

# The Eagle Eye

Garden Oaks PTA Newsletter

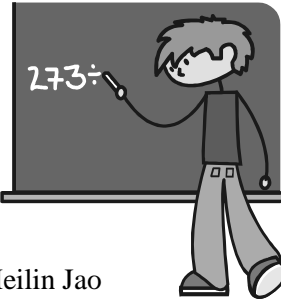
December, 2008

## Students Compete in Math Challenge

The 17th Semi-Annual, Rainbow Challenge

Mathematics Competition-HISD-Central Region was on Saturday, November 8, at Regan H.S. 7:30 am - 12:30 pm. The group competition involved working as a team to answer a complex math problem. Results were presented orally by the team in front of judges.

Adrian Earle was the sole student representative for the third grade group and individual competition. Zyanya Samantha Beckler, Aurelio Melendez, Moises Morales, and Amaris Fullelove were representatives for the fourth grade group and individual competition. Savannah Santacruz was the sole representative for the fifth grade group and individual competition. The fourth grade team placed 3rd for the group competition. Mrs. Anderson would like to thank all of the students for their participation and the following parents: Nancy Beckler, Damaris Chavira and Amy Earle. It was great experience for the students. We are all proud of our scholars!



## Black Middle School News

Our neighborhood middle school is offering more great programs. Principal Meilin Jao reports:

- Participation in district-wide competitions, including a 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner in the Fire Prevention Art Contest, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place for both the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade teams in the Rainbow Math Challenge.
- New Library, with a new librarian on staff.
- New Swim Team!
- The number of Vanguard (GT) students is increasing!

## Thanks for donations!!!

The Fall Festival silent auction gift baskets were a great success! Many thanks to all of the business donors: Academy Sports, AMF Bowling, Best Buy, Don Teo's, Helle Johnson (Arbonne Cosmetics), Kroger, Lindsey Advertising, Natalie Torres (Mary Kay Cosmetics), Shipley's Donuts, Wheel of Fortune, Urban Harvest, Lisa Weber (baked goods), The Petrol Station and Janet Dublechain (antiques). *Thanks!*

## Blanket Raffle, By Isela Villarreal

The winners of the Farmers' Blanket Raffle are: The Mickey Mouse blanket went to Lizette Muir & the Lizzie McGuire blanket went to Joel Rosas. All had fun trying to get the coin in the glass! Looking forward to doing this again next year!

## The PTA President's Corner

Dear Parents:

December 9th is **National Parental Involvement Day**. What does that mean?... Really, every day is Parental Involvement Day, but this day, you can make an extra effort to show your child how much you care and how much you enjoy being involved at their school, sport, homework or whatever it may be. This means a lot to the children. They not only *know* you care, but *see* and *feel* it too!

If you don't know what to do, ask their teacher or better yet, ask your child! Talk to them! Ask about their day – what they did and what they learned. It's surprising what we parents can learn from our children when we take the time to talk with them... and listen.

*Helle Johnson*  
Garden Oaks PTA President

## Recycle to benefit FOM

Gather up those old cell phones and ink jet printer cartridges. Don't throw them in the trash -- we can recycle them for cash! Friends of

Montessori will be placing a box in the office for collection, and all proceeds will benefit FOM programs. We will collect all types of phones, but no chargers or other accessories, please. Talk to your employer about giving used printer cartridges to the school.

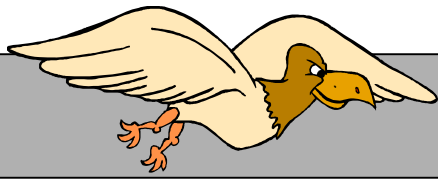
We can keep these items out of landfills and make money doing it!



## Volunteers Needed for Silent Auction!!

It is time to get ready for "The Friends of Montessori's 15th Annual Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction"! Donation request letters have been sent. In hopes of receiving a majority of donations prior to Winter Break, we need Parent Volunteers to step forward and be part of the action! Volunteers are needed to call business donors as a follow up to our mailer. Others are needed to pick up donated items.

