

September 3, 2018

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 children's classrooms. We look forward to your continued involvement and support as we work together throughout the school year.

I hope you are enjoying the long holiday weekend, and please take a moment to catch up on what's happening at Rheem this week.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, September 3rd:

- Labor Day – NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, September 4th:

- PICTURE DAY
- Regularly scheduled day
 - K-3rd 8:25-1:55
(3rd grade will follow the 4th and 5th schedule on September 10th)
 - 4th-5th 8:25-3:05
- 4th grade Music - Parent Info Night in the JM Auditorium from 6:00-7:00 PM

Wednesday, September 5th:

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

Thursday, September 6th:

- Regularly scheduled day
 - K-3rd 8:25-1:55
(3rd grade will follow the 4th and 5th schedule on September 10th)
 - 4th-5th 8:25-3:05

Friday, September 7th:

- Early/Late placement assignments will go home in backpacks with all K - 2nd grade students
- Regularly scheduled day
 - K-3rd 8:25-1:55
(3rd grade will follow the 4th and 5th schedule on September 10th)
 - 4th-5th 8:25-3:05

Picture Day is Tomorrow - September 4th

Please be sure to pack your children's order form and be to school on time. It will be a packed day of pictures with our first class dawning their pearly whites at 8:30 am.

Did you Know? *A weekly feature highlighting Rheem rules and/or procedures*

Rheem Dress Code: Please remember to use good judgment when choosing appropriate clothes for your child to wear to school. Students' clothing should be safe for themselves and for the children around them. Therefore, the following guidelines should be considered:

- Casual, loose clothing that allows children to move and play comfortably is recommended.
- Shoes should be safe and appropriate for recess and PE. Close-toed shoes are best for school and are required for "PE days." Flip-flops, shoes without a heel strap, boots, "wheelies," dress shoes or shoes with high heels are not safe.
- Clothing which displays vulgar language or symbols or promotes drugs, alcohol or other inappropriate or illegal messages are not permitted.
- Bracelets and other dangling jewelry can tangle in play equipment and cause injury.

Before your child walks out the door, please make sure he/she is wearing appropriate clothing for an elementary school. Students may be sent home to change clothing if their attire is inappropriate or disruptive to the educational setting.

Party Invitations: Parents and students are not allowed to bring party invitations to school and/or distribute them through the backpacks. This rule not only protects the feelings of students not invited to parties, but also insures that our office and communication systems are used exclusively for educational purposes. Also, the office cannot provide student's addresses or phone numbers to parents or students. Each year, a directory may be purchased through the PTA with this information.

Homework Policy: Homework should have a positive impact on student learning and is defined as the assigned learning activities that students work on outside of the classroom. The purpose of homework is to provide students an opportunity to practice, reinforce and apply previously taught skills and acquired knowledge and prepare for future lessons, and is directly tied to classroom instruction. Assignments should have a clear purpose and be designed for completion within a reasonable time frame. Completing homework is the responsibility of the student. Parents can play a supportive role through monitoring, encouraging students' efforts and providing a conducive learning environment.

For more details regarding homework including: guidelines for parents, teachers and administrators; recommended minutes per grade level; and makeup work policy please click [HERE](#).

Attention New Parent Volunteers

Next Wednesday, September 12th we will be hosting our **New Parent Volunteer Presentation** in the Frank from 9:30-10:30. It is especially designed for Kindergarten parents; however, parents of new students at any grade level, or parents who would simply like a refresher on how to make the volunteer experience as rewarding as possible, are encouraged to attend. Kindergarten teacher Cathy Kathan, parent Becky Maher, and Principal Sullivan will be there to present information. Please click [HERE](#) for new district protocols regarding volunteers.

Hello from Roadrunner

Welcome back to school!!! It's so fun to see old and new faces and we are looking forward to another wonderful year. To be sure everyone gets off on the right foot, just a few reminders and a few new procedures.

- All new forms are required for the new school year- Dismissal forms, Activity Release forms, permission forms, all forms. Things change, family relationships change, and we need to make sure everything is up to date. Please remember that if your child has a school mandated change in the daily schedule, you may call Roadrunner Club **ONE** week in advance and cancel and will not be charged. We encourage you to read the Roadrunner Club handbook. Hopefully it will answer all of the questions you might have. In addition, you can call us or e-mail us at any time. We will try to answer your questions as quickly as possible.
- For the first time this year, parents are responsible to make all changes to their child's Roadrunner schedules. We have changed our billing cycle to the 1st thru the 30th (or 31st) of every month so schedules are due on the 23rd of each month, effective the first of the month. That includes a new late bird. For example, if you find out your child will start school at 9:25 and get out at 3:05 on Sept 7, you will need to change your child's ending time to **3pm**. This change needs to be made by **midnight September 7th** so we can get your child on the correct list by Monday morning, **September 10th**.

- Security measures are being implemented on school campuses all over the United States. The Moraga School District has introduced a new security measure named the Raptor program. This policy requires all parents to sign in at the office between the hours of 7:30 am and 3:30 pm, before you pick up your child at Roadrunner Club. They will give you a sticker which indicates you have checked in. If you are on campus before 3:30 pm please get in the habit of doing that before you pick up your child at Roadrunner Club.

We are looking forward to another safe and happy year at Roadrunner Club. Our projects this week have included coloring footballs because football season is upon us (Go Atlanta Falcons) and colored American flags in honor of Labor Day.

Thanks,

Eleanor

Volunteers Needed for Late Arrival Supervision

Starting next week (Monday, September 10th) our early/late groups will begin in the K-2nd grades. In the past our drop-off times have started at 9:10 AM and ended at 9:35 AM, and we hope to continue that again this year but we will need the support of parent volunteers. The request for volunteers is to help supervise and keep students safe who arrive between 9:10-9:25. (All teachers and teaching assistants are providing instruction and support in the classroom between 8:25-9:25). We definitely want to provide the same opportunity to drop your student off at 9:10, so if you are available to help provide supervision for our students from 9:10-9:25 on either a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, please reach out to myself or Mrs. Fitzinger.

The Last Word...

Last Tuesday, at Back to School Night, I presented two ½ hour talks focusing on the Rheem experience. I did not 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: working together to create a learning environment in which students feel supported, happy and safe.

We discussed the power of developing **Growth Mindset**, where attitude and effort are the determining factors of student success; the necessity of **Social**

Emotional Learning and the importance of supporting students in developing the skills necessary to: understand and manage emotions; set and achieve positive goals; feel and show empathy for others; establish and maintain positive relationships; and make responsible decisions. A tall order for anyone, but one that will lay the foundation for success well beyond the years students spend in school.

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

There's no place like Rheem!

Mr. Sullivan