



Bonnie Wilkinson Elementary

The Lion's Roar

November 2016

Principal's Message – Victor Uher

We have a lot of special events this month so please keep an eye on the calendar.

Saturday, **November 5th**, will be our **PTA Canton in Conroe Craft Show**. This will be from 9:00-3:00 in the school cafeteria and gym. We will have 104 vendors and hope you will come and see what is for sale. Special thanks to Mrs. Koenig for all her time in planning this great event.

One of our major annual events is our **Veterans Day Ceremony**. Any veteran that is a relative or family friend of a student at Wilkinson is invited to be honored. We know how important it is to have men and women who serve in all branches of the armed forces and this is our opportunity to show our appreciation. **This ceremony will take place Friday, November 11th at 8:30 in our cafeteria. Please arrive by 8:15.** If you or someone you know will be attending, please call the school to RSVP.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and I hope everyone enjoys this wonderful holiday.

PTA News – Christel Zuvich, President

PTA is in full swing preparing for our fall events. Canton in Conroe is only a few weeks away and Breakfast with Santa will be here before we know it. Both are great events for our families but require many volunteers for a successful event. If you would like to volunteer for these events, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Holly Wells, at wilkinsonvolunteers@yahoo.com.

Box Top Collection has started! Please turn in your box tops to your child's teacher. Each month the winning class is awarded the coveted box top trophy and a class reward. Also, look for the new box top app for more ways to collect box tops for our school.

Dates to look forward to:

November 4 Monthly Board Meeting

November 5 Canton in Conroe

November 15 Texas Roadhouse

December 3 Breakfast with Santa

*Interested in volunteering or getting PTA event updates? Email Holly Wells, our volunteer coordinator, at wilkinsonvolunteers@yahoo.com!

Assistant Principal – Mrs. Summerville

November is an important month to arrive to school on time and have perfect attendance. The students who had perfect attendance for September enjoyed a nice reward. Students with perfect attendance in October will get their reward Nov. 7th. A lot of new skills are being introduced and taught in November, and missing just one day of instruction puts a student at a disadvantage.

GT Reminder: The window to nominate your child for GT testing is open until December 9. Please contact your child's teacher if you are interested in more information about our GT test and program.

Counselor's Message – Kelly Locke

O = Optimism

During the months of November and December we will be focusing on the "O" of our ROAR which is **Optimism**.

Below are ways we are teaching optimism in everyday life:

- Optimism when trying new things
- Optimism when things get tough (perseverance)
- Optimism for the things you have (gratitude)
- Optimism for relationships (forgiveness)
- Optimism in our thoughts (positive thinker)

PRIDE LUNCH DATE: November 11th

Generation Texas Activities – We'll be discussing career choices all week. November 14 – 18, 2016

Generation Texas Week promotes the belief that all Texas students belong on the path to education beyond high school.

Monday (11/14) – "*ABC's of Careers*" - Students will complete a career alphabet activity

Tuesday (11/15) – "*Show Your School Spirit*" – Wear your college t-shirt to show your school spirit. Teachers will talk with their class about their college experience and the importance of attending a post-secondary institution.

Wednesday (11/16) – "*See Your Future Self*" – Students will decorate a self-portrait with the career they would like to have. They can be as creative as possible!

Thursday (11/17) – "*The Write Plan*" – Students will write an essay describing their plan to reach their goals in life.

Friday (11/18) – “My Magic Number” – Students will complete a fun activity using their high school graduation year.

From the Clinic – Mrs. De Baugh R.N.

- **Head Lice:** Conroe ISD follows recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) as well as those contained in the position papers of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) in the treatment for lice. Head lice, although not an illness or disease; is common among children and can be spread through head-to-head contact during play and sports, and when students share things like brushes, combs, and hats. The best treatment for lice is prevention. Conroe ISD appreciates our families assisting us in the prevention and control of head lice in our schools with routine family inspection, prompt and effective treatment, and educating your student to avoid direct or indirect contact with other people's hair. Throughout the school year, check your child's hair weekly and after overnight visits with other children.
- **Cold and flu season** is upon us, so if your child requires medication at school, cough drops included, a **PARENT** must bring the medication into the clinic. Children are **NOT** allowed to transport **ANY** medication to or from school. A medication permission form must be signed by a parent for the child to be able to take the medication at school. The medication must be age appropriate, be in its original container with instructions for administration, and it cannot be expired. These rules are for the safety of all students.
- **Students requiring crutches** at school must have a written order from the doctor. This ensures medical evaluation and proper fit of the crutches.

