



RENACAD Report

10/05/2017

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

From the Desk of Dr. Cozine

by Donna Marie Cozine, Ed.D.

Happy October! Fall in Rochester is my favorite season. I love wearing sweatshirts and spending time with my family outdoors. What is better than apple and pumpkin picking? There are so many great places to enjoy the Fall here in the ROC, we are truly blessed.

October is also Fire Safety Month across our nation. Your children will be learning lots about how to keep their families safe if there is a fire in their home. They will learn about primary and secondary escape routes, meeting points and how to report an emergency. We will also be running individual drills with each classroom where the children will be leaving from their secondary routes which in some cases is the escape window. We will notify you as these drills happen. The North Greece Fire Department and Safety First will be conducting trainings and presentations to our children.

Mr. Hurst reminds us that there has not been a fatal fire in a NY school for generations and it is because schools practice what to do in an emergency. We conduct 8 fire drills prior to December 1st and another 4 in the spring. Preparation saves lives! Don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors!

For more information on how to talk to your children about fire safety please refer to the following resources:

<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/fire>

<http://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets>

- FRI OCT 6 NO SCHOOL – Staff Development
- MON OCT 9 NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day
- TUE OCT 10 Board of Trustees Meeting 5pm
- WED Oct 25 K-2 Family Math Night
- THU Oct 26 3-5 Family Math Night
- FRI Oct 27 Arts Assembly K-2 (Invite Only)
- OCT 23-27 Red Ribbon Week
- OCT 30-NOV 3 Spirit Week!



Need Information?
Take a look at RA's Social Media! We post

information about **school events** and **fundraisers, photos** and **videos** of RA students, **menus**, and lots of other **interesting tidbits** about our days at RA. Like us on Facebook, or follow on Twitter and Instagram (@renacadroc) for daily, weekly and monthly updates!

Character Strengths

by Elizabeth Sullivan, School Social Worker

During the week of September 24th, our school focused on the character strength of open mindedness. We learned about the importance of trying new things and considering new ideas. Open-mindedness helps us to be less judgmental and more accepting of our classmates' differences. We learned about how being open-minded can help us become good listeners and better friends!

This week, we are learning about the character strength of perspective. Our students are discussing what it means to "see the big picture." We are learning to appreciate how others might see the world in different ways!

The Positivity Project is our character education program here at RA. We are one of over 150 schools nationwide



joining The Positivity Project movement! Throughout the year, we will learn about 24 different character strengths that we all have, and how we can use them to build strong relationships and become our best selves! The Positivity Project is built upon the idea that "Other People Matter." We frequently use this phrase throughout our school to remind us how to interact with one another as we build our school community.

WHAT IS CHARACTER?

While often simplified as "grit" or "self-control," character is more than simply individual achievement or a person's behavior. It is a broad and complex family of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that are recognized and encouraged across cultures for the values they cultivate in people and society. Character is the aggregate of who we are; it's "what's inside every one of us."

<https://posproject.org/>

It's Elementary!

by Caitlin Loury, Director of Elementary Education



Our K-2 students are in full swing now that we are in the month of October! They are engaging in reading and math activities, making new friends, and developing their character strengths of curiosity, open mindedness and perspective! Please make sure you are signed up for your child's classroom app (i.e. Bloomz, ClassDojo or Remind) in order to get up-to-date and quick communication between home and school. Any questions or concerns regarding what happens at school can go through the app, or by calling the front office to leave a message for your

child's teacher to reach out to you when they are not instructing the class.



In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, your child has been learning

some new words and phrases in Spanish. They have practiced how to count to ten and say the following words or phrases: hello (hola), good morning (buenos dias), see you soon (hasta pronto), please (por favor), thank you (gracias) and excuse me (con permiso). Feel free to practice at home, too!

HELPING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

**Clip 'n' Save for RA!**

Hello RA families! Please begin to clip and save your Box Tops for Education coupons! Help your child raise money for their school. Every Box Top counts! Students can begin submitting their Box Tops now! If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Felton, Family Services Coordinator, via email: felton@renacad.org.

**Uniform Drive**

Do you have RA uniforms that your child has outgrown? Please consider donating them to Renaissance Academy's Uniform Drive.

You may drop off your gently used uniforms during school hours, or send them to school with your student. We are also collecting black or khaki pants and skirts. A designated uniform bin will be made available in the lobby area in the Main Office. The Uniform Drive ends on October 10, so please be sure to bring in your donated uniforms soon!

