

Rocking Horse Review

Back-to-School Issue
September - December 2019

SUPER NEWS, IT'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL!

New adventures await as we look forward to the final months of 2019. There is so much learning and fun yet to come. We are so proud of our teachers' enthusiasm for education and hope that you will take the time to join us at our annual Back-to-School Night to learn more about them and your child's curriculum.

In October we will be having a *Nothing Bundt Cakes* fundraiser. We are looking forward to your participation for this yummy fundraiser. We will also be welcoming back 512 Portrait Company. Mr. Traye does a great job of capturing all of our RHA students' radiant smiles.

We are already full of anticipation for our annual Family Feast in November. Sign-up forms will be posted on classroom doors. Please make time to join us at one of our most loved events of the year. This year Santa will visit and be available for photos. As a reminder for our Corral Kid families - Hays CISD is typically closed for the entire week of Thanksgiving. Our Corral Kids' program is available that week from Monday - Wednesday. Be sure to sign-up with Ms. Kim for the added care if you need it.

December is such a busy month for us. We have *Shop 'Til You Drop* so you are free to shop, wrap, have a date, whatever you need, and we will take loving care of your child(ren). Our Children Around the World celebration is December 13th. And remember we will close December 24th (1/2 day), 25th-27th and January 1st to give our staff a little holiday break to be with their families. Please check the following page for Important Dates so you can be sure to join in on the fun.



In Other News...

Rocking Horse Academy has had some super accomplishments to be proud of over the previous months. We are proud to be recipients of the Kyle Chamber of Commerce award for Excellence in Commerce Large Business. This award celebrates success, innovation, growth and leadership which are all key elements our staff inspires in our students as well.

RHA is also very proud of our staff in helping us revive the look of our classrooms with a fresh coat of paint.

Our commitment isn't only to education but also creating a safe & welcoming environment for all of our RHA families.



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IMPORTANT DATES



Tuition Due

September 9TH, 23RD

October 7TH, 21ST

November 4TH, 18TH

December 2ND, 16TH,
30TH



DATE NIGHT & SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

September 21st

October 19th

November 16th

December

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP
14th
12PM - 12AM



RHA Events

- ⚡ Grandparent's Luncheon
September 6
- ⚡ Back-to-School Night
September 19
- ⚡ Nothing Bundt Cakes Fundraiser
September 24 - October 4
(Forms Due October 7)
- ⚡ 512 Portraits
October 22-24
- ⚡ Costume Parade
October 31
- ⚡ Pajama Day
November 1
- ⚡ RHA Family Feast
November 22
- ⚡ Children Around the World
December 13



SCHOOL CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 2ND

OCTOBER 14TH

NOVEMBER 28TH - 29TH

DECEMBER 24TH (HALF DAY),
25TH - 27TH





FOALS 1

FOALS 1 ADVENTURES TO COME...

Goodbye summer and hello fall! I want to welcome all the new families to Foals 1 room. Our class is looking forward to the start of a new school year with new, fun and exciting challenges.

In our classroom we will learn about our 5 Senses. Babies can't taste salty foods until 4 months or so. New-borns can't see colors at first; black and red are easiest for them. And within days of birth, a newborn can differentiate the diameters of a bristle brush, so their touch develops more quickly than their sight. A fun art project the infants will do is finger painting.

Feeling different textures on his/her arms, hands, and

cheeks can help a baby's tactile sense of touch. We have toys that have different textures to enhance that.

As infants move and their weight shifts, they gain a sense of awareness. Positioning them differently helps develop their movement and balance.

