



West University Elementary School

2014 Fall Edition, Volume 10
October 27, 2014

The Pony Express



Principal's Place

This is Spirit Week at West U. Please check the list of fun activities for the kids as we lead up to the Friday Night Lights Auction on November 8.

It's time to "Fall Back"! Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday morning, November 2, at 2:00 a.m. Remember to change your clocks before you retire for the evening on Saturday.

Don't forget about Early Dismissal this Friday, October 31. School dismisses at 12:15 p.m. All students should be picked up no later than 12:15 p.m.

Have an astounding week!

John T. Threet, Principal

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PTO Corner: PTO President's Notes

It's Auction Spirit Week! There are many fun things planned for the kids each day. Wear your favorite college jersey! Attend the school pep rally on Friday! You received a flyer last week with details for each day. Please contact Cara Michael for questions. Thank you to the sponsors/underwriters/ticket purchasers for supporting this big event.

Need help with access to the online directory? Please contact Ranae Scheibner for assistance.

We have had a great start to our fundraising through our events, corporate/event sponsors and friends & family membership. Please take a look at how your generosity and donations make a difference at our school. Visit this link (<http://westupto.digitalpto.com/files/2014/10/Allocation-Chart-for-PTO-Website-2014-2015-3-Sheet1.pdf>) to see the "Donations at Work" pie chart. It gives a percentage of the breakdown of how our money is being spent for this 2014-2015 year. If you have questions, please contact Paula Kekish.

Please contact me with questions, concerns, or comments.

Magnetized to WU,

Elizabeth Karkowsky, WUES PTO President 2014-2015



Mark Your Calendars:

- Spirit Week
October 27-31
- Early Dismissal Day
Friday, October 31
12:15 p.m.
- Daylight Saving Time
Ends
Sunday, November 2
2:00 a.m.
- Election Day
Tuesday, November 4
7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
VOTE!
- Friday Night Lights
Auction
Saturday, November 8
6:30 p.m. - ?

PTO Corner (cont.)

WUES Online Directory

Our WUES online directory has been up and running for about a month now, and we have received much positive feedback from parents who are using it.

If you entered your family's data into the online system, you would have received an email in September titled "Instructions to access West U Elementary's online directory". This email included your unique system generated password to access the online directory.

If you do not have the email/password (please check your spam folder) you can email Ranae Scheibner at rscheibner@gmail.com for assistance.

Birthday Book Club

חמשה תדלולו מוי, Happy Birthday, Maligayang Bati! The following students are celebrating their birthdays this week by donating a book to our school library:



Ruslan Prokofiev	October 17th	Maggie McGee	October 29th
Charlie Funderburk	October 27th	Kyle Kekish	October 30th
Brady McGee	October 27th	Lilly Smith	October 30th
Sophie Geurts	October 28th	Ava-Spenser Phan	October 30th
Sergio Karam	October 28th	Kieran Vasan	November 1st
Cole Coffman	October 28th	Jonathan Wolfe	November 2nd
Zach Madison	October 28th	Hadi Hafeez	November 2nd
Olivia Major	October 29th		

Thank you very much for supporting West U Elementary Library!

If you would like to order a Birthday Book Club membership for your child, log on to www.westupto.org and sign up online or, download a form and leave it with a check in the PTO blue box located at the front office. Please note that all orders are due NO LATER THAN Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. to be included in the following week's Pony Express. If you any questions, please contact Tracy Benner (tracymbenner@yahoo.com) or Guadalupe Harper (guadacarllesso@hotmail.com).



PTO Corner (cont.)

Middle School Forum for 5th Grade Parents: Wednesday, October 29, 2014 at 6:30 PM

Join us on Wednesday, October 29th at 6:30 PM to meet the principals and magnet coordinators from Lanier, Pershing and Pin Oak Middle Schools. Each school will talk about their magnet programs, extracurricular clubs, sports, curriculum and the application process before we go into a Q&A session.



Hands on Art

Last week the students had their October Hands on Art lesson.

