Message from the Principal

Dear Trailblazers,

Our school year has gotten off to a terrific start! We concluded our first week of school with approximately 560 students. I am hearing that everyone is enjoying the added space and sense of school community now that we can all be in the building together.

I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting all our Roan Forest students and parents as they enter the building each morning. My goal now is to learn names! Please be patient with me as I put names and faces together.

My goal is to be a school principal your child feels comfortable seeking out for help or even celebrating a success! I regularly visited the classrooms last week and plan to continue this pattern through out the school year. I hope to be approachable to everyone so that I may better meet the needs of our students and families.

In order to be environmentally friendly and promote timely information, I will be using the e-blast tool often. E-blasts allow me to email parents school information and news throughout the school year. If you are not on our distribution list, please contact our data processor at 481-4045 to get your email address added into our database system. I want you to be informed.

Please be mindful of the upcoming events:
- September 10 – Grandparent’s Day
- September 14 – Bike Rodeo
- September 21 – Fall Individual Pictures
- September 28, 29, 30 – Early Dismissal-(12.:40p.m.)

I am looking forward to an outstanding school year!

For the Kids,
Melissa Alcala, Ed.D.

Message from the PTA President

Hello Trailblazer Families!

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Summer vacation. Your PTA is gearing up for an awesome year! As I look back over the years that I’ve been at Roan Forest, I am reminded why PTA is so important. Grandparent’s Day, Red Ribbon Week, Walkathon, Reflections and Bike Rodeo are such wonderful memories and are programs that support our children and help build a special environment at Roan Forest. I am looking forward to enjoying these programs and many more with all of you and with my second grader, Carson and my fifth grader, Chase.

Roan Forest is a school with a tradition of having an active parent group - in other words, a high level of volunteerism. An important way in which Roan Forest parents stay connected is through the Roan Forest PTA. If you haven’t joined our PTA, I encourage you to do so. I also encourage you to check out our website at www.roanforestpta.org. On our website you will have access to our PTA calendar and emails are listed for all of our committee chairs. This website will help you in keeping up with what is going on in the "forest."

My personal goal this year is to get as many parent’s involved in our PTA as possible. I want EVERYONE to feel welcome and to feel a part of our PTA. Whether you can donate a lot of time or just a little bit, I want you to get involved! Our PTA has some major goals for this year, and we can only achieve those with your participation! Research shows that student achievement is directly linked to parent involvement. So, I’m asking you to use your talents and resources to make a difference. There are opportunities for everyone no
matter your area of interest, time constraints or background. We want you to be involved!

On behalf of the Roan Forest PTA, I wish you a wonderful 2010-2011 school year and I welcome you to contact me with any questions, ideas or concerns. You can reach me at white.amber.m@gmail.com. I'm looking forward to your involvement!

Warm regards,
Amber White
President, Roan Forest Elementary PTA
2010-2011

PTA Presents Grandparents Day
Friday, September 10th

Invite your grandparents to Roan Forest for a morning activity. Children will meet their Grandparent in the cafeteria for a word search and trivia. Be sure to RSVP through the school flyer that was sent home.

A-L 8:30-9:00 a.m.
M-Z 9:30-10:00 a.m.

Grandparents need to bring RSVP tickets and identification. If you would like to volunteer to assist with this event please email Tanya Gill at tanyagill@aol.com by Wednesday September 8th.
BIKE RODEO

Get your bikes ready to blaze a trail at Roan Forest Bike Rodeo!!!!!

On Tuesday, September 7th, Officer Keogh will be visiting with our students to teach bike safety and to review the inspection requirements and skills tests for the Bike Rodeo.

The Roan Forest Bike Rodeo will be held on Tuesday, September 14th. So come join in on the fun and volunteer to help. We need A LOT of volunteers to run a smooth Bike Rodeo. Volunteer shifts will run throughout the day. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kristy Pratt at KPratt1001@aol.com or (830) 980-2339.

So students, fill your tires and sharpen your bike riding skills; the Bike Rodeo is coming soon! Your child should have received a Bike Rodeo information flyer last week with all the requirements for the Bike Rodeo. If you have any questions, please contact Kristy Pratt.

IT’S NOT TOO LATE
There’s Still Time to Join PTA!!

You will find a membership form in the Welcome Packet you received the first week of school. Join the Roan Forest PTA for the 2010-2011 school year for $6 per adult. We strive to have each Trailblazer family a part of our membership.

