



**ROE**  
River Oaks Elementary  
World School

# ROE News

**October 5, 2010**

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>School Phone:</b>         | <b>(713) 942-1460</b>   |
| <b>After School Program:</b> | <b>(713) 524-8430</b>   |
| <b>Office Hours:</b>         | <b>7:15 am – 4:15 pm</b>  |
| <b>Web Site:</b>             | <a href="http://es.houstonisd.org/riveroakses">http://es.houstonisd.org/riveroakses</a> |
| <b>E-mail:</b>               | <a href="mailto:sshenker@houstonisd.org">sshenker@houstonisd.org</a>                    |
| <b>PTO website:</b>          | <a href="http://www.riveroakspto.org">http://www.riveroakspto.org</a>                   |
| <b>ROE News Editors:</b>     | <a href="mailto:roenews@riveroakspto.org">roenews@riveroakspto.org</a>                  |

Parking is available in the teacher parking lot and school side of Avalon. Questions? [mmaieron@gmail.com](mailto:mmaieron@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU FOR BOOK DONATIONS TO THE ROE LIBRARY

The ROE Library has received wonderful donations of new books from the Fullmer family, the Tabrizi family, and the Epps family in the month of September. Mr. Peter Denman, who has created the River Oaks Elementary Alumni site at <http://www.roea.peterdenman.com/>, also sent us a book he remembers fondly reading as a child in the library here at ROE called Little Grey Men by Denys Watkins-Pitchford. You can view a clip of some of our new books on the Library blog at [inquirytecheastman.blogspot.com](http://inquirytecheastman.blogspot.com). You can find it linked to the Library home page, as well as search the catalog at home or at school.

One way to celebrate upcoming October birthdays is to consider participating in the ROE Birthday Book Club. If your family would like to donate some special books to the ROE Library, visit our Amazon ROE Library Wish list linked at the bottom of the Library home page. Select and purchase a book from the wish list, and have it sent to the River Oaks Elementary, c/o the ROE Library. Make sure to include your child's name, birth month and day in the note field, and we will prepare it for your child's birthday! By joining the ROE Birthday Book Club, your child will have his or her name on a commemorative bookplate inside the cover of the book and will be the first one to borrow the new book. ROE students will enjoy your donated book for years to come! You can even donate a book for any other special occasion such as a family member's birthday, in memory of someone special, or 'just because.'

If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Eastman-ROE Librarian at 713.942.1460 or [eeastman@houstonisd.org](mailto:eeastman@houstonisd.org).

Thank you again for your wonderful donations and support of the ROE Library!

## CALENDAR ITEMS

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| October 8   | Movie Night, 7pm, Playground                 |
| October 20  | Anti-Bullying Seminar for Parents, 5:30-7:30 |
| November 12 | Fall Frenzy                                  |

## FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SHENKER

Several years ago, I attended a professional development seminar while I was a sixth grade math teacher. The session focused on the importance of developing a math program that is strong in both numeracy and problem solving. The trainer, from California, discussed the key concepts that are taught K-8 to enable students to become algebra-ready. They are as follows:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Kindergarten | One-to-one counting correspondence                    |
| 1st Grade    | Single-digit addition and subtraction                 |
| 2nd Grade    | Double-digit addition and subtraction with regrouping |
| 3rd Grade    | Multiplication  |
| 4th Grade    | Division  |
| 5th Grade    | Decimals and place value                              |
| 6th Grade    | Fraction, decimal, percent equivalency                |
| 7th Grade    | Ratios and proportional reasoning                     |
| 8th Grade    | Algebraic reasoning                                   |

I am very excited about exploring ways to accelerate mathematics for our students. We have an excellent math program, Everyday Math, that introduces students to these key concepts long before our students enter the grade levels listed above. I have come to deeply appreciate the many ways that ROE takes the "long view" in educating our children. I look forward to sharing ideas about how we can continue to grow learners that are innovative problem-solvers. Have a great week!

## ROE FAMILY NIGHT, OCTOBER 8

Join us this Friday for ROE's first ever Family Movie Night, featuring "Horton Hears A Who" on a 25-foot outdoor screen! When? Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm (showtime 7:30). Where? ROE playground. You bring blankets, lawn chairs, and bug spray. We'll bring the popcorn and drinks.

## FALL FRENZY

Where will you be on Friday, November 12th?

