



Monday Mail

January 18, 2010

1. **Turkish Art Contest:** Students, grades 4-11, are encouraged to participate in the Turkish Art contest. Students will need to create an artistic representation about a location in Turkey, an experience they have had, or an idea or theme about Turkic culture that they would like to convey. The artwork needs to be approximately 12"x18" and can be done in any drawing or painting medium. All artwork should be original, unpublished, and not previously used in any competition. All artwork should be labeled on the back with student's first and last name, address, phone number, and email address.
Due Date: February 5th. Please turn in all artwork to Ms. Rajgariah
2. **Valentine Flowers Needed:** The PTO will be selling flowers for Valentine's Day. We have such a big Harmony Family and it would be great if we could have the flowers donated. If you have any connections on buying them, could donate them (silk or fresh flowers) or would like to help out with the fundraiser please email Mary Mangham at mary.doug@sbcglobal.net. This is always such a special day and the kids love giving and receiving flowers from and to their friends and family. Thank you in advance for any help you are able to provide.
3. **After School Club Update:** Please be advised that payments are due for After School Clubs if you haven't made any payment yet or spoken to me about payment. If you want to know your balance due, please e-mail Claudette Van Ravenstein at cravenstein@harmonytx.org or come by between 2:30-4:30PM daily. Schedules that weren't picked up went out earlier this week.
4. **TPRI Testing:** K-3rd grade teachers will be conducting TPRI testing this week.
5. **National Junior Honor Society:** This is a new organization at Harmony School of Excellence being offered to 9th, 8th, 7th and second-semester 6th grade students who have a GPA of 3.6 or higher. NJHS is a nation-wide organization that recognizes outstanding middle school students and high school freshmen. In addition, NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character. NJHS members participate in a variety of community service activities as well as individual service activities. NJHS members will be required to maintain good grades and demonstrate excellent conduct in school. Students who apply will be selected by a council of faculty members at Harmony School of Excellence. Student activities, teacher recommendations and a student-written essay will be used to determine membership into the organization. Students who are interested in applying for NJHS should pick up an application from Ms. Elder's Room 320. The application deadline is Thursday, February 4, 2010.
6. **Science Fair Judges WANTED:** On January 30, 2010 HSE students will be participating in the Science Fair. If you know anyone who has a Science or Math background and would like to be a judge in this year's HSE Science Fair please contact Mrs. Yasmin at fyasmin@harmonytx.org. We would also like to invite families and friends to attend the Award Ceremony.
7. **Home Connect:** We encourage all parents to begin using the Home Connect link located on the HSE website. Home Connect will allow you to see the following:
 - AR progress for the reporting period, or for the whole year
 - Virtual bookcase with covers of **all** the AR books your student has read since they have been at HSE
 - Number of words read (based on AR books read and quiz passed)
 - Vocabulary achievements (for separate vocabulary quizzes taken)

8. **Dismissal:** We would like to remind everyone that is very important that we continue to follow the dismissal procedures. We need to work together to keep dismissal running smoothly. We ask that parents refrain from parking on or across Gessner to pick up their child. For the safety of our students all teachers and parent volunteers have been instructed to follow the dismissal policy and not to allow students to leave the parking lot without their parent/legal guardian. After School dismissal is from 2:50-3:20. After school club dismissal is from 3:50-4:10. After the scheduled times students will be escorted to the Bluebonnet Afterschool Daycare.
9. **Turkey Trip:** Deadline for turning in the Turkey Trip application is January 25th. More information is available on the HSE website.
10. **Mock TAKS Test:** The mock TAKS Test will be administered February 1-5th. We recommend that students taking the test remember to get a good night's rest and to eat a healthy breakfast.
11. **Tutoring:** Math and Science tutoring started last week. English tutoring will begin next week. Letters have already been sent home with the students providing more information about the scheduled tutoring classes. Tutoring that has been assigned to a student is considered mandatory and parents will need to make transportation arrangements for their child. Failure to attend the tutoring sessions will result in Saturday Detention.