If you have any questions, please contact our Membership Chair, Daphne Evans, membership@roanforestpta.org.
VOLUNTEER COFFEE
Monday, September 20th 9:30 a.m.

Near the end of this month, Roan Forest will hold a volunteer coffee and orientation. This meeting will be beneficial to anyone who is interested in volunteering this year. At this meeting, we will go over important volunteer guidelines. You will learn about PTA’s many programs and have a chance to sign up for different volunteer opportunities. Please join us for this very informative meeting.

Spirit Items
Newly Designed T-Shirts
$18 for Children’s Sizes and
$22 for Adult Sizes

Stainless Steel
Water Bottles
$10

Seat Sacks
$12
Orders for Seat Sacks
Due by September 15th

Order forms were sent home in the PTA Envelope. For any questions, please email Susan at spirititems@roanforestpta.org
BE ON TV!!
This Year’s PTA Reflections Theme

Together We Can

Reflections is a National PTA program that encourages children to creatively express ideas through the arts. All works of art are judged by their creativity, originality and interpretation on the theme. Children may submit *unlimited* entries in six different categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Literature</th>
<th>Visual Arts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Music Composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Choreography</td>
<td>Film/Video Production</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To promote this year’s theme, we will hold a random drawing from students’ written ideas supporting our theme!

Return the bottom half of this form by *end of the day on Tuesday, September 21*!

Students whose names are drawn will read their ideas LIVE during the video conference Morning Announcements.

Reflection Entries will be due *Friday, October 22*.

Watch for the Official Entry Form & Rules Coming Soon!

For questions, please contact Nicole Anderson - Arts in Education Chairman at neianderson@sbcglobal.net

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**What do you think we can do together?**

Write 2 ideas to support this year’s Reflections theme: **Together We Can**

1. ____________________________________________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________________________________________

Name: ________________________________  Teacher’s Name: __________________________
Just a note from Music:

First, we would like to welcome Mrs. Roudebush to Roan Forest! She is our half-time music teacher and will be with us on Tuesdays, Thursdays & sometimes Fridays.

**Due Dates:**
- Friday, September 10th - Recorder form due (3rd-5th)
- Friday, September 10th - Trailblazer Singers form due

**Trailblazer Singers:** First Rehearsal - Thursday, September 16th

**Upcoming Events:**
- October 5th: 1st Grade will perform - “The Cheese Stands Alone” (immediately following the PTA meeting)
- December 7th: Trailblazer Singers-Winter Concert (immediately following the PTA meeting)

Musically,
Mrs. Coldewey (scolde@neisd.net) & Mrs. Roudebush (kroude@neisd.net)

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**Library News**

Welcome back Trailblazers! We are looking forward to seeing you in the Library. There are some great books for you to check out and read.

Parents, you might find it useful to put a large gallon sized zip-loc baggie in your child’s backpack for library books. Water bottles or juice bottles may leak and get library books wet, which unfortunately results in damaged books. We talk about book care during Library Time and will continue to encourage students to take extra care with their books.

Also, a new feature on the Parent Portal is the Library Portal. By signing into the parent or student portal account and clicking on the library portal link for the applicable student, students can access the educational library databases from home without passwords or usernames. This allows students to easily access an entire electronic, reference library at anytime from their home. With the addition of these new features, teacher-parent communication is further enhanced, and users have accessibility to educational resources at all times.

Parents, please mark your calendars for the Book Fair. The Book Fair will be October 4-8, with Family Night on Tuesday, October 5. More details will be coming as the date approaches.

Mrs. Ryan and I are looking forward to a great year with your students!

Mrs. Allen
HELPFUL INFORMATION FROM THE NURSE

IMMUNIZATIONS
State law requires that all students entering Texas schools provide complete written proof of immunizations at the time of registration. During the school year when immunizations become delinquent, Central Office will generate a letter. This letter tells you what immunizations are needed and the date by when they need to be updated. If they are not updated by that time, the students are not allowed to come to school until we receive documentation that the immunizations are up to date. Our goal is that no child misses school due to immunizations. I start making phone calls the week before to remind you. The parent portal will also send notifications to those parents using the portal.

MEDICATION
All medications must be brought to the clinic by an adult. Children are not allowed to carry any medications to school – this includes cough drops! Prescription medicine will be administered only in accordance with the instructions on the label. Long-term medications to be given all year or for emergency situations must have a Medication Administration Request filled out by the physician and signed by the parent. This form must be obtained in the clinic or from the NEISD website under Health Services. Non-prescription medication will be administered only on a very limited temporary basis (10 days) and with written parent/guardian permission. This form will be filled out in the clinic when the medicine is brought in by the parent. All unused medication will be picked up by the parent or designated adult. The medication will not be sent home with the child.

