

Rocking Horse Review

January – April 2019

RHA Roundup



Rocking Horse has had a great 2018, and we expect to continue learning and growing in 2019.

A new year always brings about a time for reflection as we look back over 2018. We are grateful to look upon it with a smile. We have updated our communication platform with the introduction of Tadpoles. Finding out about how your child's day was and even seeing some day pictures of their learning in action has become so much easier with Tadpoles. We know the importance of communication, and Tadpoles gives our teachers and families just one more option to keep those lines open.

We not only made tech improvements in 2018 but also physical ones. Our kitchen was renovated with newly installed counter tops and the hallways and classrooms are looking much brighter with new up-to-date flooring. We also installed a security fence around our playground, supplementing our commitment to safety. We are looking forward to even more improvements in 2019.

The Fredericksburg Farms fundraiser we had in November was very successful. We are so appreciative of everyone who participated in the fundraiser. A special thank you to our Director, Rebecca Eichen, for organizing and

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Events News

★ Parent-Teacher Conferences

February 4th-8th from 11am-2pm. Conferences are a chance for teachers to keep you informed on your child's developmental assessments as well as give you the opportunity to have any questions answered. Parents will only receive a report card during conferences. A sign-up sheet will be available at the front desk. Telephone conference opportunities are available.

★ Scholastic Book Fair

February 25th-March 1st. Help



support your classrooms and teachers while adding fabulous books to your home library. All profits made from the sale of books are taken in actual books for the classrooms and library.

★ 512 Portraits

April 2nd- 5th

Say CHEESE! Make a moment last a lifetime with pictures. More information on your child(ren)'s picture day will be available as the date approaches.

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School Reminders

Please be sure to have your child(ren) dropped off by 10:00am. If you find yourself running late and would like to request a late drop-off please call the front desk for availability. Doctor's appointments with a doctor's note are always excused.

Should your child become ill or not feel well, please call the front desk and speak with an administrator. Informing other families of signs or symptoms of possible illnesses helps us to minimize the spread of contagious diseases.

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Important Dates

Schools Closed

January

- 1st-RHA & HCISD
- 2nd-8th HCISD
- 21st-RHA (In-Service) & HCISD

February

- 18th HCISD

March

- 18TH-22ND HCISD (Spring Break)

April

- 19th RHA (In-Service) & HCISD



Tuition Due Dates

January 14 & 28*

February 11 & 25

March 11 & 25

April 8 & 22

* New tuition rates will apply.

Reminder:

Supply fees are charged in January and September.



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Events News

★ Week of the Young Child April 8th-12th

To commemorate early learning, children, their teachers and families RHA will be continuing our annual tradition with a theme week culminating in a carnival.

★ Corral Kids Summer Camp Registration Begins March 18th

Summer camp fills up quickly so mark your calendars and take the opportunity to pre-register so your child can enjoy a load of fun and learning this summer.



Date Night

January 19th

February 16th

March 16th

April 13th

(Continued from page 1)

RHA Roundup

congratulation's to Paisley Miles, our top-seller. Great participation from Ms. Barbara, our staff top seller and way to go Wranglers! Wranglers will be having a pizza party for being the top-selling class. Yearly fundraisers help Rocking Horse Academy in fulfilling its motto of "Educating tomorrow's leaders today!"

FOALS I

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Learning On the Horizon

A very Happy New Year from Foals I.

Welcome to all our new little friends; we are so excited to start the year 2019. We are looking forward to all the new adventures, wonderful growth, and learning experiences to come in this New Year.

A fun activity that we will do is mirror-play. Mirrors are a great learning tool helping babies to explore and help their development. Babies love looking at their reflection and notice how they react. Do they try to touch the baby in the mirror or smile at them? We talk to them about who they are seeing and have fun making facial expressions, seeing their reaction and building on language development. Another activity we use with the mirror is having the babies during tummy time in front of the mirror.

Tummy time strengthens their backs and necks while lifting their head, legs, and arms. It's the pre-step to crawling. Soon you may notice their arms straightening and elbows lifting briefly off the floor, preparing their muscles to carry their weight in crawling. Crawling is an important motor milestone because it requires alternating movements of both sides of the body.

