

April 16, 2013

From the Desk of Dr. Fovargue



Student Attendance is Important!

When students come to class, they not only increase their learning opportunities, they also increase their school's budget for the year. Suppose an elementary school with 500 students has an average daily attendance of 95%. That would earn the school a basic allocation of about \$1.6 million. If that same school increased its average daily attendance to 98%, the difference in its basic allocation, about \$50,000, is enough to hire another teacher for the school.

Currently, ROE's attendance rate is 97.5% for the school year. We need your help to increase our attendance to 98% overall. Attendance is taken at 9:30 AM daily. We need each student present at 9:30 AM as much as possible to reach our goal! Thank you for your continued support in this area.

Sincerely,
Keri Fovargue,
ROE Head of School

Planning Ahead

1. Apr 20 - Nature Center Clean Up with Dad's Club
2. Apr 23 - STAAR Math 3rd and 4th
3. Apr 24 - STAAR Reading 3rd and 4th; STAAR Science 5th
4. Apr 25 - IB Spring Art Exhibit
5. May 4 - Earth Day Celebration
6. May 6-10 - Stanford Testing
7. May 8 - SDMC
8. May 15 - PTO Board Meeting
9. May 27 - Memorial Day
10. May 29-30 - 5th Grade Exhibition

ROE Partners with the Houston
Arts Foundation to Adopt a
Monument!

11. June 4 - K-2 Spring Program
12. June 4 - 5th Grade Field Trip
13. June 5 - Kinder Recognition; 5th Grade Promotion
14. June 6 - Last Day of School; Report Cards
15. June 7 - Teacher Prep Day



We are in the beginning stages of a partnership with the Houston Arts Foundation to adopt the Tolerance sculptures at Allen Parkway and Montrose. Artist Jaume Plensa imagined harmony and unity in his creation of "Tolerance," consisting of seven aluminum-framed human figures representing the seven continents. The sculptures are made in his signature alphabet pattern, each representing a mix of languages including Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Greek, Hindi and Cyrillic. The artist's inspiration comes from his belief that despite all of our many differences that make us unique, such as religion or language, we are all trying to achieve similar things, such as love, health, prosperity and the success of our children. We are currently seeking corporate sponsors to partner with ROE on this project in the 2013-2014 school year. Please contact Dottie Lawrence, Assistant Principal for more information.

dlawren1@houstonisd.org

CALLING PARENT VOLUNTEERS TO CREATE 5TH GRADE TILE TREE

We need 5 parent volunteers to join Art Specialist Ms. Lieber, Stephanie Slobin and Ivan Zapata to create the outdoor 5th grade tile trees on Saturday, April 27th at 8:30am and/or another Saturday in May to be announced. ROE's current 5th grade class (as well as last year's 5th grade class) created tiles to be added to the beautiful outdoor wall. Don't worry if you're not crafty! Ms. Lieber will teach us how to do all of this and oversee our work. For those who want to contribute in another way, help us find donations of mastic, grout, 5 gallon buckets, trowels, large sponges, and rubber gloves.

Please help us to continue this school treasure and assist the 5th graders in leaving their mark on our school! To volunteer, contact Stephanie Slobin, ROE PTO Specialist Representative, at spslobin@gmail.com

A special thank you to Erick Calderon, La Nova Tile, for donating tile to create our tile trees!



More fruits and vegetables are coming to your school and cafeteria this month!

Your campus has been selected to participate

in a special program to receive additional selections of fruits and vegetables in the cafeteria line. This will provide your students with even more variety and fresh options daily! Your school will join several other campuses already benefitting from increased options of fruits and vegetables.

In addition to the fruits and vegetables served daily in your school's cafeteria, students will be able to select from the following:

- Oranges
- Green Apples
- Golden Delicious Apples
- Pears
- Cauliflower
- Cherry Tomatoes
- Bell Peppers

As the seasons change, additional selections may become available and will give students more color and flavor options to choose from. Students will still be required to follow the meal pattern requirements for a reimbursable meal which requires them to select at least one fruit or one vegetable along with their main item. We hope these additional options will add more color and variety to your student's already selected, healthy tray.

