



*Build Learners to be
Productive Citizens*

*Honor, Integrity,
Loyalty
and Leadership*

Principals Corner

Happy November Timberwolves!

I am thankful to be the principal of Tom Cox Intermediate and spend time with our amazing students and staff each day. I love the month of November because there is much to be thankful for, and it is the time to take a break and spend time with family and friends. Not to mention all the food that starts to flow as we go through the holidays.

On November 9, 2018, we will have our Veterans Day Celebration at 2:00 p.m. to honor those who are serving or have served in the Armed Forces. All parents, family members, and guests are welcome to join us for the celebration. We will also have our first Thanksgiving banquet on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 for our students. What a great time of celebration!

My hope for students, parents, and staff is that they take time to enjoy the things they love to do, and just play!

Sincerely,

Deborah Spoon
Principal
Tom Cox Intermediate

Important Dates

November 6 - Picture Retake Day

November 7-5th Grade Math Benchmark

November 9 - Veteran's Day Program, 2pm (see page 6)

November 13 - Thanksgiving Banquet (see page 5)

November 15 - Chamber Orchestra Concert 6pm

November 16—Growth and Development Video (see page 7)

November 19—23 Thanksgiving Holiday Break

November 26-30 Scholastic Book Fair (see page 6)

November 30—Pep Rally

Fifth Grade

Language Arts

In 5th grade reading we are reading the book Refugee by Alan Gratz as part of the Global Read Aloud. Our classes are connecting with students all over the world as we read together. In writing, we are reading and writing poetry. Many of our classes have already created our own class "anthology" of poetry.

Science

In the month of November students will be learning about forces and motion! This is a fun unit where students get to experiment with gravity, friction, magnetism, pushes, and pulls. Towards the end of the month we will wrap up physical science and take our first look at earth science, exploring the sun, moon, and earth!

Math

5th Grade Math will be ALL about fractions in the month of November. This year students will learn to add and subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators. We will also take our first district benchmark to monitor student progress thus far this year.

Social Studies

5th Grade Social Studies classes are almost finished with the unit: Causes of the Revolutionary War or as we call it Road to War. The main focus is once again identifying Cause and Effect. The Veteran's Day posters look incredible, and we are very happy to finally get started placing them in our 5th grade hallway for everyone to see.

Sixth Grade

Language Arts

The students in sixth grade Language Arts are very busy working on researching and reading about teen activists and their causes. Students are learning new research and note taking skills that will serve them well in their student careers. We have also been immersed in being part of the Global Read Aloud program and have been reading and discussing Refugee by Alan Gratz. We look forward to starting our reading and writing units on Poetry in November.

Science

Students are entering the world of motion and energy this month. We will continue to analyze motion graphs and learn how to apply our new speed formula. Once finished we will move onto types of energy and energy transformation. Do you know what type of energy is in a battery?

Social Studies

This month in World Cultures, we will be traveling to the exotic continent of South America!! There we will learn about the incredible Amazon rainforest with the largest river in the world, as well as the exciting culture of Brazil. We will study the ancient Inca civilization and take a Google Expedition Virtual Reality tour of Machu Picchu. After South America, we cross the Atlantic to begin our study of Europe, including Ancient Greece and its contributions to our modern world as we know it! Very exciting times in 6th grade World Cultures!!

Math

6th grade math will be adventuring into our Variables and Expressions Unit. We will be studying topics such as prime factorization, order of operations with integers and equivalent expressions with variables. This unit will have us geared up and prepared for our Equations Unit which is to follow. Happy Holidays!

We are Thankful

We would like to take a moment to share with you some things we are thankful for and how we will spend this Thanksgiving holiday and we hope all of you enjoy your holiday too.

The last 3 years I have used Thanksgiving as a time to get away. My fiance and I have used our time to go to Reno, Lake Tahoe, and Las Vegas. This year we are especially thankful to make our family official and get married in Las Vegas at the Bellagio. We are beyond excited and cannot wait to add this memory to our arsenal! We do like to take break from travel every few years and on our Thanksgiving's spent at home we gather at our parents' houses and visit with friends and family, eat great food, and watch movies! By the end of the weekend we take down our Christmas decorations and let the season begin! We are so very thankful for our time together spent happily with the people we love. Happy Thanksgiving! Ms. Duhon

I am thankful for faith, family, friends and a great place to come to work everyday. Mrs. Libby Smith

I love this time of year because I get to spend time with my family. I am so thankful for my family and my work family. I love hearing about the family traditions of all the students.