Sensory & Movement

Babies have fun learning through sensory by doing different activities such as playing with sensory balls. They will get to feel the different textures, while we talk about the different shapes, sizes, and colors of the balls. We can play catch the balls, hide them, and stack them just to watch them tumble down. Just seeing the excitement of the babies as they move their hands and feet is so worth it.



Babies are a blessing and we look forward to having yours in our classroom encouraging new milestones and preparing Foals I babies for their transition into Foals 2.

Parenting can be hard work but together we can meet the development needs of your baby while also caring for their physical needs.
Thank You .

Foals I Teachers

FOALS 2

Rocking Horse Review January–April 2019

Learning On the Horizon

It's a new year and always a time for new experiences in Foals 2.

As your baby rounds out his/her 1st year over the next few months, we will be focusing a lot on language and communication. Reading is one of our favorite things to do in Foals 2 and one of the most beneficial ways to expand your babies understanding of language. Reading a variety of books is important, but we also read the same book numerous times. This repetition makes your baby smarter by giving him/her more opportunities for recognition of words and understanding of language patterns.

A classic book we will be reading in the coming months is *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss. Pointing out the green eggs and ham teaches your baby about colors as well as different foods, and pantomiming the character's dislike of green eggs and ham introduces the connection of emotion and language. Reading certainly is fundamental and one of the easiest ways to aid in your child's development. We encourage you to set up a routine that includes reading to your baby, whether it be at bed time or bath time, most anytime is good for reading.

Please ask your Foals 2 teachers for other ways to encourage language development at home.

Stranger Anxiety

From time to time, we do have a few new faces visiting Foals 2 including part-time teachers. You may have observed or heard from the classroom teachers that upon seeing a new person, some babies have experienced stranger anxiety. This is not unusual as your baby becomes much better at recognizing faces. Stranger anxiety varies in time and length, depending on the child, and it can be a sign of healthy emotional development and attachment.

Here are some tips for making it a bit easier for your baby:

- At home, have a new sitter come early. This will allow you to play together and give your baby time to warm up to the caregiver before you must leave.
- Be friendly. Your baby will watch you for cues, so show him/her that you like and trust the new person.
- Don't draw out your departure. While your baby will likely cry when you leave to persuade you to stay, prolonging your goodbye will only make him/her more upset. It is best to say goodbye with a smile and a hug and check in later with the caregiver.
- Don't give up. Remember, it may take your baby a while to adjust to a new childcare setting/classroom.

Encouraging your baby's independence may be difficult at times, but it is beneficial to his/her self-esteem and knowledge. With your support and the teachers in Foals 2, your baby will be moving and grooving happily along his/her developmental journey.

Communication is vital, especially when working with children at this young age. Please feel free to contact us anytime with questions comments or concerns. Thank your for allowing us to be a part of your babies development.

Ms. Bianca & Foals 2 Teachers

COLTS

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Learning On the Horizon

Welcome to a brand new year! We look forward to brand new learning opportunities.

Our Colts are curious about EVERYTHING. They tend to learn best with hands-on activities. We will do many arts projects that reflect the monthly themes. We will continue to work on sign language skills and Spanish words. Our classroom loves to do art projects that involve family participation, so be prepared to do a project or two at home with your child. Flash cards, story time, songs, and finger plays are always part of our daily routines. We start to focus on using manners. Please and thank-you are the two that we start with.

This is can be a difficult age for your child and you. They are no longer babies who depend on you for everything, and yet they are not a preschooler who is very independent. This is the age where "NO" is their favorite word. Many changes happen in the Colt room. We no longer take 2 or more naps a day, drink from a bottle, or use pacifiers. We focus on developing self-help skills (i.e. feeding themselves with a spoon or fork, taking shoes and socks off, washing their hands with help) The STEAM curriculum is always a part of our lessons. We do this in many ways. Stacking toys, art work, through music, and outdoor play just to name a few. One of the main components we do in our room is art. Painting, markers, crayons, chalk, and different painting utensils and different types of paper are a big part of our learning process.

Reminders!

BRR!! There's a chill in the air. If you haven't done so already, please check your child's cubby for size and weather appropriate clothing. Also, please remember to label all clothing (especially jackets and hats), linens, bags, etc..... with your child's name.

