

# WOLF NEWS

## Liberty Pines Academy



WOLVES

### Message from Mrs. Hemingway

Liberty Pines Academy Families,

Social Media Presentation – All students in 4th through 8th grade took part in our social media awareness presentation on February 18 and February 19. Students learned the importance of putting their phones away at least an hour to a half hour before bed in order to get a good nights sleep. They also learned the Golden Rule 2.0 “post of others as you would want posted about you.” Students also learned that the internet is not written in pencil that can be easily erased. It is written in ink and is there forever. It is important to stop and think before you post. You can make a simple mistake that can have a large impact. There are 3 rules before you post: 1.) Would you want this posted about yourself? 2.) Would you want this on a billboard? 3.) Will you care if it lasts forever? The presenter stressed the importance of what you post is a direct representation of who you are. Make sure you post positive posts only. Remember that colleges and employers hire research companies to search posts and chats of their applicants. College acceptances have been rescinded due to posts that were not deemed appropriate. Think before you post!



### UPCOMING DATES

- March 10 - SAC Meeting 4:00 pm
- March 12 - 3rd Quarter Ends
- March 13 - Teacher Planning Day/Student Holiday
- March 16 – 20  
Spring Break
- March 23 - Students Return
- March 26 - Kindergarten Prescreening 9:00 am
- March 27 - PTO Carnival 5:00 pm
- March 28 – Inaugural All County Elementary Chorus 6:00 pm
- March 31 - Report Cards Issued
- April 1-2 – FSA Reading 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade
- April 2 – FSA Writing 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
- April 6 – FSA Writing 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>
- April 9 – 10:00 PTO Meeting
- April 9 - LPA Rocks 6:00
- April 10<sup>th</sup> – No School
- April 13<sup>th</sup> – No School
- April 14<sup>th</sup> – SAC Meeting 4:00
- April 24-30 – Follett Book Fair in Media Center

**Corona Virus (COVID 19) Update** - The St. Johns County School District and the local Department of Health are working together to follow the recommended guidelines of the CDC regarding Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). This guidance offers specific steps for school staff, parents, and students to take during the current low-risk conditions, as well as for more severe conditions. It is recommended, that based on current conditions, students and staff with flu-like illness stay home until at least **24 hours** after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever. This should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medications (i.e., any medicine that contains ibuprofen or acetaminophen). The CDC emphasizes washing hands, respiratory etiquette and staying home when sick:

- Practice good hand hygiene. Students and staff members should wash their hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective.
- Practice respiratory etiquette. Illnesses can spread from person to person in the droplets produced by coughs and sneezes, so it is important to cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder, not into your hands.
- Stay home if you are sick. Keeping sick students home means decreasing the spread of germs to others.

For further information visit [www.floridahealth.gov](http://www.floridahealth.gov) and [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/).

LPA Learning Leader,  
Traci Hemingway

# WOLF NEWS



## Construction Update

- Rainell Luce and Macey Millard

As you know our school is growing and so are our buildings. LPA is in the process of building a new wing. With the new building come twenty new classrooms for fourth, fifth and some third grades. In the two story building we will have a computer lab, ESE room, and moveable walls. In addition it will connect to the existing middle school building by a 2 story covered walkway and will have new floors. Construction started in the fall and is hoped to be finished by June 2020.

## *LPA Drama Corner* - Gabi Turner

### ***The Sound of Music!***

Show nights are slowly approaching! The cast has started learning choreography, and will begin blocking soon. Mrs. Herkel says the cast is blowing her away with all that they're accomplishing! The costume and set design process is slowly coming together as well! We're all so excited for the final production!

### ***What's up in Classes!***

**Advanced Drama:** Currently working on duet scenes

**Technical Theatre:** About to present set design projects

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Drama:** Beginning theatre history unit

### ***Fun Tips and Tricks!***

- It is very important to warm up before you sing or act. It can make a big difference.
- Confidence is key!

**Mrs. Herkel would like to thank all of the Kindergarten for coming and watching the 7<sup>th</sup> grade puppet shows!**



## SUMMER MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAM

Parents,

Applications for the summer Marine Science Program were passed out at all schools during the week of February 10th. Applications were due back to science teachers by February 28th. Applications can still be downloaded at any time from the website prior to April 15th at <http://www-grms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/marinescience/> The link also will have a complete day by day curriculum for each grade level, parent information, and a video from last year's program.

