



HARMONY SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

9185 Kirby Dr., Houston, TX 77054 ♦ Tel: (713) 230-8781 ♦ Fax: (713) 230-8781 ♦ Web: www.hsart.org



Wednesday Mail
February 15th, 2012

Hello Parents and Students,

For this week's Wednesday Mail, we have the following news:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Black History Month Assembly: In honor of our Black History Month, HSART is proud to announce our very first Black History Assembly. This program, is being put together in order to inspire and motivate our students across the school of some of our most influential African American heroes. As always, parents are welcome to join us for this assembly. This assembly will be held on Friday, February 17th at 8:30AM.

*Piano Performances:

- *Daniel Reed - Let Freedom Ring - NAACP Anthem
- *Mia Li - Short summary of Scott Joplin
- *Bernard Li - Maple Leaf Rag

*Excerpt from "I Have A Dream" speech - Edgar Mulligan

*Choir - Like a Mighty Stream

*Speech: Attorney Rodney Glover

February 20th, Staff Development Day: There are no classes for students on Monday, February 20th, 2012. It is a Staff Development Day for our teachers. Classes will resume on Tuesday, February 21st.

Early Dismissal / Parent- Teacher Conference Day: Our Parent-Teacher Conference Day is scheduled for Thursday, February 23rd, 2012. To prepare for the conferences, we will have early dismissal for that day. All Magnet Art classes and extra-curricular activities will be canceled. Zenith services will be provided.

*Kinder - 3rd Grade Students will be dismissed at 12:30PM.

* 4th - 8th Grade Students will be dismissed at 12:45PM.

Note: If you have students that are siblings in grades K- 8th, please come at 12:45PM to pick them up. Conferences will start at 2:00PM.

GT Testing in Spring: Spring Semester GT testing will be held during the month of March. Nomination forms will be at the front desk for parents to pick up during the week of 2/13 - 2/17. Nominations must be returned to the front desk no later than Friday 2/17 for students to be considered for testing.

Nominations will be confirmed by teachers and parents will be informed if their child will be tested. Students that have already been placed in the program will not be retested. Please direct any questions to Mary Averill (maverill@harmonytx.org).



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REMINDERS:

Kindergarten, 5th and 8th Grade Graduation: We will be hosting graduation ceremonies for our Kindergartners, 5th, and 8th Grade students in May.

- Kindergarten Graduation Date: Friday, May 18th at 9AM
- 5th and 8th Grade Graduation Date is Friday, May 18th at 5PM

Mock (Practice) STAAR Testing #2: The Mock STAAR testing will take place soon (February 27th - March 2nd) for students in grades 3rd through 8th. Please make sure that your child is well rested, has eaten breakfast and is at school on time on these days. Students need to come to school prepared, with #2 pencils and erasers. Please remind your child that it is important to do their personal best on these assessments, as we will use the results as guides for placing students into Saturday School and/or intervention pull-outs.

- Monday, February 27th: 4th & 7th Grade Writing Day 1 and 5th & 8th Grade Math
- Tuesday, February 28th: 4th & 7th Grade Writing Day 2 and 5th & 8th Grade Reading
- Wednesday, February 29th: 3rd, 4th, 6th, & 7th Grade Math
- Thursday, March 1st: 3rd, 4th, 6th, & 7th Grade Reading and 8th Grade Social Studies
- Friday, March 2nd: 5th & 8th Grade Science

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IMPORTANT Note to 7B Parents:

Dear 7B Parents,

Due to changes in state testing policies, students in 7B will take the following STAAR assessments:

- 7th Grade Writing (Day 1)
- 7th Grade Writing (Day 2)
- 7th Grade Reading
- **8th Grade Math**

In prior years, students were given the assessment for their grade level. TEA policy now states that students must be assessed for the course in which they are enrolled. As 7B students are enrolled in 8th Grade Pre-AP Math (Course III), these students will be required to take the 8th grade Math STAAR assessment.

The schedule sent out by TEA has these students taking both the Writing (Day 1) and Math assessments on the same day. Due to the new 4 hour testing time limits, 7B students will need to be on campus at 7:30am in order to begin testing at 8:00am and complete testing by 5:00pm. We understand that this is an extended time period; however, due to state testing requirements, we are unable to provide any other scheduling solution.

In order to prepare students for this testing change, we will implement the same schedule for our Mock STAAR testing on Monday, February 27, 2012. Please make sure that your child is on campus by 7:30am. We will dismiss students from the picnic table area (behind the gym) at 5:00pm. **Students will eat lunch in between tests and may bring a dry snack and bottled water for testing.**

Please refer any questions to Mary Averill (maverill@harmonytx.org).