

**Settlers Way  
Elementary**

# Explorer News

**Volume 32, Issue 2**

**October 2016**

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## From The Principal

It is hard to believe that we have completed the first nine weeks of school. It seems like only yesterday the buses were rolling in for the first day of school and we were greeting our students. The first nine weeks have been exciting and full of change but the students and teachers are working hard and learning new things every day.

We have had many exciting events happen at Settlers Way over the course of the first nine weeks:

- Our Heroes Day on September 9th was a special celebration as we honored First Responders.
- We also had a very informative PTA meeting and Parent Information Night on September 14th. The teachers and staff enjoyed visiting with the many families that attended this event.

We have many more events planned every month this semester including:

- Campfire Reading Night
- Red Ribbon Week
- Our exciting Boosterthon Fun Run on October 28th
- Veteran's Day Activities and morning program
- Book Fair
- Reflections Ceremony scheduled for November
- 5th Grade Choir Program
- Spelling Bee
- Winter Class Parties going on in December

Watch your child's Tuesday folder for more details to come!

As a reminder, students should not be dropped off before 7:30 a.m. as there is no one on duty to supervise students before this time. Students should also have a standard way to go home every day. Please do not call the front office after 3:00 p.m. to change your child's route home. Also, please inform your child as to what he/she is to do when severe weather conditions exist at dismissal. Walkers and bikers must have a rainy day plan on file with their homeroom teacher. Students who usually walk or ride bikes home will not be dismissed until the severe weather conditions are over. We will dismiss students when it is sprinkling or misting, so please make sure your child carries an umbrella in his/her backpack.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you this school year. I can be reached at (281) 634-4360 or email at [Rachel.Rosier@fortbendisd.com](mailto:Rachel.Rosier@fortbendisd.com). I consider it a privilege to work with everyone in our Settlers Way family and value your partnership in providing your children with the best education possible. Thank you for all that you do for your children.

*Rachel Rosier*



## Highlights

- Fort Bend Education Foundation
- Reflections Program
- Texas Readers Club and Bluebonnet Reading
- No Place for Hate
- Lunch Bunches
- Girls Club & Boys Club

## PTA News

The Membership Committee appreciates everyone who joined the PTA during our 2016 Membership Campaign. We had 227 families including faculty members to become PTA members. **We have 100% of our staff to join PTA!** The funds will be used for student field trips, materials, activities and much more. Help us help our kids. YES, our campaign continues so spread the word! We are striving for **300 members before October 31st.**



### REMEMBER:

The classroom with the most memberships by Oct. 31st will receive a popsicle party.

Families and faculty, your participation is essential. Pick up a form in the front office or have one emailed to you.

Support your PTA by joining TODAY.

Thanks for all you do!

Kimberly Taylor, Membership Chair  
kimberly.taylor@fortbendis.com

## Letter From The President

Hello Explorers,

We have started the school year with great momentum. I would like to thank all the volunteers who have come forward to help with all that SWE PTA has going on. We could not do it without you! You can still join PTA and help us achieve our goal of 100% participation! Membership is \$15 for the family. You will enjoy discounts on rental cars and tickets to local attractions and amusements. But most importantly, you can help support your child's school.

We have some exciting events coming up as well!!

- Our annual Boosterthon Fun Run is October 28, 2016. Students can collect pledges from local neighbors, family and friends but they can also accept pledges via the Boosterthon website for out of town family and friends. We will map out all the locations our pledges are coming from, including the US and worldwide. So let's fill up the map with pledges from all over the world. The kids just love Boosterthon! More information to come!
- Another important event coming up is the PTA Reflections Program. The theme for 2016-2017 is "What is Your Story?" All students of PTA members may participate so encourage your child to enter. Keep in mind that only new original pieces of work inspired by the theme may be submitted by students.

Thank you all for making SWE PTA so great and our wonderful volunteers make so much happen!!

Jeff Gricar  
SWE PTA President

## Greetings from the VIPS Coordinator

What a great start to the new school year. Thank you to all who have stepped up to help volunteer at our school. There continue to be many opportunities to help at Settlers Way Elementary. Here are some ideas: Special Programs, fundraising help, library help, Reflections committee, working at the teachers center, literacy help (reading with students) or helping in our very own VIPS room. Any and all help and time is appreciated. Also, remember to get your criminal background check completed before you can volunteer!



The **VIPS of the Month for September is Kim Taylor**. Kim is a first grade teacher at SWE and also our PTA Membership Chair. Kim is an amazing volunteer! Thank you for all you do, Kim!

