

January 22,
2015



Save the Dates

1. **Feb. 11-**
SDMC
2. **Feb. 17-20-**
Onsite Book
fair
3. **Feb. 20-**
Book Fair
Family Night
4. **Feb. 25-**
Optional
Spring
Pictures
5. **Mar. 16-Mar.**
20- Spring
Break
6. **Mar. 27-**
Magnet

From the Desk of Dr. Fovargue

Dear ROE Parents,

Fourth grade just finished an eye opening unit on social media. For their How We Express Ourselves unit, they focused on social media as a source of expression. The fourth grade students researched five different social media platforms: pinterest, facebook, twitter, linked-in, and instagram. They researched the pros and cons of social media, as well as rules/regulations and criteria. Students used Kidblogs for assignments related to their research and some also interviewed a family member/relative/close friend who did not grow up in the 'digital age' and blogged about their responses.

At the end of the unit, students had the pleasure of listening to guest speakers, Mr. Travis Crabtree (ROE Dad) and Officer Sara Wyatt from the HPD Federal Task Force Cybersex Crimes Against Children. Parents were also invited for a Q&A session with Officer Wyatt.

As the unit concluded, students were able to reflect on what they gained from this unit and what they learned about social media from different perspectives. Here are my TOP TEN takeaways as a Parent and a Principal that I thought were worth sharing.

ATTENTION PARENTS!

1. Social Media sites have strict regulations regarding children's privacy.
2. Parents can google COPPA (Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule) to learn about these laws.
3. Do you know what your kids are plugged into right now?
4. Students under age 13 should not have Instagram or Facebook Accounts. They should also not have gmail or You Tube accounts.

[https://help.instagram.com/155833707900388/](https://help.instagram.com/155833707900388/(Look+at+#6).)
(Look at #6). (See Children Under Age 13).
https://www.facebook.com/note.php?note_id=+322194465300

- Parent
Notifications
7. **Mar. 30** - 4th
grade
Writing
STAAR Day
One
 8. **Mar. 31** - 4th
grade
Writing
STAAR Day
Two/5th
grade
Reading
STAAR
 9. **Apr. 3**-
Spring
Holiday
 10. **Apr. 10**-
Magnet
Parent
Response
Deadline
 11. **Apr. 18**-
Carnival
 12. **Apr. 20** - 5th
grade Math
STAAR
 13. **Apr. 21** - 3rd
and 4th
grade Math
STAAR
 14. **Apr. 22** - 3rd
and 4th
grade
Reading
STAAR, 5th
grade
Science
STAAR
 15. **Apr. 25**-
Earth Day
Celebration

<https://www.snapchat.com/privacy> (Scroll down to the bottom and read under Children).
<https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/1350409?hl=en>

5. Check this out! <http://parentingsquad.com/top-10-tech-safety-tips-for-parents-of-tweens-and-teens>

6. Officer Wyatt reminded us that we would not leave our children with a stranger or give a stranger the keys to our house. Why would we give strangers free access to our children in their virtual worlds?

7. Child predators come in all shapes and sizes, every ethnic group and socioeconomic group.

8. If your child has access to an Xbox, iphone, smart phone, ipad, computer, Nintendo DS, etc., know how they connect to the web. Read about these devices, and learn how to protect your children.

9. Security settings for iphone (ACT NOW)

<http://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201304> (Remember if you reset or upgrade the phone, the restrictions are disabled).

10. You can google anything as a parent. Visit an Apple Store. They have classes you can take. Connect with other parents, and know the tech rules at your neighbors and friends' homes, before you let your child stay the night.

Are you thinking that many ROE students don't have access to these social media outlets or devices? Think again! We surveyed 4th graders by show of hands. The number of students who have access were in the majority. Therefore, parents, you have some homework to do! Happy Monitoring!

Additional Resources from Mr. Crabtree:

Mr. Crabtree's presentation:

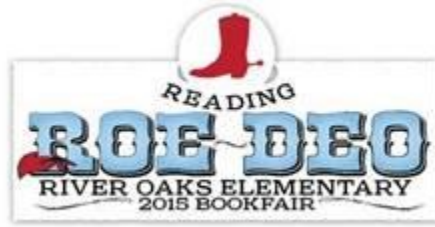
http://prezi.com/fp1nauzolvpy/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share

The last slide has links to some resources geared toward safety tips for parents.

Pop

Quiz: <https://www.stopthinkconnect.org/resources/viewimageembed/?id=439>.

16. **Apr. 25-**
HISD School
Choice Fair
17. **Apr. 27- May**
1- Teacher
Appreciation
Week
18. **May 4-May 8**
- IOWA Test
(Grades 1-5)
19. **May 6-**
SDMC
20. **May 25-**
Memorial
Day
21. **May 28-** Last
day of school
- 22.



**SADDLE UP FOR A BOOT SCOOTIN'
GOOD TIME!
2015 READING ROE~DEO: FEBRUARY
17-20
FEATURING:**

★A GREAT SELECTION OF BOOKS
★LUNCH WITH YOUR COWPOKE
★FAMILY NIGHT BBQ DINNER,
MECHANICAL BULL RIDING, PHOTO
BOOTH AND MORE!!!!