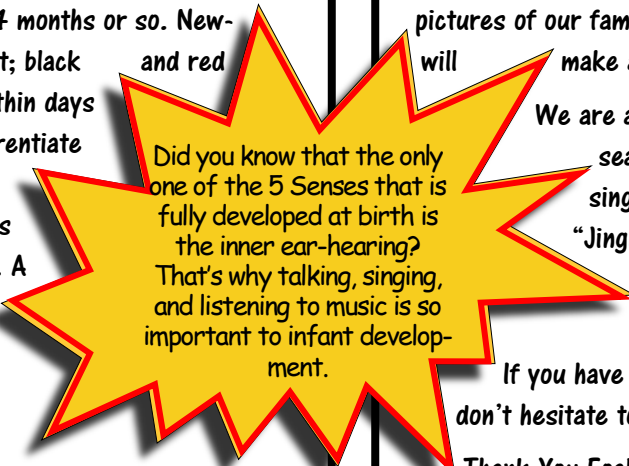
A fun project that we will talk about is family while we have floor time. We will spend a lot of time looking at pictures of our families and talking about our pets. We will make a fun family collage.

We are also anticipating a joyful holiday season in the coming months. We will sing fun holiday songs with our friends "Jingle Bells," "Frosty," and "Rudolph."

For art we will sponge paint a tree and finger paint a wreath.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thank You Foals 1 Teachers




Did you know that the only one of the 5 Senses that is fully developed at birth is the inner ear-hearing? That's why talking, singing, and listening to music is so important to infant development.

Tummy Time

Tummy time is so important. It helps your baby develop the neck, back, and shoulder muscles needed to meet infant development to achieve all milestones including rolling, sitting, crawling, and more.

As we sit on the floor with our babies, we want to encourage their development by helping them learn to:

- 
- ⇒ Roll from side to side.
 - ⇒ Open and close their fingers.
 - ⇒ Reach and grasp objects.
 - ⇒ Pass a toy from one hand to another.
 - ⇒ Turn their heads to noise.
 - ⇒ Make eye contact and respond to smiling and sounds.
 - ⇒ Follow objects with their eyes.



FOALS 2

Meanwhile in Foals 2...

It's Back-to-School season but the learning never ends in Foals 2. At this age every minute is a learning experience, and, in our class, we like to make sure those moments are also filled with fun. With so much movement and growing happening during this phase, we are always excited to explore the 5 Senses with your baby. Listening to music with our ears, tasting our foods with our taste buds, smelling

different scents in our classroom, and touching different textures around the room will not only encourage us in using all of our senses to learn, but also introduce our little ones to new sensations. One of our favorite activities in Foals 2, that en-

Did you know your baby is learning SCIENCE through sensory play? Investigating how sensory boards feel and look is science. Learning to touch the fluffy textures because they feel soft and avoid the rough textures because they're pokey is your baby's way of investigating and analyzing the world around them.

courages use of our senses is playing with sensory boards. Our current boards allow your baby to feel soft, fluffy textures, rough, grass-like surfaces, and smooth, cool areas. To further support each baby's development, we use different words to expand his/her language when describing how things feel. This activity also carries over into our meal times. Squishing pasta and fruits in their hands or crumbling up crackers is all part of sensory development and also teaches your baby about cause and effect. As you can see, the learning and fun really doesn't stop in Foals 2.

TRANSITION TIPS

Transition time can be a challenging period for both baby and you; however, as teachers we strive to make this experience as effortless as possible. Whether your baby is just starting out in Foals 2 or progressing to Colts, familiarity is an important tool we use to make your baby feel safe and secure during this time. Our teachers make sure we take time to interact with incoming babies well before transition begins and also introduce our future Colts to their new teachers. However, don't be surprised if separation anxiety still happens for the first couple of weeks. Your child has a lot to get used to in his/her new room; just a new environment alone is a lot to take in, as well as so many new friends to meet. Transitions at this age are very unique to each baby; there is no set schedule for when they will start accomplishing many of the developmental milestones preparing them for their next class. At RHA each class is designed to enhance your child's development, and I assure you, making certain your child is ready and will benefit from his/her transition is our utmost priority.





COLTS

Welcome Colts!

We are excited about the start of the new school year. Each month we will explore our themes through art work, song / dance, and literature. We will continue to teach the children the colors, shapes, Spanish words, and American Sign Language. We always reinforce what we are teaching our Colts throughout the day. (Can you hand me a green car? Are you pushing el Pero on the floor? or How high can you stack the blocks?)

There will be several special events happening over the next several months and we will be creating special art pieces for them.

