March 25, 2014

From the Desk of Dr. Fovargue

Dear ROE Families,

Congratulations to Coach Bomersbach for another successful Field Day(s)! As you know, it takes a lot of preparation to pull off this fabulous event. You may have even seen Coach mowing the grounds in order to prepare for this day! Thank you for your commitment and dedication to ROE's students. We would also like to recognize our student leadership team who served as our "Coaches," and led this event under Coach's direction. Students certainly enjoyed themselves! Here is what they had to say:

"Field day was a fun event where you could exercise and play with your friends!" Beta L. (4th Grade)

"When we played at FD, we got to have fun with our friends and exercise at the same time!" Andrew Z. (5th Grade)

"This was the best field day ever!" Ms. Thomas (1st Grade Teacher)

"I like Coach. He is a good Coach. I love Hula Hooping the best!" Adaline T. (Kinder)

"I liked racing against my friends, and scooter capture the flag was the BEST!" Mia (3rd Grade)

"Coach had so many fun activities that every student showcased their strengths. The older kids running the events were excellent! Next year, I may even try the log roll! Mr. Copeland (2nd Grade Teacher)

"I loved juggling the beanbags because I was able to earn more than 3 stickers." Maxime G. (1st Grade)

Save the Dates

1. Apr. 1 - STAAR 4th Writing; 5th Math
2. Apr. 2 - STAAR 4th Writing; 5th Reading
3. Apr. 5 - Family Carnival
4. Apr. 8-11 - 5th Science Camp
5. Apr. TBA - OM State Competition
6. Apr. 22-
STAAR 3rd, 4th Math
7. Apr. 23 - STAAR 3rd, 4th Reading; 5th Science
8. Apr. 26 - Earth Day Celebration in the Nature Center
9. Late Spring - PTO Parent Social
10. Apr. 28 - May 2 - Teacher Appreciation Week
11. Apr. 29 - May 2 - IB PYP Art Exhibition, Twain Elementary
13. May 14 - SDMC
14. May 15 - 5th Musical Performance
15. May 22 - 5th Exhibition
16. May 23 - Spring Parent

"Cat tail was awesome, because it pushed your running and agility limits." Seth S. (5th Grade)

Sincerely,
Keri Fovargue, Ph.D.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunity

Our wonderful teachers need help so we are turning to our wonderful families and asking for volunteers to help with their copying. If you are interested and want to help, please go to www.signupschedule.com/roepto and look for the "Copy Volunteer" sign ups. We have set up the month of February and will add remaining time slots through May in the coming days. What does it involve you ask? - Gathering the original materials and copy paper from the Library and once complete, no need to distribute it all, just return it to the Library. The current days/times scheduled are Wednesdays between 12:45pm-3:30pm, and either Thursday or Friday, 12:00pm-1:15pm.

Thanks in advance for your assistance!
Questions? Email Martha Skrabanek, mskraban@houstonisd.org, or Volunteer Coordinators, volunteers@riveroakspto.org

Informational coffee breaks for parents of students considering Lanier Middle School
Current Lanier families will be hosting several informal gatherings so that parents considering Lanier for their incoming sixth graders can ask questions and share their experiences. Attend whichever date, time and location is convenient for you. No RSVP is required.

Tuesday, April 1st 6:30pm

Hosts: Kathy Kahanek and Chrysi Polydoros
1702 North Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77098
Email: kahanek@sbcglobal.net

Friday, April 2nd 9:00am
Hosts: Michal Lutfak, Sheryl Moore and Jennifer Draper
4802 Holt St.
Bellaire, Texas 77041
Email: mitchh19@yahoo.com

Thursday, April 3rd 9:00am
Hosts: Caroline Sterner & Charla Carroll
1136 Cortlandt
Houston, Texas 77008 (Heights Area)
Email: charlacarroll@hotmail.com

Friday, April 4th 9:00am
Hosts: Maria Marini & Adriane Arnold
3725 Piping Rock
Houston, Texas 77027
Email: marinistefan@gmail.com

Thank you,
Maria Marini
Lanier PTO
VP Volunteers
Attention Parents of Fifth Graders going to camp: Most parents did not complete the requested health insurance information in case of emergency. Please copy your health insurance information and send in for me to attach to the other camp information. Also if your child will be needing medication at camp please send that in its prescription bottle as soon as possible, only the number that will be needed for the amount of days they are at camp.

Thank you,
Jan Petner, RN

Texas Pride Field Hockey Club Announces its First "Fun with Field Hockey" Clinic

Do you have a daughter that is interested in playing field hockey? Or, have you heard about field hockey in the past but have never seen the game played? The Texas Pride field hockey club is hosting our first-ever Fun with Field Hockey Clinic. It’s a free clinic to introduce girls to the sport of field hockey. We accept beginners from K - 12th grade and all levels of interest are welcome. The girls will be provided FREE sticks and will be split into separate age groups for instruction. It’s going to be a fun event for all!

