



Timberwolf Howl

*Build Learners to be
Productive Citizens*

*Honor, Integrity,
Loyalty
and Leadership*

Principals Corner

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

We hope all of you had a much deserved Thanksgiving break! We will be busy over the next couple of weeks before we release for the winter break. Our time will be filled with learning, holiday concerts, and festivities. Please check our website for the dates and times of our Band, Orchestra, and Choir concerts and join us as we celebrate our students and their talents.

We wish all of you much happiness over the holidays and look forward to the New Year of 2018!

Sincerely,
Deborah Spoon
Principal
Tom Cox Intermediate

December Important Dates

- 7 5th grade orchestra concert 6pm
6th grade orchestra concert 7pm
- 11 Spirit night @Bon Froyo
Choir Concert 6pm
- 12 6th Band Concert 6pm
- 15 Fine Arts Assembly 9am
- 20 Early Release 12:55

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Dec 21-Jan 8 Student Holiday

Fifth Grade

Language Arts

We've finished up the poetry unit. Our students wrote amazing poetry and enjoyed celebrating each other's crafts. We are moving ahead to the persuasive unit, where students will learn to write like a true professional, persuading each other in a fun and passionate narrative. We will finish strong before the break with procedural text including a fun "How-To" craft! Happy Holidays to all from 5th Grade Language Arts!

Science

In December 5th graders will continue their investigations above the earth's surface. We will begin by covering the water cycle, just a quick review. Then will will move onto patterns and changes in weather and climate. These are two fun quick units that get us ready to move to the earth's surface after the new year!

Math

5th grade math students are working on fractions in December! This includes adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. We are also simplifying fractions and converting mixed numbers to improper fractions and vice versa.

Social Studies

Social Studies is almost finished with Government and the Early Years of our country. The next unit, the War of 1812, will begin right after Christmas vacation, but part of that time will be spent participating in Biz Town activities. Following that will be our biggest event: Wax Museum. We really appreciate all our parent support for Biz Town and preparations for Wax Museum.

Sixth Grade

Language Arts

Our 6th grade readers just completed a unit of study on poetry. Our students not only read poetry, but they became poets themselves! Our next genre of study will be persuasive. We will study many different types of persuasive texts, including commercials! Our students will also write a persuasive piece, trying convince their audience to agree with them. We have seen so much growth in our students as writers this semester and we can't wait to see them grow even more!

Science

Sixth grade science students are finishing learning about the importance of simple machines. We are especially focused on the inclined plane and pulley. We will be ending out 2017 year with lots of energy in science as we beginning discussing Energy. We will be looking at the three types of thermal energy and how energy transforms from one form to the next.

Social Studies

The reporters from the TCI Social Studies classes are finishing up their newspaper spreads on South American countries this month! They've been tirelessly researching and gathering information on Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Venezuela for this project. Ask them for some fun facts!! We have our District Curriculum Checkpoint coming up mid-month and then we get to travel across the pond to our next destination... Europe!! We will just get to take a glimpse into this historic and enchanting place before our next break. Happy Holidays!!

Math

During the month of December, 6th grade math students will be solving one step equations (and advanced students will solve two-step equations as well). The equations will involve negative and fractional quantities also. They will use terms to properly describe the process that will prepare them for pre-algebra and algebra classes in middle and high school. Terms such as: variable, isolate, balance, inverse, and algebraic solution. This very important process will be the foundation for solving multi-step equations in the future.

Mrs. Roland's and Mrs. Weninger's classes participated in this year's Texans Stats Challenge. Students completed problems each week with statistics from the the previous week's Texans game working on skills like ordering rational numbers, integer operations, percentages and equations. Student also watched weekly videos of members of the Texan's organization explaining how they use math everyday in their job. The Challenge finished with an essay for students to explain what they learned and thought about the challenge. The two best essays from each class where entered into a drawing for tickets to a Texans Game. **Skyler Smith** from Mrs. Roland's class was one of 10 students from the greater Houston area selected. **Way to go, Skyler!!** As a special prize, Skyler and Mrs. Roland were awarded tickets to a Texan's Home Game. Math truly is everywhere!

Counselors Corner

We can't believe it's already December and the end of the first semester is fast approaching. Small counseling groups are underway, it is fun getting to know the students.

As a way of helping families in need, Tom Cox has joined with the CISD police department to collect toys for Santa's Dreams, all donations stay within CISD. If you are shopping and are able to pick up an extra toy for a child between infant and 14 years old we would greatly appreciate your help. All donations can be dropped off in the red bin at the front office.

Last but not least, our Student Council Community Service committee is working hard on making fleece blankets for those in need. To help make this successful they are in need of donations of 2 yards each of coordinating fleece (there are prepackaged kits available). We wish you all a restful and healthy holiday season.

Lost and Found

Parents,

Please write your child's name in their lunch boxes and jackets. We have so much lost and found. Encourage your child to check the lost in found in the cafeteria or look yourself during a concert. All lost and found not claimed by Winter break will be donated.

Student Council

As the holidays quickly approach, our Student Council is getting busy. The Student Council members have chosen to provide a small goodie bag to our cafeteria/custodial staff and bus drivers. Each committee has been assigned to bring specific items (see below).

In addition, our Community Service committee is working hard on making fleece blankets for those in need. To help make this successful they are in need of donations of 2 yards each of coordinating fleece (there are prepackage kits available).

So we have decided as the **TIMBER TROOP**

Community Service- Hand sanitizer (little ones)

Publicity- Hand Warmers

School store: Hot chocolate,

Recycling- Hot chocolate packets

Timber Troop- chapstick/lip balm

Technology- Car air freshners

The next Student Council meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 19th, 8:00 am in the gym.

PTO News

Hello Parents!

If you haven't done this already, please email your students' room parent with your contact info so that the room parents can contact the class with important information throughout the year.

A Million THANKS to the awesome parents and their amazing students for all of the support with our Winter Silent Auction! We exceeded our goal of \$5,000 thanks to all of you! For those of you who won auction items, your winnings envelopes are available for pick up at the front office. Each item has an envelope ready to be picked up. Thank you again!

Spirit Night: December 11th at Bon Froyo--ALL DAY LONG!

Our new PTO website is currently under construction but in the meantime, you can take a peek at it at: tomcoxpresident.wixsite.com/coxpto

Field Trips

Fifth Graders will be visiting Biz Town this year, the specific dates for students are listed below.

Jan 22– Schrutka, Fenske, Wall, Hammer, Briones, Austin, Dyson, Patterson and McDaniel.

Jan 23—Wofford, A Davis, Goady, Wright, Murray

Jan 24—Henry, Real, Bukowski, Wagner, Tackett, Everill and Gonzalez

Jan 25—Crass, Little, Loring, Brennan, Howard, M Davis, Santos, Landes, Baughman

On Wednesday, January 24th, our 6th grade students will have the opportunity to watch Wonder, a PG-rated movie based on the inspiring story of a young boy that struggles with his physical image. We will be leaving the campus at 8:50 am and return at approximately 12:00 pm for lunch. The cost for the field trip is \$5.00 per student. Permission slips will go home in January, as well as money collected.

January Important Dates

8 Student Holiday

9 Students Return to school

15 Holiday

18 Honor Band Sectionals @ Collins 5pm

19 Honor Orchestra rehearsal @ McCullough 5pm

20 Honor Band/Orchestra rehearsal and concert

22-25 Biz Town 5th grade Field Trip

23 Spirit Night at Sky Zone

24 6th Grade Movie Field Trip

27 Megaband at ORHS