

November 25, 2018

Dear Rheem Team Families,

Welcome back!! I hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving Break and were able to spend time with family and friends for the holiday...and catch up on some rest if possible.

## **This Week at Rheem:**

### Monday, November 26th:

- Cultural Proficiency Committee meeting 3:30-5:00 @ LP

### Tuesday, November 27th:

- Regularly scheduled Tuesday

### Wednesday, November 28th:

- Assembly: Town Hall Theatre Group

### Thursday, November 29th:

- Regularly scheduled Thursday

### Friday, November 30th:

- Regularly scheduled Friday

## **School News and Highlights**

**Thanksgiving Break** Classes resume this Monday, November 26th after a week off.

**2nd Grade onsite Field Trip:** Ms. Guidi, Mr. Thomson and Mrs. Webster hosted Ms. Corky Quirk the “Bat Lady” the week before Thanksgiving Break. She rescues and cares for injured bats and shared her experiences with the 2nd graders in conjunction with their reading unit on bats.

**5th grade students present to School Board:** 5th graders Adison, Kaelyn, Logan, Sabrina, Sivani and Will presented to the Moraga School Board on Tuesday, November 13th about the “Rheem Team Welcome Wavers.” This dedicated group of Roadrunners (along with several other 5th graders) welcome students onto

campus each day at the bus circle and the back steps by saying good morning/hello and exchanging a high five.

**Air Quality Index** With recent rains the AQI (air quality index) has returned to normal levels and we expect to resume our standard schedule in regards to recess and lunch.

## **Did you Know?**

Rheem has a long-standing tradition of focusing on the life-skills of **Caring and Friendship** during the weeks between the Thanksgiving and Winter holidays by helping those in need. This effort is called “**Rheem Cares.**” In previous years, Rheem has supported organizations such as: the Berkeley Women’s Drop-In Shelter, Heifer International and the Make a Wish Foundation to name just a few. Be on the lookout for information coming home in the backpacks or through teacher e-newsletters in the coming week(s) so that your family can get involved and experience the joy of helping out.

## **Online Scholastic Book Fair CLOSSES this Tuesday (11/27)**

With the school closure on Friday, November 16th, many people were not able to make it the Book Fair. You can still order through the Online Book Fair by clicking [HERE](#). Or use the Book Fairs App Store: Enter APP19 at checkout for \$5 off your book Fairs app order of \$25 or more!

***Free shipping on all orders and all purchases benefit the Rheem Library!***

## **Parent Education Opportunity**

### **Raising Strong Digital Citizens in a Technology Addicted Society**

On Wednesday, November 28th from 6:30-8:00pm at the Orinda School District Office (8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda) join Contra Costa County Office of Education Coordinator of Instructional Technology for an evening dedicated to strategies for parenting in a digital society.

## **The Last Word...**

Did you know that receiving a compliment has the same effect on your brain as receiving money? A couple of Tuesdays ago six Rheem 5th graders (Adison, Kaelyn, Logan, Sabrina, Sivani and Will) presented to the Moraga School Board about our new "Rheem Team Welcome Wavers." Their presentation talked about the importance of being in a school where students feel connected and cared for by one another. Please read below to find out about the "Welcome Wavers" four main themes.

### **1. Start with hello**

In September the whole school took part in the Sandy Hook Promise program "Start with Hello," and this year's 5th graders did not want the valuable lessons and activities from that week to be for just 5 days. The program called for students saying hello to as many people as you can; sharing a smile with as many people as possible; sharing compliments with your peers for an entire day; spending time with new friends; and last but not least sharing random acts of kindness with your peers. It was decided that these themes/lessons were too good to last just one week.

### **1. Starting your day off on the right foot**

Students receiving a greeting can feel more energized for the day and by exchanging a hello and sharing a high five will make everyone feel better in the morning. Or as one 5th grader put it, "It just brightens up a person's day."

### **1. Feeling connected to school**

A consistent welcome can help students feel a part of Rheem and that they belong, and sharing positive interactions is something that helps build connectivity to school. If we can be that positive interaction on a daily basis, we can help others feel connected.

### **1. Kindness is contagious**

Our goal as Welcome Wavers is to let our peers know we care about them and want them to always feel welcome at school. By sharing a "Good morning" greeting and high five it will become contagious, and more people will want to do the same for others.

How awesome is that? Think back to when you were in school and how great it felt to receive a welcome greeting from a friend or peer. 5th graders hope they can make that feeling contagious at Rheem, so that everyone will want to do the same.

There's no place like Rheem,  
Mr. Sullivan