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| Student-Parent Handbook2017-2018 | Your Goal While Here**Discover and achieve personal wonder while being successful in learning to do challenging things well!**The Renaissance Preparatory AcademyHeadmaster Janice Black, Ed. Specialist, Ph. D. |



The Renaissance Preparatory Academy

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 The Renaissance Preparatory Academy

2017-2018
Student-Parent Handbook

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The Renaissance Preparatory Academy Student-Parent Handbook

Hello and welcome to the 2017-2018 school year with The Renaissance Preparatory Academy community! We’re so glad you are joining us this year! This handbook provides both students and their parents with our basic rules and practical guidelines that make life in our community easier. Let’s share these with you. We will begin with practical everyday tips and information.

# **Everyday Tips**

### Arriving on Time and Signing In

 Classes begin at 8:00 am (see School Hours below). Arriving early to greet friends and put away belongings is a good idea but classrooms do not open before 7:50 am. If the student arrives before 7:50 am, then the student needs to check in to our early morning Round Table program.

Students must sign in and out at the front desk every time they enter or leave the building. Each child receives an ID card which they should bring with them to class.

### Absences

A child's absence should be phoned in to the front desk or emailed to the attendance email address by a parent, not the student themselves. To help keep track of this, assigned passwords will be given to parents and they are asked to safeguard them and keep them private.

### Lunch

Students are welcome to bring their own lunch and we have a microwave available for their use. At this time, we do not have any paid lunch options.

### School Hours

Classes are held Monday-Friday 8:00am-4pm. There is limited access from 7:00 am to 8:00 am and from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm through our extended care personnel and programs. Check out the webpage for the latest information on these programs. Please do leave us a message outside of school hours at 843-800-0590.

### School Terms

The Renaissance Preparatory Academy has four quarters: Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. Students move up a grade or enter school at the start of any quarter, so feel free to inquire and attend one of open houses that occur monthly.

### School Year

The official school year begins in July of one year and goes to June of the next. This facilitates transfers to traditional session schools and colleges. Please see our calendar for specific dates and dates of all holidays and breaks.

### Pick Up Back Up

In the event that you are unable to pick up your child by the time the school closes, please call as soon as possible to let us know when you will arrive. We will not leave students alone after closing, but we do reserve the right to charge for additional staff time to stay with the child in such circumstances. Patterns of not picking up a child within 45 minutes, by either the parent or the designated emergency contact, may spark a call to child protective social services. Exceptions may be made on a case by case basis with continuing contact by parents/emergency contacts.

### Bad Weather Days

Ice, snow, hurricane or other weather closures, late starts or early closures follow those of Coastal Carolina University. They will also be announced through the school’s email/news system. Closures do not result in additional school days in any term *unless more than three weeks are missed* during the school year due to our longer school year and day.

### Emergency Pprocedures

In the case of an earthquake or other unplanned event, students will remain at school with staff until parents or other designated contacts can pick them up. We have official emergency preparedness plans and numerous staff members trained in first aid and CPR. See the section on Health and Safety for an overview.

### Dress Code

The Renaissance Preparatory Academy has adopted a uniform policy. We have four uniforms that students may choose from: the formal school uniform for either the Fall/Winter terms or the Spring/Summer terms which is appropriate for most occasions; the P.E. uniform which is appropriate on those days with P.E. scheduled and may be worn on school field trips when indicated by the instructor; the final uniform is the casual school uniform which may be worn on all days not designated otherwise. All uniforms are obtained through our website with links to our uniform provider. We will have special fitting days each year where your child’s specific measurements will be taken for tailored uniforms when necessary. See the section on the School Uniform for more information.

In all cases, student’s uniforms should be clean, pressed, and fitting the child. If for some reason a child shows up on campus without their uniform, a casual uniform will be issued to them from our school spirit store (this purchase will be added to the parents’/guardians’ bill and charged at the end of the month or via a charge card order form provided by the parent earlier.)

RENAISSANCE PREP’S GEAR: You can purchase customized Renaissance Prep’s gear through the online Spirit Store. Some common sizes of the casual uniform will be kept on hand in the school’s Spirit Store for purchases throughout the school year.

### Volunteering

There are multiple ways to help out at school, from offering your expertise to teachers or students, to volunteering at school events and arranging teacher appreciation activities. Because the school’s philosophy is one of positive interactions, we do have a short training opportunity before the first volunteer session. Also be aware that a background check will be performed before volunteering can take place due to issues in our larger community. This may result in a volunteer fee to offset the cost. Please ask for the current Parent Volunteer Coordinator’s contact information to sign up.

### SCHOOL LOGO

The Renaissance Preparatory Academy

The name of the school overlays a drawing of the sun dawning over the Atlantic. The yellow of the sun and the royal blue of the wave are encircled by a gray line revealing the schools colors: yellow, royal blue, gray with the neutrals of white and black. The dawn of a new day is a metaphor for the educational experience at The Renaissance Preparatory Academy.

# **School Crest**

We also want you to know who we are. In this section we share about the school crest and our school culture.

The

Renaissance

Preparatory

Academy

**Curiosum**

**Humanitas**

**Fortitude Opus**

The school crest is a shield reminiscent of the shields from the renaissance time period. It is divided into four quadrants representing the four academic terms of the school year.

## Top Left Quadrant

The name of a school was chosen with great consideration.

### The

We are not just any school. We are an independent private school that is not beholding to anything or anyone than its own community and evidence-based educational quality standards. We have the ability to stand firm on our convictions on how education can be and should be. We are outside of the traditional governmental bureaucracy that stifles creativity, learning, and excellence in many public schools today. We do, however, cheerfully conform to necessary zoning, day care, and health regulations.

### Renaissance

“Renaissance” represents our commitment to enabling young people grow from early childhood through to being an adolescent with the philosophy found in what was called the “renaissance man”. This was someone who was not just competent but excelled in a wide range of activities starting with scholastic or academic effort including music and art, through ethical stances and social interactions and moving to physical effort and finishing with emotional control. Our goal, then, is to address the learning and development of the “whole” child.

### Preparatory

College preparatory schools are those whose goals are to prepare students for continuing on into higher education. Preparatory scholars are those who seek out knowledge, create knowledge, apply knowledge and share that knowledge and its results with others. Thus, we enable our students to be preparatory scholars. Our goal is to have students who learn to excel in academics and seeking evidence-based knowledge, and then to proactively apply that knowledge to a wide range of problems and issues that they see in the world around them. Thus, they share that knowledge learned in most practical ways.

### Academy

The word, “academy”, can mean something as simple as a place of study or training in a special field. It can also refer not to a place but to a society or group of people of skills (scholars, artists, scientists, athletes) who have banded together to promote and maintain standards in that particular field. Both of these meanings apply here. We provide a place and the development of a society that promotes excellence in academics, athletics, social skills, aesthetics, and emotional/ethical control… a renaissance existence with those who continue to seek new knowledge and ways of applying that knowledge to the betterment of the world.

## Top Right Quadrant

Our mascot and heraldic statement were also chosen with care.

### The Lion

The lion in heraldry is an emblem of strength, justice and deathless courage. It can be displayed in various forms. On our shield is it displayed in the form call “passant” which is walking (three legs on the ground and with a profile looking forward). This is emblematic of the idea of resolution which includes concepts of intentionally striving forward. Thus, our lion represents that our alumni are intentionally striving forward in a position of strength while acting with courage and justice.

### The Torch

The torch is carried personally and when lit is a heraldic symbol of enlightenment and guidance. It is often called the “Torch of Learning”. This represents that each of our students is expected to personally take up learning as a way to enlighten their way and the way of others dependent upon them.

### The Ball and Chain

While not traditionally heraldic, the ball and chain refer to the constraint of freedom caused by ignorance and poor thinking. The lion is standing on the ball and chain indicating that it takes courage, intention and strength to destroy the restraints causes by ignorance and poor thinking.

### The Lion Passant with Torch and Standing on Ball and chain

This represents our alumni personally taking up learning as a way to enlighten their way and the way of others relying on them and intentionally striving forward in a position of strength while acting with courage and justice and, in the process, trampling ignorance and poor thinking along the way.

## Bottom Left Quadrant

The five stars represent our commitment to the integrated and holistic development of the child: academically, physically, socially, emotionally, and ethically.

Following the philosophy and character of the Renaissance, our enriching program includes foundational academics, developmental and stretch athletics, organization skills, courtesy and character training, and theme units. Our theme unit focus expands to include a broad set of required classics: fine arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences & foreign language. Sometimes we have special focused units on single topics.

Our extension programs in the late afternoon include STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) clubs, HAMS (history, art, musical theater, social science) clubs, and community sponsored clubs lead by volunteers. We also provide access to community sports teams during this time. Drill teams and cheerleading are also available.

In summary, we believe in fostering academic excellence while respecting the pace of a child’s development and the social-emotional growth of each student. Teachers care deeply about their students and nurture their student’s innate curiosity by challenging them to think critically, creatively, and conceptually in the foundation subjects and the new classic subjects.

## Bottom Right Quadrant

These four words represent our school motto, “*Curiosum, Humanitas, Fortitude, Opus*”. These words also describe our culture.

### **Curiosum**

**Curiosum** is Latin for curiosity. Our goal is to have a culture that supports curiosity. We desire to help each child discover and achieve personal wonder in following his or her curiosity about more and more difficult subjects and topics in the world around them and to then succeed in learning to do challenging things well!

### **Humanitas**

**Humanitas** is a more complex word than curiosum. It is Latin for a concept that includes elements of civilization, courtesy, culture, education, learning, kindness, politeness, and scholarship. Thus this word combines our two foci of chivalry and scholar. We believe that building, from basic academic skills, sets a firm learning foundation from which one can use one’s curiosity to explore the world. However, we believe in doing so in a way defined by courtesy, kindness and politeness. Furthermore, we believe that we can learn to effectively apply our learning and education in the range of subjects that provides for a cultured and civilized world including a variety of languages, fine arts, sciences, humanities, social sciences and physical education.

