

October 4, 2019

SEM CONNECTION

Hello Sem Families,

It's October and Fall should be definelty upon us. Pretty soon the leaves will begin to turn colors, pumpkins and other fall accents will spice up our décor and cooler temperatures will welcome us to best season of the year. Oh wait, about those cooler temperatures... 🤔

Well, while we wait for the 90s to become 60s, we will focus on other Fall activities such as National Bullying Prevention Month. In October, our school highlights the efforts in place to prevent bullying and cyber-bullying. Sem is proud to have some of the lowest bullying statistics in Frisco ISD.

This week, The Sem PTA hosted Aim for Success who presented to each of our grade levels on ways to prevent bullying.

K-2nd grade students experienced "Super Friends with Super Powers." They were trained on the following superpowers that will help prevent bullying at Sem:

- Being a Super friend to themselves by smiling and standing tall.
- It's never okay to be mean. Super Friends are never and never say mean words.
- Super Friends have to be a Super Friend to others by simply BEING NICE.
- Super Friends with super power defend others, but they don't fight.

Our 3rd-5th Grade became EMPOWERED! They learned:

- Students learned about PERSEPECTIVE and looking at the bigger picture of those have been bullied.
- Bullying effects girls and boys but it may look different. However, it still negatively impacts students emotionally, physically and mentally.
- Students gained a deeper understanding of CYBERBULLYING and the stronger and longer lasting effects it can have on others. Students were reminded that deleting images, texts and posts does not mean it's gone forever.
- There are many celebrities that have been bul-

lied such as Beyonce, Michael Phelps and Steve Jobs. Some of victims of bullying come out on top!

- Bullying incidents can be radically reduced if students become UPSTANDERS and report, rather than a bystander.
- Students learned how RADICAL ACTS of KINDNESS can have a great impact in our schools.

As school administrators, we take bullying seriously. If a bullying incident is reported by a student, teacher or family member, all parties, including witnesses, are investigated in order to come to a conclusion. Our teachers work hard to help students understand the difference between bullying and conflict. Classroom meetings and other efforts are in place to encourage kindness and build relationships within the classroom and school.

As parents, your support can help us beyond the school walls. The following ideas are recommended to help our efforts with bullying prevention:

- Discourage disrespect to others, including students and staff members.
- Discover differences by learning more about your neighbors.
- Encourage empathy which is a life long skill.
- Bring up UP-STANDERS and encourage them to defend, but not fight.
- Support radical acts of kindness that will help our school in a phenomenal way!

Thank you for your partnership to help Sem with being the safest school in FISD.

~Principal Mira and
Mrs. Collins





Daily Routines

- All students will need to be in their classrooms by 7:45am.
- Students can begin arriving at 7:20am.



- **October 10th**

Fall Picture Day

- **October 11th and 14th**

Student holidays

- **October 16th**

Fire Safety Clowns visit

- **October 17th**

2nd Grade Performance

- **October 18th**

- Kinder visits Pumpkin Patch
- 4th grade attends Lonestar Storytelling Festival

- **October 21st-25th**

Red Ribbon Week

- **October 23rd**

Step It Up Day of Awesomeness

- **October 25th**

- 'Sembly
- Flu Clinic





1. School starts at 7:45 am. and ends at 2:55 pm. Please, for the safety of your children, do leave them unattended.

2. **Morning Drop Off:** You can use the front or back carpool entrance. Please do not block carpool. If your child walks to school, use the front entrance only.

3. **New Security System:** Please bring current ID every time you need to get into the building. You must place it close to the camera at the front door so that we can clearly see it. **This is a requirement for every person every time that you need to enter the school.**



4. You do not need to use the door bell to let us know when you are dropping off a lunch. Teachers check boxes 45 minutes before going to lunch.

5. **Lunch Visitors:** No lunch visitors until September 2nd. We need this time to teach our students our lunch time routines and expectations.



