

RAPP



March 2017



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Important Dates This Month

2/27-3/3	Teacher Appreciation Week
3/1	3rd Grade Field Trip - Museum of Natural Curiosity
3/6	Professional Development Day (NO SCHOOL)
3/7	2nd Grade Field Trip - Planetarium
3/7	5th Grade Field Trip - Capitol
3/8	NJHS Meeting 3:15-4pm
3/8-11	Ballroom Dance BYU Nationals
3/13-17	College Week
3/15	4th Grade Field Trip - BYU Bean Museum
3/15	Board Meeting 7pm
3/16-18	Elementary Play Performance 7pm
3/20-24	Battle of the Books
3/23	Middle East Feast 6:30pm
3/29	Classic Skating Night
4/14	5th Grade Patriotic Program

The Renaissance Academy Printing Press



ANNOUNCEMENTS



IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE!

IT'S TEACHER

APPRECIATION WEEK!

FEB 27-MARCH 3

***CELEBRATE A
SUPERHERO THEMED
WEEK WITH US!***

MONDAY POW! Super Power
Bring a note to your teacher telling them their SUPER POWER

TUESDAY ZAP! Super Charged
CHARGE up the classroom with school supplies

WEDNESDAY Super Sweet
Bring a SWEET treat for your teacher

THURSDAY Super Sidekicks
Dress up like a super hero

FRIDAY WOW! Key to the City
Reward your teacher with a token of your appreciation



New Student Enrollment

New student enrollment for the 2017-18 school year is now open on our school website at <https://renacademy.org/schedules-enrollment>. Please remind any friends who may be considering Renaissance Academy to enter their students in the lottery registration system at this time. The lottery is set to be run in early March.

Returning Student Re-enrollment

Returning student re-enrollment for the 2017-18 school year is now open online at <https://renacademy.org/schedules-enrollment>. Please be aware you will need to create a new user profile as we start fresh every year. Please re-enroll your students as soon as possible.

We ask that all parents please respond to indicate your plans for your student/s for 2017-18.

SAGE Interim Testing

We are currently in the process of SAGE interim testing. Interim testing does not count towards a student's grades and aims to help them prepare to take their end-of-year assessments in May by practicing using the online assessment tool and assessing their current knowledge to allow teachers to improve and tailor their instruction for the remainder of the year. Students in grades 3-9 will each take SAGE assessments in May in the following subjects, Math, Science and Language Arts (Reading and Writing). If you do not wish for your student to participate in SAGE, please complete a SAGE opt-out form and return it to the front office. This form is available on our school website at <https://renacademy.org/sage-testing>

Battle of the Books

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Monday, March 20 | 3rd and 4th grades @ 8:30 am in the library |
| Tuesday, March 21 | 5th and 6th grades @ 8:30 am in the library |
| Thursday, March 23 | Middle School and Teachers @ 3:30 pm in the library |
| Monday, March 27 | Final Battle Time TBA |

Week Without Walls - May 15-20

Northern California Outdoor School and Sharks in the Dark Science Adventure

This year our Week Without Walls trip we will be headed to Outdoor School in the Redwoods of Northern California, sleeping by a shark tank, discovering historic San Francisco, and topping it off with a stop at Six Flags! We will be doing a salamander field study, squid dissection, hike in the redwoods, campfire games, and physics experiments. We'll check out Fisherman's Wharf, historic Chinatown, ride a cable car, and see the Golden Gate Bridge. We'll then head to Six Flags Discovery Kingdom where we'll spend the night in the aquarium doing science experiments. The last day will be spent having fun on some of the best roller coasters in the world! Students can participate in an optional Dolphin Encounter for an additional cost of \$125. Total cost for the trip is \$645 (deposit of \$245 is due by March 5th with the remaining 2 payments of \$200 due March 5th and April 5th). Payments can be made online or in the office. Find more information on <https://renacademy.org/after-school-clubs> or email activities@renacademy.org.