Mark Welch
General Manager of Operations
HISD Food Services/ARAMARK Education

Fridays @ Neuhaus
Friday, May 10, 2013

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Neuhaus Education Center

iThink therefore iApp: Ideas To Help Prevent Summer Brain-Drain

Presenter: Linda Corbett

Summer is just around the corner and our children will finally enjoy some unstructured time. Aside from the joy of being able to sleeping in, why not continue to support summer learning in a relaxed dialed-down pace.

This workshop will present ideas to engage your children's creativity, challenge their thinking, and provide hours of fun while learning. BYOD, download apps, and come learn and play!

Handwriting: It's More Important than You Think!

Presenter: Mary French

In 5 minutes a day, plus practice, you can make a difference in your child's writing. We will model strategies and show samples for manuscript and cursive writing. Don't let cursive die!

No charge

Limited seating

Registration required

Students, parents, and teachers are welcome.

No CEU hours

The Dad's Club Donates

Soon you will see members of the ROE Dad's Club donating their time to serve as morning greeters at various spots around campus. Please get to know them - they will be in orange vests ready to welcome you! If you are a dad and are interested in

becoming part of this team, please contact Kico Tovar at KTOVAR@PDRCORP.com

VISIT THE ESPAÑOL WEBSITE:

For Español en la casa / Spanish at home, visit the ROE Español link:

Go to the River Oaks website at www.houstonisd.org/riveroakseib; to Grade Level Teams; Specialists; click on Español. You'll see Los Colores/Colors, some links with Español activities and games, and you'll also find a note to parents for grades 2-4. All students need to visit the Kindergarten link for practice on Weather/ El Tiempo vocabulary and the First grade link to review Family/La Familia . This allows students to review vocabulary that the students studied in earlier years. It's vocabulary that they shouldn't forget. Please remember, this website is a work in progress. Muchas gracias, Sra. Vásquez.



Congratulations to all of the ROE students who participated in the state finals for Odyssey of the Mind on Saturday! Students on Mr. Bloome's team that took 3rd place in their problem include Amanda Bloome, Katharine Britt, George Hagle,

Gage Hensey, Talia Hirsch, Claire Ma, and Andrew Weiner. Mr. Moll's team won 1st place and will compete in the World Finals in May! Best of luck to Nicholas Baumann, Bobbie Cashin, Pranav Konduri, Asher Moll, Samara Moll, Grace Okoro, and James Sun!! Please help us raise funds to cover travel expenses to the competition. You can support the team by purchasing an ROE yard sign for \$10. Signs will be sold in the front hallway each morning this week from 7:15-7:45, and outside by the walker doors in the afternoon from 3:15-3:30.



On Saturday, April 20th between 11 AM and 1:30 PM, River Oaks Elementary will be the site of a rest stop for the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. The Avon Walk is a 39.3 mile walk over 2 days (26.2 miles on Saturday and 13.1 miles on Sunday) to raise money for the fight against breast cancer. By the time the walkers reach ROE, we will be several miles into the first day of our journey. I will be doing this walk across Houston for the 4th time, and from my past experience I can attest to how much it means to have people come out to cheer us on. Sometimes it's the folks who come out to cheer who keep us moving forward when we feel tired or discouraged. The walkers would love to see the ROE kids out there on Saturday morning, so if you have a chance to come out and show your support, please do!

For more information on the Avon Walk, go to
www.AvonWalk.org.

Thanks,
Mayson Planck (Amanda & Brett Planck's mom)



After our Dogs of Character presentation, Ms. Price's class was inspired to comfort the dogs by making and donating blankets. Last week, Aimee Winkler and her rescue dog Leo, paid a visit to the classroom to accept the donation.

