Pre-order Books for Your Family

Plans are underway for Book Fair on Sunday, April 15. Before that, you have a chance to pre-order books for your family from a curated list of recommendations by Post Oak faculty. Every purchase you make helps the Post Oak Library! Pre-order forms are due to the front office by Wednesday, February 14.

FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Library is a financial support group for the library. All funds raised go to support the Post Oak Library and book collections on both campuses. You can become a Friend of the Library (FOL) by making a donation online. FOL contributors of $100 and more receive an exclusive T-shirt. Thank you, library friends!

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for updates, photos, and more:

www.facebook.com/thepostoakschool and www.facebook.com/postoakhighschool

Instagram.com/postoakschool/ and Instagram.com/postoakhighschool/

twitter.com/postoakschool and twitter.com/postoakhs
Ten years ago my husband, Rick, and I anxiously awaited a response to our daughter Olivia’s application into Primary. Olivia was two years old, and it seemed a bit strange to feel anxious about her education. But, like all parents, we wanted to set her on a solid path for learning and development.

We wanted a school and faculty that are not just dedicated to teaching kids the curriculum, but also to helping children develop into well-rounded, self-aware, socially-conscious, and responsible young people. A school with confidence in its academic rigor that can permit children to follow their interests and to direct their own learning. We were looking for a school that helped guide students into becoming active participants in the larger world.

We were new to Houston and still quite new to parenthood. As we considered her educational options we consulted our friends and colleagues. One school kept coming up—The Post Oak School. I signed us up for the prospective parent courses. We walked into the school and admired the flags of many nations that at that time lined the entryway. As we sat around the table with other parents, our interest grew. We listened to Kathy Long (now retired Elementary teacher and wearer of many hats at Post Oak) discuss nurturing independence, self-directed learning, the theory of presenting to the child only what could fit in her hand, and how young people could achieve “flow.” At a subsequent class, we watched a video of toddlers dressing themselves, and environments created to meet the child’s stature and needs. We knew we would submit an application. We wanted Olivia to grow and become a part of this special community.

When the acceptance letter arrived, we were excited about what the future would hold.

And, here we are. Ten years have passed, we now have three children in Elementary, and our family is firmly rooted in The Post Oak School community.

We continually think about and evaluate the ways that our school is meeting the goals we had in mind when we started this journey. We see the school’s influence on our family every night in our spirited dinner conversations, whether about world events or classroom and playground dynamics. At family gatherings, play dates, and birthday parties, we see how The Post Oak School molds our children and their classmates into sophisticated conversationalists with any adult who will treat them as the equal participant that they are. And when we attend after-school events, we see the way that Post Oak children learn broadly and deeply, and are eager to share that information with you.

The truth is that we try to pay close attention to our children’s experiences in class, after class, and in the larger community that, for them, centers on The Post Oak School. And, we try to keep in mind, as we approach our 10th year, what attracted us to the school in the first place, and discuss with each child their thoughts on Post Oak and their education. We have learned to follow the child. And without hesitation, each has not only explained but demonstrated to us that this community, this school is exactly where they should be, and more important, where they want to be.

Ten years later, as more experienced parents, our co-workers and new parents now consult with us about their family’s first steps on their educational journey. We are often asked what we like about Post Oak. The answer is simple and gratifying. The Post Oak School is more than an excellent academic institution. It is a community, helping our children become engaged and balanced individuals, nurturing their growth into curious, compassionate, and full participants in our world.
Alumni Voices

We love our alumni! Last month at the Alumni Voices event in the High School, we gathered a panel of alums, parents of alums, and soon-to-be alums to answer your questions about the outcomes of a Post Oak education. Our thanks go to them for sharing their stories about life post-Post Oak. If you missed it, watch the video on our Facebook page.

