

October 4, 2020

Good Evening Rheem Team Families,

It was so nice to see blue skies today and I hope you were able to get out and enjoy some nicer weather. There are several things on tap for this week, so please be sure to dive right in to Rheemarks.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, October 5th:

- MEF Week of Giving
- Art & Kindness Club: Art & Kindness Club: ([Zoom Link](#))

Tuesday, October 6th:

- [Parent Survey: Feedback on Reopening](#) ends at 6:00PM

Wednesday, October 7th:

- Storytime Club: 12:30-1:00 ([Zoom Link](#))

Thursday, October 8th:

- Regularly Scheduled Thursday

Friday, October 9th:

- Fun Fridays Club 12:30-1:00 ([Zoom Link](#))

Monday, October 12th:

- NO SCHOOL – STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

School News and Highlights

New 3rd Grade Teacher: Starting tomorrow (10/5) Mrs. Jessica Stafford will be replacing Mrs. Ralph as a member of the 3rd grade Team. We are excited to welcome Mrs. Stafford to the Rheem Team and know she will work hard to support each and every student.

Spirit Wear Available for Pick Up: Last Friday marked the first day for you to pick up any Spirit Wear purchased from PTA. If you haven't done so already, please be sure to stop by the bus loop near the flag pole and grab your item(s).

Rheem Team Rave Reviews: Thank you to everyone who was able to share a quick note of praise and appreciation for their teacher this past Friday. And a special thank you to Lori Polsky and PTA, for organizing this very kind and thoughtful gesture. (boxes for "Rave Reviews" will placed on the tables set up each Friday for "Friday Folders.")

Parent Survey - Feedback on Reopening

The Governing Board is scheduled to discuss reopening Moraga Schools for in-person instruction as an information item at the October 13th board meeting. In preparation for

this meeting, we need every Moraga School District family to complete one [Parent Survey - Feedback on Reopening Plans](#) for each Moraga School District student. Survey responses are not a commitment or vote. This survey is meant to provide feedback. If you have questions about this survey please don't hesitate to ask me. I'm happy to respond to any and all questions. Please complete this form no later than 10/6/2020.

A Message from Rheem Librarian, Mrs. Gillbanks

I'm thrilled to see so many students checking out books from our Rheem Library! As a reminder, all info regarding curbside checkout can be found on the Rheem Homepage under "Student Links"- click "Library Book Request Form." Students who already have a book on loan, may still request a new book. As long as the current book on loan is returned to the Labeled Blue ReturnCart, then the new book may be picked up off the Labeled Blue RequestCart. These requested books have the student's name highlighted, teacher, etc. on a thin, white bookmark for identification and pickup. All other requests will be located in the student's Friday Folder File.

The Last Word...

Each Sunday, when I sit down to draft the weekly Rheemarks, I try and save the "Last Word" for some sort of insight into Rheem and the community. Whether it be about emergency preparedness, growth mindset, homework support or upcoming programs I appreciate the opportunity to share with you my thoughts and perspectives. With that said, this week I'd like to dedicate the Last Word to something very near and dear to my heart which is the Moraga Education Foundation.

This week is MEF's "Week of Giving" campaign, as they are currently raising funds for the 2021-2022 school year, and Rheem needs your help. We are all hoping to be back in the classroom full time next fall, and it's a priority that the staff and programming our children and families have come to expect are still there when we return. The Moraga Education Foundation raises nearly \$2.5 million annually to support Moraga schools (CP, Rheem, LP, JM and Campo) with roughly \$1 million going to the three elementary schools.

The sad reality in California is that our schools are underfunded, and we need private donations in order to fund so many parts of our children's educational experience. Please join me in supporting your child's education at Rheem with a contribution to MEF. Your donation impacts your child every day.

The Week of Giving (October 5th-11th) is a perfect time to make your annual donation. MEF has two goals for this week:

- Goal 1:** *Increase the total amount donated* to match or exceed what MEF had raised by this time last year. (The current MEF campaign has raised \$658,946

towards the \$2.75M goal, yet by Oct. 11 of last year, MEF donors had already contributed \$929,490.)

·**Goal 2:** Have *each school increase their number of donations* by about 25%. As of September 30, Rheem families had made 114 donations to MEF. Every elementary school is attempting to reach 150 donations by the end of the week. If you've already donated, an additional donation will count towards Rheem's total (My wife and I plan on making an additional donation in recognition of Ann Ralph and her 25+ years of service to Rheem students). And if you have children in multiple schools, your donation counts for each school's total.

Each day I go to work I consider myself fortunate to be in a school community and town where education is valued the way it is here in Moraga. We are so lucky to have a strong history of supporting public education, and we continue to need your support. Thank you as always for all you do to enrich the lives of your children and for helping make Rheem such a special place!

There's no place like Rheem!

Mr. Sullivan