

ROCKING HORSE ACADEMY REVIEW

HAPPY NEW YEAR ROCKING HORSE ACADEMY FAMILIES!

We can certainly say 2020 was one for the history books and we are looking towards 2021 with great optimism as we continue to settle into our newfound idea of normalcy. Throughout this period of flux, some things have remained the same at Rocking Horse Academy, primarily, our mission: *to educate all our students in a safe, loving environment*. As so many businesses are closing their doors, we are proud that we can keep ours open and continue our mission amidst these unique circumstances.

The measures we have taken, required by licensing, and gladly upheld by RHA do place a burden on the usual daily face-to-face communication we are accustomed to between our teachers and parents. However, using the Tadpoles platform, phone calls, and emails we are managing to keep the lines of communication open. Fortunately, we also have **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES** scheduled for February. This is a great opportunity to learn about how your child is progressing in his/her classroom. Conferences will be scheduled for the first week of February; our sign-up form will be available January 19th.

Reading is a big deal and we love to encourage that by hosting our annual **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR** during **READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK** in March. We do plan to carry on the tradition, but things may look a little different this year. Look for more information as the date approaches.

We are pleased to welcome back **512 PORTRAITS** in March for our student pictures. Of course, proper procedures of social distancing will be maintained as we catch your child's picture-perfect smile. Portraits are scheduled for March 16th-19th and more detailed information will be given at that time.

It is the 50th anniversary of **WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD** April 12th-16th. Celebrating young children is the core of Rocking Horse Academy's values, and we look forward to your support. We will be providing more information on how you can take part in this celebration closer to the date.

Despite the different circumstances during the COVID-19 crisis, our teachers continue to develop educational and fun learning opportunities for their students. This issue of the Rocking Horse Academy Review is full of just a few of the key learning experiences your child(ren) will be a part of over the next few months.

JAN-APR
2021

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IMPORTANT DATES

RHA Events

PARENT - TEACHER CONFERENCES

February 1st - 5th 11AM - 2PM

Parents will only receive a report card during conferences. A sign-up sheet will be available at the front desk. Telephone and zoom conference opportunities are available. Face to face conferences will be held outside and require parent's wear a mask.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

March 1st - March 5th

Help support your classrooms and teachers while adding fabulous books to your home library. All profits made from the sale of books are taken in actual books for the classrooms and library.

512 PORTRAITS

March 15th - 19th

Say CHEESE! Make a moment last a lifetime with pictures. More information on your child(ren)'s picture day will be available as the date approaches.

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

April 12th - 16th

To commemorate early learning, children, their teachers and families RHA will be continuing our annual tradition with a theme week culminating in a carnival.

CORRAL KID'S SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

March 1st

Summer camp fills up quickly, so mark your calendars and take the opportunity to pre-register so your child can enjoy a load of fun and learning this summer.

DATE NIGHT NOTICE

Date Nights have been cancelled for the beginning of the year. Please do ask our front office admin. for a Baby-Sitting list to assist you in arranging date-night childcare.

SCHOOL CLOSED

JANUARY

1st - RHA & HCISD

1st, 4th HCISD

18th - RHA (In-Service Training) & HCISD

FEBRUARY

15th - HCISD

MARCH

15th - 19th HCISD (Spring Break)

APRIL

2nd - RHA (In-Service Training)

2nd - HCISD

Sunday, March 14th
Daylight Savings Time Begins



TUITION DUE

JANUARY 11th & 25th

FEBRUARY 8th & 22nd

MARCH 8th & 22nd

APRIL 5th & 19th

REMINDER:

Supply fees are charged in January and September.



A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM FOALS I

Welcome to all our new little friends, we are so excited to start the Year 2021. We are looking forward to all the new adventures, wonderful growth, and learning experience to come in this new year. Each day is different as every baby begins to develop his/her own skills at home and at school.

