

Choose
Kind

LMES
PTA

Volume 11, Issue 3

November, 2018

Inside this issue

Letter from the President

Principal's Corner

Calendar & News

Upcoming events

- Nov 2 LMES Spirit Day
- Nov 2 Early School Closing/End of 9 Weeks
- Nov 6 Student Holiday/Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Nov 8 Veterans Day Performance
- Nov 9 Report Cards
- Nov 10 Ashland Skateland Spirit Night
- Nov 12-16 Book Fair
- Nov 13 Book Fair Family Day
- Nov 13 Reading & Writing Night
- Nov 21-23 Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 29 Family Fitness Night
PTA Meeting 5:30 P.M.

Dear Parents and Laurel Meadows Staff,

Wow! How did it become November already? This is my favorite time of the year with the cooler temperatures, apple picking, and pumpkin spice! I hope all the students and families enjoyed this year's Boosterthon Fun Run! This is such an exciting, fun, and successful event for the school and PTA! A huge **Thank you** to Jen Puleo and Nicole Richardson for all their time and hard work. This event wouldn't be possible without them!

A lot of exciting things are happening this month! We hope you will join us on Thursday, November 8th, for the 3rd graders Veteran's Day Performance. Mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, November 10th for Ashland Skateland spirit night from 5:30 to 7:30. It is only \$5.00 per child and \$3.00 for skate rental! Reading and Writing Night is Tuesday, November 13th, and Family Fitness Night on Thursday, November 29th. The PTA will be giving out our Reflections awards at Fitness Night.

If you haven't joined the PTA yet, please still consider it! Please know that joining the PTA does not require a time commitment unless you want to. Just \$6.00 annual dues to a local community-based, non-profit organization that spends every penny to improve the lives of our children. As a PTA we work to put technology in the classrooms (smartboards, ipads), books in the hands of our students (reading resources), equipment for resources such as music, art, and PE along with taking care of endless other behind-the-scenes needs for our teachers, staff and principals! Again, if you have not joined please consider supporting your child's PTA!

Lastly, be sure to join us on Friday, December 7th for our Snowflake Dinner from 6 to 8pm. Who doesn't like breakfast for dinner? There will be performances from the LMES Chorus and 5th grade recorders, as well as vendors for shopping. Information and ticket order forms will be coming home soon. I also encourage you to consider volunteering for this event as we can't make these events successful without the help of the parents.

Our next PTA general meeting is Thursday, November 29th at 5:30pm in the Library before Family Fitness Night, we hope to see you there! Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas at mergyrx@aol.com.

Sincerely,
Kristin Konopka
PTA President



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Tardy Bell Rings at 8:00:

This is a reminder that the tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m. Tardiness has a negative impact on learning outcomes on the tardy student, as well as the other students. When students arrive, even a few minutes late, they miss out on activities designed to build connections with their peers, potentially impacting their social interactions during Morning Meeting and creating a sense of alienation from their classmates.

When students arrive late, they receive fewer hours of instruction than students who are in class at the ring of the bell. Students who are late miss out on important announcements, team-building, and academic activities. Arriving late also establishes bad punctuality habits and disrupts the learning of the other students.

LMES Lions are counting on you to get them to school on time. Thank you for having students here between 7:30 and 7:55 so that they can be in their classes when the bell rings at 8:00. Being on time ensures the Lions are RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, and READY TO LEARN.



What are Executive Functioning Skills? These are skills that help us accomplish tasks from beginning to end without giving up. Children need lots of practice developing these skills. What can you do at home to help? PLAY GAMES!!! When students play games, they learn to plan, organize, begin a task, organize materials, focus on important information, use time wisely, and work through challenges. These skills help students with their classroom studies. Here are some games you can plan (Holiday Shopping Lists??) with your child to increase their skill set:

Jenga: Jenga takes a great deal of planning to make sure the tower does not fall down.

Scrabble: In addition to the vocabulary that can be built, Scrabble requires planning and organization to build off of other players' words.

Pictionary: This game requires extensive time management skills in order to draw/guess the picture before time is up.

Chess: This game requires concentration, planning, and flexibility in thinking.

Sudoku: In addition to the critical thinking skills necessary to play this numbers game, it requires perseverance and working memory.

Freeze: This free game is old-fashioned, but great for building self-control and attention.



BIKE SAFETY

There are so many great reasons to ride your bike: It offers fun, freedom and exercise, and it's good for the environment. We want kids and families to ride their bikes as much as possible. Here are a few tips so that you'll be safe while you do so.



