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Renaissance Academy RAMS

Renaissance Report

November 5, 2026



November is off to a great start at RPSA! We love this time of year because it is so full of learning and the launch of our next round of projects!

We also have some amazing gratitude and kindness happening throughout the building. This month, students will have the opportunity to send messages of kindness to area nursing home residents, write thank you cards for veterans, and participate in raising funds to support homelessness in our community through Coins for a Cause. Be sure to check out the flyer below and gather up your loose change this weekend!

A team of Middle School students is working together to host a Toy and Clothing Swap too! Throughout November you can drop off your gently used children's toys and clothing at the front office. These students will clean and organize all donations and to put together a swap day on December 4th and 5th. All RPSA families are invited to stop by and "shop" the gently used items to take home for free! See the flyer below for details.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

#RAMSPRIDE SHOUT OUTS

Be Safe. Be Responsible. Be Kind. Work Hard.



We love celebrating our students when they're caught showing RAMS Pride. We look for students who are being safe, being responsible, being kind, or working hard and try to highlight them with a "Shout Out". Students receive a blue paper to bring home and show off to their families. Their names are also included in the weekly newsletter. The first time a student receives a shout out, they get to visit the book vending machine too!

We're excited to celebrate these amazing students who received a Shout Out this week!

Kylin B.
Da'Miriah L.
Kenza K.
Mia S.
Jezreel C.
Ryan T.
Leondrio F.
Emilio M.
Harper B.
Alorah S.
Kota T.
Mitchell J.
Louen A.
Madison L.
Elijah A.
Elyjha M.
David E.
Vincent W.
Sovran B.

Khy'ree S.
Dean D.
Jonah D.
Jaxson R.
Maeve J.
Amelia R.
Adeline W.
Mira S-J.
Maya G.
Logan J.
Rebeca M.
Bentlee M.
Na'Saiah A.
Logan K.
Malaki C.
Weston S.
Jude S.
Lucas S.
Reese K.
Forest K.
Autumn S.
Ellen D.
Phoenix G.
Ben L.
Meryl D.

Breakfast & Lunch Menu, November 9th - November 13th, 2026

	11/9/26	11/10/26	11/11/26	11/12/26	11/13/26
Breakfast	Cereal Strawberries Fruit Juice Milk	Blueberry Muffins Yogurt Frozen Sherbet Fruit Juice Milk	Cereal Apple Sauce Fruit juice Milk	Cereal Apples Fruit Juice Milk	Donuts Berry Sorbert Fruit Juice MIlk
Lunch	Cheese Burger Chips Carrots Fresh Fruit Milk or Chicken Salad	French Toast Sticks Turkey links Hashbrown Fresh Fruit Milk or Chicken Salad	Dominos Cheese Pizza Broccoli Vegetable Juice Fruit Cup Milk or Chicken Salad	Hot Dogs Baked Beans Fresh Fruit Milk or Chicken Salad	Bosco Sticks (Pizza Stuffed w/ Pepperoni) Celery Sticks Fruit Cup Milk or Chicken Salad

Choice of White or Chocolate Milk Served Daily

USDA is an equal opportunity provider

Download the school calendar and handbooks here!

Important Dates

November 9th - Theater Workshop #2

November 9th - 20th - Coins for a Cause

November 13th - Last Day of 1st Trimester

November 16th - Theater Workshop #3

November 25th - 27th - No School

December 4th & 5th - Toy and Clothing Swap

December 15th - Band Concert

December 18th - Middle School Museum Event

December 20th - January 1st - Winter Break, No School



From the School Counselor

November SEL Focus

Growing Gratitude This November!

