

FALL 2020



Reece School

NEWSLETTER

Reece School, 25 East 104th Street, New York, NY 10029
(212) 289-4872 Follow us: www.reeceschool.org

SO MUCH FUN WITH SO FUN CITY!



The fun continues with SO Fun City! In September, we kicked off the year with a special Reece-spectful SO Fun City virtual event. Students reviewed school expectations and practiced team work, all while participating as members on a virtual game show! We are excited to begin a twelve-week residency with each cohort in December that will include two family events, showcasing students' performances, on **January 23rd** and **March 13th**. Save the dates!

Dear Reece Community,

Special education: One size does not fit all.

Now more than ever is the time for innovation and Reece, while partnering with families, is discovering new ways to deliver special education instruction safely and effectively.

I am confident we all will emerge from this pandemic, resilient, and ready to overcome any challenge in the future - and we may even have learned something new along the way.

Sharing this newsletter with you is our pleasure.

Stay safe and healthy,

Dr. Duncan
Executive Director



Save the Dates

**Student Performances after a
a 12 week residency with
So Fun City!!**

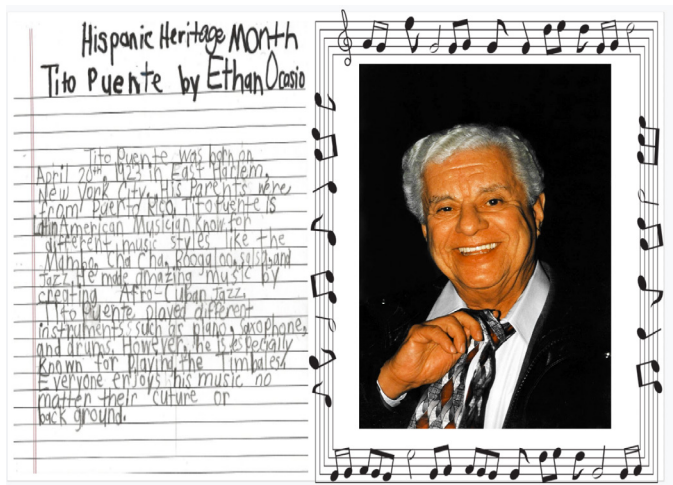
January 23rd & March 13th







HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



The theme for this year's Hispanic Heritage month, beginning on September 15th, was Be Proud of Your Past, Embrace the Future. When we asked Ethan why he chose Tito Puente and if it was fun learning about him, this was his response:

"I like music and Tito Puente is Puerto Rican like Dad."

- Ethan, Class 410

UNITY DAY AT REECE

On October 21st, Reece proudly displayed it's orange in support of Unity Day! Each year, Unity Day is an excellent reminder that we must all do our part to put an end to bullying and to promote inclusion and acceptance.



"Unity Day meant a lot to our class. It was more than just showing that bullying is not the right thing to do. We have been learning about advocacy and what it means to us.

We wore orange to show that we are all willing to stick up for someone and believe in what they believe in. We hope that this reminds people who see it, how important it is to stick together and be kind!"

- Class 310

Safety in the Community and School

ARE THEY WEARING THEIR MASK CORRECTLY?



Learn

- Mask wearing as an important part of keeping everyone safe! This includes handwashing, social distancing, and other precautions your family is taking.
- Look for youtube videos that discuss the science behind face covering, hand washing, and physical distancing.
- Learn about correct and incorrect ways to wear a mask.



Wash Your Hands



We've got your back!

MAINTENANCE OF PROPER BODY MECHANICS



GUESS WHO! ARE THEY WEARING THEIR MASK CORRECTLY?