TIPS

1. Wear a properly-fitted helmet. It is the best way to prevent head injuries and death.
2. Ride on the sidewalk when you can. If not, ride in the same direction as traffic as far on the right-hand side as possible.
3. Use hand signals and follow the rules of the road. Be predictable by making sure you ride in a straight line and don't swerve between cars.
4. Wear bright colors and use lights, especially when riding at night and in the morning. Reflectors on your clothes and bike will help you be seen.
5. Ride with your children. Stick together until you are comfortable that your kids are ready to ride on their own.

A Message From the School Counselors

During the months of October and November, classroom lessons focused on kindness and friendship skills. These lessons coincided with Unity Day, October 24, a day for students and staff to wear orange to show that we are united in kindness. Students also had the opportunity to participate in Unity Day by creating a picture about kindness to be displayed in the hallways. In grades 3-5, students also learned about the importance of including others.

The Stonewall Jackson Middle School principal and counselors will visit our fifth graders at the end of November to begin discussions of the registration process for middle school. The catalog of available classes, the Program of Studies, will be given to each student at that time. **Please hold on to the Program of Studies since replacements are not available.** All fifth graders and their parents/guardians are invited to attend "Rising 6th Grade Night" at SJMS on **December 3**. Students are dropped off at the SJMS gym at 6:15 while parents/guardians attend a special presentation in the cafeteria. The event lasts about an hour. During the month of January, each student will meet with either Dr. Z or Mrs. Scott at LMES to register for middle school. While parents are invited to attend this meeting, their attendance is optional. Information for signing up for a meeting time will be coming home in December.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Book Fair will be held November 12-16th. Students will visit during their regular library class times. Our Family Event will be Tuesday, November 13th from 2:30-6:30 P.M. with Reading and Writing Night held from 5:30-6:30 P.M. Volunteers are needed to assist with the fair. Please follow this SignUp Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044baaaa2baa8-enchanted>



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Reading Olympics Meeting - 4th/5th grade participant Team Meeting Friday November 2nd 7:50-8:20 A.M.

Pamunkey Mechanicsville Library Read Aloud Thursday, November 15th 7:00-8:00 P.M



Help Wanted for our first LMES Family Art Fest!

Calling all Artists and Art Supporters,

The LMES Family Art Fest Committee is planning for the PTA's Art Night on Thursday, February 28, 2019, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Are you crafty or creative? Do you have an art related career or skill? Would you like to run a craft/art station? Do you make art? Are you interested in helping plan our Family Art Fest? If you answered "Yes" to any of the questions, please contact Ms. Hairston at jhairston@hcps.us with your specific answer to the questions and how you can help. Thank you for supporting the Arts at LMES!

Thank you to everyone who helped raise money for Laurel Meadow at our Fun Run!

We raised over \$22,000 for SMARTBoards and instructional supplies!

The students had a lot of fun at the Fun Run!

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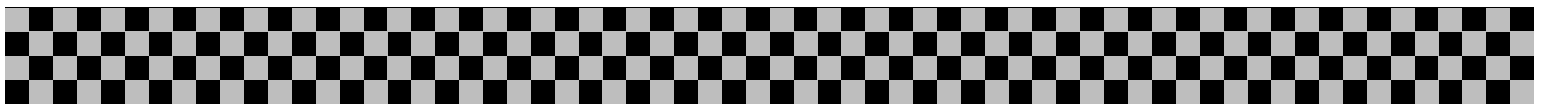
The Giambancos
Italian Grill

SPOTLIGHT
acro and cheer



NOVEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 LMES Spirit Day Early Closing End of 9 weeks	3
4 Daylight Savings Time Ends	5	6 Student Holiday Parent-Teacher Conferences	7	8 Veterans Day Performance	9 Report Cards Make-Up Picture Day	10 Ashland Skateland Spirit Night 5:30-7:30 \$5 per child \$3 skate rental
11	12 Book Fair	13 Reading & Writing Night Book Fair Family Day	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Thanksgiving Break	22 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Family Fitness Night PTA Meeting 5:30 Reflections Winners	30	



NEWS FROM THE GYM

Fitness Testing is done! To see your child's scores you can log onto focusedfitness.org. The user name is the student ID number (lunch #) and the password is your last name. You will be able to see if your child is in the ZONE!

Brand new to the gym is our awesome traverse wall! Students should have had an opportunity to try it out. It is pretty awesome!

Run Club will be finishing up this month. Wow! We have some amazing runners. Please come out and join us if you can.