Thanks for all your support. Have a happy and healthy fall!

News from the Lion's Den – Michelle Vaughn

The library was turned into a pumpkin patch the last week of October. Thank you to all of the students and teachers who participated in our Wilkinson Storybook Pumpkin Contest. We had an incredible response and the pumpkins were AMAZING.

Lionopoly is underway with our 3rd and 4th graders. This is a new program for our 3rd and 4th graders. It is created around the different genres in the fiction section of our library, but also includes Bluebonnet titles past and present, and a few nonfiction titles. This is definitely not a quick finish reading incentive game, but it will build on their love of reading as they discover new genres in the library. There are at least 16 chapter books on our game board. Students have until January to complete the game board. Look for it in your child's folder. Please call or email if you have any questions.

Birthday Book Club is the first Friday of the month. If you would like to honor your child's birthday by donating a book to the Wilkinson Library please contact Mrs. Vaughn at 936-709-1515 or email at mvaughn@conroeisd.net.

Mark your calendar for our **book fair**, December 1st – December 9th. Along with our daily hours, we will have one evening shopping date, Thursday, Dec. 8th. That day we will be open after school from 3-6 pm. Look for more information in your child's

Monday folder. Also, if you are interested in volunteering during book fair, please call Mrs. Vaughn at 936-709-1515.

All of our students are doing a great job visiting the library, taking care of the library books, and returning them on time. We have incredible readers in our school, and I am proud of all our students. I would also like to thank our super volunteers who come in weekly and help in the library.

Remember to keep reading.

Pre-K

Happy Fall! We are quickly learning what it means to be a Wilkinson Lion. We are becoming familiar with daily routines and procedures and having a great time at school. In November, we will continue to work on identifying upper and lower case letters and their sounds, writing our names correctly, identifying shapes and numbers, as well as counting aloud to 30. We will also be starting weekly homework to reinforce what we are learning in class. The homework is sent home on Mondays and is due on Fridays. Homework should not take more than five minutes. As always, please make sure to check your child's folder daily for classroom information as well as important information from the school. We will be having our Thanksgiving Feast on Friday, November 18th. Details and sign-up sheets will be coming home either in your child's folder or by email. As always, we are excited to see just how much your child has grown since school has started.

Kindergarten

November is a very busy month full of exciting learning and special activities. In the classroom, we have completed all testing for report cards. We will continue working on letters and sounds, weekly sight words, beginning sounds, comprehension and rhyming words. We are learning about personal narratives, a true story about what happened to you, in writing. Kindergarten also learns about the special holidays in November; Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. In math, we are continuing to learn more about our numbers 6-10.

Our Annual Kindergarten Thanksgiving Feast will be on Friday, November 18, time TBA. All parents are welcome to attend this special day. This is a great opportunity to help and volunteer at school. Please check for information in your child's Monday Folder. And as always, thank you for all you do!

First Grade

Informational Expository texts are the major focus of reading this 9 weeks. Students will be able to retell events in order using pictures, identify important facts and details, and restate the main idea. They will also learn non-fiction features and their purposes. In word study and phonics, we will be adding hard and soft letters (c and g) and all the different ways to make long vowels.

In writing, students are learning how to stretch their story across many pages as authors do. Personal narratives, called "small moments" are written in booklets.

Students are encouraged to add details, such as their feelings, who was with them, what they saw, etc. When writing at home, help your child stretch their story by adding these details. In addition, students should be able to begin sentences with a capital letter, end with correct punctuation, capitalize proper nouns, and add adjectives in their writing.

The Thanksgiving holiday will be November 24th-28th, so be sure to use this opportunity to read and share books with your child. Thanks for all you do to help your child be successful.

Second Grade

Ching! Ching! Can you hear all the change? We have been learning to count coins up to one dollar. Parents you can help by getting out some coins and having your child count up to \$1.00.

We have also been working on three digit place value. You may have heard the word “decomposing”. That word just means finding the different parts of a number like ones, tens and hundreds. You can help by showing your child a three digit number and having them tell you how many ones, tens and hundreds. You could also have them tell you a different way to show it. For example, could they take the hundreds and break them into tens?