Student Pickup

Just a reminder that school ends at 3:00 pm Monday-Thursday and 12:15 pm on Friday. All students are expected to be collected within 15-minutes of school ending unless participating in a scheduled after-school program. Please ensure your student/s are picked up promptly after school. We have noticed several students who are not registered/participating in an after-school program but are remaining unsupervised at school waiting to be picked up for significant periods of time after the 3:00 pm bell has rung.

We offer after-school club/care for all age groups if you are unable to collect your student promptly by 3:15 pm M-Th. or 12:30 pm on Friday. After-school club runs from 3:00-6:00 pm Monday-Thursday and 12:15-6:00 pm on Friday. The cost is \$15 per student Monday-Thursday and \$25 on Friday. This can be paid in the office or online at: <https://renacademy.org/after-school-clubs>. Special payment arrangements can also be made if your student only needs a short time-period of care by emailing activities@renacademy.org. Please email activities@renacademy.org 24 hours in advance

Emergency Procedures

ALL SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS MUST SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE WHEN ON CAMPUS

Parents/guardians and other school volunteers and visitors, please remember you are required to sign in at the office and wear a 'volunteer/visitor' badge when you are on school premises. This requirement is for your own safety as well as the safety of our students. We need to know who is on campus at all times. In case of emergency, if you have not signed in at the school office as required, we do not know you are in the building and will not be looking to account for your whereabouts and safety (i.e., in case of fire or lock down). Please remember, all volunteers must also have a current background check to volunteer at school. Please contact Emily Simons at esimons@renacademy.org if you would like to confirm if your background check is current.

if you have a new student who will be attending. *Please note, students who are not enrolled and participating in an after-school program but remain at school after 3:15 pm M.-Th. or 12:30 pm on Friday will be directed to attend after-school club. Parents/guardians will be contacted regarding their students attendance and charged for the attendance. We understand that occasionally things happen (especially in this weather!) and emergency situations come up where you may be unavoidably late to collect your student/s, if this is the case please contact the office as soon as possible to let us know and we will work with you in this situation. Thank you for your support and dedication to your students.

Please coordinate with your students and carpools **before school** as to where and when you will be meeting for after-school pickup. The overhead speaker is only to be used in case of an emergency. For your information, students are not permitted to use the office phone until 3:15 pm after school.

Parent Messages to Students

Just a reminder that our school and all classrooms are very busy places of learning. Please plan and coordinate with your students as much as possible before school. We understand things come up and often it is unavoidable, however please reflect on the level of importance of any message you ask the office staff to pass along to your student during the school day. Any message sent to a student during the school day often interrupts not only your student, but also their teacher and the whole class instruction. Thank you for your attention and support.



Middle School Parent/Student Reminder

Middle School Lunch

Parents, please remind your students they are not permitted to order food to be delivered to them at school for lunch. Students are expected to bring a home lunch or purchase lunch in the cafeteria. If they forget lunch they are welcome to come to the office between classes and call their parent/guardian to bring them lunch. We have had incidents this week where students thought they might order pizza to be delivered to the school during class time. This is inappropriate behavior and interrupts and distracts from their learning. All MS students are now aware that they will receive a detention if they choose to order and have food delivered to the school for lunch.

Parking

Please do not park your cars in the parking lots of local businesses surrounding our school.

Business owners have repeatedly asked us as a school community not to park in their parking lots. We as an administration, also request that you respect our neighbors and do not park in the parking lots other than our own school lot. Please be advised, if you continue to park in any of the surrounding parking lots not belonging to Renaissance, you risk receiving a pricey parking ticket if reported to police by the local business owner.

Annie Jr. Performance

The Annie Jr. Performance (3rd-5th grade edition) will be on March 16, March 17, March 18 @ 7pm. There is no charge for tickets & it is open seating.

Shop Amazon Smile

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Renaissance Academy whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. Click this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-3365730>.

