



The Falcon Flyer

September 4, 2015 - Volume 18, Issue 1

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,
We have had a successful opening of a new school year! Our students look eager to learn and we need them in attendance every instructional day. The mission of The Rice School is to support Teaching and Learning while Creating a College and Career Ready Culture. As a high performing school with talented teachers in every classroom, we have high expectations and standards. I encourage you to keep the lines of communication open with your child's teacher. The daily planner is a great tool for keeping up with your child's progress. There will be Parental Involvement days scheduled throughout the year for conferences with teachers. We need your support as we work together to achieve great things in the 2015-2016 school year!

Principal Hobbs

Important Information

Before school: Students are to be dropped off in the proper carpool lane, not in the street or at the corner no earlier than 7:15 AM.

Absences: Send the Attendance Clerk a written excuse stating the reason for the absence and a phone number for verification. The excuse must be turned in within 3 days of the absence.

Tardy: The bell rings at **7:45 AM**. After that time your child is late for school and must get a pass at the attendance window before going to class.

Nurse's Notes

Welcome back- HISD Clinic policies: #1. Keep your child home if he/she has a fever of 100 or above, diarrhea or vomiting or an undiagnosed rash. The student should be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school. (It will be an excused absence if you send a note when the child returns!) #2. An order from the doctor **MUST** accompany **any** medication your child is to be given during the school hours. The form is available in the clinic or through the portal. #3. Please make sure your child has your current phone number! Make sure you have a "Plan B" in place in the event your child needs to go home due to illness or injury and you are unable to pick him/her up within an hour of notification by the nurse. Have a safe and healthy school year!

Change for Change

This is our **seventh** year supporting Tumwesigi from Tanzania, Africa. Change for Change will continue to happen on the first Tuesday of every month. All collections will be from 7:15AM to 7:45AM with the next one on October **6th**.

Open House

Join us on Wednesday, September 16th for Open House for K- 5th grade. Open House for Middle School 6-8th grade will take place on Thursday, September 17th. Come and hear about grade level expectations and goals for your child's success this school year. Hours for Open House will be from 5:00-7:00 pm. We hope to see you!

PTO Info

Become a **volunteer**, register online at www.houstonisd.org. If you have already registered with VIPS it is necessary to register every new school year. Please make sure to check that your status is current. Once your status has been approved, please submit a legible copy of your driver's license to the Main Office and allow 2 to 3 weeks for the background check to process. This is also required to attend field trips.

Counselor's Corner

Come join our Uniform Swap and meet the counselor during Open House. We will have gently used clothing on display in the main hallway. Please stop by and take a look. You might find just the right size and item for your child. We are also accepting donations of your child's uniforms.

Kudos to Cadence Bank

We want to thank Cadence Bank for making the **Tools for School** event such a huge success. The students really enjoyed the activity. Here are some of their comments: "This is soooo awesome!", "Do I get to keep it?" and "This is fun!" Many thanks to our newest community sponsor.

Welcome back Habitat

Elementary students will work in the habitat once every 6 weeks as part of their curriculum. There will also be Saturday workdays. For more information, contact Mr. Del Toro.

Late Pick Up

School hours are 7:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Students are expected to be picked up at dismissal and due to safety concerns if not picked up will be brought to the afterschool program (ASP) at 3:30PM. A fee will be charged based on time effective September 14th.

September Dates...

- 1 Change for Change Contribution
- 7 **Labor Day Holiday-No Classes**
- 10 **Vball Scrimmage@ Fondren MS 5-6:30pm**
- 11 Grandparents Day Celebration 8-9 AM
- 14 Vball Game vs Lanier @ Rice 5-7 PM
- 15 K-8 Individual Picture Day
- 16 Elementary K-5th Open House 5-7 PM
- 17 MS 6-8th Open House 5-7 PM
- 21 VBall Game vs West Briar @ Rice 5-7
- 22 **Early Dismissal 12:30 PM**
- 23 **Fall Holiday- No Classes**
- 28 VBall Rice vs Dowling Away 5-7PM

October

- 5 V-ball Rice @ Pershing Away 5-7PM

Grandparents

We hope all grandparents will feel welcome to visit the classrooms from 8:00-9:00 AM on Friday, Sept. 11. We look forward to hearing about the experience when you join us in the main hallway for a light brunch before leaving.

Talk to the Teacher

Sometimes the problems at home like divorce, death, incarceration and/or illness feel like private matters. But when you also have a child in school, you might consider sharing the news with the teacher, as it can be critical to a child's success and happiness in the classroom. Sharing the information helps teachers and school personnel become more understanding of changes in your child's behavior. Check out this website www.yahoo.com/parenting/

Name that Book

We are happy to announce that we will have 3 Name that book teams. The K-2 coaches will be Ms. Murphy and Ms. Woodfin. Mr. Harper will coach grades 3-5, and Ms. Henry will host the Middle School NTB. Please email Ms. Henry with your questions.

Go Lady Falcons

We wish the best to our Lady Falcon Volleyball teams and cheer them on to a winning season. Come support our team! Our first home game is September 14th.