

November 11, 2019

Dear Rheem Team Families,

This week marks the beginning of the 2nd Trimester. (Can you believe we are a third of the way through the school year?) With only two weeks before Thanksgiving Break, I encourage you to give this week's RHEEMARKS a thorough read as to prepare for the coming weeks.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, November 11th:

- NO SCHOOL – Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 12th:

- Regularly Scheduled Tuesday
- School Board meeting at JM from 7:00-10:00PM

Wednesday, November 13th:

- Regularly Scheduled Wednesday
- PBIS Store Open

Thursday, November 14th:

- Regularly Scheduled Thursday

Friday, November 15th:

- Regularly Scheduled Friday

School News and Highlights:

4th Grade's "Walk Through California" – This past week, Mrs. Culleton and Ms. McMullen's classes took part in the onsite field trip "Walk Through California." This interactive program provides Rheem 4th graders the chance to dress up in character and bring California History to life. Kudos to a job well done by both classes and thank you 4th grade teachers and families for bringing this great opportunity to Rheem. (Mrs. Drury's class will be participating in the program mid-January)

Did you Know?

1st Trimester Attendance Update

Below are the year over year statistics for Rheem's attendance:

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 | 2017-18 | 2016-17 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Attendance | 97.82% | 98.17% | 98.11% | 98.17% |
| Truants/Unexcused Absence | 137 | 95 | 114 | 116 |
| Tardies | 296 | 250 | 488 | 327 |

Thank you for your continued efforts to support your student's academics. Attendance is the greatest factor when it comes to student learning. It is important to keep in mind how essential it is for students to arrive on time and be present. Coming to school late poses a number of problems, most notably:

- gaps in learning (missed instruction)
- disrupting the whole class
- habitual tardiness leads to an increase in absences

What are some things we can do to help improve our child's attendance and on time arrival?

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, the principal, or other parents for advice on how to make them feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid scheduled medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

Thank you Rheem PTA – Staff Luncheon

This past Wednesday, the staff lunch room was filled with delicious Mexican fare and festive decorations. A big thank you to the PTA for this wonderful treat and their continued support of all things Rheem.

2019-20 Yearbook Request

We need your photos!

We are now collecting photos for the 2019-2020 yearbook. Like last year, we will be using Pictavo to collect photos. You can load photos via the website.

How do I upload photos?

1. Log onto <http://commpe.pictavo.com/>
2. Log In or Create and account
3. Add Rheem School to your account- search by State and City
4. Upload Photos! Make sure to select a category (i.e. 1st Grade Field Trip, Butterfly Parade, etc.)

**Please note that there is a required line "Who is in the Photo", you may put N/A in this line as we do not need to have all the names of the children in the photos. The ONLY exception to this is 5th Grade Baby Photos!*

If you prefer to email photos we are happy to accept them that way as well. For that and for any questions please use the below contact information.

Molly Devinger
mdevinger@gmail.com

Order yearbooks here:
https://rheemta.membershiptoolkit.com/Open_Forms

Plan Ahead for Parent Conferences

This year, parent-teacher conferences will be held for all K through 5th grade students during "Conference Week," November 18 - 22. We strongly encourage you to schedule a conference with your child's teacher on these days, since the teachers have these days set aside to focus on the invaluable school-home connection.

As you know, the conference offers a special opportunity for parents and teacher to share information about the child. The best conferences end with both the parents and teacher feeling they have learned something about the child. Be sure to read "[Tips for a Successful Parent Teacher Conference](#)" to make the most of this important opportunity.

Also, it's not too early to make arrangements for the changes to the bell schedule to accommodate Conference Week. Click [HERE](#) to view the specific schedule (also known as the "Rheem Team Family Challenge") that includes four "shortened minimum days" on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday of Conference Week.

The Scholastic Book Fair is Next Week!

Submitted by Sharon Gillbanks Rheem Librarian

Rheem's annual Book Fair, benefiting our school library, is next week, November 18–21. Each class will have a specific time to visit the fair during school hours. Students can shop, spend their Summer Reading Program \$5 award, or make their wish lists (if you do not wish your child to spend money during the fair).

Allowing your child to shop during the class time is entirely optional, although shopping independently will help your child practice math, decision making, and time management skills. Specific instructions and a flyer were sent home in students' backpacks last week. I highly encourage you to visit the book fair with your child prior to his/her class visit to help him/her choose books and make a wish list to bring to the fair to help your child have a

successful class visit. You are also more than welcome to shop with your child during his/her class visit!

The fair will also be open after school for you to shop with/for your child/children.

Thank you in advance for helping make the Scholastic Book Fair a winner for the library!

Book Fair Shopping Hours:

Monday, Nov. 18th: *11:30-2:30pm*

Tuesday, November 19th: *11:30-2:30pm*

Wednesday, November 20th: *1:30-3pm, 5-8pm*

Thursday, November 21st: *8-10am, 11:30-3pm*

Volunteers Needed Please!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044aadad23a1f49-scholastic4>

The Last Word...

When I was nine years old my father took me and my brother to our first professional basketball game. We saw the Golden State Warriors play the New Orleans Jazz. I don't remember which team won, or any of the particulars about the game other than when it was over my brother and I asked our dad if we could wait around and get some players autographs. He said we could but if we wanted to get an autograph of someone important we should ask the young man standing nearby who was wearing his Marine uniform for his. It's interesting what we remember from your childhood but an appreciation for veterans was something I distinctly remember about mine.

With that said, today is Veterans Day and a day where we, as parents and guardians, can share with our children the importance of the sacrifices the brave men and women have made to protect and serve our country. It is easy in this busy day and age to forget the real reason for this three-day weekend, but I encourage each of you to share with your children the real reason for the holiday. I love this short [video](#) that shares the spirit of Veterans Day and recognizes all those who made the sacrifice to support and defend the Constitution. We are all safer and stronger thanks to their commitment to freedom.

There's no place like Rheem!

Mr. Sullivan