Leo had fun helping Aimee open one of the blankets, and the class had fun watching. Thanks to Ms. Price's class for demonstrating caring and empathy!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



**National Teacher Appreciation
Week 2013 is Monday, April 29 -
Friday, May 3.**

More details from your room

parents will be coming soon...
Have questions or ideas? Please
contact
[teacher-
appreciation@riveroakspto.org](mailto:teacher-appreciation@riveroakspto.org)

Calling All Bakers!



We need YOU!

There's something special right around the corner... ROE's Teacher Appreciation Week ~ 4/29-5/3! On Wednesday, 5/1, there is a yummy Dessert Bake-Off. We want to show our love by baking or buying some delicious desserts for the teachers and staff to enjoy after school.

Please contact Teri & Jennifer if you are interested in participating! We will send you the Sign-Up Genius link.

teacher-appreciation@riveroakspto.org

Thanks and happy baking!



VegOut! Wrap-up

As you know, our school has been taking the VegOut! 30 Ways in 30 Days Challenge to help promote healthy eating during National Nutrition Month. In addition to eating 30 different veggies in 30 days, we also held a "Dress as Your Favorite Veggie" costume contest, as well as a "Rock Your Veggies" song/poem contest. Here are the results:

Dress as Your Favorite Veggie:

Kinder-2nd Grade Winners

1st Place: Colin M in Mr. Anderson's class as "A Bunch of Asparagus"

2nd Place: Zachary N in Ms. Bomersbach's class as "A Salad"

3rd Place: Timothy G in Ms. Taylor's class as "The Farmer's Market"

Honorable Mention: Hammad Y in Mr. Anderson's class as "A Mushroom"



3rd-5th Grade Winners

1st Place: Mason F in Ms.
Argue's class as "A Pickle"

2nd Place (tie): Charlize T in
Ms. Bennett's class as "Corn on the
Cob"

Laine W in Ms. Beery's class as
"Brussels Sprouts"



Rock Your Veggies:
1st Place Overall: "Endive" by Erin M
in Ms. Gutierrez's class

2nd Place Best Choreography: The Veggies ~ Marisa E, Lindsay F, Bethany P, Charlize T, Aislin F, and Dora H in Ms. Bennett's class

2nd Place Best Lyrics: "VegOut!" by Mason F, Jake T, and Nicky C in Ms. Argue's class

Nothing goes better with any ensemble than a BIG heart! Fashion the ROE way is fun and let's you give back to our great school by supporting Walk the Runway Spring Fashion Show (Great Gathering).

Please join us Saturday, April 27 at 10:30 am in the Nature Center.

With the rumble tumble days of summer ahead, ROE 1st - 5th Grade girls can enjoy an afternoon of girly fun. Wear your favorite spring dress and bring your accessories and bright smile. You will enjoy runway lessons from a former modeling agent, gourmet food and amazing music. Parents are welcome to attend and share in the fun!

\$30 per ticket - checks made payable

to ROE PTO

RSVP to amiecanfield@yahoo.com

Spaces are limited.

Way to go ROE students for participating in
the Houston Kids' Triathlon this past
weekend! We are so proud of the ***balanced***
lifestyle you're living!

Andrew Boyd
Gabby Canfield
Jackie Canfield
Evie Debney
Oliver Debney
Layne Evans
Alex Galka
Saxton Gates
Abdullah Malik
Noah Pittman
Wilson Wagner
Emily Young
Helen Young



The 3rd–5th grade Name That Book Team competed on Monday, April 15th. ROE went neck to neck with West U and was tied with West U after 5 rounds. ROE and West U competed for sudden death elimination and ROE came in 2nd place in the 7th round. Big congratulations to all of our Name That Book Team members, coaches, and teachers for their hard work this year:

Team:
–Colton Morgan
–Andy Zhu

- Erin Mee
- Delaney Costa
- Sarah Chen
- Evan Zhao
- Ella Marsh

Coaches:

- Mackenzie Wilson
- Nia Butler
- Sage Shirley
- Mridul Mittal
- Alan Crabb
- Emma Kim

Sponsor Teachers:

- Ms. De Leon
- Ms. Gutierrez
- Ms. Nazaro



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