

RAPP



December 2016

Important Dates

- 12/5-9 RA December Donation Drive
- 12/8 Las Posadas 6:30pm
- 12/9 Grades 6-9 Polar Express Party 12:30-2:30pm
- 12/14 NJHS Meeting 3:15-4pm
- 12/14 Ballroom Performance 6pm
- 12/15 6th Grade Field Trip - Polar Bear Swim 9:00-12:00pm
- 12/15 Kindergarten Presentation
 - AM 10:15am
 - PM 2:15pm
- 12/19-1/2 CHRISTMAS BREAK
- 1/3 School Resumes
- 1/6 FEC Meeting 8am
- 1/6 Inspirations Entries Due
- 1/9-13 DIBELS Testing
- 1/11 NJHS Meeting 3:15-4pm
- 1/12 Kindergarten Field Trip - Bean Museum 9:30am-12:30pm
- 1/12 Science Fair Projects Due
- 1/12 Science Fair 6-8pm
- 1/13 Term 2 Ends
- 1/16 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY (NO SCHOOL)
- 1/17 Term 3 Begins

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The Renaissance Academy Printing Press





ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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 or lanyard 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.

Dress Code During Winter

Winter is officially here! We still have many students coming to school without appropriate winter coats and other clothing items. Please remember to send your student/s to school in appropriate winter clothing (coats, gloves, hats, snow boots etc.) so that they are prepared to go outside for recess when the weather permits. Our students spend up to an hour outside on any given day, let's make sure they stay warm and dry! Please also remember to label ALL clothing items.

*Please note - Snow boots are permitted at school during the winter months. They do not need to be dress code colors (although this is always appreciated). If your student wears snow boots to school please also send PE shoes to school on days when they have PE class.

Parent Messages to Students

Parents, the office will only deliver messages to students if it is an **emergency**. Please plan and coordinate with your students before they come to school.

After School Procedures

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.



Utah Food Bank Donation Drive - December 5-9

Free dress 12/12-16 to the grade level that contributes the most lbs!

Our 2016 December Donation Drive for the Utah Food Bank is next week December 5-9. For those of you new to our school, we are once again collecting cans and non-perishable food items for the Utah Food Bank. Our goal is to collect at least 500 lbs before next Friday 12/9 to donate the following week. We can do this easily based on the generosity displayed by Renaissance families last year!

Beginning on Monday 12/5, there will be 8 large boxes/barrels in our school hallway each labeled with a specific grade level. Please place your students donations in their grade level bin or barrel. To encourage our students to get behind the donation effort, the grade level that collects the most lbs in food donations will be awarded free dress the following week December 12-16. The announcement for free dress will be made via email and facebook once all donations are counted on Friday 12/9. Let's fill up our grade level barrels and help those in need!

Some items that the Food Bank especially needs right now are:

Ketchup	Toilet paper
Macaroni and Cheese	Spaghetti Sauce
Ramen noodles	Flour
Bisquick	Sugar
Rice	Oil
Hygiene Kit materials (Shampoo, Conditioner, soap,)	Laundry Detergent
Peanut Butter	Feminine Hygiene
Jam/ Jellies.	Diapers -adult and baby

**Donations need to have dates 2013 and newer

**No food with open packaging where the food is exposed

**No home canning.

Science Fair

Don't forget about the Science Fair! With December swiftly coming upon us with all the parties and shopping, family time and friends, don't forget to schedule time to work on your projects. Try not to leave the work until the end! That will be stressful and add to all the stress of the month anyway. Stick to your schedules and have your projects done before January 12th. The Science Fair is going to be here in a twinkle of time! Remember science is FUN, not a burden or dread. Lots of scientists procrastinate...and they don't get the results they want either. Be a happy scientists and have fun exploring! Please contact Mr. Vidinha at lvidinha@renacademy.org or Mrs. Taylor at ptaylor@renacademy.org with any questions or for more information about Science Fair.

Spelling Bee

The Spelling Bee is coming up! The Renaissance Academy Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday, February 23 at 7:00pm. Individual classroom bees will be taking place during the month of January. Word lists will be distributed through classroom teachers.





