

October 2011

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## From the Principal's Desk

Parents,

We are almost finished with the first nine-weeks of school already! We have so many exciting things going on at school. If you are on campus in the next few weeks, you will notice that we are building fruit and vegetable gardens. Each team of teachers will grow their own garden. They will choose what they are going to grow and they will be responsible for taking care of their garden. This school-wide project ties into so many content areas for our students in math and science, and it will also serve as a source of inspiration for many reading and writing activities. We also want our students to see where some of the food they eat comes from and teach them that it is healthy to grow and eat fresh food.

We also will be taking our third graders to Houston during October. They are going to be thrilled at the site of one of North America's largest dinosaur collections, dazzled as they compare their sparkly geodes and amazed by the thousands of butterflies they will walk through in a rainforest environment. Thank you for supporting us in sharing this opportunity with your children.

October also brings the excitement of Homecoming to our district. We will have early dismissal (1:05) on Friday, October 14 so that our students can attend the homecoming parade. Come out and support our Broncos!!!

Have a wonderful month!

Jennifer Marangos

## News From Around the School

### LIBRARY

SMENCILS for sale \$1 - they can be purchased during regular Destination Lab and Library class visits. Money collected from the sale of SMENCILS help to purchase prizes for meeting AR goals.

### P.E.

It's hard to believe that September is almost over. The few days of cooler weather were a welcome change from the summer heat and are a promise that fall is around the corner.

We, in the P.E. department, have worked on loco motor skills, such as running, skipping, hopping, and galloping along with learning directions (clockwise and counterclockwise). It's always fun to see the excitement on the children's faces when they are participating. Now, our focus has been on throwing, tossing, and rolling. We also incorporate other activities to help develop coordination.

With the cooler weather, we will start preparing the students for the Mustang Miler program. This is a running program designed to help develop endurance in the students. Developing endurance at a young age is valuable because it tends to stay with the child as they grow. The Mustang Miler program is also a school wide competition, which adds to the fun of the program.

We have also started our jump rope training; our goal is to help every child become proficient with a jump rope. Last year we were successful with many of our students being able to jump double dutch by the end of the year.

As a point of interest, the President's Council on Physical Fitness encourages children 6 - 17 years of age to get 60 minutes of physical activity every day (for more info <http://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/everyone/guidelines/index.html>). From the P.E. department, thank you parents for your support.



### ART

So far, it has been an exciting year in art. Students had the opportunity to visit the LSU Museum of Art on their first field trip to see the artwork of world renowned Louisiana artist, George Rodrigue. They learned all about Rodrigue from his paintings of the Cajuns to his infamous Blue Dog.

Line, shape, and color play important roles when creating art--students are learning this through creating their own interpretation of Blue Dog. They are selecting their own animal as well as the color of their animal and will create a background painting for their animal.

### SPANISH

The kids are having a great time in Spanish class! We are reviewing greetings and working on Spanish letters and their sounds. We will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month through October 15, learning about famous people, music, and cultures of several countries. The votes are in! Our parrot finally has a name - Taco. Thank you Abbi Freeman for the name suggestion. Ask your child to tell you about our class pets - Taco the parrot, Lulu the cat, and Chichi the puppy, all manufactured by a company called *Fur Real Friends*.

### GUIDANCE

News flash! Guess who is coming to guidance during the month of October? Here's a hint-- Red Ribbon Week is just around the corner, and who is better to talk about bullying, tobacco, and strangers? It's Officer J!!! Officer J will be coming October 3<sup>rd</sup> to share great information to keep you safe!

## SECOND GRADE NEWS

Second grade is ready to welcome Fall! Students will be floating soap boats for Columbus Day and creating their own musical instruments. Don't forget, we will be meeting with every parent this first nine weeks. We look forward to discussing your child's progress with you.

We will continue to work on strategies for basic addition and subtraction. Please practice math facts with your child a few minutes every day and involve them in problem solving as much as possible. We do math every day in our lives – counting money, telling time, cooking, or just figuring out how much of something we need. Encourage your child's help.

During the month of October, second grade students will be learning about nouns, nouns, and more nouns! We will be studying plural nouns of all kinds, then moving on to possessive nouns. As our Spelling words get a little tougher, with vowel combinations, it is a good idea to spend a little extra time studying those words!

October is the kickoff month for a new program that 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students will be participating in this year. It is the Book It! Program that is sponsored by Pizza Hut. Your child's teacher will be sending home information on this reading incentive program with your child. October 6 is National Read for the Record Day. Our students will be participating by listening to the story Llama, Llama Red Pajama. We will also be learning about making predictions and story plot (beginning, middle, end) in class this month. Please make sure your child is reading at least 15 minutes a day to help them grow as a reader.



Alexis Kilgore



Owen Walters

Trinity Major

Zaid Hantash

Reese Hughes

Madeline Watson

Destiny Edelen

Lucien Foy-Dyer

Cade LeBlanc

Kendal Babin

LaNay Mealey

Malia Washington

Destiny Blount

Cayden Allen

Brandon Hayman

Jules Patin

Kiara Castillo

Wyatt Barbe

Morgan Veal

Robby Faucheux

Nicholas Foreman

Dustin Chase

Kirsten Conradi

Seth Welch

Ethan Stratham

Gray Petty

Eli Carr

Michael Cooper

Paige Buckley

Lindsey Beard

Cullen Cassard

Kale Bordelon

Brantly Martin

Alex Reed

Kaelyn Johnson

Kenson Tate

Michelle Tran

Catherine Lemoine

Joshua Wittig

## THIRD GRADE NEWS

Third graders have done an excellent job of settling into their school environment! We are all looking forward to our field trip to the Houston Museum of Natural Science. This will be an exciting and fabulous learning opportunity for us all! The end of the first nine weeks is October 14<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will begin scheduling conferences within the next several weeks.

In Math we will continue to explore place value concepts and practice our rounding skills. We will then explore addition algorithms. In Language Arts we are strengthening our reading skills through comprehension and vocabulary activities and by reading to one another in reading groups. We have been extending our study of map skills in Social Studies by learning about the different types of maps and how to interpret them. In Science we are enriching our understanding of Paleontology. We will be using grid coordinates to excavate prehistoric fossils!

The third grade teachers of Zachary Elementary would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents who continually support us in our responsibilities of educating your children. Let's continue to have a great year!

### DID YOU KNOW?

We are collecting the following items for recycling:

- \*Empty Elmer's glue bottles
- \*Empty Glue sticks
- \*Capri Sun pouches

Also please send your Community Coffee labels, Box Tops for Education labels, and Sunny Delight labels.

## REMINDERS

Sept. 30	Yearbook Deadline @ \$30
Oct. 5	Fall Pictures Students must wear uniforms ZES Night @ Pizza Hut
Oct. 6	Read for the Record
Oct. 7	Houston Field Trip Group 1 Free Dress
Oct. 10-11	Fall Break—NO SCHOOL
Oct. 14	Early Dismissal 1:05 pm Homecoming
Oct. 18	ZES Night @ Raising Cane's
Oct. 19	Report Cards Go Home
Oct. 21	Houston Field Trip Group 2
Oct. 28	Houston Field Trip Group 3