



# Kaufman Paw Print

Volume 12, Issue 5

January 2018



## Upcoming Events

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Box Top Collections                      | 1/10    |
| PTO Meeting @ 1:30                       | 1/11    |
| SK8 Town Spirit Night<br>6:30-8:00 PM    | 1/11    |
| School Holiday<br>Martin Luther King Day | 1/15    |
| Grade Level Awards                       | 1/19    |
| 3rd Gr. Float Parade                     | 1/19    |
| Great Kindness<br>Challenge              | 1/22-26 |
| Magazine Sales Begin                     | 1/22    |
| 2nd Grade Field Trip                     | 1/23    |
| Cool Cougar                              | 1/26    |
| 4th Writing Benchmark                    | 1/30    |
| 3rd Reading Benchmark                    | 1/31    |

## A Note From Mrs. Oliver

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you had a fantastic break! We had a great first day back as we begin the second semester of the 2017-2018 school year. As always, it is amazing to see our students engaged and excited about their learning each and every day here at Kaufman Elementary. I am very proud of our students and staff and all they accomplished the first half of the school year, and I look forward to many great things in 2018.

Thank you for all of your help and support with our activities during the busy month of December. Our staff members and families definitely went above and beyond to create wonderful memories for our students.

Thank you for your continued support, and I hope 2018 is a wonderful year for everyone!

Sincerely,  
Tina Oliver

### Attendance Counts

Congratulations to the following classes for having the best overall attendance in each grade level for the second grading period:

Kindergarten: Mrs. Bradford-96.9%

First Grade: 3-Way Tie- Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Brunson, and Mrs. Scogin-97%

Second Grade: 2-Way Tie- Ms. Sudduth and Mrs. Adams- 98%

Third Grade: Ms. Charvet- 98.6%- Top Attendance in School!

Fourth Grade: Mrs. Kelly Moore-98.1%

We would like to encourage all of our students to have good attendance and to be present each and every day. Remember, "Attendance Counts" at Kaufman!

### GT Nominations

GT nominations are now closed. For nominated students, paperwork will be coming home for parents to fill out the week of January 8. Please return this paperwork by January 12. All testing information will be included in the paperwork. Any questions can be directed to Tonya Twilla.



## **Kindergarten**

Welcome Back and Happy New Year. We hope you had a restful break and that your children are ready to come back more excited to learn. Report cards will go home on the 16th. We hope you continue to encourage your child to read and use the strategies we gave you to help your child with their reading journey. For the month of January, we will be learning about the Winter Season, Martin Luther King. Jr., penguins, word families, addition and subtraction, money, rules, and things in the sky. Keep practicing counting to 100 with your child so they can join the 100th club. (100th day of school is January 31st). Continue reviewing all the letters, sounds, graphing, sight words and numbers from -20. We are going to have a "COOL" time!

## **First Grade**

Happy New year from first grade! We hope that you had wonderful Winter Break. We had a "jingle jangle" good time at our holiday parties! Thank you to everyone who helped with the food, set up and clean up. Now, we are ready to rock and roll into 2018 with lots of learning fun! Hot Topics for January:

\*Language Arts: Procedural/Informational Text, long vowel sounds

\*Math: Measurement: Time (hour/half hour) and length

\*Social Studies: New Year's customs and concepts of time (long ago/present)

\*Science: Seasons, Rocks/Soil and Water

Please continue to read with your child every night and check backpacks for important information. We appreciate your support! First Grade Rocks!!!

## **Second Grade**

We wish to extend our sincere THANKS to the many, many parents who helped make our December celebrations such a success. We had so much fun decorating and displaying our beautiful gingerbread houses. Hopefully, we created a memory that your second graders will never forget. Our holiday party was also a very special time. We couldn't do these fun holiday activities without the support from our wonderful volunteers!