6. **Lunch and supplies drop off:** The boxes will be kept outside and teachers will check those boxes 45 minutes before lunch. If you are dropping off something that needs immediate attention, email your child's teacher. Remember, lunches will sit outside, so please pack them in containers

that will keep them at the appropriate temperature and protected from external conditions.

7. **Carpool:** Expect traffic and delays the first days of school. We have many new families that are not familiar with our routines.

8. **Cartags:** You need your cartag when you pick up your child. With your child's safety as our #1 concern, we will have to verify your identify before your child is released which will delay his/her dismissal.

9. **After School Pick Up:** Front of school is for walkers only. The parking is for school busses and daycare centers only. No parent parking.

SEM: YEAR AT A GLANCE

August 15

- 1st Day of School
⇒ Class starts at 7:45

September 2

- No School: Holiday

September 18 - 20

- 5th Grade @ Pine Cove

October 11

- No School - Staff Development Day

October 14

- No School: Holiday

November 11

- Veterans Day Celebration

November 25 - 26

- No School - Staff Development Day

November 27 - 29

- No School: Holiday

December 20

- Holiday Parties

December 23 - January 3

- No School: Holiday

January 6

- No School - Staff Development Day

January 20

- No School: Holiday

February 13

- Holiday Parties

February 14

- No School - Staff Development Day

February 17

- No School: Holiday

March 9 - 13

- No School: Holiday

April 10

- No School: Holiday

April 13

- Bad Weather Make-Up Day

April 27

- No School - Staff Development Day

May 22

- Bad Weather Make-Up Day

May 25

No School: Holiday

May 27

- End of Year Parties

May 28

- Last Day of School





FALL SPIRIT NIGHTS

DATE	PLACE	TIME	LOCATION
AUGUST 16	KONA ICE	2:55pm-4:00pm	SEM ELEMENTARY
SEPTEMBER 4	SPRING CREEK BARBEQUE	5:00pm-9:00pm	3623 PRESTON RD, FRISCO
OCTOBER 2	CHICK-FIL-A (PRESTON & EARLY BURNO)	6:00am-9:00pm	2275 PRESTON RD, FRISCO
NOVEMBER 12-23	NOTHING BUNDT CAKES (FRANKS/RENE P&L-ORDER 100)	10:00am-7:00pm	2237 LEBANON RD SUITE 650, FRISCO
DECEMBER 3	JUNGLE PATROL BUS	9:00am-12:00pm	SEM ELEMENTARY



TEAM UP! JOIN PTA



The **21-Day Snack Challenge** encourages students to be independently healthy by getting into the kitchen and making their own fruit and veggie snacks. The North Texas Recipe Book features recipes that were created by our very own students from the Frisco ISD Career and Technology Center.

Sign-Up NOW until Oct. 7th <https://kids-teaching-kids.com/sign-up/>

Challenge Starts Monday, October 7th

Challenge Ends Monday, October 27th

Final Survey November 11th - November 18th

(to receive the student kitchen gifts shown)

Visit us at www.kids-teaching-kids.com

Join us on Facebook: Medical City Children's Hospital

Follow us on Twitter: @MedCityKids

Post your Healthy Snack Selfies at #KTK21Day

Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



We encourage families to take the challenge together while developing lifelong healthy eating habits, one snack at a time!

PTA News & Updates

Spirit Day

Tuesday, October 8, 2019 - 6:00am - 9:00pm

WE SAY: EAT MOR
YOU SAY: CHIKIN!



Join us for food and fun. Come support Sem Elementary and 15% of the sales will be donated accordingly. Don't forget to mention when placing your order.



