As we count down the days until a fun and relaxing summer, I hope you know how much we appreciate your support, generosity, and endless volunteering. Our PTA is successful because of you! Looking back over our year, we have reached new heights at Tuscany. From enhancing our children’s education through fun and enriching programs, providing our students’ classrooms with technology, to teaching our kids to be healthy and active Tigers, we have put first things first! We hope you will join us for a PTA Special General Meeting on Wednesday, June 4th, at 8:30 AM in the library to vote on our amended budget and to watch our amazing 2013-2014 T.H.E. PTA video. This video begins with the end in mind and highlights all the fun and success we have enjoyed this year.

We are already being proactive and planning for our next year, and we would love to have your input. Whether you would like to join the T.H.E. PTA Board or find out about other opportunities to volunteer at school or home, we have a place for you. Please contact Alana Harris, your PTA President for 2014-2015, at secretary@tuscanyheightspta.org, for more information.

This summer take time to sharpen the saw and enjoy quality time spent with your family. Stay active, have fun, and get ready to reach new heights in 2014-2015!

Mindy Waters
2013-2014 T.H.E. PTA President
A Year in Review, with More Growth Ahead!

“I did not realize what an impact fathers could have on the school grounds. The look on my daughter’s face and her discussion when she came home from school was a true blessing. I hope more fathers sign up because the kids really appreciate us being there.”

*Tuscany Heights ES Watch DOG*

Thanks to our school’s leadership and outstanding PTA support, the second year of the innovative Tuscany Heights Elementary Watch D.O.G.S. program was a resounding success! By the end of the current school year, over 200 loyal fathers and father-figures will have volunteered for over 2,600 hours of combined Watch D.O.G.S. service, providing security and a fatherly presence in the hallways, classrooms, and playgrounds. In addition to the traditional “DOG duty”, our fathers and father-figures also assisted during the PTA Bike Rodeo event, supported Tusky the Mascot in his multiple endeavors, and supported the T.H.E. Run for the Heights event.

Informational briefings for the next school year will be held in August and September (Meet the Teacher, PTA meetings, etc). During these events, you’ll be able to ask questions, order your official Watch D.O.G.S. t-shirt, and register and pick your day to be a “Hero of the Hallway.” Last year, over 150 men volunteered and booked all available days for the Fall semester. So please plan on attending an event to get your first choice!

For more information, please go to [www.tuscanyheightspta.org/watch-dogs1.html](http://www.tuscanyheightspta.org/watch-dogs1.html)
T.H.E. VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

We couldn’t do it without you...

I want to begin by thanking all of our wonderful volunteers for another great school year at Tuscany Heights!!

As we are busy finishing the school year, we are also busy planning for next year. We know we have the best volunteers, but we are always looking for more willing parents! We have many great opportunities on the PTA Board, in the library, lunchroom, workroom, classrooms, on field trips and with special events, such as Run For The Heights, held throughout the year!

If you have any questions or would like to get started volunteering at THE, please contact us at volunteer@tuscanyheightspta.org

We would love to hear from you!
Donna Oyler
VP Volunteers

Volunteer Brunch

THE Staff honored all of the great volunteers at a brunch on April 29th. Volunteers were able to visit with staff and fellow parents. Mrs. Bailey welcomed everyone and recognized the top 10 volunteers followed by extremely heartfelt THE Honor Choir performances. This was just a small token of the school’s appreciation for all you do. Tuscany Heights is a better place for our students because of you!!
Young Masters Elementary Art Show

Young Masters is the annual NEISD elementary art exhibit. It was held on Thursday March 27, 2014 at the Blossom Athletic Center. Fourth grade teacher, Sonja Morris, was the art exhibit coordinator and liaison with NEISD for our school. The PTA supported Ms. Morris’s production of a fabulous display of about 150 pieces of art. A wide variety of artistic techniques could be viewed from every class in every grade. The display boards were proudly decorated with tiger paw prints. Thank you to all T.H.E. students for creating amazing art for your family, friends and everyone at T.H.E. to enjoy!!

