FBISD
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GIFTED AND TALENTED
✉ gtfbisd@fortbendisd.com

CELEBRATING GIFTED
December 2020

🐦 @fbisdgt

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED: DESIGN ON A DIME
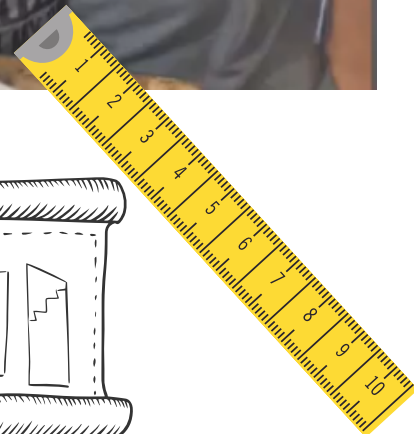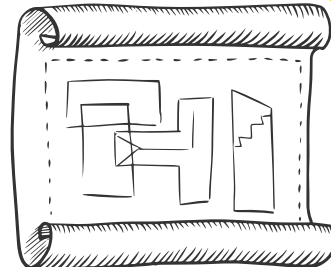
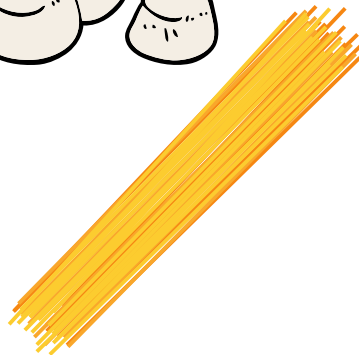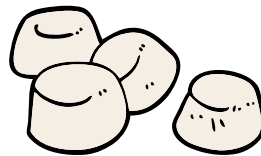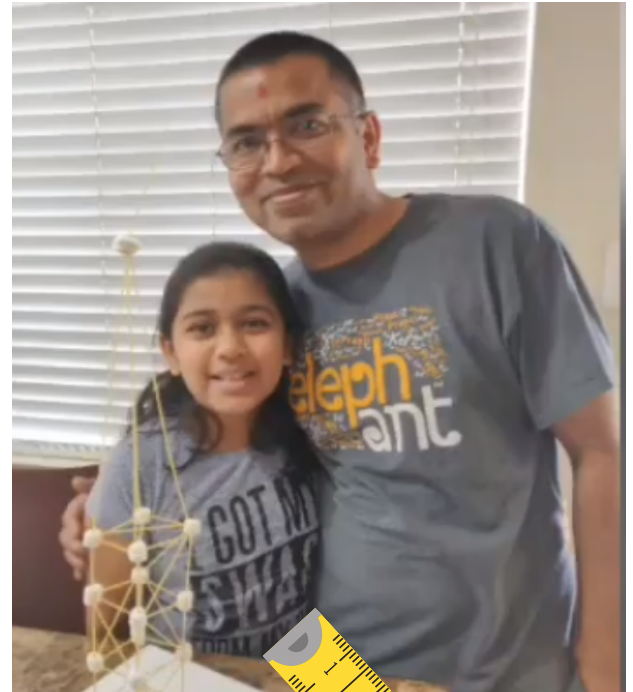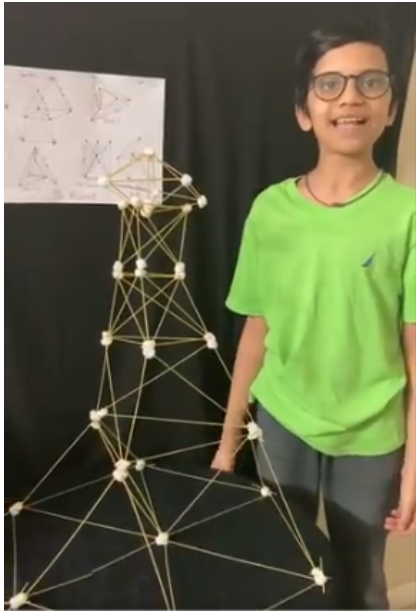NPR is inviting 5th through 12th grade students around the country to create a podcast, then, with the help of a teacher, compete for a chance to win the grand prize and have their work appear on NPR. **January 1, 2021 through March 15, 2021** is the submission window. Click on the picture for the full details!

GT Department News

The parent voice is crucial is helping the GT department gain feedback on programming, expansion, and communication, as well as to receive new ideas.