All food containers from home should be labeled with your child's first name and initial of last name. Using masking tape and a permanent marker ensures readability and makes removal much easier for the next time.

Please be sure to take your child's water bottle and any food containers home every day so that they may be cleaned and sanitized. Thank-you!

Always remember that a child's work is play. This is how they learn the skills needed in life. Remember that we are here to help your child and you through these developmental years.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to let us know. You may reach us in numerous ways: by calling RHA and asking for the Colt's room, through the Tadpole app or our classroom e-mail colts@rockinghorseacademy.com

Thank-you.

Ms. Barbara and the Colts teachers

PONIES

Rocking Horse Review January–April 2019

Learning On the Horizon

2019 has started with a bang, and we are ready to breeze through to spring.

We hope that all our Ponies and their families enjoyed a wonderful holiday season! We are very excited about each one of you and the fun we will have together. The next four months will be bursting with activities that will enable our Ponies to discover more about themselves and the world around them. As always, we will continue learning our sign language, Spanish words, and review our basics: letters, numbers, shapes, and colors.

As we begin a new year, we will be including the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) concept in our classroom, with a big focus on Math. The Ponies use math every day; such as counting our friends, counting out paper towels for snack, counting the birds we see outside. Parents can also do this at home by counting cheerios, leaves outside, and counting our family members when they come for a visit.

This month we will be working on our student assessments. We will spend a great deal of time working on not only counting, but refreshing our knowledge of patterns, shapes, colors, and big and small comparison. These are also things that parents can work on at home. Flash cards are a great resource that can be used at home.

Week of the Young Child

As Spring approaches, Rocking Horse Academy will be doing something extremely exciting! The Week of the Young Child will be celebrated in some wonderful ways. This is a time to highlight your child and have some super-duper FUN!! There will be opportunities for parents to get involved and have some fun too! We will provide more information as we get closer to this celebration.

Reminders!

Brrr! *January* is here with a chill as well as a few reminders. 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.

We are doing some exciting things in the Pony room and can't wait to get started. As always, please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you so much for all your help and we hope you enjoy a wonderful spring!

Pony Teachers

CHARGERS I

Rocking Horse Review January–April 2019

Learning On the Horizon

Chargers I are ready to start off the new year with a bang!

We have so many activities and fun learning experiences in store for our class. Our goals are to enhance listening skills, social skills and language development, all while having fun along the way! We always teach and encourage toddlers to take turns and to share and make choices for themselves. We provide a consistent schedule to help with the development process of learning new ideas, concepts and having a routine so the children know what to expect.

We begin to introduce children to the potty and keep them on a frequent potty schedule. We make sure that all children are sitting on the potty even when they do not need to go. This helps them become familiar with potty training and its steps. Children are naturally curious, so when they see the rest of their friends sitting down on the potty, they will be comfortable and want to do the same! We always teach the children to wash their hands after going potty. This helps them learn about personal hygiene and staying healthy.

Chargers one we will be having an amazing month of March coming up! This is when we will be doing some exciting things with our chargers focusing on our Rocking Horse Academy Garden! Chargers One will be in the dirt getting our garden ready for Spring Planting season. Chargers One will be in touch with the Bonnie Plants Company to see about plant donations for the garden. We will be focusing on

veggies and fruit such as tomatoes, lettuce, strawberries, watermelons and much more. We will be going to the garden on a daily basis, watering, weeding and seeing how our plants are developing over the next months.

For our science center, we will learn to mix colors to make different colors such as yellow and blue makes green. In math, we practice counting to ten by using shapes and colors. Also, we will make different smelling slimes by adding different flavors such as orange and grape Kool-Aid. We are so excited for the fun to begin!

Reminders!

Please sign up for the Parent-Teacher Conference for a personal review of your child's progress. You will receive a Report Card and a discussion of the achievements your child has made so far.

Our parent Board is located outside our door. It will have our weekly lesson plans, monthly newsletters, lunch menus and other important information parents should know.

Please don't forget to check your child's cubby for any soiled clothes or make sure that they have an extra change of clothes in case of an accident. And our children grow. If it's been awhile, check to see if the extras still fit or are weather appropriate. Label everything please. Don't forget to pick up art work as well.