The STEAM curriculum is a big part of our lesson plans. We teach these in numerous ways.

Stacking and sorting toys helps promote math skills, flash cards help promote literacy skills, and outdoor time builds cooperation and trust. We will do some simple science experiments with our Colts. Mixing colors is one that our class really likes to do.

As we do the experiment, we always explain what we are doing. (We are going to mix red and yellow paint. We have a new color, orange).

Sometimes to make a different texture, we may add sand or glue to the paint. Everything we do may appear to be "playing", but this is how children learn. Always remember that a child's work is play, and this is how they learn best.

Super Foods...



This is the perfect age to introduce your child to a variety of foods. They are no longer babies who need baby food or bottles, but they have yet to develop acquired tastes. Normally we discourage children from "playing" with their food; however, at this age it is common. They are learning textures, smells and tastes. Research indicates that it takes 12 to 15 times for a child to decide if they like a food or not. Keep encouraging them at home to try different foods, and we will do the same at school.



REMINDERS!

Make sure that your child has weather - appropriate clothing in his/her cubby. Don't forget to label all personal items with your child's name and initial of last name. Please remember to label all diapers with your child's initials. Mornings can be a little hectic, and we want to make sure the appropriate items go to the correct child.

As always, we will continue to use a lot of repetition with our Colts. This is the best way that they learn the skills that are needed in life. Remember that we are here for your child and you. Questions, comments, and concerns will always be addressed in a timely manner. You may always leave us notes via the Tadpole APP, on our classroom e-mail (colts@rockinghorseacademy.com), or call us during our nap hours (12:00-2:00)

Thank you,
Ms. Barbara and the Colts Teachers



PONIES

FALL IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER, AND WE CAN'T WAIT!



We are so excited for cooler weather and to be able to spend even more time out in the atrium and little playground. The next few months are exciting times as we get closer to Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. We are planning some fun activities outside to enjoy the beautiful weather. As always, we will continue learning our sign language, Spanish words, and review our basics: letters, numbers, shapes, and colors.

Since we will be spending more time outside, we will start doing more outside activities including chalk and bubbles. We will pick up different leaves and acorns, and we will see all the different colors that they are. We will also count as a class and see how many we can collect. Be on the lookout for a small nature walk information sheet as the weather starts to cool down. We are super excited to be able to enjoy the upcoming weather and look for leaves changing colors.

The Ponies are continuing our STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) concept in our classroom, focusing on art and math for the next few months. We will work on color recognition when doing art projects such as making puffy paint with different colors. We will use colors like red, yellow and orange when we talk about "Fire Safety" and do fun projects containing useful safety tips. We will work with Math; we will hand out different blocks or color tools and ask our friends if they can find the color on our carpet. From there, we will count as a group and see how many blocks each friend has in that color square.

Holidays are coming up
Pony teachers can't
and their

soon, and we can't wait to get started on all the fun projects we have in mind. The wait for December when we get to learn about Children from Around the World holiday traditions. We will experience as much as we can of these different cultures and their holiday traditions, including the food and music they enjoy.

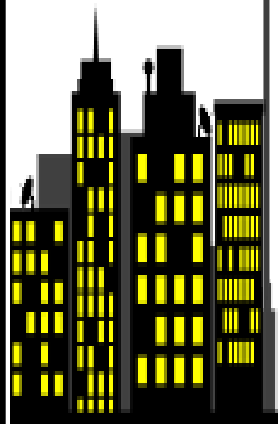


REMINDERS...

With the cool weather approaching us soon, please make sure your Pony has weather-appropriate clothing and shoes, as well as making sure everything is labeled. It's a good idea to do a cubby check periodically to make sure there is a change of clothes, and that they are weather and size appropriate.

There have been questions lately about diapers and wipes. We have 6 scheduled diaper changes a day. Diapers are also checked periodically throughout the day, so your child can potentially use 5 to 7 diapers a day. I check supplies on Monday and try my very best to give you 2 days' notice to bring in supplies. We currently do have some friends with the same diapers and wipes, and we ask that you please label all diapers with your child's initial on the folded area. We also ask that you please label wipe packages as you bring them in.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask any of your Pony teachers!