Kristie Crandall  
SWE VIPS Coordinator



## Fort Bend Education Foundation

The Fort Bend Education Foundation provides opportunities to enrich and enhance the quality of education for all FBISD students through its grant programs. Through fundraising activities, the Foundation offers a variety of grants that are available to FBISD teachers and schools. Below are some Fort Bend Education Foundation upcoming events. Visit [fortbendisd.com/foundation](http://fortbendisd.com/foundation) for more information.



**Sugar Shindig** - Grab your coworkers and neighbors for a casual evening of fun and frolic, including a fajita dinner, dancing to the music of Password and a cake auction. This is camaraderie at its finest as staff from our schools and neighbors from the community vie for the best cakes made by prominent Sugar Land bakers. Have your cake and eat it too at this shindig! October 21 from 6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

**Oktoberfest Sienna-Style** - Please join us at Oktoberfest Sienna-Style at Sawmill Lake Model Home Park on October 22, 2016 from 4-8 pm! Proceeds benefit the Fort Bend Education Foundation.

**iFest Live 2016** - Please join us for the 11th Annual International Festival on November 5, 2016, from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Sugar Land Town Square.

Visit [fortbendisd.com/foundation](http://fortbendisd.com/foundation) for more information.

## Reflections Program



The Reflections program encourages students to express themselves through their artistic efforts. This year's theme is "What is Your Story?" and there are 6 categories: dance, choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts and all students from Pre-K - 5th grade may participate. All submissions must be brought to the SWE front office by Friday, October 28th. We will have a Reflections celebration on Tuesday, November 15th at 6:30 pm to exhibit all entries and honor our students who participated in the program. You can find more information about the Reflections program at [txpta.org/programs/reflections/](http://txpta.org/programs/reflections/).

Please help your children complete the student entry form correctly and make sure they have a unique title for the art they are submitting. The form must be signed by parents. In past years, we've seen some great work submitted with no title or simply just the theme of the year listed with no additional information. Be creative, follow the guidelines and have fun with the theme!

We're pleased to have had several entries make it to the state level. Last year we had 4 entries advance to the state level!! We hope to see more winners this year.

We will need help from the parents. We need judges for each category before the reception, help with the reception, etc. Specifically we need volunteers for:

- Judges for each of the categories. No special expertise is required, 2-3 judges per category. If you have a passion for one of the categories, we would love to have your help. Judging sessions will be scheduled in the afternoon or evening time between Nov 1st – 4th depending on the team's availability. A parent is allowed to judge for the same group their student submitted an entry for but their own child's entry will be skipped by the parent.
- Award coordinators to consolidate scores and winners, print award certificates and order ribbons, submit entries for advancing to state level, etc.
- Event coordinators to help setup/tear down for the awards event on Tuesday, November 15th between 6:00 – 8:00 pm.



Savannah and Kelley, this year's committee chairs, would like to train a parent interested in assisting and learning the keys to success with this wonderful program for next year. We welcome new ideas as well to improve our current program! This is Kelley's last year at SWE with her daughter in 5th grade now so new volunteers would be welcomed!

Please contact Kelley Glore at [LoyalTerps@windstream.net](mailto:LoyalTerps@windstream.net) or (832) 226-8243 (cell) or Savannah Rodriguez at [Savannah.Rodriguez@fortbendisd.com](mailto:Savannah.Rodriguez@fortbendisd.com) if you would like to help on any or all of the above.

Thank you for your participation.

\*You must be a PTA member in good standing meaning you join the PTA as a member for the small fee of \$15 per family by October 31st.

## The deadline for entries is Friday, October 28th!

## News From The Library

Welcome back to school! We started this year off with an author visit from Bluebonnet nominated author Chris Barton. He is the author of several books including Shark vs. Train, The Day Glo Brothers, and Whoosh!. His book, The Amazing Age of John Roy Lynch, is one of twenty books on this year's Bluebonnet list, which is a list for one of our reading clubs.

There are 2 reading club opportunities at SWE:

**The Texas Readers Club** is for all students K-5th. The teachers have been given all the information for Texas Readers Club so that students can begin earning their reading tags. Students need to read the 15 required books per grade level and complete one project before additional tags can be earned. Students who read 15 or more books from various genres and complete one project will earn their Texas Readers Certificate and be recognized on Awards Day. The deadline for all reading and projects is the first Friday in May.