FOALS 1

Babies are a blessing, and we look forward to having yours in our classroom as we work with them encouraging new milestones. We spend a lot of time learning through play and encourage you to do the same at home. Parenting can be hard work, but together we can meet the development needs of your baby while also caring for his/her physical needs.

This past year has been quite different and difficult for all of us; however, I am so thankful for your support and most of all your communication with each other which is especially important. We can get through this together, stay positive, and focused helping each other out.

Please feel free to contact us anytime with questions comments or concerns. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your baby's development.

-Foals I Teachers



LESSON PLANNING

The cool winter weather will have our babies doing a fun art project making their own snowflakes. A fun theme we will do in January is Arctic Animals making polar bears and penguins.

Reading is Foals I's favorite thing to do together as we look forward to sharing the books "Little Polar Bear" and "Ten Playful Penguins" with our friends

As we explore our feelings, mirrors are a great learning tool, and we will be using them by looking in the mirror and talking about our feelings, making happy faces, sad faces, and questioning faces.

We will be busy exploring sensory art projects with our feet making butterflies and flowers.

WATCH THEM GROW!

Physical development: babies get constant exercise by going through their regular daily routine. Every day each baby spends tummy time on the mat to strengthen back and leg muscles. During feeding time, we practice putting their hands on the bottle to eventually learn to self-feed. Manipulation skills refer to the ability to move and position objects with in one hand without the help of the other hand. And once your child is 4 months old, he/she will get exercise time in the exersaucers. You will see that hard work pays off as your baby builds muscles and gets mobile first by pushing up and later by crawling, scooting, and walking.

Encouraging your baby's independence may be difficult at times, but it is beneficial to his/her self-esteem and knowledge. With your support and the teachers in Foals I, your baby will be moving and growing happily along his/her developmental journey.



FOALS 2

We are bringing in the new year in Foals 2, and there is a lot of learning and growing in store over the next few months. We are excited your baby will be a part of it. Maintaining your child's daily schedule is a big part of development

in our classroom, and our teachers enhance the learning experience by including activities to support that development. Feelings are a key theme we will be focusing on in the coming months, and we all know most babies have no problem expressing feelings. Singing songs about feelings - *If You are Happy and You Know It* and *How Are You?* Emotions song. Reading books such as *Making Faces* and *Calm-Down Time* are fun activities we have in store to teach your baby about feelings.

In Foals 2 we go with the flow but also try to stick to our lesson plans. We encourage our parents to try some of our units at home as well. These become very fun, and it is a great feeling to see your child intrigued with the activities. In our lesson plans we incorporate sensory activities; this helps with feedings as well. Language activities are also part of lesson plans, such as reading, singing, sign language and even other languages. The activities are endless, and it's always such a joy to see your child show interest.



MOVING AND GROOVING

Big changes are always afoot in Foals 2, and one of the most common changes is your baby's mobility. Babies can go from limited mobility to almost running during their time in our class, and we strive to support and encourage every stage of their motor development. Please don't be discouraged if your child isn't walking yet and others are. We all grow at our own pace and have so much to learn.

While babies may progress at different rates, the following are some of the common milestones your baby may reach in Foals 2:

- Rolls over easily
- Sits leaning forward on hands, then unsupported.
- Bounces when supported to stand.
- Gets on hands and feet and rocks back and forth.
- May creep, scoot, crawl
- Begins to pull up to stand.
- Pulls up to a standing position.
- Can sit back down from standing position.
- Cruises or walks around holding onto furniture.
- May stand next to furniture without holding on.
- May walk holding on to your finger or hand.
- May begin to take steps and walk on own.

STAYING CONNECTED

Communication is vital in any relationship, and as teachers we would like to make sure we have all lines of communication open to you pertaining to your child. Please feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns, or comments by calling Rocking Horse Academy directly or emailing us at Foals2@rockinghorseacademy.com. As your Foals 2 lead teacher, I try my best to make myself available during your child's drop-off to discuss any matters. As drop-off time is a little different for now, please ask up front if you would like to speak with me, and I will come to the front. Also please be assured in any case, all teachers in Foals 2 are here to assist you as well. We are so grateful to have you and your child as part of our class and look forward to more learning and growing in Foals 2.



