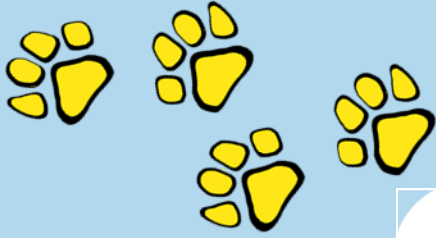


Wild About Learning



LMES

Volume 7, Issue 2

PTA

October 2014

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Upcoming events

- Oct. 1 - Walk to School
- Oct. 2 - Carpenter Coffee & Chat - Kindergarten
- Oct. 7 - Watch D.O.G.S. Pizza Night
- Oct. 9 - Early Release
- Oct. 13 - No School
- Oct. 17 - Picture Day
- Oct. 23 - Family Fitness Night
- Oct. 28 - Chick-fil-A Spirit Night
- Oct. 31 - Early Release



Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

I can't believe the first month has gone by so quickly! It was a pleasure to see so many new faces at Back to School Night! Also, our Granola for Grandparents event is always such a hit for the PTA and school. I know the students sure enjoy having their grandparents here! Please consider volunteering for some of our great events this year. Remember to fill out your PTA volunteer form and send it in to your child's teacher if you have not already done so.

If you have not already joined the **PTA**, we want to encourage you to help support your child and the school. We only have 54% membership, and we would love to hit at least 75% this year! Memberships are \$6 per person, per year. Your money is not just going to help fund our monthly events. Any money that is raised thru the PTA helps support school and teachers' needs.



For example, the PTA has helped fund the LMES Marquee out on Lee Davis Road, Smart Boards, I-Station, Document Cameras and a Clay Slab roller. It is your support thru memberships, Spirit Wear, Discount Cards and donations that help the PTA support LMES. We truly appreciate your support!

If you have missed getting Spirit Wear or a Discount card, no worries, as we will have these items all year! We have Carolina Blue shirts for \$10.00, Tie-Dye shirts for \$12.00, and Discount Cards for \$10.00 which are good for 12 months. You can find order forms in the office. We are also going to start pre-selling long-sleeve shirts and sweatshirts toward the middle of October so the students can enjoy these items all winter. Look for the Winter Spirit Wear order forms in the middle of October.




October is filled with lots of activities! We will kick off October with our first Walk to School Wednesday, followed by our Watch D.O.G.S. pizza night, Family Fitness Night and Chick-fil-A Spirit Night. More information will be coming home about each of these events in your student's Tuesday folders. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Dana Hughes
PTA President



Our first month of school at Laurel Meadow has been exciting. It has been a month of setting expectations, developing routines, making new friends and refocusing on learning. Kindergarten students have quickly settled into the school routine. They were introduced to the school motto and Ryan the Lion, our school mascot, during an assembly performed by our Kindergarten Student Ambassadors. Students in grades 1-5 were introduced to the concept of Character Education during an assembly. This program featured staff members introducing our new school initiative focused on developing key character traits during the 2014-15 school year. This month, we will focus on understanding the meaning of respect and demonstrate being respectful at school and home.

As a school community, we know that parents and staff must work as a team to ensure student success. Being an active participant in your child's school life will let them know that you value education. There are many ways to become involved and help your child and other children in our local community.

One way to become active is by becoming a member of the Parent  Teacher Association. This organization works as a cohesive team to support the school in its endeavors to deliver a world class education to students at L.M.E.S.

In addition, the School Improvement Committee helps to shape the culture of our school by assisting in articulation of the mission and vision statement of the Laurel Meadow Lions. This committee meets on a monthly basis to enhance the overall school environment and develop strategies to improve student achievement. If you are interested in being an active participant on this committee, then contact Ms. Carpenter at kcarpenter@hcps.us.

Overall, becoming involved in your child's education is a great way to build an ongoing, positive partnership with the school faculty and

staff. We look forward to cultivating these relationships with each of you.