During the month of November, our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons will focus on **gratitude** and the power of appreciating the people, experiences, and little moments that make our lives special. Gratitude is more than just saying “thank you”—it's a habit that can actually help our brains! Research shows that regularly practicing gratitude can support positive emotions, reduce stress, and strengthen our relationships with others. When we intentionally look for the good around us, we train our brains to notice more of the positives, even when things feel challenging. At RPSA, we

want our students to understand that gratitude is something we can practice every day. We encourage families to join us this month by taking a few moments each day to share something you're thankful for. **A little gratitude can make a big difference!**

A HOLIDAY SEASON OF GRATITUDE

40 ways to celebrate, give back, and count your blessings • All ages

01 • FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

10 Gratitude-Inspiring Family Movies

Watch together, then talk about the lessons of kindness, generosity, friendship, family, and appreciation.

1. A Charlie Brown Christmas
A reminder that the holidays are about more than decorations and presents; friendship and togetherness matter.

2. How the Grinch Stole Christmas
Shows that love, kindness, and community are more valuable than material things.

3. Elf
Celebrates positivity, family, kindness, and finding joy in little things.

4. It's a Wonderful Life
Reminds us that our lives matter and that love and support are precious gifts.

5. Finding Nemo
Highlights family bonds, perseverance, friendship, and appreciating people who care for us.

6. The Polar Express
Encourages wonder, generosity, belief, and appreciating special moments.

7. Annie
Celebrates hope, belonging, friendship, and caring relationships.

8. The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh
Reminds us to appreciate simple pleasures and the gift of friendship.

9. The Wild Robot
Explores compassion, belonging, family, and caring for others.

10. Cinderella (2015)
Inspires kindness, courage, forgiveness, and treating others with compassion.

Movie-night conversation: What did a character learn to appreciate? Who showed kindness, and how could we do something similar?

A HOLIDAY SEASON OF GRATITUDE

40 ways to celebrate, give back, and count your blessings • All ages

02 • GIVE BACK TOGETHER

10 Family Service Activities in the Community

The best way to teach gratitude is often to put it into action. Choose an activity the whole family can enjoy.

1. Fill a food pantry basket
Collect canned goods, pasta, cereal, and other requested nonperishable foods.

2. Create holiday care packages
Assemble packages with warm socks, toiletries, snacks, and encouragement cards for a local organization.

3. Help at a community meal
Volunteer at an established meal program or help prepare approved food donations.

4. Make cards for nursing home residents
Create cheerful holiday cards and arrange delivery through a senior living community.

5. Participate in a toy drive
Donate new toys, books, or games to a local holiday giving program.

6. Help an animal shelter
Donate pet food, blankets, toys, or other requested supplies; ask about family volunteer options.

7. Clean up a neighborhood park
Join an organized cleanup and help care for shared community spaces.

8. Adopt a family for the holidays
Work through a community organization to provide requested gifts, groceries, or essentials.

9. Organize a winter warmth collection
Collect new hats, gloves, scarves, and coats for a clothing assistance program.

10. Spread kindness to neighbors
Prepare treats, write thank-you notes, or offer an age-appropriate helping hand.

Family tip: Contact each organization before donating or visiting to confirm its current needs, age requirements, and volunteer arrangements.

A HOLIDAY SEASON OF GRATITUDE

40 ways to celebrate, give back, and count your blessings • All ages

03 • NOTICE THE GOOD

10 Ways to Count Your Blessings

Gratitude doesn't have to cost money. Often, the most meaningful blessings are the little things we experience every day.

1. Start a family gratitude jar
Write one thing you are thankful for each day; read the notes together at the end of the season.

2. Keep a gratitude journal
Write down three good things that happened each day, big or small.

3. Take a gratitude walk
Notice five beautiful or interesting things in nature that you might usually overlook.

4. Write a thank-you letter
Tell someone why you appreciate them and how they have made a difference.

5. Create a family memory album
Look through photographs and share favorite memories and the people who made them special.

6. Make a gratitude tree
Write blessings on paper leaves and add them to a family tree display.

7. Share blessings at dinner
Have everyone name one thing they appreciated that day.

8. Savor the small things
Enjoy a favorite song, warm drink, sunset, good book, or time spent together.

9. Turn complaints into appreciation
When something goes wrong, pause and identify something positive you can still appreciate.

10. End each day with three blessings
Before bedtime, share three things you are grateful for and one person who made your day better.

