



SINCLAIR STARGAZER

Sinclair Elementary Newsletter

October 18, 2017

A Message from the Principal

Parents have you signed up with Gradespeed? If not, I highly encourage you to do so. The program gives instant access to student grades from any internet connected device. The first report cards for this school year will be coming home soon. This is an important milestone and a great opportunity for you to review progress and set goals for the school year. Please note that October 27th is Book Character Day. On this day students are allowed to come to school in costume as their favorite **book character**. We are asking that students bring the book to match their costume. We will have a parade in the morning and parents are welcome to be part of our audience. October 31st is on a Tuesday and this will be a regular day of school with students wearing their uniforms to school. Please check the message from the PTO as they will have information about the fall festival which is scheduled for October 27th. Thank you parents for meeting with me for coffee with the principal. It was good to hear your feedback and get to know you a little better. Sinclair is a neighborhood community school and only with your support can we embody the idea of being SUPERSTARS!

"Read a lot. You take in a great deal of knowledge without intending to. When you read novels you get models of what to do and what not to do. When you read other types of literature, your idea of the world shapes itself by contrast."

Jane Smiley



Teacher Spotlight:

Mrs. Stary, Kindergarten

- This is her 12th year at Sinclair
- Likes Hamburgers and Matcha Green Tea.
- Thank you Mrs. Stary for all that you do to make your students successful. When asked about teaching she said, "I have a special place in my heart for Sinclair because I went to school here. I teach because there is nothing more important than children and I understand this from the side of an educator and a parent. I enjoy teaching because it is who I am. Each child has so much potential and it is my job to get them to see it."



OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

October 27th

Fall Festival

Book Character Parade

November 1st

Coffee w/ Magnet Coordinator

8:30-9:30 & 1:30-2:30

November 7th

4th Grade Field trip to the
Renaissance Festival

November 14th

5th Grade Individual Pictures and
individual picture make-ups

Magnet/Vanguard Coordinator Message

This week, students begin a new cycle of magnet rotations and have the opportunity to participate in each class for a full 2 weeks for the first time this school year. Our 2 week rotation helps students to engage in innovative project-based learning. In all magnet classes, our superstars will dive into a long-term assignment that requires exploration and critical thinking to complete. Please keep in mind that absences, late arrivals, and early pickups affect students in their enrichment courses as well — one missed day is 45 minutes that your child has lost in completing a project or rehearsing for a performance. That 45 minutes may mean that your student is not prepared to present a final product at the end of the week. We appreciate you making every effort for your child to be here 100% every day as we work to support student success!

I hope you all will join me for our upcoming Coffee with the Magnet Coordinator event. The target audience is 5th grade parents, but all are welcome. There will be two sessions on Wednesday, November 1st — one from 8:30—9:30 and one from 1:30—2:30. Please attend whichever session is most convenient for you. This will be a time for me to help answer application questions, discuss middle school options, and gain feedback from all of you regarding how we can continue to evolve our magnet offerings.

A reminder about upcoming application deadlines for magnet and GT programs:

Pre-K Families—If you are not zoned to Sinclair and would like to attend Sinclair for kindergarten, please be sure to **complete a magnet application before December 8th**. You can apply online at www.hisdchoice.com.

5th Grade Families—Now is the time to plan for middle school! Please explore your options and complete a magnet application if interested. **Applications are due December 8th**. Apply online at www.hisdchoice.com.

1st through 4th Grade Families—If your child is not already identified as gifted & talented (GT), and you would like for him or her to be tested, the application is available on our website (www.houstonisd.org/Page/72488). Simply complete, sign, and email the application along with last year's final report card to Rebecca.Nielsen@houstonisd.org. **Applications are due by November 1st**.

A message from the PTO

Fall Fest is almost here ... lots of monster mashing is almost near! The fall festival will be held on **Friday, October 27, 2017 from 3:30 to 6:30 PM** on the Sinclair Elementary School Playground. Entry to the fall festival is **FREE** and all are welcome!

Wrist bands are for sale on school pay for \$10 and will also be sold at the gate. A wrist band is necessary for all rides and most activities. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

We love our volunteers; please join us! Email fallfestival@sinclairpto.org. Join us for a fun, family-oriented event that is open to all. There will be yummy food, sweet treats and games galore!