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Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,
I would like to thank all the parents and students who attended our Wild West Family Dinner and Dance! It was such a fantastic evening with over 200 students, siblings and parents dancing and enjoying dinner. We would especially like to thank Jason Wells with Music-Entertainment for donating his company and time to DJ this year's dance! Plus, an extra THANK YOU to Anthony's Italian, Franco's Italian, Giambanco's and Giovanni's Pizza for donating the spaghetti and salad! Lastly, I want to thank Patricia Anderson and Kristy West for coordinating such a great event.

Be sure to join all the fun this March. Coming up on March 1st, is the Reading \& Writing Night. Then we hope you will join the fun at our $1^{\text {st }}$ bowling spirit night on Tuesday March $6^{\text {th }}$ from $6-8 \mathrm{pm}$. This is sure to be the perfect time to hang out with your friends and bowl for only $\$ 12$ for two hours! Next up is our $1^{\text {st }}$ Grade Musical on Thursday March $15^{\text {th }}$ along with our general membership meeting at $5: 30 \mathrm{pm}$. Rounding out the month is our Riverbound Café Spirit Day on March $20^{\text {th }}$ and Chick-fil-A Spirit Day on March $27^{\text {th }}$ where you can enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner and a portion of the sales are donated back to LMES!

I know this time of year gets so busy with spring sports kicking off and many fun activities for the whole family. This is also the time of year when we begin thinking about our leadership for the next year. Some of our committee chairman will be returning; however, most of our current board members will be leaving us as their kids move on to middle school or they have already served their two year term. Some of the committees we are looking to fill:

| President | Arts in Education | Membership |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Vice President | Building and Grounds | Newsletter |
| Secretary | Family Dinner \& Dance | Snowflake Breakfast |
| Treasurer | Health \& Safety | Watch D.O.G.S. |

Please consider joining our board and helping us plan new exciting things for the 20182019 school year! If you would like more information on any of the above, please contact me at daveanddanahughes@comcast.net

## Sincerely,

 Dana HughesPTA President

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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. Crowder. 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), Mrs. Mary Jackson (instructional assistant), and Mrs. Nicole Richardson (finance secretary).

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 - Paige Longest (3rd place), Adeaja Lucas (2nd place), Gloria Cox (1st place)
McGinnis's Class- Emmy Haigler (3rd place), Landis Bronson (2nd place), Julian Messe (1st place)
Lundquist's Class - Haileigh Daniel (3rd place), Evie Dean (2nd place), Julia Proost (1st place)
Taylor's Class- Violet Bourne (3rd place), Lucy Greene (2nd place), Natalie Pearson (1st place)
Hazelwood's Class - Kaylee Ross (3rd place), Ben Phan (2nd place), Natalie Previs (1st place)

## Poster Winners:

Allen's Class -Nick Jones (3rd place), Faith Harris (2nd place), Fleet Smith (1st place)
McGinnis's Class- Landis Bronson (3rd place), Julian Messe (2nd place), Aiden Lucy (1st place)
Lundquist's Class -Orlyn Ramirez (3rd place), Baylor Hughes (2nd place), Evan Strath (1st place)
Taylor's Class-Katie Neal (3rd place), Ella Young ((2nd place), Lucy Greene (1st place)
Hazelwood's Class- Crystal Rumans (3rd place), Grayson Roberts (2nd place), Diego Aguilera(1st place)

## Overall Winner:

Julian Messe
Congratulations to all of our Grade students:


## $3^{\text {rd }}$ Grade SOL Tests:

Tuesday, May $15^{\text {th }}$ - Reading, Part I Wednesday, May $16^{\text {th }}$ - Reading, Part II
Thursday, May $24^{\text {sth }}-$ Math, Part I Friday, May $25^{\text {th }}-$ Math, Part II

## $4^{\text {th }}$ Grade SOL Tests:

Thursday, May $10^{\text {th }}$ - Reading, Part I Friday, May $11^{\text {th }}-$ Reading, Part II Tuesday, May $22^{\text {nd }}-$ Math, Part I

Wednesday, May $23^{\text {rd }}$ - Math, Part II Thursday, May 31 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ VA Studies
$5^{\text {th }}$ Grade SOL Tests:
Tuesday, May $8^{\text {h }}$ - Reading, Part I
Wednesday, May $9^{\text {th }}-$ Reading, Part II
Thursday, May $17^{\text {th }}-$ Math, Part I
Friday, May $18^{\text {th }}-$ Math, Part II
Wednesday, May $30^{\text {th }}-$ Science


## $6^{\text {th }}$ Grade SOL Test:

Thursday, May $17^{\text {th }}-$ Math
**SOL Make-ups will occur throughout the testing window from May $17^{\text {th }}$ - June $9^{\text {th }} .^{* *}$ Please contact Will Brizendine, Assistant Principal, at 723-2040 or wbrizendine@hcps.us if your child will be absent during his/her assigned testing day. Thanks!


## Health \& Safety



With active supervision and some basic safety tips, every day at the playground can be a walk in the park.

## The Hard Facts

 Falls are the most common type of playground injury, accounting for more than 75 percent of all play-ground-related injuries. Lack of or improper supervision is associated with approximately 45 percent of playground-related injuries.
## Top Tips

Actively supervise children on playgrounds. It won't be hard - they'll probably be calling for you to watch them climb, jump and swing.

Take your kids to playgrounds with shockabsorbing surfaces such as rubber, synthetic turf, sand, pea gravel, wood chips or mulch. If your child falls, the landing will be more cushioned than on asphalt, concrete, grass or dirt.

Dress appropriately for the playground. Remove necklaces, purses, scarves or clothing with drawstrings that can get caught on equipment and pose a strangulation hazard. Even helmets can be dangerous on a playground, so save those for bikes.

Teach children that pushing, shoving or crowding while on the playground can be dangerous.

Don't forget to pick up your Flying Squirrels Ticket Books from the PTA. $\$ 30$ a booklet that includes 4 general admission tickets to use anytime except July 4th. (\$6 savings)


| SUNDAY | Monday | TuEsDAY | WEDNESDAY | Thursday | Friday | SATURDAY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 1 Reading／Writing Night 6：30PM Spring Pictures 3rd－5th Grade | 2LMES Spirit t－shirts RO Mtng．7：45－8：15 Spring Pictures PreK－2nd Grade | $3$ |
| 4 | 5 | $6$ <br> AMF Bowling <br> $6-8 P M$ ANE | 7 | 8 <br> Early Release | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 <br> 1st Grade Musical 9AM \＆6：30PM MUSICAL | 16 | $17$ |
| 18 | 19 | 20 <br> Riverbound Spirit Night <br> River ${ }^{2} \mathrm{CAFE}^{2}$ | 21 | 22 | 23 <br> Reading Olympics Competition | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 <br> Chick－Fil－A Spirit <br> Night | 28 | 29 | 30 Early Release OBOS Finale： Wildlife Presentation | 31 |

The Plastic Bottle Caps and Tops Drive is now over．Thank you to all of the LMES families and students who collected plastic bottle caps，tops and lids．Your efforts collected hundreds（maybe a thousand）of plastic caps and tops．We are now in the cleaning and sorting phase of our project．Students are starting to sort caps and lids by color．Your contribution of plastic caps and tops helped to save the environment and reduce，reuse，and recycle plastic from landfills．Students will be painting four large paw prints and mosaic the plastic tops and lids in a colorful meadow design．Thank you for
supporting this project！


