

## RHEEMARKS: September 27th

September 27, 2020

Dear Rheem Team Families,

With days and weeks melding together it's no surprise that October has snuck up on us like a stealthy trick or treater. October begins this Thursday and with it comes Fall in full swing. Be on the lookout for some fun fall activities as well as catch up on some of the highlights from last week.

### This Week at Rheem:

#### Monday, September 28th:

- Art & Kindness Club: Art & Kindness Club: ([Zoom Link](#))
- Regularly Scheduled Monday

#### Tuesday, September 29th:

- Special Meeting of the MSD Governing Board - 7:00PM

#### Wednesday, September 30th:

- Storytime Club: 12:30-1:00 ([Zoom Link](#))
- Regularly Scheduled Wednesday

#### Thursday, October 1st:

- Regularly Scheduled Thursday

#### Friday, October 2nd:

- Spirit Friday – Jersey Day
- Fun Fridays Club 12:30-1:00 ([Zoom Link](#))

## School News and Highlights

**Spirit Assembly:** Spirit Assemblies have always been a way to bring the entire Rheem Team together to celebrate accomplishments, focus on school-wide goals, and simply enjoy singing and laughing together. The highlights of the Grade Level Spirit Assemblies held this past week included:

- Highlighting and practicing our Start with Hello themes: the “power of hello”, being able to express our emotions freely, and connecting with peers via things in common, and shared experiences.
- Celebrating students who participated in the Summer Reading Program. Each were awarded certificates and prizes.
- Picking gold slips for a chance to spin the virtual wheel for a prize. (*Gold Slip winners will be receiving their prizes in this week's “Friday Folder”*)
- Singing our school songs: “Rheem Team,” and “Roadrunner Pride!”

**Car Parade:** It was great to see so many Rheem students make their way through the bus loop this past Tuesday for the “Start with Hello Car Parade.” A big thank you to school

counselor Bess Inzeo for organizing the event and for all those who were able to participate. Did you know that your [donations to MEF](#) support our elementary school counseling program? Our counseling program and Social Emotional Curriculum are so important in these difficult times and would not be possible without your support. If you have not yet gotten the chance, please consider donating to [MEF](#) today.

## Special School Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 29th

This Tuesday the Governing Board of the Moraga School District will be holding a special meeting to discuss the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan and an update on school reopening planning.

Join Zoom Webinar using a computer and enter  
<https://zoom.us/j/98834748675?pwd=OTNLNGpVcnp5MXJxUjZLTEI5VU5sQT09>

## Rheem's Annual Fun(d) Run is On!!!

*Rheem PTA Announcement!!!*

Mark your calendars now as we are so excited to announce that the annual Rheem Fun(d) Run is ON! This year's event will be remote and we promise to keep it FUN in true Rheem Team spirit. We encourage students and staff to run/walk/skip anytime between **October 16th - October 30th**. All students and teachers will receive a free Rheem spiritwear t-shirt to wear during the event. More information and course ideas will be sent in the coming weeks.

In years past, we have been able to come together for several fundraisers during the school year, this year, the Fun(d) Run will be one of only two fundraisers Rheem will be holding. We will be accepting donations through 99 Pledges, and proceeds will support Rheem's many PTA programs (including: classroom and distant learning resources, curricular enhancements, and schoolwide technology).

We hope to get 100% participation in the Fun(d) Run. If you are interested in joining the committee or sponsoring the 2020 Fun(d) Run, please contact Jill Austin at [jillaustin@gmail.com](mailto:jillaustin@gmail.com) or Karen Chiarucci at [karen.chiarucci@gmail.com](mailto:karen.chiarucci@gmail.com).

## ParentSquare Communication Platform

On September 18th, MSD transitioned to a new platform to deliver district and school messages and alerts. We replaced our old platform, SchoolMessenger, with ParentSquare. Last Friday, you should have received an email detailing how to register via their website and app. If you have not done so already, I encourage you to register.

If you did not receive a ParentSquare registration email from Mrs. Smith last Friday, please be sure to reach out to her or Mrs. Fitzinger at [esmith@moraga.k12.ca.us](mailto:esmith@moraga.k12.ca.us) or [lfitzinger@moraga.k12.ca.us](mailto:lfitzinger@moraga.k12.ca.us) and they will resend the information.

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

As a kid growing up I was always captivated by sports and the athletes who played them. My parents would buy my brother and me books that told the stories of all-star athletes and how they made their way to the tops of their profession. Whether it was Barry Sanders in football, Larry Bird in basketball, or Hank Aaron in baseball their stories all had one thing in common, their success was a direct result of their effort and commitment to being their best. They didn't succeed by a matter of convenience, but rather by showing up each and every day and giving their best.

And so it can be said for Rheem's very own Ann Ralph. For over 25 years Mrs. Ralph has been teaching at Rheem and giving her very best. And although her accolades may have not been chronicled the same as the aforementioned Hall of Famers, her impact has been just as inspiring. Day in and day out Ann has been committed to giving her best. Whether as a 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade teacher she consistently modeled what it meant to be a dedicated educator who got the big picture. She didn't just excel at teaching reading, writing and math, but more importantly fostered independence in her students and made it a point to teach each of them the art, and importance, of public speaking. When you entered Mrs. Ralph's class you were bound to be met with a smile and enthusiasm from her and her students...and a good chance to a multiplication fact song. (I'm not sure I'll ever sing "Row Your Boat" the same way again...[three, six, nine and twelve](#)...)

This Friday marks the end of an era at Rheem as we bid Mrs. Ralph farewell. And although she is retiring before she would like, we have not seen the last of her...as in true Mrs. Ralph fashion she will be supporting her replacement and grade level team during her transition into retirement. Thank you, Mrs. Ralph, for being the ultimate team player and always modeling for the rest of us what it means to be an educator. Once a Roadrunner, always a Roadrunner!!

**There's no place like Rheem!**

Mr. Sullivan