

## **RHEEMARKS: May 30th - Late, Late Edition**

Good Evening Rheem Team Families,

I hope you are enjoying the holiday weekend, as summer has officially begun!! Please take a moment to catch up on what happened during the last week of school and see what opportunities students have to get in some summer practice.

Please dive in to the final Rheemarks for the year, and if I may say one last time...thank you for your steadfast support and care for all things Rheem.

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

Monday, May 31 - Monday, August 9:

Memorial Day

Summer Break

### **School News and Highlights**

- Class Parties: Thank you to all of the room parents and family volunteers for their effort and energy to make the end-of-year class parties a huge success.
- The staff vs. 5th-grade Kickball game was a big hit on Tuesday. The closest game in recent memory saw the staff take an early lead, only to have the 5th graders battle back to make the final score a nail-biter. Congratulations to students and staff alike for their great energy and sportsmanship.

### **5th Grade Celebration**

Wednesday was a very special day for our 5th graders as we celebrated them in our final Spirit Assembly. Although we were not able to come together as an entire school community, we were able to celebrate each other one last time with song and laughter. The event was live-streamed, where families were able to Zoom in for the festivities (kudos to Mrs. Drury and Mrs. Ross for their tech skills and camera work). A big thank you to Mrs. Cavallero, Ms. Gubser, and Mr. Greer for their unwavering support of our 5th graders', and a special thank you to Dorota Jozefiak for the beautiful video capturing the spirit of this year's 5th grade class. (Click [HERE](#) to see the fantastic video).

And a very special and sincere thank you to all of our 5th-grade families for their undying support and contribution as Rheem Team members. Once a Roadrunner...always a Roadrunner.

## PTA Historian Award Recipients

*As submitted by PTA President, Casey Sproul*

A special thank you to the Rheemarkable Jen Blau, Heather Davis, Bess Inzeo, Rebecca Kelvin, Jon Nickens, and Ragen Ortland for their support of the Rheem students via PTA and more.

**Jen Blau:** Extra, extra read all about it! Over her ten years as a Rheem School parent, Jen has participated in the PTA in many ways. She has been a board member for the PTA, serving as financial secretary, recording secretary, and VP Community & Leadership. Jen has also played an integral part in our school's annual Read A Thon. How many times have those bookmarks and papers come home, and your reaction was, "what an adorable theme and graphics?" Well, we have Jen to thank for that! Her innovation has led to so many inspiring Read A Thon themes over the years, from the 'DRheem Team' to 'Reading Takes you Places' to 'Minds at Work.' We will miss her hard work, creativity, and positive attitude greatly. Her youngest daughter, Zoe, graduated on May 27. Thank you, Jen!

**Heather Davis:** Heather is a long-time Rheem parent. Her (and husband Greg's) 4th child, Addison, graduated from Rheem this spring. Throughout her, 16 years (yes, you read that correctly) as a Rheem parent, Heather has served the PTA in so many ways. She has led emergency preparedness, the garden committee, and was on the board as the financial secretary. The Rheem PTA is so grateful to Heather for her dedication to our school, students, teachers, and community. We will miss Heather's leadership and work ethic, but something tells us we will still see Heather often as her work in this community runs deep. Thank you, Heather!

**Bess Inzeo:** You get a cake, you get a cake! We have all seen Bess Inzeo lead our annual cake walk at the fall carnival over the years with the joy and enthusiasm she brings to everything she does. Bess has been an essential member of the PTA as a parent for 11 years, a teacher, and now a counselor for Rheem School and the other elementary schools in our district. She led Red Ribbon week and served as the teacher PTA representative on the board for several years. She is a light in our school with her smile and spirit. Even as her youngest daughter Annabel heads to middle school, we are thrilled

that she will still be on our campus serving our students often. Thank you, Bess, for your dedication to our students and schools!

Rebecca Kelvin: Rebecca has given much of her time over her nine years as a Rheem parent and will be missed. She served as both the office volunteer and volunteer coordinator for several years and was on the PTA board in the Historian & Awards role. Her youngest child, River, graduated from Rheem on May 27. Thank you for your time and service, Rebecca!

Jon Nickens: Jon has been a Rheem parent for 13 years and has been involved in the PTA throughout his time. Jon has held essential roles on the PTA board, including Treasurer and Financial Secretary, and has also helped with our annual Fun(d) Run. Jon is a leader who you can always go to for sound, calming advice. He is a trusted expert who new PTA board members could always count on to learn from and be listened to. We will undoubtedly miss Jon's thoughtful approach and his commitment to the well-being of all students. On May 27, his son Chase became his (and wife Ria's) third child to graduate from Rheem School! Thank you, Jon, for all you have done for the Rheem Roadrunners and all that you continue to do for the Moraga community!

