



ROE News

September 6, 2011

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:	www.riveroaks elementaryschool.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

September 8	Last day to submit Kinder Grade Rep Board nominations.
September 12	Final deadline to submit all business and spirit ads for the Directory
September 13	Open House for K-2 at 5:30 to 7:00
September 15	Open House for 3-5 at 5:30 to 7:00.
September 30	Movie Night @ 7:00.

FROM THE DESK OF DR. FOVARGUE:

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. For more information, visit www.houstonisd.org/STAAR- Dr. Keri Fovargue

ROE DIRECTORY:

Thank you to everyone who submitted their contact info by last Friday's deadline. We will have the info available for parent review in your child's classroom on Open House nights.

September 7 is the last day to guarantee your Spirit Ad will be placed with your child's class listing. Ads after this date will be placed wherever space is available.

September 12 is the **FINAL** deadline for all ads - business and spirit ads. No ads will be accepted after this date. Ad pricing and other details may be found in the directory section of the PTO website at www.roepto.org. Payment can be handled online or via check to ROE PTO. Send business ads to businessads@riveroakspto.org and spirit ads to spiritads@riveroakspto.org.

If you've got computer talents and want to help on the Directory, email directory@riveroakspto.org

- Maria Onufrow and the Directory team

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

Are you creative? Do you like working on a team? Is thinking your game? Then, you need to join Odyssey of the Mind! Teams are composed of five to seven members. 2nd Graders participate in the non-competitive primary division and 3rd-5th graders participate in one of five problems. For more details login to <http://www.odysseyofthemind.com>. Teams hold meetings after school and on weekends off campus. We will be visiting classrooms the week of September 12 to introduce Odyssey of the Mind to students, and there will be an informational coffee for parents wishing to learn more on Friday, September 16 from 8-9 a.m. at ROE.

Interested coaches and students should contact Assistant Principal Gutierrez at mgutie16@hisd.org or ootm@riveroakspto.org.

- Elisa Donovan, PTO Volunteer Coordinator

BOX TOPS:

We hope everyone has been collecting Box Tops over the summer. They can be found on many of the products you use every day. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents to our school. Last year we earned over \$1600 for ROE! Box_Tops can be turned into your teacher at any time, can be left in the basket on top of the PTO lockers at the end of the kindergarten hallway (be sure to include your teacher's name on any submission) or you can save them at home and turn them in at one time when we announce our annual fall and spring Box Top contests. Thank you for helping ROE earn free money.

-Caroline Sterner, Affinity Programs

YEARBOOKS:

Buy your child's 2011-2012 yearbooks online now at the price of \$25. The price will go up to \$30 on **September 17**. You can go directly to Jostens.com and click "shop" then "yearbooks" and search for River Oaks Elementary. Alternatively, go to roepto.org/yearbook and click on the link to the Jostens order page. Yearbooks are **NOT** available for purchase through the ROE spirit store website.

If you'd prefer to pay by check, please drop a check made out to "ROE PTO" in the yearbook locker in the

kindergarten hallway. The cost is \$25 per book until **September 16**, after which it will be \$30. Please put "yearbook" on the memo line and also write your child's name and homeroom teacher on the check. As always, please email yearbook@riveroakspto.org with any questions.

SUMMER READING MILLIONAIRE CLUB:

If all students in Houston I.S.D. read five books this summer, HISD students will have read 1 million books!

Students brought home a Summer Reading 'Millionaire Club' Reading Ticket during the last few weeks of school last year. On the back, they could record at least 5 books that were read over vacation. Each student who has completed and returned their ticket will receive a special bookmark to recognize their efforts and a window decal.

Be sure to return the completed ticket to your teacher or to Ms. Eastman labeled with child's name, teacher's name, at least 5 books read, and signed by a parent. You can find and print additional copies of the Millionaire Club Reading Ticket Log by visiting the ROE LIBRARY online. Click the Library link under the 'SCHOOL INFO' tab along the top of the ROE Homepage. Then click the 'Summer Reading' link on the top left to download and print another form.

Students can also hand-write this information on regular notebook paper too. Ms. Eastman

NAME THAT BOOK CONTEST

Parent volunteers are needed to form a K-2nd or 3rd-5th team and coach students to prepare for the Name That Book contest. This is coordinated by the HISD Dept. of Library Services and serves to acquaint HISD students with classic literature as well as contemporary award-winning books, representing a variety of genres. The district-wide competition is held in the spring. During the contest, student teams respond to quotations from books or questions about theme, characters, setting or plot. The book titles are pre-selected from award winning booklists generated from the Texas Library Association, American Library Association and a variety of other sources. Further information regarding the contest including the teams participating, book lists, competition schedules, detailed rules and a video clip demonstrating a sample round in the competition can be found on the *Name That Book* website: <http://www.hisdlibraryservices.org>.

Parents please note--we have been notified by HISD VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools) that all returning parents will need to submit a copy of their ID to the front office to reactivate their VIPS record in the HISD system before volunteering at ROE this school year. Please submit this information to the Front Office (Attn: Lenora Munoz) for reactivation. Please note for returning VIPS volunteers--one does not need to register again on line. Only submit proof of ID to the school for reactivation. If you have not registered with VIPS, please go to www.houstonisd.org/vips and register online and provide a copy of your ID to the Front Office. This approval process takes about 10 to 14 days so please plan in advance. This is a requirement before volunteering at all HISD schools.

Ms Eastman

MATH UPDATE

We are very fortunate to be able to have *First in Math* again this year on our campus. *First in Math* is an online program in which students practice basic facts, problem solving, and other skills at their own ability level. The games range from basic addition to multi-step algebra. The best thing about this is that students can utilize this both at school AND at home!!! As soon as the site licenses arrive on campus, students will be given user names and passwords, and that information will then be shared with parents. A BIG THANK YOU to PTO who is funding the purchase of this program!!!

Also, students have been assigned user names and passwords for *Everyday Math* online. As you know, *Everyday Math* is our core math curriculum that students use to learn grade level standards and to stretch their skills as well. Students and parents can access online games, the interactive student reference book, and family resources such as algorithm animations and the algorithm handbook. If your child has not received their login information, please contact their homeroom teacher. Visit www.everydaymathonline.com to login.

FALL FUNDRAISER

Next Tuesday our GIFT QUEEN Fall fundraiser packets will be sent home. We have a new line of personalized products replacing last year's Sally Foster, cookie dough and Entertainment book sale. The Gift Queen has wonderful note cards, memo pads, luggage tags, gift labels and travel/lunch bags, all personalized with your name or initials. The PTO is excited about these new products and we hope you'll start your holiday shopping early with easy online ordering at The ROE Store. You can also return order forms and checks to school. The fall fundraiser is ROE's 2nd largest fundraiser, and all funds raised go to the PTO in support of ROE.

- Colleen Morris and Wendy Selvaggi

CUB SCOUTS PACK 46

Come find out what Cub Scouts' Pack 46 is all about! Our Fall Recruitment Rally for parents and kids will be held on Wednesday, **September 14th** at 6:00 pm in the ROE Cafeteria. At this meeting, you can meet the Leaders of each Den, Cubs who are part of the Pack already, and hear about the great activities we had last year and what we are looking forward to this school year. Pack 46 is "ROE's Pack" and we are looking forward to helping your son grow during this exciting time in their lives. Cub Scouts is open to boys ages 7-11 (1st through 5th grade) and we look forward to seeing all who are interested.

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