**The Bluebonnet Reading Program** is also off to a great start. Twenty books have been nominated for the Texas Bluebonnet Award, and any 3rd, 4th, or 5th grader in the state of Texas who reads at least 5 of these books can vote for their favorite in January. You can see the list by visiting the Texas Library Association Website at [txla.org/TBA-nominees](http://txla.org/TBA-nominees). We have all of the books in our library and students are given several opportunities to read at least 4 of the nominated books during library class. We will be voting in the library the last

As a reminder, library is part of the outclass rotation along with, art, music, and P.E. Students will be on a four-day rotation which means they will go to a different outclass every 4 days. In order to help you and your child remember the outclass they have on a particular day, you can learn the acronym: P.A.L.M. The students will rotate through the outclasses in this order:

**P.E.**  
**Art**  
**Library**  
**Music**

Parents, please remind students that they need to return both of their library books on their scheduled library day; just check with your child to find out his/her color group. If a student is not finished reading a book, please bring it to library class, and I will re-check the book out to him/her again. In addition to checking out books in the library, students learn skills that teach them to become independent lifelong learners.

There are several opportunities to volunteer in the library. Every year we hold two book fairs; one in November and one in May. If you would like to help with those, keep an eye out for volunteer emails. We also have volunteers who help every day from 12:30-1:30 with our first grade students and with book shelving! Just email me if you are interested. I also want to give a special shout-out to my 5th grade VISA helpers, they are helping a lot and learning a lot about a library!

Happy Reading and I look forward to seeing you in the library!

Tracy Sackllah



# EXPRESS

YOUR ARTISTIC TALENT!  
WITH PTA REFLECTIONS



DANCE  
CHOREOGRAPHY



LITERATURE



FILM  
PRODUCTION



PHOTOGRAPHY



VISUAL  
ARTS



MUSICAL  
COMPOSITION

REFLECT ON THE THEME, CREATE AN ORIGINAL WORK, BE RECOGNIZED

Settlers Way PTA invites all Pre-K-5 students whose families are PTA members to participate in this creative expression of themselves!

**Important dates and information:**

- Go to [txpta.org/programs/reflections/](http://txpta.org/programs/reflections/) for full details and forms.
- Entries must be submitted by Friday, October 28th
- Submit to the front office with forms attached.
- Judging: Nov 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> [Volunteers needed]
- Awards Ceremony/Exhibit & PTA Meeting Tuesday, Nov 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm

**If you are not PTA members yet, you must join by October 31<sup>st</sup> for your child to enter. Just another perk of membership!!**

Contact Kelley Glore [kellyglore@gmail.com](mailto:kellyglore@gmail.com) or Savannah Rodriguez [savannah.rodriguez@fortbendisd.com](mailto:savannah.rodriguez@fortbendisd.com) with questions.

2016-2017 THEME:



@TEXAS PTA



Commyyounity

# News From The Counselor's Corner

## Explorers Let's SOAR!

### DATES TO REMEMBER

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| GT Testing Window          | 10/25 – 11/11 |
| Parent GT Surveys due      | 11/11         |
| College Spirit T-shirt Day | Every Friday  |

The 2016-17 school year is off to an awesome start! We are focusing on building character, maintaining a supportive and safe learning/working environment and developing a college and career readiness mindset on our campus.

**Girls Club & Boys Club** is scheduled to start in October. Students will participate in activities that strengthen leadership skills, build self-esteem, and encourage community service.

**CHS PALs** are scheduled to start very soon. Selected students will be paired with student mentors from Clements High School to work on academics and social skills.

**Lunch Bunches** are scheduled to start in October. Students will be selected to eat lunch with the counselor. This time with the counselor will be used to spotlight different strategies that students can utilize to enhance their educational experience.

- October** – Selecting and Keeping Good Friends
- November** – Building Better Study and Organizational Habits
- December** – Goal Setting: Planning for My Future!

**No Place for Hate Activities** are scheduled to start in October. SWE will participate in activities that encourage tolerance and unity.

- The Morris Brothers Assembly: Anti Bullying Champaign**
- National Unity Day: Stand Against Bullying**
- Red Ribbon Week: YOLO Be Drug Free!**
- Grinch Day: Tolerance for Others**

- October 18th
- October 19th
- October 24th – 28th
- December Date TBA



Anetria D.Woodard M.Ed.  
 School Counselor  
 Phone: (281) 634-5321  
 Email: Anetria.Woodard@fortbendis.com



