

RHEEMARKS: April 24th

Good Evening Rheem Team Families,

As you all know, my opening paragraph in RHEEMARKS will give a salutation and encouragement to keep reading about what's happening that week. For this week's RHEEMARKS, I encourage you to read closely about all that is going on this week because it is the most jam-packed one yet.

Cheers to a busy, fun-filled week.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, April 25:

- Rheem's Scholastic Book Fair begins
 - Shopping hours: 3:00-6:00 PM in the Library

Tuesday, April 26:

- Book Fair shopping hours 3:00-4:30 PM in the Library
- Lunchtime Dance Club hosted by Ms. Seli (during recess)

Wednesday, April 27:

- Book Fair shopping hours 1:30-4:00 PM in the Library
- Lunchtime Garden Club hosted by Ms. Inzeo (during recess)
- One District, One Book Celebration, and International Potluck from 5:30-6:45 at Camino Pablo Elementary

Thursday, April 28:

- Book Fair shopping hours 3:00-6:00 PM in the Library
- Kindergarten Orientation from 9:30-10:30 in the Frank
- Science Fair Presentations:
 - 3rd grade: 8:30-9:15
 - 4th grade: 9:15-10:05
 - 5th grade: 10:30-11:15
- Science Fair from 4:30-7:00 PM in the Frank

Friday, April 29:

- Kindergarten Butterfly Parade from 1:15-1:45
- Variety Show in the Frank from 6:00-8:00 PM

School Climate Survey Results

The final installment in Rheemarks regarding this year's Climate Survey results has to do with the following questions:

94% of all respondents agreed with the statement; *My child feels "connected" to the school that he/she/they are a contributing member of the school community.*

Breakdown of all responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 33.3% strongly agree• 43.5% agree• 4.1% disagree• 1.2% strongly disagree• 17.9% didn't know.	...African American responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 44.4% strongly agree• 55.6% agree• 0% disagree• 0% strongly disagree• 0% didn't know
...Latino or Hispanic responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 35.8% strongly agree• 57.1% agree• 7.1% disagree• 0% strongly disagree• 0% didn't know	...Asian responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 50% strongly agree• 43.4% agree• 3.3% disagree• 0% strongly disagree• 3.3% didn't know
...Two or More races: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 50.9% strongly agree• 47.2% agree• 1.9% disagree• 0% strongly disagree• 0% didn't know	...Caucasian responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 54.6% strongly agree• 38.6% agree• 3.4% disagree• 0% strongly disagree• 3.4% didn't know

88% of all respondents agreed with the statement; *My child feels safe at school (protected from verbal and/or physical harassment)*.

<p>Breakdown of all responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 39.7% strongly agree ● 48.2% agree ● 5.3% disagree ● 2.8% strongly disagree ● 4% didn't know. 	<p>...African American responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 33.3% strongly agree ● 44.5% agree ● 11.1% disagree ● 0% strongly disagree ● 11.1% didn't know
<p>...Latino or Hispanic responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 35.7% strongly agree ● 64.3% agree ● 0% disagree ● 0% strongly disagree ● 0% didn't know 	<p>...Asian responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 46.7% strongly agree ● 46.7% agree ● 3.3% disagree ● 3.3% strongly disagree ● 0% didn't know
<p>...Two or More races:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 47.2% strongly agree ● 37.7% agree ● 9.4% disagree ● 1.9% strongly disagree ● 3.8% didn't know 	<p>...Caucasian responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 38.7% strongly agree ● 50.4% agree ● 3.4% disagree ● 3.4% strongly disagree ● 4.1% didn't know

Did you know?

When it comes to feeling connected at school, students often associate this with their relationship with teachers, friends, and how they spend their recess time. At Rheem, we strive to make everyone feel like they belong. From the work teachers do every day in their classrooms, including lessons and projects, to their use of our Second-Step curriculum supporting students' social-emotional needs. Knowing that their teacher cares about them and is there for them means everything. And when it comes to friendships and recess, providing students with multiple opportunities to try different activities only helps

them to know that there is something for everyone at school. From the Garden Club and Dance Club, game experiences students purchase at the Rheem Store.

