



HARMONY SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND TECHNOLOGY

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

Hello Parents and Students,

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



Wednesday Mail
September 28th, 2011

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

School Uniforms Are Here: The PE uniforms, uniform jackets, and Spirit shirts have arrived. You can pick up these items from the front office starting Wednesday, September 28th during the hours of 9:00AM - 1:00PM and 3:30PM - 5:00PM. We will also open the school this Saturday, October 3rd from 9:00AM to 3:00PM for parents to pick up the uniforms. If you would like for your student to pick up the items, please send a note authorizing us to release the items to the student. PE uniforms will be distributed by the gym teachers.

Mock (Practice) STAAR Testing: Testing for the MOCK STAAR will take place next week (October 4 - 7) for students in grades 3-8. 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.

- * Tuesday, October 4th: 3rd - 8th Grade Math
- * Wednesday, October 5th: 8th Grade Social Studies
- * Thursday, October 6th: 5th and 8th Grade Science
- * Friday, October 7th: 3rd - 8th Grade Reading/Writing

Evening Art Classes at Harmony School of Fine Arts: Harmony School of Fine Arts and Technology will be offering after-school art classes to 2nd through 8th grade students and their parents. The students and parents do not have to be a Harmony's student or parent. Family and friends are welcome to enroll for these classes. Classes in piano, violin, ceramic, choir, painting & drawing, and woodcraft will be offered 2 times a week from 4:30PM – 6:00PM. The cost for students for each class is \$100 per month and the cost for students and parents is \$150.00 per month per class. Student and parent do not have to be enrolled in the same class. Below you will see the list of classes and the schedule.

We will start accepting registration for this program starting Monday, September 26th through Friday, October 14th. Classes will tentatively start on Monday, October 17th. Spaces are limited and subjected to a first come, first serve basis. Please return form with payment to Mrs. Morales in the front office. The first payment for October prorated at the fee of \$50 per student and \$75 for student and parent. Future payments are due on the 1st of each month and must be submitted by the 5th. After the 5th, there is a late fee of \$5 per day.

For additional details, please visit our website or contact the school at 832-433-7001.



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REMINDERS

Name That Book Club: Try-Out for our "Name That Book" club is scheduled for Tuesday, October 4th from 3:10PM - 4:10PM. Details will be sent home soon. The Name That Book! Contest, which is sponsored by the Department of Library Services, serves to acquaint students with classic literature as well as contemporary award-winning books, representing a variety of genre. The Name That Book competition is something that can make a difference in a child's future relationship with reading. Strong, enthusiastic readers become more so, and less motivated readers become excited about reading. The result of a child competing in Name That Book is evident in the increase reading ability as well as motivation to read. To promote that love for reading, we will be hosting the "Name That Book" club here at Harmony School of Fine Arts and Technology. Our students will meet once every Tuesday from 3:10PM - 4:10PM and prepare for a competition among other Harmony Schools in April.

Hispanic Heritage Month: National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15–Oct. 15) in the United States is the period when people recognize the contributions of Hispanic Americans to the United States and to celebrate Hispanic Cultural heritage and Hispanic culture. September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the Anniversary of Independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Harmony School of Fine Arts and Technology will recognize National Hispanic Month with an assembly on Friday, October 7, 2011 from 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm in the cafeteria. Activities will include musical performances, poems, essays, and a slideshow. As always, parents are welcome to join.

State Representative Carol Alvarado is coming to our school on October 20th:

State Representative Carol Alvarado is coming to visit us. Ms. Alvarado is a native Houstonian and a lifetime resident of Houston's East End. She served on the Houston City Council from 2002 - 2008 and as Mayor Pro Tem from 2004-2006. Carol is tirelessly fighting for policies that focus on strengthening overall quality of life, she also continues to fulfill her promise to improve her district. Carol meets regularly with neighborhood leaders, civic clubs, area clergy and business leaders to discuss community needs and initiatives.

STAAR Testing: Beginning in spring 2012, students will start a new voyage with the launch of the next testing program, called the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness or STAAR. STAAR is a more rigorous standardized testing program that will replace the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) for elementary, middle school, and high school students. The new STAAR program will emphasize "readiness" standards, which are the knowledge and skills that are considered most important for success in the grade or subject that follows and for college and career.

First Six Weeks: Our first six weeks of school is coming to an end. Report cards will be sent home the first week of October.

Scholastic Book Fair: Mark your calendar! We will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair during the week of October 17th – October 21st. Times and location will be announced at a later date.