### **Fortitude**

**Fortitude** is a concept in Latin that reinforces many of the attitudes and even physical attributes that we value. Fortitude means mental firmness or resolution, strength, perseverance, bravery, courage and intrepidity. This word conveys both the mental and physical stamina that our students will need to be successful in today’s changing environment. It also implies the resilience and flexibility that will be needed to succeed in life whether in the next academic levels (high school and college) or in work life post education (entrepreneurship or professional world). An Anglo-Saxon term for fortitude would be “grit”.

### **Opus**

**Opus** is a Latin word that also encompasses many English concepts. Opus means accomplishing tasks or deeds. It means taking action or putting effort into one’s work. Yet it also means doing so in intentional ways that result in value for others such as engaging in business or presenting one’s workmanship in a skill. Basically, this means intentionally working hard to accomplish either a set of activities assigned to one (a task), a set of activities that one has chosen for oneself ( deeds), a set of activities needed to produce something desired by someone else (business) or just starting up (taking action) and doing one’s work well (workmanship).

### Our Culture Revealed by Our Motto

We are a community of those that find learning fun and challenging.

Together we bring alive our commitment to develop each child’s potential in all domains through a long-established philosophy built on chivalry, continuous learning and opportunity for leadership within a child-centered, multi-aged framework.

1. We choose to become a community committed to the goals of this school.
	1. We will use the best processes available to support teaching and learning, to enable and enrich the children in our care.
	2. We will welcome all stakeholders to our sites and communicate in an open and transparent fashion.
2. We develop children and adolescents in ways that support their reaching their highest potential using a strengths-based focus.
	1. We focus on the learner and then the curriculum.
	2. We do not believe that one size fits all since we all learn differently and at different rates; however, all learn from language that supports them and their developmental learning. We focus on what children do well initially and what their needs and next steps are to enable them to do well in all domains.
	3. Learning is built on individual *and* social processes.
	4. Learning requires the active participation of the learner.
3. We support the social growth of a child into an adolescent and ultimately a productive citizen of our community.
	1. Curiosity, creativity, and cooperation is nurtured.
	2. A sense of responsibility in decision-making is fostered.
	3. A sense of self as an individual and as part of a group is important.
4. We enable the child to learn academic skills for now and the future.
	1. Creative and critical problem–solving skills are modeled, taught, and applied to new areas.
	2. The integration of subjects is necessary.
	3. Discerning the right question and asking it is valued.
	4. In addition to foundational topics of Reading, Writing, Math, and Penmanship/Calligraphy/Technology Use; we cover an updated classical set of subjects: Science, Social Science, Humanities, Fine Arts, Physical Education, and Foreign Language.
5. We support the physical and motor skill development of each child.
	1. Play is a condition of learning.
	2. Staying physically fit supports both emotional and academic growth.
	3. Competition, learning to win, to fail, and to continue to try despite the history of effort is key for a successful life.

This results in a school with:

1. an orientation toward advancement based on an appropriate evaluation of progress, which is a pattern of competence in one level’s knowledge, skills and abilities and their application before moving on to the next level;
2. school-wide team-teaching especially in the areas of the theme-units whose topics rotate in a three year cycle;
3. teachers who typically remain with same class of students for 3 years;
4. portfolio progress reporting to parents where the portfolio either reveals the existence of the pattern of competence with advancement to next grade or it reveals a developing pattern which requires continuing at the current grade level. Unless a parent requests a letter grade, such single representations of effort are deferred until grammar school (5th grade) at which time letter grades will be awarded as a product of completeness and quality of work accomplished;
5. a collegial and collaborative working relationship between teachers and administrators with consensus decision making in staff meetings as much as possible;
6. mentoring for student teachers who come in;
7. a faculty- parent cooperative doing fundraising and event planning along with a board of advisors comprised of college professors, RPA teachers, alumni, and parents to recommend school policy directions and school improvement plans to the board of trustees; and
8. an active student council who work with our faculty-parent cooperative.

The Renaissance Preparatory Academy uses a strengths-based model, taking a positive orientation that emphasizes success from needs assessments, challenging learning goals, learning from failure, and an acceptance of consequences for one’s actions. The educational model is called an advancement by competency pattern (ABC pattern) school design. Teachers support and model our culture.

Renaissance Preparatory Academy Colors: Gray, Yellow, Pale and Royal Blue, White, Black. Initially, our colors will emphasize the solid colors with the plaid only in a tie design. The full seasonal uniform policy will be in effect when the school size reaches 50.

# **Ethical Standards**

The Renaissance Preparatory Academy is a set of schools which operates under honor codes. We believe that our personal values guide our behavior and that values are learned. Thus, there are honor codes adopted by the various schools that explain at each general development level just what our values are and the acceptable behaviors. We provide our students with the opportunity to become people of character who value and improve the world they will inherit. To this end, our teachers ensure that as a child develops that they first memorize and then enact the following honor codes. These are recited daily after the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. flag. The honor codes are said while holding their right hand over their heart and their left arm bent up vertically with an open palm facing forward.

## Pre-Primary & Primary Honor Code

I am a Renaissance Scholar.

When I say I will do something, I do my very best.

I am honorable; I tell the truth.

I obey my teachers and parents.

I help others and do not hurt them.

I listen to my teachers and other students.

 I keep trying even if I fail at first.

I share with others and wait my turn.

I am a Renaissance Scholar.

## Elementary & Grammar Schools Honor Code

I am a Renaissance Scholar.

I have integrity; what I say I will do, I do to the best of my ability and on time.

I am honorable; I tell the truth and do not cheat.

 I am respectful; I obey my teachers and parents, treat others like I want to be treated, and I do not take or harm things that don’t belong to me.

 I am curious; I seek to find out more and more and ask questions when I don’t understand.

 I am creative; I try new things and think of ways to do old things better. If I fail, I learn and try again.

 I take action; I focus and finish my work; then, if something needs to be done; I help out and do it.

I am a Renaissance Scholar.

## Senior High Honor Code

As a member of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy community, I agree to think before I act. My actions reflect on my family and my school community.

I am honorable and courageous. I do what I say I will do until it is completed. I do it when I say I will do it, and to the best of my ability. I will not stand by and allow others to act wrongly, unjustly, or discourteously. I find cheating, stealing, plagiarizing, fighting, bullying, and avoiding work, dishonorable, and will not do them myself and will stand up for what is right and report others doing them.

I am courteous and respectful. I act with integrity and treat others with dignity even when I disagree with them. When I play games and sports, I act with sportsmanship. When I communicate with others, I seek first to listen and understand and then to present my views. When I interact with others; I act with chivalry and charity. I find ways to include others in my activities by seeking them out and inviting them or welcoming them when they ask to join.

I am curious and creative. When I explore a new topic, I learn as much about it as I can. If I need help, I ask; if I can help, I offer. I know that failure is an indication of stretching to learn and so I learn and try again. I do not make the same mistake twice. When I create fine arts, I practice early, long, and hard; so that my final efforts are the best that I can make them. When I am faced with a problem, I apply my learning and creativity to solving it.

I value character, communicating, chivalry, learning, creating, and working or playing to the best of my ability. I persist until I reach my goals. I am a Renaissance Scholar.

# **Uniform Policy**

We require our students to wear uniforms. In general, three reasons shape our logic for requiring all to wear uniforms. First, they have been shown to positively impact the social climate (Luscombe, 2014; Boutelle, 2008). Second, they help create school unity which is an important part of any school’s efforts (Anderson, 2002). Third, they help the student switch gears (Walmsley, 2011) and trigger the mindset that they are now going to work… well, to school! Let us see each reason in detail.

## Why Uniforms?

School uniforms provide enhanced school safety, improved learning climate, higher self-esteem for students and less stress on the family (Anderson, 2002). When students dress alike a “team-like” culture develops promoting school spirit (Anderson, 2002).

* School uniforms enable the learning of several social skills while reducing the temptations for aggressive behavior, empower school staff, empower students, create better citizens, fund education (Luscombe, 2014).
* School uniforms allow for the ready identification of outsiders on campus and students off campus (Boutelle, 2008)
* School uniforms allow students to distinguish themselves by the deeds they’ve done and not what they are wearing (Boutelle, 2008).
* School uniforms create a more respectful atmosphere for learning (Walmsley, 2011). Students have a job… to go to school which requires the right type of clothing.

## What Uniforms?

All Renaissance Prep students have uniforms. Just the Fall/Winter uniforms year round until the school reaches a size of 50 student then two required school uniforms; one for the Fall/Winter terms and one for the Spring/Summer terms.

### **Fall/Winter R*enaissance* P*rep* Uniform**

The Fall/Winter school uniform has the following outerwear requirements: Dress shoes (see each school’s uniform area), a gray or white cardigan sweater with the school crest, and a black lined-jacket (outerwear only) with the school crest. An optional black sweater vest may be worn.

All boys wear a white button-down dress shirt. Boys under High School will wear gray slacks and the school-plaid tie. High School boys will wear black pants with the plaid tie. Pre-Primary boys may choose to wear gray shorts with white knee socks.

All girls from PrePrimary through Grammar will wear formal attire of a gray pleated scooter, a white Peter Pan collared blouse, anklets socks or knee high socks, and a plaid cross tie. The optional plaid jumper for PrePrimary and Primary classes or the plaid skirt for Elementary & Grammar classes may also be worn. High School girls will wear a black skirt and a shell in royal blue with pearls instead of a tie. For shoes & socks see each school’s uniform area.

### **Spring/Summer R*enaissance* P*rep* Uniform**

BEGINS IN 2018-2019…The Spring/Summer school uniform has the following outerwear requirements: Dress shoes (see individual school area for details), a royal blue or white sweater with the school crest. Clothing in either seersucker or pin stripes will be chosen. Exact items to be announced.

### **General Accessories and Grooming**

These guidelines are for all students in the school unless the school information indicates otherwise.