One of my favorite things about Thanksgiving is watching Hallmark movies after we have eaten our meal. My husband and I like to eat dessert on the couch and watch several movies before it is time to turn in for the night. I am also lucky enough to get to eat two Thanksgiving dinners and so many yummy desserts! I hope all of you enjoy your Thanksgiving break! Mrs. Dodd

This time of year is my absolute favorite! My family always has a big Thanksgiving day lunch where we go around the table and say all the things we are thankful for as we chow down on turkey, gravy, and all the fixin's. My favorite is the pumpkin pie! We also have a tradition of watching the Cowboys game (fingers crossed they win!) and How the Grinch Stole Christmas. I am thankful for my family and the time we are allowed to spend with each other. I am especially thankful for my wonderful husband, beautiful children, our sweet dog Fluffy, my friends, and my job here at Tom Cox Intermediate! Mrs. Hinton

I love the fall of the year and grateful that Thanksgiving is celebrated this time of the year. I will be spending it with family and friends. We will be up late on Wednesday night cooking and laughing, watching television especially football. I am thankful for what I have. May the Lord watch over all of my friends and family as they travel this holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving to my Cox family. Ms. Taylor

I am thankful for the ability to travel back to my home state to be with my family in Louisiana every Thanksgiving. We love to 'Cajun fry' our turkey and have authentic Cajun side dishes with it. We then go through all the ads like we are all still children and making our Christmas list even though there are no small children as of right now in our family! We then start decorating my Mom's home with all the Christmas decorations. I love how our family is growing larger each year and looking forward to many more!

Mrs. Schwarzer

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday of the year. It is a time when I can sit back and reflect in gratitude for all the wonderful things in my life. My family, friends, colleagues and all my awesome students, both current and past, are in the forefront of my mind.

Thanksgiving Day is a great time to get together with my family in Texas. We enjoy sitting at the table and feasting on a delicious Turkey dinner. I always make my "famous" squash casserole. During the day, we watch football, talk and play games. We always watch the Thanksgiving Day Parade in the morning and I call all my family in New York to wish them well. I hope everyone at Tom Cox Intermediate has a very Happy Thanksgiving!! Mrs. Matte

We are Thankful continued

I enjoy the holidays because I get to spend time with family and friends. I usually spend the first part of the time off cleaning my house and preparing for family visitors. The rest of the time is spent eating and relaxing. The family and I also take a get away trip to the ranch in south Texas for some more eating and relaxing.

I am thankful for all of my supportive colleagues and friends, as well as my kind and motivated students. They have helped make the school year great so far. Have a safe and fun holiday! Mrs. J Howard

For Thanksgiving, we travel to family in Texas. We spend time cooking, relaxing and enjoying each others company. Every year I look forward to this time with my family and friends. On Thanksgiving, I always watch the Macy's day parade. I am excited to have my son Jacob join me this year in watching the parade. I am thankful I get to spend the holidays with my loved ones. Mrs. Schrutka

This year we have Thanksgiving at our house. The best part of the week is that my son will be home from college for the entire week. We will have a big meal on Thanksgiving with grandparents and family and then nap! I will watch a lot of Hallmark movies and decorate my house for Christmas. I am so thankful for my family, friends and a job I enjoy! Mrs. Eaves

I am so thankful for my son, family, friends, and my students. My mom has 4 sisters (my aunts) and we get together with them, their husbands, kids, grand-kids, and any friends that want to come for Thanksgiving! There are 50+ people at Thanksgiving lunch and everyone brings food, lots of food! One of the favorites is hash brown casserole made with cream cheese, it is so rich. After we eat, many of my aunts and the cousins get together and look over all of the Black Friday sales to get ready for a good deal, some others watch football, and many of the grand-kids play football outside when the weather is nice. It is so much fun to be with family and talk about what we are thankful for this year. I love that my family is open to inviting other people who might not have a place for Thanksgiving, so we all feel free to bring friends. After all of the Thanksgiving festivities, my son and I usually go to a new movie that just came to theaters on Thanksgiving day. Ms. Little

I love the holiday season because I have many things to be grateful for like spending time with family, eating, shopping, reading, and watching movies from the Hallmark channel. On Thanksgiving morning, we wake up early and join the many families who participate in "Run thru the Woods" in town. When we return home, we can smell the aroma of turkey as we prepare for our Thanksgiving feast. My favorite dish is stuffing with gravy and cranberry sauce. My favorite dessert is cherry pie, which I make myself. We have seven children and seven grandchildren so we usually have a house full of people, which I love. In the afternoon after everyone leaves I like to relax until around 5:00 when I hit Macy's for some early Christmas shopping. Happy Holidays! Dr. Spoon

