



ROE
River Oaks Elementary
IB World School

ROE News

August 23, 2011

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

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

CALENDAR ITEMS

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| September 2 | Last day to submit contact info for Directory |
| September 12 | Final deadline to submit all business and spirit ads for the Directory |

FROM THE DESK OF DR. FOVARGUE:

Thank you for a great back to school start! The excitement at ROE is contagious! Our teachers and PTO deserve a huge thank you as they worked tirelessly to prepare units, greet families, and make last minute preparations. Our team spirit is evidenced in many ways. We also welcomed 44 new students along with three new faculty members/positions, since the summer mailer. Please join me in welcoming Nicole Heitke as our new counselor, Tiffany Scholin (2nd grade), and Lindsay Evans (4th grade). Ms. Scholin comes to us from Humble ISD, and she replaced Ms. Heitke. Ms. Evans is a recent proud Baylor graduate, and she replaced Ms. Parker.

As a reminder, school starts promptly at 7:45 AM. Starting Monday, parents will still be able to escort children to their classrooms; however, they must exit the hallway by 7:45 AM. Additionally, parents in the car rider line must use the bright yellow car rider tag. If parents forget the tag, they will need to enter the front of the building for pick up. While we may recognize you, we must have clear procedures in place for the safety of all children. Morning drop off begins at 7:15 AM, so please plan accordingly. Thank you in advance for helping us with these procedures.

Again, thank you for a great first week! We look forward to serving you and your children!

DEAR ROE FAMILIES:

It is with great honor and excitement to serve as incoming President of River Oaks Elementary School (ROE) Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) for 2011-2012. Exciting times continue at ROE and only together as a team are we able to achieve great things in our ROE PTO. Each and every one of you brings a gift and talent to ROE. As we continue our planning process for 2011-2012, I ask each of you to please consider joining our PTO in some capacity. We are currently building teams within our chairs and committees.

Please join us as we work together in continuing to make a difference in each and every student at ROE. Please contact our PTO Volunteer Coordinators (Amie Canfield and Madhuri Chilakapati) volunteers@riveroakspto.org and they will forward the volunteer form for your completion. Please feel free to contact me as well at president@riveroakspto.org. We look forward to another outstanding year together on PTO. - Respectfully yours, Holly Church Shilstone, PTO President

FROM NURSE PETNER:

We have many students with food allergies. Please do not send snacks that contain ingredients that could cause an allergic reaction to a child in your child's class. The student with the allergy will be sitting in a nut-free or allergen-free area of the cafeteria table. Your child cannot sit in that area if he or she brought food in their lunch with the allergen. This is what I have so far:

Kindergarten: Morgan peanut allergy, Roberts: fish and dairy, Walulek walnut and pecan allergy, Ponder-peanuts, Reinhold-nut, soy milk, **First:** McHale: peanuts and egg, Anderson: peanut and nut allergy, Thomas peanut, egg, Taylor peanut, nut, sesame, pork. **Second:** Calderon nut allergy, Scholin: pistachio allergy, Copeland peanut allergy. **Third:** Nelson-nut and peanut, Price: nut and fish allergy, Hill: cashews and pistachios. Gibbins: soy and nut allergy, milk/dairy, eggs. Bennett: fish and peanuts. **Fourth:** Ritter: nut allergy, Bustamante: nut allergy **Fifth:** Goodman fish, Beery-tree nuts

If you do not see your child's class on the list but your child has an allergy, please contact me.

- Thanks, Jan Petner, RN jpetner@houstonisd.org

NOTE TO ALL PARENT VOLUNTEERS:

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 volunteer record in the HISD system before volunteering at ROE this school year. Please submit this information to the Front Office (Attn: Leonor 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 the HISD website and register online through VIPS 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.

ROE DIRECTORY

The school year is off to a running start and volunteers are hard at work on the 2011-2012 ROE Directory! Please submit your contact info and spirit ads and/or business ads by the appropriate deadline so we can publish the Directory by October.

