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ENCINO PARK ELEMENTARY

Colleen Bohmann, Principal
Audrey Garcia, Assistant Principal
Tara Lundmark, PTA President

www.encinoparkpta.org

February 2012

PTA President Update

Tara Lundmark, PTA President

Happy New Year!
Thank you to everyone who participated in our Eagle Angel Tree this holiday season. Your donations were sincerely appreciated and so many families at our sister school were truly blessed by your generosity.

January is typically a time of renewal, and it's an exciting time in the Encino Park PTA! We are already beginning to prepare for next school year! At our March PTA meeting we will hold our elections for new PTA officers, and we are excited to welcome new

leadership to the PTA for the 2012-2013 school year. If you are interested in serving as a PTA officer, please contact our nominating committee chairperson, Melissa Ling at jling@satx.rr.com. The nominating committee is currently seeking potential candidates for President, vice presidents, secretary, and treasurer. We will also be searching for volunteers to serve on the board as chairs to various committees. If you are interested in getting more involved and helping shape the course of PTA activities in the coming year, we'd love to have you on board!



Happy
Valentine's
Day!

Inside this issue:

PTA President Update	1
Principal's Corner	1
Outstanding Teachers	2
Valentine's Day Parties	2
Librarian's Nook	3
Classroom News	4
Walk-a-Thon & Wizard of Oz	5
Nutritional Nuggets	7
Texas PTA Legislative Report	8

Calendar of Events

February 7 - 9 Early Dismissal at 12:40
February 14 Valentine's Day Parties 2nd & 3rd Grade Valentine Luncheon
February 16 Line Dance and Bake Sale - Grades 3,4,5
February 17 Cowboy Breakfast
February 20 School Holiday

OUTSTANDING TEACHERS AT ENCINO PARK

By Colleen Bohrmann
Principal

Recently Encino Park faculty awarded the Trinity University Excellence in Teaching Nominee to Vicki Craig and the Encino Park Teacher of the Year award to Susan Demers. Both teachers were nominated and selected by their peers.



Mrs. Susan Demers was chosen as the campus Teacher of the Year. Susan is a first grade teacher who has worked at Encino Park for many years. She is a dynamic teacher who goes above and beyond to help her students be successful. Mrs. Bohrmann, principal, said, "Mrs. Demer's students are blessed to be in her classroom. She brings daily joy and happiness to every child during their first grade ex-

perience." Susan will be recognized at the District Teacher of the Year ceremony in May.

Ms. Vicki Craig was recognized as the campus nominee for the Trinity University Excellence in Teaching Award. Vicki has taught in N.E.I.S.D. for four years and teaches fifth grade. Vicki readily lends a helping hand to many projects on the campus. Her positive

impact is felt school-wide while sponsors the Encino Park Robotics Club, tends to the school gardens and she is the Campus Spelling Bee Coordinator. When asked, her students stated that "Mrs. Craig works us hard every day and expects the best from us."

Both ladies are wonderful role models for the children at Encino Park.



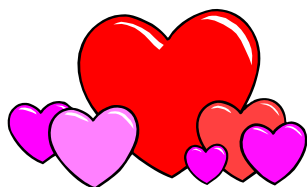
"The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called 'truth'."

- Dan Rather

Valentine's Day Parties

This year's Valentine's Party will be in the gym during each grade's PE time and include games and other activities. Instead of remaining in their classrooms, students will be able to mingle with friends from other grade level classes and choose the games and crafts they'd like to do. We hope you will be able to join us in the gym Feb 14 during your child's PE time. Look for your invitation letter coming home in your child's folder soon!

First Grade	8:40 - 9:30
Kinder	9:35 - 10:25
Second	10:30 - 11:20
Third	11:55 - 12:45
Fourth	12:50 - 1:40
Fifth	1:45 - 2:35



Librarian's Nook

By Mrs. Green, Librarian

It's research time at Encino Park! 3rd grade is hard at work researching Forces of Nature. They spent several lessons with Mrs. Green practicing The Big 6 (steps on how to research) developed by Eisenberg and Berkowitz. As a culmination to the lessons the students spent the entire day in the library working through the research steps. Each class

became experts in the field of varying disasters. Mrs. Robertson-Landslides, Ms. Neff-Floods, Mrs. Ortiz-Hurricanes, Ms. Noriega-Volcanoes, Mrs. Huggins-Tornadoes, Ms. Herrera-Wildfires and Mrs. Villanueva-Earthquakes. The children gathered information and wrote articles for a class newspaper on their Force of Nature. Newspapers will be

posted on the Teacher's Webpages and the Library Webpage as soon as they are published. I am very proud of the effort and perseverance they showed throughout the process. Research is a life long skill that will carry on throughout their academic career. I look forward to working with other grade levels as they are gearing up for research too!