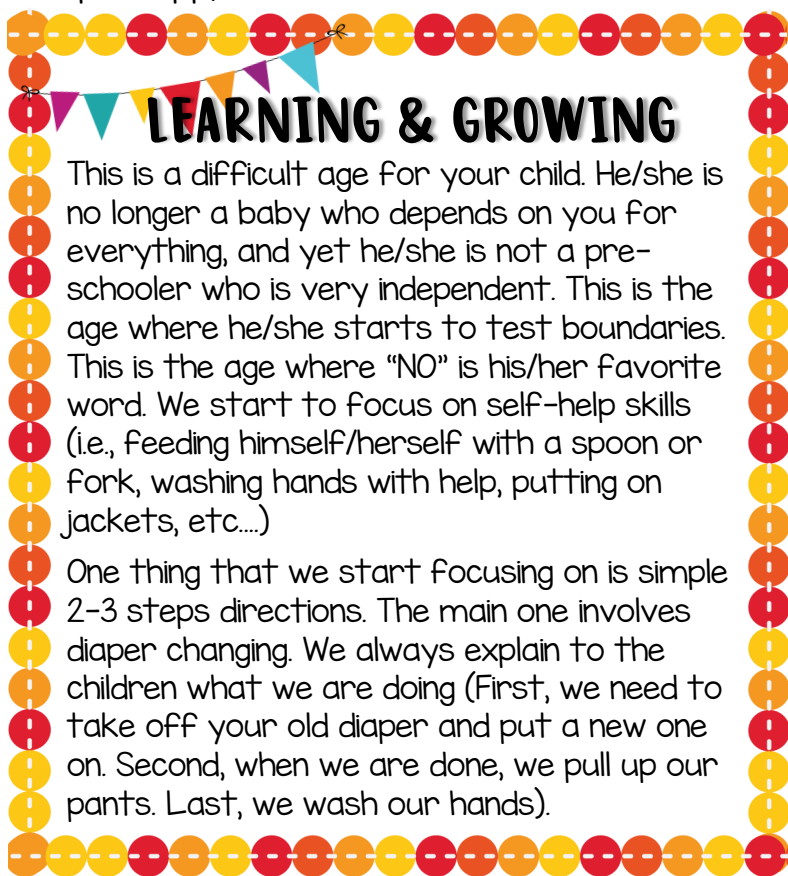
WELCOME TO A BRAND NEW YEAR! We want to thank-you for the opportunity to care for and nurture your child. We want to reassure you that in these uncertain times, we are doing everything we can to keep our Colts safe.

COLTS

Our Colts are curious about **EVERYTHING!** They do a lot of tactile learning; therefore, we incorporate hands-on activities in our daily lesson plans. Our class loves to do art projects that involve family participation, so be prepared to do a project or two at home. Painting, chalk, and different painting utensils are just a few of items at our disposal.

The STEAM curriculum is a major part of our daily lessons. We do this in a variety of ways (i.e. sorting toys by size, counting blocks, etc....): flash cards, music and story time just to name a few. Daily, we work with our Colts on manners, sign language, and Spanish. They are little sponges.

Always remember that a child's work is play. This is how he/she learns the skills that are needed in life. We are here to help your child and you through these developmental years. If you have question, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to let us know. You may reach us in numerous ways: by calling RHA and asking for the Colts room, though the Tadpole app, or our classroom e-mail colts@rockinghorseacademy.com



LEARNING & GROWING

This is a difficult age for your child. He/she is no longer a baby who depends on you for everything, and yet he/she is not a pre-schooler who is very independent. This is the age where he/she starts to test boundaries. This is the age where "NO" is his/her favorite word. We start to focus on self-help skills (i.e., feeding himself/herself with a spoon or fork, washing hands with help, putting on jackets, etc....)

