

**January 12, 2016**



### **Save the Dates**

1. **Jan 18-** MLK Day
2. **Jan 25-** Camp Meeting 5th Grade
3. **Feb 11-** SDMC
4. **Feb 19-** 5th Grade Dance
5. **Feb 23-** Optional Spring Pictures
6. **Feb 9-12-** ROE Onsite Book Fair
7. **Feb 23-** Spring Pictures
8. **Mar 1-4-** 5th Grade Camp
9. **Mar 10-** Spring Performance
10. **Mar 13-** Daylight Savings Time
11. **Mar 14-18-** Spring Break
12. **Mar 24-** Report Cards
13. **Mar 25-** Spring Holiday
14. **Mar 29-31-** STAAR 3rd-5th
15. **Apr 16-** HISD Choir Festival
16. **Apr 23-** Carnival

### **From the Desk of Dr. Fovargue**

As you know, the recent change in Texas law that went into effect on January 1, 2016, regarding carrying firearms in open view in some locations. I would like to reassure you that HISD has never allowed handguns or other prohibited weapons to be carried into any of our schools or educational facilities.

I would also like to assure you that the safety of your child is our top priority, and we are taking every precaution to keep them out of harm's way.

School grounds have been considered "gun-free" zones under the federal Gun-Free Schools Act that was enacted more than 20 years ago. Texas law also does not permit handguns or certain other weapons to be taken into any school buildings or carried anywhere that school-sponsored activities are taking place. Handguns and firearms are not allowed at any school-sponsored activities, regardless of whether the events or activities take place on or off school property or on school passenger vehicles like school buses.

District officials are continuing to review the new Open Carry Law, and we will keep you informed regarding the implementation of this new law in HISD.

Meanwhile, should you see any suspicious activity on or around your child's campus or anywhere in the district, please call HISD police at 713-892-7777 (24 hours a day) or call 911. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school.

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**Dear Parents,**

Each year, we send several reminders regarding our drop off and pick up procedures. Unfortunately, we still have parents who create unsafe conditions for other parents and students. Here are a few recent complaints:

1. Parents cut from Bellmeade.
2. Some parents cut straight from San Felipe.

- 17. **May 2-6-** Teacher Appreciation Week
- 18. **May 9-13-** STAAR 3rd-5th
- 19. **May 19-** 5th Grade Exhibition
- 20. **May 24-** Kinder Program
- 21. **May 25-** 5th grade promotion
- 22. **May 25-** Report Cards, Last Day of School
- 23. **May 26-** Teacher Workday

**3. Some parents wait to drop off their kids right in front which delays the flow.**

**Thank you to every parent who leads by example in the carpool lane. If anyone needs clarification, please review our family handbook which has been posted on the website prior to the start of school.**

**Sincerely,  
Keri Fovargue**

#### **ORDER YOUR 2015-16 ROE YEARBOOK!**

The regular price of \$30 has been extended until January 15, 2016 so order your yearbooks now! On January 16 the price will increase to \$35. Starting February 16th, the Yearbook Committee will not be able to guarantee the availability of yearbooks for purchase. If extra books are included in the shipment, we will start a waitlist and the price will increase to \$40.

Order Online:

Go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) → Yearbooks → Find Your School or Group → Enter River Oaks Elementary School in Houston, Texas

or

Direct Link:

<http://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1141547/River-Oaks-Elementary-School/>

Order by Check: Send an email to

[yearbook@riveroakspto.org](mailto:yearbook@riveroakspto.org) for detailed instructions on placing an order by check.

**Reduced Price / Free Yearbooks Available for Qualifying Families:** Reduced price or free yearbooks are available for families on the free or reduced lunch program. Email us at [yearbook@riveroakspto.org](mailto:yearbook@riveroakspto.org) to make this request. These requests **MUST** be received by February 15, 2016.

