

# RHEEMARKS

January 15, 2018

This week kicks off Rheem's Read-a-Thon, and you'll soon find out why your students will be willing to jump through "Hoops" to get in some extra reading. On Wednesday, there will be information coming home in your student's backpack, and Thursday will be the official start of the Read-a-Thon.

Take a look at the rest of the week.

## **This Week at Rheem:**

### Monday, January 15th:

- NO SCHOOL – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Day

### Tuesday, January 16th:

- School Site Council Meeting 3:15-4:30 in Room 19
- Mr. Greer's Class fieldtrip to Martinez Courthouse

### Wednesday, January 17th:

- Spirit Assembly – Read-a-Thon kickoff

### Thursday, January 18th:

- Read-a-Thon officially begins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade SUBS (Speak Up Be Safe)
- Math Night from 6:00-8:00 at Rheem

### Friday, January 19th:

- Regularly scheduled Friday

### Monday, January 22nd:

- NO SCHOOL – Teacher Professional Development Day

## **School News and Highlights**

- Last Tuesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> our band musicians blew the lid off of Campolindo's Performing Arts Center. All three elementary schools as well as JM and Campo band musicians took part in the fun. Bravo to our many musicians, and teachers for sharing their time and talents with the large crowd.
- Mr. Greer's class will be visiting the County Courthouse in Martinez this Tuesday.
- There is no school next Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The day off for students is due to a professional development day for our teachers.

## National Geographic Bee

*5<sup>th</sup> grader, Arnav, wins title of Rheem Champion*

On Monday, January 8, Rheem's 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students watched an impressive battle of wits and knowledge at the school's annual National Geographic Bee. Ten fifth grade students (listed below in alpha order) took part in the final competition:

Arnav M.

Brandon L.

Cooper C.

Declan A.

Emma A.

Hannah B.

Luc N.

Luka V.

Mia H.

Sienna B.

The above listed students qualified as finalists after being the top scorers in a preliminary written test that was given to all interested 4th and 5th graders in December. All finalists gave an impressive performance and received a certificate and ribbon acknowledging their accomplishment as well as a National Geographic Bee pencil to commemorate the occasion.

As a special surprise, Ms. Frank returned to be the MC of this year's Bee, and she brought with her two other recent Rheem Retirees, Ms. Caraska and Ms. Wu, who served as the official scorekeepers. All three felt honored to be back at Rheem for this unique competition (because, of course, *Once a Roadrunner, Always a Roadrunner!*)

The contest consisted of several rounds of questions, which challenged the finalists' knowledge of U.S. cities and states, continents and world geography. After several rounds of questions, the field of finalists was reduced to two: Arnav and Luc. The two boys advanced to the Championship Round, requiring them to answer questions "Jeopardy Style" – by writing their answers on a small white board. The Championship round ended in a tie, pushing both boys into an intense "single elimination" tie-breaker. After several more suspenseful rounds, Arnav earned the title of champion!

As school champion, Arnav received a gold medal, a championship certificate, and the thrill of taking yet another test (!) to see if he will be eligible to compete in the state Bee in April. Also, Arnav received a copy of The National Geographic Bee Kids Book of WHY: 1,111 Answers to Nearly Everything and Luc took home The Geographic Bee Kids Almanac 2018. And, as a special treat, the school champ and runner up will be treated to an all-expense paid trip to Starbucks with Ms. Frank!

As an extra bonus, a raffle was held for all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders who tried out for the bee, whether or not they became finalists. The lucky winner of a “Where in the World?” geography game was 4<sup>th</sup> grader Valeria P.

Anyone can brush up on geography by visiting the “Study Corner” at [www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee). Check it out to find lots of interesting games and quizzes to test your skill and increase your knowledge!

## **Rheem Math Night – January 18th**

Join us for an evening filled with math, rewards, giveaways and games for the entire family. Rheem’s Math Night is sponsored by Mathnasium of Lafayette and hosted by Rheem’s PTA this Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 in Elaine Frank Roadrunner Hall. Bring the whole family for refreshments, snacks and fun STEM activities. These interactive math games will keep the whole family smiling and laughing. RSVP by emailing [RheemPTA@gmail.com](mailto:RheemPTA@gmail.com).

## **Hello from Roadrunner Club!!!**

Welcome back to a New Year!!!! We are back in the swing of things, getting our art projects, and etc. going. I want to remind everybody that the fee for a child sent from the office without a reservation or an unregistered child, is now \$50. (Increase from \$25). Please call for a drop-in ahead of time if you are in need of our services.

Just a gentle reminder that our program closes at 6pm. We understand there are circumstances that sometimes cannot be avoided like traffic, etc. but please plan accordingly.

Most After School Enrichment Classes (ASEP) begin the week of February 5th (although Lamorinda Performing Academy starts January 24th, 2018). All

children taking an ASEP class and attending Roadrunner Club **must** complete an Activity Release form; one per child, one per class.

When you get a chance, please introduce yourself to Don Powell our new Recreational Aid. Don works M/W/F and does organized sports with the children. The children Love him and he is amazing!!!! Don has added a whole new dimension to our after-school program.

Thank you

Eleanor.

## **PTA hot lunch help needed**

Hot Lunch is looking for some new volunteers, no past experience necessary!! It is fun and a great way to see your student(s) during their day. Please see the Signup Genius below and sign up for any available slot you are able to; Tuesday and Thursday are top priority to fill. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4badae2ea5ff2-2018>

## **Speak Up Be Safe (SUBS)**

This week our 3rd grade students will be participating in a very important program called Childhelp Speak Up Be Safe (SUBS) that teaches about personal safety. This child abuse and bullying prevention program is being offered through a partnership between the Moraga School District and the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Contra Costa County (CAPC).

Childhelp Speak Up Be Safe lessons are led by a trained facilitator from CAPC who will teach your child how to communicate about these very serious issues. The lessons are specifically designed to be age-appropriate and are based on the following 5 safety rules: 1) It's MY body; 2) Ask an adult if I am safe; 3) I have choices; 4) Tell someone; and 5) It's NEVER my fault.

## The Last Word:

As I sat in the back of Campolindo's Theatre for another fantastic all-schools musical performance, I couldn't help but think of all the amazing programs MEF provides and supports for each and every student, each and every day. The list of programs is impressive:

- Music
- Computer Labs and Technology Teachers
- Libraries and Librarians
- Art
- P.E.
- Science Aides
- Teaching Assistants
- Reduced class sizes

...and more

All of these programs and personnel would not be possible without the generous support of the **Moraga Education Foundation**, and **YOU**.

I urge all Rheem families to reflect on the impact MEF and your donations are making in the lives of our children, and if you have not done so already please consider joining the effort [here](#). Thank you for your consideration and generosity, and in the words of Albert Camus, "Real generosity toward the future lies in giving all to the present."

There is no place like Rheem,

Mr. Sullivan