Parents, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to discuss any issues with us. We want to have good communication with our parents! Is there something we need to know? Is there something we need to tell you? Just shoot us a text with Tadpoles and we will text back. Our doors are always open so please come and talk to us if you need to!

Mrs. Laurie and Ms. Theresa

CHARGERS 2

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Learning On the Horizon

Cooler temperatures can only mean winter is here.

We will be exploring many new things, such as playing with “fake” snow, building a “recycled” snowperson, working on simple patterns and numbers 1-10. We will work on “using our inside voices” and our “Big Kid” words to communicate with our friends.

December was great and brought up our themes of Holiday Traditions Around the World, Children and Culture, and Music and Movement. The children really enjoyed all our activities, and we focused on how the holidays are a time to celebrate with family. Then as we move on into the new year we

will focus on the “Dental Health” where we will have a visit from the “tooth fairy” and talk about how to keep our teeth healthy by brushing daily. We will also do a science experiment with hard boiled eggs soaked in cola to represent a rotten tooth and try to brush them and make them healthy again then record the results. We will also talk about “Our Bodies” and look and observe an actual “mock” skeleton; we will then talk about the parts inside our body and how they work. We will do hands-on experiments that explore how our bodies work and what can happen if our bodies become sick when we do not take care of them. We also have a planned visit with a pediatric nurse to come and talk about the healthful choices we can make to keep us “Big and Strong”.

Do try this at home!

Veggie Dip Recipe:

1 cup - ranch dressing,

2 tbsp. - honey mustard dressing,

2 tsp. - ketchup

Salt to taste.

Yummy!!

As the seasons change, we will blow into spring and talk about Farm Life and all the workings of a farm and the animals that you would see there. We will then talk about spring and plant some seeds so we can record and watch to see how long it takes for them to grow in our garden, that we work on with Chargers I every late winter into early summer. We will take care of the garden and enjoy the harvest of healthy fruits and vegetables during our regularly scheduled snack or lunchtime (check out our yummy veggie dip recipe). We will also go on a “Bug Hunt” with our “BIG” magnifying glasses and collect a few to look at closer up and talk about why we need them and what they do for us and the outdoors and in the garden.

Spotlight!

Our biggest accomplishment to date is seeing the entire Chargers 2 class move closer and closer to being fully potty trained! We are so proud of all of our students that are sitting and going potty in the toilet! Diapers and pull-ups are a thing of the past! It makes us very happy when we see a child transitions from diapers to underwear, because he/she is so proud of this new accomplishment, and we can see a little stride in his/her step!

Please remember to bring a change of weather-appropriate clothes, especially during the potty-training process. Label all personal items and check daily sheets for any important information or reminders.

Please don't forget to sign up for Parent-Teacher conference. For those scheduling a conference, I will have a report card of your child's progress. We can discuss achievements and targets for future learning.

PINTOS

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Learning & Activities On the Horizon

Pinto Press!

A couple of different activities that will be highlighted over the next four months are full of natural science, healthful bodies and, of course, the love of books. We are going to learn about different Arctic animals and fun science activities that teach us how blubber works to protect several of the animals from the cold. We will learn several ways to keep our bodies healthy through exercise, eating good food, and getting plenty of rest. We will also celebrate Dr. Suess' Birthday! Finally, in April is one of my favorite weeks. We have a full week of just plain fun for The Week of the Young Child. The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest early childhood education association, with nearly 80,000 members and a network of over 300 local, state, and regional Affiliates.

The purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. The Week of the Young Child is a time to plan how we—as citizens of a community, of a state, and of a nation—will better meet the needs of all young children and their families.

Please do not forget to sign up for the Parent-Teacher Conference. During that conference I will give you a report card showing your child's progress. We will also discuss targeted areas to work on in the coming months. I look forward to meeting with each of you to have the opportunity to discuss your child.

Social Play

Now that the children have gotten to know each other, they naturally pair up and play in small groups. At this stage in their development, the children will more likely pair up in same gender groups to play. They do a lot of gender identity at this time, saying things like, "only boys can do this," most of the time the children's presumptions are incorrect. I make sure to point out all the different things that both boys and girls can do. So, don't be surprised if some of those conversations start to come up.

