

February 2, 2020

Dear Rheem Team Families,

Welcome to this week's Super Bowl edition of RHEEMARKS. There is a lot to get through so please buckle your chin strap and follow your blockers to the end zone.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, February 3rd:

- Regularly scheduled Monday

Tuesday, February 4th:

- Regularly scheduled Tuesday

Wednesday, February 5th:

- PTA Association meeting in the Frank (8:30-10:00)

Thursday, February 6th:

- Kindergarten registration (9:00-2:00 in the office - by appointment only)

Friday, February 7th:

- Kindergarten registration (9:00-2:00 in the office - by appointment only)
- Global Art & Cultural Night (5:00-7:00 in the Frank)

Global Art & Cultural Night – This Friday

This Friday all families are invited to take part in Rheem's first-ever Global Art & Culture Night. The night will be a journey around the world discovering children's handmade crafts, imaginative literature and games, with a special performance from the Bay Area Hula Company. ***(Reminder all passport cover art is due in the office by Thursday the 6th)***

There are still several volunteer positions that need to be filled. Please review the event details and click on the SignUpGenius link to help make this a memorable evening with family and friends!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4BAEAA28A1FF2-rheem>

School Climate Survey Results

Over the next several weeks, I will be including results from the 2019-20 Climate Survey that was sent out in December, 2019. 167 Rheem families responded as follows:

93% respondents agreed with the statement “School adults consistently model respectful behavior that creates a positive climate for learning.”

Actual breakdown: 55% strongly agree; 38% agree; 2% disagree; 1% strongly disagree and 4% didn't know.

County Health Announcement:

Dear Parents:

Many of us are following the news of a new virus (novel coronavirus) that has made thousands of people sick in China and around the world, including several cases in the U.S.

We want to let you know that the Moraga School District is working with Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) to reduce the risk of anyone getting sick from this novel (new) coronavirus in our community.

Right now, there have been four confirmed cases reported in California, including two in Santa Clara County. Even though there was a case in the Bay Area, CCHS reports the risk of becoming ill from this coronavirus in Contra Costa County remains very low.

According to the CCHS, the only people who are potentially infected with this virus, which causes fever and breathing problems, are people who started getting sick WITHIN 2 weeks of returning from China, or people who have had close contact with this sick person.

CCHS does not recommend exclusion of healthy students, families, teachers, or school staff if they do not have any symptoms, regardless of actual or perceived travel history, race, or heritage.

The CCHS tells us the best ways to reduce the risk of getting or spreading any respiratory disease, including this virus, are:

- Stay home from school or work if you are sick.
- Frequently wash hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or use hand sanitizer.
- Cover with an elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth and limit close contact with people who are sick

CCHS is not currently recommending the use of masks, so we are not providing or requiring them at school. Local information about the virus is available at cchealth.org/coronavirus.

I will communicate with you as more information becomes available.

Regards,
Mr. Sullivan

Kindergarten & Transitional Kindergarten Registration

Welcome '20 – '21 kindergarteners! Rheem will hold registration for next year's Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten (TK) students this Thursday and Friday, February 6th and 7th. Registration will take place in Rheem's Office (Room 1) by appointment only from 9:00am – 2:00 pm on both days. Please click the link below to sign up.

To be eligible for kindergarten, the child must turn 5 years of age by September 1, 2020. To be eligible for TK, the child must have their 5th birthday between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2, 2020.

To sign up for an appointment or detailed information about online registration, immunization requirements, and what documents to bring on registration days, please click [HERE](#).

Rheem's 2020 Science Fair in On

The Science Fair is open to students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade (participation optional). Young scientists will gather in groups of up to three students from any combination of these grades and use the Scientific Method of Investigation to work on a safe, non-hazardous, hands-on project. Each group will create one report and poster board to present to fellow classmates, parents, and the rest of the school. The Science Fair Committee will be available to advise and guide our fearless young scientists along the way. Online applications can be submitted Feb 1-14 (click [HERE](#) for the online application).

Email rheemsf@gmail.com for more info.

Read-a-thon Update

We've had a very strong start to the 2020 Rheem Read-a-thon! Thank you for all your support of this program. We'd also like to thank Jen Blau for her wonderful design work on this year's bookmark, and Bel and Bunna's Books for donating the top prizes.

There is still time to sponsor your student or submit a donation. Simply click [HERE](#) and follow the easy online steps. As a reminder, this year's Read-a-thon proceeds will go directly towards the Laird Drive Capital Improvement Project.

With ***Crazy Hair Day*** on the line, we need you to add your students' hours through the [ONLINE FORM](#). **Ninety percent student participation** is required to earn this fun day. If you forgot to enter last week's hours, don't worry about it! Simply select which week's hours you are submitting when you fill out the form. If you prefer a paper tally sheet, one is available [here](#), and can be downloaded from the Rheem PTA website (<https://rheempta.membershiptoolkit.com>). Turn in the sheet and reading hours will be credited to your student.

Any questions? Please contact the Read-a-thon chairs: Karen Jaworski (karen@kjaworski.com) | Jen Wen (jennwen001@gmail.com)

MSD History Textbook Review

Moraga School District parents, students, teachers, administrators, and other community members are invited to preview new instructional materials considered for District adoption from January 20, 2020 - February 5, 2020. Materials available for preview include a 6th-8th grade History program.

The public preview for these instructional materials will be held at the Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School library. Individuals interested in previewing these materials may review them between 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If interested, please contact Alberta Falcone, District Textbook Coordinator, at (925) 377-4255 or afalcone@moraga.k12.ca.us to schedule an appointment. The materials will not be available for check out.

The parent preview precedes a recommendation to the MSD Governing Board on February 11, 2020, to formally approve the 6th-8th grade History curriculum.

If you have questions about this public preview please contact Dr. Carolyn Parker, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, at (925) 376-5943 or cparker@moraga.k12.ca.us.

The Last Word...

With the read-a-thon going full steam, I thought it would be a good idea to send a few helpful tips for helping your child with reading. Literacy expert, Dr. Timothy Shanahan from University Chicago has [11 great suggestions](#) to help parents support their child's literacy. From reading with your child, to asking them questions about what they are reading, the //consistent message evolves around making reading an important part of your family's routine and letting them know that reading is an important part of their day.

Thank you for your continued support of all things Rheem.

There is no place like Rheem,

Mr. Sullivan