We are gearing up for the second half of second grade and will start the year off by learning about New Year's customs from around the world. In reading, we will be working on our strategic reading skills to improve reading comprehension. We will be focusing on specific skills the students will need to become effective readers of higher level reading passages, such as those they will encounter in third grade.

In math this month, you will find us learning about measurement, including linear measurement, area and time. We will also spiral back to one of our previously taught topics, number patterns, but this grading period we will be learning about number patterns up to 1,200.

In science, we're going to be exploring the earth's resources, beginning with rocks and minerals. Our focus in Social Studies will be on communities and how they change over time.

As always, we thank our parents for their support in helping their children complete and turn in their homework, and by reading at home regularly. Your involvement in your child's learning makes the difference. Resolve to make 2018 the best year ever!

### **Third Grade**

Happy New Year and what a fast first semester! How time flies...

We would like to send out a BIG thank you to our parents who volunteered, sent items, and helped out with our classroom parties. We enjoyed every minute of it!

Coming up in social studies, we will culminate our unit on Cultures and Celebrations with a holiday float project! Be looking in your child's Tuesday folder for information. The parade will take place on January 19th immediately following the morning announcements. In math, we will continue multiplication and begin division. It is very important that your child studies and memorizes their facts. You can find flashcards at many local stores such as Lakeshore or Teacher Heaven. In science, we will continue to explore Earth's natural resources, soil formation, and landforms. In reading, we will continue to work on critical thinking and inferencing through fiction stories. Students will sequence and summarize the plot and observe character relationships, including changes the characters undergo. Please continue to read with your child for at least 20 minutes a night! Continue asking them comprehension questions over what they have read.

Thank you for supporting us in so many ways. We appreciate all that you do!

### **Fourth Grade**

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that 2018 has arrived. We are at the half-way point in the school year, and the Spring semester is always a busy one.

We would first like to thank all of the parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles who helped make our holiday parties so much fun. Each class had wonderful snacks and treats, and all students seemed to enjoy themselves greatly.

On Tuesday, January 30th, all fourth graders will be taking a Writing Benchmark. This test will be very similar to the STAAR Writing (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness) that will be taken at the end of March and it will be important for your child to be at school on time and well-rested. The STAAR is very different than the state assessments given in the past. Students now provide one writing sample and will complete one multiple choice portion. We work extremely hard on developing good writers every day, and this benchmark will give teachers a good indication of the progress students are making.

In math classes, students are continuing to work on multiplication and long division. It is always important to link what we learn in math to real-world situations. Look for ways you can show your student how multiplication and division are used at home and as you go about your daily routines.

As we begin 2018, we think of celebrating new and fresh beginnings. Please help us at home by continuing to emphasize the importance of students completing schoolwork and giving their very best effort in all they do. Thank you for all that you do!

# ART

Hello to all our Creative Cats!

Can you believe our school year is half over? It has surely flown by as we have been working very hard in the art rooms to create good-quality projects to wow you! We hope you've joined us on Artsonia to see all the progress your child has made. There's more to come very soon! In all grades we have, we are wrapping up the last few Western Art projects. The Western Artshow is the weekend we come back in January, so we've been busy putting finishing touches to make them spectacular! The announcement of those who are participants is coming very soon! In the new year, 4th and 3rd Grade grade will be moving into our Foil Art Texture projects. The students always love the foil projects, so we know they are very excited to get started. Our 2nd grade artists have created Textured Pinch Pots that they will be glazing after our break. They will then begin a project studying warm and cool colors. In 1st grade, we're prepping and working on their Clay Birds or Clay Hand Bowls. Glazing and painting of those will also happen when we return, then we will turn to weaving or Abstract paintings as we study the artwork of Kandinsky. Finally, in Kindergarten, we're working on shapes as we move into a project on the artist Mondrian, using winter snowman as our muse. Some of our kindergartners are working on lines and making Truffela Tree Sculptures. Whichever project they are working on, we promise, they are very busy learning about fine art.

