

ROA Director Update
Friday, January 15, 2016

Hello lovely ROA families,

We would like to congratulate all the students who took our very first Problem of the Month challenge in December. We are proud to announce that all participants got the correct answer.

Congratulations to:

- Julia Outmesguine
- Yseult Barbedette
- Emily Moulton
- Abigail Moulton
- Lorenzo Lopez-Santangelo

You may pick up your prize with Tezo.

Before break, we published our spring workshop schedule. Please note that we made a couple of changes:

1. Dr. Steve's class on Wednesday. This class, now called: **The Biological World** is a continuation of the Molecular Science class from last semester (5-8 grade students—see description and prerequisite).
2. We also added one more writing class with Ms. Leina, which is the **“Research and Writing”** on Wednesday.

NEW....NEW....NEW....

The first month of the Prep & Pizza Raffle Extravaganza was amazing. We would also like to extend a thank you to our PAC, who made sure that our parents were well taken care of with delicious finger foods, coffee and tea and more. Everybody had a great time, students and parents alike.

We will continue with another round starting on February 11th for our 3rd-5th grade students; February 18th with our 6th-8th grade students and February 19th with our high school students. We look forward to more great things to happen then.

Our **“Prep & Pizza Raffle Extravaganza”** for our students from grade 3-11th, where we help our students become more confident and create a better understanding and awareness of the structure of the state mandated measurements this spring. We are going to have a lot of fun, pizza for lunch and raffle prizes for our students. Many prizes have been donated by our vendors and include:

- Robot Inventor's Workshop Kits (Robotics)
- Tickets to teen shows at the L.A. Connection (Dallas James)
- Superhero drawing of your choice (Michael Voogd)
- Stormy Tales books (Alejandra)
- Drop-in class at Esther's Clay Studio (Esther)
- One 9 week session of Mad Science
- 1 hour photo session or a family portrait (Lee)
- Keychain or Name Tag (3D) (Sandbox)

- Free art lesson (Aaron)
- ½ hour of a guitar lesson at Ken's studio (Ken)
- In N Out and Jamba Juice gift certificates and more.....

This month grand prize winner is: Kaitlyn Eady. Please stop by our front office to choose your prize. Congratulations!!!

River Oaks Academy Writing Marathon Recap:

Marathon Recap from Leina: Our first ROA Writing Marathon had seventeen brave writers in attendance. We affirmed our identity as writers, generated a rich variety of writing and shared after each round which created momentum for more writing. Since our approach was stream of consciousness writing each writer's voice was gloriously present in all writing and was a delightful gift for all participants. A huge thank you for writers in attendance. If we missed you we hope you can join us next time, tentatively in May. Attached you will find a taste from our marathon writing, Sophia's poem.

STEAM Expo at ROA on January 21, 6-7:30 pm

Here is the link to the STEAM Expo signup (see flyers in the office)

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094eacad29a4fe3-steam>

STEAM EXPO Info:

CALLING ALL STUDENT MAKERS: We are looking for students who are interested in displaying their various STEAM (science, technology, Engineering, Art or Math) projects at our STEAM Expo and mini Makers' Fair January 21st. We are planning to fill our exhibit hall (room 6) with various student projects. Students will be able to present their projects and discuss their creative process with participants. This is an awesome opportunity to share your passion from textiles to technology with others. If you have something you'd like to display let your supervising teacher know so we can save you a space!

CALLING ALL FAMILIES: Don't forget to RSVP if your family will be joining us for all the fun at our STEAM Expo. You do NOT want to miss this! We will have student projects on display in our exhibit hall, allowing you to talk with the students about their creative process. Then you can join our teachers and vendors who have many exciting hands on activities planned, including video game design, coding, cupcake decorating, engineering challenges and more! We are ordering pizza and want to make sure we have enough for everyone. This is a great opportunity to bring friends and family to ROA to see what we are all about. RSVP on Sign up genius. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094eacad29a4fe3-steam>

Spring 2016 Workshops and Classes:

We appreciate your support with regards to the new sign-up procedures listed below. Most of you worked very hard to adhere to new procedures, and we are very grateful for that. As of Monday, January 18th (which is a School Holiday, so if you have questions on that day, we are unfortunately not available to answer them until Tuesday) you can sign up for any classes/workshops that are open.

Workshop/Class sign-up procedures for the Spring 2016 semester:

To give all of our students a chance to sign-up for workshops, we are asking you to please take the following procedures for sign-ups for the Spring 2016 workshop schedule to heart:

- 1) **On Day 1** of sign-ups, please sign up for **3 workshops per student only**
 - 2) If a workshop/class has a "*" next to it, and your student has attended that workshop previously, please do not sign up for that workshop during the first week at all, to give others a chance.
 - 3) **On Day 2** of sign-ups, you may sign up for **3 more classes per student**, with the exception of any workshop/class that has "*" and your student has attended that workshop/class before (see above)
 - 4) Any classes/workshops that are still open after the first week of sign-ups are open to anybody. However, we ask that you do not sign up for more workshop/ classes than you are actually willing and able to attend.
 - 5) If you are interested in a workshop/class that is full, please email Tezo, so he can put you on the waitlist
- **Also, please note that if your student has to miss a workshop, we are asking you to email Tezo (tezo.vasquez@roavc.com), so we can mark the student absent. Should your student have two unexcused workshop absences, we will open up the spot to another student on the waitlist.**

Thank you for your understanding.

