

Garden Oaks Elementary News from Principal Pollock

THE EAGLE'S NEST

April 26, 2010

THANK YOU for RETURNING your Chocolate Money!

Thank you for the immediate response to the return of chocolate money! We have collected nearly all of the money due. Ms Wehr will be scheduling the special presentation so if you still have fundraiser money, please turn it in immediately. If you have already returned your chocolate money, MANY THANKS!

TAKS Testing this week

Our third, fourth and fifth grade students will be participating in the TAKS tests this coming week. As you know this is a very important assessment for our students. Please be sure that your children go to bed on time the night before and eat a healthy breakfast every morning. Please encourage your child(ren) and remind them to think positive. They'll be great!

Students in 3rd and 4th grades will take the Math TAKS on Tuesday and the Reading TAKS on Wednesday. 5th graders will take the Science TAKS on Thursday. Remember, **NO VISITORS on campus during TAKS for any reason.**

THANK YOU HOME TOUR VOLUNTEERS!

The Garden Oaks Civic Club Home Tour was a big success! We had many visitors to the campus and everyone was impressed by the beautiful garden beds and outdoor spaces that are present on the campus. Thank you again to all the work day volunteers who prepped the campus and to the parents and students who came out to give tours on Sunday. YOU make our school a very special place!

Also, please stop by the front office to see the plans developed by Vena Golt for our school front makeover. They are beautiful!

Volume 2

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!

Art Car painting has begun! If you have some time to come and paint a few flowers or butterflies and copy student poetry, please let me know. The Art Car will debut on May 1st in the LULAC Cinco de Mayo parade. The Art Cars will be here at Garden Oaks on Friday May 7th. The Art Car Parade is May 8th!

Proposed Bilingual Program Change

During this month's Garden Oaks Faculty meeting, teachers and staff heard Mr. Diaz and Mr. Valladares' presentation regarding bilingual program models and implications for the students at Garden Oaks Elementary. After some discussion, the faculty voted unanimously to implement a Traditional bilingual program in the 2010-11 school year instead of the Developmental Program currently in place. This will mean that students in 4th grade will transition to a predominantly English delivery model of instruction and take all three TAKS tests in English instead of Spanish.

Neighborhood Vanguard Program (Gifted and Talented)

Students who were recently identified for Gifted and Talented services received a letter in the mail. Parents need to return the signed acceptance letter to school right away. There will be a reception for all G/T students and their parents at Garden Oaks on **Monday, May 10th at 6pm** (please note the date in the original letter was incorrect).

Important Reminders

EARLY DISMISSAL –
this FRIDAY APRIL 30TH at 1pm
Breakfast in the classroom will begin May 18th

School profiles for HISD campuses are available at www.houstonisd.org – Check out our new and improved website!

from the desk of Ms. Pollock, Principal Garden Oaks Elementary
“Soaring to Exemplary!”