

PTA NEWS

11/15/2016

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Would you like to join the RCE PTA mailing list?

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

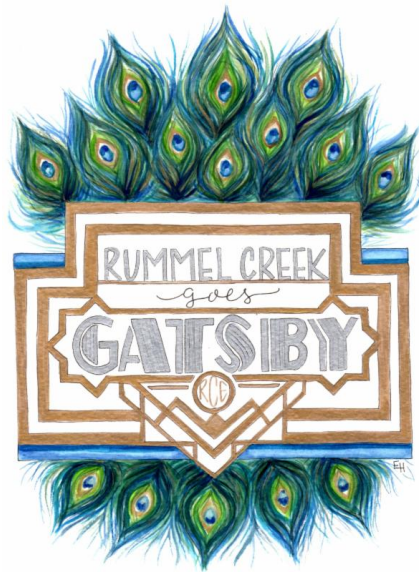
Important Info and Upcoming Dates

It's a busy time of year for everyone with the holidays around the corner, but your "RCE Goes Gatsby" auction team is in full swing and excited to try out some new things this year, such as the "Gatsby Getdown" which starts today. Please be sure to review all "Gatsby" information coming home in emails and backpacks to find out how you can best support and participate in their efforts. Let's make "RCE Goes Gatsby" our best auction ever and raise much-needed funds to help RCE maintain its standard of excellence for our children!

Please visit www.rcepta.com and be sure to like the "Rummel Creek Elementary", "RCE Auction", and "RCE Life Events Team" Facebook pages.

UPCOMING DATES (extended calendar at www.rcepta.com):
[Click here](#) to go to the calendar and select "Subscribe" at the bottom to sync the PTA Calendar with your calendar so you never miss out!

Date	Event	Time
11/16	"Gatsby Getdown" Kicks Off	
11/18	PTA Staff Appreciation Luncheon	
11/19	SBEF Gala at the Omni	
11/22	PTA Staff Appreciation - Thanksgiving Pies for Staff	
11/23-25	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Holiday	
11/29	Nutcracker Dress Rehearsals	
11/30	Nutcracker	6:30 p.m.
12/2	PTA General Meeting (kiva)	9:00 a.m.
12/6	5th Grade to Symphony	
12/6	"RCE Goes Gatsby" Kick-Off at Elaine Turner City Centre	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
12/7	RCE Choir Performs at Zoo Lights	7:00 p.m.; 8:00 p.m.
12/9	4th Grade to Austin	5:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
12/9	Deadline for "Gatsby Getdown" videos for class contest	
12/14	Deadline for "RCE Goes Gatsby" Gift Card Drive	
12/15	PTA Staff Appreciation Cookie Exchange for Staff	
12/16	Spirit Rally	8:45 a.m. PK-2; 9:45 a.m. 3-5
12/16	Holiday Parties	10:00 a.m. PK-2; 11:00 a.m. 3-5
12/16	Early Dismissal	12:00 p.m.
12/19-1/3	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break	



Gift Card Drive: Now thru Wednesday, December 14th

- Holiday Shopping? Grocery Shopping? Dining Out?
- Grab a gift card in any domination, write down the amount and turn into your teacher for Auction
- The Class with the most gift cards wins a "sweet treat" ...so does your teacher!

Gatsby Getdown: Wednesday, November 16

- Record your kids Getting down to our Gatsby music
- Post on Facebook (your page and RCE Auction)
- Tag 3 friends (Excited to be "tagged"? Start your own chain, tag 3 friends and donate!)
- Send video to gatsbygetdown@gmail.com with your kid's/teachers name for the chance to be featured on KRCE!
- Donate to RCE Auction at <http://bidpal.net/rcegoesgatsby>

Lookbook Submissions: Wednesday, November 16th- January 6th

- Submit your favorite family or child's photo for an ad in our catalog/lookbook
- \$50 for full page, \$25 for half
- Submit to ashleyk.marshall@yahoo.com

Elaine Turner Kickoff Party: Tuesday, December 6th

6-8PM

- Join us for an Auction kickoff party with light bites
- 15% of the proceeds from our evening will be donated back to RCE

Thank you! We are looking forward to celebrating this exciting event with you while raising money for RCE!

