

Reach Out.



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### **WELCOME!**

Welcome to THE CHAIN, a publication of the FOR—Friends of Rachel. We are an enthusiastic group of people dedicated to creating a culture change in our schools, inspired by the life and tragic death of Rachel Joy Scott—the first of 13 to die at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999.

Rachel's code of ethics challenged everyone "to create a chain reaction of kindness and compassion." That's what FOR is about. So expect to hear and see great things done and to be touched with kindness. We invite you to attend our weekly meetings each Friday, beginning at 3:13pm in the gym, and we challenge you to start your own chain of kindness!

### **CURRENT EVENTS**

#### **HOLIDAY DRIVE UPDATE:**

Thank you to all who participated in making donations for all of our holiday collection drives! The mittens, PJ's and toys you donated were greatly appreciated by our local WRC-Women's Resource Center of Ellis County. In these difficult economic times, we understand what sacrifice it takes to participate in donation drives and fundraisers, so THANK YOU!!!!

#### **IT'S FOOD DRIVE TIME!!!!**

Last year our canned/boxed food drive was such a great success that we got a news spot on Channel 8 WFAA! This year we'd like to double our goods from last year to better support our surrounding communities efforts to fight hunger. OUR GOAL IS 3,000 CANS by the end of February. If every student and teacher brings 7 cans (about \$2-\$4 worth), we will have well exceeded that goal.

We have a competition going amongst all grade levels to see which class brings in the most cans each month—just January and February. The winning class for each month will get a small party for making such great efforts in kindness and compassion.

Please send non-perishable items such as canned meat, beans, fruit, veggies, soups, etc. and boxed/bagged goods such as muffins, cornbread, beans, rice, Ramen noodles, pasta, peanut butter, etc. These goods will be distributed in March to the Destiny Church Food Pantry in Duncanville, First Assemblies of God Food Pantry right here by the school, and to the Daniel's Den downtown Waxahachie.

## **PE & Health News!**

Learning how to take care of your heart, jumping rope and helping kids with special hearts.



### **ONGOING FUNDRAISERS**

Thank you for your support of our ongoing fundraisers! This is the best way for us to gain new PE and Health equipment and supplies. Please continue to send these things all year long, and THANK YOU! Don't forget to save over the summer and ask family and friends to help support your child by saving these for him/her as well!

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION:** Simply clip the pink tops from many foods and household goods. We send them off periodically to redeem our points for equipment and supplies.

**LABELS FOR EDUCATION:** Just the same as Box Tops, find them on many foods and household goods. Clip and send them to school. Please separate them from Box Tops.

**COKE REWARDS:** When you purchase bottled or boxed Coke products, look for the caps with codes on the underside and send those to school. Cases (boxes) also have codes under the cardboard flap, so tear those off, too. We can redeem the points earned from those codes towards needed equipment.

Contact me at [rbrandt@advantageisd.org](mailto:rbrandt@advantageisd.org) with any questions.

### **JUMP ROPE/HOOPS FOR HEART IS BACK!**

February is National Heart Month, and this year's Jump Rope & Hoops Events will be on Friday, February 24th. Fundraising envelopes will be distributed this week and next, so please look for them in your child's folder. As well as collecting cash and checks, you may sign your child up online and they earn credit from online donations as well.

We raise money for the American Heart Association for children with heart disease, to aid in research for and treatment of their conditions. Last year we raised over \$3,200! We would like to beat that by raising over \$4,000 this year. Don't forget to ask businesses and church family and friends. You never know how many people have been affected by heart disease until you ask!

Please send names of those affected to me Coach Raket Brandt at [rbrandt@advantageisd.org](mailto:rbrandt@advantageisd.org).



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