



ROE
River Oaks Elementary
IB World School

ROE News

January 10, 2012

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

School Phone:	(713) 942-1460
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CALENDAR ITEMS

January 11	PTO Board Meeting in Library from 6:00-7:00 pm
January 16	School closed due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 19	1 st – 2 nd Spelling Bee
January 20	Last day to order yearbooks at \$30

FROM THE DESK OF DR. FOVARGUE

Super STAAR (An Overview of the New State Test)

For years, students have been taking the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) to determine whether they have mastered the material and concepts required for their current grade or course. Beginning in 2011–2012, TAKS will be replaced with a new testing program, the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR).

STAAR is expected to be more rigorous than TAKS and is designed to measure whether students are on a path to college and meaningful careers. In general, questions on the new exams will have multiple steps and will require higher-level thinking. Students will also have a time limit to complete the tests. All year, our teachers have been evaluating our state standards as well as aligning lessons and activities with our IB Unit Planners. At ROE, we must teach the state standards as well as the international curriculum. While we are ready for this new challenge, we must continue to learn and adapt our practice. This way, our students will be prepared for the new requirements. Look for more specific information regarding STAAR in the coming weeks or visit

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/>

--Dr. Keri Fovargue, Head of School

PTO BOARD MEETING- JANUARY 11

Dear PTO Board and Committee Members -- Happy New Year!!! Thank you for an outstanding fall semester of school. Many accomplishments have been reached and exceeded and thank you to an amazing team at ROE. Also, HUGE a thank you to each and every one of you for your volunteer commitment, hard work and dedication. As

we head back from the Winter Break, hope you enjoyed the Holiday time with your families. Great things happen when we come together as a parent volunteer community and we look forward to another great successful year at ROE in 2012.

Our January PTO Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, **January 11th from 6-7 p.m.** in the Library.

Again, Happy New Year and thank you!

--Holly Shilstone, PTO President

ROE DAD'S CLUB

Save the date for an introductory meeting to be held **Thursday, February 9, 2011**, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Travis Crabtree, 4503 Pine Street, Bellaire, Texas. This will be an informal gathering to discuss the formation and direction of the group to support the school and foster community amongst the fathers of ROE students.

There are no dues and everyone is welcome. Please RSVP to tcrabtree@lrmlaw.com. Join the ROE Dad's Club group on linkedin.com for more details.

4TH GRADE PARENTS

Please come join us for "**Writing like a STAAR!**" We would love for you to join us to hear about the various writing activities, standards and strategies your child is working on in 4th grade!

Date: Monday, February 6th

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Where: Cafeteria

We hope to see you all there! ☺

--Alissa Ritter

YEARBOOK ORDER DEADLINE

Only eleven days left to order a yearbook!!-- The price is \$30 per book when purchased by the order deadline of **January 20, 2012**. The price is \$40 from January 21 to January 30, 2012 during a grace period for late orders. No online or school orders will be taken after January 30, 2012 - We do not plan to have extra copies for sale in May. Free and reduced price yearbooks are available for qualified families but must be reserved by January 20. Please email yearbook@riveroakspto.org with questions or to confirm that you have already ordered.

Order online: www.roepto.org/yearbook or www.Jostens.com - Personalization is available only with online orders.

Order at school: Drop off a check made out to "ROE PTO" and your child's name and homeroom teacher in the memo line. Please place the check in the yearbook locker in the kindergarten hallway.

Donate a yearbook: either online or at school for \$30

Please consult: www.roepto.org/yearbook for information on photo submittal or Spirit and Business Ads. Thank you!

--Carolyn Foug

ART NEWS

We have two Art competitions just around the corner:

1) 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students: "Earth Day, 2012" (sponsored by Air Alliance Houston and Green Bank)

2) Kindergarten through 5th grade: "Japan: Triumph in the Face of Tragedy" (sponsored by Society for Performing Arts and Wells Fargo Bank).

Presently, all classes are working on one or both of the contests (depending on grade level). Earth Day drawings are due January 30th, when I will deliver all of the entries to Air Alliance Houston. Results will be announced as soon as I receive them - usually several weeks after the work is submitted.

Japanese inspired art (all grade levels) is due on February 10th. A team of teachers will select the artworks (5 per grade level) that will be submitted to this competition. Again, I will announce results from our entries as soon as I am contacted by the sponsors.

We have participated in both competitions in the past years, with good results. Your students can explain to you particulars of what their class is working on in Art. All artworks will be returned; with winning (or placing) works returned after displays are taken down. Last year, we had 8 winners in the Air Alliance Earth Day Art contest, and several chosen for the SPA Art competition.

I feel confident that with all the talent I am seeing, we will do well again this year. Both contests offer nice awards and great receptions for winners and their families.

Thank you for your support of the Arts at ROE!!

--Renee Lieber

ROE LUAU BOOK FAIR

SAVE THE DATES: February 11 and 13-15!

The ROE LUAU Book Fair will be opening soon!!!

ALL volunteers are welcome!!

Please contact Sandra Ahlhorn or Maryann Mueller at book-fair@riveroakspto.org if you would like to volunteer.