

RHEEMARKS

"Frank"ly Speaking...

January 29, 2017

It's been an exciting first week of **"The Greatest Read-a-thon on Earth!"** All students are encouraged to keep reading, reading, reading – in addition to completing and turning in those **tally sheets** on *Thursdays*. Although 100% participation is our primary goal, students may also get **sponsors** to support and encourage their efforts. Monies raised go to our PTA to fund important programs and improvements to our school. **Read-a-thon Sponsor sheets** are due this Thursday, February 1st along with Week 2 tally sheets. Click [HERE](#) for access to all Read-a-thon Forms (including tally sheets, sponsor sheets, and the "Feat of Daring" poster)

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, January 30:

- "Dance Through Time" Assemblies in Multi-Use Room
 - 8:45 for 3rd – 5th; 10:00 for K – 2nd

Tuesday, January 31:

- 5th grade/Gubser Field Trip to Martinez Courthouse (900 – 2:00)
- Parent Ed: Executive Functioning and Supporting Independence
 - 7:00 p.m. at JM Library

Wednesday, Feb. 1:

- School-Wide Spelling Bee: 9:00 a.m. in Multi-Use Room

Thursday, Feb. 2:

- Read-a-thon [Sponsor Sheets](#) and Week 2 Tally Sheets due!
- [Kindergarten Registration](#) in Room 25 (9:00 – 2:00)

Friday, Feb. 3:

- 3rd graders to Lawrence Hall of Science (8:30 – 2:30)
- [Kindergarten Registration](#) in Room 25 (9:00 – 2:00)

School News and Highlights

Classroom Spelling Bee Champs Announced

3rd – 5th grade class spelling bee champions will compete in the Annual School-Wide Rheem Spelling Bee on Wednesday, February 2, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Multi-Use Room. Congrats to the following finalists:

3rd grade finalists: Summer C., Matt J., Kylie K.

4th grade finalists: Devan A., Sophia P., Brendan K.

5th grade finalists: Nicolo D., Serge V., Dante V.

Remember "Remind"

Are you one of the 351 parents who have subscribed to "Remind?" If you want receive timely "Rheeminders" on your cell phone about everything Rheem-related from minimum days to emergency alerts, simply text @rheem to 81010 or click [HERE](#) download instructions. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe@rheem'. Visit remind.com to learn more.

Rheem Parents "Stepped Right Up" to Volunteer for the Read-a-thon!

We are very grateful to the many parents who give generously of their time to collect student tally sheets, verify the totals, and enter the data into a spreadsheet each week of the Read-a-thon. Some parents are the volunteer for not one... but TWO classrooms! Dare I say it... these Rheem parents are **"the greatest volunteers on Earth"** and are listed below:

Teacher/Grade	Volunteer
Inzeo/K	Stuart Schonfeld
Kathan/K	Mark Chiaruicci
Lorie/K	Shannon Morelli
Bailey/1 st	Moon Chung
O'Connell/1 st	Shannon Morelli
Strohmeier/1 st	Jon Nickens
Guidi/2 nd	Amy Chen Yee
Thomson/2 nd	Burcin Nee
Webster/2 nd	Karen Chiarucci
Berkman/3 rd	Tonya Feeman
Caraska/3 rd	Jen Wen
Ralph/3 rd	Michelle Kong
Culleton/4 th	Beth Chang
Drury/4 th	Moon Chung
McMullen/4 th	Joy Kim
Cavallero/5 th	Diane Johnson
Greer/5 th	Eric & Lori True
Gubser/5 th	Vicky Kearsey

Who or What is P.O.E.M.S?

Parents of Exceptional Moraga Students

POEMS is a group of MSD parents who have students with special needs. Each Moraga School site has a representative who has learned about resources within MSD and wants to help connect parents to the appropriate resources and to each other. We are grateful to Hannah Preece (hannahprece@yahoo.co.uk) for serving as Rheem's representative. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about POEMS and how this group can help you and your family.

School Climate Survey Results

School Adults Model Behavior

In the MSD School Climate Survey given in November, 2016, 186 Rheem parents responded as follows:

- 89% respondents agreed with the statement ***"School adults consistently model respectful behavior that creates a positive climate for learning"***.

Actual Breakdown: 38% strongly agree; 51% agree; 4% neutral; 3% disagree; 1% strongly disagree; 3% don't know

Sign up for MEF Phone-a-thon!

MEF is looking for volunteers for their annual Phone-A-Thon on February 7th and 8th at 6:30pm. If you are able to volunteer on one or both of those dates, please click [HERE](#) sign up. For questions, please contact Joan Vattuone, MEF PAT Chair (and Rheem parent) at mjvattuone@hotmail.com.

Did You Know?

Rheem School's Attendance line is 377-2086. Please make a note of it or program it into your phone. By using the attendance line, you can leave a quick message and not risk tying up the main line which we like to keep open for non-attendance issues.

Please call the attendance line when your child will be absent for ANY reason. Even if you inform the teacher that your child will be absent/late, you must ALSO call the Attendance Line!

If a child is marked absent and there is not a call to the Attendance Line, office staff will call all numbers listed on the emergency card until the whereabouts of the student can be verified by an adult. Again, using the attendance line can save the office staff from extra work!

Next time you are in the office, ask for one of our school magnets that lists the attendance line, our main office line, and the phone number for Roadrunner Club. Place it in a handy spot, and you'll never have to worry about not having the right number to call.

Safety First

Did you know that all of Rheem's classrooms doors can be easily locked from the *inside*? In 2015, Moraga School District changed all the classroom door locks to be easily secured *from the inside* without a key. Previously, a teacher had to use his/her key to lock the door from the *outside*. We appreciate this important upgrade to our facility, which can save valuable time in the case of an emergency.

Hello from Roadrunner Club *submitted by Eleanor Persons*

Just to catch you up on what has been going on at Roadrunners Club: We made the best of all the rain we had. We played indoor tennis with balloons and paper plates. We celebrated Martin Luther King Day with intertwining hands painted different colors, and we celebrated Chinese New Year with the most beautiful hand painted dragons. It does not matter what the weather is, we still have a blast at Roadrunner Club!

Just a gentle reminder: After School Enrichment Classes started this past week. Remember, one Activity Release form per child per class. If your child is not picked up from the class when it is over, the teachers have been instructed to return your child to Roadrunner club and all normal fees apply.

Thank you for your understanding.

Last Word...

I don't want to spend a lot of time on a preamble, because I'd like you to get right to [this video](#) of advice from Brene Brown about how to talk with your kids about the divisive political rhetoric that is everywhere right now. She speaks about her own experience with family members who have very different beliefs. And, she does a great job of "not taking sides" in this short (5 minute) talk but, instead, reminding parents of the important job of raising kids who are committed, but not compliant. I appreciate her simple, direct, relatable style that focuses on keeping respect and civility front and center, and I hope you do, too.

I love this school!

Ms. Frank, Principal