H ere’s an invitation I received today from “Houston School Survey.”

Dear Administrator,

Nearly 60,000 families visit Houston School Survey conducting research on more than 100 Houston-area private and select public schools.

For the period August 1, 2015–January 31, 2016, Post Oak was one of the top 5 most researched schools.

We would like to highlight and provide some tangible insight into your school’s popularity.

Can you provide some information that you think families might find interesting. For example:

continued on page 2
Tangible Insight into Your School’s Popularity continued from page 1

- “This year saw the highest number of applications ever.”
- “We think families are really interested in our new Science Building.”
- “Our top performance on national standardized tests continues to drive growth.”

Please submit any comments by end of day on Friday, May 6.

We were pleased to read that Post Oak is one of the top 5 most-researched schools in the survey. What information could we provide to explain Post Oak’s popularity?

Here’s my response:

- **Demonstrated success:** this year’s 13 graduates were accepted into 51 colleges and universities, and offered $2.2 million in merit scholarship and financial assistance.

- **Portrait of a Post Oak graduate?**
  Here’s what this year’s seniors said: “persevering, thinking individuals, well-rounded, charismatic, ambitious, funny, confident, mature, professional, listening, comfortable with adults, beyond a stereotypical teenager, eloquent, adaptable, adventurous, individual, original, good communicator, passionate, and motivated.”

- **Twenty-first century skills:** Post Oak is one of the top schools in the country on measures of curiosity, creativity, and intrinsic motivation.

- **Engagement.** At every age, toddler through High School, students are involved in active, hands-on, experiential work that results in deep learning. At the High School level, this includes long-term internships with curators and experts in the Museum District cultural institutions. The school’s research division maintains a focus on studying and improving student engagement and culture.

- **Personalized learning.** Montessori invented it. Our classrooms are student-centered, not teacher-centered. The teacher acts as a guide, not a sage on a stage. Students work individually, in small groups, and in large groups. And within a structured curriculum, students make choices and follow their own interests.

- **Community service and character development.** Service to others begins at the earliest ages within the classroom. As students mature, service learning moves outward into the Houston community and the wider world. Character development isn’t an add-on at Post Oak; it is a part of daily life. Willing the good of fellow human beings is at the core of the work of every student and every adult at the school.

- **IB Diploma Programme:** All of our juniors and seniors study the IB curriculum. In fact, a number of outside students apply to Post Oak for entrance at the 11th grade level, drawn by the supportive and serious academic environment.

- **Extraordinary teachers** who see their work with children and teenagers as a joyful vocation. Most are trained by the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI). In fact, the school hosts an AMI teacher training course every summer.

- **Community:** Our school community provides a nurturing, caring, and supportive atmosphere for families, where lifelong bonds and friendships are built.

- **Entrepreneurs:** A surprisingly large percentage of our parents are entrepreneurs. Why? Because entrepreneurs recognize in Post Oak an educational environment that fosters all of the skills needed for a lifetime of entrepreneurial activity.

- **School 2.0:** Parents across the country are more and more interested in alternative school choices for their kids. Post Oak is not only the largest Montessori school in Houston, it is the largest and leading alternative school in Houston.

- **An admission process** as personalized as each student’s educational experience. Individual and small group tours are complemented by classes designed to help prospective parents decide whether Post Oak is the right school for their family.

- **Location:** The Early Childhood + Elementary campus is located in Bellaire; the Middle School + High School campus is located in the Museum District.

© John Long and The Post Oak School
Bookapalooza 2016

“My button, my button...still have my belly button!” Pete the Cat exclaimed, which brought giggles and laughter from Primary students sitting around the rocking chair. Post Oak’s librarian, Cory Eckert, began a day of literacy adventure at this year’s Book Fair with this storytime favorite. Brazos Bookstore was our new venue for this annual event which brought over 500 books into our classrooms and library. Thank you to all of the families who donated books and participated in the activities. Many thanks also to all of the volunteers who helped make the day run so smoothly.

Special thanks go to our Book Fair chairs Pragnya Patel and Valerie Volpi who masterfully orchestrated a new format and style in this new venue. What a successful and fun day! ➤ Download teachers’ reading lists here: www.postoakschool.org/images/postoak/PDF/Post_Oak_T eachers’_Book_List_2016.pdf

**JOHN LONG’S LIST OF RECOMMENDED READING**

Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak*

Will Bowen, *A Complaint Free World*

Myla and Jon Kabat-Zinn, *Everyday Blessings: The Inner Work of Mindful Parenting*

Marian Wright Edelman, *Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations on Loving and Working For Children*

Wendy Mogel, *The Blessings of a Skinned Knee*

T. Berry Brazelton: *Touchpoints: The Essential Reference: Your child’s emotional and behavioral development*

Martin Seligman, *The Optimistic Child*

Carol Dweck: *Mindset: the Psychology of Success*
COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES & DECISIONS!

