

RANCH RECORD

*News For The Residents of
Blackhorse Ranch*

10 Ways to Prepare Your Child for Elementary School

Build Trust and Routine to Reduce Jitters:

Written by Brandi Muse owner, Primrose School at Summerwood

This fall a new group of 5- and 6-year-olds will embark on a significant milestone of their educational journey – starting kindergarten or first grade. Whether you’ve been through years of preschool or not, the transition into “big kids’ school” can cause parents and children alike some first-day jitters.

“Kindergarten and first grade are full of excitement and fun! There’s no need to be nervous,” says Dr. Mary Zurn, vice president of early childhood education at Primrose Schools. “If you prepare your child for the transition with a few simple adjustments to your routine, you will end up enjoying the milestone and dispel some of those natural twinges of sadness as you see your ‘baby’ grow up.” To help ease the transition to independence, Dr. Zurn suggests the following 10 tips to help calm kindergarten jitters:

Establish a daily routine that fits your family’s schedule and ask everyone to do his or her best to stick to it. Consistently begin morning activities at the same time every day. Don’t wait until school begins - start at least two weeks before the first day and continue the routine throughout the year.

Nighttime routines are important, too. The whole family can help make mornings easier by taking care of tasks the night before. Try making it a habit to pack book bags, complete homework and pick out the next day’s clothes in the evening to avoid morning mayhem.

Get your rest. Read a bedtime story early enough in the evening for children to get a good night’s sleep. Many morning issues can be avoided if everyone is rested and ready to begin the day.

Read, read and read some more. It is often the anticipation of the unknown that makes children anxious about kindergarten. Reading about starting school gives children an opportunity to imagine their own experience and express their fears. The following books

(Continued on Page 5)

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Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing blackhorse@peelinc.com or by going to <http://www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php>. All news must be received by the 9th of the month prior to the issue. So if you are involved with a school group, scouts, sports etc – please submit your articles for the Ranch Record. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations and military service are also welcome.

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10 Ways to Prepare Your Child- (Continued from Cover Page)

are fun to read and can help children prepare for the feelings they might experience when school starts:

- When Mommy and Daddy Go to Work by Joanna Cole
- First Day by Joan Rankin
- The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
- Don't Go by Jane Breskin Zalben

5. Prepare your kindergartener for longer periods of separation in increments. Before leaving your child at school for the first time, have him or her stay with a grandparent or a babysitter for increasingly longer periods of time. This will teach your child to trust that you will always return.

TOUR THE SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD. Visit the classroom, meet the teacher and tour the playground so the places and faces they will see on the first day feel familiar and safe. Afterward, talk about what both of you saw and how fun the different activities looked. Refer to the teacher by name to help your child think of her as a person you know and trust. Reinforce the idea of school as a safe place to learn and play.

SET THE STAGE. Talk to your child about kindergarten and help him or her visualize what the day's activities are likely to be. "On Monday when you go to school, you will see your friends, play on the swings and read stories. Ms. Smith will be there to help you. It will be a great day! And mommy or daddy will be there to take you home when school is over for the day."

SHOP FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES. Children love shopping for school supplies. Give your child the opportunity to pick out a few items he or she likes (within reason, of course) to provide a sense of ownership and responsibility in the decision-making process.

SAY A QUICK "GOODBYE" AND PROMISE TO COME BACK. When dropping your child off at school, give a quick hug and kiss, cheerfully say goodbye and promise to return later. When you linger, you undermine your child's confidence that you feel good about where you are leaving her.

ESTABLISH A PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER. Children look for emotional cues from mom and dad's behavior. The more comfortable you are with your child's teacher, the more comfortable your child will be. Discuss with your child's teacher how your child is adjusting over the first few weeks of school. The more visible you can make the connection between home and school, the more secure your child will feel.

These tips can help parents adjust to their child entering kindergarten just as much as they can help children.

"Starting kindergarten or first grade should be an exciting time for families, not a source of anxiety," says Dr. Zurn. "If you feel confident and prepared for the transition, your children are likely to feel the same."

For more tips and ideas from Dr. Mary Zurn, visit www.DrZandFreinds.com or www.PrimroseSchools.com. To learn more about Primrose School at Summerwood, visit www.primrosesummerwood.com or call 281.454.6000.



