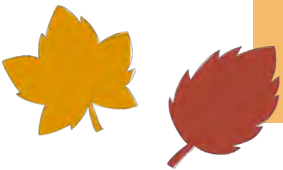


# RAPP



## NOVEMBER 2022



### Important Dates

- 11/9 Picture Retake Day
- 11/10 FEC Spirit Night - Crack Shack 4-9pm (Lehi)
- 11/11 Veterans Day & "Be Kind" Assembly
- 11/14-18 FEC White Ribbon Week
- 11/22 FEC Spirit Night - Cafe Zupas 4-9pm (Timp Highway)
- 11/23-25 Thanksgiving Break (no school)



### Important RA Links

- [November Breakfast Menu](#)
- [November Lunch Menu](#)
- [RA School Calendar](#)
- [Kindergarten AM/PM Friday Schedule](#)



# SCHOOL Announcements



## All students need a warm coat for outdoor recess

Now that the cold weather has hit, please ensure your children come to school dressed to go outside for recess. The playground and field areas of our school are FREEZING on windy days. Please make sure to send your children to school in a winter coat, long pants, gloves/hat and appropriate shoes/boots during winter months. Unless it is snowing or temperatures/wind chill is 20 degrees or below, our students spend 60 minutes per day outside. We have too many students who come to school with a sweatshirt instead of a jacket and a skirt or shorts in winter - it doesn't cut it. They are freezing out there!

## Sick students - Please keep them home

If your children are sick, please keep them home from school. Let's keep our students and staff as healthy as possible! Excuse any absences related to illness [HERE](#).

## Parent behavior - Respecting traffic & office staff

We have had numerous incidents in the last month where traffic and office staff have been treated inappropriately by RA parents, including being yelled at, flipped off, talked down to, and sworn at. This is extremely unfortunate and not acceptable. Parents, please treat our school staff with the respect and patience they deserve. We are all doing our best to keep your children/our students safe, learning and happy at school!

## School starts at 8 am

We are seeing an increased number of students consistently arriving late to school. Students are marked 'tardie' from 8:10 am. Every time a student is late, they miss valuable instruction in the classroom. Our teachers start immediately at 8 am. We know it is hard, but please do your best to get your children to school on-time to ensure their best chance for success!

## School doors open at 7:40 am

Our school doors do not open until 7:40 am. Please plan to drop-off your children from 7:45 am. We do not want students to be left unsupervised outside in the cold before the building opens as we head into the winter months.

## School pick-up time is 3:00 pm (12:15 pm on Friday)

We have more and more students who are not being collected from school until as late as 3:30-4:00 pm. Please plan to pick up your child at 3 pm when school finishes. Students should not be left at school after carpool/dismissal unattended due to other parental commitments/work schedules. Please plan to pick-up your children from school on-time.

## After School Programs - All siblings should be collected at 3 pm

If a child has an after-school activity, only the child registered to participate in the after-school program should remain on-campus after 3 pm. All siblings are required to be picked up at normal dismissal time.

# FEC Announcements

## FEC Fall Carnival - Fundraising Results

We did it! A huge shoutout to our RA community for helping us reach our carnival and silent auction fundraising goals this year! Together we raised over \$28,000+ to support our FEC programs, students and school. The carnival is our largest FEC fundraiser of the year and it was a huge success. Thank you RA community for your support at our carnival and all other fundraising events throughout the year! Every little bit makes a difference!

If you are interested to learn how the FEC spends the funds raised. Check out the [2023 FEC Budget](#). All parents are invited and encouraged to participate in our FEC monthly meetings, committees and volunteer opportunities. The FEC meets on the 1st Friday of the month at 8 am in the Arabic room (next meeting is November 4th). If you would like to share your voice about where and how our hard-earned fundraised FEC funds are spent, please complete the [2023 FEC Survey](#).

So far this year, FEC funds have contributed to bring 4x water fountain bottle fillers to our school, new appliances to the teachers lounge, new microwaves to the student lunchroom, and a library memorial plaque remembering Mr. Drew Wright, our school librarian/teacher who passed suddenly last year. RA families, thank you for your support! [See pics here!](#)





# DINE-OUT OR TAKEAWAY THE CRACK SHACK

In support of Renaissance Academy



Gather the Peeps.  
Eat the Chicken.  
Raise the Money.



