

# RIVER OAKS ELEMENTARY

“Where Discovery is Elementary”

February 16, 2010

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU

**School Phone:** (713) 942-1460  
**After School Program:** (713) 524-8430  
**Office Hours:** 7:15 am – 4:15 pm  
**Web Site:** <http://es.houstonisd.org/riveroaks>  
**E-mail:** [sshenker@houstonisd.org](mailto:sshenker@houstonisd.org)  
**PTO website:** <http://www.riveroakspto.org>

## CALENDAR ITEMS

Feb. 22-26	ROE Book Fair
Feb. 23	No Place for Hate Coalition Meeting, 3:15

## FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SHENKER

The Shared Decision Making Committee of ROE recently approved a new mission statement for our school. I am pleased to share it with you today.

### Mission Statement

River Oaks Elementary School develops extraordinary learners through a program of differentiated, rigorous inquiry so that they may innovate and collaborate in a global society. The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme provides our framework for the development of internationally-minded learners who embody the ten attributes of the IB learner profile...inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective.

### Core Beliefs

- All learners have the right to develop their gifts and talents.
- All learners benefit from project-based learning that fosters creativity and innovation.
- All learners deserve enrichment opportunities that stimulate intellectual, physical, and creative growth.
- All stakeholders (learners, staff, parents, and community members) play a vital role in the success of our school and thrive in a culture of mutual respect.

## NATURE CENTER SHEDS AND BEDS

Dear ROE Community: Our Nature Center Renovation Committee and I are putting out a help wanted notice! Things are moving rapidly in the Nature Center rebuild and renovation, with \$16000 spent already. Our Chairperson, Mrs. Burns, has found a great deal on an 8x10 Costco shed and on the vegetable beds. Both will need to be put together. The materials are already pre-fitted and nothing other than hand tools for tightening will be needed! Please be thinking about being willing to come for a Saturday work party (around 9 to 12pm) to put these two items together. The thought was to have the work party sometime in March. Please contact either Mrs. Burns or myself if you are willing to come for a Saturday morning. [reg\\_burns@yahoo.com](mailto:reg_burns@yahoo.com) or [pharry@houstonisd.org](mailto:pharry@houstonisd.org). Looking forward to our Nature Center coming together.

Thanks for all you've already done to create and support our learning community!

Sincerely, Paul Rainn, Science Specialist

## ROE DINER BOOK FAIR

The ROE DINER Book Fair will be opening soon!!! Save the Date: February 22 – 26!

All volunteers are welcome. Please contact Mary Chang ([maryahnchang@yahoo.com](mailto:maryahnchang@yahoo.com)) or Maryann Mueller ([maryann@useraid.com](mailto:maryann@useraid.com)) if you would like to volunteer.

## ART ROOM NEWS

The following 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students had their “illuminated” drawings submitted for the art contest for Society for Performing Arts Cirque Show (coming in March). Any winners, honorable mentions will be announced in a few weeks.

**2<sup>nd</sup> grade:** Luke Richardson, Anika Jungnickel, Grace Okoro, Henry Hoagland, Jared Cordova, Any Zhu, Asher Moll, Marina Cimino

**3<sup>rd</sup> grade:** Lily Podzemny, Natalie Stone, Alex Tinkham, Sydney Mock, Violeta Calvo-Alcaniz, Harry Craig, Daniel King, Daniel Mizrai, Michael Baumann, Chiara Casiraghi, Tiffany Kottukkal, Christianne Lane, Johnathan Riley, Eliza Pillsbury.

Upcoming March Art contests include: March 1<sup>st</sup>: Impact Art, Treasures of the Texas Coast, and Glassell Junior School Portfolio contest (March 5). Please see Ms. Lieber for any questions and entry forms. Thanks!!

-Ms. Lieber

## NO PLACE FOR HATE COALITION

The No Place for Hate (NPFH) is a program, sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League, that promotes respect for individual and group differences while challenging prejudice and bigotry. In an effort to qualify our school as a No Place For Hate campus, we are forming a coalition comprised of staff, teachers, parents, and students. Members of the NPFH coalition will have the unique opportunity to select and implement our school's NPFH events and activities. But we don't have much time! Our deadline to complete the required number of activities to be recognized as an NPFH campus is April 15th.

Our first coalition meeting will be on Tuesday, February 23 at 3:15 pm. Everyone and anyone is welcome! Please email Ms. Heinrich at [pheinric@houstonisd.org](mailto:pheinric@houstonisd.org) if you're interested in attending so she can make the proper arrangements for our meeting.

--Meredith Maierson

## **5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENT MEETING**

Fifth grade parents: Please join us for a parent informational session, February 18, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the ROE cafeteria to talk about the upcoming camp field trip and Exhibition.

-Andy Williams and Becca Pfeifer

## **PLEASE READ: IMPOTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL**

Cold and flu season is upon us and many of our students have coughs and the sniffles, so we thought it was a good time to remind you again of the district policies for administering medications at school.

-Children may not have medication in their possession. All medications must be administered in the nurse's office.

-In order for us to be able to give your child ANY medication (even over-the-counter products,) we must have a *Healthcare Provider's Request for Administration of Medication at School Building During School Hours* form on file for each medication. You can get this form from Nurse Petner and it must be completed by a physician or a Nurse Practitioner.

-Each medication must be in its original container and must have a prescription label on it from the pharmacy, even if it is a medication that is available over-the-counter.

We understand that this all takes planning, so in the event your child has an illness that requires medication at school and you do not have time to follow the required procedure, you may come to school and administer it yourself in the nurse's office. It is imperative that we follow these procedures. Even cough drops fall under this policy, and the children are subject to disciplinary actions for violations. According to page 8 of the Student Code of Conduct manual, "Possession or use of any prescription or nonprescription drug, vitamins, or other chemical in violation of the Guidelines for Dispensing Medications at School" is a Level III offense and can be subject to suspension from school. Please make sure you follow these procedures when your child needs to take medicine at school.

-Michele Dahlquist and Jan Petner, R.N.