



FOX TALES

Roberts Elementary School

Dedicated to Excellence



Kim McFarland
Principal

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MRS. MCFARLAND'S MESSAGE

Welcome back and Happy New Year! It is so wonderful to have the children back with us! Please continue to encourage your children to be prepared for school each day by completing all assigned homework, studying for any quizzes or assessments, getting a good night's rest and eating a healthy breakfast. One way you can ensure your children are prepared to meet their grade level standards in reading would be to highly encourage them to read nightly in addition to the reading we do during the school day. We have many opportunities for the students to read books and take A.R. quizzes before school and during the school day. Teachers monitor the progress of each student through this program, and it is an additional way for all of us to see how well your children are comprehending what they read as well as to challenge them to read on their grade level and above. As for math, your children need to practice their basic facts at home routinely. By being able to add, subtract, multiply and divide (based on grade level) single digits fluently their math comprehension and computation will improve drastically. Please contact your child's math teacher for ideas on ways to practice at home to help your child be successful in math!

We will again be hosting student led conferences for each grade level this year. A schedule of the dates and times will be sent to you from your child's homeroom teacher. Place those dates on the calendar so you can enjoy this special time with your child reflecting on their growth and progress so far this school year.

As a special reminder, please follow all procedures for drop off and pick up each day. Student supervision begins every morning at 7:45. If you are dropping your child through car drop off please do not allow them to exit the car until the adults are on duty at 7:45. In the afternoon, our car pick up procedures move quickly and smoothly. Typically, all cars are through the line by 3:05. However, we have a music room full of students waiting on their sweet parents. Thanks for jumping in the line faster and helping us wrap up dismissal a little quicker. Also, if you are parking and walking your child in please park in the front lot in a visitor's space. The side lot is designated faculty, staff and pre-k parents only.

Thank you again for the support you as parents and guardians give us. It takes a village to raise a child and we love being part of your child's village.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Our next School Advisory Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, at 5:30 P.M. in the Media Center.

MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr. HOLIDAY

We will be celebrating the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday on Monday, January 16 and school will not be in session. Congratulations to **AALIYAH WILSON and JADA MOORE** for being chosen to represent Roberts Elementary at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Breakfast. Aaliyah and Jada exemplify on a daily basis what Dr. King taught regarding peace and positive dreams. We are very proud of both of these students.

TRENT TROT 5K/1M - "Run Like T, Live Like T"

On Saturday, January 28, 2017, Roberts Elementary School will be hosting our 8th annual 5K and 1 Miler. All proceeds from the race will benefit the Trent's Touch Foundation. Our goal is to raise over \$20,000 to help families of newly diagnosed children facing childhood cancer. So far, we have over \$12,000 in sponsorships and have received an amazing deal on t-shirts from in **focUS Apparel!** Please join us for this worthwhile and fun event. If you are unable to join us at the race, but would like to participate, you may register for the race as a "virtual runner" on our online registration at www.2016trenttrot5k.eventbrite.com. Be sure to check us out on Facebook and Like our page, Trent Trot 5K. Thank you in advance for making the Trent Trot a success!

LITERACY WEEK

We will once again be celebrating our appreciation of books and reading during Literacy Week, January 23-27. Here are some of the activities our students and staff will be enjoying.

DRESS UP DAYS

Monday, January 23 – We're 'Red-y' to Read! – wear red clothing

Tuesday, January 24 – Hats Off to Books! – wear a hat

Wednesday, January 25 – Reading Makes Your Dreams Come True – wear school-appropriate pajamas

Thursday, January 26 – Books Brighten Our Lives – wear bright clothing

Friday, January 27 – Book Character Dress Up

Scholastic Book Fair – Monday, January 23 through Friday, January 27

The Book Fair will be open during the school day for our students to purchase books. In addition, we'll have special hours before and after the PTO meeting on January 24.

If you are willing and able to help with this, please contact Mrs. Sever, severe@leonschools.net.

MUSIC NOTES

K-5th grade students will begin learning how to play the keyboard in the next couple of weeks. In order to keep the keyboards up and running we are in need of "AA" batteries. Each keyboard runs on 6 batteries. We will also need some Clorox or disinfecting wipes as the keyboards are cleaned daily. If you can help with either of these items, please send them to the music room. Thank you so much for supporting the Music Department!!!

