



FALL UPDATES-MESSAGE FROM MRS. ROZAS

Wow, time is moving along! We are really into the school year and things are going great! It feels like the perfect time for a little update:

We just completed our data days. These are times throughout the year when our teachers come together as teams to share our current student data. We get to hear about our students and make plans for how to personalize instruction for each one. We consistently include either our language or math consultants so that they can provide ideas and support as needed. As with each year, I am blown away by how knowledgeable and hard working our students are. I think of our parents who tirelessly support our students so that they can arrive on time, prepared to learn and determined to work hard.

So you may be curious how your child is doing in school. There are several ways to determine how they are growing. First you can go onto the HISD website www.houstonisd.org and click on the parent tab. From there, on the left hand side you can sign up for Grade Speed which will allow you to see the grades your child is receiving. If you need any information in order to access this site, contact Ms. Martinez in the office and she can help you. Second, you can schedule a conference with your teacher. Each teacher has a 45 minute planning time each day. We meet as a team on Thursdays but if you send a note, send an e-mail or leave a phone message, the teacher will contact you and set up a time that works for you both. Conferencing at least twice a year is a great habit to continue through high school. You can look at the class and testing data, get a feel for what your child is learning, what their strengths are and what they need to work on. The teacher can also give you concrete ideas about how to support them at home.



We do not dismiss students after 12:00 on early dismissal days. Thanks!



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IMPORTANT DATES

- October 13 Pink it out & donate \$1.00
- October 14 Copy Club
- October 15 Student Council
- October 17 Field Day
- October 24 5th grade Biz Town
- October 27 Red Ribbon "Texans give drugs the boot" Western Wear
- October 28 Red Ribbon "Scare away drugs" Crazy Hair Day
- October 29 Red Ribbon "Can't spot me doing drugs!" Camo or polka dots



HISD FAMILY LEARNING ACADEMY

HISD is hosting six “Super Saturday” events for parents. The event closest to us is November 8th at Reagan High School. All HISD families are invited. We are offering free childcare (ages 3-8) and free transportation once you have registered. More than 15 workshops will be offered in English and in Spanish on how to support your child’s success. Planning our children’s future is an important step in making sure that we accomplish it!

Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn from community leaders and organizations in Houston as well as attend our family wellness resource fair.

Need more information? Go to :

<http://www.houstonisd.org/FLA>

And register today!

“The best preparation for good work tomorrow is to do good work today.”

— Elbert Hubbard

PTO

Congratulations
to our new 2014-
2015 PTO Board!

President
Michelle Trevino

Vice President
Terrian Shackelford

Secretary
Vanessa Delgado

Treasurer
Cynthia Gutierrez

Historian
Diana Gomez

WHAT IS DAILY 5 AND WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH SPELLING?

You are probably hearing a lot about “Daily 5” from your child. Teachers are always looking for the best ways to teach children. As part of HISD’s Literacy by 3 initiative, Memorial has adopted “daily 5” as a way to offer students more time to read in class. The components are:

- Read to self (the student reads a book that is “just right” for them)
- Read to friend (the student will read a book to a friend)
- Listen to reading (the student will either listen to a friend or a digital reading of a book)
- Word work (the student will work with spelling, vocabulary or sight words)
- Writing (students write independently)

In the past, classrooms would break off into workstations once the main mini lesson had been taught. This would allow students to work independently while the teacher calls small groups of children with like needs to work with her. Daily 5 fits in this same framework but assures that the independent time is spent on authentic work and products.

You may have seen a change in spelling as well. We are using the work outlined in the book “Words Their Way” which allows us to give spelling work that is specialized for each child.

If you have any questions, please conference with your child’s teacher. We are excited to offer personalized education for your child as we prepare them for the future ahead.