



ROE News

October 26, 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/riveroakses>
E-mail: sshenker@houstonisd.org
PTO website: <http://www.riveroakspto.org>
ROE News Editors: roenews@riveroakspto.org

CALENDAR ITEMS

October 26	NNAT testing for all Fifth Graders and all Kinders
November 12	Fall Frenzy, 7-11pm
November 20	Nature Center Work Party, 10-1

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SHENKER

Last week, Dr. Stuart Twemlow and Dr. Carla Sharpe presented information on the dynamics of bullying and the results of a recent climate survey of ROE students. I have posted the survey results that were presented on my Principal Page of the school website. Since the presentation, I have reflected on the following.

- Bullying is common, fluid, and systemic.
- We all move between the roles of bully, victim, and bystander in the course of a single day.
- Parents, teachers, staff, and students assume these roles in a school system.
- Teachers are much more than academic coaches. They play a crucial role in teaching students about the dynamics of bullying and creating a classroom culture that reduces bullying episodes.
- A strong, supportive school culture, particularly in elementary school, can overcome many external factors that lead students to fall into the various roles.

I look forward to continued conversations as we dream of a school that has not only rigorous academic expectations, but also works toward a peaceful community for our children.

HISD NETWORK ISSUES

Please be aware that the district is experiencing network issues this week which has limited our ability to send and receive external emails. We apologize for any inconvenience. Please contact the office at 713-942-1460 for immediate assistance.

COOKIE DOUGH DELIVERY AND PRIZES

Cookie dough was delivered on Thursday, Oct. 21. If you have not picked up your order, please pick it up from the

stage ASAP. Prizes for cookie dough and Sally Foster cards were delivered to the classrooms on Friday. Entertainment book prizes will come to the classrooms sometime in November. Thanks for your continued support!

- Colleen Morris -- sally-foster@riveroakspto.org

NATURE CENTER NEWS AND EVENTS

Dear ROE Community: Things are moving rapidly along with our Nature Center! A permanent committee consisting of Ms. Regina Burns, Ms. Ann Hester-Morley, Ms. Tina Salem, and Mr. Tran has been formed to oversee the Nature Center (NC) and provide strategic direction in the fundraising, maintenance, and operation of our wonderful resource. We are thrilled to add new ROE parent Mr. Minh Tran to our committee. He has dived right in and has been heavily engaged with the committee from day one. From Mr. Tran's corporate connections we have Nelson Water Gardens (NWG) drawing up a Master Plan/Strategic Outlook document for our NC; all the poison ivy removed and major tree trimming done, and the committee developing a 'Grand Vision' that we can present to major corporate sponsors, all at no cost! Mr. Tran has encouraged the Committee to think big with the Grand Vision. We will!!

Special thanks to our veteran volunteers for forming the committee. They have been involved for years now in our learning community, lab, and nature center, sharing their expertise, connections, time, and resources. Thank you! We are now awaiting our Strategic Plan to inform our next move.

- Paul Rainn, Science Specialist

FUN WITH PARENTS!

Dear Parents: The ROE Nature Center Committee is hosting a work party on November 20th from 10-1pm. Please come if you can! We are looking at weather guarding our picnic benches, killing invasive vines with a cultivator, and possibly assembling a small ready made fence. If you have a cultivator you can loan for an hour or so we could really use it---it's our only hope of fully eradicating the invasive wisteria and poison ivy in the San Felipe corner of the NC! There'll be drinks, snacks, great fall weather, and good company! Please reply to any committee member listed in this edition or to pharry@houstonisd.org

Thanks! The NC Committee

\$10,000 FOR KIDS

Dear Parents: Toshiba, in conjunction with NSTA, has set up the Toshiba Science Challenge, open to all K-12 graders. This competition is now in its 19th year. Basically it is asking kids to pick a technology and project what its form and function will be like 20 years into the future. (Cars, computers, aircraft, smartphones, spacecraft, cloning, robotics, etc) Four teams will be selected for a first place prize of a \$10,000 Savings Bond and an expense paid trip to Washington DC. Please go to www.exploravision.org for full details. Many of our kids have expressed great interest, and ROE has no shortage of kids who see no limits to their potential! Enjoy!

