

Tuscany Heights Elementary

April 30th - May 4th

Parents,

Thank you for a quiet, secure testing environment last week for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. We are so proud of our students and all of their hard work as well as our dedicated teachers.

On another note, we would like to have your help with the following NEISD policy. We are seeing more and more electronic devices during the instructional day. Please know that we are talking to the students and reminding them about the expectations. Thank you for your help!

Cell phone and Electronic Games

We have noticed a large number of students using their cell phones and/or electronic devices at school. Please see the section below from the NEISD Student/Parent Handbook. We understand the safety that cell phones provide for our students when traveling to/from school, but we will adhere to the policies below during the instructional day and/or school-related events.

*“During the instructional day, or while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities, on or off school property, during school hours, a cell phone/telecommunication device that is not being used as a technology resource for approved academic purposes, and/or the principal or his/her designee has not given permission to use the cell phone/telecommunication device, the device must remain **turned off and not visible during the school day. The use of cell phones/camera phones/cameras/telecommunication device is strictly prohibited at all times in locker rooms or restroom areas or any other area where personal privacy is an expectation at any time** while at school or at school-related or school-sponsored events.”*

“Consequences

District employees shall confiscate any cell phone/telecommunication device or wireless communication device that is not being used for appropriate educational purposes or is a distraction to the educational environment, such as, an auditory alert during the instructional day and/or school related activities. Confiscated cell phones/telecommunication devices will be given to a campus administrator. The campus administrator will notify a parent/guardian to arrange for a face to face conference to discuss the misuse/violation that has occurred and the consequence for the violation. At the conference the cell

phone/telecommunication device will be returned to the parent/guardian. In certain cases an exception may apply to this practice, ie. the device is considered evidence, the device is confiscated until the investigation is completed. Students misusing a cell phone/telecommunication device, and/or refusing to surrender their phone to a District employee due a violation of the District's cell phone rules and expectations shall be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct that will range from a warning up to an assignment to an Alternative Educational Program in cases of serious and/or persistent misbehavior.”

Thank you,
Tara Bailey

Upcoming Events:

Calendar:

- May 1st PTA General Meeting- 1st Grade Reading Restaurant
May 4th PTA Presents: Dave “Travelin’” Davlin (8:15 & 9:15)
May 8th 5th Grade GT Field Trip
May 10th 4th Grade Battle of the Books in the Cafeteria 8:15 -
9:15 a.m.
May 11th 2nd Grade Fairytale Bowl in the Cafeteria 8:30-9:30 a.m.
May 11th Kinder Field Trip to the Zoo 9am-2pm
May 14-18th Aloha Book Fair
May 16th and 17th Eat for a Cause at MOOYAH's
May 18th 3rd Grade Battle of the Books 1:20-2:20 pm

May 25th 5th Grade End of the Year Party:
***All volunteers and visitors MUST be wearing a RAPTOR Badge in order to attend. You can stop by or call the school in advance to arrange for your badge pick-up. This is to ensure that all attendants are safe to be around our children. Thank you for your support!

PTA News to Remember

Join T.H.E. PTA Executive Board for 2012-2013: We still have committee chair positions open for the upcoming school year and need your help to keep our PTA effective and productive. These positions are still open: ADEPT; Bulletin Board; Watch DOGS; Eat for a Cause; Healthy Lifestyles; Hospitality; and Newsletter. No experience necessary-we just need volunteers who are willing and eager to reach new heights at Tuscany! Please e-mail Mindy Waters 1stvp@tuscanheightspta.org. Thank you!

ATTENTION 5th Grade Parents: Honoring All Student Volunteers!!! It is not too late to register for the Presidential Volunteer Service Awards! This Award is given to children (of any age) for participating in non-paid service hours! Maybe your child is in Patrols, Newspaper Club, Broadcasting, has tutored younger children, volunteered at your religious organization?? As long as they have not received payment and they are volunteering their time, they are eligible for this wonderful award! The hours for this award started May 1st, 2011 and end April 30th, 2012!!! Our WONDERFUL PE staff and other faculty mentors retain attendance records and are willing to verify hours of service! However, please do not wait for the last minute to gather all of your hours, you only need 50 hours to be recognized!!

In order to apply for the PVSA through T.H.E., simply go to T.H.E. PTA website (www.tuscanyheightspta.org <<http://www.tuscanyheightspta.org/>>) and look for President's Volunteer Service Award under the Events heading. The award for T.H.E. is for children 14 & younger earning 50 hours of volunteer time. The submission deadline is April 30th. An honor reception will follow on May 17th at 7:15 am in T.H.E. Library. If you have questions, please contact our PVSA Chairman, Gwenn Reep, at gsreep@gmail.com.

Staff Appreciation Week, May 7-11: Keep a look out for the Staff Appreciation Week schedule to come home via backpack mail on Monday, May 1st! We have an exciting week planned to thank each and every member of our staff for sharing their hearts and hard work with us this year. Students and parents will have numerous opportunities to contribute by volunteering, preparing notes, and drawing pictures for their teachers, as well as bringing small gifts to the classroom. *If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Melissa Trimble Guillory, the Staff Appreciation Chair, at cheersandspirits@gmail.com.*

On-campus help is needed Tuesday, May 8th, and Friday, May 11th, during the staff lunch hours of 10 AM-2 PM. We will also need help distributing daily goodies, picking-up coffee from Starbucks at 6:30 AM on Monday morning (5/7), picking up and delivering lunch from Aldino's to the school on Tuesday (5/8), and assembling staff gifts and cards throughout the week.

We are blessed beyond measure to be able to surround our children with such talent, heart, and determination. If you have not had the opportunity to volunteer this year but meant to, this is your chance. There is a place for everyone to help this week, and many hands make work light! So, please pull out your calendars and let us know when you can share in the work that will make this week the tremendous success our dedicated staff and teachers made this year!