Student Cell Phones

Our MS students have also been reminded that their cell phones should remain in their backpacks and not be visible or used at school/class between 8 am and 3 pm. If a student chooses to have their phone out at an inappropriate time, they have been warned a teacher may take their phone for the remainder of the day and return it to them after 3 pm. MS students will also receive a detention as a consequence for inappropriate cell phone use when they pick up their phone after school. Please encourage your students to keep their phones in their backpacks while at school. Thank you for your support.

Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 15th at 7:00pm**. The agenda will be posted prior to the meeting online at <https://renacademy.org/board-meetings>.

Join the Board of Directors

If you are interested in joining the Renaissance Academy Board of Directors, please send a letter of intent to board@renacademy.org.

RA Sweatshirts

If you would like to purchase a Renaissance Academy sweatshirt, please see Emily Simons in the front office or email her at esimons@renacademy.org. All sweatshirts are \$25. They come in navy blue or red and can be zip-up or pullover style. They are available in youth and adult sizes.



FEC Announcements



FEC Presidency

ALYSON HARPER *President*
alysue23@gmail.com

MARY MECHAM *Vice President*
mmecham@gmail.com

MANDI LEI *VP Classroom Coordinator*
mandijensen@yahoo.com

AMBER GUYMON *Secretary*
acguymon@gmail.com

KATIE BRODERICK *Treasurer*
katiebroderick851@gmail.com

CANDACE LIERD *VP of Fundraising*
candace1112@gmail.com

FEC Meeting

The FEC meets on the first Friday of each month at 8:00 am in the teacher lounge at the school. Every parent at Renaissance Academy is a member of the FEC and we would love to have your input, your ideas and your help. Feel free to join our meetings any time.

The next meeting will be held on **Friday, February 3rd at 8:00am.**

Get involved by joining our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/renaissancefec/>

Teacher Spotlight



Ms. Kimberly Beck is our Hampton Teacher Spotlight Staycation winner for February. Ms. Beck is the Special Education Director at Renaissance. A parent noted that one of Ms. Beck's strengths has been creating a safe place for her many students where her son can go when feeling stressed or overwhelmed. Ms. Beck made reading fun for her son by having him call her the "Queen of the World"-he loved to do his reading with the "Queen." Ms. Beck knows

that the parents of her students also need support in helping their students succeed. She will often pass on helpful books she had read and even answer parent's emails over them summer as they prepare for the next school year. This was shared about Ms. Beck, "I always feel that Ms. Beck really has the child's best interest at heart and she does an excellent job of making sure all members of the team are heard." Congratulation Ms. Beck!

Volunteer

Do you love to Volunteer, like knowing what is happening at the school, and making a HUGE difference? Maybe you have volunteered in the classroom and are wondering what other opportunities are out there? Or maybe you have volunteered on some committees in the past and are ready to step up your game? If so... We need YOU! The FEC will have several openings in the Presidency that need to be filled for next year. If you feel like it is your time for this please email alysue23@gmail.com to see how you can contribute.

Classic Skate Night

Classic Skate Night will be Wednesday March 29th from 5:30-8:30. We hope everyone in our Renaissance Community will join us for a fun FREE night at Classic Fun Center in Sandy. We'll have cookies for everyone. Bring your scooters, skates, and blades. They will have \$1 skate rentals and other deals available that night. This is always such a fun event, we hope to see you there!





RA HAPPENINGS

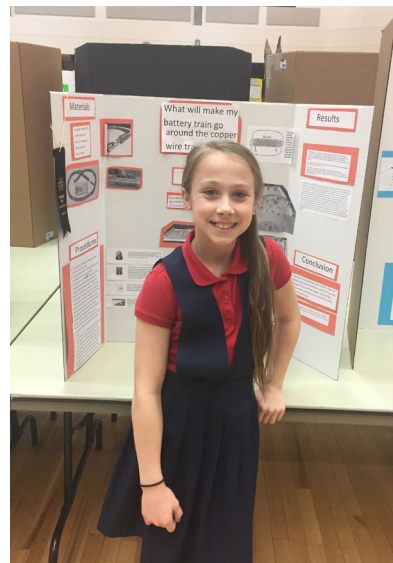
Spelling Bee Winners!