Our family Thanksgiving tradition includes having everyone over for dinner and catching up with family that we don't get to see as often. We carry on the traditional recipes that my mom made. My girls love to cook and this is one of our favorite holidays. After dinner we typically play board games and watch movies. I am feel very blessed and thankful for my family, friends and my Tom Cox family. I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving holiday. Mrs. Bodin

Tom Cox Thanksgiving Banquet

Dear Parents,

It is finally here! We are excited for our first formal Tom Cox Thanksgiving Banquet on Tuesday, November 13, 2018! Our fifth graders will be served at 11:00 am and sixth graders at 12:15 pm. Staff and students will enjoy the banquet together and have the opportunity to use the social skills they have learned from our "Power of Politeness" classes.

Our PTO is graciously supporting the banquet by transforming our cafeteria into a beautiful room with round tables set with linens and centerpieces. The student's will be served a feast from our school cafeteria, it will consist of; a salad, turkey breast, mashed potatoes with gravy, cornbread dressing, green beans, rolls, fruit, and a cookie for dessert. We will also have milk and water for each of them.

We are asking parents to place \$2.85 in their child's lunch account by Monday, November 12, 2018 to cover the cost of food. If you have any concerns regarding the food menu, their account or allergies your child may have, please contact me at 281-465-3200 so we can make arrangements for their lunch.

Please encourage your child to dress for the occasion, as many of them did for picture day. Our young men may wear a pair of pants, a tie, and even a jacket. This is not mandatory; a pair of jeans and a nice shirt would also do the job. The young ladies might want to wear a dress or a pair of pants with a nice top.

During the banquet, students will enjoy music and a guest speaker, Mr. Jeremy Desel. We look forward to Mr. Desel sharing his experience with students how positive first impressions, consideration for others and building relationships has contributed to his success.

Due to limited seating, our lunch times will be closed to guests. We are in need of volunteers to help serve lunch to the students. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Lindsay Adamson, PTO Program Coordinator at 281-465-3200 or tomcox-programs@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support! Be sure to watch our Facebook and Twitter pages, as we will post many pictures of the event.

Thank you,
Deborah Spoon
Principal



Library News

In November, we will have our annual BoGo (Buy One, Get One free), Scholastic sale. If you would like to find some great deals while shopping, we will be here for you. In addition to our regular school day hours, on Tuesday we will stay open until 7PM. The schedule for this BoGo is as follows:

Dates: November 26 – 30, 2018

Times: **M:** 9-3:40, **T:** 8-7PM (extended hours) **W:** 8-3:40, **Th:** 12:15-3:40, **F:** 8-8:40 & 10-3:40

Location: Tom Cox Library

This last month we have had some wonderful people volunteer in our library. If you were one of the sweet people who shared some of your time with us, thank you. If you are interested in joining our library volunteer team, we would love to meet you. See the volunteer link on the school website if you are not registered. If you are you can access our schedule here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c48afac2da5f49-tomcox1> If you would like to volunteer to help with our BoGo fair, please sign up here: <https://volunteer.scholastic.com/#/signup/F8wT8J8Nd>.

This month, we will reorganize the library to begin setting up a "Maker Space" area. This will be a space where students will be able to come in before school and "make" or tinker at various stations, while sparking some new creativity.

To help to grow our start up options, we would love to collect some gently used Legos and puzzles for our first stations. If you have any of these items you would like to clear from your home, we would love to put them to good use.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our library. Happy Reading.

Veterans Day Program

Please join us on November 9, 2018 at 2:00 for our Veterans Day Program. This is a special day at Tom Cox Intermediate as we spend time honoring the men and women who have served and are currently serving in the Armed Forces.

Thank you,
Deborah Spoon



*For the Freedoms
that we all enjoy...
Our Thanks go to the
young men and women
serving in all
branches of the military.*

We Salute You!

**Tom Cox Intermediate
Veterans Day Celebration
November 9, 2018
2:00 p.m.**

Counselor Corner

Congratulations to all the students who were voted "Leader of the Pack" by their classmates. We really appreciate all they do to make our school a better place.