How to sign up with Sign-Up Genius

Sign-up genius will open on Monday, January 11th at 8:00 am.

Step 1:

Please log-in to:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/>

(You will need to create an account to see a list of all the workshops—unless you already have one, at that point, use your previously created one).

Step 2:

At the top of the page you will find a link to "**Find A Sign Up**"

On the right of that page under "**Search by the Sign Up Creator's Email**" enter:

claudia.weintraub@roavc.com

(there will be a "captcha" code that you will need to enter)

Step 3:

You will be taken to a page with the list of all workshops. The workshops are listed alphabetically. You can change the view between "Icon View" and "List View" if you'd like.

Click on the title of the workshop for which you want to sign-up, which will take you to the sign up sheet (this will open a new tab in your browser.)

At the top of that page will be the workshop description and the dates that the workshop will be running.

Scroll down to the first available slot & click "Sign Up." You will then have to click "Submit & Sign Up" at the bottom of the page.

(Please note that the Student Grade Level is a required field.)

On the same page where you are entering the grade level, there is a toggle to display an alternate name for signing up. Please change this to the name of your student that will be attending this workshop.

College and Career Seminar Class Information:

Attention: College Career Seminar students

CCS will have resumed on January 15th, 2016. Because this class was a late start class, all students who are taking this course will continue through March in order to complete the 18 week requirement for a semester course.

Any questions? Please contact your teacher.
Maria, Nick and Kathy

IMPORTANT NEWS: Due to popular demand, we are going to **offer a 2nd College and Career Seminar Class** for those students who did not have the opportunity to join the one currently in progress. We have a dynamic duo of instructors run this class (Efrain and Alejandra) and believe that this will be an amazing opportunity for our high school students and 8th grade students as well. Both CCS classes will be held on Fridays at the same time and will share speakers and other exciting events. **High school credit will be given to the high school students and to our 8th grade students who are interested in taking this class.** For more information please talk to your teacher. This class will start on Friday, January 29th.

INFORMATION FROM YOUR COUNSELOR:

Attention, River Oaks seniors and parents! We have been invited to attend the **Newbury Park High School Financial Aid Night** on **January 19, 2016**, at 6:45 pm, in the NPHS Performing Arts Center, 456 Reino Road in Newbury Park. A university financial aid officer will be there to present information on the financial aid process, and to offer guidance in completing the FAFSA (the Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Both parents and students are invited to attend this event. If you have questions, please contact Richard Intlekofer, River Oaks Counselor, at richard.intlekofer@roavc.com.

Attention, sophomores and juniors! **The PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test)** is coming to River Oaks! For the first time, our students will have the opportunity to take the PSAT on our own campus. This special administration of the PSAT 10 is designed primarily for tenth graders, but we also encourage our eleventh graders to participate. This exam is a great way to practice for the SAT, which is changing this spring.

The date of the PSAT 10 is **Thursday, February 25, 2016**, here at River Oaks. We will be sending out further information about this valuable pre-college activity in the next few weeks; in the meantime, you can

visit www.collegeboard.org to learn more about the many benefits the PSAT 10 can offer you! You may also contact Richard Intlekofer, River Oaks Counselor, at richard.intlekofer@roavc.com

Problem of the Month:

Calling all students! Join us in solving the "Problem of the Month"—NEW PROBLEM OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY!!!

We hope to engage students at all levels of math, to solve the problem of the month. Put your solutions in the mailbox by Tezo's desk and at the end of the month we'll post the winners!

Together, let's grow in our understanding of the value of problem solving. Let's develop and strengthen our ability to find patterns, solve problems in a variety of ways, and persevere through challenging, engaging tasks. Remember that mistakes are valuable, questions are important, math is about creativity and making sense, connecting and communicating, going deeper, not faster!

Check out the beautifully designed and hand made "Problem of the Month" board outside of Claudia's office.

Many thanks to Anna Steele who made this vision a reality. And thanks to Emma Pedersen for the beautiful artistic display of our problem.

Important Dates:

STEAM Expo	January 21, 2016; 6-7:30 pm
Bingo Night	January 28 th

Happy New Year and welcome back☺
Your River Oaks homeschool team,
Leslie, Nick, Maria, Michal, Kathy, Amylynn, Leina, Teri, Sherri, Nadia, Marni
Tezo and Beverly
and
Claudia