This year's spelling bee was intense! Our three winners were 1. Alexa Orten 2. Caleb Stokes 3. Peter Ricks. We went for round after round and had to start spelling extra words in order to determine the winner. We went through most of the extra words and were almost forced to crack open the dictionary in order to have more words to spell! The championship word was "predominant" after spelling words like "Austentite" and "remijnse." Congratulations to all those who participated!



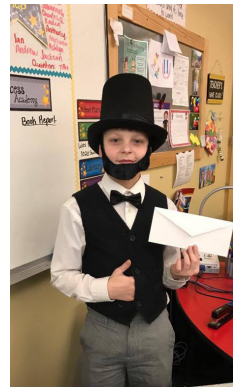
Science Fair Winners

Congratulations to the students who are advancing from the UVU Science Fair to the BYU Science Fair! From Middle School we have Bella Bean and Hailey Haskell and from 5th grade we have Skyley Hanna, Tyani Chisholm, Adell Gardiner, and Addison Sutherland.



4th Grade Wax Museum

Mrs. Wyatt's 4th grade classes did a wax museum! The students each learned about a famous person of their choosing, wrote three paragraphs about them and then for the wax museum, they presented it to parents and other students. The students came dressed up as the famous people they research! There were all kinds of people such as Audrey Hepburn, J.K. Rowling, the found of the Red Cross and Muhammed Ali! It was a huge success!



Middle School Fiestas!

Two Middle School classes worked so hard this term by only speaking in Spanish that they earned "fiestas" in their classes! They celebrated with authentic food from the countries they are learning about. One class had Mexican-American food and the other had Argentine food.



Mrs. Trottier Receives an Award!

Our very own art teacher, Miss Trottier, was awarded the prestigious award of Junior High Art Educator of the Year for the State of Utah. In addition, her work, as well as that of her students', has been displayed throughout the state and published in art books and journals. Congratulations, Mrs. Trottier!



Mr. Jones Writes a Novel!

BYU-TV, The Daily Universe, KUTV and the Provo Herald came by one of our Middle School teachers, Mr. Jones', classroom to document him make an announcement to his students.

During summers and some weekends, Mr. Jones has been writing the urban fantasy novel 'Dragonkyn' since 2014, and it was finally published last week! The 8th Honors and 9th grade students had a good time discussing their aspirations, the steps to get there, and how school relates to it all.

The book is about a 14 year old boy who realizes he's part dragon, and the adventure ensues from there. Mr. Jones had his students in mind when he wrote it. He wanted it to be structured a bit more like a movie is structured than many novels that are out there. He hopes that students resistant to reading, as well as avid readers, will enjoy it.

Phoenix 200 Club

Congratulations to our latest group of Phoenix 200 Club winners! This group will get to go see the new Beauty and the Beast movie on March 17!

Anissa Tibbett (2)
Rachel E. Topham (2)
Samantha Budd (2)
Enoch Costa (2)
Taylor Astorga (3)

Gaven Bryan (4)
Ava Verno (4)
Henry Allen (4)
Corbin Johnson (8)
Daxton Brown (8)

The Phoenix 200 Club is our school wide positive behavior program whereby teachers look to present tickets to students demonstrating good behavior, going above and beyond, and following our school expectations of Be Successful, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Honest, Be Kind & Be Safe.