**“There is more treasure in books than all the loot in Treasure Island.”
- Walt Disney**



Bluebonnet Book Party



Go Red Challenge

Classroom News



**“The school is the last expenditure upon which America should be willing to economize.”
- Franklin D. Roosevelt**

Keen Kinder

The children have grown by leaps and bounds but we still have much to learn before the end of school. We have completed administering the TPRI and will be sending home a summary of your child's results. Please write down any questions or concerns you may have to discuss at parent conferences on Feb, 7th, 8th and 9th. We will use information gathered from the Texas Primary Reading Inventory and the report card assessments to form small groups for skills development and guided reading. We look forward to seeing you at conference time!

Fabulous First

Conferences are just around the corner! Early dismissal days will be February 7, 8, and 9 for parent teacher conferences. Please see your child's teacher's web page to sign up for a conference. We look forward to meeting with you to share your child's progress.

We have been busy measuring away in math using non standard units of measurement. We

have also been working on telling time to the hour and half hour.

Please remember to make sure your child is reading everyday and reviewing their word wall words to help them build their reading fluency and comprehension.

Spectacular Second

As we dive into our addition and subtraction unit, knowing their basic addition facts, doubles, and combinations of 10 really come in handy. During math time, we are adding to 100 and subtracting from 100.

Soon, we will be leaping into subtracting two digit numbers. Get out pencil and a sheet of paper and engage your child with some practice problems. The practice today will transform into additional confidence at school tomorrow.

As night falls, set a time to take in the moonlight and have your child record their observations of the moon. Each week, they will be required to submit observations as detailed in homework in

an effort to learn about the pattern of the moon.

Thrilling Third

Third graders are back in the groove and working hard!!! Please continue to study your multiplication facts! Also make sure you are reading every night from a variety of genre.

Parents, please be checking your teacher's website to find the link to spring conferences. They are coming up soon!!!

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. We will be sending home information regarding the party and handing out valentines in class soon!

Fabulous Fourth

Fabulous 4th grade would like to thank everyone who participated in our Pennies for Patients drive. We will have the final results this week. Please remember to visit your teacher's web page and sign up for your spring conference. The conference days are February 7-9.





4 Person Relay Race

Requirements:

- A \$100 sponsorship
- Four students of the same gender and grade make a team
- All team members must participate on the walkathon
- Teams will race before/after their grade level participates in the walkathon

1st, 2nd & 3rd place teams receive a ribbon

Walk-a-thon

... takin' a walk on the wild side!

Coming soon:

March 9th from 8 am to 12 pm

Parents please join us!

Great prizes!

More information coming in February.

Four Person Relay Race

is new this year!

Make plans to participate!

Contact Person: Shelia Morse morsemath@satx.rr.com



THE WIZARD OF OZ

The Encino Park Elementary Music Department is looking forward to presenting The Wizard of Oz! The Music Department is seeking advertisers / supporters for this and future productions. If you, or someone you know, are interested in advertising in the shows Playbill, please print and complete the attached Playbill Ad Form. For any questions, contact Crystal Gulley, cgulle@neisd.net, or Cindy David, cdavid3@neisd.net. Rates can't be beat! Save the dates for the show times for the Encino Park Elementary Music Department's presentation of the Wizard of Oz:

April 12, 2012: 7 PM

April 13, 2012: 7 PM

April 14, 2012: 2 PM & 7:30 PM

2011-2012 PTA Life Members

One of the highest honors one can earn in PTA is the Texas PTA Life Member Award. People honored with this prestigious award are those whose commitment to children and education is unparalleled. Recipients are people who make outstanding contributions to the well being of children, whether they are PTA members or not. Here are the four exceptional people honored at Encino Park for the 2011-2012 school year.



**“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”
- Winston Churchill**



Ellawaine Johnson is committed to protecting our children every day, whether it is burning hot or freezing cold, by helping them safely across the street at the corner of Caliza and Encino Rio. She manages both traffic and pedestrians at a very busy intersection and keeps everything running smoothly. Everyone who crosses her path is greeted with a cheerful good morning or a sweet smile to start and end their day just right. Thank you, Ellawaine, for all you do to protect children and parents alike!



