

RHEEMARKS: September 26th

Dear Rheem Team Families,

Can you believe we are starting our eighth week of school, and October begins this Friday...so long summer, and hello fall. We have a lot going on at Rheem this week. From spirit assemblies on Tuesday to snow cone day on Friday, it will be a fun and yummy way to spend the last week of September.

We also have some construction on campus that will require staff members to park on Laird Drive this coming Tuesday. **So please avoid parking on Laird to allow for staff members access to street parking closer to campus.** (*There is more info below on the construction work being done at Rheem*)

Please dive into the rest of this week's Rheemarks.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, September 27:

- Regularly scheduled Monday

Tuesday, September 28:

- Spirit Assemblies for K/1st; 2nd/3rd; 4th/5th
- Limited parking on Laird Drive
- Lunchtime Dance Club hosted by Ms. Seli (during recess)

Wednesday, September 29:

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

Thursday, September 30:

- Regularly scheduled Thursday

Friday, October 1:

- Snow Cone Day (for those who purchased one from the Rheem Store)
- Regularly scheduled Friday

Start with Hello Recap

Last week throughout the district, students took part in the Sandy Hook Promise "Start with Hello" program. It focused on children being their best selves as well as being part of an inclusive community. School counselor Bess Inzeo and Marianne Seli organized the activities for the week and shared with teachers fantastic resources that helped build school community, student connectedness, and self-esteem.

A big thank you to Ms. Inzeo, Ms. Seli, and all Rheem Team staff members for sharing with our students the importance of inclusivity, connectivity, and kindness. The entire Rheem Team shined that much brighter because of their efforts.

Did you Know?

Excused vs. Unexcused Absences

Did you know that ALL absences are noted as "excused" or "unexcused" for auditing purposes? According to MSD board policy, absences are considered "excused" for the following reasons:

- Illness
- Family emergencies
- Justifiable personal reasons (such as funeral attendance)
- Religious holidays

Absences are considered "unexcused" if they do not meet one of the criteria mentioned above. For example, missing school for vacations or extended weekends are unexcused. By definition of the California Education Code, "a student who has an unexcused absence of more than 30 minutes on three different days, or more, is considered truant."

Thank you for your continued support, and please do all you can to have your student attend school and avoid vacations or extended weekends during the school year. The number one indicator for student learning is their attendance.

Primary Health

For contact tracing/modified quarantine testing

If you have not done so already, please be sure to register for Primary Health. They are the company we are using for rapid Covid tests if your child needs to enter contact tracing

and modified quarantine protocols. You will want to create an account and sign an authorization for COVID testing for each student (it's not one per family). You are not making an appointment; you are simply setting up an account and giving consent for testing if your student needs to be on a modified quarantine.

Registration is: https://my.primary.health/r/moraga?registration_type=student

The Last Word...

I've always been proud of Rheem's commitment to the children in our community. From academics to social-emotional growth, the whole child has continually been at the center of Rheem's mission. The same can be said for the Moraga School District and its commitment to the environment. Last year the Governing Board approved a plan to install solar panels at each of the four schools in our district. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate and Rheem are the first to break ground, and this week will bring the project closer to life.

Rheem currently has a large swath of fencing around the designated solar panel area and, by week's end, should have a fully built solar canopy structure (there will be wiring and a final PG&E hook up scheduled in the coming weeks). This is exciting news, as this will not only lower our utility costs but, more importantly, provide a clean energy source for ourselves and our fellow Californians.

Being a global citizen always starts with the work we do at home. This solar project is a prime example of how the Moraga School District and Rheem can help educate our students how important clean, sustainable energy can be to the world.

There's no place like Rheem!

Mr. Sullivan