One thing that we start focusing on is simple 2-3 steps directions. The main one involves diaper changing. We always explain to the children what we are doing (First, we need to take off your old diaper and put a new one on. Second, when we are done, we pull up our pants. Last, we wash our hands).

Thank-you,
The Colts teachers



REMINDERS

Now is the time for us to check your child's cubby hole for size and weather appropriate clothing. Please remember to label all clothing with your child's name. We have numerous children that have the same brand and size of diapers; so, please be sure and label your child's diapers with his/her initials. (The fold of the diaper is an ideal spot to do this.) Please make sure to bring a **filled water bottle daily**. Our Colts love their water, and we will gladly refill bottles as needed.



PONIES

We hope that all our Ponies and their families enjoyed a wonderful holiday season! 2021 has started with a bang, and we are ready to breeze through to spring. We are very excited about each one of you and the fun we will have together. During the next four months, we will have so many

activities that will enable our Ponies to discover more about themselves and the world around them. As always, we will continue to learn and review our basics: letters: our ABC's, numbers: 1-10, basic shapes: square, rectangle, diamond, circle, oval, heart and star and our basic colors: red, green, yellow, blue, black, brown, purple, orange, pink and white.

As we begin a new year, we will include the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) concept in our classroom, with a big focus on math. The Ponies use math every day, such as counting our friends or counting out the cups as we hand them out. Parents can also do this at home by counting Cheerios or leaves outside and counting our family members when they come for a visit.

As February approaches, we will work on our student assessments. Stay tuned for information regarding parent-teacher conferences. We will spend a great deal of time working on not only counting but refreshing our knowledge of shapes: basic shapes, colors: basic colors, numbers: 1-10 and big and small comparison. These are also things that parents can work on at home. Flash cards and singing ABC's and 123's are great tools to use.

The Pony class can't wait to start all our spring activities. One project we are so excited to do is making a small garden in our class that all the students can help and take care of each day and to be able to watch the flowers grow. We will all have a job to do. We can help each student fill a pot with soil, put a seed in the dirt, and water it every day.

We can't wait to start out this year with a BANG! And we look forward to having some fun in the pony room these next few months! As always, if you have any questions, your Pony Teachers are here to help!

-Pony Teachers



REMINDERS

Brrr! *January* is here with a chill as well as a few reminders. Please make sure your Pony has weather- appropriate clothing and shoes, as well as making sure everything is labeled. Cups, clothes and diapers all need to be labeled. Diapers especially need to be labeled with your child's initials as we do have some students with the same brand. Thank you!



Celebrating Children

As spring approaches, Rocking Horse Academy will be doing something extremely exciting! The Week of the Young Child will be celebrated in some wonderful ways. This is a time to highlight your child and have some FUN!! There will be many opportunities for parents to come and read to the classroom or come have a good time playing outside with bubbles or playing with chalk or even an activity if you would like to plan something for the classroom to enjoy. Come enjoy some exciting activities we have planned for that week! As it gets closer to the event, we will have more information!



Happy New Year Chargers One!

We are so excited for the new year ahead of us. As we continue to learn and grow, we expand our attention spans and

language through our engaging circle time songs and activities that include a good morning song to greet each child, calendar songs and a weather song and predictions. We continue practicing our shapes and colors with our circle time board. We practice our numbers through our calendar time as well as singing songs about "Five Little Snow Flakes" and "Five Snowmen Standing in a Row." We enjoy working on our letters of the week with our letter boxes with things that begin with our letter. In our center rotation time, we expand our friendships, sharing and teamwork together.