### Rheem Meritorious Service Spotlight

The Rheem PTA has created a Rheem Meritorious Service Spotlight to annually honor an individual from the Rheem Team for their work in the school community.

We are thrilled to announce that the 2020-2021 honoree is Ragen Ortland. Ragen has been a Rheem parent for nine years. Her daughter Adeline is graduating from JM this year, and her son Hudson graduated from Rheem last week. Her Roadrunner roots go even further back as her husband Wayne also attended Rheem!

Ragen and her family have given to Rheem School in so many ways over the years. Their family dedicated time and resources to improving the garden path, ensuring students have access to all parts of our beloved Rheem Garden. In her time volunteering in her kids' classrooms, Ragen saw the need for school supplies and looked for ways to help. She started a nonprofit called Supplies Schools Need, Inc., an organization dedicated to providing schools in the Bay Area with supplies they are not receiving but necessary for kids' education. Ragen's nonprofit has donated countless supplies to Rheem and many

other schools in the Bay Area. Ragen has also given her time, serving on the 5th-grade committee for the PTA.

We will miss Ragen's positive spirit, bright smile, and go-getter attitude. We are so fortunate to have her and her family as part of the Rheem Team!

The Rheem PTA has donated six books in honor of their service, which Rheem students will be able to enjoy for years to come:

· "I Promise" by LeBron James in honor of Jen

· "How We Got to the Moon" by John Rocco in honor of Heather

· "Jump at the Sun" by Alicia D. Williams in honor of Bess

· "Little Wise Wolf" by Gijs van der Hammen in honor of Rebecca

· "The Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man" by Michael Chabon in honor of Jon

· "Birdsong" by Julie Flett in honor of Ragen

We thank you for all the behind-the-scenes service you have put in as well, and we wish you and your family all the best as you move on to JM!

## Supply Kits Now Available for 2021-22 School Year

*Order Your 2021-22 School Supply Kits Now*

Rheem families can order their school supplies for next year! To purchase online, please visit <https://www.sydney Paige inc.com/collections/rheemkits> and follow the easy steps.

We plan for kits to be made available for pick-up at Roadrunner Day, Monday, August 9 (the day before school begins). Picking up kits on Roadrunner Day is OPTIONAL. Kits not picked up will be delivered directly to your student for the first day.

The ordering window closes Sunday, May 30, so don't delay, order yours today! For more detailed information about the Sydney Paige Company, please click [HERE](#).

Summer Success!

With hopes that we continue on the path to normalcy and all Rheem families can enjoy the relaxation and fun that comes with summer vacation, we hope students take advantage of these programs designed to keep academic skills fresh over the summer months.

## Reading

Rheem's Summer Reading Program "Camp Read S'More!" is Rheem's annual Summer Reading program. Simply read, read, read all summer long, and have your child log what they read on the Camp Read S'More forms. In August, when school starts, please enter your student's reading amounts via our Summer Reading Google form to receive an acknowledgment at a Spirit Assembly, a bookmark, and a special prize for our most avid readers!

<https://dres-msd-ca.schoolloop.com/summerreading>

In the Fall, you will enter in your student's number of pages (or books)

on this Google form.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdLXYWKBVGI\\_mtoSWtrtC6ZpD\\_S-3muhqhh\\_oZHLhyhtGMY0XQ/viewform?gxids=7628](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdLXYWKBVGI_mtoSWtrtC6ZpD_S-3muhqhh_oZHLhyhtGMY0XQ/viewform?gxids=7628)

Happy Reading!

## Math

*Studies show that if you want to be good at math, you have to practice all kinds of mathematics.*

Rheem ROCKS (Review of Computation Knowledge and Skills) summer program is designed to fit each child's needs and learning preferences. Once again, the goal is to keep those math facts fresh and promote a deeper understanding of math concepts. Click [HERE](#) for all the information, including the Recording Sheet, to track efforts and return to school in August.

## The Last Word...

I recently saw an amazing ESPN segment, "[SC Featured](#)," about NFL lineman Alejandro Villanueva and what Memorial Day means to him. Villanueva is an Army veteran who served in Afghanistan. He shared the holiday's significance and why it's important to honor those who have given their lives to enjoy the freedoms we so readily assume. I have a

profound respect for those who serve our country and put themselves in harm's way (in some instances giving "the last full measure of devotion"). If you have a few minutes (a little less than 5 minutes in total), I recommend watching [THIS](#) inspirational story.

Villanueva has a poignant comment about Memorial Day in today's day and age. He says, "(Memorial Day) is about sharing moments of happiness with the people that we love the most. Our focus is often on what we have and not what we've lost. I suppose it's human nature we want to celebrate life, not reflect on death. And on this day, that's possible because of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice."

A special thank you to all the servicemen and women for their dedication and commitment to each and every one of us.

There's no place like Rheem,

Mr. Sullivan