Try this at dinner: Ask everyone, "What is one small thing that made you happy today?"

A HOLIDAY SEASON OF GRATITUDE

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04 • READ AND REFLECT

10 Gratitude-Inspiring Family Books

Read together, share during family reading time, or give a gratitude-inspired book as a holiday gift.

1. Bear Says Thanks — Karma Wilson
A sweet story about friendship, sharing, and appreciating what others bring into our lives.

2. Thank You, Omu! — Oge Mora
A story about generosity, community, and how kindness brings people together.

3. Last Stop on Market Street — Matt de la Peña
Encourages readers to recognize beauty, goodness, and blessings in everyday life.

4. The Giving Tree — Shel Silverstein
Invites reflection about generosity, love, and appreciating what others give.

5. Gratitude Soup — Olivia Rosewood
A playful introduction to noticing and appreciating life's blessings.

6. We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga — Traci Sorell
Celebrates Cherokee culture, traditions, family, and gratitude throughout the year.

7. Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are? — Dr. Seuss
Encourages readers to recognize positive things in life, even when things get difficult.

8. Our Table — Peter H. Reynolds
A reminder to slow down, reconnect with family, and appreciate time together.

9. The Shortest Day — Susan Cooper
Celebrates the winter solstice, seasonal traditions, and the return of light.

10. The Thankful Book — Todd Parr
A colorful, simple celebration of everyday things we can appreciate.

"The more we practice gratitude, the more we discover how much we already have to be thankful for."

Give Thanks. Give Back. Make Memories. May your holiday season be filled with kindness, meaningful connections, generosity, and gratitude.

Upcoming Events

Coins for a Cause

November is Homelessness Awareness Month and here at RPSA, we want to help bring awareness of homelessness and housing insecurity in our communities. That's why we're partnering with United Way to raise money for Hope Works Mid-Michigan through a coin war challenge called Coins for a Cause!

United Way is committed to matching all funds raised (up to $5,000) so now's your chance to double your donation! Students can bring in their spare change during November 9th - 20th. The classroom that raises the most money will win a special treat from United Way!



Toy and Clothing Swap



Upcoming Theater Dates

Theater Workshops

November 2nd.....Theater Etiquette*

***required for 3rd-4th to be in the spring musical**

November 9th.....Creating a Character

November 16th.....Ace Your Audition

All workshops open to 3rd-8th grade
3:30pm-5:30pm

Production Club

- Open to 5th-8th Grade
- Learn what goes into making a show
- Plan and Make Costumes, Props, Set Pieces and More!
- Vote on next year's show

Student Directors must attend at least 50% of meetings

Production Club will meet
Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:30

First Meeting: October 20th
Last Meeting: November 24th
Show Results Meeting: May 27th



Audition Sign Up: https://forms.gle/d1nBMsDvGSMM6ZtQ8
Student Leadership Sign Up: https://forms.gle/fcPXmiBHbkC54pU38
Crew Sign Up: https://forms.gle/p9qSxoPdLnoBZj7M6
Workshops Sign Up: https://forms.gle/Fq3zq7HZqEdSgoPJ7

Production Club Sign Up: https://forms.gle/7JXJYhVREJ9NKDXi7

Athletics

ATHLETICS

Competition Cheer Team TRYOUTS

6th through 8th Grade Girls

November 12 & 13, 2026
3:45 to 5:30pm

FINAL FORMS IS NOT OPTIONAL - THE REGISTRATION LINK CAN BE FOUND ON THE ATHLETICS PAGE OF THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE, AND GET THOSE PHYSICALS DONE. ANY QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO MR. MCCAUSEY - THANK YOU.

Attendance Matters

At Renaissance, **every day of learning builds on the one before it!** Through Project Based Learning, students work together to ask questions, investigate real-world problems, share ideas, and create meaningful projects. When students miss school, they miss important opportunities to contribute, collaborate, and make discoveries alongside their classmates. **Consistent attendance helps students stay connected, engaged, and ready for whatever exciting learning comes next!**

Be here. Be curious. Be a Ram!



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