



THE FALCON FLYER

APRIL 11, 2017 - VOLUME 17, ISSUE 8

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents:

Spring is here and our students are actively engaged as they work to achieve their academic goals. The month of May finds our students taking the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) tests. The second week of May our students in Grades 3-8 will be tested in core subjects. We know our boys and girls will do well as our teachers have equipped them with all the right tools. The success of our students depends on the commitment of students, teachers, and parents working together. I thank you for having your child here every day for Teaching & Learning at The Rice School/La Escuela Rice.

Principal Hobbs

HEALTH NOTES

According to *Kidshealth.org*, students say their high stressors include testing, grades, school/homework, family and friends, gossip and teasing. The signs of stress could be mood swings, changes in sleep patterns and/or academic performance. Recommended strategies to help cope include taking time to play, listening to music, and talking to a friend or a parent. Students in P.E. have a 7 minute routine with all of the elementary students at the end of each class. The students really enjoy it and it helps with stress reduction. Parents can help by listening with interest to show that you are there with and for them. It is also a good idea not to crowd the daily schedule with too many activities. To prepare your child for testing, make sure he/she gets to bed early and eats breakfast with protein for long-lasting brain power.

APPRECIATION WEEK

Our cafeteria and custodial staff have a massive impact on the Rice School! Join the NJHS in our 6th annual Cafeteria and Custodian Appreciation Week April 25th – 29th.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations 7th and 8th Grade Falcon and Lady Falcon Track Teams! The athletes fought hard and represented themselves and their school in true Falcon Fashion. The Coaches are extremely proud of them. Go Falcons!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The Student Council is accepting applications from 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students with excellent grades and behavior. Interested students may get an application from their homeroom teacher. Applications must be returned to Ms. Matson or Ms. Hill-Kennedy by Friday, April 21, 2017.

NJHS INDUCTION

The NJHS will hold its annual induction ceremony on April 19th at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Please welcome the following 7th grade students: Michelle Aguilar, Adrian Arroyo, Caleb Ayers, Alejandra Becerra, Dana Bofil, Norma Callejas, Gabriella Castro, Kenide Coleman, Francisco Escamilla, Daniel Estrada, Alani Forouzan, Kimberly Gamez, Emilio Perez, Sebastian Guillen, Hayagreev Jayaram, Jocelyn Moran, Elysha Orozco, Brandon Sanchez, Matthew Sprain, Chiemeka Uwalaka and MyKayla Waines. We also welcome the following students who will be in Grade 8 including: Thais Gil, Devin Hanif, Jose Serrano and Chiagozie Uwalka. Congratulations to all!

COUNSELOR CORNER

Our 7th grade Girl's *Ambassadors of Kindness Group* decided to have a Read-A-Thon for our Kindergarten students on April 3, 2017. It was a huge success and enjoyed by all. The girls selected books that they thought would be interesting and fun for the students. They answered questions posed to them by the young students and stated that they wanted to have another Read-A-Thon next month as well. The members of this group were as follows: Ayana, Batiste; India, Caldwell; Kinnedi Collins; Jy'Aira Goodman; Kyla Harrell and Monica Woodard. Congratulations for a job well done!

FRIENDSHIP WRITING CONTEST

This year's we honor grade 7 students for the most entries for the Friendship Writing Contest. Their essays were written as an activity preparing for the STAAR Writing examination. We know it made a difference. Thank you all for helping make the Rice School a healthy and welcoming place for student learning.

STEM

Rice Girls in STEM: A distinguished group of 7th and 8th grade scholars had the opportunity to participate in a live taping of a PBS SciGirls Television show at NASA. See the picture on our website of the participants including-Berenice Figueroa, Maria Perez, Camila Guzman Romina Orozco-Sanchez, Jasmyn Vara and Paris Otero. Way to Go!

NAME THAT BOOK

The K-2 Name That Book team competed on Thursday, March 23, 2017. The Rice School team came in 4th place. Please give the following students a "high-five" Craig West, Asia White, Alexis Reyes, Erin Taylor, Milan Roberson, Cesar Torres, and Lailah White. Way to go! And many thanks to our club sponsors Ms. M. Murphy and Ms. T. Melby.

SPECIAL DATES

APRIL

- Beginning of Autism Month
- 4 Magnet Tours 9AM
- 5 Soccer Game Lanier @ Rice 4:30
- 11 DC/NYC Trip Meeting 6PM Cafeteria
- 14 **Holiday- NO SCHOOL**
- 17 School Day-Student's Return
- 17 Soccer Game Rogers @ Rice 4:30
- 19 NJHS Induction Ceremony @5:30
- 29 We are Girls Conference@ Hogg 8:30
- 29 Saturday -Science Tutorials 8-1pm

MAY

- 8 STAAR Math-3,4,6,7 Grade
- 8 STAAR Retest 5,8 Grade
- 9 STAAR Reading 3,4,6,7 Grade
- 9 STAAR Reading Retest 5,8 Grade
- 10 STAAR Science 5,8 Grade
- 11 STAAR Social Studies 8 Grade

APRIL AUTISM MONTH

For this Autism celebration month we hope you will join us by turning on your media on Monday, April 10th as we tune in to meet Julia for her debut April 10 on HBO. This is the "Sesame Street" episode featuring the debut of an autistic character named Julia. It will be available free to watch online posted to the HBO Kids YouTube channel for people without an HBO subscription to watch. The episode will include the first appearance of Julia, a little girl who has autism, on the long-running children's show. Let us know how you like the show.

HABITAT CLUB

Middle School habitat club is learning and growing in our school yard habitat. See Mr. Callegari for more information

WE ARE GIRLS CONFERENCE

On Saturday, April 29th a group of girls from Rice MS will meet at Hogg MS to join other teens from the Houston area to learn from the statewide empowerment network. With skill-building workshops and dynamic presentations, the *We Are Girls Conference* connects girls to role models and encourages healthy relationships, educational discovery, and creative self-expression. For more information, go to office@girlsempowermentnetwork.org The PTO Board Election Nominations will be taken at the March 22nd meeting held in the cafeteria at 8 AM. Come and join us! Visit our website at WWW.RICEPTO.ORG

RECYCLE DRIVE

Student Council is collecting used printer cartridges and other small electronics for our school recycling project. E-waste recycle bin is located in main office.