#### Makeup, Lotions, and nail polish

In general, students may not wear make-up. Due to potential allergies of others, students may not wear perfumes or scented after shave lotion. However, given our location, students may wear fragrance-free sunscreen and uncolored lip gloss with an SPF factor of at least 15. Students should keep their nails cut so that no more than 4 mm of “white” nail is present. In general, finger nail polish is not allowed.

#### Hair and Beards

Hair must be kept combed and secured out of eyes (hair ties, barrettes and headbands, those in white, grey, royal blue, yellow or black are allowed, or The Renaissance Preparatory Academy plaid).

Beards are not allowed for those under the age of 16. If a student is older than 16, then a close- cropped beard (no longer than 1 centimeter) that is neatly trimmed is allowed.

#### Jewelry

Stud earrings, badges/performance pins and watches are allowed. Cloth or wide barrettes and headbands must match class colors. Most necklaces are not allowed for safety reasons during physical activities.

### **RENAISSANCE PRE-PRIMARY & PRIMARY**

There are items that are either unisex, girls, or boys. These are the required and optional items for casual uniforms.

#### **UNISEX**

Several required or optional items are available to both genders. When a choice is available, the requirement is that the student choose from among the items listed.

A ***#*** indicates a required item.

##### Pants/Shorts

Flat-front gray (all year round) or shorts are acceptable choices for the causal uniform for both genders.

##### Tops

Yellow or white polo shirts with collars and short sleeves and the school logo.

##### P. E.

White or Yellow full brimmed or bucket hat***#***, yellow logo P. E. t-shirt***#***.

##### Logo items

Yellow T-shirt designed by class and/or teacher for class; gray sweater. Black lined-jacket***#***.

#### **Boys**

##### Pants/Shorts

 Boy students may choose to wear gray shorts.

##### Shoes

Boys can wear white athletic shoes (with white socks only) with casual uniform but must wear the athletic shoes in P. E***#***.

When the formal uniform is required, formal shoes varies by season. Currently, boys need black socks and polished and shined black lace-up dress shoes with non-skid non-marking soles***#***.

##### P. E.

Summer Term: Yellow or Black swim trunks (not speedos) & yellow terry robe.

All Terms: Black athletic shorts which may only be worn during P. E.

#### **Girls**

##### Shorts & Shirts

For girls, gray shorts are allowed. A knit yellow or white shirt with collar and logo is allowed.

##### Skirts

The following skirted attire is acceptable for Pre-Primary girls: a v-neck jumper in the school plaid is allowed (and is an alternative formal attire). A two-tab scooter in the school plaid is allowed.

##### Shoes, Socks & Tights, bicycle shorts

Girls’ dress shoes are black Mary Janes. Girls can also wear white athletic shoes and socks with casual uniforms.

With skirts, girls must either wear black bicycle shorts and anklet socks that match the tops or skirts OR tights to match skirts or tops.

Dress uniform requires white knee high socks in winter and white anklet socks that have either the yellow ribbon trim or The Renaissance Preparatory Academy plaid trim in summer.

##### PE

Summer Term: Yellow or black solid one piece female swimsuit & yellow terry robe.

All Terms: Black athletic shorts which may only be worn during P. E.

### **RENAISSANCE ELEMENTARY & GRAMMAR**

There are items that are either unisex, girls, or boys.

#### Unisex

Several required or optional items are available to both genders. When a choice is available, the requirement is that the student choose from among the items listed.

A ***#*** indicates a required item with no choice involved.

##### Pants/Shorts

Flat front gray pants or shorts are acceptable for either gender.

##### Tops

Royal blue or white knit shirts with collars, short sleeves and the school logo.

##### Shoes

 Non-skid athletic shoes in white (always wear white socks) can be worn for both P. E. and with casual uniform.

##### P. E.

Summer Term: Royal blue or white full brimmed or bucket hat***#***, royal blue logo t-shirt***#***.

All Terms: Black shorts ***#*** which may only be worn during P. E.

##### Logo items

Royal blue T-shirt designed by class and/or teacher for class; gray sweater, black lined-jacket ***#.***

##### Makeup and Lotions

All Grammar students must wear antiperspirant deodorant.

#### Boys

##### Pants/Shorts

Gray shorts are a choice that boys have.

##### Shoes

The required dress shoe is a black lace-up non-skid sole (Fall/Winter). Black socks are to be worn with the formal uniform. Boys may wear white athletic shoes with the casual uniform but athletic shoes MUST be worn for PE***#.***

##### PE

Summer Term: Royal blue or black swim trunks (not speedos) ***#*** & Royal blue terry robe***#***.

All Terms: Black athletic shorts ***#*** which may only be worn during P. E.

#### Girls

##### Shorts

Grey shorts are allowed. A two-tab scooter in the school’s plaid may be worn.

##### Skirts/Dresses

A pleated skirt in the school’s plaid may be worn and is an alternative for the required formal pleated scooter.

##### Shoes, Socks & Underwear

The girls’ fall/winter dress shoe is a black Mary Jane which must be polished to as high a gloss as possible. with white knee socks (Fall/Winter) or anklets (Spring/Summer).

Girls may wear athletic shoes and white socks with the casual uniform.

With skirts, girls must tights to match skirts or tops. If chest has developed to at least 30A, then the female student must wear a bra at all times; otherwise, the female student must wear a white camisole under the peter pan collared shirt.

##### PE

Summer Term: Royal blue or black solid one piece female swimsuit & Royal blue terry robe.

All Terms: Black athletic shorts ***#*** which may only be worn during P. E.

### **RENAISSANCE HIGH SCHOOL**

There are items that are either unisex, girls, or boys.

#### **Unisex**

##### Pants/Shorts

Black flat front pants or shorts are the basic casual uniform.

##### Tops

Gray, or white Jersey polo shirts with collars and short sleeves and the school logo.

##### Shoes

Non-skid athletic shoes in white (wear white socks) are required for P.E. ***#*** and may be worn with casual uniform.

##### PE

Grey or White full-brimmed or bucket hat***#***, Grey logo t-shirt***#*** & black elastic top athletics shorts***#***.

##### Logo Items

White or Black T-shirt designed by class and/or teacher for class; royal blue or gray sweater/sweater vest, royal blue sweatshirt, royal blue windbreaker & black school tie***#***.

##### Makeup and Lotions

All High School students must wear antiperspirant deodorant.

#### **Boys**

##### Shoes

Boys’ dress shoes are leather top and bottom black lace-up dress shoes shined to as high a shine as possible (Fall/Winter Formal dress).

Boys’ daily casual shoe is a black loafer. Socks to match pants.

Boys can wear athletic shoes and white socks with casual uniform. Short white socks are ok with athletic shoes when paired with casual uniform but not for P. E. when a longer white sock is required.

##### P. E.

Summer Term: Black swim trunks (not speedos) ***#*** & Royal Blue terry robe***#***.

#### **Girls**

##### Shorts, Skorts & Shirts

Gray or black shorts, and the school plaid 2 tab scooter are allowed.

##### Skirts/Dresses

Black skirts with matching the top in gray, cream, yellow, white, or Royal blue tights.

##### Tops

Shells in white, cream, yellow, gray, and black along with the Royal Blue of the dress uniform are all allowed if worn with pearls. A darted button town top with a plaid tie is allowed. Knit shirts in gray, yellow, royal blue, or white are allowed.

##### Shoes, Socks and Underwear

The girls’ fall/winter dress shoe is a black loafer/penny loafer which must be polished to as high a gloss as possible. Spring/Summer dress shoe is a white Mary Jane type sandal.

Girls may wear athletic shoes and white socks with the casual uniform.

If chest has developed to at least 30A, then the girl must wear a bra; otherwise, the girl must wear a white camisole with all light colored tops.

##### Makeup

Girls may wear makeup after attending a school-sponsored training session on discrete/natural makeup application.

##### P.E.

Summer Term: Black solid one piece female swimsuit & Royal Blue terry robe.

##### Jewelry/Accessories

 With the dress uniforms, pearls are required; however, the class may choose to adopt an alternative dress uniform of white button down blouse and The Renaissance Preparatory Academy plaid cross tie.

### Obtaining Uniforms

**Uniforms will be ordered through the schools uniform website (See Office for current provider). Used uniforms (when available) will be sold through the school Spirit ONLINE Store as a fund raiser.**

### Uniform Summary for grades Kinderarten through 9th grade

**BOYS OFFICIAL UNIFORM#**

**White short sleeve button down French Toast Item #1020F**

**Adjustable Waist Double Kneed Gray Pants French Toast Item #1519F**

**Black Cotton Boys Dress socks French Toast #2235V**

**School Plaid Tie French Toast Item #10301 (blue & gold plaid)**

**Gray V-neck Cardigan Item# 1370F (School Logo Mandatory)**

Black Lace-Up Dress Shoe (Florsheim Leather Oxford) Belks

**BOYS CASUAL UNIFORM (OPTIONAL)**

**Short Sleeve Pique Polo French Toast Item #1012H white (any student) (School Logo Mandatory)**

**Flat Front Adjustable Waist Short French Toast Item # 1431F**

**Black Lined Jacket French Toast Item #1321H (any student) (School Logo Mandatory)**

**Black V-neck Sweater Vest French Toast Item #1029H (any student) (School Logo Mandatory)**

Uni-sex solid white lace-up sneakers (any brand but must be solid white)

White “crew” socks any brand or White Ankle High Socks (any brand)

 **Short Sleeve Pique Polo French Toast Item #1012H Yellow (PrePrimary and Primary classes) (School Logo Mandatory)**

**Short Sleeve Pique Polo French Toast Item #1012H True Royal Blue (Elementary & Grammar) (School Logo Mandatory)**

**GIRLS OFFICIAL UNIFORM**

**White short-sleeve Peter Pan Collar Shirt French Toast Items #1461G**

**Pleated Gray Scooter with Square Buckle Belt French Toast Item #1418G**

**School Plaid Cross Time French Toast Item #10744 blue-gold plaid**

**White Knee Socks French Toast Item #2238V**

**Fine Gauge Knit White Cardigan French Toast Item #1120G**

Girls Black Mary Janes Nina Casual Mary Jane Belks

**GIRLS CAUSAL UNIFORM (OPTIONAL)**

**Any Student**

**Girls Grey Adjustable Waist Pant French Toast Item #1315G**

**Girls Grey Straight Leg Twill Pant French Toast Item #1573G**

**Girls Grey Bermuda Short French Toast Item #1303G**

**Plaid two tab scooter (blue-gold plaid) Item #1397G**

**Short Sleeve Pique Polo French Toast Item #1012H white (School Logo Mandatory)**

**Gray V-neck Cardigan Item# 1370F (School Logo Mandatory)**

**Black Lined-Jacket French Toast Item #1321H (School Logo Mandatory)**

Uni-sex solid white lace-up sneakers (any brand any department store but must be solid white)

Anklets with or without lace (any brand any department store but must be solid white, yellow or royal blue)

Hair bows but only in white, yellow and royal blue.