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Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club

Scholarships were awarded to outstanding Key Club members in late May. Awards of \$1000 each went to Megan Islin of Cy-Ranch High School; Layeeka Ismail of Cy-Falls High School and Ryan Nava of Cy-Falls High School. Additional awards of \$500 each went to Brooke Alexander and Katherine Morgan of Cy-Ranch and to Julie Nguyen of Cy-Falls.

The primary criterion for the scholarship is that the recipient be an outstanding Key Club member. To be outstanding one must have served his club and the community and maintained a scholastic average that qualified him for college admission. Congratulations to the winners. We are proud to honor such outstanding young citizens and to be the Kiwanis sponsor for these schools.

Come join us at the CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB and be a part of sponsoring children's activities, such as the Triathlon. CHILDREN PRIORITY ONE is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide.

The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club sponsors nine Key Clubs in the Cy-Fair Schools; sponsors the Kids Triathlon; Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Sea Scout troops and activities; provides scholarships to outstanding Key Club members in our district; provides assistance to Cypress Assistance Ministries and Bear Creek Ministries; the Houston Food Bank; and many other nonprofit organizations.

Membership is open to persons of good character who adhere to the standards of good conduct in their community and believe in and subscribe to the objects of Kiwanis International.

If you would like to know more about Kiwanis and the programs it promotes, we invite you to be our guest at one of our monthly meetings. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club meets at Hearthstone Country Club on the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month at 12:15 for lunch and informative programs. For more information, call John Carroll at 281-463-0373 or George Crowl at 832-467-1998.

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The Cy-woods Crimson Cadettes Drill Team will host their 7th annual dance clinic for K-12 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on August 8-10. This is a major fund-raiser for the team and enables them to participate in activities throughout the 2012-2013 school year. Please register by July 29th, 2012 to get the Pre-Registration price of \$55 which includes dance technique, specially choreographed routines for each age group, a t-shirt, drinks and snacks each day and a picture for each participant. Showoffs will be held the last day at 11:30 a.m. For more information email goodsonms@comcast.net or check out our website at www.crimsoncadettes.com. On the website, you will find a sign-up form and a link to PayPal for easy payment.



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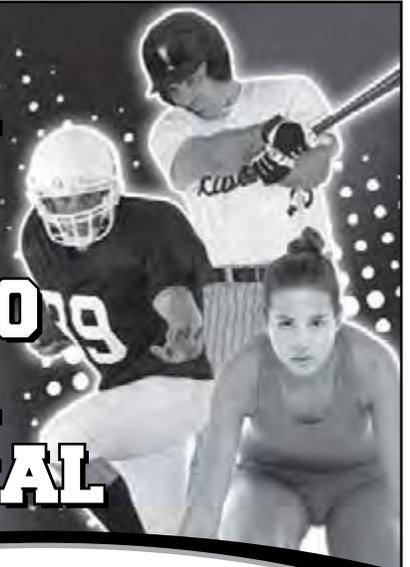
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CY-FAIR WOMEN'S CLUB

Women Serving the Community

Making a difference is what we strive for all year long. It was an honor creating the Breast Cancer Pillows this month and it was a pleasure to meet our scholarship recipients during our June meeting. We wish them all great success in their personal endeavors.

We are very proud to have had the opportunity to support several organizations again this year. A few of these organizations are Reach Unlimited, Mission of Yahweh, Cy-Hope, Cypress Assistance Ministries, Magnificat House and the Glory Ranch. Our goal is to continue assisting our community and making a personal difference.

Please remember to come join us in August, as we are all looking forward to a SPA like experience to help us prepare for our very special marketplace event "Shop Til You Drop" on September 8th. Mark your calendars. You don't want to miss this event!

CWC is a service organization that gives back to the community. This



means that all funds raised will go right back to the community in the form of scholarships for graduating high school seniors, at Lone Star College, Cy-Fair and grants to other non-profits in our community, as well.

Membership into the Cy-Fair Women's Club is open to all ladies in Northwest Houston/ Cypress neighborhoods. Currently we meet the first Thursday of most months at West Houston Church of Christ. Our meetings begin with social time and refreshments at 7:00p.m. immediately followed by a program at 7:30p.m. The church is located at the corner of Queenston and West Road.

Our monthly meetings are not only educational and enjoyable, but they develop lasting fellowships. We look forward to meeting you there! If you have any questions about our club or need directions to the church, please contact Susan McLeroy, Membership Chair at sudomac@comcast.net.