If you would like to support our Program by being a Parent Volunteer, please contact one of the event Co-Chairs: Amye Webster, Elizabeth Klein, or Tonya/Rick Knauth at 713-320-7294 or [friendsofmontessori@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofmontessori@yahoo.com).



**PTA Board Meetings**

Did you know that everyone is welcome at the board meetings? Well, you are cordially invited! We are always interested in hearing from new people. Come see what PTA folks are doing and be part of supporting our school. Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 8:15 am in the Teacher's Lounge.

**Newsletter Information**

Drop off contributions for the Eagle Eye in the PTA mailslot in the office or email them to [Theresa@TheComstocks.org](mailto:Theresa@TheComstocks.org).  
 Garden Oaks Elementary School Administration has final editing privileges.  
*Many thanks for translation by Isela Villarreal.*

**Mark your Calendar**



Monday, December 1	Science Fair Proposals due to classroom teachers (Final projects due Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup> )
Tuesday, December 2	PTA Board Meeting, 8:15 am – <i>All are welcome!</i>
Tuesday, December 2	Civic Club Meeting, 7 pm
Saturday, December 6	Magnet Open House, 9 – noon at Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 W. 18th
December 8 – 12	Garden Oaks Montessori Program Open House – Tours will begin daily at 9 am
December 8 – 12	HISD Magnet Awareness Week. Tours at each Magnet program begin daily at 1 pm
Tuesday, December 9	PTA Teacher Holiday Luncheon
Tuesday, December 9	Central Region Middle School Forum, 6 – 8 pm at Clifton Middle School
Wednesday, December 10	Shared Decision Making Committee (SDMC) Meeting, 3:30 pm – <i>All are welcome!</i>
Thursday, December 11	Holiday Feast, 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Wednesday, December 17	Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting, 8 – 8:45 am – <i>All are welcome!</i>
Tuesday, December 17	PTA Meeting, 6 pm (Holiday Event)
Thursday, December 18	Class Parties, 1 pm
Thursday, December 18	Friends of Montessori Board Meeting, 6 – 8 pm
Friday, December 19	Early Dismissal, 1 pm
December 20 – Jan. 5	Winter Holiday
Tuesday, January 6	School begins

**The Tid-Bit: Remember to have a good breakfast!**

*Breakfast plays an important role in children's ability to learn and behave.*

**Good Foods:** Just like with other meals, try to eat a variety of foods, including:

- grains (breads and cereals)
- protein (meats, beans, and nuts)
- fruits and vegetables
- milk, cheese, and yogurt



**No-No's:** Try not to have donuts, pastries & sugary cereals all the time. They're high in calories, sugar, and fat and don't contain the nutrients a kid needs. Kids having these for breakfast won't feel full for long.

**Breakfast Ideas (Weird but yummy):**

- Banana dog (peanut butter, a banana, and raisins in a long whole-grain bun)
- Fruit and cream cheese sandwich (use strawberries or other fresh fruit)
- Leftovers (they're not just for dinner anymore!)

**Breakfast Ideas (Traditional):**

- Eggs, French toast, waffles, or pancakes (try wheat or whole-grain varieties)
- Cold cereal and milk (try it w/fruit)
- Hot cereal, such as oatmeal or cream of wheat (try some dried fruit or nuts on top)
- Whole-grain toast, bagel, English muffin or tortilla w/cheese
- Yogurt with fruit or nuts

**Weight Conscious?** Some kids skip breakfast because they think it's a way to stay thin. However, someone who skips breakfast tends to eat more calories throughout the day. Kids who don't eat breakfast are less able to learn at school, get less iron (an important nutrient) in their diets, and are more likely to have a higher body mass index (BMI), which is a sign they may be overweight.