Fun with Field Hockey Clinic
March 30, 2014
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
The Kinkaid School

Website: http://www.txpridefh.com/fun-with-field-hockey-clinic.html
Directions/Map: http://goo.gl/maps/VshNP

REGISTRATION FORM -
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1jo2QP7QaCRH6cOZBqFO57HimcFTEdqXcimbXu2kFg/viewform
Register before March 24th to receive an appropriately-sized stick.

Feel free to pass along to any and all. Any questions/concerns, please contact Tina Edmonds at 610-730-5407 or txpridefh@gmail.com.
Congratulations to Mr. Anderson's class for their excellent participation in the annual fund! Each child in his classroom will receive 10 carnival tickets. Way to go!

The ROE Dads' Club - Poker Night. Wednesday, March 26, 2014. Doors open at 7:30 and we start play at 8:00. All levels and all players welcome to join in for a night of fun. RSVP to tcrabtree@tx@gmail.com. To learn more about this and the ROE Dads' Club, join the group on LinkedIn.

EXHIBITION 2014
WE NEED YOU!!!!

The fifth graders are excited about jumping in to the work of Exhibition when they return from spring break. Exhibition is the final project of the Primary Years Program and one that students have been looking forward to as long as they have been at ROE! In order to ensure they have a fabulous experience, we are seeking adult mentors who will work with a small group of 2-3 students through the research and project building phase. If you have one hour a week that you would be willing to donate to this important work, I would LOVE to hear from you! You do not have to be a 5th grade parent - in fact we highly encourage all parents to participate to gain a better understanding of this final component to the IBPYP experience. Mentor meeting times are flexible, so don't be deterred if you can't commit to the same hour each week!

The first mentor meeting will take place the first week in April and you will see the group through to presentation day on May 22nd. If you are interested in being a mentor for Exhibition, please email me as soon as possible! You need no expert abilities to be a mentor, although we will try to match you with a topic you are interested in. All you need is a willingness to support students in their work! I will hold a mentor meeting after spring break, prior to your first meeting with your group, to help mentors further understand their role. Thank you in advance for all of the support you will give our 5th graders! If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Liz Goodman
IBPYP Coordinator
agoodman@houstonisd.org

Dear School Board Member, HISD Principals, PTO Presidents, Community Members, and Parents,
Please mark your calendars and spread the word for the two "REPLACE THE RACE" events hosted by the Lanier PTO! See the attached flyer.

What:
To foment a communal culture of change, in which parents, educators, students and policymakers create an educational culture that values purpose and meaning, over test scores and rankings, and a school system that prioritizes our children's health and well-being.

Date:
Monday, March 31st

Time:
1st event begins at 8:15 am - Lanier Library
2nd event begins at 6:30 pm - Lanier Auditorium

Place:
Lanier Middle School
2600 Woodhead
Houston, Texas 77098
gcpolyjr@aol.com

Event Facilitators:
Chrysi Polydoros - HISD Parent, member of the HISD School Health Advisory Board (SHAC)
Dale Davidson - HISD Parent, Co-Chairperson of the HISD SHAC, President of Houston’s Parents for Public Schools

Who is invited:
Students, Parents, Educators, Policymakers, Community Members
*Each participant will receive an event packet when they check in.

Tickets:
FREE tickets w/ Online Registration
http://www.racetonowhere.com/state-screenings/TX
OR
$5 tickets at the door

*The presentation will include:
+ Exclusive clips from the soon be released documentary featuring education change makers rolling up their sleeves to bring humanity and sanity into our schools
+ A short clip from the documentary "Race to Nowhere"
+ Case studies of schools that have been inspired to create change
+ Discussion questions and exercises to inspire conversation and action

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Chrysi Polydoros, Lanier PTO HISD Liaison
gcpolyjr@aol.com 713-443-6111

"Light It Up Blue"

The Month of April is Autism Awareness Month.

It is estimated that 1 child out of every 88 children is autistic. HISD has a current student population of approximately 1,375 or 1%. A child with autism experiences educational as well as social challenges. New directions in educational research, theory and practice are utilized to create the most appropriate, child centered programs throughout our school district.

Please join us in showing support for our children and families on, Tuesday, April 2. Please Wear BLUE for World Autism Awareness Day.
To honor Ms. McHale's brother who serves in the United States Navy, Ms. McHale's parents provided camouflage t-shirts for field day. The students dressed as "McHale's Navy" for the event. William McHale is currently based in San Diego working on helicopters. His rank is AE3 (Aviation Electrician 3rd class). His helicopter squadron is HSM-73. He just finished a month deployment out on the USS Carl Vinson, and he will go back out in August for 8 months. Thank you for your service, Mr. McHale! ROE appreciates you!
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.