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH**  
The Crack Shack Lehi

Visit The Crack Shack Lehi between 4pm-close for indoor or outdoor dining, or to place an order to-go. You can also order online in advance for pick-up.

Mention Renaissance Academy when you place your order or upon pick-up. If ordering online, add **RENAISSANCE** promo code at checkout. Not valid on delivery.

We'll donate 15% from your order directly back to the school.

**THE CRACK SHACK**

**Visit the Coop!**  
1085 E Main Street  
Lehi, UT

**Phone Orders:**  
(385) 287-8977

**Online Orders:**  
crackshack.com  
(click "order now")

# World Language Spotlight

## ARABIC KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Holmegren's AM and PM classes are starting off this year with Arabic language as part of their World language exposure at RA. We are having a lot of fun singing songs in Arabic, dancing, playing instruments, and learning about our colors, body parts and how to introduce ourselves in Arabic. KG students are doing great!



## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS (1-3 GRADE)

Elementary Arabic students are gaining fluency in introducing themselves, asking questions, responding to questions and expressing their feelings in Arabic. We do a lot of hands-on activities and projects that they enjoy a lot! We also sing songs, act out skits and are learning to write our names in Arabic and our alphabet (1st and 2nd grades), and writing a lot more in 3rd and up. I am so proud of them all.



## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS (4-5 GRADE)

Our 4th and 5th graders turned in their first Arabic project for the year and I am so proud of them! They were all able to write **IN ARABIC**, a paragraph or more telling me about themselves and their families and surroundings.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

We had been working on a few projects to enhance our writing skills as well as gain confidence expressing ourselves in Arabic. We also made wall posters bragging about what we did over summer break. Totally nailed their presentations. Way to go MS students!!





# World Language Spotlight

## SPANISH

Locotubre is in full effect. Sra. Cobiella's 6th grade and MS are participating in a nationwide music competition. This competition takes place every October and March. Students create a bracket to see who they think will be the ultimate winner. This Locotubre is super fun since it's a battle of the decades. We are having so much fun seeing who moves forward. Music is such a fun way to experience culture.



Acting Acting!! I have such a fun class of 6th graders this year. They always want to put on a play with our class stories. Here they are acting out El lobo bueno y la chica mala (The good wolf and the bad girl). They had so much fun making the props and acting out the scenes and every single kid participated in one way or another.

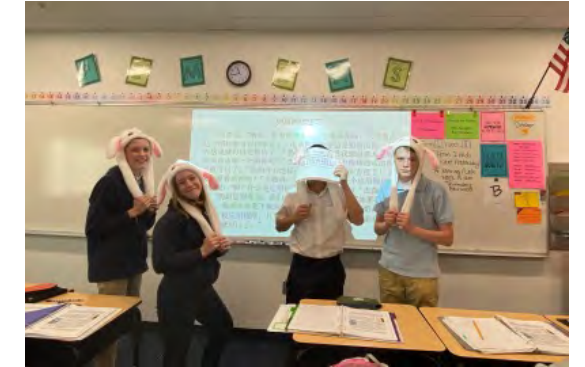


# World Language Spotlight

## CHINESE

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

This month, we added more reading activities to our classrooms. In the picture, it shows students using props to make reading fun!



### 6TH GRADE

This month we learned about the history of Ancient Egypt. In the picture, students had fun learning about Egyptian Pharaohs.



Students were acting out ordering food at a Chinese restaurant. They practiced their dialogues and learned about Chinese table manners.

### 1ST GRADE

Students are making colorful snakes to learn about color words in Chinese.







## Upcoming News



With the boy's basketball team tryouts, start of Term 2, and the Halloween dance all happening this month, MS is buzzing with excitement this October! Students are especially excited for the upcoming Halloween dance on Friday, the 28th. As per-usual, Little Ceasar's pizza will be served, games of various kinds will be played, and of course, there will be dancing. However, this dance is sure to be even better with the addition of Halloween decorations, candy, and costumes! Everyone is excited to flaunt their costumes, to join witches, ghouls, ghosts, and their friends on the dance floor. This dance is for all MS (6th-9th), so it's sure to be a wicked good time!