CHARGERS 1

CHARGERS 1 ADVENTURES TO COME...

Over the next several months Chargers 1 will be having some amazing adventures. Summer is almost over, and fall is right around the corner, and we can't wait to explore.

We will begin our fire safety unit in October. RHA will invite the Kyle Fire Department to come and visit. This will allow the children to not only see the fire truck, but they will learn about fire safety and earn special badges. The firefighters will talk to the children about the equipment they use during a fire. They will also learn the Stop, Drop, and Roll technique. It's a good time to organize a fire drill with your child at home in case of an emergency. And how to call 9-1-1.

Stranger Danger is another topic we focus on during safety month. Children must be taught to be careful when approached by a

stranger. Role playing is a very good tactic for

parents to help their child understand how to react in certain situations. We will begin role playing with your child using the 5 most common tricks used by individuals attempting to abduct children:

- ⇒ Offering the child a ride
- ⇒ Offering the child candy or sweets
- ⇒ Asking the child questions
- ⇒ Offering the child money
- ⇒ Using an animal

We will be promoting how and when to call 911, as well as teaching the children what to say in the case of this emergency. At home teach your child your address and your name. This will help emergency operators.

Our developmental focus over the next several months will include activities like

using a fork, using a pencil, putting together 24-piece puzzles, and learning how to share with our friends. We will be doing small groups daily that include these skills, so the children have an everyday hands-on experience.

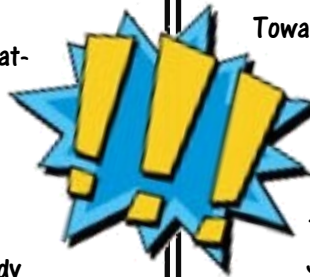
Towards the end of the year, RHA hosts Children Around the World. This year Chargers 1 has chosen Japan as our country. We will hear different types of music from Japan and learn how to prepare traditional holiday foods, we will create Japanese lanterns and origami. We will see pictures of Japanese children and their cultures. If anyone has been to Japan and has items to share, please feel free to bring them and help us with our project.

The STEAM curriculum is a significant part of our lesson plans. We teach these in numerous ways. Stacking and sorting blocks helps to learn math skills, flash cards help to teach literacy skills, and outside time builds cooperation and trust. Everyday there will be something new and fun to learn in your child's classroom.

REMINDERS...

Please check your child's cubby for weather-appropriate clothing.
Label everything that comes into the classroom.
Check your child's folder daily.

Thank you, Chargers 1
Ms. Laurie and Ms. Sarah



CHARGERS 2

WELCOME TO CHARGERS TWO!

We are excited about a new school year beginning!

Each day we will continue reviewing our shapes, colors, and of course counting (we are up to 15 .) Sign-Language and Spanish will be reviewed as well. The children have really started using manners AND signing *Please* and *Thank You*. One book that we read each week that emphasizes using our manners is, "Please, Mr. Panda." We practice our manners during snack and lunch time as well as free play, where the children learn to share toys with their friends. It is quite helpful using repetition during Circle Time. The children know what to expect and even ask each day if we are going to sing our sings and read our books.

We will continue full STEAM ahead into fall with implementing the STEAM concepts in our classroom. Math skills are used when counting our friends and even when we sing and use fingerplays for *The 5 Little Monkeys* and *5 Little Pumpkins*. Some exciting science experiments using pumpkins are planned for our theme *Our 5 senses*, as well as discovering textures with sandpaper and shaving cream. We will make Singing Glasses by putting water into glasses to hear the noises made. The sense of *taste* will be a fun one as we will do taste-tests of sweet, salty, and sour, and talk about the differences. As October rolls around, we can also use some of our senses when the Kyle Fire Department comes for a visit. The children will get to see and hear a fire engine, as well as hear from a fire fighter on how to Stop, Drop, and Roll. The STEAM concept can be used at home as well as you cook dinner, clean up toys, and even work in your flower gardens.

