MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

DATES
FAMILY CALENDAR
CALENDARIO FAMILIA

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NEED INFO? CLICK BELOW!

February 8, 2020
Sweetheart Dance - 2pm

February 14, 2020
Valentine’s Day- Wear Red Day

February 17- 21 - No school, Winter Recess

February 26, 2020 - Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting - 12:30 pm

RA One Page Calendar/RA calendario de una página

Breakfast & Lunch Menus/ Menús de desayuno y almuerzo

RA Facebook Page

CONTACT US PAGE/ CONTÁCTENOS

Building Our Social Skills
Dear RA Families,

Each year the New York State Department of Education's Charter Schools Office reviews our program. As part of that process, they provide a survey for all of our families. Please take a few moments to take the survey that can be accessed via the hyperlink in the letter below.

This survey may only be accessed online. We will be providing access to chromebooks at our upcoming RAFFA meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. here at our school.

Thank you.
Dr. Cozine

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The New York State Education Department’s Charter School Office (CSO) supports the Board of Regents’ Oversight Plan for each Board of Regents-authorized charter school. As part of its oversight processes, the CSO conducts mid-term site visits, generally to schools in their third year of a full 5-year charter term, or closer to the midpoint of shorter charter terms.

A CSO team, usually comprised of two to three members, will conduct a mid-term site visit at the Renaissance Academy Charter School of the Arts in the next few months. As part of its evidence gathering, the CSO values your feedback, as a parent of a student attending this charter school.

To hear from all parents, we request participation in an anonymous parent survey. To complete the brief survey, please go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nysedcsoparentsurvey and enter the password: csoparent and then please select the accurate charter school name.

Para completar la encuesta en español, siga este enlace:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/encuestaparapadres la contraseña: csoparent

This survey can ONLY be completed online. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete and must be completed in one sitting, as you cannot save it and return to it later. Survey results are due to the CSO by 5:00 PM on February 28, 2020.

Thank you for your participation in this survey. We greatly appreciate your valuable feedback.

The New York State Education Department’s Charter School Office
A MESSAGE FROM:  BEN KOCH  
BUILDING PRINCIPAL

Dear RA Friends and Families,

Happy February!! It has been wonderful to get back into the swing of things in the new year. With the NYS Exams quickly approaching, our staff and students have been putting in 100% each day to ensure positive learning outcomes for our students.

In the education process, parent communication is crucial to ensure school and home are on the same page in supporting each child. Please make sure to check our child’s classroom app regularly and reach out to their teachers with any questions or concerns. If you are not currently on their classroom app, please call the school for directions on how to join or send a note in to the teacher! Here at RA we truly value partnership with our parents and understand you are our number one support in educating your child.

In addition to continuing the education process, February is Black History Month! This is such a special month as we are able to celebrate the incredible African-American figures that have made transformational change in our nation’s history. Each morning on the announcements I will tell the school factual information about Black History Month and/or a famous African-American figure or event. Please join us in celebrating Black History Month by discussing this topic at home about historical information and what students are currently learning in school!

Again, thank you all for your incredible partnership in educating your children. We understand that without you, this work would not be possible. Thank you for choosing Renaissance Academy as your child’s educational provider!

Sincerely,

Ben Koch  
Principal K - 6 
585-225-4200 ext 240 
 koch@renacad.org

A MESSAGE FROM:  RHIANNON TOBECK  
DIRECTOR OF ARTS

Happy February, RA Families!!

February is one of my favorite months at RA, because we have the opportunity to celebrate the history and contributions of African Americans. This is something we do throughout the year, but during the month of February we put a little bit more of a creative spin on it! This year, some of the ways we will celebrate Black History Month include:

- Members of the Blackstorytelling League of Rochester will visit each grade level and tell engaging stories about the historical, cultural, and/or creative contributions of various African Americans.
- Bright Star Touring Theatre from North Carolina will perform "African Folktales" for our kindergarten, first, and second grade students, and "Freedom Songs" for our third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students.
- Select students in kindergarten through sixth grade will participate in our own Black History Month Performance on Thursday, February 27th. There will be dances, songs, visual art, and more! If your child is involved, you will receive a permission slip/invitation soon.
- Some of the ensembles from our Black History Month Performance will take the RA show on the road and perform for the students at Exploration Elementary Charter School.
- Many of our arts integration and arts block units will focus on Black History Month during February. For example, 1st grade is working on their “Change Begins with Me” unit and 3rd grade students are making collaborative portraits of influential African Americans.

In other exciting news, RA just received a large donation of instruments from the Rochester Education foundation! Here is a photo of some of our 5th grade students with the instruments. Please reach out anytime with questions about the Arts, Physical Education, and/or Library programs!

Rhiannon Tobeck
Director of Arts
(585)225-4200, Ext. 233 or tobeck@renacad.org

RESOURCE and DEVELOPMENT
Nan Westervelt

REACH FOR THE STARS BENEFIT
COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS OPPORTUNITY

On Friday, April 24, 2020, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM we will hold our fourth annual “Reach for the Stars” benefit. This event raises funds to purchase instruments and provide other arts and educational resources for our students. A fun evening is planned at the Harro East Ballroom that includes dinner, drinks, entertainment, and silent auction items. Like other years, entertainment will feature the talents of our staff and RA friends.

