

RIVER OAKS ELEMENTARY

“Where Discovery is Elementary”

February 9, 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/riveroaks>
E-mail: sshenker@houstonisd.org
PTO website: <http://www.riveroakspto.org>

CALENDAR ITEMS

Feb. 10	“Walk to the Well” for Water Awareness, 9:30 – 11:30
Feb. 9-10	Eat at Gugliani’s and earn money for ROE
Feb. 22-26	ROE Book Fair

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SHENKER

This week we will celebrate the amazing teachers and staff of ROE. Thank you to our PTO, and especially Holly Shilstone, for arranging a week of celebration for our dedicated staff. Special congratulations to Becky Smith, Special Education Teacher, who was selected as ROE Teacher of the Year. Kudos as well to Kelly Reinhold, our ESL Teacher of the Year.

Thank you to all parents, students, and staff who participated in this year's GT Expo held recently at Gregory-Lincoln. Our students did a fabulous job proudly displaying their projects and articulating their learning.

Have a great week!

FINAL YEARBOOK PUSH!

Based on multiple requests after the purchasing deadline, we placed an additional order for a LIMITED SUPPLY of 2009-2010 yearbooks. The price is now \$30 and you may order from the link at www.roepto.org until they are gone. When these are gone, there are no more, so hurry and order to secure your copy. Ask your teacher if you can buy him/her one as a thank you gift!

ROE DINER BOOK FAIR

The ROE DINER Book Fair will be opening soon!!! Save the Date: February 22 – 26!

All volunteers are welcome. Please contact Mary Chang (maryahnchang@yahoo.com) or Maryann Mueller (maryann@useraid.com) if you would like to volunteer.

EAT AT GUGLIANI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Please remember to eat at Gugliani's in Rice Village today or tomorrow, February 9th and 10th. Or both! If ROE families go on the second Tuesday OR Wednesday of any month, Gugliani's will donate 10% of the diner's bill back to our school. The school give-back program also applies to take-out orders. But we have to remember to mention River Oaks Elementary to our server--see you there!

-Meredith Maierson and Linda Elmer

TRAFFIC SAFETY REMINDERS

- Please do not take a left turn on Kirby as you exit the front circular driveway.
- Please do not leave vehicles unattended on Kirby.
- Please do not drop off student on San Felipe.

Thank you for your continued efforts in keeping our children safe.

MENTORS STILL NEEDED FOR EXHIBITION 2010

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.

Mentors will meet with a small group of students for at least one hour a week beginning the last week of March through the first part of May. 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!

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

STUDENTS MEET DR. GREG MORTENSON

Representatives of River Oak's Mini-UN had the prestigious honor of presenting our check for Pennies for Peace to Dr. Greg Mortenson at an assembly at Lanier Middle School yesterday morning. They were first treated to a speech by Dr. Greg where they learned about his journey to starting this foundation and what he is doing to continue his work today. In the words of our students during their presentation, “We chose to help this organization because we wanted to help other kids our age have the same opportunity of education that we do. We are very privileged in our lives here in the United States and we cannot be selfish ~ we need to think of others and how we can help them have the same things we do. We feel this project helps bring peace to the world because an education can lead to success ~ those who receive a good education can “PAY IT FORWARD” and help others in their community and in the world. On behalf of the River Oaks Elementary students, faculty and parents, we are honored to present this check in the amount of \$2,362 to Pennies for Peace so you can continue your vision of helping to educate children and empowering them to excel in life.” What amazing students we have here at River Oaks who have

begun the journey to become young leaders of their community!

In addition to this, one student, 5th grader David Helfand, was selected by HISD to be honored by Dr. Greg as an outstanding young leader here in Houston. David participated in a "conversation with Dr. Greg" to share his story of what he is doing to make a difference in his community and the world and to hopefully inspire others to do the same. He was also presented with an award of \$500 to be donated to the charity or cause of his choosing. Way to go David ~ you truly are a reflection of the best at River Oaks!!!

CAMP INFORMATION MEETING

Fifth grade parents: Please join us for parent informational session, February 18, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the ROE cafeteria.

-Andy Williams

VOLUNTEER OF THE DAY

Interested in being ROE's Volunteer of the Day? Assisting the front office with their administrative duties is a great way of being involved in your child's school. There are still many days (few Wednesdays though) available to sign up. If interested, email me the date or dates you can volunteer (only one volunteer a day). Thanks! Isabella Alcañiz ialcaniz@uh.edu Sarah Bloome, PTO Volunteer Coordinators

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Young Hi Stokes
- 14 Leroy Barlow
- 19 Tomiko Wilkerson
- 21 Rachel Woods
- 26 Junior Spradley