This summer program is available to all students currently in grades five through seven and has been sponsored by the school district since 1982. Three eight day sessions are held at Gamble Rogers Middle School with bus transportation provided. The dates for the three sessions this summer will be June 1st through June 11th, June 15th through June 25th, and June 29th through July 9th (Monday-Thursday). Small classes of 13-15 students are separated by grade level. All instructors in the program are St. Johns County School District teachers.

The Marine Science Program is a carefully designed experience for responsible students who are interested in learning about our local marine environments. Learning is "hands on" in the field with students kayaking, canoeing, boating, hiking, snorkeling, sailing, windsurfing, surfing, SUP, (stand up paddleboarding), etc. Specific grade level activities and curriculum are attached to the applications and are also available from the website.

More information about the program can be had by emailing [marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT AT LPA



## New Teacher Spotlight

- Abbey Cowling and Lilly DeLamielleure

The newest member of Liberty Pines Academy is a spectacular and amazing teacher. **Ms. Porter**, the new middle school art teacher joined the staff two weeks ago. Originally from Jacksonville, Florida she has always enjoyed the hometown feeling. Ms. Porter has been a teacher for 24 years. She attended the University of North Florida, but she is currently getting her master's degree at the University of Florida. She has a lot experience and a huge amount of knowledge on the arts that she can spread to her students. She was very excited about being able to maximize the amount of talent her students have and being able to watch them grow and prosper.



Ms. Porter began teaching art because she was inspired by her own art teachers. In only middle school, she already loved art so much, and her teachers contributed greatly to her start of teaching. In her free time, she enjoys seeing plays, dancing, making art, and hanging out with her family, especially her great niece. She motivates her students by modeling her own work, showing them what proper technique can lead to, and making her assignments as creative as possible. Her favorite part about teaching is watching the students be very happy with their own artwork. She loves it when they are successful in making themselves proud, although she is always proud of them when they try their best.

This year LPA had many new teachers joining the staff. One of the teachers that joined at the beginning of the year was **Mr. Spilling**. He is originally from St. Augustine and went to college at Jacksonville University. This will be Mr. Spilling's 4<sup>th</sup> year teaching and he loves every minute of it. In his free time, he likes to spend time with his family and teach his 4 year old how to play trumpet. Mr. Spilling's greatest accomplishment he says is having a family; he says that he loves watching them grow up and learn how to do new things. He has 2 kids; the oldest one is 4 years old and the youngest is 1 years old. He is proud of his family and proud of his students.



When Mr. Spilling was in high school he did band and it completely changed his life. It taught him life lessons through music, which is when it first sparked his inspiration for teaching music. Every day he tries to incorporate a life lesson when teaching. He motivates his students with encouragement from each other. Mr. Spilling says when you join band you join a culture and a family. Each day Mr. Spilling looks forward to hearing the progress they make. We are so grateful that Mr. Spilling has decided to join the LPA family this school year.



## STAR STUDENTS - Izzie Humphreys and Aidan Emmett

This month's star student is a kindergartener, Cooper McCreless. As Ms. Dudley says, "If I could have a class full of Coopers I would." Cooper is very responsible; when he's in school he likes to learn about science because science is "very creative and fun." When Cooper is not in school he plays with his brothers and his sister and enjoys playing football. In the future Cooper hopes to become a firefighter and looks forward for his future years at LPA.

Congratulations to Pranavi Nagpal who received the Broadcom Masters Award, a secondary science fair where she has the opportunity to present her project in Washington DC in October. She also received 1<sup>st</sup> place in Junior Animal/Plant/Biomedical Sciences. Pranavi is representing LPA at the State Science Fair March 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. In addition, 7<sup>th</sup> grader Christian Bradley won a \$25 gift certificate from SJC Medical Alliance.



# MORE WOLF NEWS



Congratulations Wolf Pack Singers! Great job performing the National Anthem at the February 23<sup>rd</sup> Jacksonville Iceman Game at Veteran's Memorial Arena. Thank you Ms. Risley for all you do for our young musicians!



## The Father Daughter Dance!

By Gabi Turner

On Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, NJHS hosted a wonderful and fun-filled night! Around 120 young ladies and their escorts showed up for each dance. At the end of each dance, the song "My Little Girl" by Tim McGraw would play, and all of the girls shared a special moment with their dads. The Monday after, there was a drawing for a special lady in each grade that would receive a cute little wolf! 1<sup>st</sup> grader Lily O'Shea says, "I got to dance with my dad. My favorite part was getting to see my friends. It was fun!" Thank you NJHS, Ms. Willim, and Ms. Delaney for sponsoring this special night.