Tigers Synergize to Save the Environment

T.H.E. Environmental Club has been very active this Spring from participating in Run For The Heights, planting flowers in front of the school to promoting recycling in our community. San Antonio Recycles came to T.H.E. during May 5-8, 2014. The Solid Waste Management Department Outreach and Education program gave individual 45 minute class presentations including interactive games about waste management, natural resources, and individual actions that our Tuscany Tigers can do to help reduce waste. In honor of Earth Day, we had a "Trash Free" lunch on Thursday May 8. Students who participated earned a spirit stick along with class level winners for the most participating students in each class. Thank you to all our Tigers for learning more about taking care of our environment and planet Earth!
In March, Tuscany Heights students and their families worked together to collect 6,024 books for the NEISD Used Book Sale. The Tuscany Heights PTA had set a goal of 5,500 books in an effort to top last year’s number. We exceeded our goal and Mr. Rafajko danced in a tutu to the theme song from the Lego movie "Everything is Awesome" during morning announcements!

Class and grade level contests were held to see who could donate the most books. 158 students brought in books, and many donated over 100 books! Every student who donated a book received a “Building Leaders” spirit stick.

The winner in each class participated in a Bricks 4 Kidz playtime in the library. Our top class winners were:

- **Kinder**: Imani Childs, Erin Harris, Madison & Gracie Wren, Elizabeth Rush, Megan Harris
- **1st Grade**: Addison Cervenka, Shashawath Balaji, Trevor Bordelon, Clare Fitzmaurice, Francesca Napiltonia, Trent Ehrle
- **2nd Grade**: Anna Perez, Chad Pantuso, Hannah Mohrer, Hayden Smejkal, Walker Diharce, Katie Eanes
- **3rd Grade**: Ellie Waters, Emilee Cox, Kennedi Guymon, Amanda Ealy, Alex Easley, Drew Harris, Avery Schammel
- **4th Grade**: Cara Cervenka, Angelia Sterrett, Dawson Diharce, Milanna Cowan, Madison Stockhauser, Lukas Blackmon, Anjali Mehta
- **5th Grade**: Maria Outon, Zachary Bohrer, Emma Fischer, Kole Wooster, Jaden Cortez, Fernanda Patron, Christian MacDonald, Dylan Easley

The winners of the grade level contest had the opportunity to spray Dr. Turnbo and Manny with Silly String during morning announcements! It was a big mess and a lot of fun! The grade level winners were:

- **Kinder** - Elizabeth Rush... 150 books
- **2nd Grade** - Walker Diharce... 120 books
- **4th Grade** - Lukas Blackmon... 299 books
- **1st Grade** - Clare Fitzmaurice... 72 books
- **3rd Grade** - Drew Harris... 141 books
- **5th Grade** - Kole Wooster... 244 books

The book sale took place at Blossom Athletic Center on April 4th through the 6th. The NEISD community all together donated 84,785 books, DVDs, and CDs for the sale. The district made $41,321.55 in sales, and the money was distributed among the various schools based upon the number of books donated. $2,312.28 came back to the Tuscany Heights campus to support our students and faculty.

Congratulations to our winners!! Thank you to everyone who brought in books. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with the counting and sorting of all those books as well as working various shifts during
Eat For a Cause

This spring, our Tiger families enjoyed several nights out of the kitchen while raising funds for your T.H.E. PTA. Tuscany Tigers synergized at BJ’s Brewery to raise $350 as a result of our Tigers visiting the restaurant. We also enjoyed some yummy chicken fingers at Raising Cane’s and brought in $250 from our total sales that day.

We held our final Eat For a Cause event on May 20, 2014 at Buffalo Wild Wings. The proceeds from this event benefited our Sister School, East Terrell Hills. It was a great evening for one last mingle and show of your Tiger Pride!

Thank you everyone who supports our Eat For a Cause events throughout the year. Your generosity and support helps us continue to provide fun and educational activities for our Tigers!!
It’s hard to believe we have just a couple weeks of learning left! Second grade is finishing a fantastic year with some of our most exciting units. In Reading, we will be looking at different forms of poetry as well as learning about a relatively new type of genre - media literacy. During Writing, we will be writing our own poetry in addition to persuasive articles and letters. In Math, we will focus on equivalent sets (multiplication and division!) and different types of measurement. Plants, animal life cycles, and interdependence will be the focus of Science. And in Social Studies we will wrap up the year with two awesome units - Immigration, which includes a fun bread from around the world activity, and Ancient Greece! We’ll even have a whole day devoted to celebrating what we’ve learned about the Ancient Greek culture towards the very end of the year. As you can see, we have some great things in store for the last two months of school! Thank you all for being such an amazing group of kids and parents to work with.
"Go Fish"

Second grade rocked the cafeteria with an exciting musical performance under the sea!! The cafeteria was transformed into an ocean full of colorful fish, coral reef, and even sharks!! THE second graders did a fabulous job showcasing their musical talents including rap and artistic abilities. They had the audience grooving along with them under the sea. Way to go, Second Grade!! Thank you to Mrs. Rivera and Mrs. Neibel for continuing to share your skills and patience with all of the children. T.H.E. PTA very much appreciates your dedication and hard work!