Once a teacher gives a good behavior ticket to a student, the student then brings the ticket into the office. They get to sign their name in the "Celebrity Book" and then the pick a random number out of a box. Whatever number they get, they write their name on the Phoenix 200 Club board on the corresponding number. Once there is a row of at least ten students, those specific students are the winners of the "Mystery Motivator" for that round. The "Mystery Motivator" could be things such as a field trip, a gift card, a special lunch, etc. Once we get a winning group, we erase the board and start again allowing all students the opportunity to continue to receive good behavior tickets and the chance to be winners of the mystery motivator.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



5th Grade Team

Miss Yin
Miss Escalante
Miss Pena
Mrs. Curley
Mrs. Hanna



Mrs. Destony Hanna



Mrs. Destony Hanna is one of our fifth grade teachers. She is originally from Arizona. Born and raised! She moved to Utah in 2008. She came out here originally for her husband to go to school and for her to work. This all was changed in 2009 when she was diagnosed with stage 2 Hodgkin's Lymphoma. She went 12 rounds of Chemo and can say now that

she is what they considered cured! She has been married to her husband, Brian for almost 11 years. She has three kids that she is lucky enough to have at school with her.

She loves to spend time with her family more than anything. So my weekends are filled with activities. I love to read, play card games, and watch movies/Netflix. I play many sports and am at sporting events almost every week between all my kids. I can honestly say I am a Hockey, Gymnastics, Baseball, and Football watching mom.

Miss Alyssa Escalante



Miss Escalante, known as Miss E. by her students, teaches fifth grade and loves it! She is from Orem, Utah and graduated from Utah Valley University last year. She previously taught English, Pre-school, and was the AT Specialist for Alpine School District, but is so happy to finally be a full time elementary school teacher.

Miss E. loves to travel. She has taught and lived in Peru and China, as well as backpacked through Europe. She also loves to hike, camp, sing, dance, draw, and read (especially Calvin & Hobbes).

Miss E. is passionate about arts integration and loves being able to teach it in her classroom. She loves that Renaissance is supportive of creativity and the arts. Her goal is to help each child develop autonomy, critical thinking skills, and a love for learning. Their classroom motto this year comes from a Calvin and Hobbes comic: "Let's Go Exploring!"



Miss Bonnie Yin



Miss Bonnie Yin is our fifth grade Chinese Immersion teacher. She is from Suzhou, China but has also lived in Idaho for four years. Something interesting about Miss Yin is that she has been afraid of dogs since she was chased by a police dog when she was a child! She is the only child in her family. Before

coming to the States, she lived with her parents and grandparents. She hasn't been home for four years and really misses her family!!

Her favorite things about working at Renaissance Academy is that the faculty are so friendly! What she loves about teaching is, "seeing the students have that 'light-bulb' moment and talk in Chinese!" Her classroom motto is "be respectful to everyone!"

Mrs. Jennifer Curley



Mrs. Jennifer Curley is the home-room teacher for the fifth grade Immersion Class. She is originally from Arlington, Texas. In her free time she likes to go repelling and she is currently working towards running a half-marathon! She has four sons, two of whom attend Renaissance Academy. She says they are lively and a bunch of fun! What she loves about Renais-

sance are the teachers and the fun hands-on activities that we do here. When asked what her favorite thing about teaching is she said, "I enjoy working with students and seeing them grow to love learning. A student who comes to love to learn will become smarter by being a student for the rest of their lives." Her classroom motto is "Just Keep Swimming!"

Miss Bryanna Pena



Miss Bryanna Pena is our fifth grade aide. She is originally from Monrovia, California. Her biggest passion is art whether that be music, fashion, photography, and other visual arts, but especially music. She grew up with my parents (her mother Mrs. Pena who is also an aide at this school), along with one older and one younger brother.

She is extremely close to most of her extended family including all of her 11 cousins who are like siblings to her.

Her favorite thing about Renaissance is the amazing people she works with! She is grateful she gets to help out kids one on one whenever she is needed because we all struggle with something and it makes her wish she had had an aide in her elementary school who worked one on one with all students. Her life motto is simply this: Everything will be okay in the end, if it's not okay it's not the end.



6th Grade Team

Mr. Williamson
Mr. Scheerer
Mrs. Moss
Mrs. Taylor



Mrs. Peggy Taylor



Mrs. Peggy Taylor is our sixth grade science teacher. She also teaches science for the fifth grade immersion class. She is originally from Northern California. She loves science, especially observing critters and plants. When she goes outside, she is always looking for animal tracks, scat, bugs, unusual plants and trees and rocks. She has six children and 16 grandchildren.