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Cypress-Tomball Democrats August Meeting

The Cypress-Tomball Democrats will hold their next monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 15th, at a new location: Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429. A meet and greet will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the general meeting at 7:00 p.m.

July's guest speaker will be Cheasty Anderson from the Center for Public Policy Priorities. She will discuss the Affordable Health Care Act, how it is affecting our lives now and in the future.

All are welcome to join this growing club. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month. For more information, contact Olga Moya at cytomdems@yahoo.com.

Hello Mustang Family!

The 2012-2013 school year is coming up fast. We wanted to let you all know about "Corral Days", which will be coming up soon. "Corral Days" are the days and times that CyRanch has designated for all the incoming freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors to visit the school to pick up their schedules, take yearbook pictures, and pick up their books. This is also an opportunity for the Seniors and Juniors to get their parking passes.

The parents are able to sign up for Booster Club, pay into their child's lunch account, order yearbooks, and pick up Mustang Spirit wear. Varsity Football players will also have the opportunity to prepay for their pre game meals and carb load meals with the MOMs Club.

It is important that the parents come and be prepared to write a few checks to the school. The incoming freshman can also take a tour of the campus and have the opportunity to have meetings with their teachers.

FRIDAY AUGUST 17TH

10th grade 8:30 - 9:30 | 12th grade 10 - 12 | 11th grade 1 - 3

SATURDAY AUGUST 18TH

9th grade 9 - 12

Please make plans for your student and yourself to attend these "Corral" dates and times to ensure they are ready for an awesome year at CyRanch High School.

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Houston Northwest Chamber Announces 2nd Annual CreekFest *A Local Celebration of Art and Outdoors, Expects Big Crowds*

The Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce CreekFest Houston 2012 on Saturday, October 13, 2012 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. This celebration of the Arts and Outdoors in Northwest Houston will be held along the parkway between Collins Park and Meyer Park along Cypresswood Drive, rain or shine. CreekFest events include an Adventure Race, Duathlon, 5k/10k run, Marketplace (merchants and visual artists), children's art activities at Pearl Fincher Museum, children's events at the Barbara Bush Library and Cypress Creek Christian Community Center, FACE Free Children's Series Concert, Chalk Artists and local entertainment performing throughout the day.

CreekFest Houston 2012 is a collaborative project of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce, Harris County Barbara Bush Library, The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, Cypress Creek Christian Community Center, Cypress Creek Foundation for the Arts (FACE), Harris County Precinct 4 County Parks Department, Greater Houston Off Road Biking Association (GHORBA), Northwest Houston Arts Alliance; Cypress Creek Greenway Project, Cypresswood Landing and Crossing Shopping Centers and many area merchants.

This FREE family event is designed to: Celebrate the wonderful outdoor amenities that make Northwest Houston a great place to live, work and play; Promote area visual and performing arts and artists; Create awareness and encourage usage of Precinct 4 Collins Park and the Greenways along Cypress Creek; Raise money for the economic development initiatives of the Chamber and local charities; and help build a new perspective and community pride for the Cypress Creek Cultural District and Northwest Houston's Town Center. Proceeds from the CreekFest art auction will directly benefit the Houston Northwest Chamber Foundation that provides scholarships and



funding for community improvement programs.

CreekFest 2012 will feature opportunities for Boy Scouts to earn Merit Badges and local schools to bring programs such as choirs and bands as well as organizations such as cheerleaders, dance teams and club teams out to be recognized and perform for the community. For information about this event call the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce at 281-440-4160, or visit the website at www.CreekFestHouston.com.

The Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce has enjoyed over 38 years of service in Spring, Klein, Champions, FM 1960, FM 2920, SH 249 and Sam Houston Tollway Corridors. The Chamber has over 700 members and is committed to its mission of developing successful businesses and a thriving community.

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\$451,000--\$499,999	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
\$351,000--\$450,999	0	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	0	0
\$276,000--\$350,999	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
\$231,000--\$275,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
\$201,000--\$230,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
\$200,999 and below	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	0
Total	2	3	2	4	2	2	6	5	6	0
Highest \$/sq ft	\$112.30	\$112.27	\$112.27	\$108.92	\$109.27	\$85.39	\$96.22	\$93.23	\$100.95	—

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