The PTA general meeting for April was held on Tuesday, April 1st. The 2013–2014 PTA Officers were voted on and approved. Thank you everyone for your continued support of T.H.E. PTA!! We are looking forward to another great year at Tuscany Heights.

A special thank you to Cub Scouts Pack 89 for doing such an awesome job leading our pledges at the April PTA meeting. Thank you, boys for a great job!!

T.H.E. PTA Inspirational Writing Contests

April 1st is April Fool’s Day and it’s a day where jokes are allowed so the theme chosen was: “If I could play a joke on my family on April Fool’s Day, what would it be? ” Our second graders got creative and had fun with this writing contest. The winner was Eshal Ali from Mrs. Silvers’ 2nd grade class. A special thank you to our PTA members that judged the essays and to The Invitation Chicks for providing prizes for our winning student and teacher.

April Fools
by Eshal Ali
Mrs. Silvers’ 2nd grade class

Today is April Fool’s Day so I am going to do a trick on my family. The first trick will be on my little brother! My brother will tell me that he wants water. I will give him milk instead. When he drinks the milk he would not like it. That was my first trick. My next trick will be on my dad! My dad will ask me to bring his work. But I will bring my homework. My dad will never notice and he will do my homework for me. I will tell my dad “Thank you for doing my homework for me”. My dad will say “What??” I will say “Happy April Fool’s Day!!”
Tuscany Tigers exploded into the Fiesta Book Fair during the week of May 5 - 9 to shop for their favorite Scholastic books, posters, and can’t live without pens and pencils! Tigers found great books to keep them reading over their summer break while helping to benefit THE Library Resources. Students also helped out their teachers' classroom libraries by shopping from their teachers wish lists. Our wonderful Tiger families bought over 3,000 books. Profits from the Book Fair sales will be used to implement Tuscany’s Library Transformation Plan. This plan includes book purchases, new signage, supplies, etc. Way to go Tiger Readers!!!!
PTA May General Meeting

The final general PTA meeting for 2013-2014 was held on Tuesday, May 6. A huge thank you to Brownie Troop 766 for opening our May PTA meeting by leading the pledges. Great job, girls! If your group would like to participate in a 2014-2015 meeting, please contact programs@tuscanyheightspta.org.

May's writing contest was about what first graders enjoyed most about their school year, so the question was: What did you like the most about 1st grade?"

The winner this month was Quin Moyer from Mrs. Borgeson's class.

“What I like the most about 1st grade!”
by Quin Moyer

My favorite thing in first grade was when we learned about Egypt, it was awesome. To learn about different countries you must seek first to understand then to be understood.

I am so glad that girls go to school now because in ancient Egypt boys only went to school. Maybe someday in Egypt kids will be learning about ancient U.S.A. history and the first girl president of the U.S.A. and maybe she was a Tuscany Tiger.

Thank you to The Invitation Chicks for providing prizes for our winning students and teachers this year!! Another thank you to all the PTA board members that judged the writing contests each month. Thank you for supporting our PTA writing program!! It is wonderful to see our students shine!
First Graders Serve Wonderful Reading Selections at the Annual Reading Restaurant

How in the world did it get to be May already? THE Fabulous First Grade is greeting the end of the year with a jam packed schedule filled with excitement, discovery, and exploration. Our field trip to Sea World was perfect. We had loads of parent volunteers and everyone had the best day! Due to the craziness of life we rescheduled our Fiesta parade which was the culmination of our Mexico studies. We are finishing up our animal unit by having habitat rotations where each teacher will explore a different habitat in their classrooms. On May 6th our rooms were transformed for our Reading Restaurants. The following are brief descriptions of each restaurant.

Borgeson’s Magic Time Machine reading restaurant had a grand opening on the evening of May 6th. Character waiters and waitresses served an assortment of original reading materials for parents to choose from. We hope to have delighted our customers!

Ms. Jayson’s Mad Hatter Tea Party reading restaurant had a splendid opening on the evening of May 6th so don’t be late, for this very important date! Character waiters and waitresses will be serving an assortment of original reading materials for parents to choose from. We hope we served our customers well and did not drive anyone MAD!!!!