Berta Rodriguez is a very special woman whose volunteering is always done with great care and love. She has served on numerous PTA committees and works very hard as stage and prop manager for school musicals. This amazing lady is known for going above and beyond, and can always be depended upon to take care of whatever needs to be done. There is no end to her thoughtfulness. Currently, she is serving a second term in the difficult position of PTA Treasurer. Thank you, Berta, for all you do for Encino Park!



Lynda Stetler has taught at Encino Park for many years. She always seeks to provide her students with the required curriculum and then some. She is loved by her peers as well as by students and parents because she genuinely cares for others. She has been selected several times by former students as the teacher to attend Summa Cum Laude recognition with them. Her strong values and positive impact make her a definite asset to our school and our community. Thank you, Lynda, for your fine contributions to our school!



Darlene Stoops is a wonderful volunteer, always willing to lend a helping hand with many PTA committees. This terrific lady puts in countless hours for her children’s teachers, and her dedication to Encino Park is tireless. She always maintains a friendly and cheerful disposition, taking time to give of herself to make the loads of others lighter. She currently serves on the executive board as PTA Secretary. Thank you, Darlene, for your outstanding service!



Nutritional Nuggets

Food and Fitness for a Health Child - NEISD

Family screen time

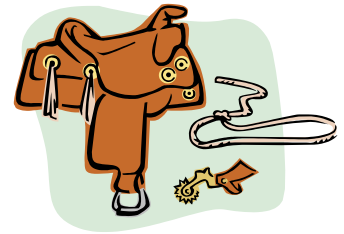
To get your youngster watching less TV, try cutting down on screen time for the whole family. Consider choosing a show or two to watch each day, and then leave the set off the rest of the time. Idea: When your show is over, use that as a signal to play outside or do something active inside.

Protecting your teeth

In honor of Dental Health Month, help your youngster get in the habit of eating and drinking foods that are good for his teeth. For example, cheese, nuts, eggs, chicken, meat, and milk protect tooth enamel. And crunchy fruits and vegetables can prevent decay. The best drinks? Water and milk - instead of sugary drinks like soda.

Did you know?

Your child's stomach is roughly the size of two of his fists. That image can give him (and you) an idea of how much food it takes to fill him up. Help him control portion sizes by serving smaller meals and healthy snacks that will satisfy his hunger but curb overeating.



In the Kitchen

Sweet Treats

Looking for a sweet ending to a meal that won't break the calorie bank? Try these creative ways to lighten up dessert time:

- Let family members dip strawberries, melon chunks, and banana pieces in fat-free chocolate pudding for a "chocolate fondue."
- Make "creamsicle" freezer pops by mixing 1½ cups orange juice, 1½ cups nonfat vanilla yogurt, and 1 tbsp. sugar. Freeze in cups or freezer-pop molds, about 6 hours.
- Have a berry sundae. Cover a small scoop of nonfat frozen yogurt with fresh or thawed frozen berries, and shave dark chocolate on top.
- Serve roasted honey pineapple. Heat ½ cup orange juice with ¼ cup honey in a small saucepan. Pour it over pineapple slices, and let stand for 30 minutes. Place slices on a baking sheet, and roast at 450° for 10 minutes.

"As a child my family's menu consisted of two choices: take it or leave it." - Buddy Hackett



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PTA Website:
www.encinoparkpta.org
School Web:
www.neisd.net/encinop/index.html

Volunteer Opportunities

The Encino Park PTA has several committees in need of leadership for the 2012-2013 school year. For more information on how you can help facilitate our wonderful PTA sponsored school programs please send an e-mail with your contact information to epptanews@gmail.com.

NEISD Used Book Sale April 13 - 15



As you spring clean, please put aside gently used books to donate for the annual NEISD Used Book Sale. Information on collection dates and procedures will be distributed as soon as they are available.



Legislative Report

Safety

Texas PTA is a powerful voice for all children and a strong advocate for the well-being of every child. Texas PTA supports programs that encourage a safe and secure environment for children and youth, knowing that Students who feel safe and secure are typically more successful academically.

Texas PTA supports programs such as the Crime Stoppers Safe Schools Program and others that make safer for students and staff.

The Crime Stoppers Safe Schools Program is a nationally unique law enforcement tool that offers students access to an anonymous tip line for reporting campus crimes. The goal of the program is to make our schools safer by solving and preventing serious crime on our campuses, offering cash rewards to students who provide information that assists in solving and preventing serious crime.

Texas PTA has been instrumental in other initiatives that help to make children safer – the Booster Seat Law and the new law prohibiting the use of cell phones by driving teens. www.txpta.org