We will be moving full STEAM ahead throughout the winter and spring. Some fun science activities that we can look forward to is melting ice using eye droppers, warm water, and salt. We will explore Arctic animals and learn how their blubber and fur keep them warm from the ice and snow with an activity using a glove, shortening and ice water. We will also read the book "The Snowy Day" and count buttons as we place them on our snowman. As the weather warms up, we will go outside to the garden and ex-

explore the different seeds and plant, grow, and tend the vegetables in the book "Growing Vegetable Soup" and make a flower out of shapes.



REMINDERS

Important Reminders: Please remember to label all your child's belongings: clothes, diapers, wipes, cups, lunch boxes, jackets, bedding, and backpacks. This helps eliminate confusion and lost items. Also, please bring a bag or backpack to put all your child's belongings in on Fridays.

We will continue with our diversity journey by learning about Black history, individuals with different abilities, and Autism awareness. We will practice our manners with "please", "thank you", "more" and "no thank you" and showing kindness to all abilities, cultures, and diversities.



CHARGERS 2

Happy New Year, Chargers Two!

We are excited for this new year and what fun things await!

With January in full swing, we will continue reviewing our shapes, colors, and, of course, counting. Sign-Language and Spanish are reviewed as well. We use Flashcards during Circle Time to review many of these lessons. We use our counting skills on a daily basis by having a number of the week. We count to our number of the week everyday before we eat snack and lunch. It's always fun to see the children holding their fingers up trying to keep up with the number.

As always, we implement the STEAM concepts in our classroom. Science skills are used many times this month as we talk about winter, snow, ice, igloos, and Arctic animals are a huge hit. We will make snow using shaving cream and glue for several fun projects building our igloos, snowmen, and Frozen Arctic animals. We will learn how Frozen ice is not a good insulator, but frozen snow can actually keep you warm!

With spring not far away, we cannot wait to get our hands dirty and work in our RHA garden. It will be so exciting to see the process from planting, watering, harvesting,

cooking, and finally, eating what we grow.

We have an exciting engineering project coming up in April during Recycling week. The children will use recycled trash for an engineering challenge. Stay tuned to see what the children come up with!



POTTY TALK

As you know, this is the potty-training age. If you feel your child is ready to begin the process in underwear, we ask that you supply us with plenty of extra changes of clothes, including shoes. Accidents are going to happen but don't give up! It is an important part of the potty-training process. Plastic bags are our best friends! Another part of the process is teaching and allowing your child to independently pull his/her bottoms and underwear down in order to go potty and pull them up as well. Please keep this in mind when dressing your child for the day. Let us know if you have any questions so that we can all be on the same page when it comes to this developmental milestone.



REMINDERS

Please remember to send your child with a jacket each day. With Texas weather, we never know what each day will bring. Don't forget to label his/her jacket and bring in weather-appropriate clothes.

As always, we are here for any questions or comments you may have. You may call during our nap time (12:00-2:00) or drop us note in Tadpoles or by email, chargers2@rockinghorseacademy.com

-Ms. Leslie and the Chargers Two Teachers



PINTOS

WE HAVE SO MANY ACTIVITIES AND FUN HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCES IN

STORE. Some of our upcoming *Science/Sensory*

activities in our *Winter* lesson plan include an experiment pouring and scooping ice. We will also have an Icy sensory bin to give that hands-on experience with “Icy/Snowy” weather. One of our learning goals for this activity is to encourage the children to investigate/explore properties of matter. We also have some fun upcoming literacy and math activities as well, such as Snowflake number/letter cards to help with recognition of letters and numbers. Using a math game called “Snowflake catch”, we will encourage the children to catch as many snowflakes as they can. Once the game is over, we will gather in a circle and the children will count how many snowflakes they caught. Our learning goals for these activities are to identify letters, identify letter sounds and to identify numbers.

