“Men’s courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead,” said Scrooge. “But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change.”

-Charles Dickens

CONTENT

Word from the Dean 2
Phoenix 200 Club 3
Las Posadas 4
Phoenix Basketball 5
Lost and Found 5
Inspirations Form 6-9

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 18 - Las Posadas
Dec 18 - Kindergarten “Grinch” Play
Dec 18 - Phoenix Basketball @ Mountainville Academy 5pm
Dec 22- Jan 2 - Winter Break
Jan 10 - Phoenix Club Field Trip
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe holiday break. Please remember to relax, enjoy yourself, eat lots of delicious treats and do not come to school for the next two weeks. We will see your students back at school bright, bubbly and ready to learn Monday 5th January.

Just a few important and exciting things to think about over the break:

1) Re-enrollment for 2015-16
   Returning students re-enrollment begins Monday 5th January. Re-enrollment is required for ALL returning students. Your student does not go back into the lottery but does need to re-enroll to keep their place for next year. This will be completed online through our RA website admissions page. More specific instructions to come following Christmas Break.

2) Middle School Trips in 2015 - 2017
   We are currently planning a 3-year rotation of trips to extend our middle school students’ learning even further outside the classroom beginning in 2015. School trips are in the works to take place towards the end of the school year and be offered to students in 7th - 9th grades. Cost per student will vary depending on the destination and duration of each trip.

   Our plan is:
   
   2015 - California Science Adventure (4/5 nights, all included, approx. $800-900 per student)
   2016 - Washington DC / New York City Experience
   2017 - World Language Trips (Chinese, Spanish and Arabic!)

   Get excited and start saving! We will announce a parent/student information session soon after Christmas break to beginning planning. If you are interested in your student participating in 2015 please email me to register your interest.

3) Middle School Sports
   We now have Renaissance MS Basketball (Thank you Mr. Luthy!) and we hope to start Renaissance MS Soccer in the Spring (Thank you Mr. Nielson!). Start thinking about if you and your student might like to be involved.

   If you have any questions or concerns about anything here at Renaissance please feel free to contact me at smccappin@renacademy.org

Merry Christmas!

Stephanie McCappin
Dean of Students and Families
Congratulations to our most recent group of winning ‘Phoenix 200 Club’ students. The following students (as well as many others) received Phoenix Tickets as part of our Phoenix 200 Club positive behavior incentive program for being great examples, going above and beyond and making a positive contribution to our school. The Mystery Motivator this round is a Phoenix Club Field Trip to see “Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb” at Thanksgiving Point on Friday 10th January.

Dallin Zimmerman
Juni Rich
Taylor Astorga
Gage Warren
Nike (Julajux) Ratanawan
Zed Nelson
Mason Hunter
Anthony Jaimes
Maren Orten
Quincy (Aquina) Wakeland
Las Posadas has been a tradition in Mexico for over 400 years. The Spanish Department at Renaissance Academy wishes to invite our Spanish students and their families to join us in celebrating this great cultural event. We will have a program for you to enjoy with authentic performances, such as: students reenacting Las Posadas; listening to Spanish holiday carols; admiring the students’ homemade piñatas; and of course, enjoying hot chocolate and churros.
INSPIRATIONS

All students get ARTISTIC over the Christmas Break. Prepare your entries for the 2015 Inspirations Art Contest over the Christmas Break and have it ready for submission January 15th.

The categories are visual art, 3D art, photography and literature.

Attached are the rules and entry form. We will be having an award night January 22nd. Participate! It is a lot of fun!

-Inspirations Committee lizharding801@gmail.com
2015 Inspirations Art Contest

For: Kindergarten – 9th grade
Theme: What a Wonderful World
Categories: Visual Art, 3D Art, Photography & Literature

Date: Entries will be collected before and after school on Thursday, Jan 15th in Mrs. Trotters’ classroom. The award ceremony will be Thursday, Jan 22nd 6:30pm at Renaissance Academy.

Every child can submit one entry for each of the four categories at the school level. So every child could have four different entries. Each entry must be accompanied by an Inspirations Entry Form.

