

August 25, 2019

Dear Rheem Team Families,

A special thanks to all Rheem Team families for attending Back-to-School Night last Tuesday. Hopefully, parents gained important insights about the goals and procedures of the school and your student's classrooms. We look forward to your continued involvement and support as we work together throughout the school year.

Please take a moment to catch up on what's happening at Rheem this week.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, August 26th:

- Kindergarten students wear Green
- Regularly scheduled day

- K-3rd 8:25-1:55

(3rd grade will follow the 4th and 5th schedule on September 3rd)

- 4th-5th 8:25-3:05

Tuesday, August 27th:

- Regularly scheduled day
- K-3rd 8:25-1:55

(3rd grade will follow the 4th and 5th schedule on September 3rd)

- 4th-5th 8:25-3:05

Wednesday, August 28th:

- Kindergarten students wear Blue
- Early dismissal for K-5th grade is 1:50 every Wednesday of the school year.

Thursday, August 29th:

- Regularly scheduled day
- K-3rd 8:25-1:55

(3rd grade will follow the 4th and 5th schedule on September 3rd)

- 4th-5th 8:25-3:05

Friday, August 30th:

- Kindergarten students wear Purple
- Camp Read S'More (Summer reading program) reading logs due
- Regularly scheduled day

- K-3rd 8:25-1:55

(3rd grade will follow the 4th and 5th schedule on September 3rd)

- 4th-5th 8:25-3:05

Monday, September 2nd:

- NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY

Friday's Spirit Assembly:

Rheem's Spirit Assemblies are renowned throughout the district, and last Friday's was no exception. From our opening song, to our lucky "Gold Slip" winners, the Rheem Team was in full force. We were able to recognize and celebrate all of staff and students and also

talked about the importance of respect while also introducing our schoolwide PBIS (Positive Behavior, Interventions and Supports) goals, along with what it means to be a Rheem Roadrunner:

Respectful
Helpful
Empathetic
Engaged
Mindful

Congratulations to the following students who had their gold slips chosen to spin the wheel for a prize!!

Kinder: Tyken M, Caleb T, Yesenia B
1st: Alyssa W, Grady T, Olivia F
2nd: Cameron G, Heyab O, Payton T
3rd: Reese K, Rachael S, Cole G
4th: Zoe B, Samantha K, Jake W
5th: Sean M, Reese L, Brooke R

Did you Know

Attendance at Rheem:

Last year (2018-19) Rheem's attendance rate was 97.2% (the 2nd lowest in the district - CP had the highest attendance rate at 97.5%). That means on any particular day an average of 12 students were absent from Rheem. We are hoping to improve upon our attendance this year for one really important reason: "The number one predictor of academic and social growth is attendance. It seems simple but true, 'you're not able to learn if you're not present.'"

What does that mean for us here at Rheem? First off, there are days when a student will not be able to attend school (i.e. they are sick, or a family emergency). The things we are able to control are those times when we take an extended vacation during school. I urge all families to do their very best in avoiding these instances and do all you can to help your child be present each and every day.

What are some things we can do to help improve our child's attendance and on time arrival?

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.

- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, the principal, or other parents for advice on how to make them feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid scheduled medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

Picture Day is next Thursday, September 5th:

Be sure to pack your student's smile in their backpack for next Thursday's picture day. Forms will go home with your student this week with ordering information.

Summer Reading Logs are due Friday, August 30th:

If your student has not done so already, please be sure they turn their summer reading (Camp Read S'More) recording sheets in to their classroom teacher by this Friday.

Message from PTA:

We wanted to give you these dates so that you can mark your calendars. The Rheem PTA is excited to sponsor more events for the whole family this year. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Parent Party/Hacienda: September 19th

Fall Carnival: October 11th

Fun(d) Run: October 23rd

Multicultural Night: December 6th

Math Night: January 24th

The Variety Show: March 20th

Science Fair: April 23rd

Rheem Family Week (district testing/no homework): May 4th - May 8th

Spring Family Movie Night: May 8th

Mark Your Calendar for the Rheem Parent Social!

When: Thursday, September 19th, 6:30-8:30

Where: Hacienda de las Flores - Pavilion

Cost: \$20 per person

Included: Light food, drinks, and hopefully some new friends!

To Purchase tickets, go to <https://rheempta.membershiptoolkit.com/packet/19018>

The Last Word...

Last Tuesday, at Back to School Night, I presented two half hour talks focusing on The Rheem experience. We didn't review test scores, or the newest curriculum or teaching methodology, but

instead focused on what I consider to be the foundation of a positive educational experience: supporting students academic needs in conjunction with their social and emotional needs.

With **PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports)** as a focus for us this year, we will work on preventative and responsive approaches to support student needs. The focus is on prevention, not punishment. Students will have clear guidelines for behavior that is expected in the classroom and common areas through the school. Students will receive daily, positive reinforcement for following these behavior expectations with 'Rheem Bucks' that can be redeemed twice a month in our school store. Those students who have difficulty following these expectations will receive intervention and additional instruction to help encourage more positive choices.

We will also continue our support of the **Growth Mindset** model, where attitude and effort are the determining factors of student success, and the necessity of **Social and Emotional Learning** with the continued implementation of our "Second Step" SEL curriculum.

And lastly, at the root of these successful efforts will be Teamwork. We are all in this together; Families, Teachers and Administration. With open communication, and mutual respect and support, I believe all of this is reachable.

There's no place like Rheem!

Mr. Sullivan