Her favorite thing about Renaissance is the students and faculty. She said, "this school really is a treasure! We have small classroom sizes, really good kids with strong morals and determination to succeed and have fun learning. All the staff is caring and we have the same goals, to educate students. I love sharing what I know with students and helping them get organized and accomplish hard things that they didn't think they could do. I love their energy and passion for living." Her classroom motto is "Come what may and LOVE it". Some days are hard, some concepts are just hard to get, but whatever happens we keep going and try to love the journey.

Mr. DJ Scheerer



Mr. DJ Scheerer is our sixth grade writing teacher. He also teaches writing for the fifth grade immersion class. He was born in Utah but spent most of his childhood and adolescence in Bozeman, Montana. He has one brother and two sisters. His brother lives in Australia and his sisters live in Oregon and California. His parents live in northern California. His mom was a librarian during his childhood, but she is now a nurse. His

father teaches film at Humboldt State University. Something interesting about him is that he quit eating sugar last April!

He loves that Renaissance Academy gives him the flexibility to teach his own way. He can teach to his strengths while still covering mandated material which is a win-win for everyone! His favorite thing about teaching is watching students make progress. He says, "it happens slowly so sometimes students don't notice it. But when they look back and see how far they've come, it is very satisfying." His classroom motto is: Respect is key!



Mr. Victor Williamson



Mr. Victor Williamson is our sixth grade math teacher. He also teaches math for the fifth grade immersion class. Mr Williamson had his first teaching experience when he was 14 years old. His mom had to teach primary in church and was very busy so he did a lot of substituting for her. He liked teaching and enjoyed seeing kids learn. He discovered a talent he didn't

know he had. Mr. Williamson founded the Christa McAuliffe Space Education Center at Central School in 1990 and served as its administrator for 23 of his 30 years in the district. Over 350,000 students participated in the field trips, camps, and public programs during his time as director.

Mr. Williamson said, "I'm happy to finish my educational career in the classroom once again, working with a small group of students teaching my favorite grade level. Of course the opening of a new simulator is the icing on the cake. Now I get the best of all worlds. I'm in the classroom and running the same program I created at the Christa McAuliffe Space Education Center but on a much smaller scale. It's a lot of work, but satisfying and rewarding."

When asked what his favorite thing about Renaissance Academy he said, "I'm Renaissance through and through; great school, great kids, great families. It is a school that welcomes and embraces experiential education. It is an institution that exemplifies my classroom motto: Imagine, Believe, Learn, Do."

Mrs. Amalie Moss



Mrs. Amalie Moss is our sixth grade aide. She is originally from San Diego, California and lived there until she was 21. She comes from a very large family of 12 kids (eight brothers and three sisters). She has five kids, four boys and one girl. Her oldest is married.

Four of her five kids attended Renaissance Academy.

When asked what her favorite thing about working here is, she said, "I like that kids are nice and ready to give me a smile. I enjoy helping kids have that 'Aha' moment when they get what we're talking in Math. Also I really enjoy the kids. Neatness counts!!"



It's a BIRD! It's a PLANE! It's TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK!
February 27-March 3, 2017

We are celebrating with a SUPERHERO themed week. Here's how you can join the fun:

MONDAY BAM! Super Power Bring a note to your teacher telling them their SUPER POWER!