Tuesday 2/17 9:30-4:15

Wednesday 2/18 8:30-4:15

Thursday 2/19 8:30-4:15

Friday 2/20 8:30 - 5:00 (Family Night
Festivities follows)

Family Night

5:00PM-7:00PM

This is a reminder that AVALON PLACE is not a drop off. Please use the carpool line. Parents, we need to make sure we are adhering to this system. Being in a hurry is not worth hitting a student!

ROE Safety Team

Are you ready for some FOOTBALL?!?!





As you may know, Super Bowl XLIX is coming our way February 1st. While the teams have not yet been decided, one thing is for sure, yummy football watching food will not be in short supply! But did you know that for over 66,000 Houstonians (5,000 of them children), a daily supply of food is considered a luxury? That is because this staggering number represents the number of people in Houston alone that are food insecure each and every day. That means they do not know where their next meal will come from.

The Student Leadership Team says **THIS IS NOT OKAY!** Beginning Monday January 26th and ending Friday February 6th we are asking you to share some of your football food, or other non-perishable food items, with The Houston Food Bank! A list of the critically needed items will be

sent home with students soon and boxes will be placed in each classroom for collecting. Last year we collected almost 9,000 pounds of food! Open those pantries and let's see what we can do for the hungry folks in Houston this year!

LAST CHANCE TO BUY A YEARBOOK! Yearbooks can be ordered for \$30* at www.jostens.com

 Yearbooks  Find Your School or Group -
-> Enter River Oaks Elementary (Houston, TX).

Alternatively, you can place a check in the yearbook locker in the Kindergarten hallway. Make the check payable to ROE PTO and include your child's name and teacher on the check with "yearbook" in the memo line. Email us to confirm that you are submitting your order by check so that we can confirm receipt. Reduced price and free yearbooks are available for qualifying families. Email us at yearbook@riveroakspto.org to request a reduced price or free yearbook.

**Please note that beginning on January 16th, the price will increase to \$35. In order to guarantee that your child will get a yearbook, school orders must be received by January 30th and on-line orders must be placed by January 31st. Orders received after that date will be "wait list" only.*

SUBMIT PHOTOS! We want your pictures! You may submit photos directly to the Jostens website www.images.jostens.com enter Login: 401853555. You may also email them to 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.

PURCHASE AN AD! Your purchase of one of our ads supports the PTO and allows us to provide free

yearbooks to qualified students as well as classroom teachers. Please contact us at

yearbook@riveroakspto.org for more information on buying any of the following:

All Grade Level Spirit Ads ~ Only \$10 for up to 25 words! Spirit Ads can follow any format, but they are text only (no photos). The dedication could be for a student from their family, from a student to the whole school, to a teacher from a student, etc. This is a great opportunity to say thank you to ROE faculty or staff or to cheer on your Roadrunner.

5th Grade Spirit Ads ~ The Yearbook Committee is pleased to offer this opportunity to honor our 5th graders as they prepare to graduate and move on to middle school. The cost for a 1/8 page color ad with text and picture (for 5th graders only) is \$30.

Business Ads~ We are looking to sell a limited number of business advertisements that will appear at the back of the yearbook. This is a special opportunity to show the ROE community your local business supports our school. Please contact us at yearbook@riveroakspto.org for further information and pricing.

Coding Camps for School Students @ Houston!

Mon-Fri, March 16-20 (9-12&1-4)

Explore Coding, Scratch, Alice,
GameMaker, MIT App Inventor,
JavaScript, Java, C++, Android
App Dev, Contest Problems Fee:
\$100 (5 half-days), \$200 (5
full-days)

*Financial assistance available
for low income families*

Details @ utd.edu/k12/spring

Register @ bit.ly/sb-houston **by**
Jan 15

Center for Computer Science Education & Outreach Department of
Computer Science, UT Dallas

Roshan Thomas Day for Children
River Oaks Elementary will join IB
schools around the state of Texas to
honor Roshan Thomas, a fellow
educator and peacemaker. Roshan
Thomas believed that education was
key to breaking the cycle of poverty.
She lost her life at the hands of the
Taliban while in Afghanistan working
to secure scholarships for students
to come to Canada to receive their IB
diploma. These students make a

commitment to return to Afghanistan to teach at Sparks Academy - an early childhood center in Kabul started by Thomas. IB schools in Texas will be working together to raise money to fund one of these \$15,000 scholarships. The Student Leadership Team will be selling rubber bracelets featuring attributes of the Learner Profile on them for \$1 each morning and each day at lunch beginning Tuesday January 20th through Friday January 30th. Donations will also be accepted. Our money, along with IB schools throughout Texas, will be combined and presented to Roshan's daughter at a special ceremony at Rice University on Friday February 6th. We know the ROE community will join us in honoring her work and her memory in this way.

Private School Recommendations Deadline

For anyone applying to private schools for the 2015-2016 school year, recommendations are due soon. Please watch your deadlines, and allow River Oaks Elementary 48 hours to process records requests and recommendations.

Due to the sheer volume of records and recommendations to process, we cannot

guarantee last minute requests can be processed on time.

Additionally, we do not keep copies of recommendations at ROE. All envelopes should have correct postage, the correct mailing address, and the return address should be ROE.

Requests that are incomplete with signatures and information are subject to delayed processing.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

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.

Looking for an easy way to receive enews...

Follow us on **twitter**

@ROEworld.



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