We are WILD about books at Lunsford’s Reading Rainforest Café! Our doors only open for one special night a year when tour guides ROAR to life and serve our guests an array of one-of-a-kind writing selections. It’s an event where you’ll want to be SPOTTED!!!

Mrs. Helms Hacienda Café opened May 6th. Reservations were required with your favorite waiter or waitress and their parents selected from a menu of assorted reading materials. Tips accepted!

Parents are WANTED!! Mrs. Hunt has rounded up some clever cowboys and cowgirls to read at the Rootin’ Tootin’ Restaurant! Parents strapped on their boots, saddled up and were ready to be wrangled into a night on the range (THE). We have roped in some remarkable reading selections for you to enjoy! We were glad to see everyone ride on over to join the fun!! YEEHAW!!

Kawabunga Dude! Reading Restaurant was totally awesome!! Mrs. Schmid’s class was sailing through their reading at Schmid’s Surf Shack this year. The room was colorfully decorated with a casual beach theme and all the student waiters wore beach wear and flip flops. The parents were greeted with silver platters and a surfboard menu full of wonderfully prepared reading options. The little surfers ended the evening with a Daily Special….poetry pockets!

So tempting…..right? We are not done yet! At the end of the year we will be turning our rooms into camp grounds and we’ll review the year with activities centered around the camping theme.
We want to give a HUGE thank you to our FABULOUS FIRST GRADE staff. You have been fantastic this year and helped serve up an exciting evening showcasing the wonderful Tiger readers and writers our students are becoming!!
(from left to right: Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Jayson, Nicole Nye (student teacher), Mrs. Borgeson, Mrs. Lunsford, Mrs. Schmid, Emily Garcia (student teacher), Mrs. Helms

PTA PRESENTS...ORBIT EARTH

When Tuscany Heights students entered the gym on April 16th, they were taken on an amazing Orbit Earth journey presented by Trinity Science Solutions.

Students could manipulate a 16 foot Earth and a 4 foot moon to create the cycles, systems and relationships between the earth, moon, and sun.

Students also experienced phenomena such as eclipses, seasonal and lunar cycles, patterns in space, rotation vs. revolutions, the tides, gravity, characteristics of the sun, order of the planets and more. This program helped the students and teachers to review and relate what they had been studying in science during the year and also helping the fifth graders to be more prepared for their state science testing.
T.H.E. PTA celebrated our hard working, loving, and supportive teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week held May 5-9. We take this time out each year to celebrate our FANTASTIC staff in their commitment to excellence in education all year long. Each day came with special treats in the classroom from students and parents, as well as staff splurges in the lounge provided by the PTA to enjoy during lunchtime. Mrs. Bailey and administration also provided daily treats and surprises.

Students and parents brought cards and notes of gratitude, thankfulness, and love to share with their teachers. Students helped to replenish classroom supplies, including new books purchased from the Scholastic Book Fair teacher wish lists. Students also showed their love and support for their specials teachers on Tuesday. Friday topped off the week with students bringing in items for their teachers to get ready for some well deserved relaxation for the summer break. All teachers were provided lunch of their choice, organized and delivered by their class room parent.

T.H.E. PTA offered special daily treats in the staff mailboxes as well, such as Hugs Kisses for a hug. Lunch offerings throughout the week included Freebirds and a salad and yogurt bar. We hope this small token of appreciation made THE staff feel just as special as they are.

The PTA Staff Appreciation team also hosts staff birthday celebrations and other holiday events throughout the year. If you are interested in showing your appreciation for our wonderful teachers and staff throughout next year, please contact staffappreciation@tuscanyheightspta.org.
Recognizing Paw Power

Tuscany Tigers have done a great job helping to make a difference in our community this year! In April, we had 20 Tuscany Heights volunteers who came out and spent an afternoon picking up trash at Stone Oak Park.

On May 21st we honored 26 students with their Presidential Volunteer Service Award. These students each logged a minimum of 50 volunteer hours this past year through various activities such as picking up litter, Scouting activities, helping in their church, walking a neighbor’s dog, assisting with the morning announcements and serving with T.H.E. safety patrol to be eligible for the award and special pin. T.H.E. PTA recognized all students who completed at least 10 hours of community service with a spirit stick. Students were asked to log their hours served throughout the year. We had a fabulous year of initiating community service within T.H.E. and have great hopes of increasing participation for next year.