P. E. NEWS

In January all 3rd – 5th graders will be riding bikes as part of our “Traffic and Bicycle Safety Program” during Mrs. Cox and Coach Dobie’s PE classes. The K – 2nd graders will be participating in Pedestrian Safety lessons during the month. Florida unfortunately leads the nation in pedestrian and bicycle safety fatalities so these are important skills we will be working on. Please have your 3rd – 5th graders bring their helmets for the month of January if at all possible and they may want to bring gloves for cold days.

SPELLING BEE WINNERS

Congratulations to **CADEN NORTH**, winner of Roberts’ Spelling Bee. Caden is a fifth grader in Mrs. Davidson’s class. Caden will represent our school at the District competition on January 12, 2017. We also want to congratulate **LAUREN TAYLOR LOZANO** from Mrs. Harry’s class, who came in second place. We are proud of all the students who participated in this worthwhile event.

4-H/TROPICANA SPEECH CONTEST

Congratulations to **ELLIE WOLFE**, fifth grade student in Mrs. Harry’s class, for being chosen as the school winner for the 2016-2017 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Contest. Ellie will go on to represent Roberts Elementary in the district contest on January 28. We would also like to congratulate our 2nd place winner, **CHLOE WELCH** from Mrs. Lowery’s class, our 3rd place winner, **ANSLEY WIGGINS** from Mrs. Wohlrab’s class and our honorable mention, **AVERY BRUMFIELD**, from Mrs. Sullivan’s class. We are proud of all the speakers who represented their classes.

GIRLS ON THE RUN

Do you believe in limitless potential? Girls on the Run at Roberts Elementary does!

We have been selected as a spring site for this transformational learning program for girls 3rd through 5th grade. GOTR inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun experienced based curriculum that creatively integrates running. (more info here: www.gotrbigbend.org)

Spring season will begin week of Feb 20th and end with the Celebratory 5k on May 13th! Registration opens at 9am January 4th, and closes February 1st. Registration is first come, first served and will fill up quickly!

Ready to register? Visit <http://www.gotrbigbend.org/get-involved/register-your-girl>

Questions? Contact Ashley Mayo – Ashley.hiatt@girlsontherun.org

YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks for this school year are on sale now! You can visit www.leonards.com/yearbooks to place your order. The order code for Roberts is **37699**. The early purchase price is \$25.00. More information will be sent home with students soon.

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

The Administration, Faculty and Staff of Roberts Elementary are proud to announce our 2016-2017 Employees of the Year.

Teacher of the Year: Lisa Trierweiler

Glenn Howell Minority Educator of the Year: Carmen Conner

Florida School Related Employee of the Year: Chris Hirst

TALLAHASSEE MARATHON

The Tallahassee Marathon & Half Marathon is excited to announce a new piece to our race-the Youth Marathon! Youth ages 5-13 will run (and log) 25 miles from the time they register on line, up until February 3rd. The final 1.2 will be run on EXPO day and the kids will get to cross the official marathon finish line at Kleman Plaza and receive a finishers medal. Each athlete will also receive a goodie bag from our marathon partner Honey Stinger. Please visit our website at www.tallahasseemarathon.com for more information.

Stay tuned to our Facebook page for opportunities to get youth active, moving and logging those miles.

PTO NEWS

Happy New Year! We have lots of activities planned for 2017.

- **Winter PTO Meeting:** Please join us at the **PTO meeting on Tuesday, January 24**. This year, the meeting will coincide with the Scholastic Book Fair. Stop by early to look at all of the books with your student(s) before heading to our 30 minute PTO meeting jammed-packed with details on upcoming activities, a report on our financial condition and much more. This will be the last large PTO meeting for the year before elections on a new slate happens in April. Look for more details soon.
- **Father + Daughter Dance:** This is one of our most popular event! Save the date for our annual Dance on **Friday, February 10 at 7 p.m. in the Cafeteria**. This year’s theme is Mad Hatters Ball. If you are interested in sponsoring the event or serving on the committee, please contact Johnna Wilcox at johnnawilcox@gmail.com.
- **Box Tops Surpasses 50% of Goal:** Thanks to the hard work of Laura Cheesman and her army of volunteers, we are awaiting a check for the school of more than \$3,750. Our goal is \$5,500. Please continue clipping those box tops. All money raised benefits student-led activities at RES.
- If you are interested in helping us secure items for our annual Silent Auction, please let me know. It can be done from the comfort of your own home.

Wishing all of you a prosperous and healthy 2017!

Brooke Hallock, PTO President

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