Appalachian State University
Austin College*
Barnard College of Columbia University*
Babson College*
Baylor University
Brandeis University
California State University, Monterey Bay
Champlain College
The College of Wooster*
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Dickinson College
Elon University
The Evergreen State College
Franklin and Marshall College
Hamilton College
Hanover College
High Point University
Indiana University at Bloomington
Lawrence University
Lewis & Clark College
Louisiana State University
Marquette University
Mary Baldwin College
Mount Holyoke College
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
Oklahoma State University
Parsons School of Design—The New School*
Pepperdine University
Rhodes College
Southern Methodist University*
Southwestern University*
St. Edward's University
Texas A&M University—College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
Texas A&M University—Dwight Look College of Engineering
Texas Christian University
Trinity University*
Tulane University
The University of Alabama
The University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Houston*
University of Mississippi
The University of the South (Sewanee)
The University of Southern California*
The University of South Carolina
The University of Tennessee
The University of Texas at Austin, Cockrell School of Engineering*
Willamette University
The University of Vermont

*Denotes one or more students attending

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The 13 Post Oak High School seniors have received scholarship offers totalling

$2,191,180

Congratulations
Class of 2016!
IB Exams Under Way

by James Quillin, IB Coordinator, History & Social Sciences

May 2 to 19 is the Senior Exam Period at the High School. During this period, students sit for a series of exams created and assessed by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). Although student performances on these exams are not assessed by Post Oak faculty, in most cases they represent the culmination of their work in their two-year, upper level academic courses. Performances on the exams do help to determine the award of the IB Diploma.

There are a variety of assessment styles represented on the exams, including essay, short-answer, and multiple-choice. Students may be asked to demonstrate their learning by drawing graphs, interpreting visual sources, or even analyzing musical compositions by ear. This year, due to space constraints at the current High School building, students are sitting for the exams in one of the classrooms of the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS), one of our generous partner institutions. In order to make sure that they are not thrown off by the unfamiliar surroundings, practice exams were administered in the classroom in previous weeks, the walls were decorated with inspirational posters, and a bespoke selection of snacks is on offer.

Exam scores are communicated by the IBO in July. The IB Diploma Programme comprises an important part of every student’s curriculum at the High School level and the reputation of IB undoubtedly deserves part of the credit for the outstanding college admissions success of our first graduating class!

Direct inquiries regarding the IB and/or other aspects of the 11th and 12th grade curriculum in the High School to Upper Level Program Coordinator James Quillin at jamesquillin@postoakschool.org.

Graduating Class Speaker

by James Moudry, High School Director

Last Friday, in a meeting with the seniors, I asked them to help us to evolve the school’s Portrait of a Graduate document. When that document was first created, the school had a robust Middle School and no High School students. Now nearly ten years later, we’re readying to graduate our first High School class and it’s possible our vision of a graduate, this time entering adulthood, has matured.

I asked the seniors to list the characteristics that exemplify what it means to be a Post Oak graduate. Here is their raw list: persevering, thinking individuals, well-rounded, charismatic, ambitious, funny, confident, mature, professional, listening, comfortable with adults, beyond a stereotypical teenager, eloquent, adaptable, adventurous, individual, original, good communicator, passionate, and motivated.

I’m sure we’ll be tightening that up as we rework the document over the next few months. But there was something that we needed to do for this month.

I then gave the seniors an opportunity to nominate a commencement speaker from their class who they felt best exemplified these qualities. A senior who, in their minds, over his or her time at Post Oak best captured what it was to be a Post Oak graduate.

They selected Kirby who immediately accepted to a round of applause from her classmates.

We look forward to hearing Kirby’s reflections at the commencement ceremony on May 26. Come hear for yourself what it is to be a Post Oak graduate.

Photo by Valerie Sponsors

COMMENCEMENT 2016
Hamman Hall, Rice University, 6:30 p.m.
YOU’RE INVITED
to
JOHN LONG’S RETIREMENT PARTY
{21 YEARS AT THE POST OAK SCHOOL}

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2016
SILVER STREET STUDIO
2000 EDWARDS STREET
6:30 TO 11 P.M.
CASUAL ATTIRE | ADULTS ONLY

PICO’S MARGARITAS, FAJITAS, & FUN
DJ & DANCING
$30 PER TICKET

COME HELP US CELEBRATE JOHN LONG!