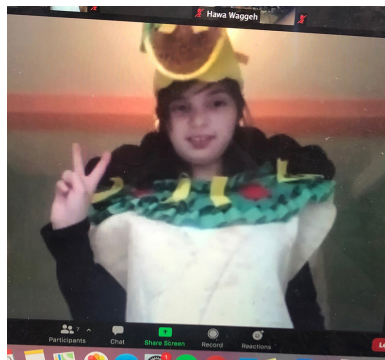
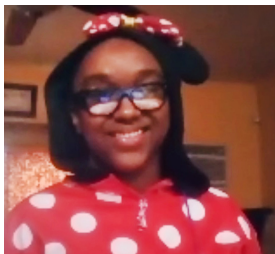


Every year in September, the Reece School Occupational Therapy department holds a Backpack Awareness Day event. This year, with all of us learning and working from home, we held a virtual Safety Week from September 21st through September 25th! We reviewed important information about COVID safety procedures, protecting our eyes from screen fatigue, and posture, positioning, and workspace setup to prevent injury. We also practiced some of the techniques and played some games! This information was presented in a variety of ways, from 3S periods in the red and orange cohorts and class discussions to individual and small group OT sessions.



COHORT SPIRIT!

Reece sure knows how to show school spirit! Each month students (and staff!) bring their positive and creative vibes to their remote learning classes to celebrate Cohort Spirit Day! In September, students represented their cohorts by wearing their cohort color to school. It was a great way to kick off the school year and we loved the team effort from each cohort! In October, students celebrated by wearing their Halloween costumes and in November we featured our favorite superheroes on Superhero Day! Our next Cohort Spirit Day is December 18th when students can dress up as their favorite holiday! We can't wait to see our students' awesome creativity on display once again!



Halloween

On Halloween, the fun continued with So Fun City at a SO Spooky virtual Saturday program. There were festive costumes, Halloween magic, games and crafts!



Alpha! After a school wide vote, the DRAGON was chosen as this year's Halloween costume for our school pet Alpha. He wore the wings well!!





PUBERTY

CLASSROOMS AT HOME

During this time of remote education, it's so important to create a space that facilitates learning. It's wonderful to see our students approaching the day in a way that will lead to success. Way to go Darryl and Grayson!! Keep up the great work.



Puberty Lessons with Kate Greenberg

In December, Kate Greenberg will be returning to Reece to offer Puberty Lessons to the Yellow and Orange Cohorts. Red cohort lessons will be in February. Please take note of these important dates for your children and look for more details and lesson descriptions coming to you soon.

December 2nd (evening): Parent Puberty Workshop for Yellow and Orange Cohort Families

December 4th, 10th, 16th, & 18th (mornings): Student Lessons for Yellow and Orange Cohorts

February 2nd (evening): Parent Puberty Workshop for Red Cohort Families

February 4th, 5th, & 10th*: Student Lessons for Red Cohort

***February 10th** will be an opt in lesson with more information on pregnancy prevention, contraception, STDs, and HIV.

VALUE OF THE MONTH



Each month our school calendar reflects important dates and events for the upcoming month, as well as the Value of the Month that we are highlighting. The Value of the Month provides students with an opportunity to further develop their social skills and implement these fundamental skills in school and in the community. In September, we focused on **Responsibility** to prepare for a successful school year. In October we celebrated *Unity Day* by standing up against bullying while learning about **Empathy**. November was a perfect time of year to highlight the importance of putting forth great **Effort** at school, as well as at home. In December we look forward to highlighting **Community** through our annual gift giving winter event on Saturday, December, 12, 2020.

World Kindness Day



Once again, Reece celebrated World Kindness Day on November 13th.

"The objective of World Kindness Day is to highlight good deeds in the community, focusing on the positive power and the common thread of kindness which binds us." In that spirit, classrooms at Reece took the time to look at Kindness and what a difference it can make in their lives and in the lives of others.

"Today in 317 we have been discussing kindness and doing many activities revolving around what kindness means to us. Here are some ideas mentioned by our students about what they think about when they think about kindness."

"*Helping people is like a good disease. Once the spread begins, it never stops and it's beautiful.*" - Gregory

(Discussing what the person is who starts an act of kindness)

"*The Nice Maker.*" - Cullin

"*Don't judge people for how they look, judge people for how they act.*" - Eli O.