Las Posadas

Las Posadas: A Spanish Cultural Celebration will be on December 8 at 6:30. For more information, see the flyer at the end of this newsletter.

In order to have a successful event we need a few volunteers who can help with set-up, clean-up, etc. Please follow the link below to sign up to volunteer. We really appreciate your support!

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XW-Crd_sydRo4dkkdMGhfk_Zeje9p6my9s8jnxwaw9mQ/edit?usp=sharing

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.

Springville Museum of Art Christmas

Lamb Show

Congratulations to Brooklyn Turpin and Mary Flint for having their art accepted in the Springville Museum of Art Christmas Lamb Show. We are pleased to have these students represent our school.

Opening Reception

All students accepted into the show and their families are invited to an Opening Reception on Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm in the Atrium (main level) of the Springville Museum of Art.

Awards Ceremony

Award winners will be recognized December 3, 2016 from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Grand Gallery (upper level) of the Springville Museum of Art. Students receiving an award will be notified a week or so before the Awards Ceremony.

Annie Jr - Elementary School

The next round of Annie Jr is coming up. This will be for 3-5th graders. Auditions will be held the second week of January. For more information and to help your child prepare for auditions, visit <http://my.uen.org/myuen/253592/11>.

Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 18th at 7:00pm**. The agenda will be posted prior to the meeting online at <https://renacademy.org/board-meetings>.

HOPE Squad and NJHS

The next HOPE Squad meeting will be **Wednesday, December 7th** from 3:15-4 in Mr. Robinson's portable (portable 1).

The next National Junior Honor Society meeting will be **Wednesday, December 14th** from 3:15-4 in Mr. Robinson's portable (portable 1).

Congrats!

Congratulations to Mrs. Wyatt! She recently earned funding at donorschoose.org for a classroom project called "Zooming Into Learning!"

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>.



Spirit Shirts

Renaissance Academy School Spirit T-Shirt Sale: Friday, December 9th before school from 7:45-8:15 am and 12:00-12:45 after school in the teacher's lounge (just inside the school).

Come grab your Renaissance Academy Spirit Shirts before Christmas! They make great Christmas gifts! This is your last chance to get your shirts this year! We have many sizes and colors available. All 2016 shirts are \$10/shirt (we will have 2015 inventory for sale for \$5/shirt). Cash or check, please.

Purchase ONE* RA spirit shirt and receive a free Renaissance Academy car window sticker!

Purchase TWO* RA shirts and receive a free Renaissance Academy water bottle!

*free gift applies to 2016 shirts

Water bottles are \$5/each and make great stocking stuffers!

Come support the FEC through your spirit gear purchase and have less laundry to do on Fridays. Win-win!

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@renaissanceacademy.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.



2017 Young Artists' Water Education Poster Contest: Be a H2O Hero

This contest is open to all 4th grade students from November 28 to March 4, 2017. You can find the rules and entry form at: <http://watereducation.utah.gov/postercontest/default.htm>

Spanish Service Project

Winter Clothing Drive Nov 30- Dec 14



New or Slightly used

- Coats
- Hats
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Blankets
- etc.



Please help others this year by donating winter clothing to those in need. Our goal is to have a total of 50 bags full of clothes. Bring your clothing in a bag with your home-room teachers name on it and place it in the box in front of the main entrance stairs.



Phoenix 200 Club

Congratulations to our latest group of Phoenix 200 Club Winners! They were able to go see the BYU Dance School Matinée Performance of 'Christmas Around the World'.

Carter Strate (K)

Grace Wily (K)

Nayvie Reinhardt (K)

Sophie Harper (K)

Gwen Andra (1st)

Brita Ward (1st)

Lance Barton (1st)

Hope Erikson (1st)

Brayden Boyd (1st)

Jacob Bird (1st)

Mithcell Woodbury (1st)

Sigur Stokes (2nd)

India Bina (2nd)

Teresa Chilsholm (2nd)

Major Powell (2nd)

Gracie Farabee (3rd)

Sawyer Clark (3rd)

McKay Meyers (4th)

Jade Foster (4th)

Sofia Martinez (4th)

Ian Wilson (4th)

Kyan Barney (5th)

Parker Salazar (5th)

Sadie Porter (5th)