You can RSVP easily online. If purchasing tickets by check, please make it payable to The Post Oak School. Thank you!
The National Honor Society (NHS) Selection Process

The Post Oak High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) is sending out invitations to eligible students to provide information about themselves as part of the membership selection process. The selection procedure is as follows:

1. Academically eligible students are sent information packets. Eligible students must be in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade and have an overall GPA of 4.3/5.0 or higher.

2. Once the information packets are sent back to the Chapter Advisor, Ms. Harrison, then the Faculty Council reviews them and selects potential members. Students do not apply for membership; instead, membership is bestowed upon them by the Faculty Council. This selection is based upon the student’s outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service.

3. Each potential member is sent an invitation to join NHS.

4. Potential members who accept the invitation will be inducted into NHS in the early fall of 2016.

High School Student Highlights

Congratulations to Max Tribble on scoring in the top 2.5% on the PSAT/NMSQT among all Hispanic and Latino test-takers in our region. As a result, he has been invited to participate in the National Hispanic Recognition Program.

Congratulations to Chip (Charles) Slater, Post Oak Class of 2017, who met the requirements to enter the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. From approximately 1.5 million program entrants, each of these students is among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants who will be recognized in the fall.

Established in 1955, National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) is an independent, not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance. NMSC conducts the National Merit Scholarship Program, an annual academic competition for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships. Additionally, from 1965 to 2015, NMSC conducted the National Achievement Scholarship Program, an academic competition for Black American high school students.

NMSC’s goals have remained constant since its inception:

- To identify and honor academically talented U.S. high school students
- To stimulate increased support for their education
- To provide efficient and effective program management for organizations who wish to sponsor college undergraduate scholarships

Since its founding, NMSC has recognized over 3 million students and provided more than 396,000 scholarships worth over $1.5 billion.

HITS Theatre student, Caleb Han, 10th grade, placed as a Semi-Finalist in the Greater Houston National Association of Teachers Singing Auditions at the Moores School of Music at University of Houston. In April, Caleb played the role of Perkins and a member of the cowboy ensemble in HITS presents Crazy for You at Miller Outdoor Theatre. Caleb is part of the choir in the Alley Theatre production of The Christians.
POP A Event Chairs & Gala Subcommittee Chairs

A big thank you to these ladies for stepping up to help POP A Chairs Stacey Martin and Alison Wong, and Gala Chairs Jennifer Chavis and Stelli Parsapour. Presenting the 2016–2017 POP A event chairs and Gala subcommittee chairs (not pictured: Brittney Tribble, Auction Co-Chair and Enid Henderson, Wine Team)!

Save the date for Gala: Friday, February 10, 2017!
Post Oak Students Prepare for Summer

by Dori [Redacted] Upper Elementary student

Post Oak Upper Elementary students have a large variety of summer experiences. After the school year ends, students go home to relax after a long year of hard work. But we can’t relax just yet. Most students go on exciting adventures out of town, or have a great time going to day camps around Houston. Many students also go to sleep away camps. One student named Anna [Redacted] goes to a sleep away camp in Canada for two months. However, most students that go to sleep away camp go for two weeks to a month. Out of the 43 students who attend away camps 22 go to a specific camp called Lonehollow, located in Vanderpool, Texas. I am among these students, and I love it! Many of these students have gone again and again to these camps; totally hooked to the amazing experience. These camps, all camps, in fact, stay, or away, give life-changing opportunities, teach you how to cooperate, become confident, and be a leader, and you also meet life-long friends along the way.

Some also stay home, catch a breeze, relax, swim, hang out with neighbors and friends, go to parks, read, and explore. Others do camps throughout the summer to continue practicing their skills. Some camps I came upon repeatedly were horseback riding camps, creative writing camps and, computer camps. All of these camps are incredibly useful, so you can learn more about the given subject, understand various tips, and most importantly, practice. Speaking of practice, as a student, I would recommend all parents buy their child or children math and/or language books for them to do throughout the summer. Even if it is only one page a day, it will help for them to not forget everything that they learned during the school year. My mother has my brother and I do them and I find them extremely helpful.

