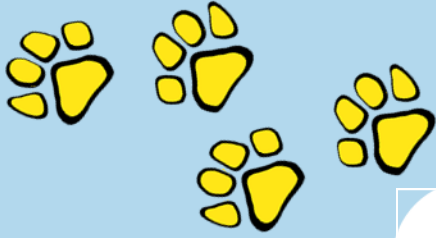


# Wild About Learning



# LMES

Volume 8, Issue 3



December 2015

## Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

As the winter season approaches, I know the kids are getting excited for their winter break! But before we have two weeks off to enjoy the holidays, I hope you are planning on joining us for our 8<sup>th</sup> annual snowflake breakfast on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. This is such a fun event with a yummy breakfast, shopping, entertainment and pictures with our very own LMES mascot, "Ryan the Lion"! This is a huge fundraiser for the PTA, so we do hope to see you there. We also hope you will consider donating some of your time and sign up to volunteer. We always need help from you, the parents.



The PTA is working hard to plan even more events for you and your family this year. We hope all the dads will plan to join us on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> for our annual Watch D.O.G.S Donuts for Dads. Then be prepared to rock your best 80's look and join us for our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Family Dinner and Dance on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>!



Congratulations to all the participants in our Reflections program this year. It is great to see all the talent our students have in the Arts. Good luck to all our 1<sup>st</sup> place winners in the County and State program!

**Congratulations!** I also want to congratulate all the students who participated in the STEM fair this year. I know lots of hard work and time went into your projects – GREAT JOB! Plus the students sure enjoyed all the hands-on experiments, games and activities that were available for them.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas at [daveanddanahughes@comcast.net](mailto:daveanddanahughes@comcast.net).

Sincerely,  
Dana Hughes  
**PTA** President

## Inside this issue

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## Upcoming events

Dec 1 - Ashland Skateland  
Skate Night  
Dec 3 - 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Principal's  
Coffee & Chat  
Dec 8 - Reading &  
Writing Night  
Dec 12 - Snowflake Breakfast  
Dec 15 - BoxTops Collection  
Dec 17 & 18 - Winter Parties  
Dec 19 - Jan 3 - Winter Break  
Jan 12 - Donuts for Dad  
Jan 18 - No School  
Jan 26 - Chick-fil-A Spirit Day





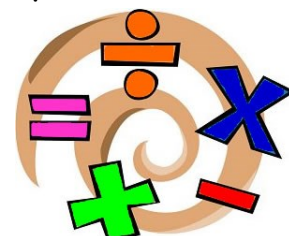
It is difficult to believe that the winter holiday season is right around the corner. It is truly a busy time for families and the school. At Laurel Meadow, we really like to have students learn the importance of giving to others as an essential function of good citizenship. In November, Laurel Meadow students and families supported the Hanover Community by donating canned goods in support of families in need. In December, we have a hat, mitten and sock drive to assist students in our community needing these items during the cold winter months. These small acts of kindness will hopefully help our students understand the importance of giving to others in our neighborhood.



With the winter break fast approaching and children spending additional time at home, we often get questioned about what to do at home to keep children learning. This month, I will share some ideas related to

mathematics that can be done at home any time of year.

- + Count, count and count! Encourage your child to count the number of steps climbed or crackers on the plate.
- + Practice classifying by putting items into sets or groups. Ask questions related to size or quantity.
- + Locate two and three dimensional shapes in your house.
- + Practice counting and making change.
- + Use sharing to reinforce division concepts and fraction skills.
- + Incorporate measuring during everyday activities such as cooking.
- + Keep charts and graphs to help organize information.



Remember, math is all around us. Discuss math with your child every day, and always be positive. Link it to daily life, and make it fun!!!

## Winter is Coming - Flu vs. Cold

The flu is an infection of the nose, throat, and lungs caused by influenza viruses. Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with the flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. People are contagious from 1 day before getting sick to 5 to 7 days after. However, children and people with weakened immune systems can be contagious longer, especially if they still have symptoms. To protect against the flu, the most important thing you can do is to get a flu vaccine for yourself and your child. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body that protect against influenza virus infection.

Signs and Symptoms	Influenza	Cold
<b>Symptom onset</b>	Abrupt	Gradual
<b>Fever</b>	Usual; lasts 3-4 days	Rare
<b>Aches</b>	Usual; often severe	Slight
<b>Chills</b>	Fairly common	Uncommon
<b>Fatigue, weakness</b>	Usual	Sometimes
<b>Sneezing</b>	Sometimes	Common
<b>Stuffy nose</b>	Sometimes	Common
<b>Sore throat</b>	Sometimes	Common
<b>Chest discomfort, cough</b>	Common; can be severe	Mild to moderate; hacking cough
<b>Headache</b>	Common	Rare





YOU CAN'T MAKE WEBS LIKE SPIDERMAN?  
 YOU DON'T HAVE SUPER HUMAN STRENGTH?  
 YOU CAN'T CLEAR BUILDINGS IN A SINGLE BOUND?

