

**Lights
Camera
Learning!**



Volume 9, Issue 3 PTA November 2016

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Upcoming events

- Nov 4: Early Closing & LMES Spirit Wear
- Nov 7: Student Holiday Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov 8: Student Holiday
- Nov 10: Veterans Day Performance (9am & 6:30pm)
PTA Meeting 5:30pm
- Nov 11: Report Cards
- Nov 15: Spirit Night Marco's Pizza
- Nov 17: Digital Age Parents/ Social Media Info Night for Parents 6pm
- Nov 18: Principal Coffee & Chat - Kindergarten
- Nov 23 - 25: Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 29: Spirit Day Riverbound



Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

It is almost hard to believe that November is here already! I know I am glad to see cooler temperatures, but not everyone else is.

November is full of many events at school. Don't forget to show your school spirit on November 4 by wearing a LMES shirt. It is not too late to get one if you need it! We also still have LMES Tervis tumblers available. Let us know if you need one.

Boosterthon was so much fun and I had such an amazing time seeing our students get excited and learn at the same time. The Boosterthon staff and our students became fast friends and really had a wonderful time together. Thank you to Jen Puelo and Nicole Richardson for all of their hard work getting things ready for the school and PTA.

November 10 is the next PTA board meeting beginning at 5:30pm. Please know that board meetings are open to everyone and all are invited to attend. Following the board meeting we will be enjoying our Veterans Day performance by the third graders. It's a wonderful performance, they put in a lot of hard work and you will love it!

We have also added a new spirit night for November. We have teamed with Marco's Pizza and will be having a spirit night with them on November 15. They are a new business here in Mechanicsville and have really done a lot to help support LMES already. Look for more information in Tuesday folders.

As always please feel free to email me with any suggestions, problems, or just to say hello. My email address is jgmiller77@hotmail.com.

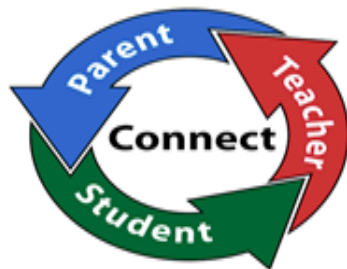
One more thing — mark your calendars for the Snowflake Breakfast on December 10. It is such a fun event and you don't want to miss it! Hope to see you there.

Sincerely,
Jaime Miller
PTA President



Planning for Parent/Teacher Conferences:

November 7th is the second opportunity to have a formal Parent/Teacher Conference. To ensure that your meeting is successful I have a few tips to share with parents. First, be sure to prepare for the conference in advance. Once you have a confirmed time to meet with the teacher or teachers be sure to do your homework prior to the meeting. You can prepare for the meeting by: reviewing your child's work and interim report, discussing school progress with your child and by making a list of questions to ask during the conference. On the day of the conference: be on time because your time will be limited due to a tight schedule, bring your questions and a notepad for notes, be prepared to share your ideas but also be prepared to listen to the teacher's ideas. If your child is having difficulty in a particular academic area develop of plan of action with the teacher to support your child. Be sure to schedule a follow-up time to discuss the success of the plan in the near future. Finally, be sure to talk to your child about the conference. Always mention positive portions of the conference and discuss in detail any plans to assist with any academic or behavioral concerns. Your child is a critical participant in the success of any improvement plan. When we work as a team child-parent and teacher then the school year will be successful. Remember we are all working toward the same goal-student growth and academic achievement.



SOL Grant/ Tutor:

Laurel Meadow receives an SOL Grant annually. This year, we are utilizing these funds to provide additional instructional support in the area of math. Mrs. Theresa Bryant will be our school SOL Tutor. She will be working with small groups to enhance problem solving skills and the development of number sense. She will be providing this support four days a week.

Social Media Night:

Want to know more about social media and how it impacts your children? Come join us on Thursday, November 17 and learn the positives and some negatives of social media.



Parents need to know the latest trends to make informed decisions about social media and what is appropriate for elementary school children.

Boosterthon Fun Run:

Many thanks to all of our LMES families for their support of the Fun Run. We raised a lot of money to enhance technology in our school. Every student received a free LMES t-shirt and was able to participate in the run. This was a very successful joint PTA and school activity.