White or gray opaque tights (any brand any department story, French Toast Brand white tights may be an official uniform feature in winter).

**PrePrimary & Primary Students**

**Short Sleeve Pique Polo French Toast Item #1012H Yellow (School Logo Mandatory)**

**V-Neck Pleated Plaid Jumper (blue-gold plaid) Item #1047 G**

**Elementary and Grammar Students**

**Short Sleeve Pique Polo French Toast Item #1012H True Royal Blue (School Logo Mandatory)**

**Plaid Pleated Skirt (blue-gold plaid) Item #1065G**

# **Communications**

Parents will receive the “all community” communications from administrators and faculty (although those from faculty will be of the small class “community” and not the whole school) through the email list and the course management tool. In addition to those, other occasions for communication with parents occur and are described below.

## Face-to-face communications/Meetings with Parents

There are three types of formal meetings with parents. 1) Enrollment/Reenrollment/Informational meetings, 2) Theme Unit Performance/Fairs and 3) Individual Meetings Regarding Student Goals & Progress. There is one type of informal meeting, personal classroom visits.

## Enrollment/Reenrollment/Informational Meetings

Parents will be invited to enrollment or reenrollment open houses which occur periodically as determined by demand. Faculty may be expected to represent their school occasionally at these meetings depending upon the prospective set of students or which school’s information is being presented. These occur monthly.

### Theme Unit Performance/Fairs

Each theme unit will either individually (or in conjunction with others) put on a performance, have a project fair, or assign a research paper. These occur once per term at the end of the unit. Each student’s efforts will become a part of their ongoing portfolio.

### Individual Meetings To Set Student Goals And Report Progress

Each parent and child will be invited to a Goal Setting meeting either at the end of the previous term (continuing student) or within a week of the start of the term (new student). These meetings are not intended to be long but to cover student goals in all topic areas for the term and for the student to choose the order or actual theme units with preexisting set of student learning goals. These planning session may result in a LEAP plan… a **L**earning, **E**ducational **A**ctivity, and **P**erformance plan. Finally, this is a time for the parent and student to meet the student’s homeroom teacher.

During the last week of the term, Progress Report meetings will be scheduled to debrief the child and the parent about the student’s progress. Goals can be set for the child for the following term at that time once the child has completed one term with the school. Recommendation on promotion to next grade will also occur at these Progress Report meetings. The teacher that the student will have the next term (if a change of class is recommended) will also attend the meeting. Continuing Progress Report meetings should last ½ hour per student. Promotion Progress Report meetings should last 45 minutes.

### Personal Visit/Shadowing A Student

Any parent may, upon expressing a desire to shadow their child or to visit the classroom, visit the classroom once it is approved by the Headmaster. Typically, approval occurs after the parent has received face-to-face instruction in or has done online training in observation and strength-based academic comments. When visiting, the parent must sign into the school (See Office Information) as a parent volunteer on the day of shadowing/visiting.

## Technology-Mediated Communication with Renaissance Prep

You have several sources of information that uses information technology. You can receive ongoing emails, check out the website, or use social media.

### Opting in for Email Announcements from the Schools

When your child is accepted into The Renaissance Preparatory Academy, you will receive an email to the addresses that you provided us as your official email address. This email will invite you to “opt in” to our email list. When you do, you will receive notices about school events, student activities, closures, available talks and training sessions, and other information that is shared with the school community.

### The Website

You will find a list of contacts with the school, information about our programs for each term and each school break, our philosophy, our Headmaster’s Blog, our official school calendar, this handbook, and make online payments through our website located at RenaissancePrepMB.org.

### Social Media

 Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see what students are doing in school and to keep up with our news, events, and celebrations. We are at *(still under construction so not yet available)* facebook.com/renaissanceprep and @RenaissancePrepMYR In case you are wondering, MYR is the airport designation for Myrtle Beach and thus is a shorthand way of referring to our larger community.

### Technology-Mediated Communications with TEACHERS

 Parents can expect teachers to communicate with them regularly. If you call us and leave a message, you should hear back from us within 24 hours.

In general, teachers use the following pattern of engagement with parents:

| Action  | Kindergarten | Primary | Elementary | Grammar | Jr. High |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Received an update call monthly from your child’s teacher. | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| One ***Peek at the Week***[[1]](#footnote-1) email per week (by Monday afternoon) |  | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| One ***ClassBlog[[2]](#footnote-2)*** update per week (by Friday afternoon) | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| **Daily homework** is posted online in the class management tool by 4pm. |  |  | √ | √ | √ |

These may be accessed through the teacher’s Weebly powered websites.

### Communication with Students

We ask that our students be polite and courteous. This means to use good manners. Our teachers will also model this behavior which we believe is the start of civilized action.

### Official School Wide Communications

Sometimes there is general information or official information that needs to go to the student’s parents from the office. Such information will be sent home with the student in a white envelope with the school heading on it. It will have either the student’s name or the parent’s name type on it or written on it with a space for the parent’s signature on the outside of the envelope. The parent will remove the sheets from inside the envelope, sign the envelope, and have the student return the signed envelope the next school day.

Most official information will be sent directly to the parents via the official contact email that the parents give the school office during admissions. This includes information about emergencies, weather closings, and the like. (See “Emergency Procedures”.)

# **Administrative Structure and Committees**

There are four standing committees for this school: Administrative Team, Admissions Committee, School Advisory Board, and the Board of Trustees.

## Administrative Team

This committee is chaired by the Headmaster of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy. The team includes the following positions as well: Director of Admissions/Registrar, The Administrative Coordinator, Lead Teachers for each school, Theme Unit Coordinator, Break Camp Director, Clubs Director, and Athletic Director. One person may hold more than one role, but whenever possible, each role should be held by a different person.

This group meets every other Monday morning at 7 am to preview upcoming activities and discuss general matters of concern to the entire school. Other meetings are at the convenience of the Administrative Team.

## Admissions Committee

The committee is composed of the Headmaster, and the Director of Admissions with Lead Instructors invited as needed. The committee oversees the review of all new applicants to The Renaissance Preparatory Academy and tracks the status of all students on academic and/or behavioral probation. If a parent or guardian is upset with a decision may by the Director of Admission, he/she/they can bring it to the Admissions Committee. The decision of the Admissions Committee is the final decision.

## School Advisory Board

The school board is an elected/invited volunteer board made up of adults at least 21 years of age. They are elected family representatives of students, and, if appointed, appointed by the Board of Directors and are composed of relevant professionals or professional educators. The goal of the School Advisory Board is to support the school in every way possible including fundraising and general advice. Members have a one year term and may be reelected or reappointed. No more than ½ of the members will be up for election/reappointment in any year. There is a maximum of 15 members. Family representatives will be elected from those who have or have had a student at the school *and* who volunteer at the school *and/or* are part of the Faculty-Family Cooperative or Athletics Booster Club. After the first year, a majority of members (50% plus 1) must fit into the category of being a family representative. The committee has a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The School Advisory Board meets once a month.

## Board OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of our organization. There is a President/Chair, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and any Headmasters, the chief executive officer of a school. Their meetings are held once a quarter. Although one person may be both a headmaster and hold another board of Trustee position, The President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary Positions are held by separate individuals. Their responsibilities and duties follow the guidelines in the By-Laws of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy.

Until the school becomes a standalone non-profit, the Board of Directors role is subordinate to the fiscal sponsorship by the Social Good Fund with respect to financial issues and certain personnel issues.

## Direct Support Committees

Our goal is to have two direct support organizations operating under The Renaissance Preparatory Academy 501(c)3 in specific fundraising areas. Until such standalone time, The Renaissance Preparatory Academy operates as a fiscal sponsored project of the Social Good Fund.

### Renaissance Athletics Booster Club

*The Renaissance Athletics Booster Club* is a parent volunteer club that supports our athletic department. This organization is made up of school parents and designed to help The Renaissance Preparatory Academy athletics program. They raise funds for specific athletic projects. They meet at the beginning of each academic term to plan the activities for the term. Meeting dates, times and places are announced in the ***Herald!***. The donated funds will be sent to our fiscal sponsor, the Social Good Fund and be designated for the athletics program. This club may be dormant at times and reconvene when sufficient membership is obtained.

### Renaissance Faculty-Family Cooperative

*The Renaissance Faculty-Family Cooperative* is a parent volunteer committee that supports their school in The Renaissance Preparatory Academy. These committees are made up of school parents and teacher representatives. *The Renaissance Faculty-Family Cooperative* for each school coordinates the classroom parent volunteers and raise funds for specific projects, as well as, provide our faculty/staff with “extras”. They meet at a minimum once an academic term. Meeting dates, times and places are announced in the ***Herald!***.

# **Schooling**

The general rules and guidelines regarding the education of students and the maintenance of the records of such education are covered here.