Preston Road and Gary Burns
8875 Preston Rd
www.chick-fil-a.com/prestonroadandgaryburns
www.facebook.com/chickfilaprestonroadandgaryburns

FRISCO ISD COUNCIL OF PTAs Inclusion Shirts for Sale



Deadline extended
until October 20th!
Don't delay!

frisco isd, are you in?

show your school pride
by ordering in your school color
go to bit.ly/FISDinShirt or
scan the QR Code here
order by September 13,
receive delivery to your campus
in early October, & wear all year long

join us in stating:
i'm in...i'm inclusive



short-sleeved
available in 5 different colors

www.friscopta.org



long-sleeved
available in 3 different colors

OFFICIAL FISD PTA INCLUSION SHIRTS ARE HERE!

OUR STEP IT UP! FITNESS FUNDRAISER ENDS SOON!

Thank you for helping your student use their
AWESOMENESS to HELP OTHERS!

CHECK IT OUT!



Log back in to your Personal Donation Page and check your totals to be sure you've reached your intended level of AWESOMENESS!

ADD MORE PEOPLE!



Add in any additional people you may have forgotten to include. Its not too late to send them an email or text from your Donation Page!

TURN IT ALL IN!



Turn in any Cash and Checks donations by the date printed in your Student Handouts so we can add it to your ONLINE totals!

LET'S PARTY!



Our DAY OF AWESOMENESS will celebrate our students' efforts to help others! Inflatible Obstacle Courses, DJ Dance Party, Chill Tent and more! Friendship! Fitness! Fun!

MORE INFO AT WWW.STEPIITUPKIDS.COM



Join
Today!

PTA

SEM PTA MEMBERSHIP

YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT HELPS US BRING EXCITING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS TO OUR STUDENTS, SUPPLY TECHNOLOGY AND SEM LIBRARY RESOURCES TO THE SCHOOL ALL THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

WWW.SEM.MY-PTA.ORG TO LEARN MORE OR GO TO THE SEM SHOP TO JOIN TODAY

PLEASE HELP US GET TO **100** MEMBERS BY SEPT. 30, 2019. WE ARE SO CLOSE AT 345 AND EVERY VOICE COUNTS

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP \$10.00 - FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$18.00

Sem Families,

We know that you understand the importance of our children's education and the great things we do for our school. A strong school makes a strong community (think about your property value!). Sem PTA is doing great things this year and we have lots more plans, but we need your help. Today I am asking for everyone to think of someone who hasn't joined our PTA and ask them to go to the website: <http://www.sem.my-pta.org/> look for "MEMBERSHIP" and "Join SemPTA" for \$10 today!

Anyone can join the PTA - it's not just for parents..., grandparents, other family members, your neighbor & friends can support your child's education by their \$10 membership. No volunteering (unless you want to), no time commitment, just your voice to represent our students. Our elected officials in Austin right now are working hard to improve school finance, and we need your voice to help us advocate for all the public-school children in Texas, especially in Sem Elementary.

Can we count on you? We appreciate your membership and your time (when you have it) to come and visit the school, for the fantastic events that Sem PTA sponsors throughout the year. Please, help us get to **100** members by September 30, 2019. We are so close at 345 members and every voice counts.

Thank you,
Nathaly Quach
Sem PTA Membership
Chair 2019-2020
quach.toni@yahoo.com
Join PTA Today at <http://www.sem.my-pta.org/>





DO YOU WANT TO BE
Lil' Miss Highstepper 2019?



DO YOU WANT TO DANCE WITH THE HIGHSTEPPERS?

Enter our raffle for the chance to spend pregame and first quarter with the Heritage Highsteppers Drill Team at the Homecoming game!

Raffle Tickets \$5 each



Autumn
 Lil' Miss Highstepper 2017
 Tadlock Elementary

★ **NEW THIS YEAR** ★
SIX LUCKY WINNERS!

WE ARE CHOOSING ONE WINNER
 AT EACH FEEDER SCHOOL!!

*Sem. Scott, Sonntag,
 Mooneyham, Liscano & Ashley*



Camille
 Lil' Miss Highstepper 2018
 Sem Elementary

Open to girls K-5th grade at
 Heritage High School feeder schools.