Our Student Council has their first major project this month, our annual Food Drive. We are asking students to bring in items October 31st-November 9th. Students were given a letter about this drive this week. We appreciate your support. Have a lovely Thanksgiving

Food Drive Information

Dates: Wednesday, October 31st-Friday, November 9th

Here are some suggestions:

Canned meats (spam, tuna, Vienna sausages etc.), Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Macaroni and Cheese, Dinner Helpers (Hamburger Helper etc.), Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Soups and Stews, Canned Pasta, Granola Bars, Peanut Butter, Individual packets of Cheese and Crackers, Fruit Snacks, Breakfast foods (cereal, pancake mix, syrup etc.)

Notes from the Nurse

Growth & Development Video Presentation 5th & 6th Grade
Friday, November 16th During PE Classes

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) requires schools to provide instruction on human growth and development in the 5th and 6th grades. CISD utilizes the P&G School Programs "Always Changing" video series to provide age appropriate information regarding the changes occurring in the growth and development of this age group. **This instruction is conducted separately for boys and girls.** Always Changing-Boys will be shown to boys and Always Changing-Girls will be shown to girls.

You can preview the video(s) from the link provided below.

If you do not wish to have your child attend the video presentation you must submit a request in writing to the teacher or school nurse prior to the scheduled presentation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school nurse.

Link: <http://www.pgschoolprograms.com/parents>

What is a TAE, and how can I send one?

A TAE is a Teacher Achieving Excellence. As a parent you have the opportunity to give a thank you to a teacher through Parent Access. The teachers' principal and vice principal will also see the appreciation you are giving.

To create a TAE you must be logged into Parent Access. On the menu at the top, click Teachers/Staff Excellence. Choose the teachers name from the drop down menu, then click Create TAE. From there you will just check some boxes and type in your comments. When you are finished be sure to click the button at the bottom "Create Teachers Achieving Excellence for" whatever teacher you have chosen.

Picture Retakes

Picture retakes will be on November 6 for students that were absent on picture day or for those students that did not care for their original picture. If you are having your picture redone, please bring in the original picture package.

Parent Teacher Organization

Calendar of events for November:

11/7: Spirit Day: Crust Pizza ALL DAY LONG

11/9: Box Tops Due

11/13: Power of Politeness Thanksgiving Luncheon: 5th: 11am, 6th: 12:15pm

11/20: Spirit Event: Bon Froyo ALL DAY LONG

11/26-11/30: Holiday Shop Preview Week

Yearbooks are still on sale for \$30! Get yours today! Price increases January 1st. 1/8 page dedications/ads in the yearbook are also on sale for \$15 each.

We are looking for pictures for the yearbook as well! If you have pictures from any school events, please share them with us! See the next page on how to share those!

Gifted and Talented Nominations

We are now taking nominations for Gifted and Talented. For more information please contact Mrs. Dodd by phone or email for more information. ddodd@conroeisd.net. Nomination forms can be found on the CISD website at <http://www.conroeisd.net/departments/ci/gifted-talented/>

send us your best **SNAPSHOTS** for the **YEARBOOK**

Yearbook photographers can't be everywhere, so if you've got great photos of school events, or you and your friends just having fun, please share them with us.

The more photos you share, the better our yearbook will be for everyone! It's easy, submit your photos today!

The last day to submit photos is _____.



TO UPLOAD PHOTOS FROM YOUR MOBILE DEVICES:

- Search for Balfour Image Share in your app marketplace
- Download the app
- Enter our project number **925318** No password needed.

(OPTION: point your web browser to images.balfour.com to upload photos from your computer)

* The yearbook staff will review all photos & determine final yearbook content. We cannot guarantee that all submissions can be used in the book.

Image Reminders:

- Images should be in .JPEG & .PNG format, RGB
- Maximum file size is 20MB per image

balfour.

WELCOME TO THE TIMBERWOLF CLINIC!

My name is Margaret Saxe, RN and this is my 11th year at Tom Cox.
I am looking forward to sharing the school year with you and your child!
Here are a few tips to help make this year a healthy one!

- Please keep your **contact information** current, so you can be easily reached if your child needs you during the school day. To make changes, please contact the registrar.
- Make sure your child knows at least one parent/guardian phone number.
- **Please send in a copy of any immunizations that your child received over the summer or receives during the school year so the school records can be kept up to date.**
- Consider placing a complete change of clothing in your child's back pack.
- Please contact the clinic as soon as possible to discuss **ongoing health concerns** that may require attention at school. The direct number to the clinic is 281-465-3211; the nurse's email is: msaxe@conroeisd.net.

