

# RHEEMARKS

## *"Frank"ly Speaking...*

*April 30, 2017*

May. It's here. One word: Wow.

[CAASPP Testing](#) begins on Monday, May 1 for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders and continues through Friday, May 12. Individual schedules vary by class, but our students will take tests in the areas of English/Language Arts and Math during this two week period. Remember, the best at-home preparations for these tests are a good night's sleep, a healthy breakfast, and a good attitude; however other test-taking tips (with a focus on managing stress) can be found [HERE](#).

One more thing: Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> is **Teacher Appreciation Day** – the perfect day to let our teachers know how wonderful they are!

### **This Week at Rheem:**

#### Monday, May 1:

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade Field Trip to Oakland Zoo (8:45 – 1:45)
  - All 1<sup>st</sup> graders are Early Birds!

#### Tuesday, May 2

- 4<sup>th</sup> grade Field Trip to Mission Dolores (9:00 – 2:45)
- Kindergarten Field Trip to Smith Family Farm (8:30 – 1:15)
  - All K students arrive early and stay late!

#### Weds., May 3:

- Teacher Appreciation Day!
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade on-site "Marine Mammal Center" event in Multi-Use Room
  - Guidi (8:25 – 9:25), Thomson (9:40 – 10:40); Webster (11:05 – 12:05)

Thursday, May 4:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Tile Paining in Multi-Use Room
  - Caraska (8:30 – 9:15), Ralph (9:15- 10:00), Berkman (10:30 – 11:15)

Friday, May 6:

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade "Stand Up, Be Safe" lessons in classrooms
  - O'Connell (10:15 – 10:50), Bailey (11:00 – 11:35), Strohmeyer (1:00 – 1:35)

**Calling all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders to Rotary Field Day!**

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Moraga **Rotary Field Day will be held afterschool on Wednesday, May 10** (that's next week!) at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School. All 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to participate and represent Rheem School at this free (and extremely fun) recreational event. **Registration opens at 3:00 p.m.**

Rheem students have earned a wonderful reputation of consistently demonstrating great teamwork and sportsmanship at this event. We are looking forward to that famous Rheem Team Spirit shining bright again this year. Students have been preparing for Rotary Field Day during PE classes. Medals will be awarded to the top three competitors in each event listed below:

**Shuttle Relay**

**Standing Long Jump/Running Long Jump**

**Softball Throw/Football Throw**

**50 Yard Dash**

**Sack Race**

See you there! Go Rheem Team!

**Order School Supply Kits for 2017 - 2018**

Rheem students can now order their school supplies for next year!

Follow the easy steps below:

- Purchase on line at [www.shopttkits.com](http://www.shopttkits.com)
- Enter Rheem's account # 44569
  
- Click on the grade level. Remember to use next year's grade level!
- Click "view kit" to see the kit's contents. (If you choose NOT to purchase the kit, please reference the kit contents for requested materials).
- Proceed to checkout and pay.

The kits will be available for pick-up at Roadrunner Day, Friday, August 18 (the Friday before school begins). *Picking up kits on Roadrunner Day is OPTIONAL.* Kits not picked-up will be delivered directly to your child's class for the first day.

For more detailed information about this program, please click [HERE](#).

## **Safety First**

### ***Ascot Drive Alert!***

Recently, the Rheem office has received calls of "concern" from our Ascot neighbors regarding the use of this street for drop-off and pick-up from school. Although we recognize that Ascot Drive used as an alternative entrance/exit to school, we encourage Rheem Team families to always be considerate of our neighbors. Please do not double-park, block driveways, and/or park in the red area and leave cars unattended. Be advised that The Moraga Police Department will give citations for parking violations.

Keep in mind that the Ascot stairs are not school-district property and are not supervised by school personnel. The "official" school entrance and exit is Laird Drive, and supervision is provided both before and after school at the loading zones at the top of Laird Drive. Although parking is tight, it is more readily available along Laird Drive than on Ascot. Also, systems are in place to bring students to the office if parents are running late at pick up time. For everyone's safety, families are encouraged to use the Laird Drive entrance and exit to school.

Let's all continue to be good neighbors who follow all safety and traffic guidelines.

## **Hello From Roadrunner Club**

Another great week at Roadrunner Club; we had great projects this week. We made pizza on Wednesday for our cooking project, we did a great science experiment, with milk, soap and food coloring which explained rapid movements of molecules!!!

Roadrunner Club registration for the 2017 -2018 school year begins on-line on June 1st 2017. Please remember at the beginning of last school year we had so many last minute registrations that we were unable to process and accommodate many of the last minute registrations. Please consider registering as early as possible, so you will be guaranteed a spot on first day of school.

I am anticipating most of my Child Care Aides leaving at the end of this school year. If you are interested in a part-time job, please think of Roadrunner Club. We are a fun place, great snacks, and you don't have to take any work home.

### **Inspire the Future! Support MEF!**

The educational experience of every Rheem student is enriched and enhanced every day because of gifts to the Moraga Education Foundation. Rheem benefits from additional staff and programs, all because of the generosity of MEF donors.

To work and learn in a community that values and supports its schools and education is amazing. Every day, students directly interact with teachers and staff that are a reflection of your support. From PE with Ms. Peterson and Mr. Studebaker, to art with Ms. Larson, to computers with Ms. Johnson, and library with Ms. Gillbanks to your student's classroom aide, donations to MEF are tangible and their impact is felt all around.

In addition, donations are enhancing the technology at Rheem and supporting the new Lucy Calkins' Reading and Writing program. These will serve your students well as they continue their educational journey at Rheem and beyond.

The Rheem faculty and staff are so grateful for your support of our school. Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and financial gifts. There is just over 2 months left in this year's MEF annual campaign. Please consider making a donation today at [www.moragaeducation.org](http://www.moragaeducation.org) to help support your student every day.

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

I am often proud of the positive "spirit" of Rheem students, but I had a unique opportunity to be especially impressed by their caring and enthusiasm on Friday of this past week. Rheem's next principal, Mr. Brian Sullivan, stopped by to tour the campus with me and also to meet the students during their lunch time. The kids were wide-eyed and curious as they saw me escort the tall, tie-clad man onto the Multi-Use Room stage. Then, I told them that this person was someone very special... *"the next principal of Rheem school... Mr. Sullivan!"* With that announcement, the room immediately erupted into rousing cheers and hearty applause! In that one spontaneous moment, without skipping a beat, the students welcomed Mr. Sullivan with a big-hearted, "Rheem Team" outpouring of trust and enthusiasm!

During lunch recess, I received a call on the walkie-talkie from a yard supervisor, "Who is that man out on the field?" So, I explained. The response: "OK, just wanted to make sure! The kids are just swarming him!" I had to smile.

Later, when sharing with a teacher how quickly and happily the students welcomed Mr. Sullivan into their lives, the teacher commented, "I guess that might have felt a little sad." Well... (yes, of course)... Still, I remembered what I have told parents over the years — as they watch their young ones take off eagerly to greet a new teacher; when they feel somewhat abandoned as they stand at the curb, their hands still warm from the hands of their children, and they see them happily join a group of friends; when their children dash out of the car on the way to a sleep-over with just a flash of a good-by wave — that it is truly is a sign of strength for children to meet new adventures with a positive and welcoming outlook.

Our children could not give us a better compliment than to show us, by their actions, that they feel secure enough to embrace new beginnings with confidence, excitement, and optimism. It's the Rheem Team way!

Welcome to Rheem, Mr. Sullivan. You're going to love it here!

**I love this school!**

Ms. Frank, principal