Congratulations to Eva Sargent, James Skaer, and Alabama Lackey, who were recently selected to represent Kaufman at the Youth Art Month Capitol Art Show. They were all very worthy recipients of this high honor, but we are sending out special kudos to Eva Sargent for being selected at the district level to move on to the next level in Austin. We are wishing her all the luck in the world for a favorable outcome there!

Finally, no month is complete without the announcement of our Artist's of the Month. Congratulations to Hannah Rizvan and Charlie Ragain from Mrs. Gregory's class and Colin Hartner and Eleanor Dillard from Mrs. Rowley's class on being named our special Artists of the Month for December! They are truly amazing students who give it their all with great enthusiasm! They are always helpful to others and to their teachers. We cannot say enough good things about them and they absolutely deserve this high honor! Congrats to you all!!

We are wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a much needed restful break! We'll see you all back in January... ready to continue on our art-making journey! Until then... happy creating!!

Mrs. Gregory and Mrs. Rowley



# MUSIC

It's hard to believe that it we are already half-way through the school year! We have a busy second semester ahead of us. Here are some things we are doing in January.

- 4th graders will be learning more about the treble staff and standard notation as they prepare for their recorder unit. Students will be able to purchase a recorder and book combo for about \$8; recorder only for about \$5; book only for about \$6. Exact prices and order form will go home on January 10th. The last day to turn in orders is Friday, January 19th, and items should arrive by the beginning of February.
- 3rd will be reviewing rhythmic and melodic concepts learned this year and creating short compositions for the xylophones and boomwackers.
- 2nd graders will start working on their music program "Lemonade" which they will perform on February 22nd at 6:30pm for family and community members, and again on February 23rd at 9:30am for the school.
- 1st graders are reviewing basic rhythm patterns with quarter/eighth notes and rest. We will begin playing short melody and rhythm patterns on xylophones and boomwackers.
- Kindergarten students are continuing to work with the long/short, high/low, fast/slow and loud/soft concepts. We will be adding instruments and creating simple accompaniments to songs we have learned this year.

Cougar Choir News: I am so proud of all of our 3rd and 4th grade Cougar Choir members! They sang so well at our concerts in November and December! Their events have ended for the school year.

Festival Choir News - Congratulations to the 16 fourth graders selected to participate in the Oak Ridge Feeder Zone Festival Choir! They will begin practicing their music on January 16th from 3:15-4:15pm. They will perform with students from all eight elementary schools in the Oak Ridge feeder zone and members of the ORHS Choir later this spring.

## PE

We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Our 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders are beginning the month with a basketball unit which includes dribbling, passing and shooting. Our 1st and kindergarten classes are going to have great fun with rhythmic activities and parachute fun. Parachute is an all-time favorite among our Kaufman Cougars!

Please remember to wear safe closed toe shoes on PE days. Also, sick notes are required if your child needs to sit out for any reason.

Fitness Fact: Physical activity helps kids to be fit and healthy in all sorts of ways, such as:

- having strong bones and muscles
- improving balance and flexibility
- improving posture
- having a healthy heart and blood vessels
- preventing disease later in life
- helping you relax
- improving self-esteem
- developing social skills and making friends.

Thank you,  
Physical Education



## COMPUTERS

Happy January! We are already midpoint way through the school year and are so busy learning such wonderful things in computers!

Kindergarten through first grade are learning word processing skills by typing their name in Word along with continuing their typing skills as well.

Second through fourth grades are constructing bubble maps by using their Google Docs.

All grades levels are learning basic computer coding. This lesson promotes a fun way for students using problem solving skills and challenges them to work on different levels of coding.

Sincerely,

Ms. Alonso :)



## CLINIC

A reminder as the weather becomes colder, have your child start dressing in layers. Students then have the option of taking off a layer of clothing or adding that sweatshirt or jacket when playing outdoors. Don't forget to restock that extra clothing supply in their backpack with weather appropriate clothing. We will continue to have outdoor recess as the temperature allows.