The first and second place winners in each category and age group will be sent on to the regional competition.

All participants are required to fill out, in its entirety, and sign the Inspirations’ Entry Form. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible for the program. The school Inspirations committee should review the entry forms and allow students the opportunity to complete any entry forms prior to school level judging. In situations where a student cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent can fill out the form and sign her/his child’s name.

Each entry must be the original work of one student only. They may not have assistance from teachers, parents, or friends unless there is a special case (such as for someone with a visual or physical disability). Because the program is designed to encourage and recognize each student’s individual creativity, help from an adult or collaboration with other students is not allowed.

All of the entries must be original works.

Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Do not borrow from copyrighted material. Plagiarism is defined as taking and using another person’s ideas or writings or inventions as one’s own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the student.

Entries must be related to the yearly theme. There is no wrong way to interpret the theme.

Entries must comply with the General Inspirations Rules as well as the corresponding category rules. Please refer to the individual category rules before submitting an entry to ensure compliance. All rules
may be found on our blog: charterinspirations.blogspot.com. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Inspirations advisor at your school (Liz Harding lizharding801@gmail.com).

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED ACCORDING TO INTERPRETATION OF THE THEME, CREATIVITY AND ORIGINALITY, AND ARTISTIC MERIT.

Visual Art:

*Any original flat artwork no more than 1/4” thick from the surface of the art work. There is no size limit but if the piece advances to the region or state level then the artist’s family must accept responsibility for transporting the art work for judging and awards nights.

*Mount on a sturdy mat or paper. DO NOT USE FRAMES (Canvas stretched over a wooden frame is not considered a frame and is acceptable).

Examples include pencil, charcoal, ink, colored pencil, pastels, chalk, crayon, serigraphs, linoleum cuts, woodcuts, computer-generated art (no clip art), vegetable prints, tempera, oil, acrylic, watercolor, paint a T-shirt or other fabric, metal etching or punch work, and sand painting. This list is not definitive.

Photography:

*Any original photographic artwork

*Mount entry on a mat, poster board, or a sturdy paper – NO FRAMES

*There is no size limit but if the piece advances to the region or state level then the artist’s family must accept responsibility for transporting the art work for judging and awards nights.

*Collage may be utilized

*No photo alterations of any kind including, but not limited to Photoshop or other photo editing software/websites

Examples include prints, black and white or color, photo gram, montage, sandwich, photo collage, and multiple exposures. This list is not definitive.

Literature:

*Any original creation using words

*Typed or legibly handwritten on a 8 ½ by 11 paper

*No more than 2000 words

*Two copies must be submitted

*Grade-appropriate grammar and punctuation (no parental editing)

Examples: a story, poem, biography, autobiography, an interview, and an essay. This list is not definitive.
3-D Art:
*Any original artwork greater than 1/4” thick
*No limit on size, however it must be movable for display purposes
*Submit the actual artwork and cd or disc containing photos showing all sides (include ruler or yard stick to illustrate size).
*No kits or precast are acceptable. It must be original work only
*3-D entries will only be accepted on the due date. Bring the actual project and cd or disc of the photos.

Examples include jewelry, wind chimes, mobiles, kites, collages, dioramas, ceramics, clay sculpture, rock art, play dough, woodworking, metal soldering, stained glass, junk art, mosaics, toothpicks, and popsicle sticks. This list is not definitive.

INSPIRATIONS ENTRY FORM

Theme 2014-2015: What A Wonderful World

Student must complete the entire form. Student and parent must sign the bottom. You may use the back of this form for more writing space.

Category

(Check One)

_____Literature

_____Visual Arts

_____Photography

_____3-D Art

School:____________________________________

Grade Division:  K-2   3-5   6-8   9-12

(Circle One)

Grade: __________
Title of your entry:_____________________________________________________

What inspired you to do this project?________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

Phone:____________________ E-mail address:________________________

Student’s First Name:_____________________________________________________

Student’s Last Name:_____________________________________________________

I affirm that this is my original work, created for INSPIRATIONS 2014-2015.

______________________________          ______________________________
Student’s signature                                                 Parent’s/legal guardian’s signature