In addition to providing a world class education, we have the responsibility of maintaining a safe school environment. During the school year, we practice various types of safety drills to ensure that students and staff are aware of procedures during an unexpected emergency such as a fire, severe weather, a school intruder, or an earthquake. Practicing for unexpected events helps to maintain the safety of our students should our community experience any type of unusual activity. Please be assured that we partner with the Hanover Sherriff's Office in an ongoing effort to continuously assess our procedures.



Also please note the following information that all Hanover County Schools are required to share with parents.

The Hanover County School Board recognizes the danger sex offenders pose to student safety. Therefore, to protect students while they travel to and from school, and attend school or school related activities, each school in Hanover County school division shall request automatic electronic notification of the registration or registration of any sex offenders in the same or contiguous zip codes as any school within the school division. This information is obtained according to the procedure established by the Virginia Department of State Police. Information on sex offenders and the "Crimes Against Minors Registry" can be located at <http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov>.

Please know that your child's safety and educational progress are our first priorities and that we fully expect to have another wonderful school year due to our outstanding staff, wonderful community support and fantastic students.



CHARACTER CORNER

You may have noticed that this year at Laurel Meadow, we are focusing on the 6 pillars of Character Education! Each month, we will be diving deeper into what it means to be a person of good character through activities, plays, and modeling.

During the month of October, we will focus on **RESPECT!** Encourage respect at home by asking your student to take care of their belongings, practicing manners at the dinner table and using teachable moments to model respectful behavior.



Laurel Meadow Elementary School Mission Statement:

Laurel Meadow is a diverse community dedicated to providing a safe learning environment in which all students are inspired to achieve to their fullest potential.

Fall Gifted Referrals

October 15th is the deadline for fall gifted referrals. Teachers and parents may refer a child for screening. Teacher referrals most often occur during the spring testing window which closes January 30th to allow additional time to get to know children and to collect work samples. We encourage parents to discuss their child's performance with their teacher as they will have insight into gifted characteristics and above level benchmarks.

If you are interested in having your child evaluated for this program, which is designed to meet the academic needs of students demonstrating superior ability in learning, creativity, and task commitment, send an email to Alicia Broughton, Gifted Resource Teacher, at abroughton@hcp.us or visit the LMES website and click on GT under special services.



Alicia Broughton, GT Resource Teacher

Calling all Dads of Great Students . . . Calling all Grandfathers, Uncles, and Male Role-Models . . .

Join us at our annual Watch D.O.G.S. Pizza Night on October 7th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. to learn more about the program. Look for more information in your Tuesday folders.



Don't forget to get your **LMES Discount Card for only \$10!**



Good through Sept. 2015 at the retailers listed below

LITTLE CAESAR'S	FREE crazy bread with any pizza pur. @ reg. price (all Rich locs)
STARBUCK'S	Get 1 FREE syrup with pur. of any drink (Mechanicsville loc only)
RIVERBOUND	10% OFF pur. excl. alcohol & breakfast
ROMA'S	\$3 OFF lg. cheese pizza (7240 Bell Creek Rd., 559-9200)
PATRON	10% OFF excl. alcohol (7610 Left Plank Rd., 559-6745)
TEXAS ROADHOUSE	10% OFF food purchase excl. alcohol for parties of 6 or less (Va. Ctr loc)
SWEETLY SMITTEN	10% OFF purchase (8234 Bell Creek Rd., Suite 700, 496-1820)
TROPICAL SMOOTHIE	\$1 OFF 24oz. SMOOTHIE (360 loc)
MIMMO'S	\$5 OFF any purc. of \$30 or more, or \$2 OFF lg pizza (569-3990)
SWEET FROG	10% OFF purchase (Bell Creek loc)
PEKING RESTAURANT	10% OFF total bill excl. alcohol (360 loc)
PUPS N SUDZ	\$2 OFF self serve dog wash (360 loc)
SONIC	Buy a Sonic cheeseburger @ reg. price & get same FREE, add ons extra (360 loc)
STEBI'S	2 can dine for \$11.99 with pur. of 2 adult size beverages (9158 Atlee Rd.)
BRUSTER'S	50 cents OFF purchase (Bell Creek loc)
SPORT CLIPS	\$5 OFF MVP haircut (Mechanicsville loc, 559-4404)
SUBWAY	\$1 OFF footlong value meal (7999 Creighton Pkwy, 3135 Mech. Turnpike locs)
ASHLAND SKATELAND	Admit family of 4 FREE. Skate rental not incl. (not valid Fri. night, 798-6550)
TGI FRIDAY'S	\$5 OFF food pur. of \$20 or more. 1 per table, not valid w/other offers, disc. or promos (8100 Creighton Pkwy)

Valid for card holder only. Present card when ordering. Good only at participating locations. Not valid on sale items or in conjunction with other discounts, cards, coupons or specials. Other restrictions may apply.