In conclusion, with summer coming closer and the school year drawing to a close, Post Oak students are ready to have a great time during summer vacation! •

Nicole Pedersen & Suzan Samuels, Auction Data
Amy Kirchner & Valerie Sonsino, Done in a Day
Carol Howenstine & Whitney Walsh, Fun Committee
Neha Gupta, Mystery Boxes
Sarah Moudry, Class Projects
MMUN 2016

PART TWO

Isabel

Dear Reader, I would like to tell you about my MMUN experience.

The First day of Conference: I was rushing to my room after helping locate the rooms of my siblings, and swimming through the crowds of eager delegates. I finally reached my room expecting to find the same thing as on the other side of the doors, but found it was much more civilized and delegate-like. The setting was neat and orderly. I searched for the table with the placard reading ‘The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland’ and found it in the back, right row.

This is not what I had expected. Nope, not even close. But I liked how this was better than anyone could have imagined. The chairperson or president told us what we would be doing on that day and said that we would vote on anything and everything. I thought to myself, this is what my teacher had also said, but I hadn’t believed her. As soon as she was done, the room became blank, until a placard shot up from the Republic of Ecuador, and he said, “The Republic of Ecuador would like to propose a motion to start attendance.” The president and Dais members quickly said “All in favor raise your placards” All countries raised their placards without doubt and the president said “With consensus, this motion passes.” Then I thought to myself, maybe we will vote for everything!

The rest of the day, we addressed the topic ‘Protecting Endangered Species’ which happens to be my topic. We read our speeches, and I was happy to be first on the speaker’s list. I said my speech nervously and when I was finishing I didn’t know why I was so nervous in the first place! The people all clapped and smiled and were being very supportive. We voted on having an unmoderated caucus which was when you walked around, communicated with other interesting countries that you shared the same interests with, and talked about what you wanted to put in the draft resolution. Resolutions were when you would meet up with other countries, and put together several sentences of ideas that should be the solutions to the issue.

So we had one of those and the delegate of Brazil came to our table and asked us if they could join with us to collaborate to find a resolution, and we gladly said “Yes!” With a big smile on our faces! We joined with the Canadian group (also from Post Oak) and we all started to come up with brilliant ideas to put on our resolutions. Before we knew it, the unmoderated caucus was over and we went back to our tables.

The second day was pretty much the same but we dealt with the other topic, Renewable Energy. The next day we voted on which resolution we wanted to use at the General Assembly. After that voting was finished we voted on what person we wanted to choose to represent our committee at the general assembly and that person would get to make a little speech explaining our resolution. That was our last day in committee rooms. The next day we would go to the General Assembly. Once we got to the General Assembly each committee chose a few delegates who would probably present a brief version of the resolution to represent the committee.

This whole experience was truly a blast and I do not regret signing up for the after-school program MMUN. If you want to meet so many interesting people from different places in the world, and learn about very interesting topics, that were perfectly assigned to you to make your time at MMUN interesting, and good for you, then this is the after school program for you. It was a great opportunity and I learned so many things that I had never heard of before. This activity and all of its papers, and country researches and things were not easy, but definitely worth all of hard work and the efforts that each delegate in MMUN had to put into this course. You will probably see me again next year and hopefully with some new people along with the more experienced delegates!

Joseph

I had an MMUN experience that was likely very different from the experiences of other Post Oak students who attended MMUN. As a high school student, it would have been incredibly difficult to attend the conference as a delegate as I had done five times before, so instead I opted to attend it as a member of the middle school’s Dais. This meant that rather than representing a country, I would be helping to run a committee. This was my first time on the Dais, so I was naturally given the starting rank of secretariat. There were three other people on my committee’s Dais, two senior secretariats and a chair (not a literal chair, but a person serving a role similar to that of a president, as I found out). When I first sat down in my seat, I already felt as if I had vertigo. It felt strange looking down on the committee from the elevated platform where the Dais sat, to be sitting in the seats that I had looked up at for the previous four years. During the actual committee sessions, it was interesting to look at the proceedings from an outside perspective, to watch the forming of factions and ideological standoffs as an outside arbiter of compromise, rather than one of the delegates fighting for the interests of their countries. Much of the difficulties that the Dais faced happened on the second day. After a long, grueling day, we the Dais, had been able to work out a compromise and combine the two groups into one group who would write one resolution. Just as the chair started to call a preliminary vote, which would determine whether the resolution would be sent to final voting, one delegate raised their placard and made a statement. The delegate stated that they thought that the draft resolution didn’t include enough of one of the group’s ideas. At that point an entire day’s work of negotiation and diplomacy came crashing down in a spectacular fashion. Within the next five minutes, more than half of the delegates in the committee stood up and asked to be removed from the resolution’s co-sponsors list in order to vote against it. The delegates representing the resolution tried to work out the differences, but there just wasn’t enough time left in the day. And so, a few representatives from both the resolution and its opposition agreed to stay back and try to work out a compromise under the chair’s supervision, while everyone else was dismissed. I wouldn’t learn until the next day, at the final voting ceremony, that the delegates had added one, single clause to the resolution, which was enough to bring back the votes of every other delegate except for one. The lone delegate choosing to oppose the vote chuckled as she raised her solitary placard to vote no during the