## Media Matters:

Logan Weinstein and Marissa Sims

### Coming Soon.....

April 24-30<sup>th</sup> is the Follet bookfair! When interviewing students, they had lots to say about how great the new brand is. "I actually know some of the books at the bookfair this year," one middle school student said. An employee also spoke about how amazing it is that this new fair promotes more books for the middle school students, "it has more romantic novels that even I can enjoy! They make great presents for anyone!" she said. This market has books for kids, while introducing books for middle school. It also maintains a healthy number of books for the younger ones. Be sure to put it on your calendar.



## KINDNESS WEEK

- Macey Millard and Rainell Luce

Kindness week is a time to reflect on being nice and caring for others. This week is a national movement throughout the schools to bring attention to being kind. There are many ways our school is participating in Kindness Week. The Middle and Elementary grades are writing positive notes to their teachers. Also, if teachers see students doing a good thing, they write their name on a link. They are connecting all of the links together, and are trying to see how long it can be. Finally, we are doing a fundraiser called "Pennies for Patients". Students are donating change to raise money for people with Lymphoma.

## Dungeons & Dragons

- Evan Le



LPA is glad to have people embracing their hobbies, just like the kids in the Dungeons & Dragons club. Throughout the year, the club has attracted players from 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. With all the members they've gained, they had to make two groups! Players can enjoy anything from the awe-inspiring stories to the ever-prevalent characters. Working as a team has been one of the most rewarding aspects, making it an adventure you can go on with others. Students can bond through their fights, get to know each other better, and make new friends through their journeys. It's a great thing to enjoy what you do at school, and many people in D&D have found what they wanted. The Dungeons and Dragons club is sponsored by Ms. Clark.

## Boys Basketball News

- Lexi van Halter

The basketball season is up and running. On January 30<sup>th</sup> we played Valley Ridge and lost 39 to 32, we put up a very good fight but couldn't pull out a win. The first week of February 6<sup>th</sup> we played against Palm Valley and won 41 to 23.

This was an amazing game. Then, we played Sebastian on February 13<sup>th</sup> and lost; it was very disappointing, but still a close game, with a score of 31 to 45. On Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> we won against Mill Creek Academy 50 to 17. Our best game yet and one to remember! On February 20<sup>th</sup> we played against Patriot Oaks and won 45 to 23. According to Alex Stone an eighth grader the team had "great energy." On February 25<sup>th</sup> LPA played against Freedom Crossing and won 44 to 17. They played with great technique and worked cohesively. The most recent game we have played was against Pacetti Bay and the boys won 45 to 35. This was the fourth game in a row the guys have won. Come out to our last game on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Liberty Pines and support the Wolves!



## Girls Basketball News

- Raelyn Cash

The girl's team has worked so incredibly hard and was able to set records for LPA basketball this year! They have won seven games in a row and can now qualify for the semifinals. The first game against Valley Ridge Academy, the girls won 33 – 14. The girls played well and worked together to bring out a win. This success brought the team together and showed what they can do when they play their hearts out. Then, in the game against Palm Valley, LPA won again with the score being 34 – 15. The girls played wonderfully and were focused. In the game against Swiss Point middle, we won once again, 38 – 33. These victories only motivated them to work harder and achieve wins. When LPA played Palm Valley once again, they won 36 – 21. This game was a great win and rallied up the team. O

On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, LPA played Freedom Crossing, and won, 42 – 18. This win was a great gain in confidence, now having won 5 games in a row. Then on February 6<sup>th</sup> the girls played Mill Creek and won, 33 – 2. In the final game against Pacetti Bay, LPA won, 40 -10. The girls have played so well together and showed how much potential everyone on the team has. We are so proud of them and wish them luck in playoffs. Go LPA Wolves!



# SPORTS NEWS!!!

## Golf Update

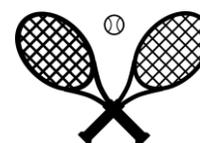
- Maddie Rathjen



LPA golf is getting back into the swing of things. Liberty Pines just had their tryouts on February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. We had the most students out of all St. Johns County schools to try out. We had more than 16 players try out this year, giving us enough to make two teams, which we have never had before. In the past we have had to combine with another school, but this year that is not needed. The players are excited and have high hopes for the season. The LPA golf coach is volunteer Coach Bob Sananger.

