



Bonnie Wilkinson Elementary

# The Lion's Roar

October 2016

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## Principal's Message – Victor Uher

Another wonderful year is well on its way at Bonnie Wilkinson Elementary. At this time, our students know the rules and the academic expectations of their teachers. We are fortunate to have strong parent support. In order to maintain that support, it is important to schedule a parent teacher conference in person. Our teachers will be glad to have phone conferences also, but an in-person meeting is very helpful for both.

This year we have a focus on setting goals. Our teachers will be working with their students to set a variety of goals for the year.

We had our Watchdogs Kick-off last month and had a cafeteria full of fathers, father-figures, and students. Our Watchdog calendar is almost entirely filled for the year. However, if you missed the meeting you can simply call the school number at the bottom of the page and someone will help you. Special thanks to Mr. Tim Stoehr for planning and organizing this important event.

Keep informed of all our events by viewing our school website.

We are looking forward to an excellent year.

## PTA News – Christel Zuvich, President

PTA is off to a great start this year with our fall fundraiser. Thanks to all who participated. This is our prime fundraising event and supports programs such as field trip transportation, library author visits, Breakfast with Santa, Watchdogs, educational programs, as well as many others.

Our membership drive continues through October 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone can join! If you haven't joined, please consider joining now in order for your student to receive their paw print shoelaces and pawsome keychain. Forms have been sent home and additional forms are in the front office. Being a member does not require anyone to volunteer but is a great way to show support for your school. Membership is \$8.50.

Spirit Store is open the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month from 7:30-8:00 am. Come in and get your Wilkinson gear!

Dates to look forward to:

October 11	Panda Express Spirit Night
October 21	Donuts with Dad
October 25	General Meeting
November 5	Canton in Conroe

\*Interested in volunteering or getting PTA event updates? Email Holly Wells, our volunteer coordinator at [wilkinsonvolunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:wilkinsonvolunteers@yahoo.com)!

## **Assistant Principal – Mrs. Summerville**

### **ATTENDANCE**

**It doesn't matter if an absence is excused or unexcused. They all represent lost time in the classroom and a lost opportunity to learn.**

Attendance matters as early as kindergarten. Studies show many children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years. They often have trouble mastering reading by the end of third grade.

#### **Gifted and Talented**

The window is now open for nominations for Gifted and Talented spring screening and will continue until Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Please read the following guidelines about your child's specific grade level.

Identification in the GT program requires advanced academic accountability. Students will be required to work independently on accelerated curriculum as a part of the program.

Kindergarten and First Graders: If you are interested in having your child screened for the Gifted and Talented program, you must have a conference with your child's homeroom teacher first to discuss the requirements prior to December 5<sup>th</sup>. Students who meet the eligibility criteria within their classroom may be considered for testing.

Second, Third and Fourth Graders: Nomination forms can be obtained on campus at the front desk or from your child's homeroom teacher. Please return completed forms before December 5<sup>th</sup> to Mrs. Tracy Summerville, GT Campus Coordinator.

## **Counselor's Message – Kelly Locke**

Welcome back Wilkinson Lions! We have had a wonderful start to our year. We will once again be "ROAR"ing this year at Wilkinson. R.O.A.R. stands for **RESPECT**, **OPTIMISM**, **ACCEPTANCE** and **RESPONSIBILITY**. During the months of September and October we will focus on **RESPECT**. We are teaching students how to show respect in different areas of life – respect for others, respect for self and respect for our school.

### **PRIDE Lunch – Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**

Each month we will celebrate students who have demonstrated knowledge of our R.O.A.R. program here at school. Students will complete a writing activity on how they have shown the character trait of the month and based on those writing samples teachers will select one student from their class to attend the PRIDE Lunch. Students selected are those who exemplified the character trait of the month. Students attending the PRIDE Lunches will enjoy lunch with myself, Mr. Uher and Mrs. Summerville from one of our many wonderful local restaurants.

## **Red Ribbon Week – October 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>**

Red Ribbon Week is the largest drug prevention campaign in the country. It encourages communities and individuals to take a stand for the hopes and dreams of our children through drug prevention education and a personal commitment to live drug free lives. Each day of this week will have a different theme and fun activities to create awareness and celebrate good choices for a drug free life.