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 label EVERYTHING to avoid confusion and lost items in our classroom. This includes diapers/pull ups, bedding, cups, Show and Share items, and lunch boxes. Don't forget with cooler weather soon approaching, you will need to check your child's cubby to switch out weather-appropriate clothing.

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.

Ms. Leslie and the Chargers Two Teachers





PINTOS

ON THE HORIZON...

Well, our summer fun is coming to an end, and we are moving into the time of year that gets us back into "school mode" and brushing up on our language, math and science skills. We will incorporate this through small and large group lessons, hands-on activities and circle time. One of our themes, which is "My School," will get us back into the groove and excited to experience new and exciting activities, such as learning how to spell and trace our names, identifying numbers 1 through 50, holding a writing utensil and scissors correctly, and learning sign language, and everyday words we use in Spanish. We will also work on being kind to our friends and following simple rules, transitions to new activities, and respecting the toys and materials in our classroom.

This fall we will move onto "fire safety" and how our firefighters are here to help us in an emergency as well as learn how to "Stop, Drop and Roll". We will practice doing a fire drill. As the weather cools down, we will talk about leaves falling and changing, looking at them under a microscope, what animals come out, and those which get ready to hibernate in the colder months.

Another theme we explore is our families and togetherness, and how there are different kinds of families. We will make family trees and share how we enjoy each other's company. That will start getting us ready for the holidays, and we will spend some time talking about Ireland and ways people around the world celebrate the holiday season. We will try some foods from Ireland and look at simple maps of where they live, and what they do daily that is different from us. I enjoy being with the children during these times of learning and how they take in a different culture and ask questions that are always insightful and unique, and it helps us as teachers to learn more by doing so.

We will work on our math skills through counting, sorting, patterns, and incorporating simple math by adding or subtracting objects to start the process of simple addition and subtraction. We will do some fun science activities such as color mixing, weighing objects, and comparing acorn sizes. During circle time, we will discuss which trees they come from, and what animals use them as a source of food. We will compare our heights and keep track of how we have grown by graphing it monthly.

Our days are always filled with new and exciting adventure, and we are beyond excited to experience all this with your children.



REMINDERS...

We are doing well on potty training. The children have shown more independence in this and are going on their own, and feeling proud of their newfound accomplishment. Please continue to work with you child at home and make sure he/she always has 3 sets of extra clothes and underwear, a pair of shoes (to be kept at school) and socks.



WRANGLERS

HOWDY WRANGLERS!

Wow, summer flew by quickly, and we are getting ready to head into the fall and winter months. These next few months are my absolute favorite because we have so many fun activities planned. We will start with our Back-to-School theme. This gives us an opportunity to recreate class rules as a class with the children participating in making these rules. We will welcome new friends and really get to know each other. In September Rocking Horse offers Back-to-School night, and this will give us the opportunity to chat outside of the classroom and answer any questions you may have.

During our safety theme, we have so many fun events planned! We will start the month with our Fire Safety unit and practice "Stop, Drop and Roll". During this unit, we will have a visit from the Kyle Fire Department. Because Stranger Danger and Halloween fall within our planned themes for October we will go over how to be safe while trick or treating and what to do when we don't feel safe. In the classroom we will memorize important phone numbers such as 911, parent's phone number(s), where we live and our parent's names. We will hold a Hal-

loween Party and Costume Parade at the school on Halloween day. Ms. Kelsey and I will have some fun Halloween games planned in the classroom as well as a not-so-spooky dance party!

Our fall themes will be full of fun! We will have our annual Rocking Horse Academy Thanksgiving lunch. In the classroom we will learn about the different foods families may eat during Thanksgiving and traditions families may have. We will explore some of our 5 senses in the classroom with making some fun treats such as mini apple turnovers, a pumpkin pie, and what do pumpkin seeds taste like? We will also use pumpkin seeds with our math unit for matching numbers and counting.

In December we will go on a journey to learn how different countries celebrate the holidays. Our classroom will focus mainly on how Italy celebrates Christmas. We will have an Italian feast in the classroom to celebrate provided by Ms. Katie, and we will exchange books with all of our friends. As a science experiment we will make "snow" in our classroom and melt ice with salt.