Kindergarten thru Second Grade

Kindergarten thru Second grade classes studied American artist Charley Harper and minimal realism. Harper used bright colors and basic geometric shapes to create his famous images of birds and fish. He used lines to create a sense of perspective and motion. The children made Harper-inspired fish for their Original Works creations using oil pastel and watercolors.

You should have received your child's artwork last week along with an order form from **Original Works**. Parents can order mugs, notecards...featuring their child's artwork. A portion of proceeds will be used to cover Hands on Art costs. Order forms can be returned to your child's teacher or placed in the "Hands on Art" box in the Front Office. **Deadline to order is November 6th.**

Third thru Fifth Grade

The Third thru Fifth grade classes learned about the **Spanish architect, Antoni Gaudí**. Lesson Highlights included:

- Discussion of Gaudí's use of nature in his architecture (shells, forests, snakes...)
- Overview of mosaic art
- Review of Gaudí's more famous works including a park, a church and several houses.

The students created their own mosaics inspired by a Gaudí's mosaic lizard found in Park Guell. To create his mosaics, Gaudí used pieces of old ceramic plates and cups...he was a recycler ahead of his time. The students' mosaics were made using expired paint chips donated by a local business. Like Gaudí's mosaics, the children's mosaics involved reusing materials to create a work of art. On November 1st, the West U Recycling & Solid Waste Reduction Board, Bellaire Environmental & Sustainability Board and Bellaire Cultural Arts Board are hosting *Recycles Fest* which includes a recycled art contest. The students can enter the mosaic project they created using expired/unused paint chips. Additional information about the contest can be found at www.ci.bellaire.tx.us.

Judy Cheng & Annie Marshall, Hands On Art Co-Chairs
Judyic@yahoo.com / Anniemarshall513@gmail.com

PTO Corner (cont.)

Last Chance to Vote!

West University
Elementary School
3756 University Blvd.
Houston, TX 77005

Phone:
713-295-5215
Fax:
713-667-8514

We're on the Web!
visit us on the web at:

www.westues.org

John T. Threet
Principal
Tracey L. Wyatt
Magnet Coordinator
Amber Pinchback
Assistant Principal

Today is your last day to buy your raffle ticket to get your vote in for what college colors Principal Threet should wear for the school pep rally. Each raffle ticket you buy is a vote and can be bought online at westupto.org. Kids will vote during school on Wednesday, October 29th. Raffle grand prize is a reserved parking spot anywhere on University Blvd and second prize is a BBQ package. Raffle winner will be picked during the auction. You do not have to be present at the auction to win.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS
WEEK

BAYOU CITY
EVENTCENTER
SATURDAY,
NOV 8, 2014



AUCTION RAFFLE TICKET

\$50.00

Grand Prize:
VIP Parking Space
Choose your very own reserved parking space along University. Let us know which space works best for you!
Dec 1, 2014 – Dec 1, 2015

Second Prize:
Grill and Smoked Meat
Large Green Egg Grill and 6 month supply of meats donated by the MacRory Family and Holmes Smokehouse

Thank You Raffle Donors!

MacRory Family

Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Child's Name: _____

Grade/Homeroom Teacher: _____





Need not be present to win.

Pershing First Look

Save the date! 4th and 5th grade students and parents are invited to Pershing Middle School "First Look" Open House. It will take place on Tuesday, October 28, from 6-8 PM at Pershing, 3838 Blue Bonnet Blvd.

The event includes a tour, meeting the principal, talking with teachers and current Pershing parents and students. There will be time for questions and answers. Contact Kristen Leach (kristenleach3@gmail.com) with questions.

Tick, Tick, Tick.....VIPS Approval Deadline

If you are not VIPS approved, the deadline to apply for this approval prior to Field Days is rapidly approaching. For more information, please go to our school website at: <http://www.houstonisd.org/westuniversities>. Click on the General Parent Info tab to access a PDF copy of the information sent home in the first day packet.

The ID machine should be repaired and functional by the end of the day today if you need a VIPS photo ID.



It is the policy of the Houston Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, handicap or disability, marital status, religion, veteran status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression, or any other basis prohibited by law in its educational or employment programs and activities.