# First Nine Weeks Award Winners

## PRO Award Winners

|             |                  |              |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| Milstead am | Aditya C.        | Lucy W.      |
| Milstead pm | Leevi P.         | Elyse D.     |
| Coffman     | Khajae C.        |              |
| McGee       | Ernesto R.       |              |
| Kirby       | Josue S.         | Fatima R.    |
| Nommensen   | Deinon L.        |              |
| Williams    |                  | Alexis M.    |
| Jaggi       | James C.         | Sarah M.     |
| Crowley     | Tobe O.          | Ishita K.    |
| Maler       | Jordan P.        | Elizabeth W. |
| Johannessen | Samuel G.        | Emma H.      |
| Taylor      | Jasper F.        | Alisha A.    |
| Mani        | Davin W.         | Violet M.    |
| Fanian      | Saharsh M.       | Diana A.     |
| Dawson      | Jacob B.         | Maddy C.     |
| Elson       | Arnold C.        | Natalie B.   |
| Lott        | Ethan L.         | Shazmah R.   |
| Bergerson   | Chris P.         | Taylor S.    |
| Honsberger  | Isaiah A.        | EmmaRose M.  |
| Borque      | Gabriel A.       | Ava M.       |
| Vest        | Jordan W.        | Jastine E.   |
| Ellefson    | Aiden B.         | Annika L.    |
| Baker       | Robert (R.J.) R. | Karen S.     |
| O'Brien     | Manuel A.        | Mackenzie M. |
| Yee         | Darren M.        | Sabaa H.     |
| Guest       | Preston D.       | Gabriella R. |
| Faulkner    | Mauricio C.      | Valerie H.   |
| DeMont      | DJ W.            | Maggie G.    |
| Guzman      | Adam H.          | Emma H.      |
| Blasdell    | Paul A.          | Sarah L.     |
| Robichau    | Wyatt B.         | Kaviya R.    |

## Writers Club Winners

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| Coffman     | Diego G.     |
| McGee       | Omashola A.  |
| Kirby       | Evelyn O.    |
| Nommensen   | Robbee M.    |
| Williams    | Ni-Jaya E.   |
| Jaggi       | Jillian G.   |
| Crowley     | Josie F.     |
| Maler       | Elaina B.    |
| Johannessen | Tashvi P.    |
| Taylor      | Vivaan D.    |
| Mani        | Rika F.      |
| Fanian      | Niyati P.    |
| Dawson      | Benjamin V.  |
| Elson       | Isa K.       |
| Lott        | Ayomipo T.   |
| Bergerson   | Sana S.      |
| Honsberger  | Elizabeth H. |
| Borque      | Meenakshi S. |
| Vest        | Stella M.    |
| Ellefson    | Trisha V.    |
| Baker       | Harini B.    |
| O'Brien     | Cayli S.     |
| Yee         | Cyndi S.     |
| Guest       | Santiago Z.  |
| Faulkner    | Brianna Y.   |
| DeMont      | Farah A.     |
| Guzman      | Emilia G.    |
| Blasdell    | Jamie N.     |
| Robichau    | Alice Z.     |



# Grandparent's Day

**September 9, 2016**



# Heroes Day





3015 Settlers Way Blvd.  
Sugar Land, TX 77479  
Phone: (281) 634-4360  
Fax: (281) 634-4376

**SETTLERS WAY  
ELEMENTARY**

*Shoots for the Stars*

**Settlers Way PTA Board**

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| President       | Jeff Gricar     |
| Vice President  | Veronica Lorine |
| Treasurer       | Jamie Rodriguez |
| Secretary       | Melissa Squires |
| Parliamentarian | Colleen Martin  |

