

February 9, 2020

Dear Rheem Team Families,

This is the final week of our “Minds at Work” Read-a-thon. All students will find out tomorrow that they have earned “**Crazy Hair Day**” for the fourth consecutive year. (Crazy Hair Day will be on Tuesday, March 24th.)

This school week and next are only four-days long. Be sure to mark your calendars that Friday, February 14th and Monday, February 17th are school holidays. I hope everyone has survived the high winds and is ready to take on the rest of this week’s Rheemarks.

## **This Week at Rheem:**

### Monday, February 10th:

- Regularly scheduled Monday

### Tuesday, February 11th:

- MSD Governing Board meeting from 7:00-10:00 PM (JM Library)

### Wednesday, February 12th:

- Rheem Student Store open

### Thursday, February 13th:

- Read-a-thon ends

### Friday, February 14th:

- NO SCHOOL: Presidents Day
- Valentine’s Day
- Online Science Fair application due

### Monday, February 17th:

- NO SCHOOL: Presidents Day

## School News and Highlights

- Last Friday night was Rheem's inaugural ***Global Art and Cultural Night***. There was a marvelous turnout, where children and families had a wonderful time learning about different cultures while participating in a craft activities. There was also live dancing where everyone was treated to amazing Polynesian dancers from the Bay Area Hula Company...and children were also able to join the performers on stage for some dancing and fun). Thank you to our many volunteers for making this such a memorable evening, and in particular Anjali Cargain for her incredible work in formulating this fantastic event.
- Currently 98% of Rheem students have participated in this year's read-a-thon. Be sure to enter your student's hours.
- Online **Science Fair** [applications](#) are due this Friday.

## Did you Know?

The Moraga Education Foundation (MEF) grant to our elementary schools is \$990,000, funding critical staff and programs that benefit **ALL** students. Thank you for your generous [donations](#) and continued support of MEF. I can assure you it makes a world of difference for every student, every day here at Rheem.

## Read-a-thon Update

At last count, over 98% of Rheem students are participating in the Read-a-thon! 16 classes can boast 100% participation (all students having recorded at least one week of reading time).

Rheem students have earned Crazy Hair Day for Tuesday, March 24th!

There is still time to sponsor your student or submit a donation. Simply click [HERE](#) and follow the easy online steps.

With one last push for our final goal of **Pajama Day** on the line, we need you to add your students' hours through the [ONLINE FORM](#). **100% student participation** is required to earn this cozy 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](mailto:karen@kjaworski.com)) | Jen Wen ([jennwen001@gmail.com](mailto:jennwen001@gmail.com))

## **Rheem's 4th Annual Variety Show**

Mark your calendars, the 4th Annual Rheem Variety Show is just around the corner!

Fliers and Entry Forms were sent home last week in your student's folder, but now is the time for your student to start thinking of an act. Dancing, singing, music, acting, comedy, magic, martial arts...the sky's the limit! Any student is welcome to join the show.

***We are seeking a parent to help with music/sound to digitally organize the music of the performers.*** Please contact either Jill Balazs, [jillbalazs@gmail.com](mailto:jillbalazs@gmail.com) or Courtney Pickering, [cwpickering@gmail.com](mailto:cwpickering@gmail.com) if interested.

Below are the important dates to remember:

Entry Forms Due to the office by February 26th

Auditions: Friday March 6th

Dress Rehearsal: Wednesday March 18th

Variety Show: Friday March 20th 6-8 pm

## 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:

95% respondents agreed with the statement “My child has caring and supportive friends.” Actual breakdown: 40% strongly agree; 55% agree; 2% disagree; 2% strongly disagree and 1% didn’t know.

## The Last Word...

My apologies for the late edition to this week’s Rheemarks. I like to set time aside on the weekend to complete the weekly newsletter but this one got a little busier than expected with a family gathering, youth sports, a community outreach opportunity and dinner and a movie with Mrs. Sullivan on Saturday night (fyi...we both enjoyed *Pain and Glory*).

### *The Power of Believing You Can:*

I’ve written before about Dr. Carol Dweck, author of [Mindset: The New Psychology of Success](#), and her message about the importance of developing a growth mindset, but I thought it would be a great opportunity for me to share with anyone who has not heard of, or seen her work (or give a refresher for those who have). Her work encourages us to discover the “power of yet” when we are faced with a challenge: Are you not smart enough to solve it, or have you just not solved it *yet*? There is a great 10-minute Tedx Talk she gives on her work, in which she outlines ways parents and educators can positively influence students’ belief in themselves, click [HERE](#).

*This information is especially important if you’re interested in supporting a student who struggles or one who avoids challenges.*

Thank you for your patience and I look forward to seeing you on Laird.

There is no place like Rheem,

Mr. Sullivan