**Submit Pictures!**

Please help us include every ROE child in a candid photo by submitting photos you take during class activities, field trips and other ROE events. We are currently looking for classroom pictures, spelling bee pictures, fall book fair pictures, holiday party pictures, field trip pictures, and other daily and special events at ROE.

You may submit photos directly to the Jostens website at <https://images.jostens.com/402753594>

- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload, click on "Select My Images."
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Please include the names of the students in the picture, teacher, as well as grade level and the event where the photo was taken.
- Click "Upload Chosen Images."

You may also email photos to [yearbook@riveroakspto.org](mailto:yearbook@riveroakspto.org). Whichever method you use to submit them, please be sure to provide the following information for the kids appearing in the photo - name(s), teacher, event/activity. That information will help us make sure we are including as many students as possible.

THANK YOU!

ROE PTO Yearbook Committee

#### Private School Applications

Application deadlines for most private schools are fast approaching. If you are applying to private schools, please make sure that you submit your applications at least 72 hours prior to the deadline. ROE is not responsible for applications submitted after the application deadline.

#### Jefferson Davis High School Cheer Clinic

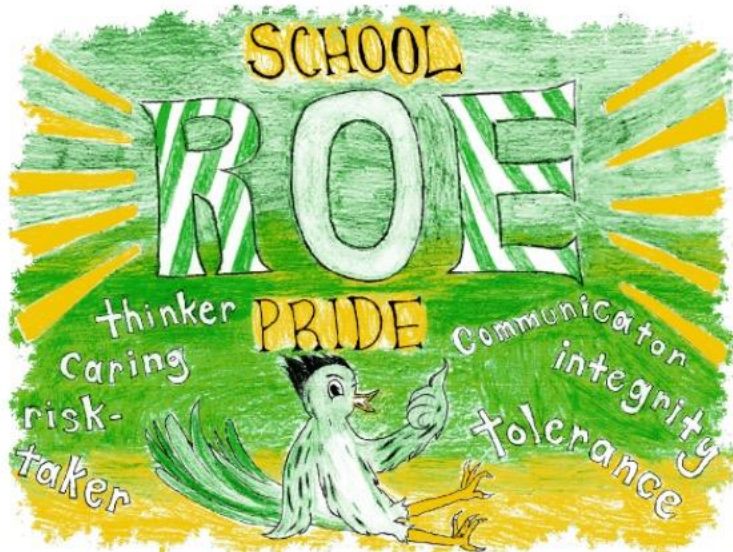
Where: Jefferson Davis High School

When: January 16th, 8am-12:30pm

Cost: \$20 (includes shirt and lunch)

Participants will learn cheers, chants and a dance routine that will be performed during the JV basketball game on Tuesday, January 19th at 5pm.

For more information and to sign up, contact Tynda Calk at [tcalk@houstonisd.org](mailto:tcalk@houstonisd.org).



Congratulations to Melody Z. in 5th grade! Melody designed the 2016 5th grade t-shirt, and her peers voted her design the top pick this year. Kuddos to all of the students who shared their artistic talents and submitted drawings to the contest.



Please join Neartown little league this spring. Registration is now open for baseball and softball at [neartownll.org](http://neartownll.org). If you have any questions, please contact Robie Stenoien at [robiesten@gmail.com](mailto:robiesten@gmail.com)

**The IB/GT Connection**



Did you know? River Oaks Elementary is an International Baccalaureate World School and GT Vanguard Magnet in HISD. All teachers, instructional coordinators, and administrators are GT Certified and trained in IB.

*Look for reminders and updates on twitter.*

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**School** [www.RiverOaksElementarySchool.org](http://www.RiverOaksElementarySchool.org) | **Head of School** [KFovargu@HoustonISD.org](mailto:KFovargu@HoustonISD.org);  
**PTO** [www.RiverOaksPTO.org](http://www.RiverOaksPTO.org) | **ROE News Editor** [ROENews@RiverOaksPTO.org](mailto:ROENews@RiverOaksPTO.org)  
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