Young Artists

Last month, several Post Oak students attended a ceremony hosted by the Houston Young Artists’ Concert (HYAC) honoring their winning entries in the 2018 Visual Art Contest. Students submitted pieces related to music and its visual expression. Art was displayed at Shepherd School of Music, Rice University during the HYAC program. Congratulations!
POP A Community Service—Join in!

Join us for the upcoming POP A community service opportunities. Volunteer forms for events can be found on the POPA Helps page on our website: (www.postoakschool.org/postoak/POPA_Helps.asp)

BOOKS BETWEEN KIDS
Saturday, Feb 17, 2018, 10:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Books Between Kids is a non-profit organization founded in 2012 to serve Houston’s at-risk children by providing them with books to build their own home libraries. Volunteer projects vary depending on need, but volunteers often help count and sort books, pack books into boxes, move boxes of books around the warehouse, prepare school inventory lanes, prepare boxes of books to be sent off to schools, or even clean and reorganize the warehouse. The volunteer event is at the Books Between Kids warehouse, located at 9947 Harwin Drive, Suite B, Houston, TX 77036. (Please note that you will not be able to see 9947 from the street. Turn in between 9941 and 9949 Harwin Drive.) Volunteers must be age 5 and up.

BEAUTIFYING BUFFALO BAYOU
Saturday, March 31, 2018

Volunteer projects can vary and we will know more as the date approaches, but we will likely be picking up trash and debris along Buffalo Bayou. The meetup location will also be announced as we approach March 31. The Partnership is allowing children as young as 7 to volunteer with our group. ☞

For parents & their children in YCC & Half-Day Primary

STORY TIME
Wed., Feb. 21 at 2:30 p.m.
at The Post Oak School Bissonnet Campus

BAKE SALE
Wed., Feb. 14
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bissonnet Campus Common Room

Debbie Nickerson’s Upper Elementary class will hold a bake sale in the Bissonnet Campus Common Room benefitting Viva La Vaquita and the American Cancer Society. Shoppers/supporters are encouraged to bring up to $5 to spend at the sale.
Class of 2018 College Acceptances

Goucher College, Purdue University, Simmons College, Southwestern University, Texas State University, University of Houston

Bard College
Baylor University
Chapman University
Clark University
Colorado College*
Colorado State University
Colorado School of Mines
Mary Baldwin University
Mississippi State University
Pace University
Rice University*
Sam Houston State University
Santa Clara University
Southern Methodist University
St. Edward’s University
St. Edward’s University, Honors College
St. Louis University
St. John’s College
Stephen F. Austin State University
Texas A&M University
Trinity University
Tulane University
Tulane University, Honors Program
University of Alabama
University of Denver
University of North Texas
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Honors College
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas at San Antonio
Xavier University

*Denotes one or more students attending.

The Class of 2018 have been offered $1,403,000 in scholarships to date. Way to go!
Look for more updates in the months ahead.

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Upper Elementary Invention Fair
at The Post Oak School

Thurs., March 8, 2018
7 to 8 p.m. | Post Oak Gym
HS J-Term

Last week saw the culmination of the High School’s J-Term intensive courses. Students presented what they studied and also took questions from the audience. The event was live streamed on Facebook, so visit the High School’s page to watch it.

NHS students also held a bake sale to benefit Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands Montessori School.
1. The Full-Day Young Children’s Community gathers for snack.
2. A Primary student discovers the parts of a leaf and also builds fine motor skills using the pincer grip.
3. Lower Elementary students use racks and tubes to learn long division.
4. Exploring the wealth of books thanks to many past Book Fair donors and Friends of the Library!
5. Upper Elementary students created some beautiful posters for their upcoming bake sale.
6. Middle School girls played a great season of basketball.
7. High School boys basketball played their final game of the season as a tribute to Mr. Ziegler. We were also happy to have Coach Tucker and his wife, Nancy, working the scoreboard.
Show your Bearkat pride!

Get tees, sweats, caps, and more in the official spirit store at postoakbearkats.com.