I look forward to some of the activities scheduled later in our curriculum. One in particular is our firsthand experience of observing caterpillars and their life cycle as they become butterflies. Pintos will be purchasing a “Butterfly Kit,” and we will have the opportunity to feed the caterpillars and watch them grow, then release the mature butterflies. Our learning goal for some of the activities later in the curriculum include some of the following: learn new vocabulary, make predictions, identify letters and sounds, identify name, identify numbers 1-20, color with crayons, cut with scissors, as well as experiment with animal behavior. We are excited and ready to help master the 3-year-old developmental milestones this year.



REMINDERS

Please remember to check and return folders. Also always check the boards posting up front for any party signup sheets. We are here for you, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you!

Upcoming Class Parties:

Valentine's Party- 2/12

St. Patrick's Party- 3/17

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHER

Dear Pinto Families,

I am excited to not just partner with your student this year but also partner with you. You play a huge role in our team structure: *You + Your Child + The Teachers = SUCCESS!!* With each approaching developmental milestone there will be new challenges and GREAT accomplishments. Moving forward, Pintos will be introducing and implementing weekly homework folders containing basic worksheets that are laminated and can be used with a dry erase marker. The folder will be very repetitive, so the children have a chance to strengthen their skills. At times the folder will include curriculum-based work to foster that home-school connection. Finishing and returning homework helps your child develop responsibility and good work habits. Our goal is to teach these habits early. Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions and or concerns.

-Your RHA Brain Engineers



WE ARE EXCITED TO START A NEW YEAR IN THE WRANGLER'S ROOM!

It's a very exciting time. As we get ready for Pre-K and all the new things we will learn, we will be working on assessments to know where we are and what we need to work on.

WRANGLERS

In these winter months, we will talk about winter animals, time and calendar, kindness and equality. Wranglers will learn about diversity by participating in an egg activity, in which we learn how we all look different on the outside, but we are the same on the inside. We will also touch on other winter topics such as weather/seasons (brrr it's getting chilly) and winter holidays. Our students love doing free art which allows them to express themselves and explore their creativity. Over these next few months we will be doing free art using tactile items such as ice (for painting!) and slime to create a neat snowy scene.

For spring I am excited to discuss plant life and how vegetables and flowers grow. Our class will do a bean plant science experiment where we will put a bean inside a bag with wet cotton balls and watch it grow. We will measure it, learn about the growing process, and plant it in our own pots once it has sprouted.

As the weeks pass, we will continue to focus on our weekly board. We use the weekly board to learn about our letter, number, color and shape of the week. Be sure to ask your Wrangler which ones they are learning about each week. Another important part of our routine learning is enhancing our students fine and gross motor skills. Wranglers do this by practicing to hold pencils (and crayons) properly, using scissors, and coloring inside the lines.

These next few months will be full of excitement while your child is learning and growing. We can't wait to continue watching them grow and hit more milestones in their life.

-Ms. Miriam -Ms. Jada
Lead Teacher Assistant Teacher
-Ms. Marrilina
PM Teacher



HEALTHFUL HABITS

It's very important, as our Wranglers gain a greater sense of independence to teach health habits. Our Wranglers learn about caring for themselves by brushing their teeth, eating more vegetables, having good personal hygiene, and learning about our human body. Each Wrangler will create a healthful plate to learn about the food pyramid and for an extra dose of learning math will be included as we discuss the portions of the plate and "bigger" or "smaller" servings.



MUSTANGS

THE NEW YEAR BRINGS IN NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

We have so much planned the next few months including learning about Arctic animals, Health and Body, Spring Gardens, and Diversity.

We will be kicking up our sight words and letter

recognition to get us ready to make the big move up the Pre-K class. We have 5 sight words right now Go, Up, No, Hi, and Me. We hope to increase that number up to 10! One of our big themes is Health and Body. During this time, we will be engaging in lots of fun experiments, like pumping heart model, zip-lock bag lungs, germ hand wash, and how our digestive system works just to name a few! As we continue to build our knowledge about Health and Body, we will encourage the children to explore new Foods and taking a "no thank you" bite. This allows children to taste a food to be really sure they don't like it. This helps build their taste for new Foods and opens door down the line for more exciting foods like sushi and toFu! As we build up our body with food, we will be working them out, too. Adding in new yoga moves, riding bikes and doing hop-scotch to help build up our motor skills are just a few exercises we will include.