Aratt Rodriguez (5th)

Kailee Brown (6th)

Peter Ricks (6th)

Sinjin Belnap (6th)

Stephen Roper (6th)



FEC Announcements

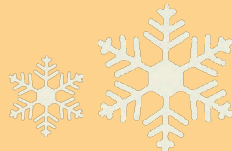
FEC Meeting

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, January 6th at 8:00am.**

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

FEC Presidency



ALYSON HARPER *President*
alysue23@gmail.com

MARY MECHAM *Vice President*
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AMBER GUYMON *Secretary*
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KATIE BRODERICK *Treasurer*
katiebroderick851@gmail.com

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

Teacher Spotlight

We have many AMAZING teachers here at Renaissance Academy!



This month's winner is: Mr. Williamson

The Hampton Teacher Spotlight Staycation winner for the month of November is... Mr. Victor Williamson! Thanks to the Hampton Inn at Thanksgiving Point for the free night stay!

A parent praised Mr. Williamson's great sense of humor and ability to make learning fun. He goes out of his way to help those who struggle or have questions. Her daughter even chooses to stay after school for "Double Dosing" because she knows how beneficial it is for her.

When asking the kids what Mr. Williamson strength was they enthusiastically answered math. He lets his personality show in his classroom décor- you'll find models of Star Trek ships and a Charlie Brown Christmas tree. It's easy to see why Mr. Williamson is a Renaissance favorite!

Parents and students please email us why your teacher deserves to be spotlighted and enjoy this fun staycation! RAHamptonSpotlight@gmail.com.



Farpoint Space Center

We have two different clubs that are offered here at Renaissance Academy through the Space Center.

Farpoint Cadets is a club for students grades 3-8. Using the USS Voyager Starship Simulator, Farpoint Cadets go on several deep space Long Duration Missions during the school year learning about space, science, technology and the social sciences.

For more information and to register, please visit spaceguard.org.

Project Voyager is a club for kids and teens in the 7th through 12th grades who really like space, science fiction, and technology. Voyagers meet once monthly at Renaissance Academy. Meetings are usually held early Saturday mornings or Thursday evenings. The meeting covers club business followed by Space Guard Academy (STEM classes, workshops, and projects).

For more information and to register, please visit projectvoyager.org.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Ms. McKim

Ms. Courtney McKim is one of our first grade teachers. Ms. McKim has an undergraduate degree specialising in history and communications and recently graduated from the University of South Australia with a Masters of

Education. She is brand new to Utah and cannot wait to go rock climbing, hiking, wake-boarding, snow-boarding and to enjoy all that Utah has to offer!

Ms. McKim is so excited to be in Utah and to be working at Renaissance Academy! Her goal is that each student will be able to meet their personal educational goals and have fun while doing it. She believes that every student is unique and special and that school should be a place where they can become their best selves!



Mrs. Loredo

Mrs. Valerie Loredo is one of our first grade teachers. She has loved teaching at Renaissance Academy and this is her fifth year teaching first grade! She attended BYU-Idaho for one year before attending Utah Valley University where she graduated in 2012 with her B.A. in Elementary Education and a minor in Deaf Studies.

Mrs. Loredo grew up in Provo and loves living here in Utah. She met her husband last year while attending a class at UVU and they were married over the summer. She also enjoys reading, dancing, and catching the latest movie.

Her favorite thing about teaching is the students! She loves to see their personalities and skills come to life in the classroom. She said, "it is fun to teach and watch them grow over the course of the year. I love to see their excitement and enthusiasm and also be a part in creating fun learning opportunities for them."





Ms. Chen

Ms. Eden Chen our first grade Chinese Immersion teacher. She is a native Chinese speaker, originally from Taiwan and in her fourth year of teaching Chinese Immersion at Renaissance Academy. Some things Ms. Chen enjoys

when she is not teaching our students Chinese include working out, hanging out with friends and singing.

In her classes, Ms. Chen loves to have her students interact with each other and practice their Chinese using role play activities. Her favorite part about teaching is seeing her students enjoy Chinese and make such quick progress in learning the language. Ms. Chen also loves to hear her students speak Chinese with each other and when her students get excited about learning!