Flu season is among us! Remind your child about the importance of handwashing before eating, after using the restroom, and anytime in between. Handwashing really is the best way to prevent the spread of the flu. If your child is sick, make sure that they are fever free for 24 hours before coming back to school. This will give their little bodies time to start recovering from illness and help prevent spreading the illness to their friends at school.

# Library

Welcome back to the Kaufman Library in 2018!

As we enter 2018, I would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who donated a book to the KAUFMAN GIVING TREE. It was truly a beautiful sight, watching the students bring in their donated books in hopes of making someone else's Christmas a little brighter! We hope you and your students enjoyed hanging the "Kaufman Cougars Give" ornament on your tree and will be able to treasure it for many years to come. We collected a total of 300 books which were donated to The Montgomery County Women and Children's shelter.

I would also like to express a special "THANK YOU" to all our library volunteers: Rebecca Watt, Sarah Allman, Angela Glennie, Paul Thayer, Chris Appleton, Helda Martins, Shannon Bennett, Miriam Amend, Pam Brightman, Rachel Barfield, Tiffany Russell, Kim Lower, Sophia Meza, Teresa Williams, Angela Cone, Corina McDonough, Kelley Taylor, Juliet Modesitt, Lauren White, Becky Goring, Jennifer Macklin, Sima Eggett, Jessica House, Brittany Deboer, Jennifer Wiggins, Heather Varela, Anna Shepherd, Katie Lawhon, Tara Edwards, Heather Calhoun and Library Volunteer Liaison, Jennifer Pargmann for helping to make the first half of the school year a success! I could not have done it without their help.

Please mark January 22nd on your calendar as the Kick Off for the Great American Opportunities Magazine Subscription Sale. Students are encouraged to buy new subscriptions or renew present subscriptions for magazines. WE DO NOT WANT STUDENTS TO GO DOOR-TO-DOOR FOR SALES!!! Each student will have a postcard pack to fill out names of family and friends who might be interested. The company then mails these out for us. Students will receive a prize for each subscription ordered or renewed and each completed postcard packet. The profit goes directly to the library for new library books, guest authors/illustrators, and Reading Bingo prizes.

Kaufman Elementary School will recognize the CONROE ISD SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS in January by donating a new book to our library in tribute to each member. To each board member we will send a picture of the book we select, a copy of the book plate, and a photo of a fourth grader holding the book. This is a great way to honor the School Board Members.

Third and Fourth Graders will vote for their favorite Texas Bluebonnet book January 29th – 31st. Please note that students must read 5 of the 20 books on the TEXAS BLUEBONNET MASTER READING LIST to be eligible to vote. Our final tallies will be submitted on January 31, 2017. We will announce the Kaufman winner in the next newsletter...and the winner for the state of Texas too!

Please remember that parents are ALWAYS welcome in our library. YOU may check out books too! We support Dr. Stockton's READ FOR A BETTER LIFE initiative: students are encouraged to read 20-30 minutes each evening to encourage life-long learning!

Keep 'em Reading!

Mrs. Wright

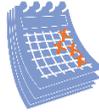


# PTO NEWS

**Thank you to all the Peppermint Village volunteers!**



Our Pizza Kit fundraiser will kick-off soon; more information about it will come out soon!



Upcoming Dates:

**January 11<sup>th</sup> – PTO Meeting, 1:30 PM**

**January 11<sup>th</sup> – Skate Night at Sk8town, 6-8:30 PM**



**Yearbooks** are on sale at [Balfour.com](http://Balfour.com). Yearbook dedications/ads can also be designed at the Balfour website. The yearbook will include QR codes to link to videos of the grade level programs. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, the price is \$35.

Submit photos to the yearbook! Visit [images.balfour.com](http://images.balfour.com) to upload from your computer. Use project number 818770 and password Kaufman. You can also search for the “Balfour Image Share” app in your app marketplace to share pictures from your phone.

