



LMES PTA

Volume 11, Issue 5

January, 2019

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Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

I hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing winter break. I can't believe it is 2019! Thank you to everyone who attended our Snowflake Breakfast for Dinner! I would love to hear feedback on how we can make this event bigger and better. A big round of applause to Mrs. Talley and our 5th grade recorders. I, also, wanted to thank SJMS Band, The School of Dance, and The Dance Company for taking time to entertain our guests.

We still have lots of fun events in January and February! First, we start off January with a new spirit night with 360 Pizzeria, which is an all-day event. Next, we will have our Watch D.O.G.S Donuts with Dad on Friday, January 18th from 7:30 to 8:00am. Finally, join us for a fun evening of bowling at AMF Hanover from 6 to 8pm on Tuesday, January 29th. As for February, be on the look out for information to come home about our Luau themed Family Dinner and Dance!

We are hoping to have a Box Tops competition, so continue to save those box tops!

We do not have a general PTA meeting in January, so please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas at mergyrx@aol.com.

Sincerely,
Kristin Konopka
PTA President





Inclement Weather: The new calendar year and the season of lower temperatures brings the possibility of more 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.



One School One Book is coming to Laurel Meadow again this school year 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!

One School, One Book

FIRE PREVENTION FOR BIG KIDS

Big kids are curious about fire. Teaching your children about the hazards of playing with matches and other flammable materials, as well as practicing a fire escape plan with your family, can help prevent accidents and injuries.

Top Safety Tips

1. Working smoke alarms reduce the chances of dying in a fire by nearly 50 percent. They are a critical first step for staying safe, but in order to be effective, they have to be working properly. For the best protection, install smoke alarms on every level of your home and in every sleeping area. Consider installing a smoke alarm that has a 10-year battery.
2. Teach kids never to play with matches, lighters or fireworks.
3. Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn, and always blow them out when you leave the room or before you go to sleep. Teach older kids not to use candles in their bedrooms, unless supervised by an adult.
4. Use common sense in the kitchen. Limit distractions when cooking and don't leave a hot oven or stovetop unattended.
5. Have a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of emergency, and make sure you know how it works. You might be surprised that most people don't know how to use one.
6. Children should know how to respond to the sound of a smoke alarm. Teach them to get low and get out when they hear it. A child who is coached properly ahead of time will have a better chance to be safe.
7. Practice feeling the door, doorknob and cracks around the door with the back of your hand to see if they are too hot. Help your children practice this step.
8. Together, have your family plan and practice a home fire escape plan with two ways out of your house in case of a fire. It is important to have an alternate exit in case one is blocked by fire. Choose a place to meet outside that is a safe distance away from your home.
9. If you cannot safely escape your home or apartment, keep smoke out of the room by covering vents and cracks around the door and call 911 or your fire department as quickly as possible. Then signal for help at the window with a light-colored cloth or a flashlight.
10. To prevent possible fires, avoid plugging several appliance cords into the same electrical socket.
11. If using gasoline-powered devices, store gasoline in a locked location where children cannot access it. Keep only small quantities in an approved container that has child safety features.

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, 2019

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

Craft Oven Shrinky Dinks

Printmaking

Weaving

Coloring

Scratch Art

Origami

Painting

Jewelry

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.

VIRGINIA LOTTERY THANK A TEACHER ART CONTEST

<http://www.thankateacherva.com/>

Sponsored by the Virginia PTA

Each year, we encourage students, parents and the general public to send thank-you notes to Virginia's deserving public school teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. In its first three years, Virginians distributed more than 100,000 thank-you notes as part of the Thank a Teacher campaign.

We're looking for three student artists to have their artwork featured on thousands of thank-you notes distributed across the state as part of our Thank a Teacher Art Contest. The contest is open to K-12 public school students, and one top-prize winner will be selected from each level: elementary school, middle school and high school. The three winners will not only get to see their artwork featured on the 2019 thank-you notes, they'll also receive individual cash prizes and win money for their school's art department.

Entry deadline is February 1, 2019



REFLECTIONS winners ANNOUNCEMENT:

We'd like to announce this year's winners of the Laurel Meadow PTA Reflections Competition:

1st place in Dance Choreography, Jillian Keener.

1st place in grades K-2 Visual Arts, Lorelai Elza

2nd place Leyla Linet Azurdia Brown

1st place in grades 3-5 Visual Arts, Mikey Elza

2nd place Gianna Strattman

1st place in grades K-2 Music Composition, Caleb Morris

1st place in grades 3-5 Music Composition,

Grayson Parsley

2nd place Rasheeda Diong

1st place in grades 3-5 Literature, Evan Smith

2nd place Liliana Chapman

3rd place Berkley Diana

Each student who placed received a Target gift card. 1st place winners advanced to the county competition. Congratulations!!



Our next Box Tops collection will be February 15th. Last time we earned nearly \$800 for LMES! Let's make a goal to double that amount! Special prizes go to classes who submit the most Box Tops!

JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 	2 	3 School Reopens	4 LMES Spirit Day RO Meeting 7:50-8:20 A.M.	5
6	7	8	9	10 360 Pizzeria Spirit Night	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Donuts for Dad 7:30-8:00 A.M.	19
20	21  School Holiday	22	23	24	25 Early School Closing/End of Semester	26
27	28	29 Bowling AMF Hanover Lanes 6:00-8:00 PM	30	31 GT Referrals Due		

NEWS AND NOTES

- Thank you for all the contributions of breakfast items to make the Staff Appreciation Breakfast a success!
- Please note that the GT referral window opens in January. The deadline to refer your child for GT is January 31st. If you have any questions and/or wish to refer your child, please contact Teresa McNeely at tmcneely@hcps.us.
- January's Reading Olympics Morning Meeting takes place January 4th 7:50am-8:20am