, pencils, stickers, stuffed animals, and more, they also have an opportunity to buy some school experiences. Students can purchase extra recess for themselves and three friends, or "Minute to Win It" games or plant something in the garden, or a game of their choice with a staff member. The Rheem Store is a part of Rheem's PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) program, where children are recognized and rewarded for all the great things they do here at school.

Rheem DEI Parent's Group Year-End Wrap Up Meeting - December 15th

At Rheem, diversity, equity, and inclusion matter. The Rheem Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Group (DEIG) is a parent-led group dedicated to providing ongoing dialogue, education, and reflection for students, parents, and Rheem staff.

Join us for an in-person meeting to discuss our progress in 2021 and goals and planning for 2022, including global art + culture night, booklist recommendations, and district-wide collaborations!

When: Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Time: 3:30-5:00 pm

Where: Rheem MUR

Refreshments will be served.

Our Lost & Found is Overflowing!

Please be sure to check the Lost and Found clothing racks in front of the office, as there are jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters, and other odds & ends just waiting to be claimed. Parents are often surprised to find items they didn't even realize were missing!

Rheem Leadership students check the lost and found regularly for any labeled items with student names and return them to their owners. Please make sure to mark your child's clothing, lunchbox, hats, etc., with your child's name.

The current Lost and Found will be on display through Friday, December 17th, until 12:30 p.m. All unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity.

COVID Testing Opportunity

Superintendent Parks messaged families last week about MSD obtaining home tests from the State of California to distribute to students. The intention of these tests is to provide families with an option for testing their children prior to returning to school after Winter Break. The tests are not a requirement to return to school, but provide all of you an additional resource for peace of mind and mitigating COVID spread in our schools. Rheem will be messaging families via ParentSquare later this week with more information on when these test kits will be sent home. If you would like to opt-out of receiving a testing kit, you will have the ability to do so.

Did you Know?

Class Parties at Rheem

Rheem School has four class parties throughout the year. With party themes ranging from Halloween, Winter, Valentines, and End of Year. The classroom teacher and room parent plan each party, and students have a whale of a time playing games and taking part in craft activities. As we head into the final week before winter break, each classroom will hold a party to celebrate and participate in the fun mentioned above. Thank you to all of our room parents for their hard work and for making class parties such a memorable experience.

Fun Math Competition: Kangaroo Math

Kangaroo Math will again facilitate the opportunity for your child(ren) to participate in their competition this year. Math Kangaroo's mission is to help make learning math fun and cool (they offer certificates, pencils, and a gift to all participants and prizes to top finishers in the State and Nation).

Students will again be participating online — hopefully, conditions will be right for bringing the program back in person next year. The online format does allow a little more flexibility regarding when your child(ren) will need to be available for the test, and registrants will receive a link and instructions to access the test in March 2022. While the test isn't until March 2022, the registration deadline is coming up quickly, on December 15, 2021. Registration continues until the end of the year, but the fee increases after that date.

To register, please visit

<https://mathkangaroo.oasis-lms.com/Public/Catalog/Home.aspx?Criteria=11&tab=2>

You will want to use the “Private Center” registration code MK2022.

With the short deadline for registration quickly approaching, please spread the word to other parents who might be interested in their children joining this fun math competition.

For more info, please visit mathkangaroo.org

The Last Word...

A few years back, I wrote to you regarding an acceptance speech by [Craig Sager for the Jimmy V award](#). Every year at this time, ESPN presents the Jimmy V award to "a member of the sporting world who has overcome great obstacles through perseverance and determination." Craig Sager was a TV sports analyst for decades whose flashy outfits and sideline reporting were renowned in the NBA. He received the award to recognize his courageous battle against cancer. His speech was very poignant, and I loved his message regarding time. He said, "Time is something that cannot be bought, cannot be wagered with God, and it is not in endless supply. Time is simply how you live your life."

With Winter Break and the holiday season upon us, hopefully, we have the opportunity to spend more time with family and friends, and it is important for us to sit back and appreciate all of the blessings we have in our lives, most notably our children. And with that, I wish to thank all of you for the countless hours you spend nurturing and supporting your children. It is always time well spent and a way in which all of you have chosen to live your lives.

Happy holidays and peace and goodwill to all.

There is no place like Rheem,
Mr. Sullivan