



Travis Heights Newsletter

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Lisa Robertson, Principal

November , 2013

Dina Mason, Asst. Principal

Travis Heights In-District Charter update

Our classes have been working "behind the scenes" on their Service Learning themes. PK have visited the eldercare center at Live Oak and Congress twice this year. Some of the residents of the center have also visited our campus and PK students for lunch. Together they are sharing their stories and learning from each other. Another example of this classroom work is in 4th grade. 4th grade students are working on recognizing the strengths in our diverse student population. The books our 4th grade students are currently reading in their classroom are diverse, multi-cultural, and focus on students with disabilities and their strengths. Service Learning is a year long process. The work/research being done now will lead to the service projects in the spring.

Science Day

Our 8th annual Young Scientists' Day is coming on November 14. This outstanding day was created so that each of our students have an opportunity to meet a real scientist. Our students can ask questions from real people who use Science to do their daily jobs. 3rd-5th grade students selected from our visiting Scientists 5 who they would like to see. They will have an opportunity to meet with 2 professionals in a "college style" setting to learn how their Science skills are used in their careers. In addition, our students in grades PK-2 will have an outstanding Science presentation that will encourage them to use Science and ask questions. One area of need is to provide food for our Scientists. If you would like to help, please call our office and we will give your contact information to JoyJean Hughes our parent organizer. We also want to take this moment to recognize the work done by Ashley McClain and her dedication to Science learning for all students.

Attendance Alert

I am proud of our attendance percentage for the first 6 weeks. We achieved 96%. This is good, but we are still below our district average. We are entering the time of year when flu, allergies, and colds attack. Please send your child to school. If we discover a fever, we will call you and take care of your child until you can pick them up. But if they don't have a fever, send them to school!

Literacy Night

Did you know that our Kinder and First grade students learn 800 words a year to be on grade level by the end of 2nd grade? This requires focus, daily practice, and creative use of learning time. We want to share ideas how you can assist your child in learning to read. We will hold a Literacy Night on Thursday, October 21st, from 5-6. This will be before our regular monthly PTA meeting. Please join us for this fun learning time.

Online Opportunities for Students

Blended Learning is a key component of our instructional program for our in-district charter. We have several programs that we use in our classrooms that you can access at home to support learning with your child. Below are some of the programs. Please see your child's teacher to learn more about your child's log in information and access to these learning programs. We will also review these at the Literacy Night in November.

IStation – K – 5 a reading program in English and Spanish

Dreambox – K-5 a math program in English that adapts based on the student's responses.

Typing Club – 2nd -5th to help students with key boarding.

Learning .com – 3rd-5th an online system to assist with typing and technology skills.

Think Through Math – 3rd-5th

Achieve 3000 – 3rd-5th, an online Reading program that is adaptive based on student's responses

November Dates

Nov. 5 Election Day – Go Vote!, picture retakes

Nov. 9 Fun Run

Nov. 11 Student Holiday – Veterans' Day

Nov. 14 Science Day

Nov. 21 5:00 Literacy Night

6:00 PTA meeting

Nov. 22 8:00 Coffee Chat

Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Break