Now with more cowbell! 15% of all purchases go to the Post Oak Athletic Department!
Coffee with the Elementary Director

Wed., Feb. 14 at 9 a.m.
in the Bissonnet Parenting Center

Topic: Transition to Lower Elementary

FISH Meeting

Thurs., Feb. 22 and Fri., Feb. 23 CANCELLED

Mark your calendar for the meetings on April 26 & 27!

Families Integrating School and Home (FISH) is a parent group with meetings to support Montessori principles at home.

Summer School Registration

Registration for summer courses will open soon for YCC through High School. Once we’re ready, you can log in to My BackPack to register your child for weeks of focus, fascination, and fun with friends at Post Oak. Watch Post Highlights for more details.

If you have any questions, please contact Auxiliary Programs Director Miriam Winton by phone at 713-661-6688 or by email at miriamwinton@postoakschool.org.

Spring Parent-Teacher Conference Registration

Spring Parent-Teacher Conference registration is available on our website.

Sign up at www.postoakschool.org ▶ For Parents ▶ Schedule/View a Parent-Teacher Conference and use your My BackPack login information.
One day only!
THE SENIOR IB ART EXHIBIT
Conceptual Contrast
Tuesday, February 27
3 to 6 p.m.
at the High School
The entire Post Oak community is invited to the seniors' IB art exhibition. David B., Conor D., Salvador R., and Maya V. will have art on view for one day only at the High School.

HIGH SCHOOL
COFFEE HOUSE
Thursday, March 8
3:30 p.m.
at the High School

Montessori Classes and Camps
- Montessori from the Start
- Movement and Exploration
- Montessori for Young Children
- Bake with Me
- Pastry School

Parent Coaching and Classes
- Understanding your Montessori Child
- The Montessori Nanny
- Toilet Learning Basics

Visit www.thestudiojune.com for all of our classes
5217 Bellaire Blvd., Bellaire, TX 77401 903-600-5863
2018–2019 Important Dates

Aug. 13 Faculty/staff return
Aug. 21 Fall term begins (see orientation calendar for start days per level)
Sept. 3 Labor Day—school closed
Oct. 8 Columbus Day—employee retreat/in-service—school closed
Nov. 21–23 Thanksgiving Break—school closed
Dec. 21 Early dismissal
Dec. 24–Jan. 4 Winter Break—school closed
Jan. 7 Teacher in-service—school closed
Jan. 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—school closed
Feb. 18 Presidents’ Day—school closed
March 11–15 Spring Break—only students with expanded-year contracts attend
April 18 Teacher in-service—school closed
April 19 Good Friday—school closed
May 23 Last day for High School
May 24 Last day of school/early dismissal
High School Commencement

Annual Fund Update

86% Parent Participation

We’re reaching out to our remaining families to fulfill our goal of 100% participation. If you haven’t yet made a pledge, please donate today to show your support of Post Oak. Thank you!

Don’t Forget

Fri., February 16
Teacher In-service

Classes NOT in session: only students with expanded year contracts attend.

Mon., February 19
Presidents Day

School closed

March 2
Conference Day

Classes NOT in session: only students with expanded year contracts attend.

March 30
Good Friday

School closed

Calendar Change

Please note that Friday, April 20 has changed to a regular school day and will not be an in-service day.

To avoid the school’s email communications arriving in your junk mail folder, please add info@postoakschool.org to your safe sender list or address book/contacts.

About The Post

The Post appears every first Monday of the month during 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 to Communications Coordinator Elaine Schweizer (elaineschweizer@postoakschool.org) by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday one week prior to publication. Please direct all requests for permission to reprint articles to the communications coordinator.
The Post Oak School was founded in 1963 and accredited by both the International Baccalaureate® Programme (IBO) and the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS)

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Museum District Campus: 1010 Autrey St., Houston, TX 77006 • Tel: 832-538-1988 • Fax: 832-538-1926
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