SCREENINGS
The following screenings take place during the year:

- Heights and Weights: all students
- Vision and Hearing: Pre-K, Kinder, 1st, 3rd, and 5th
- Acanthosis Nigricans: 1st, 3rd, and 5th
- Spinal Screening: 5th
- Dental Screening: 3rd

If a student fails the first screening, a second one is conducted within 2 weeks. If they fail the second time, a referral letter is sent home. There is a portion on this letter for your physician to complete when your child has been seen. We would like these back within 30 days if at all possible.

SENDING STUDENTS HOME
Children with fever cannot be in school. If your child develops a fever of 100 degrees or greater at school you will be called to take them home. We recommend that they stay home until they have been without a fever for 24 hours. If your child has a fever at home, please DO NOT send them to school even if you have given Tylenol or Motrin. Once the medication has worn off the child will start feeling bad. They will also be exposing the other children in the class to illness. If your child has diarrhea 3 or more times here at school, we will call you to take your child home. We will also call if your child has vomited and looks like they don’t feel well.

HELPFUL HINTS
Please remember to pack a change of clothes in your child’s backpack. Children of all ages have various accidents requiring them to change clothes during the day. This will hopefully save you a trip to the school in the middle of your busy day. We have very few clothes in the clinic at this time. Remember to put in warmer clothes when the weather starts to change. We are always accepting donations of pants, shorts, shirts and undies.

School Nurse
Peggy Mahan, RN, BSN
Box Tops for Education

Did you know by simply clipping and turning in Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products, you earn cash for Roan Forest?

Plus, prizes are awarded to the classroom that earns the most in each grade level. Start collecting and send in your bag of box tops to your teacher each month! Don't forget to remind grandparents and aunts/uncles to save their Box Tops to support our school.

We are Green in the Forest!

This year, we are continuing our recycling of paper. Please drive around to the rear of the school to recycle your old newspapers, magazines and junk mail. The collection bin is for PAPER ONLY, so please do not place plastic bottles or cans in the bin. We have collected a little more each year! You are making a difference!

We also have paper recycling bins in every classroom and in our offices and workrooms, and we are thankful for the PTA Environmental Committee members who help weekly to get the paper into the large bin out back!

We also continue to collect used printer ink cartridges and old cell phones. Please look for the collection box in the cafeteria.

For more physical education information log on to
Coach Criswell’s web page:  http://tw.neisd.net/webpages/fcrisw/
Tanya Gill is our Volunteer of the Month. Tanya has been busy this summer working on the welcome packets as well as being a great help to our President, Amber White, in scheduling PTA programs this year with our new Principal, Dr. Alcala. She also helped design our new Roan Forest t-shirts with Susan Bixby, sold spirit items at Open House and helped Jennifer Perez-Sandi with our staff luncheon on the 19th. Thanks for all you do, Tanya!!!

Our teacher of the month is Anita Hernandez. This summer Anita took it upon herself to mentor a first year teacher. She has also assumed the leadership role for our new Dual Language program. We know our new program will be successful with you as its leader.

Coming in October
We will need volunteers for these great events for our children

Walkathon
Red Ribbon Week
Career Day

Watch our Website for more information
www.roanforestpta.org
WHAT IS GREENBACK?
Greenback is a fundraiser for Roan Forest PTA. Instead of product sales, we are asking for your donation. This one time contribution will replace product sales like cookie dough, wrapping paper, and catalogs sponsored by the PTA.

WHY GREENBACK?
Greenback will support many PTA programs here at our school. All the donations will stay here at Roan Forest and help fund things such as: Grandparents Day, Daddy/Daughter & Mother/Son Dinner, Earth Day, Arts in Education, Bike Rodeo, Staff Appreciation, and so much more...

HOW TO DONATE?
Complete the Greenback section of the Payment Form included in your PTA WELCOME PACKET.

Donor Levels
Diamond Trailblazer: $100+
Platinum Trailblazer: $75+
Gold Trailblazer: $50+
Silver Trailblazer: $25+
Corporate Level: $150+

QUESTIONS?
If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Dalton Potter
pottersm2001@yahoo.com
PTA 2nd VP Fundraising