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LMES
PTA

Volume 11, Issue 6

February, 2019

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6:00 PM– 8:00 PM
- Feb 12 Riverbound Spirit Day
- Feb 15 Reading Olympics Meeting
- Feb 18 FULL Day of School (Change
from 1/2 Day)
- Feb 27 FULL Day of School (Change
from 1/2 Day)
- Feb 28 Art Night/PTA Meeting 5:30
PM
- Mar 1 Interims
- Mar 7&8 Picture Days
- Mar 14 FULL Day of School (Change
from 1/2 Day)



Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

I would like to thank all the Dads who attended our Watch D.O.G.S. Donuts for Dads morning. We had great attendance with over 400 Dads and students enjoying yummy donuts. I know your children sure enjoy spending the morning with their Dads!

Aloha! Hula on over to Laurel Meadow for our Luau themed Family Dinner and Dance on Friday, February 8th from 6 to 8pm. Come dressed up in your favorite Hawaiian shirt, grass skirt, and flip flops!

Come enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner at Riverbound Cafe for our spirit night on February 12th. We are looking forward to an exciting new school event this year, Art Night. Ms. Hairston has been working very hard to come up with interactive art stations for your children to enjoy. Please be sure to mark your calendars and join us for all these fun activities! More information about each of these events will be sent home soon in Tuesday folders.



Lastly, we are looking for new faces to help with the PTA for the 2019-2020 school year! We have many of our volunteers leaving us in the next year or 2 as their kids move on to middle school! We can't make our events and activities successful without the help of parent volunteers and the PTA!

As always, 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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As a result of inclement weather days, the following calendar changes will take effect:

- ◆ February 18th: Full day (originally an early closing for Parent Teacher Conferences); please note that although we are no longer designating the afternoon of February 18th for parent-teacher conferences, parents are welcome to reach out to their schools and/or teachers to schedule a time to meet at a mutually convenient time to discuss any concerns.
- ◆ February 27th: Full day (originally an early closing for teacher professional development)
- ◆ March 14th: Full day (originally an early closing for teacher professional development)

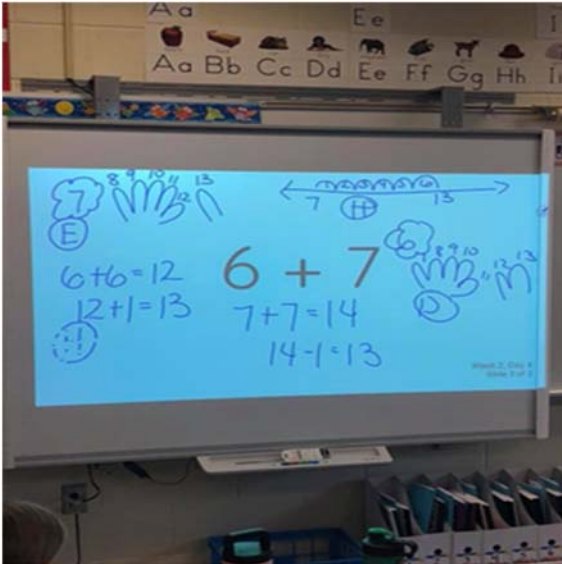


One School One Book is coming back to Laurel Meadow in the month of March! OSOB is a wonderful opportunity for the entire school community to take part in a shared reading experience. Each LMES household, through the generosity of our PTA and the Hanover Education Foundation, will receive a copy of our 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!



Innovative Math Teaching: LMES teachers are using research-based best practices to ensure math is taught so that students have a true conceptual understanding. You may hear your child talking about Math Workshop. This is a model that has been embraced by our staff. We are seeing great results in terms of student understanding.

Math Workshop allows time for students to talk together about their mathematical thinking and reasoning with one another. Sharing strategies is a wonderful way to open up students to new ways of thinking about problem solving. Math workshop is not teachers doing all the talking and students doing worksheets. Math workshop involves collaboration, teachers working with small groups, LOTS of problem solving, and students making choices about activities and procedures.



Executive Function Spotlight: What you need to know about Flexible Thinking

Flexible thinking allows kids to think about things in different ways. It is a key skill for problem solving. If a child has difficulties with flexible thinking, they can appear “rigid” or fearful. They do not like change and can become easily frustrated by things they view as challenging. They also can have a hard time coming up with alternative solutions.

Here are some tips you can try at home if you suspect your child struggles with flexible thinking:

Play “What’s This?” – Take an ordinary object like a funnel and see how many different things you and your child can pretend it is: a party hat, a trumpet, a unicorn horn. This activity encourages your child to see things in more creative ways.

Make up new rules for games – for example: have players slide down ladders and walk up slides in Chutes and Ladders. This helps kids see there is more than one way to solve a problem.

Read Amelia Bedelia books – Children will see that words and phrases can have more than one meaning.



For more tips and activities, visit www.understood.org

From the School Counselors:

By February 14, all of our rising 6th graders will be registered for middle school. Thank you to all of the parents, students, and teachers for helping to make the registration process a success! In March, all 5th graders will go to Stonewall Jackson Middle School for a guided tour. Please be on the lookout for a permission form to come home!

The On-Time Arrival Program is up and running! If your child has been tardy to school 10 or more times, he/she is invited to participate in this program designed to encourage on-time arrival. Please contact Dr. Ziolkowski for more information.

