



Lights
Camera
Learning!

LMES

PTA

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February 19 Student Holiday
February 20 Giambanco Spirit Night
February 22 Early Release
February 26 One Book One School Kick-off

Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

I hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing winter break! Thank you everyone who attended our Snowflake Breakfast for Dinner! It was an adjustment, but I am thankful to everyone who were able to adapt to the unexpected cancellation due to Snow! A big round of applause to Mrs. Talley for leading our very own LMES Chorus students in a fabulous performance along with our 5th grade recorders, SJMS Band and The School of Dance.

We still have lots of fun events in January and February! First we will start off January with our Watch D.O.G.S. Donuts with Dad on Friday January 19th from 7:30-8:00am. Followed by one of the most popular events of the year, LMES Variety Show on Thursday February 1st starting at 6:30. LMES always has amazing talented students who participate in this event! Then, be prepared to saddle up your horse and dust off your hat to dance the night away with our Wild West Hoedown on Friday February 9th!

We have a NEW spirit event added to the calendar this year that the kids are sure to love! Tuesday January 16th join us at The Rink for some ice skating in Short Pump! More details will be in your Tuesday folders for this new spirit night!! Then, take a break from cooking and order some pizza on Tuesday January 23rd from Marco's Pizza!

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

Sincerely,
Dana Hughes
PTA President

Snowflake Breakfast for Dinner

SPONSOR THANK YOU!!!

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Principal's Corner - Ms. Sandra Crowder



EXCELLENT EDUCATOR: Congratulations to Alicia Broughton, a recipient of a 2017 R.E.B. Award for Teaching Excellence by the [The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia](#). Considered among the best in their field, Mrs. Broughton demonstrates a sincere passion for teaching while also serving as a mentor, coach, and champion for her students. Pictured (left-to-right): Dr. Michael Gill, Alicia Broughton



LMES Gives to the Community: As we focused on the importance of giving to others, the Laurel Meadow Community provided socks to needy children in the Richmond area. Additionally, Laurel Meadow hosted a Blood Drive for the Red Cross; Laurel Meadow Elementary collected 23 units of blood which means that over 69 lives could potentially be saved! We are also very proud of our SCA for opening the Little Free Library. It is OPEN FOR BUSINESS! Come check out the newest Little Free Library in our area! It is fully stocked and ready for you to borrow books for you and your family! A huge THANK YOU to the Hanover Education

Foundation, Sarah Oates, and the LMES SCA!

Many Thanks: Many thanks to all of the students that participated in the LMES STEM Fair. Mrs. Broughton and her committee once again planned a wonderful event for students and families. Our STEAM Fair was a HUGE hit! Many thanks to our student scientists, Math Science Innovation Center, Mad Science, our Boosterthon Team, the Lee Davis Beta Club, VCU Engineering, Schnabel Engineering and our wonderful faculty for making the night such a success.



Inclement Weather: The new calendar year and the season of lower temperatures brings the possibility of inclement weather. Due to the unpredictable nature of the weather, please remain aware of possible late openings or early closings by listening to the radio/local news and checking the Hanover County Public Schools website (www.hanover.k12.va.us), HCPS Twitter, HCPS Facebook Page, and Channel 99. (School closings are usually shared with the local media by 6:00 a.m.) If schools close early due to changing weather conditions during the day, your child's classroom teacher will follow the directions you specified on the Emergency Early Dismissal Plan at the beginning of the school year. You should update this information as soon as possible if your child's inclement weather plan has changed. Hopefully, it will be a mild winter and school closures will not be needed this winter.



Gifted Screening Window is Now



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 31st for the Spring Testing Window. If you have any other questions, please contact abroughton@hcps.us for more information.

One School, One Book

One School One Book is coming to Laurel Meadow in the month of March! OSOB is a wonderful opportunity for the entire school community to take part in a shared reading experience. Each LMES household, through the generosity of our PTA and the Hanover Education Foundation, will receive a copy of our One School One Book novel. Families will also receive a reading calendar and some optional, fun activities that tie in with the book. Stay tuned to find out our mystery title SOON!

Watch D.O.G.S. is now 7:30 am -9:30 am

- No need to fill out that request for time off slip.
- No sideways glances when you try and get them approved.
- Come on DADS you can skip the ~~donut~~ ~~shop~~ gym; one morning.
- Give us a call (804) 723-2040 and let us know when you'd like to volunteer!



Health & Safety



10,421 child lives were saved by child safety seats or seat belts between 1975 and 2013.

Let's see, there's "Click it or Ticket!" "No Belt, No Brains," and "What's Holding You Back?" But no matter how you say it, one thing is clear: Buckling up on every ride is the single most important thing a family can do to stay safe in the car. Here are a few tips to make buckling up a part of every car ride.

Hard Facts







Seat belts save almost 13,000 lives a year. Compared with other age groups, teens have the lowest rate of seat belt use. Only 53 percent of high school students reported always wearing a seat belt when riding with someone else.

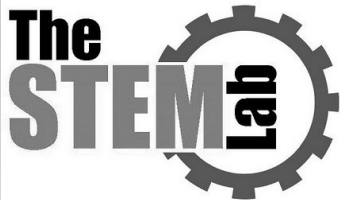
Top Tips

Use a booster seat with the vehicle lap AND shoulder safety belts until your child passes the following Safety Belt Fit Test:

- ★ Be sure your kids are ready for a seat belt by giving them the following **Safety Belt Fit Test**:
 - ★ Your children's knees should bend at the edge of the seat when their backs and bottoms are against the vehicle seat back; and
 - ★ The vehicle lap belt should fit across the upper thighs; and
 - ★ The shoulder belt should fit across the shoulder and chest. Children are usually between 8 and 12 years old when the seat belt fits them properly.
- ★ Once your children pass the Safety Belt Fit Test, teach them the importance of using seat belts on every ride, whether they're with you or not. This is a habit you can instill at an early age. If they learn this lesson early, they'll be more likely to buckle up when they're older or when you're not around.
- ★ Kids are VIPs – just ask them. VIPs ride in the back seat, so keep all kids in the back seat until they are 13.
- ★ When adults wear seat belts, kids wear seat belts. So be a good example and buckle up for every ride. Be sure everyone in the vehicle buckles up, too.
- ★ A lap and shoulder belt provides the best protection for your children and should be used on every ride.
- ★ We know kids like to slouch or lean against the windows during the drive, but it makes a difference in terms of safety. Have your children sit upright when using seat belts

JANUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1  Student Holiday	2  Student Holiday	3	4	5 LMES Spirit T-shirt RO Meeting 7:45-8:15AM	6
7	8	9	10	11 PTA Meeting 5:30PM	12	13
14	15  Student Holiday	16 Ice Skating 3-9PM The Rink - Short Pump 	17	18	19  7:30 - 8:00 AM	20
21	22	23  Spirit Night	24	25 Early Release	26 Early Release	27
28	29	30	31 Gifted Referral Deadline			



The STEM Lab is in need of your recycled items! Please consider collecting and sending in:

- Paper towel & toilet paper tubes
- Clean Foam Trays
- Cardboard Scraps (no boxes, please)

LMES PTA is on Facebook! Like and Follow Laurel Meadow Elementary School PTA on Facebook for reminders, updates on events, and to post and share with other LMES parents! <https://m.facebook.com/Laurel-Meadow-Elementary-School-PTA-161023907306441/>



WANTED

Dust your boots off boys and girls and get ready for LMES annual family dinner and dance February 9th at 6:30. Our theme this year will be Wild West. Tickets will go on sale in January. So mark your calendars and get ready to kick the dust up!