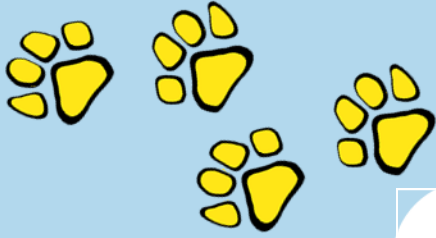


Wild About Learning



LMES

Volume 8, Issue 4



January 2015

Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

Welcome back and Happy 2016!!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Winter Break! I don't know about you, but I always enjoy having a little extra time in the winter to spend with my family. It always seems to be needed for my kids and myself!

We had another great turn out for the 8th Annual Snowflake Breakfast! We prepared breakfast for over 600! I would like to give an extra **THANK YOU** to Carter Frantz and committee for coordinating another great year and to all the parents and staff who helped make the day such a success!

We will be starting off the New Year with our Watch D.O.G.S. Donuts for Dads on January 12th. I hope that all of you Dads out there will join us that morning for a delicious donut and some quality time with your children.



Like, totally pull out your neon colors, leg warmers, big hair, hoop earrings and join us for the 4th Annual Family Dinner & Dance 80's style on Friday, February 5th! It's going to be, like, a Totally Awesome Party!

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas at daveanddanahughes@comcast.net.

Sincerely,
Dana Hughes
PTA President



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Upcoming events

Jan 6 - Spelling Bee
Jan 12 - Donuts for Dad
Jan 18 - No School
Jan 21 - Dare Graduation
Jan 26 - Chick-fil-A Spirit Day
Jan 28 & 29 - Early Release
Jan 30 - GT Referrals Due
Feb 5 - 80's Family Dinner & Dance Party
Feb 12 - BoxTops due
Feb 15 - No School
Feb 23 - Stevi B's Spirit Night
Feb 25 - Early Release










The Laurel Meadow PTA Annual Snowflake Breakfast was a roaring success. The event continues to be a wonderful way for families and community members to start the holiday season. It was an outstanding event because we are fortunate to have a dedicated PTA Board, outstanding volunteers, a committed staff, generous business partners, involved parents, and talented students. We are privileged to have the support of Stonewall Jackson Middle School and Mr. Charity's instrumental groups every year. They always do a fantastic job! In addition, we are always fortunate to have wonderful performances by the students from The Dance Company and The School of Dance Arts.

Also, our own 5th graders did an outstanding job as members of the chorus or the recorder performing groups! Many thanks to Mrs. Talley for all of her hard work to ensure an outstanding musical performance by our students. The partnership between the PTA and the school continues to enhance the positive experiences of all students at LMES. We look forward to all of the other PTA events which will continue throughout the school year.







As we move forward in 2016, please make a commitment to spending more time reading in your home. Remember, parents are critical role models; and you can set a wonderful example by having your child see you read books, newspapers, or magazines.

In order to make reading a part of your daily living, here are a few ideas:

-  Take books and writing materials with you whenever you leave the house. These materials will help entertain your child while traveling or while waiting for an appointment.
-  Create a quiet place in the house for your child to read, write, or draw. If your child draws a picture, then ask him/her to tell you a story about the picture or write a story about the picture.
-  Turn off the video games and the television and spend some time reading books with your child.
-  Visit the library or the book store and find age appropriate books to read at home.
-  Talk about the books that your child is reading as part of the meal time conversation.

News about upcoming events at LMES:

-  School Spelling Bee, **SPELLING**
Wednesday, January 6th at 8:30 a.m. 
-  Donuts with Dad,
Tuesday, January 12th at 7:30 a.m.
-  Grade 5 **DARE** Graduation,
Thursday, January 21st at 8:30 a.m.

Many thanks to the entire LMES community for donating 525 pairs of socks to the school warm sock tree prior to winter break! Students in



grade 4 donated 148 pairs! These socks were donated to several local organizations.





Another great year has come and gone.
What were those resolutions you made for 2015?

Did you follow through?
Let us help you, help you!

Registration is Free

Monthly Dues \$0 - Annual Fees \$0

It's a New Year, and what better way to be a "better you" in 2016 than volunteering. Sign up for a **WATCH D.O.G.S.** day early this year and then again later in the year to keep that "better you" moving on!

Sign-up is easy and online! <https://LMESPTA.wordpress.com/watch-d-o-g-s/>

CHARACTER CORNER

During the months of January and February, we remind our LMES students to demonstrate the character trait **CARING**. **CARING** means showing understanding of others by treating them with kindness, compassion, generosity, and a forgiving spirit. Encourage your child to be **CARING** to others at home and at school by greeting people when they see them, helping others, being willing to share, and accepting apologies and moving on when conflicts arise.

Spring Gifted Referrals


How can students be referred for gifted screening and what makes a good candidate?

A teacher or a parent may refer a child for gifted screening. If your child exhibits gifted behaviors and is performing at above grade level expectations, your child's teachers may refer them as a good candidate for the screening process.

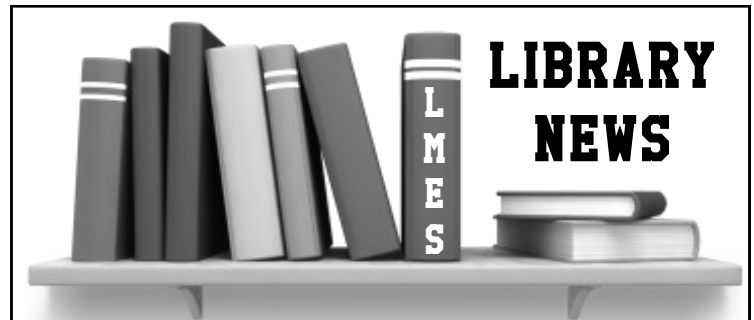
Parents may also refer students for gifted testing. Please discuss your child's performance with their teachers, as they will have insight into gifted characteristics and above level benchmarks. If you would like to refer your child for testing to determine if they would be eligible for gifted services, please submit your request to your child's teacher no later than January 30th for the Spring Testing Window. For questions or more information, please contact abroughton@hcps.us or visit mrsbroughton.weebly.com.



Alicia Broughton, GT Resource Teacher



BOX TOPS were collected before winter break and are being counted. Class winners for each grade level will be announced soon. Keep sending in those **BOX TOPS** because our next collection will be February 12th!





Welcome to the Laurel Meadow Library!

We would like to encourage you to access our Virtual Library at <http://hcps.us/lmes/library.htm>.

Find out more about our library collection through Destiny Library Catalog, read an ebook, or use online reference sources that are up to date and reliable.



Reading Olympics:

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



JANUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Coming in February:	5 th - LMES Spirit Day Family Dinner & Dance 12 th - BoxTops Due		15 th - No School 23 rd - Stevi B's Spirit Night 25 th - Early Release		1 	2 
3 	4	5	6  Spelling Bee	7	8 LMES Spirit Wear 	9 
10 	11	12  Donuts for Dad	13	14	15  Newsletter Submissions Due	16 
17 	18 No School	19	20	21  Graduation	22	23 
24 	25	26  Spirit Day	27	28 Early Release	29 Early Release	30  GT Referral Deadline
31						



**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!



What's Missing?

Is there something you wish were in our PTA monthly newsletter?
E-mail LMESnewsletter@gmail.com.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

for the

**Rock n' Roll 5K
May 14, 2016**



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