September 2nd is the last day to submit your contact info for the Directory. If you have not yet done this yet, email it today to directory@riveroakspto.org. Returning students who returned their green form last May are done; we have updated your info over the summer. New students who entered data on a green form are also done. Please do not submit multiple forms as it causes unnecessary work for the volunteers. Green forms may be turned into the school office. Note: the Directory is pulling data from the green data forms and emails this year; changes made to your data in the online store will not be used for this year's Directory. (This is a change from prior years). **September 2nd** is also the last day to submit spirit ads. Please send your ad to spiritads@riveroakspto.org.

September 7th is the last day for Spirit Ads if you want them placed with your child's class listing.

September 12th is the FINAL DEADLINE for all Ads -- business and spirit ads. No ads will be accepted after this date. Ad pricing and other details can be found in the Directory section of the PTO website at www.roepto.org. Payment can be handled online at the store or via check to ROE PTO. Business ads may be submitted to businessads@pto.org any time before September 12th.

If you are interested in helping with the Directory this year, we would love the help! Email directory@riveroakspto.org.
- Thanks, Maria Onufrow and the Directory team

PARENT HANDBOOK NOW AVAILABLE

The updated parent handbook for the 2011-2012 school year is available for you at

<http://riveroakselementaryschool.org/policies-and-procedures/>. Here you will find information regarding how to celebrate birthdays, how to handle tardiness and absences, dress code and many other procedures you may need in the course of the year. Recommended reading by your ROE staff.

SPECIALIST TEACHERS HAVE WISHES TOO!

Our classroom teachers sometimes have special needs or wishes for their classrooms and our Specialist teachers (art, music, library, PE, science and Spanish) are just the same. However, these special folks teach all of our children. Wouldn't we rather these teachers spend any classroom money on specific educational needs than on hand soap and batteries? If so, when you visit the upcoming ROE Open House events, please look for the bulletin board where the Specialist Teachers will be posting their "Wish List Items." This is new this year.

Please help make it a success so we can start a new tradition of helping out our ROE teachers. Thanks!

- Janann Pittman, PTO Specialist Representative

GREENSHEET ART NEWS

Greetings from the Art Room! We are going to have a very exciting year in Art and we will be making more Art connections to our IB Planners. I would like to take this opportunity to give you some helpful hints about your student's art experiences:

On your Art rotation day, do not wear any fancy clothing or "all white" clothing. We have aprons for everyone; however these do not always insure that you won't get some paint on your sleeves or dropped on your shoes. Girls who have long hair should try to tie it back or keep it pinned to the sides away from the face. I have some rubber bands if needed. If your student has any allergic reactions to any art materials (glues, paints, chalk, clay, etc.) please send me a note. We have scissors for both right and left handedness. We follow our essential agreements and safety rules. We do not allow haircutting or drawing on ourselves or other people; we have plenty of paper for that.

Thank you to our PTO for generous funding for art supplies. This year, grades 1-5 will have sketch journals that remain at school unless taken home occasionally for sharing. Some artwork remains at school for purposes of display or competitions that will be announced in the ROE News. Most of the artwork is returned to students by the year's end unless otherwise requested by HISD or a state agency for various purposes.

We welcome anyone who has an art background or is interested in sharing their knowledge/talent. (Occasionally, we have had parents/grandparents who are professional artists, photographers, designers, architects, etc.) Please contact me at school, rlieber@houstonisd.org, so that I can schedule some time for you to share with us, any questions, etc. I feel that this exposure is valuable and stimulating for students.

Wishing you all a great school year! -- Ms. Lieber

ROE SUMMER PLAY DATES

A huge thank you to our PTO grade reps who hosted our back-to-school play dates this summer. We had water balloons, jungle gyms, bowling, and so much more! If you see them in the halls please be sure to thank your rep for making this possible: **First Grade**--Liz Daniel and Stephanie Slobin; **Second Grade**--Nicole Andrews and Georgi Silverman; **Third Grade**--Laura Fertak and Colleen Morris; **Fourth Grade**--Stefanie Moll and Christine Tabrizi; **Fifth Grade**--Mary Chang and Linda Elmer. And thank you so much to the kinder moms who stepped up to host the summer get together for our new families: Kathryn Hensey, Wendy Selvaggi, and Sandy Shaw.