

# Connecting the Dots: Doing Our BEST To Succeed

February 2019  
Cockrell Elementary  
3500 McHard Road  
Pearland, TX 77581  
Phone: 832-736-6600  
Fax: 281-485-7763

## Integrity Words of the Month: Friendship

For the month of February, Pearland ISD is focusing on the word Friendship. Friendship is defined as people who talk to each other and spend time together. They also help each other when they are in trouble or are hurt. Friends are people that can be looked up to and trusted. Usually friends have similar interests. A friend is one who admires a person's skill and helps or encourages them to make the right choices.

This month, we want to not only focus on strengthening the friendships we already have, but also making sure that we are being the friend to others that we want to have. Here are some tips on being a great friend:

### Great friends...

- are trustworthy.
- are people you can count on.
- remember important events like birthdays, anniversaries, or special memories.
- like spending time with each other.
- help out when friends are in trouble.
- cheer you up when you're sad.
- keep in touch.

Grade yourself as a friend. How are you doing?

### Parents:

Having people in your life that you consider true friends is important. Not popularity. Don't get the two confused. One doesn't need a bunch of friends, just a couple. Here are some ways that parents can help their children navigate the sometimes confusing and heartbreaking world of friendships.

Collect ideas from situations in your kids' real life to use, and make it a game. When we practice dealing with disappointment and disagreeing appropriately, we use this technique. I have index cards set aside with scenarios:

- Someone is using the playground equipment you want, and won't take turns.
- Your friend is over and doesn't want to do any of the activities you had planned.
- A boy in your co-op class is teasing you, and none of the adults have noticed.
- Your best friend is sad because her fish died.

**Model the correct reactions for your kids, and play along with them.** Be the friend. Be the bully. Be the kid forced to make the choice in whatever scenario you've designed. {And choose wrong sometimes.}

**Let your kids see you being a great friend, too.** Call your friends on their birthdays. Bring the neighbor some of the muffins you just baked. Pull together meals or help out a friend who suffers a loss or welcomes a new baby.

## Dates to Remember

- 2/4 100th Day of School
- 2/5 STAAR Simulation 4th Grade  
Writing: Closed Campus
- 2/12 Gringo's Spirit Night
- 2/14 Valentine Parties
- 2/15 2nd Grade Field Trip
- 2/18 No School: Staff Development
- 2/19 3rd Grade Field Trip
- 2/25 STAAR Simulation 3rd/4th Grade  
Math: Closed Campus
- 2/26 STAAR Simulation 3rd/4th Grade  
Reading: Closed Campus
- 2/28 El Pollo Loco Spirit Night

## Cockrell Spelling Bee Winners

Jordan Raj won 1st Place in the Cockrell Spelling Bee. He will compete in the district spelling bee with other elementary, middle, and junior high students.

Josh Anino was Cockrell's 2nd place winner. Way to go Super Spellers.



## Valentine Parties: Thursday, February 14

PK AM—10:00; PK/Kinder—1:30–2:00; 1st Grade—12:30–1:00; 2nd Grade—10:30–11:00;  
3rd Grade—9:30–10:00; 4th Grade—9:30–10:00



### Party Day Reminders

- Parents may begin checking into the school 30 minutes before the start of the party and will be allowed to go to the classrooms as parties begin
- All guests that plan to attend parties must present a valid drivers license or ID
- Guests that do not have an ID, will not be allowed into the classrooms
- In order to have a safe number of people in the classrooms, we ask that no more than two guests come for each student
- We also request that younger siblings not attend when possible: this allows parents to spend quality time with their child on this special day
- Strollers will not be allowed in the classrooms
- Students from other schools or other grade levels may not attend parties during their regularly scheduled school day: students that are checked out may not return to attend another party on campus



DEVELOPING WORLD  
CLASS LEARNERS  
WHO MEET OR  
EXCEED  
INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARDS OF  
ACADEMIC  
PERFORMANCE.

## ADVANCED ACADEMICS

PEARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

FEBRUARY 2019

### K-4th Grade

#### GT Assessment Update

**3rd & 4th Grade:** Assessments have concluded and qualification letters were mailed home Nov. 2018.

**Second Grade:** Assessments have concluded and qualification letters were mailed home at the end of January.

**Kindergarten:** Assessments were completed in January. Qualification letters will be mailed home by March 1, 2019.

**First Grade:** Weekend assessments are scheduled for February 2019. Letters will be mailed home by March 1, 2019.

#### President's Day Scramble

1. George Washington's picture first appeared on the RUAQRTE in 1932.
2. Thomas Jefferson could speak/read six different AUGLNGSEA.
3. Abraham Lincoln became a YLRAWWE in 1837.
4. I was an actor before becoming the 40th President. DRNALO GANRAE

Answer to President's Day Scramble: 1. quarter 2. language 3. lawyer 4. Ronald Reagan

#### Pearland ISD GT Program: Where To Find Information

For more information regarding the Pearland ISD Gifted/Talented identification process or for program information, please visit the Advanced Academics webpage on the Pearland ISD website: [www.pearlandisd.org](http://www.pearlandisd.org), by selecting Advanced Academics under the Departments tab.

#### Contact Us

ROBYN OLSEN, K-4th SPECIALIST  
[olsenr@pearlandisd.org](mailto:olsenr@pearlandisd.org)

JENIFER HILL, 5-6th SPECIALIST  
[hillj@pearlandisd.org](mailto:hillj@pearlandisd.org)

DAMON RAYBURN, 7-8th SPECIALIST  
[rayburnd@pearlandisd.org](mailto:rayburnd@pearlandisd.org)

HEATHER BLOCK, COORDINATOR  
[blockh@pearlandisd.org](mailto:blockh@pearlandisd.org)

#### HELPFUL RESOURCES

Texas Association for the Gifted & Talented  
[www.txgifted.org](http://www.txgifted.org)

National Association for Gifted Children  
[www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)

DUKE TIP  
<https://tip.duke.edu>

HOAGIES GIFTED  
[www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)

Pearland ISD Advanced Academics  
[www.pearlandisd.org/advanced-academics](http://www.pearlandisd.org/advanced-academics)