Ashley Marshall: ashleyk.marshall@yahoo.com

Margo Kaplan: margomkaplan@gmail.com

Kelley Phillips: kelleyhphillips@gmail.com

Joanna Graham: Joanna.graham@motivaent.com

Message from the Principal

A TIME OF THANKSGIVING

This time of year I pause to think about the many blessings in my life. I am happy to say that leading at Rummel Creek Elementary is high on my list.

I am thankful for so many things in my life - my faith, my husband, my family, my health, and this beautiful new school. But I feel especially blessed to know that every morning when I go to work, I'm going to a job that allows me to affect the lives of over 700 children every day. Most of all, I help support those who truly affect and change lives daily - our teachers. I believe the faculty at Rummel Creek is the strongest I have had the opportunity to work with in all my years in education. They are committed, competent, compassionate and courageous. They spend hours before and after school and on the weekends to make sure they give their best every day to the education of the young.

And I do believe that our teachers have thankful hearts as well. Ryan McCarthy communicated it best:

The number one thing that teachers are thankful for is their students. People outside of the field of education may be surprised at how often teachers go above and beyond to give their students every opportunity to be successful, from paying for books and supplies out of their own pockets, to spending long hours on nights and weekends grading papers and getting plans just right. The great teachers I know don't do this extra work because there is someone external who is holding them accountable; they do it because they feel accountable to their students. They love working with young people and helping them achieve their goals. Teachers get to witness their extra effort pay off in life-changing ways, as students learn new things and grow before their eyes. In return, teachers draw an endless source of energy and enthusiasm from interacting with their students.

Teachers also give thanks for their connections with fellow teachers. It's these connections, and the commitment they have for one another, that keep teachers coming back year after year. The job of teaching is too hard to do alone; having that built-in support group can make all the difference.

Teachers are grateful for coaching from leaders who encourage growth. Much as students can often point to that one teacher who made a difference in their lives, I am struck by how often teachers can point to that one coach or a leader who believed in them and saw potential, or pushed them to take on a leadership position that made all the difference in their careers. Schools cannot sustain success without a commitment to teacher development, and teachers are thankful for leaders who see their primary role as developing teachers, not merely evaluating them.

Behind every great teacher is a support system of friends and family that have shared the joy and tears, the long hours grading, and the late nights at conferences. Family support is what enables teachers to be at their best for their students. Families understand that teachers don't really get the summers "off." And unlike other professional jobs, where excellence is rewarded financially, families of great teachers may have had to make tough choices about their own family priorities to stretch a teacher's salary to meet their needs.

I am filled with a sense of gratitude for the Rummel Creek staff, students, families and friends. Hope you enjoy this season of Thanksgiving.

Nancy Harn
Principal @ Rummel Creek Elementary
713-251-6700

Counselor's Corner

Dear Parents,

If you have a 3rd - 5th grade student who is not new to SBISD and who was referred for the Gifted and Talented (GT) Program this year please read below:

Information regarding your child's educational needs was collected through three measures: the activities done in your child's classroom, the parent inventory you completed, and a standardized inventory completed by your child's teacher(s). These three measures make up the first level of evaluation for potential inclusion in the GT program.

Last year, your child was administered a nationally norm-referenced standardized test either because of a GT referral or because of the district wide NRT testing. SBISD honors test scores for two years; therefore, your child's test scores from last year will be used from this year. The scores will be considered along with the data collected in the first level of evaluation to determine whether an educational need for GT services is evident. In February, I will mail you the decision of the district's identification committee regarding your child's eligibility for the GT program. **Parents may expect their letters to be mailed in February.

Students new to SBISD will be taking a nationally standardized, norm referenced test during the testing window of November 28th

- December 8th for which your child cannot study. The scores from these tests will be considered along with data collected in the first level of evaluation to determine if an educational need for GT services is evident. **Results are expected to be mailed in February.

Please contact Jennifer Buchert with further questions and concerns.

Jennifer Buchert
School Counselor
713-251-6702
Jennifer.buchert@springbranchisd.com

Turkey Trot

Tuesday, November 22nd
Rummel Creek
"Turkey Trot"

Parents, grandparents, and friends, come join your child for the "RCE Turkey Trot". This will be for kindergarten through second grade only.

We will begin on the covered hard top and our trot will be on the new RCE track.

The Schedule is:

Kindergarten - 12:25
First grade - 1:15
Second grade - 2:00

Hope you can come and join in on the fun!!!

Debbie Moore
Health Fitness teacher
Rummel Creek Elementary

If it rains the event will be cancelled!