Safety is our number one goal for every member of the school community. From the playground to the classroom, verbal and physical harassment are not acceptable behavior. That either may happen is unfortunate but also a part of the process of building self-advocacy and resilience. By working with staff members and their peers, students have a greater chance of overcoming the challenges posed by feeling excluded and mistreated. With increased counseling support and the staff continuing to receive professional development on how best to support the needs of every student, by building stronger skills, we can help meet the needs of students in distress.

Rheem's Scholastic Book this Week

The Scholastic Book Fair is this week. Students will be visiting the fair during their regular library times (click [HERE](#) to see class times on the Rheem Website). There will also be after-school shopping opportunities as well as an [online fair](#). The most current after school shopping times are listed below:

- Monday, April 25: 3:00 - 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 26: 3:00 - 4:30 PM
- Wednesday, April 27: 1:30 - 4:00 PM
- Thursday, April 28: 3:00 - 6:00 PM

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Gillbanks, Rheem Librarian: sgillbanks@moraga.k12.ca.us

Rheem's Variety Show this Friday (4/29)

It's SHOWTIME!!! Be sure to mark your calendars for this Friday from 6:00-8:00 PM in the MUR for a fun-filled event the whole family can enjoy. Pizza, candy, and drinks will be available for sale as a 5th-grade fundraiser, so come hungry and ready to be entertained.

Science Fair this Thursday (4/28)

Calling all scientists...Thursday night is your time to shine. Please come Thursday evening from 4:30-7:00 in the MUR to participate in this year's Science Fair. It is an

excellent chance for students and their families to check out some amazing science experiments and be able to speak directly to the young scientists to see how they did it.

There will be food and drinks available for sale by the 5th graders.

Kindergarten Butterfly Parade – Friday (4/29)

Rheem's longstanding tradition is set to return in this Friday's in-person Butterfly Parade from 1:15-1:45 on the big playground. Kindergarten families are welcome to join in the fun and catch our young Monarchs taking flight.

Thinking About Next Year

As May approaches, parents and teachers begin to think about class placements for next year. I want to take this opportunity to outline the process we use at Rheem to ensure that the best interests of all students are considered.

First, I can assure you that this process will be completed very carefully. Current Rheem teachers and I will be involved in a team effort to create balanced, heterogeneous classes at every grade level. This process begins with grade-level placement meetings in which teachers divide their classes into as many groups as there are projected classes at the next grade level for the next year. Each new class is balanced in terms of boys and girls, special needs students, academic abilities, peer relationships, and social behavior. Many factors are considered through this process.

The teachers and I place students very carefully, and no parent input is expected or required. However, parents who feel they need to give input to this process may do so by writing a letter that addresses their child's special needs. In such a letter, parents should include their perspective of how their child learns best and any other information related to increasing their child's potential for academic success. This information will be considered in the complicated process of making up classes for next year.

Requesting a particular teacher for your child is not appropriate. Too often, these requests are based upon suggestions and talk within the community about specific teachers. I suggest that you ignore this talk. The entire teaching staff at Rheem School is composed

of dedicated and qualified professionals, and one child's experience (good or bad) in a given classroom may not be predictive of another child's experience.

Furthermore, changes in teaching assignments and/or reorganization of existing classes can be made right up to the opening of school depending on enrollment, so having only a teacher's name does not tell us what is important to know about your child. If you choose to write to me, tell me about your child's needs and learning style and how you expect an educational program to best serve those needs. Parent letters must be received in our office by Monday, May 9, as our placement meetings will begin shortly thereafter.

The Rheem staff is committed to working in the best interests of all our students. Thank you in advance for your understanding and support of our placement procedure; it is a critical factor in this effort.

Stay tuned for information about ordering School Kits for the 2022-23 school year!

The Last Word...

What was your favorite book growing up? Mine was "Tough to Tackle" by Matt Christopher. It was a story of a boy who learned the valuable lessons of perseverance while playing football. I remember how his frustration was turned into determination with the help of his brother—playing sports and having an inspirational older brother myself definitely resonated with me and helped me develop a deeper appreciation for reading.

This week, Rheem is hosting its annual Book Fair, and there is an opportunity for students (and parents) to buy some page-turners and other novelties that may help inspire them to read even more. I encourage you to come by the Library during the Book Fair store hours to help them shop for something they'll love. Reading is one of the most significant ways to gain an appreciation for the experiences of others and help to make connections to your own life.

I appreciate your support of all things Rheem, and I hope to see you on campus for one of our many events this week.

There is no place like Rheem,

Mr. Sullivan