

Dear St. George Place Students and Parents,

Welcome to the School at St. George Place for the 2014-2015 school year. We are deeply honored that you chose us for your child's elementary education. We know that everyone has educational choices that include private schools, charter schools, home schooling, magnet schools, and zoned schools. If you live in the St. George community, we are delighted you stayed home. If you live in another attendance zone and chose us, we are excited you made that choice as well. We currently have an enrollment of 778 students, the largest number of students in the history of the school. The best kept secret in all of HISD is not so secret anymore!

Three huge priorities this year are to continue to grow as an International Baccalaureate school community, Implement the Literacy By 3 framework, and continue to build a culture of respect by becoming a *No Place For Hate* campus. We are so excited that out of the Houston Independent School District's 180 elementary schools, only 8 are fully authorized IB Primary Years Programme campuses. Other authorized IB campuses include Harvard, Twain, River Oaks, and Roberts, so we are in some very elite company!

The Literacy By 3 framework will help all of our children learn to read and love to read. Components of the framework that will be taught by all teachers in grade levels K – 5 include Guided Reading, Independent Reading, Read to Someone, Listen to Reading, Writing, and Read Alouds. All of our teachers have received extensive training on these components, and many have already been using them for many years. To support this initiative, HISD provided our school with more than 6,000 high interest books that children will enjoy reading.

Finally, The School at St. George Place will become a *No Place For Hate* campus this year. The goals of the program are to be proactive in building a culture of respect for all students and teachers, and eliminating the scourge of bullying. It is important to us that all of our children are both physically safe and emotionally safe at school.

At the School at St. George Place, we aim to push all of our students to achieve high levels of learning in a safe and nurturing environment. Our teachers are warm and demanding, a perfect combination to achieve our mission.

We thank you for your support of your child's learning, and we thank you for your support of this wonderful school.

Sincerely,

Dave D. Wheat, Principal

The School at St. George Place