**WATCH D.O.G.S. IS LOOKING FOR  
REAL HEROES, NOT FICTIONAL ONES.**

Sign-up is easy and online!

<https://LMESPTA.wordpress.com/watch-d-o-g-s/>

**congratulations!**

**Reflections 2015-16 Winners**

**Visual Arts**

**Primary**

Outstanding Interpretation -  
 Mikey Elza

Award of Excellence - Kaden Lane

**Intermediate**

Outstanding Interpretation -  
 Kaeleigh Hughes

Award of Excellence -

Julia Bryant

Jordan Gregory

Award of Merit - Natalie Young

Honorable Mention -

Baylor Hughes

Ella Young

**Photography**

**Intermediate**

Outstanding Interpretation - Jordan Gregory

Award of Excellence - Meg Lavinder

**Film**

**Intermediate**

Outstanding Interpretation - Landis Bronson

**Literature**

**Primary**

Outstanding Interpretation - Kylan Geer



**2015 STEM Fair Winners**

***3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:***

First - Brendan Layne

Second - Janna Nwobodo

Third - Baylor Hughes and Ella Young



***4<sup>th</sup> Grade:***

First - Payton Salyer and Carley Mann

Second - Jordan Gregory

Third - Andrew Johnson

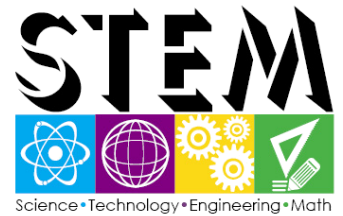
***5<sup>th</sup> Grade:***

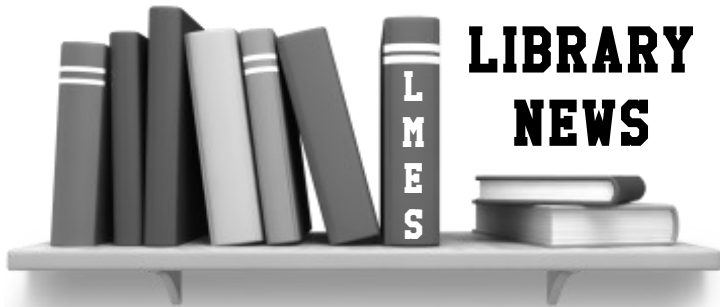
First - Carleigh Heckel

Second - Joshua Gray

Third - Hannah Matthews and Allyson Fearnow



***First Place Overall*** - Joshua Morris






**LIBRARY NEWS**











**Reading Olympics:**

-  Team Meetings  
Friday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 7:50 - 8:15 a.m.
-  Pamunkey Library (Mechanicsville Branch)  
Reading Olympics Read-Aloud  
Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> & February 18<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.





# DECEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Skate Night Ashland Skateland (6 - 8 p.m.) 	2	3 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Principal Coffee & Chat (7:45 a.m.) 	4 LMES Spirit Wear 	5
6	7 Rising 6 <sup>th</sup> Grader Night @ SJMS (6:30 p.m.)	8 Reading & Writing Night (6:30 p.m.)	9	10 Parent Coffee w/ SJMS Guidance (7:45 a.m.)	11	12  Snowflake Breakfast
13	14	15  Collection Newsletter Submissions Due	16	17 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Winter Parties 	18 K-2 <sup>nd</sup> Winter Parties 	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 	26
27 	28	29	30	31	<b>Coming in January:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4<sup>th</sup> - Return from Break</li> <li>8<sup>th</sup> - LMES Spirit Day</li> <li>12<sup>th</sup> - Donuts for Dad</li> <li>18<sup>th</sup> - No School</li> <li>26<sup>th</sup> - Chick-fil-A Spirit Day</li> <li>28<sup>th</sup> &amp; 29<sup>th</sup> - Early Release</li> </ul>	



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



The **BOX TOPS** winners  
for the October 15<sup>th</sup>  
collection were:

- K - Mrs. Lehman (253)
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Mrs. Robins (396)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Mrs. Smither (672)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Mrs. Lawrence (335)
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Mrs. Pocta (1,221)
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Mr. Lundquist (824)

Each winning class  
received a class reward.  
Keep sending in those

**BOX TOPS** ! We will  
have another collection on  
December 15<sup>th</sup>!



**Laurel Meadow Lions  
It's a Totally Awesome 80's  
Dinner and Dance Party!!!**

**Mark your calendars now for  
Friday, February 5, 2016!**

**Get ready to dust off your leg warmers, break  
out your neon clothes, big hair and mulletts and  
bust a move on the dance floor and have some  
radical fun! More information to come!**