- **Monday – “Use Your Head – Don’t Use Drugs”**
  - Come to school in a crazy hat or with crazy hair
  - Red wristbands will be given out
- **Tuesday – “My Dreams are Too Big for Drugs”**
  - Dress up as a career
  - Class discussion on positive and negative consequences
- **Wednesday – “Voting for My Future to Be Drug Free”**
  - Wear Red, White and Blue
- **Thursday – “I am Tutu Smart to Be Tied Up in Drugs”**
  - Wear tutus and ties
- **Friday – “I Have the Power to be Drug Free”**
  - Wear a superhero shirt
  - Bookmarks will be given out
  - Saying “No” activity in class

### **Upcoming Events -**

- **LION DASH - Family 5k Fun Run/Walk**
  - Saturday, October 22
  - Register online: <https://thedriven.net/liondash>

### **From the Clinic – Mrs. De Baugh R.N.**

Greetings from the Wilkinson Lion's Health Clinic! We have had a great start to the new school year. Some things to keep in mind:

- Please remember that medication cannot be transported by students. **A PARENT** must bring the medication into the clinic and sign a permission form. **ALL** medication must be in its original container with the printed pharmacy label (child's name and instructions for administration) on the container. If it is over-the-counter medication, be sure that it is age appropriate. We cannot dispense medication that has expired so please check all expiration dates.
- If you were sent home forms regarding asthma, allergy or seizure disorder that your child has, please be sure to get those papers filled out and returned to the clinic as soon as possible.
- Occasionally there are times when our Lions have bathroom accidents, lunch spills, or other incidences where their clothes become soiled at school. Please keep a change of clothing in your child's backpack or classroom for just such occasions. This will save you from having to leave what you are doing to bring a change of clothing for your child.

- Vision, hearing, and dental screenings took place in September for our 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Parents will receive a referral form if their child does not pass any part of the screening. Please be sure to seek medical/dental advice as soon as possible so that your child will have a successful and healthy school year.

Thanks for all your support. We are looking forward to a happy and healthy fall!

## **News from the Lion's Den – Michelle Vaughn**

Welcome to a new school year! The library has been filled with happy students. Students are visiting the library during their scheduled library time. During this time, we talk about all our wonderful books, how to care for them, and check out procedures. All students must have their check out letter signed and returned in order for them to check out books.

“Read for a Better Life” took place on Wednesday, September 21. Our entire school celebrated reading all day and were treated to a variety of read alouds the entire week. Stop by our cafeteria and check out our amazing faculty and staff reading in their favorite places on our “Oh the Places We Read” wall.

I would like to personally thank all of our amazing volunteers for their hard work and donating their valuable time. Our library is a success because of you.

Please remind your child to put their library books in their backpacks before they go to bed so they will have them at school everyday.

### **Here are the scheduled library days:**

Monday – Kindergarten

Tuesday – Second Grade, Estes & De Pinto’s classes

Wednesday – Third & Fourth Grade

Thursday – First Grade

Friday – Pre K & Life Skills

We also have extra check out scheduled for students to visit the library.

Happy Reading

## **Pre-K**

I am so excited for this new school year. Last month, we learned and reviewed the expectations for our behaviors in the classroom, hallway, restroom, and on the playground. We have a clear understanding of what a level 0 means and looks like. Ask your child, “What does level 0 mean?” They should be able to tell you. Due to the fact that we have spent an extensive amount of time learning, modeling and practicing these expectations, my desire is that all students exhibit those high expectations on a daily basis with minimal redirection.

We have had over a month of learning all about me for our social studies unit. We have, as a class, loved getting to know each other’s likes and dislikes, similarities and differences as well as our favorites. It truly has been a fun unit and a time to celebrate who we are as individuals.

Throughout October, we will continue to work on the alphabet and letters in our name. We will be practicing our name many times a week to make sure we learn it and its letters quickly. Homework will also start coming home in mid-October. The homework will come home on Monday (Tuesday, if Monday is a holiday) and need to be

returned in your child's folder by Friday. The homework is customized to your child's needs and will only take five minutes a night to complete. The assignments in the homework will be short activities that you can do very quickly and can complete anywhere. For example, find an everyday item that is shaped like a circle, count aloud to 15 or practice tracing your name in the space provided. It will be a quick and easy review of what we have already been working on in the classroom.

## **Kindergarten**

We are so excited about this school year. It has been fun getting to know all the new students down the Kindergarten hall. This month we are still continuing learning about our school and following rules. We are also working on our alphabet and the sounds they make, our name, numbers 0-10, writing/drawing a personal narrative, sight words, our environment, community helpers and our 5 senses. We will be finishing beginning of the year and report card testing. After the testing is completed, we will be contacting parents for conferences to discuss your child's progress.

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Day of School will be on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Please look for notes about this rocking event!

At home, please continue practicing letters and sounds, numbers 0-10, sight words and reading books every night. We are looking forward to a year of learning, fun and exploring our world around us.

## **First Grade**

First grade is swinging into our new routines. The beginning of the year testing window has passed us by and reading groups have begun. Students are bringing home guided reading books in their daily LION binder. Please take good care of these books and return them daily. One book may be sent home more than once to increase fluency.

