



Lights
Camera
Learning!



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Upcoming events

- Mar 2 - 1st Grade Musical
- Mar 3 - RO Team Meeting
- Mar 9 - Reading/Writing Night
- Mar 9 & 10 - Spring Pictures
- Mar 14 - Riverbound Spirit Day
- Mar 24 - RO Competition
- Mar 30 - Variety Show
- Mar 31 - Early Release
- Apr 4 - Chick-fil-A Spirit Night
- Apr 7 - LMES Spirit Wear & Early Release
- Apr 10-14 SPRING BREAK
- Apr 20 - Kindergarten Registration
- Apr 22 - Arts & Science Festival
- Apr 25 - Papa John's Teacher Delivery Night
- Apr 27 & 28 - Field Day



Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

I hope everyone had time to vote for a Super Teacher from LMES! I can't wait to see if we get a winner! We certainly have deserving teachers!

The family dance was so much fun! Thank you Becky Smith for putting it together and all of the volunteers that we had help in so many areas. It turned out great! We had almost 300 students and parents attend. Plus our very own Mr. Z came out of retirement to DJ for us.



I know the kids love seeing him and getting to dance with him again! He told us that he really enjoyed it and we were so lucky to have him join us.



Skate night is always entertaining. We really have some amazing skaters at LMES. Plus it helps get some extra energy of the kids out which as a mom I always think is a positive thing. Thank you to all who came out to support our spirit night. Also thank you to all who bought pizza from Marco's pizza. Spirit nights help the PTA a lot and help us to provide more supplies and events for the school. You really are making a difference!! Thank you for continuing to support us!

March is full of more fun events at LMES! Please check the calendar on the back of the newsletter for all scheduled events. The first grade musical and the variety show are really amazing events that you won't want to miss. At 5:30pm on 3/2 and 3/30 we will be having PTA board meetings. Please feel free to come and see what we do and hopefully want to get involved for next year. Also make sure you send smiles to school with your kids on March 9 and 10 when they will have class pictures and spring pictures taken!

Please feel free to contact me jgmiller77@hotmail.com with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have.

Sincerely,
Jaime Miller
PTA President



Principal's Corner - Ms. Karen Carpenter



As a school community, we celebrate success and hard work on a daily basis. We are always proud of our students and entire school population for the hard work we observe daily. The Laurel Meadow Staff works as a team to provide positive learning experiences for all of the students we serve by having an ongoing commitment to academic excellence. Annually, Mrs. Kaloski and Mrs. Webel, our library team, challenges our 4th and 5th graders to read 32 books between the months of October – March. The 186 student participants (90% of our grade 4 and grade 5 students) are divided into teams and they work as a group to read all of the books. In March, there is a Reading Olympics Competition with a focus on working together to answer questions about the books they have read. This is a fun activity and gets many students to read a variety of books. Also, this team activity teaches them the importance of communication and collaboration. Parents and teachers get involved by becoming team coaches. There is a big celebration on competition day because we are always very proud of the commitment of the students, parents and staff that support this wonderful activity. Look for the names of the winning teams in the April Newsletter.

In the spirit of celebration, it is time to select a LMES Support Employee of the Year. At Laurel Meadow, we are fortunate to have outstanding support employees. They work directly with the teachers to help provide a quality education for each student. Once a year each Hanover County School selects their Outstanding Support Employee in order to recognize their wonderful contributions. If you would like to nominate a bus driver, instructional assistant, custodian, a food service worker, an office professional, or the school nurse then feel free to get a nomination form from the front office. The nomination should be returned to Ms. Carpenter. Previous LMES winners have been Kathy Krodel (cafeteria manager), Barry Zeigler (technical systems operator), and Mr. Ford (custodian) and Mrs. Carole West (kindergarten assistant) Mrs. Catherine Cooke (former instructional assistant), Bonnie Diehr (former instructional assistant), Mrs. Beth Webel, (library assistant) and Mrs. Mary Jackson (instructional assistant).