Save the Date:

- November 7 & 8 – Student Holiday
- November 10 – Veterans Day Program (9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.)
- November 15- Spirit Night Marco's Pizza (New Business Partner)
- November 17 – Digital Age Parents/ Social Media Information Night for Parents – 6:00 p.m.
- November 23– 25 – Thanksgiving Break
- November 29 - Spirit Day Riverbound
- December 1- STEM Fair 6:30 p.m.
- December 5 – LMES Red Cross Blood Drive 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



STEM Fair - December 1

Science ~ Technology ~ Engineering ~ Math

Come join Laurel Meadow's future scientists and engineers on December 1 at 6:30pm for a night full of awesome experiments, coding activities, math games, engineering activities, awesome door prizes and MORE!

LMES PTA Reflections and STEM Fair winners will be announced at the end of the night!

Snowflake Breakfast - December 10

Mark your calendar to attend this annual event with two breakfast seatings, terrific vendors for holiday shopping and many talented performances to entertain you!



We are in need of a face painter & balloon artist to donate their time. Supplies will be provided.

Interested volunteers and vendors, please contact Carter Frantz at cafrantz@nwp.com to sign up.

Booster Seats

When can kids safely kick the booster seat to the curb? VA law states that once children reach 8 years old, they can legally use a regular lap belt without the aid of a booster seat. However, since we all know kids grow at different rates, some elementary-age children may not be ready to safely move on from the booster seat. The recommended height and weight to transition out of the booster seat is 4'9" and 80 pounds.

Here are three key safety guidelines:

- ☆ Make sure that the shoulder strap is across the shoulder in front of the child and not across the neck or behind the child's back.
- ☆ The lap belt should go across the upper thighs and not over the stomach.
- ☆ The child's knees should be able to go over the edge of the seat while their back and bottom are against the seat.

For more information to keep our children safe on the roads, visit the safekids.org website.

Chris Elish, PTA Health & Safety Committee

Partners in Education

If you own or operate a business and would like to be more involved in the LMES community, please consider becoming a Partner in Education. Our Partner in Education program strives to make positive connections between LMES and its community. Current partnerships help our school by:

- ☆ teaching movement stories in classrooms
- ☆ providing discount lunches to faculty and staff
- ☆ donating paper or Roar Store items
- ☆ servicing staff and faculty cars at a discount
- ☆ hosting book fairs throughout the year and donating proceeds to LMES
- ☆ providing incentive coupons for free or discounted meals for PTA members
- ☆ providing a place to display student art
- ☆ teaching economic lessons in classrooms

For more information, contact **Carol Anne Ziolkowski** at cziolkowski@hcps.us or 723-2051.



Laurel Meadow Elementary School is participating in the **Clothing To Cash Recycling Program**
Clean Out Your Closet & Help our School Raise Money!

Laurel Meadow Elementary will be paid for every pound we collect. All materials will be Reworn, Repurposed or finally Recycled.

Look for the large white collection bin in the school parking lot. The goal is to **FILL** our collection bin **WEEKLY** with as many **PLASTIC BAGS** of clothing, shoes and other textiles as possible!

Help Support Our School & Save The Environment One Bag At A Time.

We want items in ALL conditions, unwanted, outgrown and out of style.

We accept the following:

- All Clothing** (New and Used Women's, Men's and Children's, Clothing, Coats, etc.)
- All Footwear** (Shoes, Sneakers, Boots, Cleats, etc.)
- Textiles** (Bedding, Sheets, Blankets, Towels)
- Accessories** (Handbags, Backpacks, Gloves, Scarves, Jewelry, Wallets)
- Toys** (Stuffed Animals)

We Do Not Accept:
Furniture, Food, Foam Cushions or Plastic items



NOVEMBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Faculty Meeting 2:45pm	3	4 Early Closing Reading Olympics Team Meeting 7:45-8:15am LMES Spirit Wear End of Nine Weeks	5
6	7 Student Holiday Parent Teacher Conferences	8 Student Holiday	9	10 Veterans Day Performance 9am & 6:30pm PTA Meeting 5:30pm	11 Report Cards STEM Fair: blue form due	12
13	14 5th grade Chorus Practice 2:30pm	15 Spirit Night Marco's Pizza	16	17 Digital Age Parents/ Social Media Night for Parents 6pm	18 Principal Coffee & Chat - Kindergarten 7:45am	19
20	21 5th grade Chorus Practice 2:30pm	22	23	24	25	26
Thanksgiving Break						
27	28 5th grade Chorus Practice 2:30pm	29 Spirit Day Riverbound	30 Faculty Meeting 2:45pm STEM Fair Projects Due			

**A big THANK YOU to the following sponsors of our
Boosterthon Fun Run!**



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