For fundraising information, call Team Sales at 1-804-503-6472 or email vadukey@comcast.net



Reflections Workshops

Reflections Workshops
October 7th & 23rd
6-7:30 in the art room

Entries Due
November 7th to the
LMES Main Office

Theme-based artwork in:

- dance choreography
- film production
- literature
- musical composition
- photography
- visual arts

We are offering two workshops to help students prepare entries and package entries for submission to Reflections.

Feel free to contact Art and Education Chair, Heather Bronson, at 248-5802 or HeatherWBronson@gmail.com.

Entry forms are available outside the Art Room and on the LMES website under "Reflections".



Shhhhh!

It's our little secret, but we've got your one and only chance to run in the halls at school! Join us for

Family Fitness Night

Thursday, October 23rd
6:30- 8:00 pm

Bring the whole family and your running shoes, and enjoy a fun-filled, active evening at LMES!

LIBRARY NEWS

Library Catalog & Checkout

The library catalog can be accessed from home! Go to <https://hanoverschools.follettdestiny.com/> and use student account numbers to search or hold books. E-books can be read too.

- 📖 Books may be renewed. Bring back the book(s) to the library to renew.
- 📖 Early Morning checkout 7:45-8:15am



Contact the Library if you have any questions.

- 📖 Michele Kaloski - Librarian
Email: mkaloski@hcps.us Phone: 723-2049
- 📖 Beth Webel - Library Assistant
Email: ewebel@hcps.us Phone: 723-2059

Birthday Book Programs

- 📖 Donate a new hardback book in honor of your child's birthday. We will recognize your child by putting a book plate inside the cover and take a picture for our B-day club wall.
- 📖 Look for our letter during your child's birth month for the details.



Reading Olympics - 4th and 5th grades

Students are invited to join this fun and rewarding experience where they will grow in literacy and teamwork by reading a variety of books.

- 📖 Information and permission slips were sent home on September 23rd.
- 📖 Reading Olympics Kick-Off is October 10th.

Scholastic Fall Book Fair

- 📖 November 10th-14th
 - 📖 Family Event-November 11th 3:00-6:30pm
 - 📖 Online ordering will also be available.
- More information coming soon.



2014-2015 Executive Board, Standing Committees and Chairpersons



Dana Hughes, daveanddanahughes@comcast.net, (399-7181)

Vice President – Amy Schvenski, amyschvenski@yahoo.com

Treasurer – Jen Puleo, jenpuleo@comcast.net

Secretary – Marcie DeLung, meowcie@yahoo.com



Arts in Education *Heather Bronson, Committee Chair, heather.bronson@vdh.virginia.gov*

Coordinates PTA Reflections Program, helps to arrange Theatre IV and other performances, and assists Music & Art Departments various activities.



Buildings and Grounds *David Ercolano, Committee Chair, dercolano@xteriorspavers.com/dercolano7863@comcast.net*

Will coordinate with teachers, students, and parents to develop, maintain and implement landscaping plans.



Bylaws, County Council, Legislative *Heather Heckel, Committee Chair, h.l.heckel@gmail.com*

Advises PTA of necessary legislative actions, advises Board on proper PTA procedures, assists with Bylaws compliance.



Community Programs *Leslie Fleming, Box Tops Committee Chair, leslie_m_fleming@hotmail.com*

Kim Hodges, Spirit Night Committee Chair, kshodges@henrico.k12.va.us

Coordinates Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Labels for Education Program, and Tyson Foods Project A+. Assists with Spirit nights and other community and retail programs.