More on the boys Basketball team

We're super excited for our basketball team to crush it this season! All the guys on the team are super excited for their first game on October 26 at Lake view!

Their first practice was on October 20!

And here is a list of members:

Game schedule:

1-Wed. Oct. 6, @lake view, 527 W 400 N Saratoga Springs, UT; 4:30 pm

2- Mon. Oct. 31, @Lincon, 1582 W 3300 N; 4:30 pm

3-Wed. Nov. 2, @American Heritage, 1582 W 3300 N; 4:30 pm

4- Mon. Nov 7, @ascent farmington, 22 S. 650 W.; 4:30 pm

5-Mon. Nov 14, @North Star,

2920 W14000 S Bluffdale Utah 84065; 4:30 pm

Wed Nov 16, @hawthorn, 9062 2200 W, West Jordan, UT 84088; 4:30 pm

6-Mon. Nov. 28, @mountainville,

195 S. Main Street Alpine UT84004; 4:30 pm

7-Wed. Nov. 30, @ascent Lehi, 2199 West 900 N. Lehi, UT 84043; 4:30 pm

We wish our players the best of luck at their first game of the season!



## MS Teacher Spotlight



We recently started interviewing teachers to see what they teach, and why they love it so much.

The first teacher that we interviewed is Mrs. Gomez! Most of you know her, and the ones that don't are in luck as we are giving you a glimpse into the life of this wonderful teacher. Mrs. Gomez is one of our newest teachers, and teaches 7-9th grade integrated science! Mrs. Gomez has been a fantastic addition to the MS staff, RA is lucky to have her! After interviewing Mrs. Gomez, we've prepared a special Q&A to share with you.

**How long have you been teaching?** For three years now.

**Which Grades have you taught?** I've taught science Labs to K-9 grades, but have only taught full classes for 7th, 8th, and 9th grade.

**What is your favorite aspect of teaching?** My favorite part of teaching is the students I teach.

**What are some of your hobbies outside of teaching?** I enjoy biking, skiing, and hiking.

Overall, Mrs. Gomez is a wonderful teacher, and we are glad to have her here at Renaissance.





# RA HAPPENINGS



# RA HAPPENINGS





# RA HAPPENINGS

## Do the "WRIGHT" Thing!" Week of Service

In memory of Mr. Drew Wright and his legacy of service, last week we held a 'Do the WRIGHT Thing' Week of Service at Renaissance, October 31st - November 4th. All K-5 classes were assigned a class to serve all week. Service opportunities included writing notes, leaving treats, preparing a performance, carrying their lunch tub, anything our teachers/students have thought of! MS will participate in similar activities. Parents, we hope you can take advantage of this opportunity to have a great conversation to have with your children about being kind and helping others like Mr. Wright! He was always there willing to lend a hand, or pretty much anything to someone in need! We can't wait to see hear about all the small acts of service completed by our students last week!



With the anniversary of the passing of the beloved Mr. Wright, we are reminded of the pillar of light that he was to Renaissance Academy. He was always a friendly face to all our students, faculty and families. He could always be found at events and around the school serving and helping in any way he could. He was caring and compassionate to all he came in contact with. We deeply miss Mr. Wright and the influence he had on our school but we continue to honor his memory by following his example of kindness and service.

# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Jessica Bennett, 2nd Grade Teacher

Where are you from? White Hills, UT

Tell us about your family: I grew up with my parents and two younger brothers. We spent every weekend on some sort of sport field/court.

Fun fact: I love llamas, but am allergic to them.

Favorite thing about teaching? I love helping students find a love of reading, and find books that change their world.

Karin Jaccard, 2nd Grade Teacher

Where are you from? I was born in Miami, Florida. Have lived in New Hampshire, Germany, Sweden, Seychelles Islands. But I call Utah home!

Tell us about your family: I am married to an awesome guy, and have a daughter and 2 sons

Fun fact: I speak Swedish, and love Swedish traditions, like dancing around the Christmas tree!

Favorite thing about teaching? I love seeing the "a-ha" in students' eyes, especially when they have worked really hard to understand something!



Shelly Peterson, 2nd Grade DLI Teacher

Where are you from? I was born and raised in Taiwan until I was 19. My whole family moved to California.