After reading, discuss the book with your child. A good discussion increases comprehension and should include the characters in the story. In addition, review other story parts with your first grader. Have your child repeat the beginning, middle and end of the story. The setting (where and when the story takes place), should also be identified. Last, discuss the problem and solution (how the problem is solved). Practicing these objectives produces readers that not only read, but comprehend what they have read. Have your child practice these skills after reading each night. This can be done with their guided reading book or a book you enjoy reading together from home. Showing an interest in your child's learning adventure will lead to long term success.

Early in the month of October, we will be discussing Fairy Tales and Folk Tales. First graders usually enjoy this unit. It is also important to develop good listening and speaking with our first graders. They should learn to ask questions and follow the instructions of others. They should practice speaking clearly when answering a question. First graders will learn to work productively and spend an allotted amount of time to complete seat work.

## **Second Grade**

Our second graders have been very busy learning all the routines and procedures for stations in Reading. Our stations, also called centers, are Read to Self, Read to Someone, Listen to Reading, Skill Practice, Response to Reading and Word Study. The stations are designed to grow our students as readers! You can see that three of them are devoted to simply reading books. Every station is designed around individual student needs so that they can grow in reading level and ability. In Word Study, students work on a list that is specifically for their needs. We have given a pre-assessment in order to know each student's needs. Based on this assessment students are given a word pattern list to learn. It takes about two weeks for a student to master a list and move to their next list. Teachers are currently assessing students in Reading level, phonics, fluency, and sight words. Your child's teacher will share these assessments with you. The most important thing you can do with your child is to read with them nightly!

## **Third Grade**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are officially beginning to learn multiplication. We will teach them multiplication facts  $\times 2$ ,  $\times 10$ ,  $\times 5$ , and  $\times 1$  this month (in that order). It is extremely helpful if you provide your child with opportunities to practice their multiplication facts at home, or find real world situations they can apply their understanding of multiplication. For example, you can have your child multiply the number of rows of wheels on a vehicle by the number of wheels in each row ( $2 \times 2$ ), you can have your child sort items in groups of ten and multiply by the number of groups ( $8 \times 10$ ), or you can have your child search for multiplication representations around your house and explain them to you. You can even quiz your child on their facts in the car. We teach 2-digit by 1-digit multiplication later in the year and having fluency with their basic multiplication facts makes the process come much easier.

Mr. Gullo (the owner of the local car dealerships) visited us in September to present the students with an opportunity to earn some REAL money. The students are expected to write two book reports per week over books they read. At this time, this is what we are requiring as their homework. You are welcome to complete more than two each week, but two is the minimum. The students have six weeks to complete their reports, so by the end they should have twelve reports. Mr. Gullo will pay the students \$1.00 for every report they write, but if they write all twelve he will *double* their money! They can earn a possible \$24.00! We have had 100% of our third grade students complete this in the past seven years. The students have until October 28 to complete their book reports. Mr. Gullo will come sometime in November to present the students with their earnings. This happens to be right before the book fair too.

We would like to remind you that keeping the line of communication open is key to your child's success. If you ever have any questions or concerns about your child or their performance please contact your child's teacher. Our conference time is from 10:00-10:55 every day. A conference can easily be arranged by appointment.

## **Fourth Grade**

Research shows independent reading is the number one indicator of student success as a reader, as well as on standardized tests. One of the most important factors in becoming a better reader is to read. Fourth grade is currently working hard on learning how to select just right books and reflecting about our reading. Every night, your child should be bringing home a library book and a reading log. Reading logs are given every Monday and are due on Friday. Independent reading is a powerful accompaniment to direct instruction and allows students the opportunity to practice skills we have been learning in the classroom.

Fractions are the focus this month. Students will be comparing fractions and ordering fractions. They will also work on showing them in a model, a set of objects, as well as on a number line. Cooking together is a great way to practice fractions at home. Have your fourth grader help you measure out ingredients. We will also be reviewing and reinforcing other topics daily with our Math Review and Problem Solving.

We have recently introduced the students to our fourth grade science lab and we are having a great time with our hands on experiments. This month we will introduce mixtures and solutions. The students will get to compare and contrast a variety of mixtures and solutions in the science lab. Also, we will start learning about forces and will design experiments for the students to actively participate in.

For our fourth grade field trip, we will be traveling to the Houston Museum of Natural Science on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns regarding your child and their academic success. Thank you for your continued support over your child's education.