Last month, we had our annual grade 5 DARE Graduation. All grade 5 students were rewarded with a certificate of completion by Officer Carr. In addition, all grade 5 students completed a poster and wrote an essay, which described the basic principles of the program's curriculum.

Congratulations to the following students that received special recognition during the graduation.

Essay Winners:

Allen's Class – Jordan Gregory (3rd place), Nolan Harris (2nd place), Andrew Johnson (1st place)
McGinnis's Class- Gracie Chisholm (3rd place), Graylin Barnes (2nd place), Trinity Hernandez (1st place)
Lundquist's Class – Alyssa Cook (3rd place), Hunter Johnson (2nd place), Olivia Hall (1st place)
Bauer's Class- Sam Leach (3rd place), Gavin Smith (2nd place), Pete Stratiou (1st place)
Bouhajja's Class – Morgan Hockman (3rd place), Olivia Utley (2nd place), Lindsey DiNapoli (1st place)

Poster Winners:

Allen's Class – Julia Bryant (3rd place), Jordan Gregory (2nd place), Nolan Harris (1st place)
McGinnis's Class- Carly Mann (3rd place), Fisher Oldham (2nd place), Gracie Chisholm (1st place)
Lundquist's Class – Hunter Johnson (3rd place), Alyssa Cook (2nd place), Andie Darko (1st place)
Bauer's Class-Emily Fleming (3rd place), Gavin Smith ((2nd place), Madison Lehr (1st place)
Bouhajja's Class- Aden Bryant (3rd place), Morgan Hockman (2nd place), Emily Detrick (1st place)

Overall Winner: Gavin Smith

Congratulations to all of our Grade 5 students!!



We are looking forward to celebrating more student and staff achievements in the remaining months of the school year.

Congratulations to Laurel Meadow's Spelling Bee Winner, Nathan Digiacomio. He placed 8th overall for the entire county. Fantastic job!! The Laurel Meadow Spelling Bee Runner-Up was Brianna Bozeman.

Preparing a safety plan in case of an emergency

Every household should practice a plan for different types of emergencies such as fires, tornados, break-ins, etc.. We recommend that once a year, every family holds a meeting to discuss the actions everyone will take in an emergency. Just a few minutes of conversation a year can help keep your family safe. We also recommend the family do a quick walk through for various situations to build muscle memory and reduce mistakes in a high-stress situation.

Steps to prepare children for a fire emergency:

1. Test the smoke alarm, so they can hear the sound the alarm makes.
2. Draw a map of escape routes to the family meeting point. It's always better to have two options to exit if possible.
3. If you have any family members that need assistance in exit such as a baby or elderly person make sure you plan a way to help them exit.
4. Let children know to not worry about any toys or items they love because they can be replaced.
5. Tell them if they hear the alarm or see smoke to stay low and crawl until they get outside.
6. If they sleep with the door closed, teach them to use the back of their hand to feel if the door is hot before opening. If it is hot, leave the door shut and go to plan B such as a window.

In case of a tornado, the best plan is go to a basement. If you do not have a basement, the best location would be a centralized bathroom or room without windows on the lowest floor possible.



Registration for our rising 6th graders has come to a close. We would like to thank the parents and teachers for their cooperation as we met individually with each student (all 100 to be exact). We will continue to help these students with their transition to middle school. Tour Day is scheduled for Wednesday, March 29. On this day, all 5th graders, their teachers, and counselor will travel to Stonewall Jackson Middle School for a guided tour. This will also be an opportunity for students to ask questions about routines, changing classes, and available clubs. Shadow Day, scheduled for later in the spring, will be an opportunity for selected students to shadow current 6th graders, take notes, and report their findings to their classmates at LMES. Classroom guidance lessons for our 5th graders will focus on opening combination locks and learning more about the day-to-day routines of the students at SJMS.

Meanwhile, in kindergarten, first grade, and third grade, our classroom guidance lessons have focused on learning about work habits, good work habits, such as listening to the teacher, following directions, and working quietly. Second grade lessons have been all about careers and career clusters.

Stay tuned for more updates from the Counseling Department!