Ms. Felton

Ms. Anna Felton is the Dual Immersion Partner teacher for first grade. She is from Brisbane, Australia! She likes to do hair styling outside of teaching and she even has her own business.

At school Ms. Felton loves to have classroom and individual discussions with her students to help them dig a little deeper into concepts and things they are learning about, and to help expand their horizons about the world they live in. Some of Ms. Felton's favorite things about teaching are watching her students constantly improve and learn new things, receiving cute notes from them and remembering the funny/interesting comments her students make on a daily basis. Ms. Felton is very creative and loves to do hands on activities with her students and help them think outside the box. Her favorite thing about Renaissance Academy is the awesome immersion program! She loves teaching because every day is different!



Mrs. Pena

Mrs. Dorie Pena is our first grade aide. She was born in the Mormon Colonies in Chihuahua, Mexico but she has lived most of her life in sunny California in a beautiful small town called Monrovia.

Mrs. Pena has three awesome children, Seth, Bryanna and Jared. She speaks English and Spanish, and enjoys making crafts, reading and watching movies.

Mrs. Pena has worked at Renaissance for eight years. Her favorite thing about working with the first grade students is that they are so easy to work with! Her students love to get excited about learning new things! She especially loves to see the expression on students faces when they realize they can READ!





Meet our 2nd
Grade Team!



Mrs. Maliwauki

Mrs. Amanda Maliwauki received her B.S. in Elementary Education from Brigham Young University with a Minor in Teaching English as a Second Language. This is her third year in Second Grade and she loves it!

Mrs. Maliwauki enjoys planning fun experiments for her students and her favorite subject to teach is science! Mrs. Maliwauki was born and raised in Sao Paulo, Brazil and moved to Provo in 2010 to go to college. In 2011, Mrs. Maliwauki met and married her best friend, Andrew. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends. She also enjoys baking, reading and doing Crossfit!

Mrs. Maliwauki's favorite thing about teaching is that "oooooh" look on a student's face when they finally get a concept. Mrs. Maliwauki's favorite thing about Renaissance Academy is all the wonderful parent volunteers!



Mrs. Dominugez

Mrs. Alysa Dominguez has been teaching for 10 years and they've all been here at Renaissance Academy! She loves Renaissance Academy because she enjoys and is encouraged to incorporate Kagan structures, music, movement, manipulatives, and art to engage her students. She appreciates the parents involvement and the amazing kiddos that attend R.A.

When students in Mrs. Dominguez' class were asked what they thought about being in her class they said things like, "She is SO funny.", "She is the best teacher ever!", and "She makes it so I want to come to school, even when I am sick!!." She loves her students and spending time with them each day. In her spare time, she spends most of it her husband and two dogs, watching movies, crafting, shopping, and trying out new restaurants!





Ms. Lee

Ms. Dawn Lee grew up in Taiwan, so Chinese is her mother tongue. She loves her language, especially the characters! Her birthday wishes were all about books when she was young. With her passion for Chinese

language, she decided to study Chinese Literature at National Taiwan Normal University, the very first teacher college in Taiwan. To share her language and culture with more people, she came to the United States to study for her master's degree and teach Chinese as a second language. She has worked with students in elementary school, middle school, and college. When she has free time, she enjoys reading, playing the piano, watching movies, and traveling. She has been to many different places in Asia, North America and Central America. Her goal is to travel to every county!

Ms. Lee said, "what I love about being a teacher is that students always surprise me with creative ideas and thoughts. I truly believe that I learn as much from each year's group of students as they learn from me."



Ms. Dominguez

Ms. Carrie Dominguez is our second grade aide. This is her third year working at Renaissance Academy. She loves to go on road trips and attend concerts. Ms. Dominguez received a Bachelors Degree in History at

the University of Nebraska and is currently studying Administration Support at UVU. In the 2nd grade, Miss Dominguez does small pull-out reading groups with the students. They read short stories together and work on spelling. Her favorite thing about working with the students, is seeing when they grasp a new concept or when they read a new word that they couldn't read before. She loves seeing their excitement and loves to give them praises for their accomplishments.