Wrangler Teachers Ms. Katie and Ms. Kelsey

Fun Recipe

Mini Apple Turnovers: Dough (I buy the pre-made crescent style) Peeled and sliced apples, melted butter, pinch of cinnamon and sugar

Take the dough out and pull apart into pre-cut triangles. Take a small spoonful (think baby spoon size) of melted butter and rub into dough. Place 1-2 apple slices or cubes inside pre-cut triangle. Add a pinch of cinnamon and sugar (to taste).

Roll and place on baking sheet. Cont. these steps until all dough/apples are used.

Bake at 375 for 5-10 min or until dough is cooked/golden.



MUSTANGS

READY, SET LEARN!

Wow! Time flies when you're having fun in the Mustang room! As summer comes to an end, we are wrapping up our last summer themes. Our Mustangs have come a long way already with their academic readiness and independence. Ms. Sarai, Ms. Winter and I, are planning new themes to stimulate learning this fall. One main activity will be journaling. Our journaling assignments are done three times a week to determine what skills have been met and which skills need improvement for our Mustangs. Activities such as *Spot and Dot the letter* are a fun way for our students to recite the letter of the week while being able to recognize its shape and sound. All a student will need for this activity will be a bingo paint stamper and random letters. It is a quick and fun way for children to be familiar with the alphabet.

A fun and exciting way to introduce math to our Mustangs is by creating our unique *counting booklets*. Counting booklets are a way for our children to be creative on paper but also gain number and counting knowledge. Children are drawn to an animal or object, which is why it is the perfect opportunity to engage numbers and colors into an activity such as this one. Providing multiple pictures and simply asking, "How many items do you see?" will be sure to quickly catch our children's attention and put their knowledge to the test. Analyzing numbers can enhance further mathematical skills as well as creative artistic abilities. One-on-one time with children during these activities can be very beneficial especially at this age. Three/Four-year-old brains are still developing the ability to focus on one task, which is why we should all be patient and lend a helping-hand when needed.



Cognitive & Language Milestones

Circle time is an important part of our daily routine. This is a time for our class as a whole to learn weekly lessons as well as preparing for academic assessments in a fun and motivating way without pressure. It is important to point out that as our 3/4-year-olds grow, we have noticed many milestones reached in such a short time. Our Mustangs have quickly picked up on counting numbers as a class, calling out colors, and interacting with appropriate conversations in relation to our topic of the week with teachers and peers. Our Mustangs are able to retell stories, remember lessons from the previous days, and most importantly have learned our daily routine. Understanding our routine and distinguishing it between morning and afternoon is crucial when it comes to a child's schedule and helps guide him/her through his/her days.

In addition to cognitive milestones, learning new vocabulary and using our words in social settings with peers have become an astounding achievement. Conflict-resolution is a task to take on, but with the help of expressing our emotions to our classmates, students can identify the situation and find solutions. Aside from expressing our emotions, three/four-year olds are quite often curious and ask "why", and as educators we should keep in mind that it is part of their development. Appropriate answers are always encouraged in order to maintain positive guidance dynamics.

QUICK & EASY TIPS FOR FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS

- Ask for your child's attention
- Minimize distractions
- Give them appropriate time when responding to a question and or task
- Give instructions one at a time
- Check for understanding
- Use visual cues
- Give choices instead of commands
- Always model good manners



Looking Towards the Future...

The most wonderful times of the year are right around the corner, and yes I do mean the holidays! With our fall and winter months fast approaching, I would like to point out some safety and daily reminders. Texas weather can be very tricky around these months, which is why providing extra clothing can help our children dress for the weather. Sunscreen and filled water bottles are daily essentials our children need in order to have fun outside while staying safe under the sun. As the temperatures start getting cooler, we will put the sunscreen away and say hello to warm jackets to welcome our next season. Remembering to label every item your child brings into our classroom can be very helpful for teachers to keep track of. To sum up, our Mustangs still have a lot of time to learn, play, and grow alongside their friends. The Mustang teachers are all excited to see what's new to come but most importantly seeing how all our children get older and wiser.

