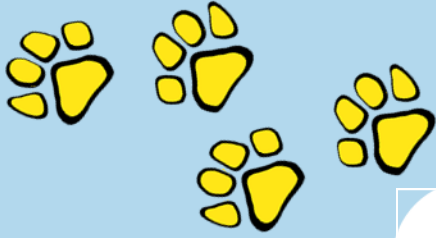


Wild About Learning



LMES

Volume 8, Issue 5

PTA

February 2016

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Upcoming events

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 &
Parent/Teacher Conf.
Mar 8 - Skate Night @
Ashland Skateland
Mar 10-11 - Spring Pictures
Mar 22 - Chick-fil-A
Spirit Day
Mar 28-Apr 1 - Spring Break



Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

I would like to thank all the Dads who attended our Watch D.O.G.S. Donuts for Dads morning. We had an amazing attendance with over 430 Dads and students enjoying tasty donuts. I know your children sure enjoy spending the morning with their Dads! Also, thanks to Josh Norman, for stepping up as our new Watch D.O.G.S. committee chair this year and his continued support in making the Watch D.O.G.S. program such a success at LMES.

We hope you plan to join us for our 4th Family Dinner and Dance 80's style this Friday, February 5th! Be sure to put on your neon colors, rock some leg warmers, hoop earrings, and big hair and like totally have a good time! Then, we will finish off the month enjoying some pizza at Stevi B's on Tuesday, February 23rd.



We are looking forward to some exciting activities planned for March. First, we kick off the month with a Roller Skating Party at Skateland in Ashland on March 8th. These have been our most successful spirit nights with over 100 kids coming out to join us! So if you haven't made it to one of these nights, be sure to join your friends for a fun night of skating!

Next, our 1st graders are going to show us their talent in the 1st Grade Musical on March 17th. Finally, Tuesday, March 22nd is Chick-fil-A Spirit Day. Please be sure to mark your calendars and join us for all these fun activities! More information about each of these events will be sent home in Tuesday folders.

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



Support LMES at our Spirit Night



**Tuesday,
February
23rd
5:00 -
9:00 pm**

Sincerely,
Dana Hughes
PTA President



As parents and educators, part of our responsibility is to develop characteristics

that will help prepare children for the future. Yes, we work daily on developing math and reading skills; however, we also focus on cultivating positive character traits. One topic that has been gaining attention is the idea of "developing grit" in children. The concept of developing grit means that we are supporting children as they learn to persevere through difficult situations. Below are some ideas which help children and adults to understand the concept of perseverance.



- ◆ Encourage your child to try new things: No one is perfect at a new endeavor in the beginning. Trying something new will help any individual learn that lots of practice is needed before you excel at the new activity. For example, try ice skating or another new sport.
- ◆ Talk with your child about when you had to work hard as a child or an adult: Talk about something you struggled with as a child.
- ◆ Be honest: Let your child know that many times, even sports heroes had to struggle before they succeeded. For example, Babe Ruth held the record for 714 home runs for many years. However, he also had 1,330 career strike outs.
- ◆ Reassure your child when he or she struggles: Provide emotional support and help them to replan and try again.

- ◆ Be encouraging: Be sure to recognize and celebrate when they are making progress in a difficult area.

By working through obstacles, your child will be better prepared to handle the varied challenges they will face in the future. Please remember that, "Most people want to hit home runs, the problem is they are afraid to fail in order to get there. As Babe Ruth proved, you can't have one without the other."



As we celebrate students and staff that preserve on a daily basis, once again it is time to nominate a teacher for the R.E.B. Award for Teaching Excellence. Eligibility is limited to full-time classroom teachers with a minimum of three years of teaching experience. The qualities of an outstanding teacher include: strong knowledge of the subject matter, dedication to the teaching profession, inspiring to peers and students, motivating to students to form positive habits toward learning and discipline, utilizing creative methods to engage students in subject matter.

R.E.B. winners are given the opportunity to have their ultimate professional development experience. This experience will be funded through a grant which could range from \$4,000 to \$12,000. Being an R.E.B. winner is a wonderful honor and a fantastic opportunity for any educator. You can nominate a teacher by going to the Community Foundation website or picking up an application in the front office.





IT'S OKAY.
 YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE.
 IT HAPPENS TO US ALL.
 THANKFULLY THERE IS A CURE!