School Bell Award Nominations

It's time to nominate one of our special RCE staff members for the
PTA School Bell Award!

The School Bell Award recognizes outstanding SBISD staff members who **promote the purposes of the PTA and are advocates for all children**. Nominees are recognized at the Founder's Day Banquet in February (being held this year at our beautiful new RCE!) The SBISD School Bell winner will be selected from the nominees and will be announced at the Founder's Day Banquet.

All adults and students are welcome to nominate.

Please complete your nominations by

January 3rd, 2017.

Our RCE nominee will be announced at the January general PTA meeting.

Please click [here](#) for the student nomination form.
Please click [here](#) for the adult nomination form.

Nomination forms can also be found at www.rcepta.com.

Save the Date for Science Fair

RCE SCIENCE FAIR 2017
JANUARY 26TH

Hello parents and kids! Did you ever wonder how things work? Start thinking about experiments you might want to try. Science Fair is fast approaching on January 26, 2017. More details to come...

You shop. Amazon gives to the PTA.

'Tis the season for gift giving, and did you know that when you shop at Amazon RCE can benefit, too?



#StartWithaSmile at smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6086262 for your holiday gifts and Amazon will donate to us. Make sure you've designated PTA Texas Congress 5216 Rummel Creek Elementary.

Sherwood Elementary Coat and Winter Clothing Drive

Please donate any gently used coats or winter clothing you may have for the students of our sister school, Sherwood Elementary. We will be collecting the donated items in a box in the front lobby until December 1st. Below is a little information about our sister school:

Sherwood Elementary is located in northwest Spring Branch. Led by Principal Stefanie Spencer, SWE is a place for students with diverse backgrounds and cultures to learn, build leadership and enhance future options while excelling in a small school family. 67% of the student population at SWE is economically disadvantaged so SWE is considered a Title I school like many north-side campuses in SBISD. Our families have choices of academic offerings including

One-Way and Two-Way dual language programs as well as Mainstream. We believe in nurturing the whole child. We work to provide students with tools to manage themselves, gain confidence, and treasure kindness. Some of our programs and partners are Rummel Creek Elementary (our sister school), Spring Branch Mentor Program, Kloz Engineering, Pines Presbyterian Church, Christ Community Church, and Family Point Services. SWE annually takes part in the No Place for Hate Campaign and the SBISD Share A Smile Campaign.

Purchase Your 2017 Yearbook and Dedication Ads

It is not too late to order your 2017 RCE Yearbook! Orders can be placed online by going to Balfour.com, type in your school name and place your order using a debit or credit card. The Deadline to order a Yearbook is **3/31/17**.

Purchase your Dedication Ads today! It is quick and easy. A 1/8 Ad is \$20.00. Deadline to order your Ad is **1/15/2017**. You can order your Ad by following a few simple steps:

1. Visit balfour.com and Search for Rummel Creek.
2. Create an account (name, e-mail and password)
3. Enter student's first and last name, then click Create New Ad
4. Choose an ad design
5. Upload photos and design ad
6. Click Add to Cart and Checkout.

Questions? Email: rceyearbook@yahoo.com

Watch DOGS



WATCHDOGS!!!! We are off to a great start this year with almost 80 Watchdogs on campus already. We have a total of over 200 Watchdogs volunteer days already signed up for and only have about 90 slots open after the first of the year.

Our 1st year program has been a huge success and we can only do better. If you have been a WatchDog already please share your experience with your friends and neighbors and encourage them to get signed up ASAP.

Please send this link to those dads that have not signed up

yet and lets get everyone involved.

Thank You to all that have Volunteered I know our kids, teachers, and our entire community is feeling the impact, keep up the great work.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044dadaf23a31-welcome>

Bike Brigade



If your kids are not already riding their bikes to school and participating in the RCE Bike Brigade please consider this comment we recently received from one of our RCE Parents.

"My kids and a tremendous amount of other RCE students are found looking like this most school mornings.... riding their bikes with other friends and neighbors, starting and ending their school day in the fresh air, relying on each other, building independence and confidence... the benefits are innumerable, and I could go on."

Riding your bike to and from school is very easy in our community all we have to do is let them. Please make an effort to let your kids or try to encourage your kids to ride their bikes. Find neighbors or friends they can ride with, or ride with them or run along next to them for the exercise and keep them off Buses and out of the car rider line. The benefits of learning to ride and continuing to ride a bike will stick with your kids their whole lives.