We will continue to increase our sign language vocabulary as well as our Spanish vocabulary. We will spend every Friday reviewing everything we have learned in the week as well as sending home prompt sentences to help you be a part of your child's week.

Along with all the fun we are going to have with our experiments and themes, we will also work on building our fine and large motor skills. Working on holding a fork/spoon the right way and how to hold scissors and markers is an important skill to prepare for kindergarten. Hoping and jumping on one foot is another developmental milestone. I know it sounds easy, but when you are building your 3/4 year-old muscles, little things can cause big issues. That leads into them becoming more independent. Asking them to clean-up after themselves at lunch and before moving on to a new activity or giving them jobs around the classroom like line leader and door holder is one way we teach responsibility.

We can't wait to see how the children learn and grow over the next few months! Thank you for all your support and love!

The Mustangs Teachers,

Ms. Angela - Lead Teacher

Ms. Grace - Assistant Teacher

Ms. Jessica -- PM Teacher




PLANTING SEEDS OF LEARNING

As the weather continues to change and spring begins, we will make trips to our school garden, first to explore and learn the rules of the garden, then to help the soil get ready for us to plant seeds. We will take votes to pick what to plant! As the theme focuses mostly on the science part of STEAM, we will add in Art and Math as well, like counting seeds and sorting them by size. Creating a picture of what we think all the flowers and plants will look like after everything has bloomed allows the student's imagination to bloom.



REASONS TO CELEBRATE

During the year will talk about Diversity. We will encourage kindness and acceptance. We will talk about different holidays and learning about different people that made a difference in our world! Some of the big holidays we will talk about is MLK day, Groundhog day, President's day, Earth day and the beginning of Ramadan.



HELLO TROTTER PARENTS! 2020 HAS COME AND GONE, THANK GOODNESS! It was a roller coaster of a year, and we are so glad that as a team, we have worked together to stay safe in the classroom. We teachers have had discussions daily with the class about hand washing and giving friends space. The Trotters also have a toy cleaning schedule we follow every day.

TROTTERS

In the next month, we will be learning about animals, their habitats and hibernation. As a STEAM activity, we will use small plastic cups and counting bears to create small caves for our bears. We will stack and see how high we can stack. We will discuss which animals hibernate and which animals adapt to the weather. Another subject we will learn about is insects. The class really loves to talk about the different insects we see during outside time, so I am sure they will love this.

Some of the other things we will be learning about is our five senses. We will use our senses to smell different spices, feel different textures and we will also play sound bingo to sharpen our listening. The Trotters will also learn about the different ways we can be and stay healthy, such as keeping healthy routines and habits and eating well. We will also learn about how to stay safe when there is an emergency.



KINDERGARDEN READINESS

In these next upcoming months, we will continue to work on getting ready to head to kindergarten. We will work on self-regulation, social skills, and academics. The Trotters will learn more about rhyming words, compound words and how to write sentences on their own. Right now, we are starting to write simple sentences such as "Otter starts with the letter O." We are still working on writing skills such as finger placement on writing utensils and tracing letters and words. The teachers also have been encouraging the students to write simple words and letters on their own. Slowly they are getting the hang of writing on their own.

Some of the milestones we are trying to accomplish is writing and spelling their first and last name, work cooperatively with their peers, and how to self-regulate and problem solve. Another thing that we are working on is simple math such as $5 + 5 = 10$ and learning how to identify numbers to 30.

Pretty soon we will be getting ready for graduation! It is a very exciting time for all of us, and I cannot wait for you parents to see what we have been working on. These next months will fly by, and we are so excited to see your children flourish into the best humans they can be. Thank you, parents, for allowing us Trotter teachers to be apart of your child's journey!

