

To: Parents & Guardians

Date: April 11, 2021

Re: Pertinent Updates & Reminders for this Week

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We've had another great week at RMES. The big school-wide event of the week was Move-up & Visitor's Day. Based on my observation and feedback from students and teachers, I rate the event a success. The teachers were well prepared and engaged both in-person and virtual students, from start to finish. Everyone missed the opportunity to meet in-person and interact with our visitors.

Jr. High Spirit Week & Move-up Day: For the Jr. High, the 8th graders, primarily it was a week of building closer connections with classmates. It was their Spirit Week, and from my observation, the student participation spirit was high, which was an indicator that school/team spirit was high, as well. Additionally, the 8th students (primarily SA) really made me proud on Visitor's Day. As they were very involved in making the Move-up/8th grade orientation a positive experience for the 7th grade (incoming 8th graders). Led by the SA, the selected students from the current 8th grade served as mentors and virtual tour guides for both the Grade 8 in-person students and virtual visitors. The told personal stories about their RMES/8th grade experience and joined with the teachers to tell about class expectations and answer questions. One of the roles of the current 8th graders was to teach the new 8th graders how to open their lockers. That was one of the highlights of the Move-up Day experience.

Since lockers were not used this year, the 7th graders could not wait for this part of the day's activity. Two surprises awaited them. First, they were surprised to discover that lockers are not as easy to open as it appears...they were not prepared for the learning curve that comes with the process. Sure enough, they needed assistance, but a second surprise was behind each door. Each one was pleasantly surprised by the treats and balloons that popped out, indicating their success. This was the ingenious idea of their SA leaders. Both the outgoing and incoming 8th graders felt Visitor's Day was meaningful, engaging, and fun experience. Thanks to the Jr. High teachers for providing opportunity for student leadership, involvement and collaboration to make this year's unusual Move-up/Visitor's Day meaningful for all of the Jr. High students.

Report Cards: Just want you to know that we have mailed your child's 3rd Quarter Report Card. Please take some time to review it with your child and seize the opportunity to discuss the areas of strengths and weaknesses, but be sure to give affirmation, as well as encouragement to keep persevering for excellence. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to make contact with the teacher/s. They will be happy to provide for answers.

Assembly: Our April Assembly will this Wednesday, April 14th, at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Swackhamer and his 5th grade students will be leading out. Fifth grade parents who would like to join, please contact Mr. Swack for the Zoom link. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Swack's brother-in-law, Pastor Richard Bianco, Superintendent of Education for the OH Conference.

Principal's Reading Challenge (PRC): I have been impressed by the number of students that I've seen reading during their leisure time (even at recess). I am proud of those who have taken the challenge. Compliments parents and teachers for motivating your students to read and participate in the challenge. Please continue to encourage them to keep reading beyond April 30th deadline.

RMES Campus Beautification Day: Twice a year this activity is planned with three objective in mind: 1. To foster teamwork between teachers and students to achieve a common goal for school enhancement. 2. To teach students, by example how to keep their school surroundings clean, and 3. To teach and collaborate with students to care for and beautify our school surroundings. To achieve these goals effectively, we would like to solicit any help that you can give. We can use help in-person or in kind. We will welcome those who can share time to add more hands. We will also be grateful for contributions of items such as, but not limited to, gloves (small & medium), trash bags, garden hand tools, perennial plants, etc. More specific details will be given as we get closer to Beautification Day, Friday, April 23. As usual, students are prepared for this activity as the things they need to know and do are integrated into the curriculum. If you have any questions or would help in any way, please contact the main office at (269) 471-3225.

Hat Day: Friday, April 16, 2021 is another day to show our school spirit. It is Hat Day. Please remind and encourage your student/s to show school spirit, as well as his/her creativity. I can't wait to see the amazing imagination of our students displayed.

NO School April 19, 2021: Next Monday there is no school. It is the annual long weekend break facilitated by MI conference for schools during the busiest time of the school year. The break is even more appreciated as we continue to navigate the ongoing challenges of COVID-19.

Thank you for your prayers and partnership to maintain a Christ-filled, student-centered learning environment and quality holistic education for the students entrusted in our care.

Our Theme Text: "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." John 14:26