Mrs. Gardner

Mrs. Sara Gardner loves teaching in the Chinese Immersion program because she has double the students to love! She's amazed how quickly the kids pick up the language and enforces a "no Chinese in the English classroom" rule so she doesn't get outsmarted.

Her favorite part about teaching is the relationship she gets to build with so many awesome kids every year! She enjoys playing with them at recess and attending their events outside of school. She believes her influence is best felt one-on-one, and does her best to make each student feel special by taking time to get to know them in that way. Her favorite classroom activity this year has been Einstein Club - it's amazing to see what kinds of things the kids come up with during the different month's challenges!

Mrs. Gardner calls Salt Lake City home, but is loving her new adventures in American Fork the past year. She could eat a bag of sweet potato fries everyday and when she's not teaching or jamming on the piano, would prefer to be playing in the mountains with her husband!





RA HAPPENINGS

Jr. Academy Learns about Native American Culture

November is designated to honor Native Americans. Jr. Academy has read about and discussed the Native American culture, including the trade system. For a hands-on experience we participated in our own trades. After watching a video about Native American trading, students returned to their seats where each desk was provided with a different treat: pretzels, mini marshmallows, Craisins, gummy bears, Cheese-Its, and Cinnamon Toast Crunch. Students determined the trade value of their items (i.e., one pretzel for 2 marshmallows) and so the trading began! It was interesting to watch them as they negotiated trades with one another and they continued to trade for nearly 20 minutes. Mr. Ursic was invited to see the trading activity in action. He visited each table, asked questions and listened to their feedback. After the trading, students were able to share and eat their bounty! It was a GREAT learning experience for Jr. Academy!



Learning with Pumpkins

Mrs Dominguez' 2nd Grade class did Pumpkin math last month where they learned about estimating, circumference, height, weight, length, and the parts of a pumpkin. They had a special guest, Ms. Dieters, come into the class and teach the lesson. The students love having her in the classroom. They also had some great parents come into help. The students really enjoyed this hands on learning experience. Thank you to everyone who helped make this fun learning activity happen!



Middle School Play - Annie Jr.

Our Middle School put on a wonderful performance of Annie Jr. The Middle School students worked hard and had fun doing it! Miss Kinder said of her experience, "I think my favorite part of this play was watching how many students stepped into leadership roles behind the scenes. When we see a play, we often don't realize how much work is happening both on stage and off. We had students fulfilling backstage roles as stage managers, costume helpers, painters, props helpers, dance captains, etc. in addition to their roles on stage. We also had a reliable set of middle schoolers who worked on our technical crew. All of our students really pulled together to make this a fantastic production in so many ways.



LAS POSADAS

AT RENAISSANCE ACADEMY

COME JOIN US FOR:



. MUSIC



. FOOD

. ACTIVITIES



. PIÑATAS

. FUN!



DECEMBER 8, 2016

@ 6:30 PM

CHESS TOURNAMENT

Dec 10, 2016

Located at Renaissance Academy
3435 N 1120 E, Lehi, UT 84043

Open to Grades K-12

Tournament for kindergarten through 12th grade
This is an open non-rated tournament
Four sections: K-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12
(Sections may be redistributed depending on turn out)

Swiss-System Pairing

All players will play four rounds
Winners determined by highest score in each section

\$10 or \$15 Per Player

\$10 for early registration, \$15 for late registration, and all fees paid at the door
Trophies awarded for 1st – 3rd place in each section, if the section has 12 or more players
Sections maybe redistribute if fewer than 12 players are in a section
Participation medals awarded to all non-trophy winners
Food available for purchase onsite, fast food and grocery located nearby

Early Register by December 8

Early registration before Thursday, December 8, by 5:00 PM
All players check-in between 8:00 AM and 8:45 AM, day of tournament
Printed instructions and rules for the tournament will be available at check in
Tournament begins 9:00 AM, break for lunch, ends around 2:30 PM, awards around 3:00 PM

Register by Email: renaissance.chess@gmail.com

Please email the following four items:

The player's (1) name, (2) grade level, (3) school, and (4) USCF or UCA rating, if any

You should receive an automated confirmation email.

Questions? Email us at the registration email address

Or call Jared: 801-928-3843 or Robin: 801-636-2788

