

# RHEEMARKS

November 12, 2017

Conferences are this week! Please click the “Rheem Team Family Challenge” to prepare yourself for this week’s release schedule.

Make sure to review the [“Tips for a Successful Parent Teacher Conference”](#) so you can make the most of this important meeting. It’s our hope that by working together, we can make this the most successful year possible for every student.

While you’re at school for your Parent Conference, be sure to stop by the **Book Fair**, which will be held in the Library from Monday – Thursday. Proceeds from this event will go to support our school library. All classes will be visiting the **Book Fair** during the school day this week; however open shopping hours are as follows:

## **BOOK FAIR SHOPPING HOURS:**

- Monday 3:00 – 5:00
- Tuesday 8:00am – 8:30am and 11:30am – 2:00pm
- Wednesday 8:00am – 8:30am and 1:30pm – 3:30 pm
- Thursday 8:00am – 9:00am and 11:30am – 6:30pm

## **This Week at Rheem:**

### Monday, November 13th:

- Regularly scheduled day
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade participate in Speak Up Be Safe (SUBS)

### Tuesday, November 14th:

- Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Minimum Day 8:25 – 11:45 (All students)
- School Board Meeting in JM Library from 7:00 – 9:30

Wednesday, November 15th:

- Regularly scheduled Wednesday (8:25 – 1:50)

Thursday, November 16th:

- Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Minimum Day 8:25 – 11:45 (All students)
- Native American Feast Day (3<sup>rd</sup> grade in Frank Hall)

Friday, November 17th:

- Spirit Assembly
  - 8:35 – 9:20 (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)
  - 10:30 – 11:15 (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)
- Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Minimum Day 8:25 – 11:45 (All students)

## School News and Highlights:

**Fall Carnival Raffle Winners:** The fun just keeps coming for some lucky winners from our Fall Carnival. Please click [here](#) to see a list of all the winners.

## Did you Know?

Here are some year over year statistics on Rheem's attendance:

	2017-18	2016-17
Attendance	98.11%	98.17%
Truants/Unexcused Absences	114	116
Tardies	488	327

As you can see our attendance rate and truancy/unexcused absence rate is relatively unchanged from last year, however students coming late to school has increased by 33%. It's essential for students to arrive on time. 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 bed time 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.

Supporting students and their families are paramount at Rheem. With that in mind, please let us know how we can be of assistance to help with any attendance concerns you have.

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

This week our 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Self advocacy and self awareness are essential to living healthy. This program introduces and reinforces great lessons to help our children live a happy and healthy life.

## **Mark your calendar: Thanksgiving Break the week of November 20th**

This year's Thanksgiving Break is from November 18th - 26th. There will be no school November 20th - 24th.

### **The Last Word:**

I remember parent teacher conferences quite vividly from my childhood. My mother would set up times to meet with her three children's teachers and go to hear how they were doing. The rule in our family was every time there was a positive conference my mother would take us to get ice cream. It's kinda funny how I can't recall any concerns my teachers may have shared with my mother about me or my siblings, but I do remember my mom sharing her love. With a busy week of conferences ahead of us I encourage all of you to embrace the many great things your children are doing in the classroom and look to approach any challenges they are experiencing as obstacles to make them stronger and better prepared for the future. Thank you for all that you do to support your children, Rheem is a far better place because of it.

There is no place like Rheem,

Mr. Sullivan