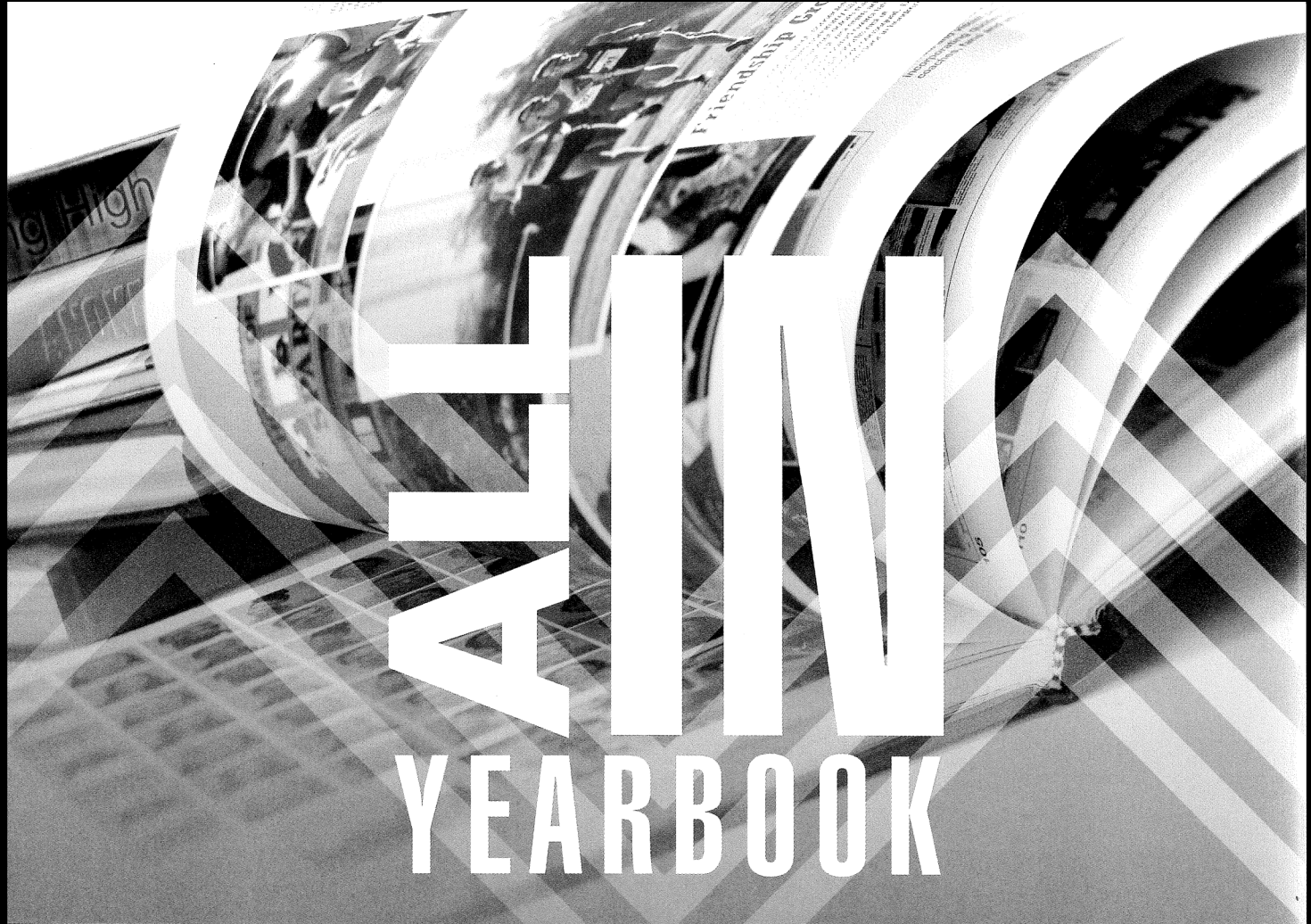
**Calendar of Events**

- October 20th - Chick-fil-a Night in Sugar Land
- October 27th - Fall Picture Retake Day + 5th Grade Class Picture
- October 28th - Boosterthon Fun Run
- October 31st - Halloween, Reflections entry deadline, First Grade Field Trip

- November 1st - Election Day, PTA Board Meeting 9:00 am
- November 2nd - Second Grade Field Trip
- November 4th - Pre-K Field Trip
- November 6th - Time Change
- November 10th - Spring Creek Night 5 - 9 pm
- November 11th - Veterans Day Program
- November 15th - PTA Meeting and Reflections Ceremony 6:30 pm
- November 21st - 25th **Thanksgiving Holidays**

- December 1st - Chick-fil-a Night in Sugar Land
- December 6th - PTA Board Meeting 9:00 am  
PTA Meeting and 5th Grade Program 6:30 pm
- December 7th - KG Field Trip
- December 15th - Winter Parties
- December 16th - End of the 9 weeks, **EARLY RELEASE at 12:10**
- December 19th - January 2nd **Winter Holidays**





**BUY YOURS TODAY!**

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**ORDER YOUR 2016-2017 SETTLERS WAY  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK  
TODAY.**

There's nothing else like getting your copy of the Settlers Way Elementary School official yearbook. It's the limited edition collection of our school's stories for this year. Don't let your student miss out on sharing and reliving the big events that will make this year special.

Our book is now on sale for the lowest price of the year. **ORDER NOW AND SAVE \$10.00**

**BOOK PRICE: \$30.00**  
**ORDER DEADLINE: 10/28/2016**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Yearbook   | \$30.00 |
| Signature Package<br><i>Includes: Yearbook, Personalization, Color Autograph Section, Autograph Pens</i> | \$43.00 |
| Personalization  | \$5.00  |
| Icons  | FREE!   |
| Autograph Section  | \$2.60  |
| Photo Pockets  | \$2.60  |
| Clear Protective Cover   | \$2.60  |

\*Tax and handling will be added, if applicable