

Good morning, it's May 6, 2013, and welcome to Panther News. I'm _____, _____th grade.

This is our 44th and last PANTHER NEWS for this school year. Let's take a look at the number 44.

It is the atomic number for Ruthenium.

The retired numbers for former baseball players Hank Aaron, Willie McCovey and Reggie Jackson; the number is sometimes considered to be a "hitter's number".

The designation of Interstate 44, a freeway that runs from Texas to Missouri.

A blues song, "Forty-Four", also known as "44 Blues".

Wyoming was the 44th state to join The United States of America.

Barack Obama is the 44th President of The United States of America.

Good morning. I'm _____,
_____th grade.

Let's take a more serious look at the number 44.

44 years after segregation was outlawed, Barack Obama was elected the 44th president of the United States.

44 is the retired number of legendary African American athletes Hank Aaron and Reggie Jackson.

The two presidents that proceeded Obama -- Bill Clinton and George W. Bush -- were born 44 days apart.

According to numerologist Will Bontrager, 44 is a powerful number. He says the 4 vibrates with paying attention to detail and building a solid foundation for the future. In 44, that effect is doubled.

Plus, the two numbers (4 and 4), adding up to 8, have an umbrella vibration of effective management, controlling group dynamics, building large structures such as buildings, bridges, and organizations.

Good morning. I'm _____, _____th grade.

This is our last month of school, and it is a busy one. Many students are still involved in tutoring so they can prepare for various STAAR exams.

This Wednesday, all 5th graders and several College Prep students will travel to Austin, Texas for the Public Charter School Rally at the Texas State Capitol to show strong support for public charter schools.

Governor Rick Perry and Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst will speak at the rally. Our students will help ensure that Texas legislators see and hear the enthusiasm and support for charter students, schools and the charter movement. Hearing directly from charter school leaders, parents and teachers is one of the best ways for state legislators to understand how important charter schools are to providing a great public education for Texas students.

Good morning. I'm _____,
_____th grade.

This Wednesday is also “Field Day” for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. It will be held at Settegast Park located in 2nd Ward in southeast Houston.

The buses will leave at 8:30am, and start returning back at 2:30pm. There will be a live DJ to play music for students and teachers.

The day's activity will include the following: Water activities, Baseball or Kickball, Basketball, Soccer, Tug of War, Tennis; Food - BBQ Chicken, BBQ Pork Ribs, Sausage, Potato Salad, Beans, Brisket, Hamburgers, Snow Cones, Pop Corn, Watermelon, Water, Soda.

Good morning. I'm _____, _____th grade.

The Junior Academy Science Fair will be held in the library next Monday through Wednesday, May 13th - 15th, 9:00am to noon each day. The schedule for viewing is: grades 6 through 8, Monday; primary grades, Tuesday; and grades 9-12, Wednesday.

The students participating in the Science Fair picked their project ideas from the website, sciencebuddies.org. The award-winning, non-profit "Science Buddies" empowers K-12 students, parents, and teachers to quickly and easily find free project ideas and help in all areas of science from physics to food science and music to microbiology.

"Science Buddies" mission is to help students build their literacy in science and technology so they can become productive and engaged citizens in the 21st century. It provides a bridge between scientists and students, giving students access to current scientific research and simultaneously giving scientists a way to reach out to young people interested in their fields.

Good morning. I'm _____,
_____th grade.

The 8th grade class will be going to the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site and the Battleship Texas next Thursday, May 16th to view these landmarks and study history.

The famous Battle of San Jacinto that brought Texas its independence was fought on this site. Texian troops under General Sam Houston achieved the independence of Texas by defeating a Mexican Army led by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna on April 21, 1836.

In 1948, the Battleship Texas became the first battleship memorial museum in the United States. That same year, on the anniversary of Texas Independence, the battleship was presented to the State of Texas and commissioned as the flagship of the Texas Navy.

Good morning. I'm _____,
_____th grade.

On May 21st the BBC's Ben James, host of the international radio program, "World Have Your Say", will broadcast live from RYSS. Mr. James and the BBC crew will be visiting Texas direct from London.

During their Texas tour, they will first stop in Austin before traveling to Houston. After their Houston stop, half of the crew will return to Austin, while the others visit Mexico. The Texas tour is designed to provide international coverage about immigration reform.

Ms. Julia Blake, English-II teacher has tuned in to "World Have Your Say" during her classes, using the programs format and topics to encourage timely and thought provoking discussions among her students.

On May 22nd, Mr. Chambers and a core group of 8th grade students will be traveling to Harmony Hills Elementary School in San Antonio to teach 4th grade students how to use graphic arts software. Their teacher is Ms. Hoelscher.

