



ROE
River Oaks Elementary
IB World School

ROE News

November 29, 2011

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

School Phone: (713) 942-1460
After School Program: (713) 524-8430
Office Hours: 7:15 am – 4:00 pm
Web Site: www.riveroakselementaryschool.org
E-mail: kfovargu@houstonisd.org
PTO website: <http://www.riveroakspto.org>
ROE News Editors: roenews@riveroakspto.org
Follow us on Twitter: @ROEWORLD

CALENDAR ITEMS

December 4	Kindergarten Play Date
December 6	PTO Board Meeting 6pm-7pm ROE Library
December 8	Winter Wonderland Party for 3 rd – 5th
December 9	Winter Wonderland Party for K – 2 nd

FROM THE DESK OF DR. FOVARGUE

Winter excitement is definitely in the air! Please make sure to bundle our kiddos up, since we will still go outside for recess and PE. This is also a time to make sure your child(ren) are resting and eating well so they stay healthy. While we understand a student may have to miss school occasionally due to illness, Nurse Petner is a pro at handling sniffles and minor colds. Daily attendance is crucial for school funding as well as the impact it has on academics. As a reminder, you will want to save those absences for illness rather than taking an early vacation before the winter break. You also don't want to miss our Holiday Celebrations organized by our room moms. On December 16th, everyone will wear their pajamas to school (even the Head of School) for a fun filled day of music and activities! For details, contact your child's teacher or room mom. --Dr. Keri Fovargue, Head of School

MENTORS NEEDED FOR EXHIBITION 2012

We are still in need of mentors to help with 5th grade Exhibition. Mentors help students with gathering resources, note-taking, planning for and implementing action projects, etc. We invite and encourage all parents to mentor, even if your child is not a current 5th grader. However, parents of current 5th graders are not allowed to mentor in their own child's homeroom. Also, if you know of any community members who would like to volunteer in this capacity, please pass this information on to them as well. We have four 5th grade classes and will need 40-50 mentors!!!

Mentors will meet with a small group of students for at least one hour a week beginning mid-January and

ending the last week of February. If you are interested in being a mentor for the exhibition, please email me as soon as possible! You need no expert abilities to be a mentor; just a willingness to support students in their work. There will be a mentor meeting the first week of January in order to prepare you for the work you will do with our students. Please consider volunteering...I know it will be a wonderful experience for both you and the students you mentor!!

-Becca Pfeifer, IB Coordinator, rpfeifer@houstonisd.org

5TH GRADERS RETURN FROM CAMP OLYMPIA

ROE's 5th graders recently returned from 3 days and 2 nights at beautiful Camp Olympia approximately 2 hours from Houston where campers participated in amazing outdoor activities designed to strengthen science concepts through a multi-disciplinary approach. Students reported having a terrific time, learning about nature, completing challenging activities, and making new friends. Camp Olympia is part of the Outdoor Education Center of HISD and funded as a magnet program. Just one more reason to support the HISD Magnet Programs!

DUKE UNIVERSITY TIP

Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) is holding their annual talent search of fourth and fifth graders. Your fourth or fifth grader may qualify if they have scored in the 95th percentile or higher in areas of the Stanford Achievement Test. To participate, or find out more, go to www.TIP.DUKE.EDU/45GTS.

BOOK BUDDIES-REVISED PARTNERSHIP

There has been a new development in the partnership regarding Book Buddies. Dr. Fovargue and Ms. Shenker have both agreed to support Alcott Elementary. In a recent news article, Alcott Elementary was published as the number one school in need of literary resources. Therefore, ROE is changing our Book Buddy partner to Alcott Elementary this fall as we share the joy of reading and book adventures! Dr. Price, Alcott Principal, is delighted to partner with ROE. In order to support his literacy initiatives, let's make sure every Alcott Elementary student has a book to take home and read over the winter break.

Start gathering those gently used books (pre-k to 5th grade) that your children have enjoyed and bring them in to school the week of December 5th. Look for a flyer

to come home on Tuesday, December 6th with a special bookmark for your child to place inside one of their donated books. For questions please contact: kfovargu@houstonisd.org

Please remember as good community members to not use the neighborhood driveways as turn-around points.

Thanks for all you all do!
Keri

WINTER WONDERLAND

Last Chance to Sign Up for Next Week's Winter Wonderland After-School Parties!

You've heard the buzz...now get ready to join us for our festive holiday dance parties.

Come chaperone with us and show your kid how to really dance. OK, at least get a peek at elementary school social behavior gone wild. This year we'll have cookie decorating, snack, hot chocolate, music, dancing, and games. These parties are a big hit and all proceeds benefit Odyssey of the Mind.

Your child will not want to miss it and arrangements couldn't be easier. Partygoers will proceed to the lunch room after the bell and pick-up is by car line at back circle drive at 4:30 (or you can request that your child be released to the after-school program). Don't forget to sign up online at <http://roepto.org/winter-wonderland/> or pick up a form at the ROE desk. Contact Liz Palmer with questions at: liz@pricepalmer.com

NATURE CENTER VOLUNTEERS

Our children love the Nature Center and it's time to get ready for the change of seasons! Please come help harvest veggies, mulch plants, build habitats for wildlife, and make bird feeders with Joe Blanton our outdoor classroom specialist and the Nature Center Team on Saturday December 3 from 12-3pm. Three adult volunteers are needed per shift. Please email volunteers@riveroakspto.org if you can help. - Madhuri Chilakapati & Amie Canfield

FOURTH GRADE PLAY DATE

Please join us on **Saturday, December 3rd** from 3pm-5pm at the ROE Playground. Bring your outdoor gear, participate in some games, and come have fun with your classmates before the winter break. Snacks and drinks provided by the classes. Families welcome. --Christine Tabrizi and Stefanie Moll, Fourth Grade Reps

ROE DIRECTORY

The 2011-2012 ROE School Directories were distributed to classrooms a few weeks ago. Each household should have received one via their oldest child. If you did not receive one or would like to purchase an additional copy for \$8 email directory@riveroakspto.org.

COURTESY COUNTS
