

Notification from: Ruth Murdoch Elementary School

From the Desk of the Principal

To: RMES Parents & Guardians

Date: April 15, 2024

Re: Reminders & Updates, Week 3, 4th Quarter

Dear RMES Parents & Guardians,

We've had another great week at RMES! If you ask your students what they remember most about the week, I think many of them will say seeing the Solar Eclipse was the highlight of their week. However, some may tell you it was their participation in the special assemblies held, the Modern Language and NEHS/NJHS induction, while others will say the AU Gymnics Show was their best. Regardless of the activity the students may choose as their favorite, it is our hope that every student learns something new to take away from each of the special activities.

The following are the pertinent reminders and updates for this week and in the weeks ahead. Please take a few minutes read and begin making plans:

Kindergarteners at the Brazilian Church—Last Sabbath the Kindergarten students accompanied by their teachers, Mrs. Schaffer and Mrs. Serrano, and their parents visited the On the Way Brazilian Church located in St. Joseph. The students were featured in the Sabbath School and truly blessed the congregation with their beautiful presentations of scripture and songs. Pastor Bruno and the entire church was very welcoming. They provided a delicious meal and were very happy that many of our students and families stayed for the time of fellowship. Thank you, Kindergarten parents, for your dependable support and for the partnership that you have developed with Mrs. Schaffer this year. May God bless our Kindergarten students, as together we continue to nurture them for His Kingdom.

Grade 6 Service Activity at Fire Department Breakfast: Once again, Mr. Swackhamer and his 6th grade students joined the Berrien Springs Fire Department to serve breakfast to the Oronoko Township community. This activity takes place twice each year and Mr. Swackhamer involves his students to assist not only serving on breakfast morning, such as they did yesterday, but helping behind the scenes, with duties such as wrapping the cutlery and folding napkins. The help that the students provide is greatly appreciated by both, the firemen and the people they serve. Mr. Swack and Grade 6, thank you for your service and engagement with the community.

Prayers for 5th Grade Outdoor Education: This week, April 16-18, 2024, our Grade 5 students will be at Camp Au Sable for their Outdoor Education experience. This is an annual learning activity/field trip is planned specifically for the 5th grade students across the MI Conference. It is one of the highlights of the grade five experience every year. The group leaves on Tuesday and will be under the supervision of three staff members, Ms. Bell, Coach Lonto, Dr. Savory and five parent chaperones. Please keep the group in your prayers.

MAP Testing: The last of MAP Testing for this year begins this week through April 26. As usual, the teachers will let you know the testing schedule for your child's classroom, as they incorporate testing with the regular schedule. Please encourage your student to use the full time allotted for each test and to do his and her best. Many students tend to rush through to complete the test, which results in being locked out for a period of time. To ensure your child can remain alert and focused please make sure he/she gets a good night sleep and eats a hearty breakfast during testing period.

RMES Beautification Day: This Friday, April 19 is RMES Beautification/Clean Day. At RMES it is our custom to coordinate our 2nd campus beautification day with the national Earth Day activities. This year Earth Day will be celebrated on Monday, April 22. This Friday, April 19, our entire school will spend some time outdoors to clean and beautify our school surroundings. This year some of our teachers will have their students extend their service to the wider campus to help ensure a clean campus surroundings. As usual, we will be collaborating with Noe Velez, Director of AU Grounds Department, also one of our parents. We are grateful for all the help and support that he provides every year to make this project a success. As our partners in the training of the whole child (head, heart and hand), we would also like to solicit any help that you can give.

Help Needed for RMES Beautification Day: We are requesting any help that you can give, in-person or in kind. That means, we will welcome those who can come to share time and add more hands to get the job done. We will also be grateful for contributions of items such as, but not limited to, donations of gloves (small & medium), trash bags, garden hand tools, perennial, and flowering plants (a few suggestions are gladiolus, dahlia, hyacinth, mums, etc). We are looking for colors-- reds, yellows, white, pinks to brighten our gardens year-round. The classroom teachers will follow up with more specific details for their classroom gardens. Please have the students dress appropriately for this activity. We also need them to bring any garden tools that you can lend for the day. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please contact the office at (269) 471-3225, to let us know and add your name to the list. Thank you in advance.

Invitation to Grade 6-8 Community Art Exhibition: This is a reminder and invitation to Grade 6-8 students and parents that the Community Art Exhibition opens this Thursday, April 18 and attend the Opening Ceremony is Thursday, April 25, 6:00pm. If your child submitted an Artwork for Exhibition, I recommend that you make every effort to get your student to see his/her Art on display and have an opportunity to see the Artwork of other students from other schools. Hope to see you there.

Coming Soon, RMES Missions Fair: To climax this year's "Faith" theme and emphasis on our SDA history, we are planning an exciting day to expose our students to some of the people and organizations that are currently engaged in various missions for Christ, in our community and worldwide. Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Cancel, the program coordinators are still looking for interested participants to come and share their mission with our students. Please contact the office if you would like to participate or have a recommendation. Please mark May 1st on your calendar for this special event.

Tuition Payment Due: This is a reminder that tuition payment is due by/on the 25th of every month. We value your commitment to Adventist Education and would like to thank you for your on-time payment each month.

RMES Student Prayer Calendar: Please continue praying every day for RMES students, one child at a time. Here are the names to lift-up this week: (Mon. April 15—Sun. April 21): Carter (2), Svea (2), Noah (8), Jianey (6), Ana (7), Parker Jay (2), Sebastian (8)

RMES/PMC Grow Group: Again, we extend the invitation for you to share a few minutes of your time on Thursday to join our group to pray for our school and students. We begin at 8:15 AM sharp so those who need to can leave immediately after praying. Look forward to seeing you this Thursday.

Upcoming Dates and events to Remember:

- \* April 15 NO SCHOOL
- \* April 16-18 Grade 5 Outdoor Education Trip
- \* April 19 RMES Beautification Day/Earth Day
- \* April 16-26 MAP Testing
- \* April 21 8th Grade Banquet
- \* April 22 JH Virtual Learning Experience by NASA
- \* April 25 GLAA Aerokhanas Show at RMES, 1:00pm
- \* May 1 RMES Missions Fair
- \* May 22nd Grade Wax Museum 6:00-7:15pm
- \* May 36th Grade Wax Museum 9:10-12:00am

A Promise of Hope for you:

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Have a safe, happy, and productive week!

Dr. Savory