Congratulations to all of the 2013-2014 PVSA recipients and thank you everyone for your service to your school and your community. What an amazing group of leaders these students are already becoming! As we wrap up the school year, we will be holding a drive to collect leftover school supplies. HOPE Ministries will distribute these items to schools and other organizations in need. Look for the collection box outside the office during these last couple of school weeks.

Thank you to all those who helped make a difference in our community this year!
Fifth Grade Class of 2014

T.H.E. 5th Grade Class of 2014 has been busy preparing for their next journey...middle school! Future Bulldogs visited Bush Middle School on May 22nd, while future T-Wolves visited Tejeda Middle School on June 3rd. The soon to be 6th graders met their new principals and caught a glimpse of their schedules and middle schools in action.

On May 21st the 5th graders celebrated their End-of-Year Party at Gold’s Gym Rogers Ranch. The party included food, music and fun memories! The students received personalized ear buds with "Hear me ROAR" and sunglasses with "THE Class of 2014" imprinted on them. Many thanks to all the volunteers that made this party a wonderful experience for the students.

As the year came to an end, the 5th graders celebrated their success with an Awards Ceremony on June 5th. Students were recognized for their club participation and academic achievements. In keeping with tradition, the 5th grade class presented the school with a one-of-a-kind gift. Each student contributed in creating a tiger created solely of Rainbow Loom links. The tiger was first drawn by Mia Wildeman. The loomed tiger will decorate the foyer for years to come.

Best wishes to T.H.E. 5th Grade Class of 2014...we are ready to "Hear You Roar!"
Get connected with T.H.E. PTA and join the 2014-2015 Executive Board

We are looking for volunteers to serve on T.H.E PTA Board next year. These positions are open: Spirit Items, Lunchroom, Directory, Campus Beautification, Hospitality, Lost & Found, Special Education, Veterans Day, Bulletin Board/Display Case, and Legislative Action. As always, we need volunteers for various events throughout the year like Bike Rodeo, Field Day, and Run For The Heights. There are opportunities for everyone, so please contact Alana Harris, president@tuscanyheightspta.org, if you are interested in helping or serving in a chair position.

Tuscany Heights PTA 2014 – 2015 Officers

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<td>President</td>
<td>Alana Harris</td>
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<td>1st VP</td>
<td>Mindy Waters</td>
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<td>2nd VP Ways &amp; Means</td>
<td>Tina Guerrero</td>
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<td>4th VP Volunteers</td>
<td>Jennifer Easley</td>
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<td>Leigh Ellis</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Amanda Foshee</td>
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T.H.E. PTA Disbursement Committee Report

The 2013-2014 Disbursement Committee consist of staff members, PTA members, and the Principal. This committee’s responsibility is to gather input from students, staff, and parents about how to spend this year’s excess PTA funds. With the priorities of safety, instruction, and wellness in mind, the committee presented the following items at T.H.E. PTA May General Meeting to be purchased:

- 12 Walkie Talkies $3,609.60
- Special Ed - 3 external CD Rom Drives $150.00
- Generator - 5,700 Watt $549.00
- Microphone for Kinder classroom $1,100.00
- Music subscription $49.78
- PT Avenue Software $199.00
- Grade Level Curriculum $3,942.80 ($657.13 per grade level)

Thank you to our membership for approving these items for our next school year!
THE Librarian, Mrs. Johnson says...Don't forget to keep on READING over the summer break!!!!

http://neisd.libguides.com/welcome_tuscany_heights_library

This link provides parents and students great reading suggestions (even in Spanish). I will continue to update my site throughout the summer. They should be posting next year’s battle list soon, and I’ll add that BEFORE summer. Also, there is a link to OverDrive on the Summer Reading link. Students just need their Tuscany student ID to have access to awesome digital and audio books. We might suggest that parents sign up for parent accounts so they have access to books on OverDrive too 😊

Summer is the perfect time to READ, READ, READ! A big thank you to our PTA for promoting my webpage which (hopefully) will inspire our kiddos to read for pleasure.

Have a WONDERFUL SUMMER!!!! We will see all of our TERRIFIC Tiger families back in August 2014. Meet the Teacher Nights are Aug 19 & 21. First Day of School is Monday, August 25, 2014!!
One last Special thanks to all of our generous sponsors who supported our 4th Annual Run for the Heights!
We hope to see everyone back again next year.

PLATINUM SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSORS

SILVER SPONSORS