In classroom lessons during February and March, the focus will be on goal setting, careers, and identifying strengths and interests.

Small groups and individual counseling are also available for students who are experiencing barriers to learning. These barriers include, but are not limited to, changes in the family, managing anxiety or anger, and attentional issues. While many students manage these experiences well without help, some students find learning difficult because of the barriers. If your child is experiencing difficulties in the classroom because of barriers, please contact your child's school counselor (Mrs. Scott for second grade and Dr. Z for grades K,1,3,4,5).



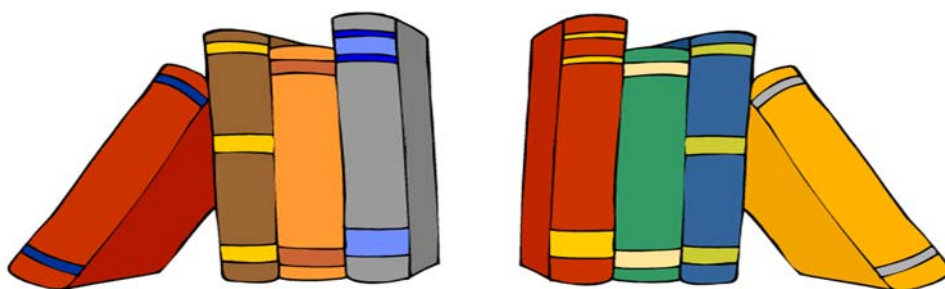
Library Notes:

February 1st Reading Olympics Team Meeting from 7:50am-8:20am.

Feb. 11-15th Mystery Reader Week in the Library. Email mkaloski@hcps.us to sign up.

February 15th-Reading Olympics Practice from 7:50am-8:30am.

One School One Book kicks off March 4th. More details coming soon.



Get Ready for the Kids Heart Challenge

Parents, it's time for your child to show heart! This year we are launching the Kids Heart Challenge. It's your child's chance to be a heart hero by learning about heart health, spreading the word and raising funds to save other children.

Please be sure visit the website <http://american.heart.org/kidsheartchallenge/> where you and your child can take one of the three challenges. From there you can e-mail family and friends and ask for donations.

Your child will earn a glow in the dark wristband just for registering online. When they get donations, they will receive Echo, Finn and a clasp.

Thank you for supporting the physical and emotional well-being of our students and the American Heart Association.

Your student will be participating in the event during their PE class time the week of February 4th-8th. All donations will be due by February 15th.



American Heart Month

February is American Heart Month and heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. Fortunately, it's almost entirely preventable if good habits to prevent heart disease start at an early age.

Vow to keep your family heart healthy this February by incorporating these 3 easy tips into your family's lifestyle:

1. Don't smoke or use tobacco

Smoking causes your heart to work harder by increasing your heart rate and blood pressure. No amount of smoking is safe and the best way to prevent your children from taking up the habit is by not smoking yourself.

2. Exercise with your kids several times a week

Exercising as a family helps control everyone's weight. Every minute of exercise is beneficial, so find ways to stay active, no matter how long it is.

3. Cook heart-healthy meals at home

Fill the dinner table with foods such as fruit, veggies, low-fat dairy products, beans and fish.

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



It's time for another Box Tops for Education submission! Please turn in your Box Tops to your child's teacher by Friday, February 8th. In November, we earned \$800 for Laurel Meadow. Let's double that amount! Special prizes go to classes submitting the most Box Tops!

Don't miss our kick off for
Youth Art Month in March

at

The LMES Family Art Fest!
Thursday, February 28, 2014
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Creative activities for the whole family include:

The VMFA's Educational Exhibit

Art Stations

Door Prizes

SJMS Student Art Show

Collaborative Art Projects



Art & LMES PTA



Parent volunteers needed for
The LMES Family Art Fest!
Thursday, February 28, 2014
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

*6:00 Arrival/Directions Overview

*7:30-7:45 Clean-up

Sign up to run a creative activity or station

The VMFA's Educational Exhibit

Osmo & iPads	Scratch Art
Craft Oven Shrinky Dinks	Origami
Printmaking	Painting
Weaving	Jewelry
Coloring	Sewing
	Clay/Play-doh

Mask Making

*Supplies and directions will be provided.

Please contact Ms. Hairston at jhairston@hcps.us
with your choice of station or activity.

FEBRUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 LMES Spirit Day Report Cards RO Meeting 7:50-8:20 A.M.	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Family Dinner & Dance 6-8 P.M.	9
10	11	12 <i>Riverbound Spirit Day</i>	13	14	15 Reading Olympics Meeting 7:50-8:20 A.M.	16
17	18 FULL Day of School (Change from 1/2 Day)	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 FULL Day of School (Change from 1/2 Day)	28 Art Night PTA Meeting 5:30 P.M.		

NEWS AND NOTES

357 pairs of socks were collected and donated to CARITAS and thank you to all who donated to help keep the needy warm and comfortable



Congratulations to two Laurel Meadow students who placed in their county-level Reflections category.

Jillian Keener 1st Place Intermediate Dance

Grayson Parsley 2nd Place Intermediate Music Composition

Next year's Reflections theme will be "Look Within".

It's never too soon to start planning for the 2019 Competition.