continued on page 11
This topic is really important, and my experience at MMUN inspired me to research it even more. After the second day, at Social Night, I had a very fun time. Social Night is a chance for all of the MMUN delegates to meet and socialize while being at a dance party. The students from China were very nice even though I felt a little guilty because I did not know I was supposed to bring anything to exchange with other people. Even though I did not bring anything, a very nice girl from China came up to me and asked for a picture in exchange for a fancy set of chop sticks.

MMUN felt like it was two months of work fit into two days, but overall I had a really good time.

Sammy

My MMUN experience is something I will never forget. Sure, it was my second year being part of this project, but I still learned many important things. Here is a day-to-day list of what happened during the MMUN week. First off, there was one day of NYC exploring before the conference began. This was also a good day to review and study elements of the position paper, and practice to make my speech presentation inspiring. During the first conference day, the countries voted on topics to discuss. My country of representation was the United Kingdom, and my topic was dealing with strategies to help poverty through technology. We delivered our speeches and worked on our resolutions. I went back to my room with a sigh of relief after a day of tough negotiations. On the second day, the itinerary was the same. We concluded the day with a discussion and debate regarding the proposed use of solar panels. This process gave me a taste of what is required when countries come together to compromise. Unfortunately, Bolivia and Venezuela broke away from our resolution. On the final day, we had the honor of going to the UN, sitting in the grand General Assembly, and voting on our resolution. Even though it didn't pass, I still felt like I was part of something incredibly significant. In the end, MMUN brought me closer to understanding the world through not only my eyes, but others as well. During this intense and uplifting week, I tried to figure out some important challenges we have in our world, by trying to understand other countries points of view. As Atticus Finch once said, “To understand someone, you have to crawl into someone’s skin and walk around in it.”

Julia

My MMUN experience was a life changing experience in many ways. One of my favorite events was the delegates’ lunch at the United Nations, where the food was cooked in the Kazakhstan style. The next day we had our first committee session where everyone got to know each other better. We were each given a turn with the microphone and we got to talk about where we were from and our goals for MMUN. After that, we discussed the topic of increasing access to information technology. I was the third person to give my speech. We were not able to finish our resolutions for this topic so we continued it the next morning. Interestingly enough, when we debated the second topic of water pollution, our resolutions were created much faster.

The last evening was social night which was a very fun experience. A rapper came to perform and we traded gifts with delegates from China, Australia, Canada, the U.S. and other countries from around the world. The next day we went to the General Assembly in the United Nations. I had been nominated to speak about my topic of increasing access to information. My partner, Brooke, and I had prepared a summary of the resolution to convince other delegates to vote in favor of it. I was pleased when it passed. Overall, I enjoyed the experience and I hope to do MMUN again. I thank Mr. and Mrs. Pinto for supporting me in my experience.
2016 POST OAK FUND DRIVE

Making a Difference TOGETHER

Post Oak Annual Fund pledges are due May 31. Look for how Annual Fund dollars were spent this year in the next issue of The Post.

There's still time to help us reach 100%! Please show your support of The Post Oak School by making your Annual Fund contribution today online, via pledge, securities, or check.

THANK YOU!

YOUR MATCHING GIFT CAN MAKE YOU A LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBER.

