From the Desk of the Principal

To: Parents & Guardians

Date: February 4, 2024

Re: Reminders & Updates, Wk.5, 3rd Quarter

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Welcome to February, the shortest month of the year and the month dedicated to celebrating love! According to unacademy.com, February is not only about valentines and sweethearts; instead, it can also be a month for self-love and self-care, fostering relationships with family and friends, and loving others. This month, let us commit to not just loving one another with words and speech, but with actions and in truth (1 John 3:18).

Here are the remainders and updates for this 5th Week of the 3rd Quarter:

100th Day of School! Tomorrow, February 5, is the 100th day since we have been in school for the 2023-2024 school year. Where did time go? Congratulations, teachers for your diligent work with the students to help them achieve this milestone in their education journey! Thank you, parents, for taking the journey with us. I know that the teachers of the lower (K-2) have asked each student to bring 100 items to display in class. While I don’t think your child will forget this fun assignment, please help make sure it is in the backpack tonight. We look forward to continuing partnership with you for the remaining 80 more days of the school year! By faith, let us unite in working with the heads, hearts, and hands of our children to bring them closer to Jesus and to make every day a successful experience for each one!

Principal’s Reading Challenge: The Principal’s Reading Challenge is on, and I am pleased to see that many of the students have taken the challenge. I request your help to keep them encouraged to keep reading and keeping their log through the end of the challenge and end of quarter March 19. We are encouraging every student to participate in this literacy improvement journey.

Black History Assembly: This Wednesday, February 7 is our Black History Assembly. Mrs. Tompkins and her 3rd grade students will be the featured class as they lead the program. They have an inspiring program planned. As we have done at each assembly to emphasize our school theme, “This is Our Faith,” Mrs. Cancel will also introduce and share brief highlights about one of our SDA pioneers The pioneer of the month is John Byington, the first president of the GC and an abolitionist. We look forward to learning more from our special guest speaker, Dr. Michael Horton, is the former, Ministerial Director of the Lake Region Conference and pastor of the Emmanuel SDA Church located in Chicago Heights, IL.

Week of Prayer: It is that time of year when 6th grade students, and their teacher plan and lead a week of spiritual emphasis targeted to the students of Grades K-5. Week of Prayer is scheduled for February 12th-16th. The theme for this year's week of prayer will go along with
the school theme of "This Is Our Faith." Mr. Swackhamer and Pr. Ben are preparing the students to present the Word of God to fellow students. The theme songs for the week will be "This Is Our Faith" and "Ancient Words." Mr. Swack has already challenged all of the students to memorize the theme text for the week Matthew 4: 3, 4.... "The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.' Jesus answered, 'It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' It would be greatly appreciated if you could help your child to memorize the passage. Of course, you are invited to come and join our daily worship in the Gym. Here is the schedule that we will follow for that week:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday..... K-2nd -8:30, 3rd-5th-9:15
- Tuesday and Thursday......K-2nd 9:10, 3rd-5th-9:55

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Swackhamer.

2024 Elementary Community Art Exhibition: It’s another year for the Berrien Elementary Student and Community Art Exhibition and once again RMES is invited to participate. We are encouraging our young artists to seize this opportunity to participate and share their Artwork with the community. It is also a great opportunity to boost their confidence level in using their artistic gift. Artwork can be drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, ceramics, collaboration. There are two entry categories, K-5 and 6-10. Students are required to indicate their artwork title and category on a separate 3x5 card. Students are to submit Artwork to their classroom teachers by February 26. Deadline for Artwork Drop-off for K-5 is February 29. We will provide more information regarding Grades 6-10 Artwork and submission.

RMES/PMC Grow Group: Please join the parents, staff, and friends of RMES who meet to Pray for our students and school. We meet on Thursdays, 8:15-8:45am in the Extend Ed. Room. As of last week, we have made available a Prayer Box where students can place their prayer requests. Please consider coming to help lift up the petitions of our children to God.

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 (Feb. 4-10): Aeba (6), Kena (4), Ariana (6), Ethan (4), Josiah (8), Daniel (2), Victor (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 23
School Spirit -- RETRO Day (50's - 90s attire)
February 24 H&S Family Game Night
March-- National Reading Month – Keep Reading!

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Have a blessed week and may the love of God fill your hearts.

In His service,

Dr. Savory