The winners will be crowned at the
 Homecoming Pep Rally at the Heritage
 High School football field on
Wednesday, October 23.

The Heritage HS Homecoming Game is
 at the Ford Center on **Friday, October 25.**



Raffle tickets sold online only at
www.heritagehighsteppers.com

Unlimited entries!!

**DEADLINE TO ENTER
 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18!**





DESTINATION IMAGINATION.

AWARENESS MEETING

If your child is creative...

loves to paint and draw,
is crazy about puzzles,
can build anything out of cardboard boxes,
writes amazing stories,
thinks up whimsical new worlds,
has a flair for drama and acting,
is totally into science,
or wants to rewire your toaster into a working time machine...
then consider **Destination Imagination!**

Destination Imagination:

is an international organization,
fosters curiosity, courage, and creativity,
teaches the creative process from imagination to innovation,
and lets each team to solve the open-ended Challenge that best fits
their creative and innovative style.

Awareness Meeting:

Thursday, October 10th

5:30-6:15

Comstock Elementary Cafe

7152 Silverado Trail

McKinney, TX 75070

STEM BASED

Science
Technology
Engineering
Mathematics
+ The Arts = STEAM

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Project Management
Creative and Critical Thinking
Teamwork
Interpersonal Skills
Management Skills
Perseverance
Risk Taking
Self-Directed Learning
Digital Literacy
Citizenship Skills

THE CREATIVE PROCESS

Recognize
Imagine
Initiate & Collaborate
Assess
Evaluate & Celebrate

2019-2020 Challenges



The Destination Imagination program is a fun, hands-on system of learning that fosters students' creativity, courage and curiosity through open-ended academic Challenges in the fields of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), fine arts and service learning. Our participants learn patience, flexibility, persistence, ethics, respect for others and their ideas, and collaborative problem solving. Teams may showcase their solutions at a tournament.

www.nextregiondi.com



UNLEASH YOUR

creative potential

Be a part of Sem Elementary PTA's Reflection program

When: Entries are due by October 25, 2019. Submissions can be dropped in the Front Office.

Theme: "Look Within"

For More Information: Entry forms and rules can be found on the Sem PTA Website: sem-my-pta.org (click on the reflections tab)

Who: All students in all grades are invited to enter.

A panel of judges will select the winners & honorable mentions in each category.

Categories:

- Visual Arts: Sketching, Painting, Mosaic
- Photography: Photo, Panorama, Collage
- Music Composition: Audio Clip
- Literature: Prose, Poetry, Essay
- Film Production: Video Clip
- Dance Choreography: Video Clip
- Special Artist: An artist with a disability

Parent must be a PTA member to enter

Contact Windy Barnard for submissions: windybarnard5@gmail.com

**look
within**

ABOUT REFLECTIONS

Reflections has been a state arts program in every school for 50 years. Through the efforts of our Local PTAs, millions of students have found a creative outlet in the areas of dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography, and visual arts.



Attendance 101

Notification of Absence

FISD requires written documentation whenever a student is absent. Calling the office does not excuse an absence. Please go to Sem Elementary School website <http://schools.friscoisd.org/campus/elementary/sem/home> and at the top righthand corner report your student's absence, please do not email teachers any absences.



Illness

A parent note/email or doctor's note is required to excuse the absence. Notes/emails must be received by the office within 3 school days of the absence. **Only 8 parent notes allowed a school year.** If a student is absent due to illness for more than 4 consecutive days, a doctor's note is required to excuse the remaining days of the illness.

Doctor's Appointment

Students who miss part or all of a day due to a doctor's appointment must bring a doctor's note to excuse the time away from school. Parent notes/emails cannot excuse a doctor's appointment. A doctor's appointment with a note is not considered a tardy.

Tardies

Parent notes cannot excuse a tardy. A student is considered tardy if they check in before 10am. If they check in after 10 am, the student will be marked unexcused absent unless a doctor's note is provided.