CONGRATULATIONS to classes reaching 100% PARENT PARTICIPATION:

- Rebecca Duran
- Sue Guerrero
- Emily Hansen
- Lindsay Mistretta
- Debbie Nickerson
- Errol Pinto
- Maya Pinto
- Simran Sood
- Anita Taj Mahmood
- Tamara Townsend
- Miriam Winton

9th Grade
11th Grade

Classes at 100% Participation

Important Dates

2016 END OF YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Last day of school and High School Commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>In-service day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>Memorial Day—school closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 31 &amp; June 1</td>
<td>In-service days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>Summer school &amp; HMI begin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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2016–2017 CALENDAR SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 5</td>
<td>Summer school &amp; HMI ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 15</td>
<td>Faculty/staff return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Middle &amp; High School students return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 29–Sept. 2</td>
<td>First week for all YCC, PRI, and EL students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>Labor Day—school closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>Columbus Day—school closed, Employee retreat/in-service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 23–25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break—school closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>Early dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 19–30</td>
<td>Winter Break—school closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2</td>
<td>Teacher In-Service—school closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—school closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>Presidents’ Day—school closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 13–17</td>
<td>Spring Break—only students with expanded-year contracts attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Good Friday—school closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Last day of school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank You!
Odyssey of the Mind

by Emily Weinstein, Post Oak parent

Post Oak’s Odyssey of the Mind team competed in the state finals on Saturday, April 16. They placed third in their problem and division. Congrats to a bunch of wildly creative and hard-working students!

Below is a photo of our Odyssey of the Mind team: (from left to right) Ariela, Jules, Wyatt, Daniel, Alexia (Frostwood Elementary), and Aurora.

Congrats to Post Oak Parent Ben Braun

From a SFGate article by Connor Letourneau

Former Cal men’s basketball coach Ben Braun is one of five recipients of a Guardians of the Game Award from the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

Braun received the Guardians of the Game Award for Leadership at the AT&T NABC Guardians of the Game Awards Show on Sunday at the Final Four in Houston.


Springing Forward

Congratulations to Primary student Haley on her recent gymnastics achievement. Her mom, Erin wrote the following note to Primary teacher Rebecca Duran:

At five years old, Haley is one of the newest members of Discover Gymnastics’ HOPE TEAM and is currently competing at the USA Gymnastics Junior Olympics Compulsory Level 2. On April 16, 2016, Haley represented Discover Gymnastics at the Sugar Land Gymnastics All-Star Invitational. Haley placed in the top five on the bars, floor, and beam and in the top ten overall for the Jr. A division. On April 24, 2016, Haley continued her competitive journey at the Discover Gymnastics Mini-Olympics competition, where she reached an impressive 35.75 overall, including a 9.30 on her floor routine—one of the top scores of the day! Haley will compete three more times this summer. Above all, Haley and her teammates are the embodiment of teamwork, dedication, and competition with grace and courtesy.
1–4. Upper Elementary students in Maya Pinto and Irma Alarcon’s class hosted a Spanish Market for Elementary and Middle School students. They raised close to $2,000 for M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. ¡Muchas Gracias! (Photos by Valerie Sonsino)

5–7. Middle School students recently performed *Aventuras y Desventuras de Don Quijote de la Mancha*.

8. The High School Bearkats soccer team pose for a group shot at one of their games.

9–11. High School students danced the evening away at the first Post Oak prom.
**CALENDAR**

**MAY 8–14**

**Sun 5/8**  
*Mother’s Day*

**Mo 5/9–Fri 5/13**  
*MS to Washington D.C.*

**Tues 5/10**  
*HS BBQ for Parents  
6–8 p.m. (Museum District campus)*

**Wed 5/11**  
*New Elementary Parent Gathering  
Lower EL: 6:30–7:15 p.m.  
Upper EL: 7:15–8 p.m.*

**Thu 5/12**  
*New Primary Parent Gathering  
7 p.m.*

**MAY 15–21**

**Sun 5/15**  
*Buddha Day*

**Tues 5/17**  
*MMUN info meeting*

**Thu 5/19**  
*New Middle School Parent Gathering  
7 p.m. (Museum District campus)  
New YCC Parent Gathering  
7 p.m.*

**Fri 5/20**  
*Reception for John Long  
4–6 p.m. (Bissonnet campus)  
Spring ASEP ends*

**Sat 5/21**  
**JOHN LONG’S RETIREMENT PARTY**  
6:30–11 p.m. (Silver Street Studio)

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**NOTICE BOARD**

**SAVE the DATE for the POST OAK GALA**

**FRIDAY, the 10th of FEBRUARY 2017**

**at HOTEL ZAZA**

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**ABOUT THE POST**

*The Post* appears every other Friday of the regular school year. You can receive a printed copy from your oldest child, or a PDF version online.

Submit letters, articles, or photos in electronic form by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before publication to Communications Coordinator Elaine Schweizer (elaineschweizer@postoakschool.org). If publication is on a Thursday due to school closure on Friday, then the deadline is 5:00 p.m. on the preceding Monday.

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