This will be the eighth student workshop that Mr. Chambers and his students have conducted over the past four years. These workshops have established RYSS as a leader in education through the skills of its students. This is an "extreme" accomplishment, and it sets RYSS apart from other schools.

Mr. Chambers hasn't done a great deal of research on this kind of activity, but he imagines that RYSS is the only school in Houston ... possibly, Texas ... doing this ... having students teach students at a pretty sophisticated or high level with software.

Quick Announcements

Ms. Castaneda, Coordinator for “Communities in Schools”, wants to thank all of the students and TCCC/RYS staff for a successful year. Students that faithfully attended the program benefited from the opportunities to make new friends, build strong relationships with caring adults-ACE staff, and work towards their academic goals. She states, “It has been great to watch each student grow to their fullest potential by investing their time to learn after school. To all students, we are proud of you! Thank you!”

Mr. Brown wants us to announce that as part of the “La CASA Project”, the Youth Advisory Board will be sponsoring a Junior Academy clothing drive. The drive begins today, and it goes through May 24th. On that day, May 24th, there will be a “Health Fair”. The winning class will be determined by how many articles of clothing are collected, and the class will receive a pizza and ice cream lunch.

Since Mr. Chambers is retiring this school year, Mr. Bonilla, 8th grade Science teacher will be taking over the duties and responsibilities of the NASA EarthKAM program. So next school year, students will continue to have a chance to request photographs of Earth from a camera on board the International Space Station.

Mr. Brown and the Youth Advisory Board will take over PANTHER NEWS for next school year. Our current advisor, Mr. Chambers wishes them the best. Mr. Brown will speak later.

The “Senior Prom” and “8th Grade Dance” will be held on May 24th .

6th and 7th grade awards will be held on May 29th . Junior Academy’s tribute to the high school seniors will be held on May 29th as well.

The 8th grade “Advancement and Awards Ceremony” will be held on May 30th , the last day of school.

The “Senior Commencement” will be held at Houston Community College, May 31st , 6:00 – 7:15pm.

Communities in Schools

Today:

Math Tutoring	Math Enrichment	Physical Activity-Team
Math Unit Review	Obstacle Course	Soccer Practice
Homework Completion	Homework Completion	Wii

Tuesday:

Science Tutoring	Science Enrichment	Health and Wellness
Method: Science Unit Review	"Are Finger Prints Inherited?"	Kickball/Dodge Ball
Homework Completion	Homework Completion	Cosmetology
	Arts - "Soccer Posters"	

Wednesday:

Reading Tutoring	Reading Enrichment	Physical Activity-Team
Workbook Vocabulary Lesson Review	"Crunchy Tacos"	Basketball/Dodge Ball
Homework Completion	Homework Completion/Kids College	

Thursday:

Reading Tutoring Vocabulary Review Homework Completion	College and Workforce Readiness “Career Highlight-Latino Newscasters” Homework Completion	Youth Development Enrichment Soccer Board games
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Friday:

Career Awareness “Time Management-Schoolwork”- Homework Completion	Physical Activity-Individual Soccer Game Technology - Xbox	Fine Arts-Technology Wii
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Lunch Menu

Today: Mini Corn Dogs or Chicken Fried Steak with Gravy and Roll, Green Peas, Black-eyed Peas, Peach Cup.

Tuesday: Toasted Ham and Cheese Sandwich or Chef Salad, Carrot Coins, Pinto Beans, Fruit Mix Gelatin.

Wednesday: Fish Strips with Roll or Fruit Chicken Salad, Macaroni Salad, Sweet Corn, Green Beans, Apple Crisp.

Thursday: Hot Dog with Ketchup and Mayo, Potato Salad, Steamed Spinach, Banana Pudding, Diced Pears.

Friday: Pepperoni Pizza, Romaine Salad, Ranch Dressing, Sweet Potato Sticks, Sugar Cookie, Fresh Fruit.

Mr. Chambers wants us to deliver his thoughts and feelings about PANTHER NEWS and us ... the student newscasters.

First of all, he is very proud of our abilities and accomplishments as newscasters and media representatives for our school. He appreciates our enthusiasm and consistency through 44 broadcasts and recordings. He hopes that we see the significance or importance of representing our school this way.

He has always felt that PANTHER NEWS is a great communications tool to help us ... the student newscasters ... become more articulate or better public speakers as well as gain greater self-confidence. He also views it as a way to promote a positive school culture among the students, teachers and staff. And he sees it as a vocational or career tool for students who may want to go into the broadcasting and/or media and communications fields.

That's all for this school year. Mr. Brown joins us to talk about PANTHER NEWS for next school year. Have a great day, and study hard! Your future depends on it!

Welcome, Mr. Brown!