As the children start to play in small groups, they also might start excluding others from their play. My job is to help the child who is trying to join in do so successfully or find another group to join. I do this by giving them phrases like, "I can be the brother." "I can help you build that tower." "Which toy can I use?" This way you are not giving the children the obvious opportunity to say, "No." Phrases like, "Can I play?" usually come back with the "no" response.

Over the last couple of months in the Pinto room, we have been very busy! Our focus, other than academics, has been how to work our problems out with words. The room has more children, so everyone needs to work together more often to accomplish his/her goals. This has given the teachers a good opportunity to help teach basic problem-solving, social manners and cooperation with peers and adults. All the children in the Pinto class are getting very good at using his/her words and asking for help. They have also started to help each other out as well!

ABC'S and 123'S

With all our themes and activities, we will work on pre-math and pre-reading skills with the children daily. By incorporating these desired skills in the everyday routines and fun activities, the children retain the information faster and in a more concrete way. Like with everyone, if you make the activity fun then learning the information will be fun!

MUSTANGS

Rocking Horse Review January–April 2019

Learning On the Horizon

We are excited to start a brand new year in the Mustang room!

In just five short months our Mustangs will be moving up to their Pre-K classrooms and we have a lot of preparation still to undertake.

Throughout our winter months we will study winter science such as the Arctic habitat and its animals and use that as an excuse to perform experiments involving growing crystals and making faux snow. We will perform candy science experiments during our Valentine's holiday (what solutions will dissolve our candy hearts? Can we build a stable structure out of gumdrops and toothpicks? Etc.).

Our spring curriculum is one of my favorites and always jam-packed with tangible discoveries of our natural world. We will learn about both plant and animal life cycles through observing the different stages of our very own caterpillars and ladybugs as well as growing our own flowers. We will celebrate Week of the Young Child in April with help from our parents who often volunteer their time to craft, read and play with us. Don't forget it all ends with our Carnival which includes face-painting, games, a photo booth and bubble machine!

Social & Emotional Networking

An important part of our personal growth will come as we study our body- not just the physical and how our bodies work but also the emotional. Emotions are high at this age as kids transition more fully from toddlers to preschoolers. Our 4-year olds have a lot of feelings, questions and opinions, and they're not afraid to share them! By not only naming big emotions and validating them, but also discovering ways to express and work through them, we are preparing them not just for school later but life in general. The Mustang room emphasizes conflict resolution and impulse control as these are key to success in later learning. We encourage the kids to problem-solve during disagreements, instead of simply stating "He's not sharing!" or "She yelled at me!" we offer ways to communicate with their peers to resolve the issue: "Which toy can I have?" and "Please talk nicely to me."

Proven Progress

It's an important time of year as we take some time to formally assess the students and what they have learned so far and what other areas need a bit more concentration. Afterwards, parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled to discuss any questions or concerns about your child's progress. Those scheduled for a conference will receive a report card of your child's progress.

WRANGLERS

Rocking Horse Review January–April 2019

Learning On the Horizon

Happy New Year!

Where did the time go?

I feel like it was just yesterday we started in this classroom and now in just 6 months this classroom will be moving onto the Pre-K classrooms.

We start the new year with lessons on winter activities, the concept of time, and reviewing past lessons. We will perform ice experiments for our winter science unit, learning how fast ice melts with different conditions, for example ice cubes in a glass or in a bowl with a hair dryer blowing on it. First, we ask for a prediction: which one will melt faster? Then we perform the experiment and talk about the results.

For more science later in the spring, we study plant life and how plants grow. Students will plant grass seed in cups. We will observe how much water it takes to keep the ground moist. We will chart the daily growth and measure as the blades peak through the soil. We can also compare or contrast the amount of sun needed for growth. If some plants are in a shady spot and others are in a sunny spot, which one will grow faster?

For our bug unit, we will get caterpillars and ladybugs' eggs to have in the classroom to watch and learn about their cycle of life. We can observe every day any changes to the caterpillar and then we hope to see the actual butterfly emerging from its cocoon or ladybugs hatching. Once all butterflies hatch and ladybugs are born, we release them in our school's Learning Garden.

A final math/science concept we study this spring is measuring time with the clock by using color schemes to give students an idea of our daily schedule and how long a minute is or an hour.