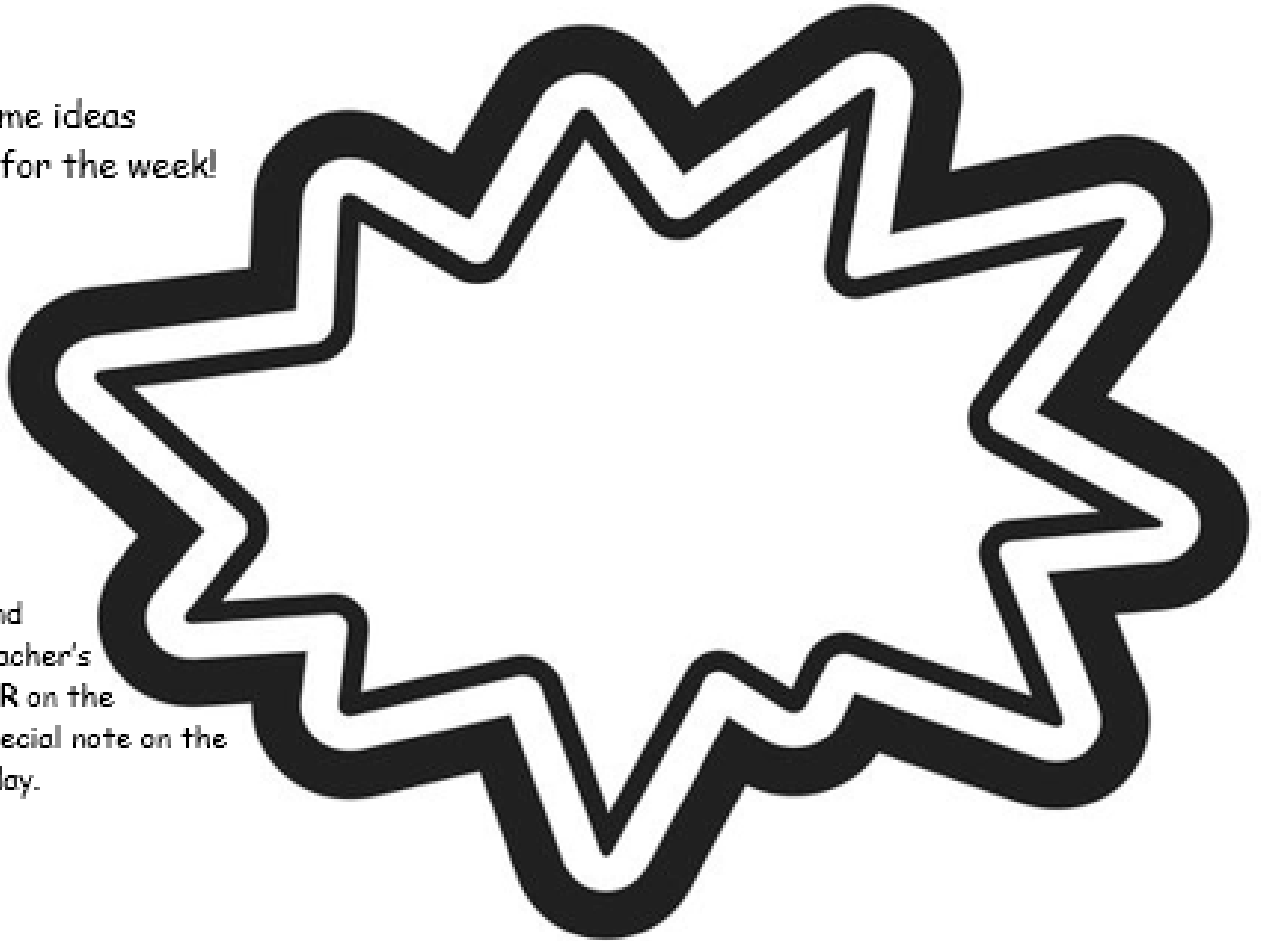
TUESDAY ZAP! Super Charged CHARGE up the classroom with school supplies!

WEDNESDAY KAPOW! Super Sweet Bring a SWEET treat for your teacher!

THURSDAY POW! Super Sidekicks Dress up as your favorite Super Hero!

FRIDAY WOW! Key to the City Reward your teacher with a token of your appreciation!

Here are some ideas
you can use for the week!



Cut this out and
Write your teacher's
SUPER POWER on the
Front and a special note on the
back for Monday.

On Friday reward your Superheroes with a KEY TO THE CITY. Write your name on a key and what KEY of Knowledge your teacher has unlocked in you this year.