## Attendance

The expectation is that a student will attend all day during the terms and programs in which they are enrolled and for which tuition or program fees have paid. Students are excused for sick days and, if such days are extended, arrangements can be made to deliver assignments and collect completed work. Where possible such make up work is expected to be covered using the course management tool and the Teacher’s classroom webpage.

### Travel

Travel can be a great learning experience. We anticipate that families will take advantage of the school breaks to provide such opportunities for their children. Occasionally, timing of family vacations, team sports, or intense other individual competitions may overlap with the regular terms. The tuition that is paid provides a guaranteed seat and is offered for specific dates. If travel takes the student away during those dates, they cannot be made up later; however, the student’s foundational teachers will work with the family to keep the child up to date on those individualized learning experiences and the headmaster will work with the family to provide a way and means for the travel to be incorporated into the units offered during that term.

## Student Records

The student’s records are the property of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy and, following US law, are kept confidential. This school is an experiment in exemplary educational practices and entrepreneurial skill building and, as such, parents who enroll their children are releasing their student’s records as data in the research of the professors whose research resulted in the start-up of the school as a practical application of their research or a lab to test their theories. Even in its use in research, student names are kept confidential; however, students’ abilities displayed in competitions and presentations are public and may reveal failures as well as successes.

## Educational Testing

We are an independent private school because we emphatically disagree with teaching to a test and are not required by any government to administer any state or national standardized test. Furthermore we use multiple means of assessing a child’s progress and gaining of competencies by looking for a pattern of application that meets the criterial of skill displayed by children at various grade levels. These portfolios include videos of oral presentations and quizzes, written tests and quizzes, projects, conference transcripts, and professional observations.

While we do not teach to a test, we do regularly use the Stanford Achievement Tests to keep track of a students’ progress while at our school and to provide placement information if a student transfers to another style of schooling and to teach test-taking skills. This is also the required test for our targeted accreditation body, the South Carolina Independent School Association.

## Student Placement, Learning Objectives and Assessments

The placement of a student into a specific school and class is done by the professionals at The Renaissance Preparatory Academy and is solely at their discretion. Initial placement will be determined by the records obtained from other schools attended by the student, general information provided by the parents/guardians, the student’s interactions with attending faculty and the classroom during the interview, and the student’s placement on an entrance exam.

In each term, teachers, and parents meet to cover which skills of a grade level the student had demonstrated proficiency in and which should be targeted during the next term (see all the Communications area). If at the end of the term, the teacher can display a portfolio of the student’s work that show that the student is meeting or exceeding the grade level competencies, then that student will be promoted to the next grade level beginning at the start of the next regular term. An entire term of at or above grade level competency demonstration is required before the promotion.

Students will be promoted upon the demonstration of knowledge, skill and ability competence rather than just the lapse of time. Thus, some students may rapidly progress through the school while others take a more traditional annual approach. If, however, after two terms of failure to continue to learn and display that learning, then a student and his/her family may be counseled to find a school that better meets their child’s academic needs. Patterns of failure indicate that the school’s pedagogy is not appropriate for that student and we cannot continue ethically to enroll that student.

Enrollment at The Renaissance Preparatory School is not a right but a privilege that is predicated upon a fit with the philosophical orientation and culture of the school, the ability to learn with academic methods in use, the general learning abilities of the child, and the values, attitudes, and behaviors displayed by the child during the academic and extended learning opportunities. If there is not a fit in any of these areas, then Renaissance Prep at its sole discretion may require and dismiss that child from this learning environment for one that is better equipped to help the child and his or her family. See the section on tuition for information regarding refunds.

### Grade Level Term Assessments

The academic year for Kindergarten through Grammar classes consist of four terms—Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer. Grades from PrePrimary through Primary are not in the form of letter grades but are a narrative with a portfolio and a qualitative grade assessment. Final conclusions about classroom/school placement is determined each term with an outside placement test taken at least once a year.

The Elementary, Grammar, and Senior High schools have two official marking periods, Fall and Spring. Report cards in these schools are sent home one week after the close of each respective term, and mid-term reports, which should indicate the student's approximate grade, are sent home at the week after the end of Fall and Spring terms. Consult the official school calendar for placement exams, and end of term dates.

Work determined to not have been completed by a student (i.e. cheating by copying another student, having a parent do the work, or copying from another source without proper attribution) constitutes a teachable moment and an immediate portfolio assessment with possible reassignment to a corresponding grade level. A pattern of cheating may result in a student being asked to enroll in a school more aligned with personal and family values than the alignment evident at The Renaissance Preparatory Academy.

### Student Evaluations

All teachers are encouraged to evaluate students on the basis of as complete a portfolio as possible for each term. All work completed is evaluated with a rubric or other clear justifications in a qualitative manner. In Grammar and Senior High Schools, all qualitative grades will be converted to percent grades and overall grades should be averaged by percentage when possible. Teachers may record a 0% in cases of extreme poor quality of work, missing work, unexcused absences, cheating, suspensions, or truancy.

An incomplete (I) grade may be given when a prolonged absence may have affected a student's ability to complete all of the required course work within a given term. For a student in Kindergarten, Primary, or Elementary Schools, the student will simply continue on from where they left off. For a student in Grammar or Junior High School, in the event of an incomplete, the student will have a period of ten school days from the end of the term to finish the work and receive a grade. When a student finishes an incomplete, the teacher is to notify the Registrar in writing so that the official transcript can reflect the change.

The following system has been devised to evaluate, in the best possible manner, the progress of students.

#### PrePrimary and Primary Grading Scale

After assessing the portfolio, it is often useful to explain the qualitative assessment in consistent terms across students. The following guideline is to be used replacing the “*kindergarten*” with the grade level that the student is currently engaged in attempting.

O Outstanding The child demonstrates a consistent pattern of mastery of the skill beyond the expected *grade* level. Recommends promotion to the next grade level for this skill.

E Excellent The child demonstrates an inconsistent pattern of mastery of the skill beyond the expected gradelevel.

G Good The child regularly produces the desired skill at a level appropriate for the grade.

S Satisfactory The child has an inconsistent pattern of above grade level, at grade level and below grade level.

D Developmental The child will need to improve in this particular area or skill.

N/A or No Appraisal—This is not being evaluated this marking period.

During the Primary class when a student is performing work at the Fourth or higher grade level, the student and parent will receive both the narrative and the qualitative assessment above but the teacher will also convert that qualitative assessment into a percent with a grade.

O Outstanding will be assigned a grade of 97 and a letter grade of A.

E Excellent will be assigned a grade of 90 and a letter grade of B+/A-.

G Good will be assigned a grade of 80 and a letter grade of B.

S Satisfactory will be assigned a grade of 70 and a letter grade of C.

D Developmental will be assigned a grade of 60 and a letter grade of D.

N/A No Appraisal will be assigned N/A.

#### Elementary, Grammar, and Sr High Schools Grading Scale

Elementary, and Grammar Grading Scale will use the unweighted version shown below and Sr High will show the weighted version.

Unweighted Weighted

A (90–100) 97–100 = A+ 94–96 = A 90–93 = A-

B (80–89) 87–89 = B+ 84–86 = B 80–83 = B-

C (70–79) 77–79 = C+ 74–76 = C 70–73 = C-

D (60–69) 67–69 = D+ 64–66 = D 60–63 = D-

F (0–59)

I Incomplete

P Pass—executing acceptable work for the completion of a course on a pass-fail basis.

GPA—Grade Point Averages are figured as follows:

A–A+ = 4.0 points B–B+ = 3.0–3.5 points C–C+ = 2.0–2.5 points D–D+ = 1.0–1.5 points

HONORS classes receive 1 additional "quality point".

A–A+ = 5.0 points B–B+ = 4.0–4.5 points C–C+ = 3.0–3.5 points

ADVANCED PLACEMENT/ DUAL ENROLLMENT classes receive 2 additional "quality points".

A–A+ = 6.0 points B–B+ =5.0–5.5 points C–C+ = 4.0–4.5 points

NOTE: "+" grades and weighted calculations are for purposes of class ranking only.

Athletic and scholarship eligibility is determined on the basis of unweighted G.P.A.'s.

### General Testing Protocols

It is requested that all teachers inform their class before each testing situation that the following testing protocols are to be observed during testing:

1) Only the test questions and the answer sheet(s)/paper are permitted at a student's desk during testing unless otherwise specified by the instructor/proctor. As a rule, notebooks, books, loose papers, etc. should not be brought to the desk. All other items should be carefully placed around the walls of the classroom. Girls' purses must be placed under the seat and are not to be touched without the permission of the instructor/proctor.

2) Students must observe the following:

a) Avoid looking around the room, whether to "rest" the eyes or to check on the progress of others taking the test.

b) Have extra writing implements with you so that you do not need to remove them from a bag or purse during the test.

c) Obviously, any conversation, however innocent, with another student during the test will be considered suspect.

d) ALL STUDENTS must write and sign the following statement on each test or quiz to be graded:

"*I have neither given nor received unauthorized help on this work*."

### Books and Materials

Our curriculum is carefully researched and designed to include exemplar learning opportunities as indicated through rigorous research. Its instruction to the students is accomplished using a variety of resources including manipulatives, textbooks, workbooks, online interactive work, online subscriptions, multimedia, and student projects. Much of the cost of these items are covered in the book fee at the beginning of the school year; however, occasionally, a project comes along that costs more than had originally been anticipated and there may be a separate fee for involvement in that project. Such information will be included during the registration time periods for projects. These fees are non-refundable and cannot be prorated.

### Electronic Devices

We ask that students in PrePrimary and Primary classes not bring personal electronic devices to school (this includes phones). We believe that while some interaction with such devices can be helpful, that many other experiences are needed for a well-rounded Renaissance quality academic experience. We will be introducing the children to learning opportunities during these formative years so that by the time of the Elementary class, students will be able to more fully appreciate and use such technology as tools and not crutches or time sinks. When such devices find their way onto campus, they will be put into the care of the receptionist and can be received by the parent at pick up time. Initial time is free, but after that there will be a penalty charge which will go into our library/athletics donation funds.

