

RHEEMARKS: April 18th

Good Evening Rheem Team Families,

Rheem was the place to be last week...if you don't believe me, ask someone that was stuck trying to get to the Hacienda on Wednesday at 8:15 AM. Besides the traffic, it was great to have so many students back on campus for the entire day. However, like all beginnings, there will be some growing pains as we look to improve procedures.

In-person students will be welcomed tomorrow morning with a brand-new desk. Thank you again to the 20+ volunteers who helped remove old desks and place new desks last Friday.

Please dive into the rest of this week's Rheemarks.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, April 19:

In-person learning for whole cohorts (8:25-2:30)

·K-2nd early friends from 8:25-1:50

·K-2nd late friends from 9:05-2:30

·3th-5th from 8:25-2:30

Full Distance Learning Students with their teacher on Zoom

Tuesday, April 20:

In-person learning for whole cohorts (8:25-2:30)

·K-2nd early friends from 8:25-1:50

·K-2nd late friends from 9:05-2:30

·3th-5th from 8:25-2:30

Full Distance Learning Students with their teacher on Zoom

Wednesday, April 21:

All K-5th students (8:25-1:50)

Full Distance Learning Students with their teacher on Zoom (8:25-1:50)

Coordinating Council Meeting (3:30-5:00 via [Zoom link](#))

Thursday, April 22:

In-person learning for whole cohorts (8:25-2:30)

·K-2nd early friends from 8:25-1:50

·K-2nd late friends from 9:05-2:30

·3th-5th from 8:25-2:30

Full Distance Learning Students with their teacher on Zoom

Kindergarten Orientation from 3:30-4:30 ([Zoom link](#))

Friday, April 23:

In-person learning for whole cohorts (8:25-2:30)

·K-2nd early friends from 8:25-1:50

·K-2nd late friends from 9:05-2:30

·3th-5th from 8:25-2:30

Full Distance Learning Students with their teacher on Zoom

School News and Highlights

·Saying good morning to students as they enter campus sure does make you feel good.

·Full distance learning students joined their new teachers and classmates for the first time on Wednesday.

Incoming Kindergarten Orientation – Class of 2027

Thursday, April 2nd at 3:30 PM

This Thursday, incoming kindergarten families are invited to attend a virtual orientation meeting. The meeting kicks off at 3:30 PM and will end when the last questions are answered. ([Zoom link](#); Meeting ID: 850 0446 2898)

Another Round of Thank You's

Last week we had over 50 families help volunteer for afternoon dismissal, and furniture removal/placement. Thank you for sharing your time and talent to help make last week's reopening go so well.

Volunteers for Afternoon Dismissal Still Needed

Please consider signing up [HERE](#) to help with afternoon dismissal. Below are the number of volunteers we still need for this week:

- Monday: 1:50 release three volunteers needed/2:30 release five volunteers needed
- Tuesday: 1:50 release three volunteers needed/2:30 release five volunteers needed
- Wednesday: 1:50 release four volunteers needed (all students out at 1:50)
- Thursday: 1:50 release three volunteers needed/2:30 release four volunteers needed
- Friday: 1:50 release two volunteers needed/2:30 release one volunteer needed

Thank you to everyone who has had a chance to volunteer so far. We could not make this happen without your support.

Traffic and Safety Protocols

Last week, traffic on Laird Drive looked a lot like the Major Deegan Expressway after a New York Yankee game...crowded and filled with emotion. With that said, we need to keep in mind that safety, above all else, must take precedence when traveling to and from Rheem. We ask that when coming up to the drop-off/pick-up area, you do not pull around cars. I know it may feel like we are helping with efficiency when we do this, but we want to ensure everyone is as safe as possible, and eliminating pulling around others will help us do just that.

Attendance

- Do not send your student to school sick. Fill out the COVID-19 daily screener each school day by 7:30.
- Please email (preferred) lfitzinger@moraga.k12.ca.us and your child's teacher if your child will be absent/tardy or call the attendance line at 925.377.2086

·If your child is tardy, you must escort your child to the office, and we will walk your student to class.

Thinking About Next Year

As May approaches, parents and teachers begin to think about class placements for next year. I want to take this opportunity to outline the process we use at Rheem to ensure that the best interests of all students are considered.

First, I can assure you that this process will be completed very carefully. Current Rheem teachers and I will be involved in a team effort to create balanced, heterogeneous classes at every grade level. This process begins with grade-level placement meetings in which teachers divide their classes into as many groups as there are projected classes at the next grade level for the following year. Each new class is balanced in terms of boys and girls, special needs students, academic abilities, peer relationships, and social behavior. Many factors are considered through this process.

The teachers and I place students very carefully, and no parent input is expected or required. However, parents who feel they need to give input to this process may write a letter that addresses their child's special needs. In such a letter, parents should include their perspective on how their child learns best and any other information related to increasing their child's potential for academic success. This information will be considered in the complicated process of making up classes for next year.

Requesting a particular teacher for your child is not appropriate. Too often, these requests are based upon suggestions and talk within the community about specific teachers. I suggest that you ignore this talk. The entire teaching staff at Rheem School is composed of dedicated and qualified professionals. One child's experience (good or bad) in a given classroom may not be predictive of another child's experience.

Furthermore, changes in teaching assignments and/or reorganization of existing classes can be made right up to the opening of school depending on enrollment, so having only a teacher's name does not tell us what is essential to know about your child. If you choose to write to me, tell me about your child's needs and learning style and how you expect an educational program to serve those needs best. Parent letters must be received in our office by Monday, May 3, as our placement meetings will begin shortly afterward.

The Rheem staff is committed to working in the best interests of all our students. Thank you in advance for your understanding and support of our placement procedure; it is a critical factor in this effort.

Stay tuned for information coming soon about ordering School Kits for the 2021-22 school year!

The Last Word...

On a daily basis, families help their children in a variety of ways. From the essentials of food, shelter, and clothing to providing opportunities for our children to grow as all-around people. (i.e. arts, athletics, and more) One of the most challenging things is how best to support my own children with stress and anxiety. The idea that children live a carefree life with little to stress about is a misnomer, and we need to help support them in dealing with it. Dr. Amy Przeworski has [12 Tips to Reduce Your Child's Stress and Anxiety](#), and they range from helping your child face his/her fears to practicing relaxation exercises with them and helping them to problem-solve. I strongly recommend you take a few minutes and give it a read to see how you can help your child be even healthier.

Thank you again for all you do to help your children grow as students and, more importantly, citizens.

There's no place like Rheem,

Mr. Sullivan