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL:

Per CISD policy: A student with the following symptoms **will be** sent home from school:

- temperature of 100 degrees or more (37.7 Celsius)
- vomiting or diarrhea
- suspected contagious condition/illness
- too ill to function in the classroom
- severe stomachache, headache, or earache

PLEASE NOTE: A student should not be sent to school if fever-reducing medication is required to get the temperature below 100 degrees. To help keep our Cox family healthy, **students should be fever free/vomiting free for 24 hours** before returning to school following an illness.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL:

- All Medications (over the counter or prescription) to be administered at school:
 - must be **delivered to the clinic by the parent and signed in with the nurse.**
 - must be in the original container and labeled for **age-appropriate** use.
 - Medication bottles be **unopened** & should contain **no more than 30 tablets or 150ml.**
- All medications, **including cough drops**, must be kept in the clinic during the school day.
- **Students may not transport medications to and from school.**
- All Prescription medications must include the pharmacy prescription label. **This includes inhalers.** (Sample medications must be accompanied by a note from the physician with dosing instructions.)

FOOD AT SCHOOL:

- If your child has a **health-related dietary restriction/need including all food allergies**, please **contact the clinic @ 281-465-3211**
- We recommend that foods/snacks eaten in the classroom contain no peanuts/nuts of any kind.
- Lunch is eaten in the cafeteria; your child **MAY** bring peanut/nut containing foods for lunch.

Dismissal Procedures

Dear Parents and Students,

In order to provide a safe environment, prevent injury, and show courtesy to each other we appreciate your cooperation in the following arrival/dismissal procedures.

Morning Arrival

Parents are to drop students off in the front of the school. Students are allowed into the building at 8:00 and will sit in the cafeteria until released at 8:40 to class.

There is no supervision for students who arrive earlier than 8:00. If a student is dropped off before 8:00 they must remain seated under the covered area in the front of the building. If a student becomes disruptive while they are waiting for the building to open the parent will be contacted to discuss the concern.

If the parent chooses to wait in the car in the morning with their child, they will need to park in the front parking lot and not in the "car rider" lane. It is important to keep the flow of traffic running smoothly.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Dismissal

All walkers, biker, car riders and day care riders will be released at 4:00, and will be scanned on their way out of the school. Walkers and bikers need to leave the campus as soon as possible.

Car riders and day care riders are to quickly find a seat and remain seated until their car comes through the line to pick them up.

Car riders:

1. Remain seated until their car comes through the line to pick them up.
2. Face forward looking for their car, their name may not always be called.
3. Cell phones are to be kept in their backpack until they are in their cars. If a student needs to contact a parent they may use the phones in the front office.
4. Snacks are no to be eaten because it brings in the ants and bugs.

Walkers:

All students who are walking home need to remain on the sidewalks at all time and cross the street at the crosswalk. Parents please speak to your walker about remaining on the sidewalk until they reach their destination. Please do not cross any area that is not a designated crosswalk.

Parents of car riders:

1. Parents need to drive through the car rider line and pick up their student who is sitting and waiting for them. Please form two lines as you **come around the corner and then they will merge into one**. The two left lanes as you leave are exit only.
2. Please pull as far forward as possible in order to help us speed up the process. **Students will not be allowed to be picked up at the curb of the street or cross the street to a waiting car.**
3. If parents are picking up a child at York and Cox, they may designate their child to go to either school so both can be picked up at one school. Students from York will be allowed to wait at Cox with their sibling as long as they follow the car-rider policies of the school.
4. If a child is picked up prior to 3:30, the parent will need to park in the **front parking lot**, and come inside to check the student out of school. **The back parking lot by York is for staff only.**
5. If you are coming into the front office for any reason, please cross at the crosswalk and not cut through traffic.

Reminders!

Students are released at 4:00 and are expected to be picked up shortly after school. If there is an emergency please call the front office so we know when to expect you. If a student is frequently picked up after 4:15 we may ask the parent to consider another form of transportation.

Rainy/Cold Day Dismissal

If your student is a walker/biker they will be expected to walk or ride their bike on rainy days, unless you and your child have an alternate plan in place. If you choose for your child to be a car-rider on rainy days it is not necessary to complete a transportation change form.

In the case of severe weather (thunderstorms, lightening, blizzard) we may hold walkers/bikers until we feel it is safe for them to walk or ride home. If that does occur we will contact the parent to inform them of the delay. Bus transportation will run as scheduled.