

Dear parents,

Happy middle of fall! Can you believe it's nearly Thanksgiving? Time flies when you're making great progress and staying busy making plans for the bright future of this school.

All of us are much richer in knowledge after the two days spent in professional development at the beginning of this month. We planned ahead by scheduling our two days together so that we would not incur substitute expenses. Additionally, we were quite fortunate to receive scholarships and a grant to cover the majority of our faculty to attend either The International Dyslexia Association's national conference in Dallas or the Learning Disability Association of Texas's annual conference here in Austin for 2-4 days. Learning about strategies to reach and teach our students, sharing ideas, affirming good practices, and hearing the latest research at the feet of cutting edge researchers has been the talk around campus for the past couple of weeks.

The new playground equipment is here! A HUGE thank you to Lucy Mockford and her committee for selecting and seeing the plans through to completion. Another huge KUDO to Steve Shelton and his company for preparing the landscaping. Judging from the kids first day on it...the equipment is a hit! Thank you!!

Here some information that that you may find helpful:

- Thank you for so promptly returning the **counseling permission slips**. If you have not returned your child's form to the school, we would like to have all of them **returned by the end of this week, November 16th**. If you have any questions about the counseling program, please direct them to Lynn Hoover, our Assistant Director.
- The second **Assembly** of the school year is **this Friday, November 16th, at 2:10!** This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase their learning in a variety of ways. If you can attend, please plan on doing so. You won't regret it and the children LOVE to have a full house!
 - **Immediately preceding the Assembly on Friday, Nov. 16th, at 1:45**, Washington Mutual [WAMU] will make a *presentation to the parents* about their savings program being offering to students on campus this year. Interested parents should plan on arriving at this time to hear the 15 minute presentation. If parents do not support this savings program, we will not go forward with it.
- The **Director's Coffee** will be held on **Tuesday, November 20th, at 8:10, in Beverly Hall**. You are invited to attend with your favorite cup of latte to share and listen.

- Don't forget that the **last Monday** of each and every month is RSS benefit at the **Chick-Fil-A in the Village of Westlake**, located at the corner of **Bee Caves Road and 360**. I found out that the trick is you must ASK for a receipt. That's the only confusing part. The donation box is on the counter, so once you get your receipt, just put it in the box marked "Rawson-Saunders School." Yes, it's that simple.
- **December 4th, 5pm – 9pm, Ten Thousand Villages** [conveniently located on **South Congress by the Continental Club**] will donate a portion of their proceeds to RSS. So, come on out and buy some great gifts or treat yourself to some goodies! Something for everyone can be found at this marvelous little store on SoCo.
- **REMEMBER:** School will be in session only **Monday [19th] and Tuesday [20th]** the week of Thanksgiving. We will be **closed Wednesday, November 21st**, reopening **Monday, November 26th**.

Many blessings to you and your families. When I count my blessings, working with such a dedicated faculty and group of parents are first to be counted. Together we make a great village. Thank you for the privilege and opportunity to work with your children.