## **Special Subjects**

### **Music--Joslyn Hallbauer**

Welcome back to music! We have had a wonderful start to our new school year. 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are busy preparing for Wilkinson's first music program of the year. Come and hear our students as we highlight medieval times at our program on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 p.m. and Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. 4<sup>th</sup> grade music classes are reviewing more complex rhythms including sixteenth notes & syncopation, practicing songs using the tone ladder and learning simple group dances. 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are busy singing, identifying and writing so and mi melodies as well as learning how to play and accompany songs using the barred instruments. In 1<sup>st</sup> grade, students are practicing playing instruments and distinguishing between steady beat and rhythm. Kindergarten students are exploring basic music concepts such as steady beat, singing voice vs. talking voice and learning how to identify and play the rhythm instruments in the music room. All classes are enjoying moving and singing to music as we learn that music is fun!

### **Art- Miss DeBaugh**

I hope everyone has had an amazing start to the year just like I have. I am so glad to be the art teacher this year. I fell in love with art when I was in elementary school and since then I have always known that I wanted to work with kids and art! I have enjoyed having your talented children in class. I love how enthusiastic they are about creating every day. This month we will be starting our Western Art projects. The Western Art Show is an art show presented every year for students that is sponsored by The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Every year few western-themed art pieces are selected from students at our school to compete at the district level. These students will also have the opportunity to move on and represent CISD at the Houston show. We will be drawing, coloring, painting, and using a variety of other materials to complete our art pieces. More information will be sent home the closer we get to the art show.

Thank you for welcoming me and supporting our art program. One way you can support our program is through donations. The art room is always in need of pencils, large pink erasers, crayons, markers, and white cardstock paper.

Thank you Wilkinson parents for all you do!

“The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.”

Pablo Picasso

### **P.E. & P.E. Lab- Ms. Burney and Mrs. Peterson**

Welcome Back! It's been a great start to the year. I have enjoyed seeing familiar faces and some new faces in the gym as well. If you are new to Wilkinson, welcome! My name is Allie Burney, and this is my seventh year teaching at Wilkinson, sixth year teaching physical education. I am thrilled to have your children in P.E. this year. My goal as your child's P.E. teacher is to foster a life-long love of movement and healthy living. We will have several units throughout this year that will include sports, games, and activities, and it is my hope that through these units, your child will find something that piques their interest and creates a love for staying active.

This year we have started something new in specials. You may have heard your child talk about P.E. lab. This new specials class is an extension of P.E. Jenny Peterson, Wilkinson's P.E. aide, and I are working closely to provide an environment that allows students to be physically active in a smaller group setting. In P.E. lab, students are introduced to vocabulary, sports rules, and topics practiced later during their regular P.E. class. Students will learn the benefits of staying physically active and healthy in a smaller group setting. Students participate in P.E. lab one day a week and P.E. two days a week. Students need to wear tennis shoes for both P.E. lab and P.E. We are excited to have P.E. lab this year.

We started this year learning P.E. procedures and power words that will help with the management of the gym. Students participated in introductory games and classic P.E. games to promote an active lifestyle. We are currently in our balance unit in kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades and our Skating 101 unit in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Thank you to our wonderful PTA for providing us with the funds which allow our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders to skate. This unit provides a great opportunity for students to learn how to skate and others to improve on their skating skills.

In October we will also begin throwing and catching skills with our kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be participating in our volleyball unit. October is Fire Awareness and Drug Awareness month. We will be talking about the importance of fire safety and staying drug free. In addition, we will learn ways to fuel our bodies with good things--eating majority “Go” and “Slow” foods, drinking enough

water to stay hydrated, getting enough sleep and moving throughout each day--in order to live a healthy successful life. Fall is an exciting time of year which will also bring fun units like football and our fall obstacle courses.

We look forward to welcoming many of our volunteers and WATCH Dogs (Dads of Great Students) back this year. Thank you to those who take time to help in the gym and around our school. You truly make a difference!

**Specials Schedule:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ART	A	B	C	D	E
MUSIC	B	C	D	E	A
P.E.	DC	DE	EA	AB	BC
P.E. LAB	E	A	B	C	D

**October 2016**

- 11 Individual School Pictures
- 13 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip
- 14 Early Dismissal  
K-4<sup>th</sup> Grades – 8:00-12:00  
PK Morning – 8:00-10:00  
PK Afternoon – 10:00-12:00
- 14 End of First Grading Period
- 19 PTA Fundraiser Pick-up – 2:00 – 6:00 Wilkinson Gym
- 21 Donuts with Dad – 7:00 am – 8:00 am Cafeteria
- 22 Lion Dash Fun Run/Walk – Start Time 7:15 am
- 24 Report Cards Go Home
- 25 PTA General Meeting 5:30
- 25 Reading Night 6:00-7:00

**November**

- 3 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Music Program – 6:00 – Cafeteria
- 4 4<sup>th</sup> 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