Beginning in Elementary class, students will be issued a laptop to use at school and can take home for use in homework if the technology accident insurance is up to date. In all cases, students are expected to follow our acceptable internet use policy.

# **Athletics**

Physical activity and unstructured time for interacting with peers has been shown in research to be linked with a number of outcomes aligned with better student performance and life skill attainment. Our school offers both unstructured physical activity time during recesses and structured time during P. E. sessions. Extended P. E. sessions may be scheduled on certain days and, for certain sports, may be offered as part of the extended enrichment time but physical activities are always a part of a school day. Some dance and martial arts may be incorporated.

## Athletic Eligibility

A Grammar or Sr High School student whose GPA falls below 2.0 in a quarter or who does not pass five subjects in a term is ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics or competitive academics the following term and must enroll instead in the tutoring afterschool sessions.

A PrePrimary, Primary or Elementary student whose qualitative evaluation indicates that there is a consistent pattern of below grade level performance is ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics or competitive academics in the following term.

## Quiet Contemplation/Reading Times

Along with physical activity, time of quiet contemplation and rest is also found to be very valuable in the productivity of individuals. The school will also offer times of quiet contemplation, reading, and resting throughout the school day. For example, during the early morning “Round Tables” time, an area for quiet contemplation and even prayer or meditation with relaxing instrumental music and dim lighting in Our Commons area will be offered. Such areas are monitored by staff. Such a time is also typically offered after lunch and between enrichment sessions.

# **Learning Portfolios**

Each term, students will produce work to be added to their learning portfolios which are part of the evidence that is used to determine when a child is ready to advance to the next grade level or school. These work “deliverables” will vary by topic. Most often theme units will be in the form of a play, skit, or even a specific product to give to others (like bird houses for elderly shut-ins). Foundational work in reading or math may be exams or reaching certain topics. But in all cases, these will be discussed during the pre-term planning meeting with parents and assessed prior to the post term reflections debriefings. The learning portfolios become a part of the student’s official school record.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

At the end of the each term, all teachers will participate in conferences with their students' parents. The administration of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy heartily encourages parent-student-teacher conferences whenever they may be of benefit for the educational process. Request for conference may be initiated by the teacher or parent. Teachers are immediately to honor all parent requested conferences. Should the Headmaster be requested to come to the conference, teachers are to make the necessary arrangements. At times, the Headmaster may request a teacher to come to a parent-headmaster conference for clarification or supporting material.

## Moodle

Moodle is our school software system. It is one of our communication tools between faculty, staff, and parents. Moodle is used for:

1. Grades
2. Attendance
3. Posting homework
4. Calendar of events
5. Lunch menus
6. Student information i.e. address, picture, phone number, email address, family names, etc.
7. Announcements
8. E-mails

Remember that Moodle is accessible through our Renaissance Preparatory Academy WebSite: [www.renaissanceprepMB.org](http://www.renaissanceprepMB.org).

# **School Rules & Discipline Policy**

We do everything possible to provide a safe, secure, polite, curious, and positive work environment for our students. The following rules exist to help craft and maintain this environment.

There are immediate consequences for violations of safety or security procedures, which may include, but are not limited to, fines, suspensions, or termination of enrollment.

## General School-Wide Rules

All students when they sign the handbook acceptance page, agree to follow these rules upon their enrollments whether school is in session or not. All rules are reviewed on a regular basis.

1. Parents must notify us if their child will not be attending school.
2. Students may only bring a friend to school if that friend or relative’s parent previously has completed a guest registration form and the friend/relative has a note from the parent providing permission for the current visit. Subsequent visits after the first, require an interview with the school administration and enrollment in and payment for a school program. All guests must check in at the front desk and must be supervised while on campus. We are responsible for every person in our building and cannot assume responsibility for those who are not enrolled in the school on a regular basis.
3. Students must wait in designated areas for rides after school. After 15 minutes, students will be taken to the study hall enrichment session and upon the third occurrence in a term, the students’ families will be charged the daily fee. One hour’s fee is the minimum charged amount. This will automatically be charged on the family’s charge card given for incidentals or billed to the family’s account.
4. Students must enter and exit through the front door unless there is an emergency when the student should exit through the nearest emergency exit per the emergency evacuation plan.
5. Students must not open the security door for visitors. They can and should; however, notify a staff member about the visitor who is waiting.
6. Students must be under the supervision of an adult to be out on the playground and must follow the playground rules.
7. Students may not be in a room unless an adult is present. Lights off in a room indicates that there is not an adult present and that the room is closed for occupancy at that time.
8. Students in Elementary, Grammar, and Sr. High School are allowed personal electronic devices at school. Their misuse may result in warnings, confiscation, and/or loss of use. Students below Elementary grade level are not allowed such devices and if they bring personal electronic devices to school, the staff will have them moved to the reception area to be picked up after school by a parent. Patterns of breaking this policy result in fines which are donations to the Library and Athletics funds.
9. Students must comply with our dress code and dress in the appropriate uniform for the term. Students must wear the formal uniform on days so designated by the school or one of their teachers. They may wear them every day.
 Uniforms must be clean, well-kept, ironed, and properly fitting. The student must be clean and well-kept as well.
 If a student is out of uniform, then a casual uniform (polo and gray shorts) will be sold to them and charged to their account. See the section on dress code for more information.
10. Harassment, aggressive language, or teasing of another student or staff member is prohibited. Students may not say, write, or do things that would be offensive or cause harm to another person or to school property. Examples include active exclusion, unwanted attention, and unwanted touching or contact such as pushing and shoving. Swearing, sexual language, comments or teasing regarding religious affiliation, gender, race, physical features, or disabilities are prohibited.
11. Put-down humor is not allowed. As an academy promoting chivalrous behavior, using humor to hurt someone is dishonorable.
12. Students agree to abide by their class’ honor code.
13. Students may not fight, argue, raise their voices, or talk back to any staff member or fellow student. Any behavior that makes reasonable others feel unsafe or uncomfortable will not be tolerated. Communication must always be done in a respectful way.
14. Students must comply immediately with a direct request from an authorized adult (teacher, headmaster, staff, parent volunteer, etc.) regarding staying in the building or leaving the premises. (There may be an emergency that students are unaware of or students may be engaging in unsafe behavior.)
15. No weapons are permitted on campus. Such incidents will be reported to the County sheriff and police.
16. Tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or other illegal substances are prohibited. Consequences may include suspension or termination of enrollment. We reserve the right to administer random urine analysis tests if we suspect a student is using illegal drugs. Such involvement when discovered will be reported to the local authorities.

## Standard Playground Rules

1. Students should enter the playground following general safety rules. Recess and PE happen outside in all weather conditions (except thunderstorms, ice storms, and downpours) so appropriate outdoor clothing should be worn (i.e. rubber boots on rainy days, rain coats/ponchos, windbreakers, sunscreen, etc.)
2. Picnic tables and benches are available. If needed, during hot months, additional shade shelters and umbrellas may be available. Trash containers will be available by the eating area for the disposal of refuse.
3. Students are permitted to play freely. Bumps, bruises, etc. may happen.
4. Students are not to climb the fence or greatly disturb any wild life in the two nature gardens (pond and butterfly gardens).
5. Children should place playground equipment, balls, and props into their appropriate containers and line up by their classroom doors at the signal of the end of recess, lunch, PE, etc.
6. Teachers are encouraged to immediately report any playground equipment that is in disrepair and, if known, the cause of said disrepair.
7. Students are not to be left unattended at any time during the recess period.
8. Random recycled materials and other fixtures may temporarily be moved to the “What can I do with this?” center for inventive and imaginative play.

## Lunchroom/ Picnic Area rules

1. Students enter the eating/picnic area and go directly to an assigned table.
2. Be sure to clean your table and the surrounding area. Put trash into cans and replace lids.
3. Students in grades 4 – 9 have use of microwave ovens.
4. Students may have sweets such as soda, candy, donuts, ice cream, etc. on the last Friday of every month. Otherwise, the lunch should be a combination of protein and complex carbohydrates such as fruits and vegetables.
5. All students are responsible for assisting with clean-up prior to dismissal.
	1. After completing lunch, students are free to play on the playground or visit the commons area depending on if the students are inside or outside until the end of the lunch period.

## Classroom Rules

Each school’s honor pledge acts as an initial set of behavior rules for their classrooms. Each teacher or classroom will develop a set of additional rules after the students have memorized and successfully recited their honor pledge and can provide examples of that pledge in action in an oral quiz.

Violations of the honor code are violations of school rules and will be treated as such.

As a guide to practical behavior the following list include some specific description of how students might live up to our honor codes even though it is not exhaustive.

* Be honest even when it is not comfortable for you.
* Be courteous; looking for opportunities to greet friends, adults, and strangers on the hall, open doors for others, and help those who may be carrying an extra load.
* Be proud of your school uniform which identifies you as a Renaissance Scholar. Dress neatly and appropriately for school and all of its activities by choosing the correct uniform for each event. Practice good hygiene.

• Be punctual and reliable.

• Take the time to get to know others before making judgments.

• Avoid saying something about another person that you would not say directly to that person.

• Be an encourager of others.

• Apologize when you realize you hurt someone, or hurt their feelings, and let them know that you regret doing so.

• Take good care of all by keeping our school clean, caring for yourself and your belongings, and making the most of the opportunities you have to learn and to serve others and our community.

• Refrain from physical aggression with the intent to hurt another student.

• Respond positively to correction and constructive criticism. Remember to learn even from little “failures”.

• Enhance the learning of others by contributing actively to class discussions, appreciating your gifts and the gifts of others, and by working hard.

The following is a list of expected “proper” communication behaviors which again is not exhaustive but a good start:

* Make eye contact when speaking with students and adults.
* Speak respectfully using forms of address such as “Yes, Sir.” and “yes, Ma’am.”
* Speak loudly enough to be heard at a normal speaking distance of an arm’s length but not louder than that when having a private conversation.
* Develop the habit of shaking hands and introducing yourself to individuals who may not know you.
* When you are the newest member/youngest member present, wait patiently for your turn to speak and then speak clearly and to the point.