Tell us about your family: I came from a family of 5 and I'm the oldest of the 3 girls. I have two younger sisters. In my own family there are 4 of us. My husband TJ who is my biggest support to become a Chinese teacher. Ceci is my daughter and most of people at school knows her. I also have a son who's name is Legend Ari Peterson (get it "Legendary" )

Fun fact: I have super short pinkies like my grandma. It's like they never grew since I was little.

Favorite thing about teaching? I love to see my students achieve their goals. Seeing the light turn on in my student's head after they go through struggles. I also love to share my language and culture through teaching. Everyday is an adventure you don't know what is coming towards you and you learn and grow with your students everyday.



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## Kelsey Hunt, 2nd Grade DLI Partner Teacher

Where are you from? I am from right nearby, in Saratoga Springs. My family moved there 21 years ago, when it was still dirt roads and have seen it grow so much since then. We lived in Las Vegas for a while when I was little, but I like to say I was born and raised in Utah county!

Tell us about your family: I have 3 siblings, 2 older brothers and a younger sister! I also have a mom and dad, my parents still live in the house that I grew up in! We love watching movies on Sunday, pestering each other, and having fun!

Fun fact: I lived in the Southern California Desert for 18 months. In that time, I fell in love with the Joshua trees there, so that is now my favorite place and my favorite tree. I also like to collect fun mugs and postcards from all the places I go :)

Favorite thing about teaching? The students! I love getting to know each one individually and see what they like and their personalities! It makes my day when past students are excited to see me and tell me about things happening in their lives. I also love getting to see the light bulb moments when a student is struggling to understand something, and they are frustrated and work and practice, and then finally get it! They light up and are so excited to do more work, because it is easy for them now.



## Kristi Nelson, 2nd/3rd Grade Teacher

Where are you from? Alpine, UT

Tell us about your family: I'm the youngest of 5 kids. I have one sister and 3 brothers and 4 super cute nieces

Fun fact: I skipped 7th grade, so I graduated school when I was 17.

Favorite thing about teaching? My favorite thing about teaching is forming relationships with the students. I love seeing that they like coming to school and want to be around me when they are here.

## Cheryl Sheffield, 3rd Grade Teacher

Where are you from? Lancaster, California

Tell us about your family: I have Elizabeth 15, Ally 13, Blake 12, and Levi 7 who is in 2nd grade here with Miss. Bennet. My wonderful husband of 16 years is Bo. We enjoy visiting the Big Hawaii Island.

Fun fact: I take my daughter horse riding every week, we both have horses at our house. We also ride at our cabin.

Favorite thing about teaching? My favorite thing about teaching is getting to know all the students and watching them progress over the school year.



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## Emma Howell, 3rd Grade DLI Partner Teacher



Where are you from? Topsail Island in the Outer Banks, North Carolina

Tell us about your family: I am newly married to an aerospace engineer, Ryan

Fun fact: I started teaching when I ran a surf camp and sea turtle rescue on my island.

Favorite thing about teaching? I love teaching because kids laugh all the time.

## Freya Zhou, 3rd Grade DLI Teacher

Where are you from? I'm from Changchun China.

Tell us about your family: There are 4 members in my family, my parents and a younger brother, they all lives in China.

Fun fact: I speak not one, but two languages; I've been to not two, but three countries( Thailand is the third one); I'm fun and adventurous.

Favorite thing about teaching? My favorite about teaching is I have the flexibility on how to teach my lessons and make learning fun.





# Reading Corner

Because of the learning gaps that have been realized during the last two years of COVID, we have seen many of our students drop in their reading proficiency. We are starting a new reading intervention program at our school that will involve all students K-5. Students will receive intervention for ½ hour to 45 minutes every day, depending on grade level need. We have teachers and aides involved in this program and each class has eight to ten adults who will come to the classroom everyday to do reading groups and activities.

Students who are at or above grade level will also be involved in this program where they will be involved in reading enhancement activities to help them refine their reading skills. This is a group effort and we will be using the time and talents of each of our elementary staff. We hope to see vast improvements in the reading skills of our students.

You can help us and be part of this effort. Please ensure that every student is reading at home every night for twenty minutes. Read with them and help them as they practice their skills. Reading is so important for everything we do in life and we want all of students to be reading at their best ability.



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