Social & Emotional Networking

At this age, young children become more aware of other people and our feelings. We work on using kinder words and not pointing out when someone is overweight or has a bald head or looks different from us. Children can be brutally honest, but at this age, we try to teach them to filter those words. We teach love and acceptance for all people and respect for the diversity of our world. As teacher, we want to help students understand frustration and anger and give them the tools to manage those by using our words. In our classroom we practice conflict-resolution, and we encourage the students to find a solution on their own.

It's important at this age to teach health and nutrition. If we build good life habits now, they may follow the child through life. We have lessons on we keep our bodies and teeth healthy by the food we eat and exercise we perform. We will have a special visit from the Dentist, and we will practice some Yoga in the classroom to keep our bodies healthy.

During the month of January, we will start assessments and parent-teacher conferences. We will be discussing your child's progress during these meetings. This is an important time of year to see where we need to concentrate more to prepare them for Pre-k. Those scheduling a conference will receive a report card showing achievements, and we will discuss future goals. Please sign up.

In March, we celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday! We will read all his greatest books and celebrate with a spirit week. During this time, we will also celebrate Week of the Young Child! This is the week we celebrate your children and how they are special in their own Individual ways. We will celebrate the end of the week with a small carnival and a special lunch that Friday. I hope you can visit our class during that week as our special guest.

Thank you for all of you support.

-Katie, Bianca and Taylor

TROTTERS

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Learning On the Horizon

Happy New Year, Trotters!

2018 has flown by and we are now in 2019! I want to take this time to thank you, the parents, for welcoming me into the Trotters. I have been with most of the children before, and to be with them as they finish out their PreK year is just a blessing. I look forward to continuing to watch them learn and progress as the year goes on. We have a lot of fun things in store!

In the spring, one of the things that we are excited about is the hatching of the butterflies. This is one of my favorite science experiments to do! We will learn

about the life cycle and observe daily how they develop from caterpillar to butterfly. We will observe and learn how to journal our observations. Once they have grown into a butterfly, we will then release them into our garden. The children love to see them fly away and see where in the garden they fly to. Another thing we will be doing is learning about the plant life cycle. This will another fun biology experiment to look forward to because they children love to get their hands dirty when we plant our seeds. We will learn about the elements a plant needs to survive along with the plants that we consume daily to keep us healthy.

Do try this at home!

As we are heading into the 2nd half of the PreK year, I will be working individually with the children to improve their writing skills, number and letter recognition, and letter sounds. As a class we will also work on these skills. I like to do a letter hunt with the children where I post uppercase and lowercase letters around the room and they try to “hunt” for the letter I ask them to find. When they find the letter, they then must tell me the sounds the letter makes.

Try this at home by having your child find certain letters in store signs or books during reading time.

Social Skills Networking

As a class, one of the things I would like to work on is self-regulation. Each child is different and unique, so this will be a process that both the child and I would try to figure out what works for them. A few other things I would like to see the Trotters work on is working together as a class. For example, offering to help a child with

something they are stuck on and cleaning up without conflict. Another thing is using our words to express how we feel. We do so already but I feel like we need to work on using the right words instead of yelling or hitting. One thing I have told the class to say when they want to use something another friend has is, “When you are done, may I please use it?” I have also been talking to the class about respecting their friends’ words and space. This is something that we will work on daily.

Please sign up for your Parent - Teacher conference. For families who schedule a conference, I will have a report card of your child's progress. We will discuss what skills we will focus on for the remainder of the school year until graduation in May. I look forward to meeting with you all.

I am excited to see the children learn and achieve things they didn't think they could do. Thank you for letting me be able to do something I love every day.

Trotters Teachers

BRONCOS

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Learning On the Horizon

Happy Holiday's, Bronco Families!

Thank you from all the Bronco teachers for your gifts and kindness this holiday season. Our true gift is being able to teach and care for your children and watch their little minds continue to grow! Now that we are starting the 2019 year, we are in the home-stretch before your child enters kindergarten and the next four months will be some of the busiest.

The next few months we will continue to incorporate STEAM through our curriculum themes. Be prepared to see all the artwork, new inventions and buildings our students will be constructing. We will be ordering a ladybug and butterfly life-cycle kit for the children to observe the life-cycle process. Once our caterpillars have evolved into beautiful butterflies, we will release them into our school garden. From past experience, these kits seem to be not only a kid favorite, but a parent favorite as well. You will have eager children wanting to come to school each morning to see the progress. We will also grow our own little bean sprouts and flowers to watch, observe and record in journals. During our lessons, we will add reviewing all of the basics and general concepts we have learned in the previous months to keep things fresh.