## Protocol for Behavior Issues

We are a school that is developing children into strong positive proactive adults. We expect and recognize that students new to our school are often just learning how to behave according to our culture and way. When an undesirable behavior arises we view it as an opportunity for a teachable moment to promote positive behaviors. We, initially, do this by engaging the student in a dialogue. We open a conversation about what happened, what could do next time to prevent the inappropriate outcome from reoccurring, and, in general, make the moment a learning experience. We want our students to learn from all kinds of failures including behavioral ones. However, patterns of inappropriate behaviors require more.

Typically, we will follow the following steps; however, depending upon our assessment of the relevant circumstance, we reserve the right at any time to omit one or more of the steps (including all of them) and take other appropriate actin up to and including immediate suspension or termination of enrollment.

Step 1. As mentioned earlier, if a student is not exhibiting appropriate behavior, a staff member will talk with him/her and remind him/her of our school’s expectations and honor code and discuss why the behavior is inappropriate and what behavior would be appropriate. An informal plan of action will be decided upon by the student and staff member and initiated.

Step 2. If the behavior continues and there is a pattern of either a specific wrong behavior or in doing wrong things in general, the student’s homeroom teacher will be notified and the parent will receive a call or email. At this point, we want the parent to discuss the behavior with the student.

Step 3. The next time there is a behavior issue, the parents and students will be asked to come in and meet with either the Headmaster or a representative from the Staff. During this meeting a formal plan will be developed to prevent the behavior and a plan of action if the behavior issues surface again.

Step 4: Any further behavior issues may result in a schooling-related change ranging from requiring the parent to attend with the student, suspension of the student while other issues are resolved or attempted (for example; anger counseling), or dismissal/expulsion of the student from our programs because of an obvious misfit with that student. Other family members attending will not be directly impacted by the attitudes and behaviors of another family member. The following offenses indicate a gross misalignment with the values and culture of our school and will result in immediate dismissal: actions taken similar to terrorism, bullying, violence involving life threatening aspects, illegal drug use, and harassment including sexual harassment.

Please be aware that nothing a student says to us is confidential when it comes to health and safety. We will notify parents in any case of rumored substance abuse, threat of suicide, or threat of violence. We will notify the appropriate authorities when illegal acts are evident. Under law, we must report any suspected child abuse to the Department of Social Services.

# **Health and Safety**

## Emergency Procedures Authorization

As part of the application or reenrollment process, parents or guardians must complete or update the emergency procedures authorization forms. This form includes listing parents’ work numbers, people designated as alternates for parents, family doctors and a short health history. This authorization allows the school to act for you in case of emergency as you direct. Please do keep this form updated throughout the year and not just at the official update times as it needs to be current. This is particularly important as it relates to medications.

## Pre-Participation Physical Examinations

Any student on an athletic team that represents the school will need to have a physical examination completed by a practicing physician. The required examination forms are issued to families as they sign up for team sports and are available on the website. The forms need to be completed by the parents and the examining doctor and turned in before the first day of school or day of practice if the student plans to compete on the associated athletic team.

## Low Key Student Injury

For everyday scratches, bumps, cuts, bee stings and so forth, first aid supplies are available in each classroom, the front office and are carried on all field trips.

When a student is injured on school property, the teacher or person in charge may render such aid as is advisable under the circumstances and within the limits of his/her knowledge of treatment of such injury. If possible, the First Aid Certified Staff member, Headmaster and parents will be notified as soon as possible.

## Emergency Care

The unexpected does happen. We follow standard first aid principles in handling emergencies and regard the child’s safety as our first priority.

In the event of a serious injury or in the case of a doubt, the paramedics will be called first and then the First Aid Certified Staff member, Headmaster and parents contacted. As soon as possible after the student has been treated or placed under competent care, the teacher or person in charge should submit an incident report to the Headmaster and Administrator/HR. The teacher or person in charge may be asked to recall the incident for insurance purposes at a later time.

## Large Scale Emergencies

In the event of an unexpected large-scale emergency, please do not phone the school but allow the switchboard to remain open for communication with emergency personnel. Parents will be kept informed of current conditions through the sending of official email messages and Twitter messages.

In the event of an expected large-scale weather emergency, the school will again use the web-based systems to contact parents with the opening and closing of the schools. Generally, we will follow the open and closing of Coastal Carolina University. In the case of delay or closure, we post the information on our website, update the school’s telephone message, and notify local radio and television stations before 6:45 a.m. We do not notify the media when school runs on a normal schedule. We will post a news flash on the school website and tweet an alert to families that school is open when conditions appear questionable.

If a storm develops while school is in session and it appears that travel conditions will deteriorate rapidly, children will be sent home early. The media will be informed.

Under circumstances requiring early dismissal, parents will need to arrange for emergency midday transportation for their children. A staff member will remain with students until parents arrive for pick up. The receptionist will be available at the switchboard to answer questions and to help with transportation problems.

## Emergency Drills

We routinely conduct fire drills, earthquake drills, tornado drills, lock-in drills, and lockout drills so students, teachers, and staff know what to do in an emergency. Drills are not over until very child and employee is accounted for.

Designated team leaders rehearse emergency responses including setting up command central, a first aid station, media center and volunteer hub. Staff members know their areas of responsibility and report to the above-mentioned centers.

## Emergency Preparedness

Renaissance Prep has a comprehensive emergency preparedness plan that is documented in a crisis notebook. The Administration Committee reviews and updates the plan annually. All members of the administrative team and leaders of the response teams have copies of the notebook. Parents are welcome to review the notebook in the Front Office. In the interest of security, we ask that the notebook stay in the building.

These topics are covered in the crisis notebook.

• 911 – medical emergency

• Fire

• Earthquake

• Lock-in and lockout – dangerous person

• Shooting incident

• Hostage situation

• Bomb threat

• Hazardous material

• Communications

• Campus evacuation – Oregon Zoo

• Family reunification

• Emergency school closure

• Shelter-in-place

• Maps

• Student and employee lists

• Phone trees and forms

Each topic covered in the crisis notebook includes a decision tree along with team assignments. These teams are mobilized depending on the type of crisis.

• Incident Command

• Division & Department Heads

• Faculty & Staff

• Counsel Team

• Communications Team

• Facilities and Logistics Team

• First Aid Team

• IT Team

• Board of Trustees

• Helpers & Volunteers

## Campus Evacuation

Should we need to evacuate campus, the parking lot of the nearest large grocery store will be our designated offsite gathering location.

## Illness at School

If children become ill at school, we make them comfortable and call the parents. There is an area in the front office where a sick child may lie down.

## Immunizations and Communicable Diseases

Common sense and our duty to help students remain healthy necessitates the following of state laws with respect to immunizations and the keeping of immunization records on file for each student. We work with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) when appropriate to provide parents with information about communicable diseases in the school. Shot records must be submitted to the school and updated annually.

## Insurance

The school provides a secondary student accident insurance policy to complement family health insurance coverage. Under this coverage, a parent’s private insurance is the primary policy in the event of an accident during a school-related activity. The school’s accident insurance policy covers any unpaid charges up to the published limits.

Should a school-related injury occur, please contact the appropriate department or division within 72 hours. In the event a claim will be filed with the plan administrator, please get in touch with the business office administrative assistant for a claim form. This claim form must then be filed within 90 days of the date of the first physician’s visits or as soon as reasonably possible.

# Transportation

## Comings & Goings

Pedestrians have the right of way. Campus speed limit is 10 miles per hour – slow enough to brake if a child runs out, as well as, slow enough to prevent many accidents. Please teach children, by direction and example, to use marked crosswalks and avoid the hazard of walking between parked or waiting cars. Lead Faculty should obtain a bus driving permit from SC.

### Drop-off and Pick-up Traffic Flow

When you deliver or pick up children by car, please use only the drop-off and pick-up lane in the main parking lot. The pick-up pattern is designed for maximum safety. Follow campus signage indicating one-way and two-way traffic patterns. The express zone is a no-waiting pick-up area.

## Parking

Drivers are required to obtain parking permits online from the Renaissance Prep website. Campus signage identifies handicapped parking, reserved parking, and 15-minute parking. Reserved auction parking spots have been purchased with a charitable donation at the school’s annual auction. The proceeds directly support our teachers and students.

Red curbs mark fire lanes, which must be kept clear for emergency access. Do not park along any red curb or in a way that blocks any road or driveway. Waiting in your car in the red curb area is permissible. Cars improperly parked may be ticketed.

## Transportation for Activities and Field Trips

Renaissance Prep may rent vans to transport one or more classes to field trips and athletic events. Drivers, whether staff or volunteers, are in compliance with state regulations and take special driving, safety and first aid training sessions through the school.

Transporting students in private cars is the exception and shall occur only when Renaissance Prep transportation is not available or is impractical. Lead teachers will be responsible for determining when the use of a private car is necessary. Seat belts must be provided for and used by every person. Booster/car seats must be provided when appropriate. The school verifies driving records of such drivers when possible and requires these drivers to also take our in-school training.

# Admissions

Current Renaissance Prep students and parents, and alumni, are the school’s best ambassadors. We welcome referrals for admission and provide incentives for those. Friends or family members who are interested in a student’s admission to The Renaissance Preparatory Academy are welcome to inquire at any time about openings. We admit new students at each of our four terms even though our official school year begins in July. Each referred and admitted family earns a 1% deduction in annual tuition for the oldest child of the referring family to a maximum of 5% during the following school year.

Submission acceptance times for each term are as follows:
**Summer term:** Term begins the new school year and starts in July. New Student applications for the “start of the new school year” are accepted February 15 – March 15 (or the first Monday after the 15th if it falls on a weekend) and are treated as arriving at the same time. They will be accepted in priority order[[3]](#footnote-3). After March 15, acceptance is first come first served through the first week of the term or until all spaces are filled whichever comes first. Students will be added to an ongoing session past the first week only under unusual circumstances and upon available space.