Thanks to all who submitted Box Tops. We are having a great submission rate for Box Tops this year. Several classes are fairly close to reaching the 50% level – remember all classes can win by reaching 50%. Check out the Box Tops poster board in the cafeteria to see how your class is doing.

Next submission dates:

**Wednesday, January 10, 2018**

**Monday, February 12, 2018**

**Thursday, March 8, 2018**

**A huge thank you to UPS Store Rayford/45 who mailed our Box Tops for free.** If you are able, please support **all** of our Kaufman sponsors and/or thank them if you frequent the business.

Thanks to Michele Blair, Jennifer Wiggins, Bianca Campos, Sarah Mabile and Kaitlin VanVeen for helping clip, sort and count in October. If anyone else is interested in helping with the Box Tops Clip and Count Club, please contact Kimberly Holmes, Kaufman Box Tops Coordinator at [kimberlyholmes@hotmail.com](mailto:kimberlyholmes@hotmail.com)

## Conroe ISD Health Services

### Head Lice Fact Sheet

#### What are head lice?

Head lice are parasitic insects that can be found on the head of people. Head lice feed on human blood several times a day, and live near the scalp. Head lice lay eggs, called nits, on the hair shaft, very close to the scalp. Nits further than ¼ inch from the scalp are likely dead/hatched. Lice do not spread disease.

#### What are the symptoms of head lice?

- Tickling, feeling something moving in your hair
- Itching, caused by an allergic reaction to the louse bite
- Irritability and difficulty sleeping; lice are most active in the dark
- Sores on the head caused by scratching (which can lead to secondary bacterial infection)

#### How do you get rid of head lice?

- Examine everyone in the home for lice and nits. Look carefully through the hair and at the scalp, behind the ears, and the back of the neck. Nits are easier to see than live lice.
- Treat only the household members who have lice. Use products available over-the-counter (according to package directions) or by prescription (according to physician directions).
- Comb the hair after treatment, using a special lice/nit comb. Separate the hair into sections and try to comb out every nit and louse you can. Live nits that are not combed out will hatch within 7-10 days. **Combing is the most time-consuming step, but also the most important.**
- Clean the house. Lice do not live long without a host on which to feed. However, to pick up any stray hairs that may have a live nit attached, wash and dry clothes, sheets, pillow cases, and towels using hot water and high heat. Vacuum the floor and furniture to pick up loose hairs. Combs and brushes should be soaked in hot water for 5-10 minutes.
- Follow the lice treatment product directions for when to retreat. It is usually recommended to retreat 7-10 days after the initial treatment. Continue to check heads daily until 1 week after second treatment or 1 week after last louse or nit is removed.

#### How are head lice spread?

- Head lice are spread by direct contact with the hair of an infested person. The highest risk involves head-to-head contact. Lice crawl - they do not jump, and they do not have wings. It is fairly uncommon for lice to be spread by contact with clothing or other personal items. Personal hygiene and cleanliness have nothing to do with getting head lice.

#### How are head lice prevented?

- Teach children to avoid head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact during play at home, school, and elsewhere (sports activities, playground, sleepovers, camp).
- Avoid sharing clothing (hats, scarves, coats).
- Avoid sharing brushes, combs, and hair accessories.

#### Is there a season for head lice?

September is National Head Lice Awareness Month. Head lice incidences peak shortly after school starts particularly among young children. This is most likely due in part to younger children playing closely together and having head-to-head contact. During the winter season, the sharing of coats and hats may contribute to head lice occurrences. As spring comes, outdoor playing and sports activities bring children close together.

Summertime often means summer camps and sleepovers which can lead to the spreading of head lice. So it seems as if there is no "one" season for head lice. Year round awareness and routine family inspection will help prevent head lice occurrences.

#### Resources:

Center for Disease Control & Prevention-<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/index.html>  
Texas Department of State Health Services-<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/lice.shtm#2>  
CISD Health Services 8/2017