Spotlight!

I am very proud to say that Bronco teachers have noticed all the children minding their manners and problem-solving by using their words to explain their actions and feelings, not just to teachers and adults but with their peers also. It is, however, always a work in progress to manage classroom behaviors.

Exciting Events

Assessments have begun on the children in preparation for Parent-Teacher conferences which will begin the end of January. I am looking forward to speaking with each parent and working together to help your child flourish and grow. Those who schedule a conference will receive a report card of your child's progress.

There will be lots of celebrating going on these upcoming months such as Week of the Young Child, a national holiday celebrating your Awesome Child and recognition for children in early learning, their parents and teachers. This is a weeklong event at our school with dress up days and celebrations in tow.

To celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday, we will spend some time reading childhood classics and embracing our own creativity.

In honor of Valentine's day, the children will have a party and card exchange with their friends. For Easter, we will have a picnic lunch and egg hunt.

Of course, Graduation is coming soon. Well, all I can say is that we are going to work really hard to make graduation special for the children and for the families.

Brace yourselves as these few months fly by very quickly. Before we know it, it will be graduation time and summer right around the corner. All the Bronco teachers are looking forward to these busy months and are excited to see what all the children learn best.

If you have any concerns or questions, I do not mind having brief discussions in the morning as you drop off, but please remember that I am supervising children. If you have a concern or question that will take more than a couple of minutes to discuss, please feel free to call or let me know a time I can contact you. You may call Rocking Horse Academy at 405-3700. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of being a part of your child's life.

Ms. Norma, Bronco Lead Teacher

CORRAL KIDS

Rocking Horse Review January–April 2019

2019, Here We Come!!

We are saying goodbye to 2018 and awaiting all the adventures 2019 will hold for our Corral Kids!

December is a month of *JOY* and January is a month of *CELEBRATION* so we are choosing *LOVE* for February. Corral Kids will be creating one-of-a-kind Valentines and then delivering their LOVE to classes and faculty around RHA learning an easy lesson on participating in acts of kindness and how the smallest action can generate the happiest of reactions.

Spring as in Break???

March madness is among us, giving us warmer weather and more daylight aka more play-ground time!!!! March isn't just all about basketball and Dr. Seuss but is also *SPRING BREAK!!!!* This means a week off school and an opportunity to enroll in Corral Kids Spring Break Camp. Make sure to sign up with your Corral Kid's teacher! As if that wasn't enough excitement about vacation and fun to look forward to, RHA will also have Pre-Enrollment for Summer Camp available to our Corral Kid parents the week after Spring Break! This will allow our parents to sign up ASAP as our spots fill up fast!!!! So much going on in March it's giving us mad-happiness!

Spring is in the *AR?*

April showers will bring May flowers...couldn't segway us into our Environmental Awareness/Recycling theme better! We will be focusing on implementing a recycling program within the Corral Kids to teach the importance of what we consider "waste" and how recy-

cling it can provide other forms of potentially useful materials. This is going to be a student-wide project on creating and designing the best form of recycling that works for our After-school program. We are looking forward to all April has to offer, even if it brings us some showers, we will still have sunshine on those cloudy days!

School involved clubs will be starting again so please give us some heads-up for any changes to your Corral Kid's schedules

Parents don't forget that your Corral Kid will be starting back to school on Thursday January 9th and RHA will have *ALL*-day care available Monday and Tuesday for those who will need it. We also want to remind you that while the weather has been up and down this season, it is important to be sure to send your Corral Kid with coats, sweatshirts, long sleeves, hats and gloves, etc. as we will be spending time outside and weather appropriate clothing is important to stay warm and healthy! The Corral Kids staff is excited to make 2019 a year of joy, peace and purpose. Thank you to our parents and Corral Kids for an amazing 2018...Happy 2019!

We Would Love to Hear From You!

You can reach Ms. Kimberly anytime during school hours at 512-405-3700 or by email at corral-kidsrha@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. Please feel free to contact me any time!