To: Parents & Guardians

Date: January 28, 2024

Re: Reminders & Updates

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Can you believe this is the last week of January and Week 4 of the 3rd quarter? Oh, how time flies! Let us thank God for bringing us safely through the first month of 2024!

THANK YOU for Attendance at PTC: Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to meet, last Wednesday and Thursday, with teachers to discuss your child’s (children’s) progress and any concerns. I trust the uninterrupted conversation with your child’s or children’s teachers was beneficial and gave you the opportunity to get to know each other better. It is always in the best interest of the child when parents and teachers work together. While this is the last formal P-T Conference, I encourage you to make every effort to keep up the collaboration and communication with the teachers about your child/ren’s progress in all areas of their development, mental, spiritual, social, emotional, and physical.

A Big “THANKS”, AU CEIS & TLC Partners, and Students: I would like to add a Big THANK YOU, to our colleagues from Andrews University College of Education & International Services, primarily from the Department of Teaching, Learning, & Curriculum for partnering with RMES, once again by serving as substitutes for the K-8 grade teachers during Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday, 1/25. Special thanks to Dr. Alayne Thorpe, Dean of CEIS and Dr. Luana Greulich, Chair of the TLC Dept. for not only approving faculty and students to participate but for both to take time out of their busy schedules to substitute for one of the teachers. This is the 6th year of RMES partnership with AU for Parent/Teaching Conferences. What a blessing!

MAP Testing: MAP Testing continues this week. The teachers will let you know this week’s testing schedule for your child’s class. As usual, I would like to remind you to make sure your child goes to bed early every night and has a good hearty breakfast to help him/her have a good start for the testing and be able to maintain their energy and focus for the duration of the test. This is an online, untimed test, so students get to work at their own pace. Please encourage them not to rush.

Black History Month: This Thursday, we launch into February and Black History Month. February 7th is our Black History Assembly program,

Principal’s Reading Challenge: The Principal’s Reading Challenge continues! This is a challenge for students to read more books and above their daily/nightly 20 required minutes of reading. I would love to see students reading every opportunity they have a break from assigned work. Students must maintain a log of their daily reading time, during the day and/or night. Log must include book read (title, author), date & time (minutes/hours) spent reading, number of pages when book is completed. Since we are working with different grade levels, the teachers from each wing (A, B, C) will provide additional guidelines for reading and reporting. Please help your children to choose from different genres, good books that will guard their minds, elevate their thoughts, and ignite their interest in books. It is our goal that by the end of this challenge many of the students will also improve their reading skills, develop greater interest in recreational reading, and discover that reading is fun. “Reading should not be presented to children as a chore, a duty. It should be offered as a gift.” – Kate DiCamillo

PRC Incentives & Rewards: Starting this week the students will begin to see their reading progress on the giant Reading Chart that Mrs. Cancel has created on the hallway. It is our hope that this colorful graph of students’ PRC progress (minutes read) in each grade will motivate all of the students to get involved and read more. As customary, at the end of the challenge, the two top readers in each grade will receive a special reading award. In addition, the
grade that reports the most students (more than half of the class) participated in the challenge will receive a Pizza Party. HORRAY! Please encourage your students to participate in the challenge.

**Tuition Payment:** Just a gentle reminder that tuition payment was due on the 25th of the month. If you have already submitted your payment, THANK YOU, and may God bless your sacrifice and commitment to Adventist Christian Education.

**RMES/PMC Grow Group:** I would like to extend an invitation to join the parents, staff, and friends of RMES who meet to Pray for our School. We meet 8:15-8:45am in the Extend Ed. Room. Looking forward to seeing you this week.

**RMES Prayer Calendar:** Please continue praying every day for RMES students, one child at a time. Here are the names to lift-up this week: *Week of (Jan. 28-Feb. 2):* Yun (8), Chad (7), Charfield (4), Mia (3), Evangel (8), Davyle (6), Lainah (4).

**H & S Announcement:**

RMES Family Game Night: Home & School is hosting a family game night on Saturday night, February 24, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. We’ll have some active games in the gym and table games in the halls. A snack and water will be provided. If you’d like to help with games, contact Kimberly Westfall (RMESHomeAndSchool@gmail.com or 410-948-9424).

**Important Dates to Remember:**

- January- March Principal’s Reading Challenge for all grades (K-8)
- February 7 Black History Assembly
- February 12-16 Student Led Week of Prayer by the 6th Grade for Grades K-5
- February 19 NO School, Presidents Day
- February 24 H&S Family Game Night
- March-- National Reading Month –Keep Reading!

**Our Theme Text:** Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Have a blessed week -- continue to stay warm!

In His service,

Dr. Savory