It's a New Year, We've all had those moments sitting around the table for dinner or riding in the car with your child. They give you the rundown of their day. Who they sat with at lunch, what activities they participated in. The whole time, you are left wondering... Who is this Jonny kid that they played with? What are they trying to tell me? When do they have art? Where do they get this Lion Loot? Why don't I get it?

Stop wondering. Start knowing. Come spend the day at school. Dot the I's & cross the T's. Put yourself in the know. Being a **WATCH D.O.G.** is a great way to connect with your child. Spending the day at school helping out and being another set of eyes will help you fill in the blanks.

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



3rd Grade SOL Tests:

Wednesday, May 25th - Reading, Part I

Thursday, May 26th - Reading, Part II

* 2-Day Testing:

Thursday, June 2nd - Math, Part I

Friday, June 3rd - Math, Part II

* 1-Day Testing: Friday, June 3rd - Math

* It is a HCPS decision on whether the test is one day or two days. Look for an update in the next newsletter!

4th Grade SOL Tests: (Reading is now 2-Day Testing.)

Monday, May 16th - VA Studies

Thursday, May 19th - Reading, Part I

Friday, May 20th - Reading Part II

** Tuesday, May 31st - Math, Part I

** Wednesday, June 1st - Math, Part II

** Dates may change to Wednesday & Thursday depending on 3rd Grade Math SOL Tests.

5th Grade SOL Tests: (Reading is now 2-Day Testing.)

Tuesday, May 17th - Reading, Part I

Wednesday, May 18th - Reading, Part II

Monday, May 23rd - Math, Part I

Tuesday, May 24th - Math, Part II

Friday, May 27th - Science

6th Grade SOL Test:

Monday, May 23rd - Math

*** Please contact Karen Dubiel, Assistant Principal at 723-2040 or kdubiel@hcps.us if your child will be absent during his/her assigned testing day. Thanks!

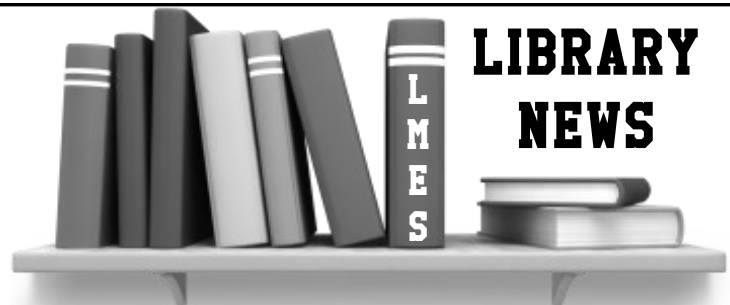
Lost and Found Articles of the Week

In an effort to return lost and found items to their owners, we have started a Lost and Found Article of the Week.

So far highlighted items have been:

1. a dark blue Colonial Williamsburg blanket
2. a light blue hooded sweatshirt with the word "Hershey" on the front

If either of these items belongs to you, please come to the front office to claim them.



LIBRARY NEWS

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 Meeting

Friday, February 5th 7:50 - 8:15 a.m.

📖 Morning Practice

Thursday, February 18th 7:50 - 8:30 a.m.

📖 Pamunkey Library (Mechanicsville Branch)

Reading Olympics Read-Aloud

Thursday, February 18th 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



FEBRUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 Family Dinner & Dance 	6
7 	8	9	10	11	12 Submissions Due	13
14 	15 Newsletter Submissions Due No School	16	17	18 Reading Olympics Practice	19	20
21 	22	23 Spirit Night	24	25 Early Release Parent/Teacher Conf.	26	27
28 	Coming in March: 		8 th - Ashland Skateland Skate Night 10 th - PreK-2 nd Spring Pictures 11 th - 3 rd -5 th Spring Pictures	17 th - 1 st Grade Musical 22 nd - Chick-fil-A Spirit Day March 28 th -April 1 st - Spring Break		

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

Join us on
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!

BOX TOPS were collected before winter break and the results are in! The class winners for each grade level are:

- Kindergarten - Thurston - 259
- 1st - Ms. Barret - 455
- 2nd - Ms. Smither - 418
- 3rd - Ms. Walls - 243
- 4th - Ms. Pocta - 675
- 5th - Ms. Allen - 163

Keep sending in those because our next collection will be February 12th!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
for the **Rock n' Roll 5K**
May 14, 2016