**Fall term:** Term begins in October. New Student applications for this term are accepted July 15 (or the first Monday after the 15th if it falls on a weekend) – August 15 and are treated as arriving at the same time. They will be accepted in priority order3. After August 15, acceptance is first come first served through the first week of the term or until all spaces are filled whichever comes first. Students will be added to an ongoing session past the first week only under unusual circumstances and upon available space.

**Winter term**: Term begins in January. New Student applications for this term begin October 7 ( or the first Monday after the 7th if it falls on a weekend) – November 7th and are treated as arriving at the same time. They will be accepted in priority order3. After November 7th, acceptance is first come first served through the first week of the term or until all spaces are filled whichever comes first. Students will be added to an ongoing session past the first week only under unusual circumstances and upon available space.

**Spring term**: Term begins in April. New Student applications for this term begin January 15 ( or the first Monday after the 7th if it falls on a weekend) – February 15th and are treated as arriving at the same time. They will be accepted in priority order3. After February 15th, acceptance is first come first served through the first week of the term or until all spaces are filled whichever comes first. Students will be added to an ongoing session past the first week only under unusual circumstances and upon available space.

However, priority order3 does not guarantee admission for any student. All students admitted to The Renaissance Preparatory Academy are required to meet the standards for admission. Waiting lists will be generated if needed until sufficient students are on them to support the creation of a new class or the next term. After two terms on a wait list, someone on the wait list will need to submit a new application.

The admission packet is available from our website. The completed packet along with a visit to the school and with faculty by the family and the student are part of the application process. Find out more by downloading the admission packet and reading it. If you have any questions, please do contact us during normal school hours between 8 am and 4 pm.

All admission decisions are released as they are made and they are made for the next available term unless an application for the next school year is requested. All fees, uniform charges, an enrollment deposit must be made and the amount of 1 month’s tuition received before a student has a confirmed seat. This may happen at any time before the start of the new school year. Tuition is prorated after the start of the school year to the end of the current year.

While children may be promoted to a new grade at any term, the official school year runs from middle of July through the middle of June of the following year. Registration for the following year for current students begins in March and open registration begins in April. After the receipt of the annual deposit, the remainder of the tuition is due following one of three payment plans. The balance of the annual payment, the first 10-month payment, and the first of 12-monthly payments are due in the school office by July 1. All payment deadlines fall on the first of the month and late charges begin on the 5th.

## Reenrollment

Reenrollment letters will be emailed to current families of good standing in March. You must notify the school by March 30 if you DO NOT plan to reenroll for the following year. Prior admission to the school does not guarantee enrollment in any subsequent year unless as a continuing students in good academic and fiscal standing. Passive acceptance is not enough to reserve a seat, you must also send in the book fees and the security deposit which has an amount equivalent to one month’s tuition. Space reservations begin in April for the following July start.

No student may be considered for reenrollment or financial assistance for succeeding academic years unless the payment account is considered current. If any payment is delinquent for 60 days following the due date, the student may be excluded from school attendance and transcripts withheld until the account is brought current.

The school reserves the right not to invite a student to reenroll or to require the withdrawal of a student if it is determined to be in the best interests of the student or the school. Reasons may include, but are not limited to, the student’s unsatisfactory academic performance or behavior by the student, parent or guardian that is detrimental or disruptive to the school.

Acceptance of the reenrollment invitation requires an accompanying deposit of the book fees and 8.33% of tuition (amount equivalent to one month’s tuition on the 12-month payment plan. The reenrollment is not complete until the deposits and acceptance updates are received. These funds hold a seat for the student. The deposit will be credited to the student’s tuition bill for the last month in the subsequent year upon arrival on the first day of school. If a student does not arrive, the book fee is non-refundable and the first month’s tuition and security deposit both are retained. Any remainder amount of the deposit above the amount equivalent to the monthly payment tuition and the security deposit amount will be refunded after 30 days via USPS.

## Leaves of Absence

A one-year leave of absence from The Renaissance Preparatory Academy may be arranged on a case-by-case basis through the admission office. Leaves of absence are not intended for students to try out different schools while selecting long-term preferences.

While reenrollment is not guaranteed, leave of absence status entitles a student to first consideration for reenrollment after the current student body has reenrolled. Reenrollment to a particular grade depends upon space availability, and the returning student’s grade-level readiness and academic standing. A non-refundable leave of absence deposit, ten percent of tuition (the same as the reenrollment deposit), will be applied to the tuition deposit when the student returns. The agreement is valid for one year only and may not be renewed. If the student does not return, the deposit is non-refundable. Families should contact the admission office for further information.

A study abroad experience through student exchange is not a leave of absence but rather tuition continues here for the abroad experience just as the student arriving from abroad would continue paying the tuition at their home institution. It is expected that such students would live in the respective home of the other exchange student and the sets of parents would act as parents in locale for their visiting students. Contact the exchange student program for details.

# You Are Invited! 2017-2018 Events

## Art Exhibitions

The art exhibition committee facilitates exhibitions of student and professional art in the Commons throughout the school year. Outside shows are chosen and presented by committee. Shows may include works by local artists, alumni, faculty-staff, and selections from private collections. Student art is exhibited in the Commons gallery on a rotating basis. These are announced through the website and social media.

## Theme Unit Presentations

Each STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) and DHRAMS (drama, history, readers theatre/speech, art, music, social science) theme unit culminates in a deliverable. These science fair-like presentations occur in the middle or at the end of each regular term. These are announced through the website and social media.

## The Annual Auction

The annual auction and party, open to the entire community, supports critical needs at the school. The auction raises funds to enrich the student experience. Proceeds from the event provide our educational programs with additional funding that tuition and fees do not cover. Dozens of volunteers create this fun and fundraising event. This is announced through the website and social media.

## Grandparents and Special Friends Days

Students in each school invite grandparents or special friends for a partial day of school. This is announced through the website and social media.

## Productions, Plays and Performances

Parents are invited and welcome at student performances, presentations, assemblies, and community meetings. Information about these events is posted on the website and in the ***Heralds!***

## Homecoming/Fall Festival

Cheer on the Rampaging Lions at this great family evening which takes place this year October 28th. Students, young and old, parents, alumni families, faculty-staff, and friends gather in the Athletic field to participate in a Fall Festival filled with costumes, booths, cake walks, dunk tanks and more. The Winter term parking place will be auctioned off at this event. This fall fundraiser is a time to really get to know the Renaissance Prep community!

## Winter Renaissance Fair

This time reenacting activities and events from the Renaissance time period provides a time for gathering around a roaring fire to share stories, try our hand at juggling, having wagon jousts, and other fun and related activities. This fair occurs on the fifth Saturday in January or first Saturday in February and the exact date will be announced in the *Herald!* The Spring term parking place will be auctioned off at this event.

## Track Meet/Spring Festival

This festival also occurs on the Athletic Field but has food booths and a track and field meet. Parents, Faculty-Staff, and alumni can also enroll in events. There are ribbons for winners and fun for all! The Summer term parking place will be auctioned off at this event. This takes place on the Saturday closest to May 15.

## The Start of Summer Term Beach Party

The second Saturday of the Summer Term is a day of picnicking at either the Myrtle Beach State Park or at Huntington Beach State Park. This day of potluck barbeque, fun on the beach, beach ball volleyball, and kite-flying kicks off the summer term with a splash! The Fall term parking place will be auctioned off at this event.

## Renaissance Marching Team

This team does close order marching drills in a rhythmic pattern. This team practices with different props and then performs in one or more local parades. Support the team by helping to provide the props and then showing up for their “performances”. What a great and fun way to share our school with our local communities! Performance times will be posted on the webpage.

## Athletic Teams

These season specific teams form when we have sufficient students in a relevant age group to participate in the local athletic sports programs such as little league, soccer, flag football, volleyball, etc. Potential team opportunities, practices, and game times will be posted on the webpage.

## Renaissance Faculty-Family Cooperative Workshops

These workshops are announced in the *Heralds!* and on the website. They cover concepts and topics that are important to the Renaissance Prep community. Come on over and hang out with other parents and learn something new. Babysitting is provided for free at the school during these training sessions.

2016-2017

Student-Parent Handbook

Acknowledgment

Please sign both sides and return to the Headmaster.

As a family, we, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Print the Family Name,

have read and agree to the culture indicated by the crest and honor codes of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy as shown below and in the 2016-2017 Student-Parent Handbook.

Signed [insert date] \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by: X \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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The

Renaissance

Preparatory

Academy

**Curiosum**

**Humanitas**

**Fortitude**

 **Opus**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read or have had read to me the terms of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy Student-Parent
 Print Name Handbook dated 2016-2017 and I accept the conditions of enrollment and the expectations of behavior.

X\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name Grade

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read and accept the terms of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy Student-Parent
 Print Name Handbook dated 2016-2017.

X\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name Grade

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read and accept the terms of The Renaissance Preparatory Academy Student-Parent
 Print Name Handbook dated 2016-2017.

X\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name Grade

The Renaissance Preparatory Academy

1000 Commons Drive Suite 102, Myrtle Beach SC 29588

P: 843-465-3108 | F: 843-XXX-XXXX

www.RenaissancePrep.org

1. ***Peek at the Week*** email is an informative update for parents with an overview of the week to come, including homework, tests, quizzes, projects, etc. It is a collaborative effort of all of a student’s teachers/set of student’s teachers. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. ***ClassBlog*** is a blog on that class/schools set of activities from the past week. It is a window into the classroom that will be seen by more than just parents so protect the identity of our students! For Kindergarten classes, it will also give parents a heads up on the next week’s topics/activities. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Children on a wait list, children and grandchildren of alumni, children of faculty and staff, siblings of current Renaissance Prep students, and children of color (up to the local percentage of population) receive special consideration in the listed order during the admission process. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)