Ms. Adriana, Lead Teacher, Ms. Sarai, Assistant Teacher, Ms. Winter, PM Teacher



TROTTERS

HELLO PARENTS!

We have officially kicked off our Pre-K year in the Trotter class, and I cannot be more excited. This will be a journey not only for our class, but a journey that families and teachers get to enjoy, as we watch these children grow into independent beings that are ready to take on the world as kindergarteners.

One of the subjects that we are excited about is learning about our community helpers. We will learn about their roles in our community and how much they help us. We will also get a special visit from the Kyle Fire Department and get to tour the fire truck. One of the important lessons we will learn about is how they put their gear on so children won't be frightened by their masks during a real emergency and hear all about what they do to keep us safe.

Another unit we will study about is family. We will compare how each and every family is different yet the same. We will create a family collage to hang up in home center. The students are always excited to show off how wonderful their family is. We will practice how to say family words in Spanish.

With fall right around the corner, we will be doing something that most children enjoy....carving and investigating a pumpkin! We will be able to scoop out the pumpkin 'guts' and measure it to see how much is in there. The children get to scoop out the seeds and talk about the way it feels. We will talk about the life-cycle and plant our own pumpkin seeds. The children get excited when they know that they get to water their own plant.

One subject we will work on daily is math. We will solve simple math problems together as a group during circle time. As a group, we will count in both English and Spanish. One activity the class likes to work on is patterns. So far we have learned the AB pattern. As the months proceed, we will learn ABC and ABBA patterns. We will use different objects in the class to make it more fun and memorable. Another activity that the students will enjoy will be building a bridge for counting bears. We will use plastic cups and popsicle sticks to make a bridge, and then count to see how many bears it took to complete the activity.



SUPER LEARNING!

In the Trotters, we are continuing to practice self-regulation daily. We have been learning how to use words with friends, think of solutions to problems within groups, and we are also practicing empathy. We have come a long way since the beginning of summer, and I am so proud of them. One of the milestones that we are working towards is learning how to spell our names orally and how to write them. We will do many activities and games to make it more fun to learn. Another goal that we will be work on weekly is sight words. We will start off with simple words, practice how to spell them, recognize them and eventually, read and write them.

We are learning how to be more independent and responsible. Of course, as children learn how to be independent, we teachers are always there to show them how to persevere when they think they cannot do it. We are one of their biggest cheerleaders!

REMINDERS:

*Please make sure that all of your child's bedding, extra clothes, and water bottles are labeled with his/her name. *Drop-off time is before 10 a.m. unless your child has a doctor's note. *All home food must be eaten by 7:30 a.m. *Please check daily folders for art and important letters.

Thank you for allowing the Trotter teachers to be a part of your child's life, and we look forward to all the fun things we have planned this upcoming year!



BRNCOS

ADVENTURES AWAIT...

I want to welcome you and your child to the Bronco class. I am eager to get to know each student and to begin the learning process. Summer is coming to an end, and now we must prepare for the school year. This means we will begin working in our journals and folders to prepare your child for kindergarten. Journal writing teaches spelling, writing, counting, cutting and many other learning skills.

Over the next few months, we will incorporate STEAM concepts throughout our curriculum themes and through other classroom activities. As we explore our curriculum theme of family, we will make a class family tree during circle time. Each student will get to add members of his/her family to the chart. We will use this chart during circle time to compare families. Upon completion of the chart, students will become engineers and build their own house using Popsicle sticks, paint, and yarn. Inside the house will be a family portrait that each student will also create. They will be displayed throughout the classroom for students to be able to discuss and acknowledge the differences of families. Throughout this project, students will practice using fine motor skills, color sorting, comparing, contrasting, counting, building, critical thinking and creativity. Students will also gain a better understanding of diversity, togetherness, and caring for one another.

In the month of October, we will practice counting, work together as a team and get his/her hands dirty. For this activity I will allow each child to come up one-by-one and reach into the pumpkin and grab a handful of seeds.



Following this, each child will complete a worksheet questionnaire about our class pumpkin. This worksheet will incorporate counting, color recognition, categorizing, writing and art. Lastly, each child will get to decorate a portion of the class pumpkin, encouraging the class to work together as a team.