The GT PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) fulfills this role, but not every campus is represented! We are looking for parent volunteers who are willing to engage in conversation once a month about the GT happenings in the District. A hearty "thank you" goes out to those parents who have already made this commitment, but these campuses need a parent voice:

Armstrong Elementary
Blue Ridge Elementary
Glover Elementary
Heritage Rose Elementary
Mission Glen Elementary
Oyster Creek Elementary
Patterson Elementary
Pecan Grove Elementary
Ridgegate Elementary
Townewest Elementary
Bowie Middle School
Bush High School
Marshall High School

Please contact the PAC President, Kim Hibsch, if you are interested in serving on the PAC for your student's campus.
E-mail fbisdgtpac@gmail.com or visit the PAC Website for more information.

VIRTUAL
WORLD TRAVEL
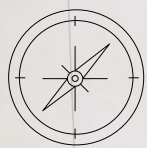
Virtual Visits

Visit 12 world-class museums over the winter break, including the Louvre, Guggenheim, NASA, the Smithsonian, Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Vatican!

Happy New Year Around the World

Good luck and prosperity are the wishes for the new year, but every country ushers the new year in differently. Read about different beliefs in harboring good luck, and maybe create a good luck tradition of your own for 2021!

Major World Holidays: Their Uniqueness and Commonalities

Dive into learning about world holidays - their culture, purpose, symbols, practices, and traditions!

CODE NINJAS®
RIVERSTONE | GREATWOOD | ALIANA

"Children must be taught how to think, not what to think."
- Margaret Mead
Social anthropologist - children's issues and Author

KIDS AND CODING: Why should kids learn to code?

Let's face it, our kids LOVE and ENJOY screen time! We need to make that screen time PRODUCTIVE! Coding is the new literacy similar to reading, writing, and arithmetic. Just like math, science, and literature, coding is a key aspect of understanding our technologically-advanced world. Look at what kept us somewhat functioning during the pandemic shut-downs.....TECHNOLOGY!!! See the stats below from Code.org that depict the current state.

- Kids in the US are falling behind the rest of the world in STEM-related subjects.
- Nationally, 67% of all new jobs in STEM are in computing and only 11% of STEM bachelor's degrees are in computer science.
- Texas currently has 38,050 open computing jobs (3.6 times the average demand rate in Texas).
- The average salary for a computing occupation in TX is $94,779, which is significantly higher than the average salary in the state ($49,720).
- Texas had only 4,160 bachelor's degrees in Computer Science in 2018; only 19% were female.
- In Texas, only 46% of all public high schools teach a foundational computer science course.

Who are Code Ninjas?

At hundreds of our centers worldwide, kids (Ninjas) learn to code in a fun, safe, and inspiring learning environment, with a game-based curriculum that they love. Parents love it too because their kids make real progress and gain valuable skills while having a great time. Learn more about Code Ninjas by clicking on the video icon below.

What do the Ninjas learn?

*Computational thinking   *Many Programming languages *Robotics *Real-life Applications *Business acumen
*21-Century skills *Problem-solving *Critical thinking *Leadership

How do I participate?

Code Ninjas is bringing an Intro Class to your kids. Registration is required to participate.
Additional slots will be added if registrations exceed expected numbers

MONDAY, DEC 7, 6:30pm-7:30pm for .ages 10-14 yrs - INTRO TO 3D MODELING & CODING
SATURDAY, DEC 12, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm for ages 6-9 yrs - INTRO TO ANIMATIONS IN VIDEO GAME BUILDING

The virtual link will be emailed upon registration 24 hours before the event. Please click on the "Registration" icon below to access the registration form. We are only accepting pre-registered participants for this event. PACE members and non-members are invited to join this session. You can also register through our website at www.pacefortbend.org under upcoming events.

About our Presenter: Kalika Sinha is the owner of three Code Ninjas Centers in Fort Bend County. One on University Blvd. serving the Riverstone and Sienna neighborhoods, second at 59 and 99 serving Greatwood, Riverpark, Telfair, and New Territory neighborhoods, and the third in Richmond serving the Aliana, Harvest Green, and Pecan Grove neighborhoods. The River0tone center received the Nation's coveted "Black Belt" center award two years in a row since it opened in 2018.

REGISTRATION

Contact a PACE Board Member at pacefbpres@gmail.com for more information.