90 Percent Rule

Students who miss more than **18** full days of school in a single school year must have approval from a campus committee to be promoted to the next grade.

What Counts towards 90 Percent Rule?

Excused Absences

Unexcused Absences

Truancy Policy

Students who have **10** or more truant incidents will be considered for truancy action. **What counts towards the Truancy Policy?**

Unexcused Absences

Tardies

Unexcused Leave Earlyies – any time prior to 2:55pm dismissal

Late pickup-students not picked up by 2:55 dismissal

Bringing Items to School

To protect our instructional time from interruptions, please leave all drop-off items in the grade level bins outside the front office with students first and last name on item. Teachers automatically check the bins on the way to lunch. If your child needs an item before lunch, notify the front office and they will inform the teachers.



No Pets on Campus

It is an FISD policy that pets are not to be brought on school campus our grounds at any time during the school day by parents or employees.

Dress Code

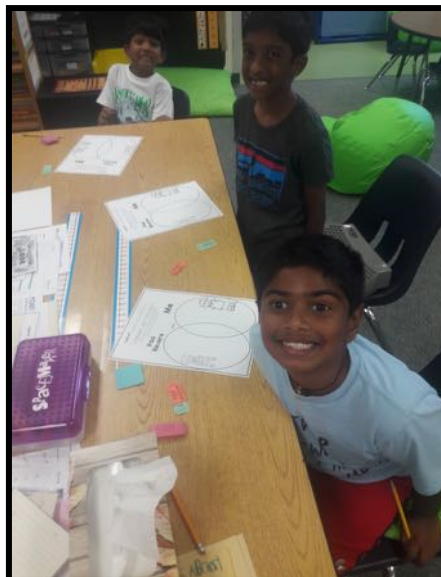
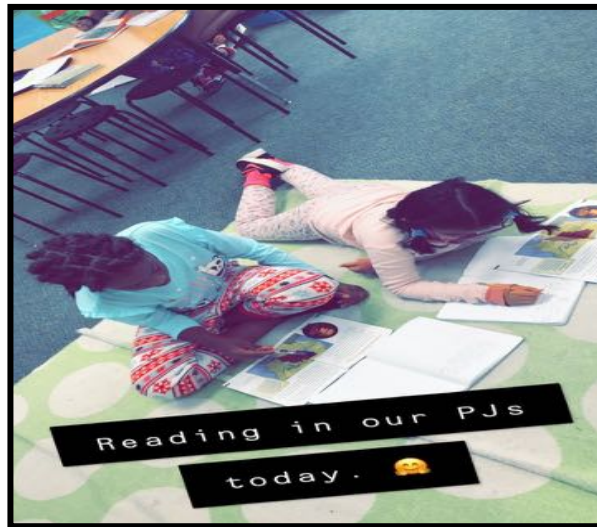
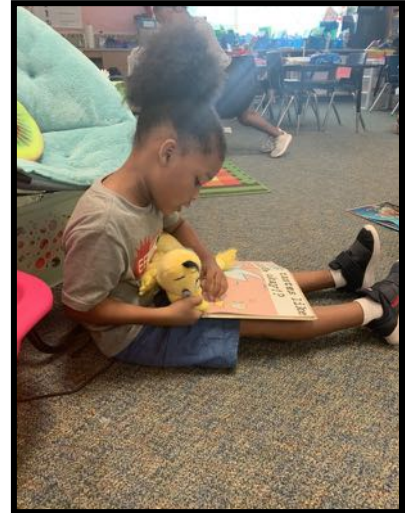
For safety concerns, tennis shoes must be worn during physical education class. Flip-Flops will not be worn in P.E.

PLEASE label your child's jacket, coat, scarf, mittens, lunch box, back pack, etc. with their **FIRST** and **LAST** name.



The district also prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the principal's judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal operations.

A PEEK AT OUR WEEK



A PEEK AT OUR WEEK

