

From the Desk of the Principal

To: Parents & Guardians

Date: December 8, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Considering the recent shooting at one of our Adventist schools in CA, I wanted to put your minds at ease by sharing a word of reassurance by letting you know that RMES administration and teachers are vigilant regarding matters of safety and are being attentive to such situations. Please know that we are committed to prioritizing the care and safety of the students inside and outside of our building. To this end, faculty and staff work together implement safety precautions, such as, but not limited to keeping classroom and exit doors closed and locked and doing our best to make sure students are always supervised.

Additionally, we work closely with AU Campus Safety to conduct regular safety drills that help ensure everyone is prepared in the event of an emergency. Please pray for our sister school in Oroville, CA and for God's continued protection over RMES and the entire Andrews University Campus.

***As we approach the end of the second quarter and start the week before our Christmas Break, here are some important updates and reminders for your attention:***

**Cold Box Lunches (only) on December 16 & 17:**

Due to a planned water outage, scheduled by Plant Services from December 15-17, Dining Services will not be able to offer hot meals during these dates. They have arranged for cold boxed lunches to be available instead. Orders **MUST** be received by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 10, 2024. Please use the following link to place your order(s). Prices remain the same as hot lunch and ID cards will be scanned to receive the cold box lunch as usual. [forms.gle/UNUM3ki75QH8FEn1A](https://forms.gle/UNUM3ki75QH8FEn1A)

**Preparation for End of Second Quarter:** The last day of school and last day of the quarter is December 20. Please help your child to end the quarter with nothing to worry about during the break. Check Jupiter with your child and/or with your teacher/s to ensure that your child is up to date with all assignments. If you have any questions regarding your child/children's progress, or grades please do not hesitate to reach out to their teachers directly.

**Principal's Reading Challenge:** This is to give everyone, especially our new (first year) students and parents, a heads-up about RMES Principal's Reading Challenge (PRC). The primary goals of the PRC is to encourage students to increase and develop a love for leisure reading and aim to be the top reader in the class. The reading challenge will run for the entire third quarter, January-March. Students are allowed to read books of their interest and at their grade level, but must maintain a Reading Log indicating the *Book Title, Number of Pages, Start and End Date* and other requirement assigned by the classroom teachers. During the holidays students may start selecting and reading their favorite books.

**Strong Tower Radio Visit:** Last Friday, Mr. Tom Mejeur from Strong Tower Radio stopped by for a visit and I was delighted to give him a tour of our school. He had an opportunity to see the students at work and meet the teachers who were excited to share about their classrooms and what we do at RMES.

### **Important Information for End of Quarter & Christmas:**

- Many of you are familiar with the hectic school schedule before Christmas Break. Well, it is that time! What you are seeing in your classroom newsletter is replicated across the grades, as teachers seize the opportunity at this holiday season to get the students involved in a variety of activities that help them to experience, as well as share *joy* with their community. Some of RMES community Christmas activities include, but are not limited to:
  - Grade 3 service day at PMC. Last Friday, Mrs. Tompkins and her students had a cleaning day at PMC.
  - Selected Groups share Christmas Music at PMC Christmas Sabbath.
  - Schoolwide collection of gifts (toys and school supplies) for orphans in Africa.
  - Jr. High collecting canned goods for Neighbor to Neighbor.
  - Jr. High skating trip on the last day of school.
  - All grades (K-8), carolling at Apple Valley Market, by individual or combined classes. Parents are welcome to come and join.
  - RMES Instrumental and Vocal Christmas Concerts. See date and times below.
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- **You are Invited:** We extend a cordial invitation for you to attend RMES Christmas Concerts! Please invite your family and friends to come and enjoy the joyful musical presentations by our children, December 16 and 18, at 7:00pm.

**PMC Children's Christmas Sabbath: This Sabbath, December 14 RMES will participate in the PMC Children's Celebration of Christmas Program at both services.** Call time for the first service is 8:15am. Attire for the Instrumental Ensembles is Black and white. Attire for the Choirs is Church wear. Please help your child to adhere to RMES Dress Code, including no jewelry. Everyone is invited to come to support and be blessed by the RMES Young Bells, Singers, the Band & Orchestra, and Singers. By now I believe you are aware if your student will be performing. If you have questions, please reach out to either of the Music Teachers or call the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

**RMES December Prayer Calendar:** We continue to pray for our students one child at a time, each day. **On the Prayer Calendar this week (12/8 – 12/14)** are: Autumn (8), Noah (K), Samuel (3), Isaiah (6), Jeremiah (5), Josiah (3), Isabelle (1).

**RMES/PMC Grow Group:** We continue to invite you to consider joining us on Thursdays, 8:15AM to pray for our students. When you can, please meet us in the Extend Ed Room. Look forward to seeing you.

**NO Extend Ed:** Please take note that there will be no Extend Ed on December 20, the last day of the quarter. Dismissal will be at 12:15 pm, our regular Friday dismissal time. Kindly plan accordingly.

**Tuition Payment:** This is a gentle reminder that tuition payment is due on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Since December 25 will be during the Christmas Break, please contact Mrs. Giddings to discuss your tuition payment or use the Touch Net option. Thank you for being faithful patrons.

**Dates for Upcoming Events for November & December:**

- December 13 6th Grade Science Museum
- December 14 RMES Choir at PMC Kids Christmas Sabbath
- December 16-20 Carolling at Apple Valley (times will vary by grade)
- December 16 Bands & Orchestra Christmas Concerts at HPAC
- December 18 Vocal & Bells Christmas Concert at HPAC
- December 20 End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- December 23 -January 3 Christmas Break
- January 6 School Reopens
- March 3-4 RMES Accreditation Visit

**"For unto us a child is born,** unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and **his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.**" Isaiah 9:6 KJV

In His service,

Dr. Savory