At the Houston Club Downtown for the ROE Fall Frenzy Auction Party, of course! That's right it's that time of year again. This is your chance to support ROE with its largest fundraising event. This annual event raises funds for student, teacher, and classroom needs that are not part of the school operating budget. All proceeds from this fun event go toward heightening the Exemplary

status of River Oaks Elementary School. This year the "Raise the Paddle" portion of our live auction will be used to give Mr. Rainn a new science lab, updated with all the bells and whistles. Teaching will be even more exciting and hands-on for our children. This year we will explore an exotic array of cultures as you tour around the world with an International World Traveler theme. Come mix and mingle with ROE parents and teachers while you enjoy dinner, dancing, bidding and just a ton of fun without the kids! It's a casual event sure to be fun for all with very affordable silent auction items. For example, for \$25 your child may be able to spend an afternoon at a picnic in the park with her favorite teacher or go on a father/son bowling outing with other ROE families. If you are new to ROE, this is another great way to get involved and support our amazing school! Please save the date and we hope to see you there! Please be on the lookout for your Auction invitations this week. Discounted tickets will be available until 10/29, so don't wait to get yours!

- Shenequa Animashaun, Publicity Chair

## **UNDERWRITING FALL FRENZY**

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There are still opportunities to underwrite the Fall Frenzy to be recognized in the auction catalog. If you or your business would like to make a donation of any amount, please don't delay, we'd love to include you. Thanks from the Development Team leaders: Stefanie Moll, Margaret Young and Holly Shilstone, 713.429.0295 or [development@riveroakspto.org](mailto:development@riveroakspto.org)

## **PLEASE KEEP FALL FRENZY DONATIONS ROLLING IN**

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They're due October 15. Thanks to all who have donated many exciting prizes for our annual Fall Frenzy fundraiser Friday, November 12. We look forward to having everyone participate in this exciting evening of fun and fellowship with ROE parents and teachers. Most importantly, remember that the PTO uses the money we raise for the extras that make ROE such a special place for our kids—IB Program, Laptops, Smartboards, iTouches, Field trips, Teacher & parent workshops, Odyssey of the Mind, Nature Center, and this Friday's Movie Night, just to name a few. So dig into your drawers for gift cards, rummage your closets for new toys and prizes, and mine your talent chests to offer any service that ROE families would like to buy. With your help, the event will raise lots of \$\$ to plow back into your child's great experience at ROE. Donation forms are on the ROE PTO Website and hardcopies are in the kindergarten hall rounder shelf. Thank you for your enthusiastic participation.

P.S. Our donations chair, Beth Rivera, can help you with any donations you have. You may reach her at [hellobethm@gmail.com](mailto:hellobethm@gmail.com) or 713.521.2243.

## **FALL FRENZY DECORATION IDEAS NEEDED!!!**

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We need your help and ideas to make The Fall Frenzy a success! We are looking for items that could represent our

diverse and global families; anything that we could borrow for the evening would help us stay on budget, so that all funds raised are used for the benefit of ROE. We are needing: decorations that represent South America, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Russia, Europe, and for North America, we will probably showcase Texas. Anything you have, in addition to the below mentioned items that we could borrow for the evening would be greatly appreciated, great or small. Any ideas would be greatly appreciated.

Items needed: - Persian rugs, Chinese gong, fabrics, tapestries, souvenirs, trinkets, any luggage or trunks, traditional clothing, instruments, etc.

If you are interested in volunteering your time and would like to help out, or you need more information about the event, please contact me directly at [ctabrizi@me.com](mailto:ctabrizi@me.com).

- Christine Tabrizi, Decorations Committee

## **TIME IS RUNNING OUT!!**

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This is the LAST WEEK to offer to host a Great Gathering for the 2010 Fall Frenzy!

What is a Great Gathering??? A Great Gathering is a party for the kids or adults that you and your ROE friends donate to the Fall Frenzy! Fellow ROE parents then sign up to come to your Great Gathering (at an established price per invitee) with the proceeds going to the school. The parties are great fun and a great way to raise money for ROE! But the key to success is participation by lots of ROE families, especially if you haven't done it before. The MORE Great Gatherings you offer, the MORE FUN we all have and the MORE Money we raise for ROE.

The ideas are endless!

- Kids: 2nd Grade Bowling Party, 4th Grade Boys Kung Fu Movie Party, 3rd Grade Girls Princess Pedi Party, 5th Grade Pool Party, Kindergarten Story time Party, Cookie Party, Boys & Dads Movie Night
- Adults: Wine Tasting, Salsa Dancing, We Watch your Kids while you Xmas Shop, Tapas & Wine for Mamacitas, Bunco Night for the Moms, Persian Night Dinner, Adult Karaoke Night, Rockin' Fondue Night, and so many more ideas to have fun! We are trying to get at least two Great Gatherings for each grade (boys & girls) and a ton of fun stuff for the adults to do as well.....

The Great Gathering form was sent home in the green folders and is now on the ROE PTO website.

Think of an idea. Get other parents to co-sponsor (if you wish), then fill out a Great Gathering form and send it to [Rwoelfel@gmail.com](mailto:Rwoelfel@gmail.com). If you need to discuss ideas or have questions about how the Great Gatherings work, please contact Robert Woelfel, the 2010 Great Gatherings Chair at [Rwoelfel@gmail.com](mailto:Rwoelfel@gmail.com).