Tickets are $75 each; however, we anticipate a limited number of complimentary tickets being donated and available for RA adult family members. A lottery will be held to provide two free tickets for adult family members to attend. TO ENTER THE COMPLIMENTARY TICKET LOTTERY, contact Kimberly Felton at felton@renacad.org.
5th Grade

We are delving deep into our 4th novel of the year! *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry* takes place during the Jim Crow South in the 1930s. Students are learning about how racial tensions occurred even after the Civil War. In math, students finished up multiplying fractions and are starting dividing fractions! We are working hard on maintaining fluency skills like 2-digit by 2-digit multiplication and long division.

**Dividing Fractions**

1. **Set up the problem**
   \[
   \frac{2}{3} \div \frac{1}{4}
   \]

2. **Multiply by the reciprocal**
   \[
   \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{4}{1} = \frac{8}{3}
   \]

3. **Simplify**
   \[
   \frac{8}{3}
   \]

**Multiplying Fractions**

1. **Draw a model of the fraction**
   \[
   \frac{1}{3} \text{ of } \frac{3}{5}
   \]

2. **Break model into parts**
   \[
   \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{3}{5} = \frac{3}{15} = \frac{1}{5}
   \]

3. **Simplify**
   \[
   \frac{1}{5}
   \]
Math Update from Mrs. Loftus:

Math Specialist

I would like to thank you all for a WONDERFULLY successful Family Math Night. Here are some moments that were captured below.

As we enter the second half of the year, it is really important for students to develop fact fluency! Any time you can have your primary (K, 1, 2) students count, skip count, add, or subtract will support them building number sense. For students in 3, 4, 5, & 6 grades, multiplication, division, and fractions are the important facts to hit!

Stay tuned for March MATH Madness coming at the end of February!
Hello Parents and Families!
We are rounding the corner of the winter season and our students have been learning so much! Kindergarten students are starting to read! First graders are now able to write sentences about character traits and include evidence, and second grade scholars can write responses to text that include a restate, answer, citation, and explanation! Our upper grade readers and writers are beginning to prepare for the New York State Test, which will be held this year on March 24 and 25. This exam is an opportunity for our students to shine and show that they are on the path to college and career readiness. 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grade teachers are preparing students by teaching them to annotate passages and look back in the text for evidence. We are so proud of our students for showing diligence every day and practicing these college-ready skills.

One other exciting event coming in March is Read Across America Week! This is a week to celebrate a love of literacy and have some fun while we're at it! Keep your eyes peeled for special spirit days and activities!

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Berwind
In the Library....

Our younger students are learning about germs and the best ways to stay healthy in spite of all the germs around us! We learned to catch our coughs and sneezes with our elbows, and NOT with our hands. If we have germs on our hands and touch a doorknob, the next person will pick up those germs from the doorknob, and they could get sick!! When we wash our hands, germs go down the drain but they do not die. AND, when choosing food items, we do NOT touch or handle every piece! We only touch the item that we will take and eat.

Our older students are checking out more and more books! Thank you for helping them keep track of their books and return them to the Library.

Our Encore tile project continues ..... When complete, it will be a masterpiece! Each student is creating a character loosely based on themselves. Others are pitching in to help keep the project moving - tiling carefully is very time-consuming! For a theme, our students chose “We are a school where other people matter!” Every day I see so many examples of students reaching out and caring for each other, setting a wonderful example for the younger students. They help each other with zippers and shoelaces, reading, writing, and just being kind. It is a joy to observe this when it happens spontaneously, with no “teacher input!”

299 KIRK ROAD  ROCHESTER, NY 14612  (585) 225-4200
Thank you to our volunteers who served dinner to our RA families and staff during our Family Math Night event on Thursday, January 23, 2020. The food was catered by Big Boy Caterer. Thank you ladies for volunteering your time and for contributing to the success of RA’s Family Math Night. Letiticia Randolph, Naimah Baaith, Shemeka Freeman, Doris Chavis and Ebony Albritton.

SAVE THE DATE
Family Skate Party and Fundraiser
Saturday, March 14, 2020
11 am - 2 pm
$10 Admission
Skate Luvers Roller Palace
SAVE THE DATE

March 25, 2020
6 - 7:15 pm
RA's Cafetorium
Dinner, Childcare and Raffle Prize

RAFFA Meeting
Topics:

NY State Assessment - Mr. Ben Koch, Building Principal

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: Prevention and Reporting Resources for families

Jennifer L. Boutte Candidate for Monroe County Clerk

Want something to do this weekend?

Want something to do this weekend and every weekend, check out Kids Out and About.com
Your family will never be bored on the weekends again.
https://rochester.kidsoutandabout.com/

LOST AND FOUND
RA families we have a LOST AND FOUND near the foyer by the big round RA rug. Please remind your children, if they are missing any of their personal belongings to check the bin. As a proactive measure, please remember to label your child’s belongings. Doing so, will assist RA in returning lost items to their rightful owner. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
Renaissance Academy Uniform Drive

Do you have any RA uniforms that your child has outgrown? Please consider donating them to Renaissance Academy’s Uniform Drive. You may drop off your gently used uniforms during school hours or have your child bring the uniforms to school. A designated uniform bin is available in the lobby area near the main office.