The word “composing” means taking different parts of place value and making a number. A way you can help is by using mental math: “I have 3 tens, 2 hundreds and 6 ones. What is my number?” It is important to do it any order. You can also say, “I have 12 tens and 5 ones. What’s my number?”

Coming up in November we will revisit graphs. We will be reading graphs, taking information and making graphs. We will also be revisiting place value up to 600. We will start two digit addition and subtraction with and without regrouping. It is important that your child knows their addition and subtraction facts. Keep studying and memorizing those.

Third Grade

November 16 at 9:00 will be our Family Party. The students will begin to work on special projects to present to their families. We hope you can make it! More information will be coming home in their Monday Folders soon.

This month we will be going on our field trip. Our field trip will be on Friday, November 18. We will travel to Caney Creek High School to watch the play, Peter Pan. After the play, we will go to Candy Cane Park to enjoy a picnic lunch. Please be on the lookout for information regarding the field trip in your child’s Monday Folder. We suggest your child brings a light jacket depending on the weather. Also, their lunch should be entirely disposable. Please no Tupperware, reusable water bottles, or nice lunch kits. The language arts teachers will be teaching a drama unit in the weeks following our field trip, so it will provide the students with great background knowledge to apply to this unit as it is taught.

In math, our multiplication and division unit is beginning. The students will begin learning many ways to represent multiplication problems, they will learn how to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number, and begin to learn their division facts. This unit will be taught until the end of January, so there will be plenty of time to master the content. Practicing their multiplication facts will help tremendously with this unit. For

instance, when teaching 2-digit by 1-digit multiplication problems if they have strong fact fluency, they can focus strictly on the process of how to multiply instead of having to solve the basic facts first. You can help the students with their facts by encouraging them to skip count, quizzing them from time-to-time, and finding real world connections. Having strong multiplication fact fluency will also build their division facts because they will pick up the relationship between the two operations much easier.

Fourth Grade

Fourth grade students are currently working hard on studying the genre of expository in both reading and writing. We are learning how an expository is structured and what the purpose of an expository is. In writer's workshop, the students will be learning how to explain details, elaborate on key points, and how to include a concluding statement and a central idea. In reader's workshop, students are learning to inference and draw conclusions based on their background knowledge and text evidence to support their understanding of new information learned. Students are being encouraged to check out expository nonfiction texts in the library to immerse them in the genre. At home, read the books together and talk about the new things you are learning about the topic. Our students love to talk about their books. Again, we want to thank you for all of your support in getting your child to become an independent reader.

As we begin the second nine weeks of school, we will be diving into addition and subtraction of all kinds; fractions, decimals, and whole numbers. We work on being fluent thinkers in math everyday. We also have been working on our division facts. At this time the students should have mastered 2, 5 and 10 division facts. Students that are fluent in division facts do better on long division in. Ways you can help at home is to check over your child's homework each week. This reinforces quality work and shows your support for their education.

We will be continuing to be scientists in our science lab. The students will be participating in labs that will teach them about electricity. We will be exploring how electricity works, as well as what conductors and insulators are.

A huge thank you for those of you that helped chaperone our field trip last month. We appreciate you taking time out of your day to join us. Once again, thank you for your continued support in the education of your child.

Special Subjects

Ms. Burney - PE

First, I would like to say a big thank you to all families who came out to support our school and P.E. program in the Lion Dash on October 22nd. It was a great morning of movement and building community. I sincerely appreciate those who came and those who volunteered their time. I know our students will too, as the proceeds will help in purchasing new equipment.

Students have been staying active and getting fit in the Lion's Gym and in P.E. Lab. The end of September and early October was an exciting time with 3rd and 4th grade participating in our second year of Skating 101. We are so appreciative of our wonderful PTA for helping 3rd and 4th grade students get the opportunity to skate again this year.

Also, a big thank you to all of our parent volunteers. We couldn't have done it without your help. Skating 101 is an experience the students will always remember! Our kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade students worked on similar skills to skating in their Balance Unit. They worked on balance and coordination through games and stations. Students learned that all of these skills get better with practice.