- Trotter's Teacher's



BRONCOS

THIS SCHOOL YEAR IS HALFWAY DONE!

Your star students have been working hard these last four months. Recently, Broncos have wrapped up their learning about community helpers, fire safety and pumpkins. Over

the next four months, we will continue to be incorporating Scholastic's *Big Day* curriculum. We will begin focusing on animals and talk about their habitats and how they grow and change over time. Other topics that we will spend time learning include: Diversity, Environmental awareness, insects and as well as keeping a healthy body.

A new addition to the Broncos classroom will be implementing a Take Home Folder for each student. A Take Home Folder was created to help communicate with parents, guardians and/or caregivers about their student's everyday growth. Inside our Blue Take Home Folder, we have included expectations for students such as: taking home their folder daily **AND** expectations for adults: such as signing or initialing each day on their student's log. Bronco Teachers have made it our goal to have parents involved as much as possible, even with a pandemic in full swing. Additionally, we are able to use our folders to send home important artwork, notes, and so much more.

Along with adding Take Home Folders to our classroom, Broncos will be adding Go Noodle to their curriculum. Go Noodle is a series of web-based videos, games and activities focused on introducing short bursts of physical exercise in the classroom. For young students who need to use energy to concentrate on learning, this is a simple solution. By using Go Noodle in the classroom, we have come across many benefits and positive feedback from our students. Students love to use Go Noodle in the classroom because it fuels their learning and gets them focused and ready to learn. Class Favorite are: *Milkshake* and *Yes, I want to build a snowman!* These interactive videos help students identify their emotions while helping build teamworking skills with friends and teachers. Lastly, it inspires all students to be active and mindful with a wide range of offerings that appeal to different ages, interests, skills, and abilities.

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 12th Broncos Valentine's Party



SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE

Throughout the year, we have spent a lot of time incorporating environmental awareness in all of our lessons. Our goal is that all students gain a full understanding of the world they live in. In April, we will be participating in environmental awareness activity focused on a plant's life cycle. During this time, we will introduce pictures and words related to a plant's life cycle such as: Seed, Seedling, Sprout, Roots, and Plant. After, we will talk about the basic needs that a plant has in order to survive. Lastly, each student will plant a seed to observe and record plant growth in a journal.



CORRAL KIDS

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO WELCOME IN A NEW YEAR FOR OUR CORRAL KIDS.

Happy 2021! This year will be filled with kindness, adventures

and so many opportunities to learn and grow. In February, we will focus on love and spreading kindness around RHA and the community by doing small acts of kindness for all.

Before we know it, March will be here and oh, are the Corral Kids excited for what March has in store for us! It will be a month filled with more light from daylight savings meaning more outside time. Spring Break means a week off from school and an opportunity to enroll in our Spring Break Camp. Make sure to sign up at pickup or with Mrs. Kira between now and March 5th to secure your child's spot.



KEEPING CONNECTED

We have so much to look forward to this year. Please remember we would love to hear from you! You can reach Mrs. Kira anytime during school hours at 512-405-3700 or by email at:

corralkids@rockinghorseacademy.com. This is a wonderful way for you to let us know about your child's expected attendance, questions about the programs and services that we provide, or any other questions that you may have. Please feel free to contact me any time!

-Mrs. Kira
Corral Kids Supervisor

Corral Kids Spring Break will have hands-on activities like planting flowers to building an erupting volcano and so much more. As if that was not enough excitement to look forward to, RHA will also be opening Pre-Enrollment for Summer Camp only to our Corral Kid parents the week after Spring Break! This will allow our families to get priority at securing their spot as camps tend to fill up fast!

April showers bring May flowers; this month we will focus on Recycling/Environmental awareness. We will implement a recycling program within the Corral Kids to teach the importance of what we consider "waste" and how recycling can transform other forms of potentially useful materials. Our students will get the opportunity to be hands-on and learn different positive ways recycling can impact our community.