Family Dinner and Dance *Leigh Davis Rooke, Co-Committee Chair, leighdavisrooke@comcast.net*

Leslie Fleming, Co-Committee Chair, leslie_m_fleming@hotmail.com

This committee is designed to help manage logistics for the Family Dinner and Dance.



Fundraising *Patricia Anderson, Committee Chair, andrsncpc@aol.com*

Oversees and communicates fundraising initiatives along with the PTA President.



Garden Committee *Rhonda Tyler, Committee Chair, RTyler@hcps.com*

This includes the development of an on-campus garden and creation of an outdoor classroom.



Health & Safety *****OPEN Position*****

Committee designed to inform LMES of health & safety issues, coordinates programs and distributes information on pertinent topics – including Safe Routes to School Grant.



Historian *Leigh Davis Rooke, Committee Chair, leighdavisrooke@comcast.net*

Collects and maintains related information on Laurel Meadow Elementary School, staff, events, etc. and records special activities for the school in the school "scrapbook."



Hospitality & Staff Appreciation *Sara Matthews, Committee Chair, bsnmatthews@aol.com*

Committee designed to help organize special events, ceremonies, and socials. (ex. open house, 5th grade graduation ceremony, lemonade and ice cream socials in garden, etc.). Acknowledge teachers & staff on a regular basis thru appreciation week, birthday baskets, meals, etc.



Membership *Tiffani Strath, Committee Chair, tiffanistrath@gmail.com*

Organizes, encourages and monitors membership for the Laurel Meadow PTA.



Newsletter / Communication Design *Cindy Beasley, Committee Chair, ImesNewsletter@gmail.com*

Prepares monthly newsletter thru compiling and creating articles. Also serves as the newsletter editor. Creates and designs all marketing and publicity material for the PTA.



Room Parent Coordinator *Jaime Miller, Committee Chair, jgmiller77@hotmail.com*

Coordinates all Room Parents and provides information to help bring information to each class through the Room Parent.



Snowflake Breakfast *David Ercolano, Co-Committee Chair, dercolano@xteriorspavers.com , dercolano7863@comcast.net*

Carter Frantz, Co-Committee Chair, cafrantz@nwpsc.com

This committee is designed to help manage logistics for Annual Snowflake Breakfast. Includes business donations, entertainment, decorations, vendors.



Teacher Representative *Kevin Layne, Rhonda Tyler & Brianne Baudean*

Liaison between PTA and School staff



Volunteer Coordinator *Beth Tomlin, Committee Chair, btomlin24@yahoo.com*

Coordinates volunteers for PTA and school sponsored activities, supports and appoints Grade Level Coordinators, monitors volunteer hours, and recognizes volunteer time and commitment.




Watch D.O.G.S. *David Stewart, Committee Chair, DavidS1@hotmail.com (337-0899)*

A committee designed to help bring positive male role models into our school and children's lives.



OCTOBER 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
COMING IN NOVEMBER: 4 th - No School / Parent-Teacher Conf. 5 th - Walk to School Wed. 6 th - 1 st & 2 nd Coffee/Chat 10 th -14 th - Fall Book Fair 11 th - Veteran's Day Perf. 18 th - Riverbound Spirit Day		 20 th - Science Fair 26 th -28 th - No School	1  Walk to School	2  Carpenter Coffee & Chat (K)	3  LMES Spirit Wear Day	4
		7  Pizza Night	8	9 Early Release	10	11
12  Newsletter Submissions Due	13  No School COLUMBUS DAY	14	15	16	17  Picture Day	18
19	20	21	22	23  Family Fitness Night	24	25
26	27 	28  Chick-fil-e Spirit Day	29	30	31  Early Release	



Please "Like" the
"Laurel Meadow
Elementary School PTA"
on Facebook.



Volunteers and Fence Supplies Needed

The Garden Committee is looking for volunteers to help sand and prime the fence in the courtyard garden. We are also in need of an additional 112 pickets to fill it in. If you have connections with Home Depot, Lowes, or other building supply company that would be able to donate pickets or offer them at a reduced price, please contact Rhonda Tyler at rt Tyler@hcps.us.



The **LMES PTA** has a website!

Check us out at:
LMESPTA.wordpress.com