- Paul Rainn, Science Specialist

BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TODAY!!!

Teacher Last Seen At Camp William

Drive just 50 miles outside Houston and the winning teacher's blood pressure will drop 50 points. Take 290 to arrive at Camp William, a 2-bedroom log cabin (sleeps 6) with all the creature comforts. Your teacher and family will enjoy fishing in a stocked pond, 20 acres of nature trails, and yard games. At night, your teacher will get some much needed R&R at the pond in hammocks or deck chairs, sipping wine and roasting s'mores to the sounds of nature under a canopy of stars.

This is truly a Thomas Kinkaide retreat--the idyllic backyard we all wish we had. If that's not enough, we've included admission for 4 to King's Orchard for berry-picking and a gift basket of wine, coffee, and s'mores for your teacher. Can your teacher spell B-L-U-E-B-O-N-N-E-T-S??

Tickets 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$25

GET YOUR FALL FRENZY AUCTION PARTY TICKET TODAY!!!

This is the final week to get your Fall Frenzy Auction Tickets for \$40, \$60, and \$100 per person. Ticket prices will go up \$10 each after 10/29. November 12th is the night to travel and explore the world at this year's Fall Frenzy! This is your chance to support ROE with its largest fundraising event. Enjoy dinner, dancing, and live entertainment, bidding and socializing without the kids! It's a casual event sure to be fun for all! Show off your cultural attire, if you have some, and help us to explore the many cultures within ROE! Please get your tickets TODAY and we hope to see you there! Tickets can be purchased online, dropped in the PTO locker at the end of the Kindergarten corridor, or dropped during Thursday's drop-off line. You will not want to miss this event!

FALL FRENZY RAFFLE TICKETS FOR AWESOME PRIZES!!!

This year's Fall Frenzy raffle boasts some very exciting prizes! The tickets are only \$10 each so buy several (and often) and improve your chances to win one of the grand prizes! Want to increase your chances of winning and save

money??? Buy 3 tickets for \$25 TODAY for your chance to win an Apple iPad, Two Texans tickets, Dell Desktop Computer with Flat Screen Monitor, and a Family or Individual Portrait Session. Tickets may be purchased from the ROE Spirit Store.

BUY YOUR YEARBOOK ONLINE NOW!

ROE Yearbooks are now available for purchase online directly through Josten's. The 2011 yearbook will be hardcover and 76 pages, and the cost will be \$25 with advance orders placed by December 31, 2010. The price will increase to \$30 on January 1, so please purchase today by using this link: <http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09885171>

Also, please remember submit your photos to us via this link: <https://images.jostens.com/login?user=400053787&pw=ROE2011>

Please use the "description" prompt to identify everyone you can in the photo and provide any other information such as date, event, location, etc. We prefer that you use the online system to upload your photos, but please feel free to email photos directly to us if you prefer: yearbook@riveroakspto.org

Additionally, we will be selling a limited amount of pages at the back of the book as sponsored autograph pages. If you own a local business or know of a company that would like to sponsor a page of autographs and also include a small ad, please let us know. Pricing to be determined.

Thank you, and please continue to look for updates to yearbook ordering options and content. For questions or concerns, please contact yearbook@riveroakspto.org

Are you getting ROE News via email? If not and you'd like to, please click **Subscribe** at <http://riveroakspto.myschoolvalet.com/> or Login to update your email address if you are already registered at the ROE Store. Thank you!

MAGNET NEWS

Upcoming dates:

November 3, 6:00 p.m., in the HISD Board Auditorium. Dr. Richard Olenchak will present *Gifted is More than Academic: The Importance of Meeting Social-Emotional Needs*.

Thursday, October 28, 7:00 p.m., Bellaire High School, Magnet Community Meeting

Saturday, October 30, 9:00 a.m., HISD Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center Auditorium, Magnet Community Meeting

Remember... One way to become involved in the Magnet Review is to take a very short on-line survey. Go to HISD's homepage www.houstonisd.org (as soon as it is restored!), and click on the purple box toward the top. Please don't let ROE's voice go unheard during this process!