"*Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.*" - Mother Theresa

Happy World Kindness Day from Nicole and Val in OT!





A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEACHERS

We are happy to welcome 4 new teachers to our Reece Team who have shown such dedication to their students' education during this challenging time. Thank you and we look forward to getting to know you better in the future.



Kendall Byrons - Class 210



Tara D'Ottavio - Class 310



Katie Compton - Class 317



Jennie Concannon - Class 412



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REECE RACERS; MASKED - AND KNOCKING OUT THE MILES!

How time flies! The Reece Racers Team is entering its third season! Led by coaches Charlotte, Kaitlin, and Karen, being a part of Reece Racers is a lot of hard work - but is extremely rewarding! Just ask our new team captain, Charles (Class 611), who has proven that he is a leader through his ongoing effort and commitment to the Reece Racers Team since our 2018 season.

Along with our regular training schedule, our team has participated in numerous events around the five boroughs through the *Rising New York Road Runners*. Because of current circumstances, we have had to make some adjustments to our meet schedule - but we are still going strong! For our 2020-2021 Season, so far the team (including many of our alumni runners) has participated in three races - "The Masked Mile" in September, "The Bat Bolt" in October, and "Hit the Gravel with Gratitude" in November. We also hosted our first two training runs of the season to invite potential runners from the Orange and Red Cohort to join our team. Reece Racers plans to host additional training runs, followed by an event, every four to six weeks. For any questions about upcoming events or the team in general, feel free to reach out to Charlotte D. (charlotte.dooling@reeceschool.org).



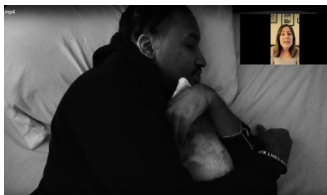


AND THE WINNER IS...

On November 3rd, Reece students and staff participated in a school wide election. Six staff members were on the ballot to vote on who would do a wacky video morning announcement for the school! The red cohort students made campaign flyers for the candidates and all students and staff had an opportunity to submit their vote on November 3rd. This community building experience taught our students about the election process and got them engaged and interested in being active voters!



Once the votes were tallied and certified it was announced that Kenny won the school wide election. Congrats Kenny and thanks for the awesome morning announcements with special guests Reece Grad Kelvin and Batman!



GOOD MORNING REECE!

Tuning in to our daily morning announcements on Google Classroom is a perfect way to start the school day. Students and staff have taken turns preparing videos and voice overs to share the daily announcements with the school. Particularly during this time when we are learning online, the morning announcements is a place for us to join together as a community. From celebrating student and staff birthdays, to sharing jokes of the day, trivia, and cohort spirit day pictures, it is a continued source of support and positivity.

"What I do for the morning announcements is tell jokes and dress up in costumes. I like doing it because it is fun and more students should do it."

- Pharoah, Class 312



Good Morning Reece Students and Staff! Today is Friday, October 2, 2020

Happy Birthday to Kate from class 317 and Happy Birthday this weekend to Isaiah in class 510 and Ricky in class 611!

★ Classes will end today at 11:30am.

★ Congratulations to our Students of the Week!: Cameron F., Avery, Pharoah, Ethan O., Timothy, Jackson, and Efrain!

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY...in 1950, the comic strip Peanuts by Charles M. Schulz is first published.

Joke of the Day:

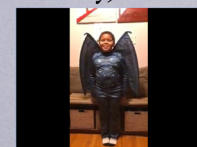
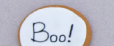
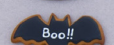
Q: How did Linus know Snoopy was calling him?

A: Collar ID

Have a great weekend!



Good Morning! Today is Friday, October 30, 2020



Congratulations Students of the Week! Josiah, Daniel L., Robert H.M., and Gregory!

Join us on Saturday for a special **SO Fun City Halloween Event** on zoom! Remind your parents to register for the event using this link:

<https://www.sofuncity.com/reecesospooky>

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