We must close the Great Gatherings by THIS FRIDAY. Fill up the Great Gatherings table at the Fall Frenzy and enjoy all of the fun opportunities.....Please take a moment and be part of this great ROE tradition.

## **IN-KIND DONATIONS**

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Thanks to the newly formed In-Kind Donations team, we had several food and water donations at the Fun Run. Christine Rodriguez, Tina Salem, Michael Rodriguez, Holly Shilstone and others saw a need and made it happen. Thank you for helping with the food prep and set up, as well.

On Friday, you'll enjoy popcorn at our free Family Movie Night, thanks to this team and the generosity of Michael Rodriguez' grand parents. If you have a business or know a business that would like to donate food, drinks, services, materials, equipment or other items, please contact Christine Rodriguez at christinemr@hotmail.com

--PTO President, Frances Moore-Jones

## **SCHOOLHOUSE PARTNERS**

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Do you need to refinish your hardwood floors, or have your ac and heating system checked, or have your carpets cleaned, but you don't know who to call? Why not use Schoolhouse Partners to find prescreened service providers for these issues and many more? You will receive the best prices offered by these service providers, and if you have any problem with your service you will have the owners of SchoolHouse Partners to help you resolve any issues. What's more, ROE will earn 20% of whatever SchoolHouse Partners earns on each project, but it will not cost you anything. So why not check out [www.myschoolhousepartners.com](http://www.myschoolhousepartners.com) the next time a problem arises in your home and help ROE at the same time.

## **ROE DIRECTORY**

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Volunteers are busily working on this year's Directory. Each household will receive one Directory free of charge. If you want an extra directory, purchase one for \$8 at the online Store before this Wednesday Oct 6, or leave a check in the Directory PTO locker. We are only doing one print run and will NOT have extra copies – so order now if you want an extra copy.

## **BULLIED TO DEATH: AN EPIDEMIC ON THE RISE**

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PBS will air this special on bullying, as it is at an all time high. Catch it on Houston's Channel 8 on Friday Oct 8th at 8:00 pm or Sunday Oct 10th at 5:30 pm. HISD's Dr. Peter Messiah, Manager of the Safe School's program will appear on the show. --Meredith Maierson

## **JUMP INTO HEALTH**

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Even though September is over, we are still collecting jump ropes and pedometers. Thank you so much to everyone who has already donated - the items have been donated to the weight management clinics at the University of Texas and are being put to good use. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! For those of you who

still want to donate, the collection box is now outside of Ms. Thomas' 3rd grade classroom. Contact Laura Benjamins, [lajaben@yahoo.com](mailto:lajaben@yahoo.com) for more information. Thank you for your participation!

## **PLEASE RETURN UNSOLD ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS**

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If you have unsold Entertainment books, please return them to the front office or the locker in the kindergarten hallway, or send a check for \$25 payable to ROE PTO with your child's name and teacher's name. We can't order the students' prizes for the Entertainment books until the remaining books are purchased or returned. Cookie dough delivery is scheduled for Thursday, October 21. You can continue to buy Sally Foster items online throughout the year at [www.sallyfoster.com](http://www.sallyfoster.com) and ROE will get credit. -Colleen Morris, [sallyfoster@riveroakspto.org](mailto:sallyfoster@riveroakspto.org)

## **JOHNS HOPKINS TALENT SEARCH**

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Every year, Johns Hopkins University, Center for Talented Youth (CTY) leads a search for the best and brightest students, grades 2-8, in order to offer recognition and opportunities for qualifying students. If you are interested in finding out more, go online to [www.cty.jhu.edu/forschools](http://www.cty.jhu.edu/forschools)

## **YEARBOOK PHOTO ALERT!**

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With school under way and events happening right and left, you are probably amassing a lot of photos of your kids doing wonderful things at ROE! Be sure to share these great archives with the ROE Yearbook, so we can get your child's picture throughout the yearbook!

We have an easy way to submit photos this year through the Jostens' website: <https://images.jostens.com/login?user=400053787&pw=ROE2011>. You will be prompted to enter your name and e-mail address, in case we have questions about the photo. You will also be asked for the name of one person in the photo, but please add additional names or any other helpful information in the "description" box. Let us know who it is what the event was. The more information, the better! We would also prefer "jpeg" files rather than "TIF" files. File size should be between 1-10 MB, but we'll take whatever you have! For those with digital file knowledge, we are looking for resolution of 300ppi.

Thanks, and look for more information about ordering your yearbook(s) soon. For questions or concerns, please contact [yearbook@riveroakspto.org](mailto:yearbook@riveroakspto.org)