

The Pony Express

West University Elementary School
Houston Independent School District
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Principal's Place

Camp Read-A-Thon and Book Fair were great successes! Thanks to everyone who supported these efforts to encourage reading while raising money for our school. A big shout-out to Read-A-Thon organizers Ali Berlin and Beth Layne, and Book Fair Co-Chairs Stephanie Kusinski. Well done!

Students may not wait outside unattended after 3:15 p.m. If we see children waiting by themselves or in a group without adult supervision, we will take them to the office and the person who is picking them up must sign the child out at the front office. This has been the policy for years and we ask that you do not tell your child to wait on the playground. It isn't safe for them to be left unsupervised.

John T. Threet, Principal

Upcoming Events

- PTO General Meeting
Tuesday, December 11
8:00 a.m., MPR
- School pictures Re-Takes
Thursday, December 13
- Class Holiday Parties
Wednesday, December 19
- Last Day of Fall Semester
Thursday, December 20
- First Day of Spring Semester
Monday, January 7, 2019



Birthday Book Club Benefits Our School Library

Happy Birthday, 生日快乐, Feliz Cumpleaños, С Днем Рождения

You and your children rock! We have had many requests to RE-OPEN BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB TO NEW CONTRIBUTORS. Your children love to pick out their own special book and are spreading the news! They want to leave their mark on our amazing WUES library. For the two weeks after we return from winter break, we will open registration to new members. Don't worry if your child has a summer, fall, or winter birthday that has already passed. We will be sure to include them with their own invitation, book plate, and recognition in the Pony Express.

In this week's Pony Express, we are honoring our December 10th – 16th Birthdays. What a festive and wonderful time of year...Happy Birthday!

December 10th - December 16th Birthdays			
Henry Hude	December 11th	Tate Tully	December 14th
Pablo Nevado	December 11th	Calvin Burress	December 16th
Mila Parekh	December 12th	Penelope Tsao	December 16th
Oliver Castillo	December 12th	Suki Singh	December 16th
Anya Bharadwaj	December 13th	Valentine Mayhle	December 16th
Hattie Butler	December 13th	Xander Dennison	December 16th
Jane Butler	December 13th		

Your child will receive 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 and after they are done reading, your child will return their book to our library for others to enjoy and check out in the future.

For more information, please contact:

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Camp Read-A-Thon Update

Great job campers and teachers on a successful Camp Read-A-Thon. In one week, our school read over 300,000 minutes of good books. Our Camp Champion Winners are:

Top Reader Per Grade Level:

Prize- Barnes & Noble Gift Card

K- Arya Franklin
1st- Gavin Terrazas
2nd- Emma Bulk

3rd- Brooke Mansour
4th- Grayson Luengas
5th- Charles Assiff



Top Fundraising Class per grade level:

Prize- Cookout on Tuesday, December 11 with celebrity chefs Coach Jones and Mr. Threet

Kinder- Mrs. Saleem
1st- Ms. Mejia
2nd- Mrs. Wood

3rd- Ms. Blair
4th- Ms. Moen
5th- Ms. Musgrove

Top Overall Fundraiser in the entire school is:

Prize: Fathers & Flashlights Registration

Top Overall Student Fundraiser in the entire school is:

5th grader, Madeline Mixon

Thank you for all of your hard work on reading and raising money for our school.

PTO Meeting



Please join us tomorrow, December 11, for our annual PTO General Meeting to approve our budget. We will meet in the Multi-Purpose Room beginning at 8:00 a.m. See you there!

School Picture Re-takes

Was your child absent on School Picture Day? Was the photo a disaster? Re-takes are scheduled for this Thursday, December 13 in the morning. Smile!

These are for individual photos only. There will be a spring posed photo opportunity during the Spring Semester.



Did you know?

Good attendance at school is linked to success in school, beginning in kindergarten, excessive absences can cause children to fall behind:

- Missing 10 percent (or about 17 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school can lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher must slow down learning to help children catch up with the class.



Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.



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