

The Pony Express

West University Elementary School
Houston Independent School District
Fall Edition, Volume X, November 4, 2019

Scott C. Disch	Principal
Amber Pinchback	Assistant Principal
Daphne Rawlinson	Assistant Principal
John W. LaGrone Jr.	Dean of Instruction
Stephanie Lugo	Teacher Specialist

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Principal's Corner

A HUGE West U thank you to everyone who helped make the auction a great event, especially the committee chairs: Jen Blum, Allison Cozart, Mandy Diaz, and Jen Swallen. The venue was impressive, everyone was having a ball, and it was a successful fundraiser. Thank you to the community and parents for your continued support of West University Elementary School.

Tuesday, November 5th, is election day, and WUES is a polling location. When you exercise your right to vote, please use the Goode Street entrance to access the MPR.



Have a great week!

Scott C. Disch, Principal

Upcoming Events

- Election Day
Tuesday, Nov. 5th, MPR
7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Early Dismissal
Friday, Nov. 8th, 12:00 p.m.
- Veterans Day Program
Monday, November 11th
- K-1 Field Day
Thursday, Nov. 21st
8:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- 2nd – 3rd Field Day
Thursday, Nov. 21st
11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- 4th – 5th Field Day
Friday, Nov. 22nd
8:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

2019-2020 VIPS

Who: VIPS applicants (approval can be confirmed by the WUES front desk)

What: New VIPS Red lanyards are in

When: NOW - check your status with the main office

Why: This red lanyard is required for Field Day and other in-school events. The system should send you an email, but it has not been working for everyone.

How: Those who have applied please stop by the front desk to confirm your VIPS approval and get your new lanyard! Bring your photo ID or last year's WUES VIPS ID!

Sign up to receive
the Pony Express
via email! Visit our
[school website](#) to
register.



Welcome to the Birthday Book Club



“Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you!” – Dr. Seuss

In this week’s Pony Express, we are honoring our November 4th – November 10th birthdays. Have a wonderful Birthday!

November 4th - 10th Birthdays			
Toby Yip	November 4	Erin Jukes	November 4
Mary Lou Keller	November 4	Wynn Stasney	November 5
Katherine Keller	November 4	Elle Payne	November 9
Emily Hines	November 4		

Your child will soon be receiving an invitation from their teacher to choose a special birthday book during library ancillary or after school library hours. A personalized book plate will be placed in the front of their selected book. After they are done reading, your child will return their book to our library for others to enjoy and check out in the future. Students, siblings, and friends will enjoy seeing their name in these books for years to come!

For more information, please contact:

Lori Naughton lori.a.naughton@gmail.com, or Darcy Reid darcyreiddvm@yahoo.com

New Landscaping!

Thank you to the Padres for spearheading installation of the new landscaping parallel to Edloe.

A special thanks to Kainer & Kainer Landscape Architecture for handling this project. They did a gorgeous job – see what else they can do at www.kainerandkainer.com.



Veterans Day Program

West University Elementary School will host a Veterans Day program for students on Monday, November 11th. Students will learn about Veterans Day, and a veterans photo wall will be created to recognize those who have served. Students and faculty will be wearing red, white, and blue on this day.



Thank you Skeeter's for participating in our fundraiser and your continued support of WUES!



GT Testing

HISD's Gifted and Talented Programs serve students who have been identified by HISD as gifted and talented in general intellectual ability.

HISD screens kindergarten and fifth grade students who were not previously identified as gifted and talented in what is called Universal Testing. This process begins the week of October 21, 2019. An Abilities Test and an Achievement Test are administered universally to all kindergarten and fifth grade students for Gifted and Talented (G/T) identification. The Abilities Test and the Achievement Test has been scheduled for October 21 - December 14, 2019. Upon completion of the G/T identification process, parents are notified and will receive a copy of the completed G/T Identification Matrix.

If your child qualifies, the Gifted and Talented Coordinator will contact you and your child will receive G/T services the following school year. Students in grade first through fourth grade may test during the appropriate window by submitting a GT application. These can be found on the GT website or at the school's front office.

- G/T Testing Window (Current 1st grade – 4th grade) This window is for children in 1st-4th grade who choose to apply for testing. Applications for the G/T Testing Window are available at the front office. Completed applications are due by **Friday, December 6**, and should only be submitted to the front office. Please do not turn in applications to your child's teacher. If you choose to apply, give the blank Teacher Recommendation Form to your child's homeroom teacher. Any necessary testing will be scheduled during the testing window of October 21 – December 14. Testing will take place on campus, during the school day. Although the deadline is Dec. 6th, please turn in your application as soon as possible so testing can begin **next week**.
- Universal Testing Window (Current kindergarten and 5th grade) All kindergarten and 5th grade students not previously identified as G/T will be tested during HISD's Universal Testing Window, October 28 – December 3. There is no application for this testing window. Testing will take place on campus, during the school day.

If you have further questions about the G/T Identification process or testing schedule, please contact our GT Coordinator, Stephanie Lugo.

Grade	Abilities Test	Achievement Test
Kinder	November 5th (Paper)	November 13 th -15 ^h (Paper)
1st and 2nd	October 30th (Online)	December 3 rd -5 th (Online)
3rd and 4th	October 31st (Online)	December 10 th -12 th (Online)

Don't miss the opportunity to participate at 2020 International Festival on **Friday, January 24th, 2020!**

Deadlines for everyone to sign up are quickly approaching! 85% of total available slots are already filled for this highly anticipated enrichment curriculum program.



SIGN UP LINKS

- Cultural Performance (deadline 11/06)
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4baaaf2eaafe3-cultural2>
- Cultural Parade: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4baaaf2eaafe3-cultural3>
- Morning Greeter: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4baaaf2eaafe3-morning>
- Coordinator & Aides: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4baaaf2eaafe3-team>

USEFUL LINKS

- 2020 IF website: <https://www.westupto.org/international-fest>
- Shutterfly Name: 2020 International Festival - WUES
- Shutterfly Site: <https://2020internationalfestivalwues.shutterfly.com/>
- 2020 IF Promo: <https://youtu.be/zwUSpcjLO8E>
- Morning Greeting demo video: <https://youtu.be/5j37iOKKFvk>

THEME

- Environment | Reduce | Reuse | Recycle
- Create curiosity about your country's efforts to sustain its natural habitat and resources, to protect their endangered animals or rare species, and ways to create a better place to live.

IN SEARCH OF

- Participants to represent USA, UAE, Africa and AUS!

QUESTIONS?

- Contact us at IFWUES@gmail.com

We look forward to having you and to working together to showcase the best of your beautiful heritage!

Enrica Vagliani Gray | Natesha Tama-Madison | Selin Salerian
Co-Chairs The 2020 International Festival of WUES

West University Elementary School, Houston Independent School District