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Felton, Family Services Coordinator, at 225-4200, ext. 209, or at

felton@renacad.org.

FAST FACTS

Encore Program Info

The after-school enrichment Encore program is now underway. Please note that all students participating in the program MUST be picked up by 4:30pm. *Failure to do so will affect your child's placement in the program.*

T-Shirt Fundraiser

Thank you so much for your T-Shirt orders! We are excited to see our RA families supporting our school by wearing our colors out in the community! Students can also wear the fundraiser t-shirts on Fridays. Orders have been placed and shirts will be packaged and sent home in just a few weeks. Any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Miles via email at miles@renacad.org.

CLASSROOM CORNER

KINDERGARTEN

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS OF MS. FITZGERALD AND MS. SINGLETARY

Ms. Fitzgerald's kindergarten class has been having fun learning about school and making new friends. We are practicing our 5 school rules, learning how to take turns, and increasing our independence. What an exciting opportunity for you to help at home! Can your little one dress independently, eat with a spoon and fork neatly, and wait his/her turn to speak? That's what we are working on here at school and would love for our little ones to practice at home, too. We have read stories about how to be a member of a school and classroom community in our very first thematic unit: My Community and Me. We are so

excited to open our classrooms to families on October 13 to share our new knowledge!

FIRST GRADE

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS OF MRS. CICATELLI, MRS. ABDALLA AND MS. BINN

In Mrs. Cicatelli, Mrs. Abdalla and Mrs. Binn's classroom, students love Arts Integration time! In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month for this week, students will be learning about Puerto Rico's values, language, traditions, food and more! They are learning to compare and contrast between Puerto Rico and United States.

SECOND GRADE

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS OF MS. SINGLETARY AND MS. CARTER

Students in Ms. Singletary and Ms. Carter's class are learning all about Hispanic Heritage month!

THIRD GRADE

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS OF MS. BRINKMAN AND MS. STEPHENS

This past month we have been learning all about our access to water. Did you know that around the world, not everyone has the water they need? This week we have a visitor from Sudan! We are so excited to learn more about water from around the world!

FOURTH GRADE

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS OF MR. SIMON AND MS. MCKNIGHT

Mr. Simon and Ms. McKnight's fourth grade got right to work in September! In math, students practiced using CUBES to solve multi-step word problems and we have been working on base ten place value charts. Shared Reading has taken us through weather, the water cycle and natural disasters. Currently, the classes are reading about volcanoes and using the RACE strategy to make meaning of a complex text. Mr. Lake has been our guest artist during Arts Integration. He has taught us how to show emotion. Students then apply the physical experience and appearance to their writing in order to compose a personal narrative that "shows," rather than tells, the reader what happened. In Writing, fourth grade has been using released state test questions and their four-point-rubrics as prompts for composing a response modeled on the Beginning-Middle-End framework.

FIFTH GRADE

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS OF MS. NICHOL, MS. FRIEDMAN, MS. KIMBLE AND MR. GRAMLICH

All of fifth grade is learning about Universal Human Rights and the organizations that protect those rights, including the United Nations. Learning the rights that they have is an important part of becoming an excellent member of our society. They are now looking to help inform others of their rights, as well as make sure they are protected for all adults and especially other children! According to UNICEF's (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) website, they are "appealing for almost US\$1.4 billion to assist millions of children, women and men by providing them with nutritional support, health care, water, sanitation, learning spaces and materials, protections services, shelter and information." These services are provided to any and all children in approximately 190 different countries and are free of charge to those that need them. Our students will be collecting change to donate to UNICEF to help support their efforts, so please bring in your loose change so we can meet our goal of \$300!!

MAC CLASS

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS OF MRS. PETERS AND MRS. GOETHEL

The MAC class has been hard at work this month! We have learned about ALMA award winning musical artist, Pitbull, for Hispanic Heritage Month. The class had a great time creating a display to teach others about him. Fourth grade has been learning about the importance of water and how difficult it is for some people to get it. We have continued to work on our Whole Brain Teaching, the students are beating the teachers on the Scoreboard! We have also been enjoying Arts Integration with Mr. Holt. In Arts Integration, we will be reading the book "The Rough Face Girl" and learning about Drum Circles and Pow Wows. The MAC class is excited to continue working together to build our classroom community.