Looking Ahead...

Over the next few months we will also focus on using our words to solve our problems and to ask for help. Furthermore, I want to remind families to continue to check folders daily and to label all of your child's items to prevent them from getting lost or taken by someone else. I am so excited to get to work with each and every one of you and to watch my students learn and grow throughout the year.



CORRAL KIDS



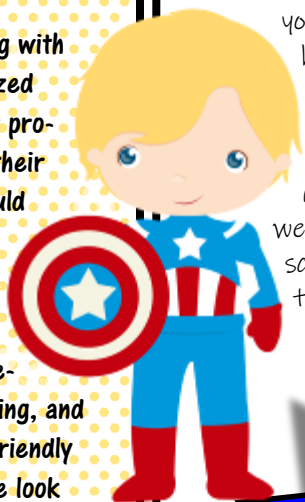
MEANWHILE IN CORRAL KIDS...

SUMMER has come and gone, but we went out with a bang at our End-of-Summer Bash. It's always hard to see such a fun summer end, but it's great to see new and old faces joining Corral Kids for another new school year! The beginning of school for Corral Kids is all about adjusting to new schedules, teachers, curriculum and friends...we are all excited to get the 2019-2020 school year started! Homework, art projects, science experiments, games and activities are just a few of the fun things Corral Kids have planned this school year. We are excited to say **Welcome Back, Corral Kids** (after all, summer will be back soon enough).

This fall we have many fun activities planned! Science experiments and art projects are a must! We will use inspiration from Mother Nature, school events, and our students here at RHA to plan activities for all to enjoy. Don't forget every Friday is movie day! There is a list of Fridays' movies provided on the gym doors at the beginning of the month. We are working together to have the best Corral Kids' year yet!

To start the year, each of our four groups will be working with the teachers in their group to create their own personalized set of rules to allow the students to have input into their program. We find that if we encourage the students to set their own rules, (and they generally know what rules they should follow), they are more inclined to follow them. We want to make each day an exciting and safe day, and each of our friends can look forward to after-school fun!

As the weather changes, so will our focuses. We will celebrate fall activities such as leaf art, group pumpkin painting, and spooky science just to name a few! (We encourage kid-friendly and school-appropriate costumes for Halloween!) We look forward to an exciting and cooler fall semester with all our good friends in Corral Kids.



IMPORTANT HOLIDAYS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

All-day care tuition is \$70/ Wk plus \$30 each day your child attends. If you do not wish to use All-day care, no tuition is charged. Make sure to reserve your spot as space is limited in the holiday season.

*ALL-DAY CARE available November 25th -27th *

ALL-DAY Care will be available December 23rd and $\frac{1}{2}$ day 24th, and December 30th and 31st

Be In the Know

With days filled with changing leaves and maybe lower temperatures, we have much to look forward to. There are a few rules we want to remind our returning friends, while letting our new ones in on the happenings here in Corral Kids.

- We ask that all toys from home stay at home. (We would hate if anything were to get lost or broken while at RHA)
- Bring a water bottle each day to have at our outside times as well as snack.
- Corral Kids are welcome to have extra nutritious snacks in their lunch boxes to eat at our designated snack time.
- The first 15 minutes of our group times each day is set aside for quiet homework time. (Please tell your child's teacher if there is anything you want us to focus on in that time. (i.e. reading, writing, math)
- At pick-up time, we ask that you check in with your child's specific teacher to see how his/her afternoon went. That is when any forms that need signatures or school handouts can be completed.
- Please be sure to communicate with us about pick-up changes during the week. We will not wait extra time at the school, or search for children not brought to us at the designated pick-up areas.

MEET OUR STAFF!

K- Ms. Meredith

1st - Ms. Kacie

2nd - Ms. Corie

3rd and Up- Ms. Emily

Corral Kids Asst. Supervisor-
Ms. Annie

We would ❤️ to hear from you!

You can reach Ms. Kimberly anytime during school hours at 512-405-3700 or by email at corral-kids@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.