After Skating 101 and the Balance Unit, students started participating in our Throwing and Catching and Volleyball Units. We focused on accurate throws and catches, and talked about quality of movement in the gym. They learned how to serve, bump, and set the ball through activities with a variety of balls including: volleyballs, soft foam balls, and balloons. At the end of October, students participated in a Fall Obstacle Course and Drug Free games and activities to reinforce what they were learning in their classrooms about being drug free.

P.E. Lab has been a great way for students to work on skills they are learning in the gym and allowing them more opportunities to improve their movement in a smaller group setting. P.E. Lab is also focusing on character traits that we look to see in the gym, the classrooms, and in life. In the past month students have learned about what respect means and how to show it and how to be a good sportsman. All the character traits taught this year will be reinforced throughout the year.

This month we will be participating in our Football Unit, fall games, and a Thanksgiving obstacle course. We will have our sixth annual Turkey Trot the week before our Thanksgiving holiday. Students in all grade levels started mileage club last month, and their hard work during mileage club will help as they participate in this grade level running event. If you have any questions or would like to join us one day in the gym feel free to email me at aburney@conroeisd.net. We are so appreciative to the wonderful help we get from volunteers and Watch DOGS.

Art- Ms. DeBaugh

We have dived into our Western Art projects and everyone is doing an amazing job. We will continue to work on Western Art in November, taking a few breaks for some holiday art projects. We have just wrapped up practicing with oil pastels as well. Oil pastels are similar to a crayon, but instead of wax they have an oil base. They are known for their vibrant color and we have had fun experimenting with different blending techniques. We used our fingers, Q-tips, and baby oil to create a smooth finish. It was most students' first time using them and I think they had a great time.

I would like to congratulate Jonathan Huseman in Mrs. Lindsay's 2nd grade class on becoming Wilkinson's first Spotlight Artist. Throughout our last couple of projects Jonathan has worked very hard and shown great Wilkinson Pride. Not only did his project come out great, but he was always encouraging, helping, and supporting his classmates. Thank you for your hard work and dedication Jonathan! I will be looking for a new Spotlight Artist this month.

If you are interested in following the art room more closely I have created a Facebook page for art. It's called Wilkinson Elementary ART and I post updates, announcements, and some fun pictures of the students in action.

“Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.” - Degas

Music—Mrs. Hallbauer

We're looking forward to a wonderful performance from our 3rd graders. I am so proud of their hard work and singing in preparation for our medieval music program. Our Wilkinson choir the "Singing Pride" is also busy performing. Thanks to this group for their motivational performance of the National Anthem at our Lion Dash last month. Don't miss the Singing Pride as they perform at Canton in Conroe and our Veterans Day ceremony in November. **Thank you choir.** A special thanks to all our parents who support these programs with volunteer hours. I could not do it without you.

Our holiday program will be performed by the 4th graders. These students are busy preparing songs and dances to share with you as they present "A Pirate Christmas" on Thursday, Dec. 8th at 6pm and Friday, Dec. 9th at 9am.

Our 2nd graders have been busy working with non-pitched instruments. We have identified their sounds and can recognize these instruments when played out of sight. This group continues to play barred instruments and perform them in class.

1st graders are reading, writing and playing simple rhythms. Kindergarten just completed their instrument unit. They have done a great job recognizing and learning to play the rhythm instruments in music class.

Keep on singing!

November 2016

- 3 3rd Grade Music Program – 6:00 – Cafeteria
- 4 3rd Grade Music Program – 9:00 – Cafeteria

- 5 *Wilkinson PTA Presents* – The Canton in Conroe Craft Show – Wilkinson Cafeteria and Gym – Saturday 9:00-3:00

- 7 Perfect Attendance recognition for those with perfect attendance in October.

- 10 Second Grade Field Trip
- 11 Veterans Day Celebration – 8:30 – Cafeteria
- 17 Class Pictures and Retakes
- 18 Third Grade Field Trip

- 21-25 Thanksgiving Holidays

December

- 1 – Book Fair Begins
- 3 – *Wilkinson PTA Presents*: Breakfast with Santa – Saturday morning

- 8 – 4th Grade Music Program – 6:00 Cafeteria
- 9 – 4th Grade Music Program – 9:00 Cafeteria
- 9 – Book Fair Ends at Noon

- 16 – Polar Express Day and Early Dismissal
 - Early Dismissal Schedule
 - K-4th Grade – 8:00-12:00
 - Morning PK – 8-10:00
 - Afternoon PK – 10-12:00