## Tennis News

- Raelyn Cash and Lexi van Halter



The tennis team is now in season! This year we were able to have two teams: JV and Varsity. Those that have been chosen to be on the team practice every Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. They are working toward getting better for their matches. Their first match is on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The varsity team consist of Aidan Emmett, Lexi Van Halter, Macey Millard, Aisley Riceman, Natalie Bachman, Tessa Eriksen, Amelia Scott, Tyler Burgoon, Shreyes Sindhaval, and Kennedy Thomson. The junior varsity team consists of Nolan Scott, Cole Commarford, Stryder Weinstine, Henry Gibbs, Hadley Bell, and Will Loving. Wish the LPA tennis teams the best of luck for their matches. Go Wolves!



# MORE WOLF NEWS

## ART CORNER

- Evan Lee

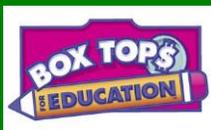
This month, we welcome LPA's new middle school art teacher Mrs. Porter. Change is a good thing, and we know that great times are in store for the future. She's excited to start her new job with many talented students. As many people have, Mrs. Porter was inspired by a teacher to start art, and we hope that that motivation continues today with ours being encouraged to draw. One day, Mrs. Porter hopes to be an illustrator and we hope that she one day reaches her goals.

## Good Luck Concert Band!

Good luck to the Concert Band! They will be going to the Florida Bandmaster Association Music Performance Assessment (FBA MPA) on March 5th at Matanzas HS. They will be judged and given a rating based on their performance on 3 prepared pieces and 2 pieces they have never seen before.

## Box Tops for LPA

Please remember to save your box tops and send them into school with the name of your teacher on the bag. Eventually, the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Some packaging has the new Box Top label already. Download the Box Top app so you can scan your receipt! (You must scan your receipt within two weeks of purchase.) Every quarter the teacher with the most box tops from their class will win a prize. This is an easy way to earn money for our school!



## Cultural Spotlight

- Kyra Lagoutaris and Brooke Barnett

This month's cultural spotlight student is 8<sup>th</sup> grade student Isaac Gieselman. Isaac is half Ecuadorian and half American, so at home, both cultures are celebrated. Isaac says that a big celebration, Pase del Niño, is a huge parade of music and dancing. Most of the parade is to celebrate Jesus.



Like the majority of Americans, Isaac's family celebrates Christmas. While most families eat the same foods to celebrate, such as ham, Isaac's family would have a roasted pork leg instead. Some other foods a part of Isaac's culture are yucca, empanadas, Manuleos (a type of bread), and Arrepas, which are corn bread filled with meat and rice, and one of Isaac's favorites.

## #LPAROCKS!

- An important note from PTO

Save the date: April 9th at 6:00 pm

Students will have the chance to "make their mark" by creating rock art for the new LPA Rock Garden. Inspired by the book "There is only one YOU" students are encouraged to express their personality and individuality, with the goal of leaving the world around them a better place.

For just a \$5 donation, drop-in and create your very own rock masterpiece. All supplies provided the night of the event.

Spread the Word: Former LPA students/graduates are also invited to leave their mark by creating and dropping off their rock creations (for same \$5 finish coat/placement donation.)

More info to come, but you won't wanna miss this opportunity to ROCKIT! at LPAROCKS!



# LPA PTO

## STAY INFORMED

Please Sign Up for Remind!  
AND, please sign up for Remind on your phone. It's a great way to get helpful reminders and information about LPA events or grade specific updates!

For grade level reminders text one or more of the following to 81010:

Kindergarten: @lpakinder  
1st Grade: @lpafirst  
2nd Grade: @lpasecond  
3rd Grade: @lpathird  
4th Grade: @lpafourth  
5th Grade: @lpafifth  
6th Grade: @lpasixth  
7th Grade: @lpaseventh  
8th Grade: @lpaeighth

For volunteer need updates, text @helpipa

Reminder – Sign up for Amazon Smile!  
Do you shop on Amazon? If so, enter the address Smile.Amazon.com the next time you shop and a % of each purchase goes toward Liberty Pines PTO.  
The charity name is: Liberty Pines Academy Parent Teacher Organization Inc.



Our Yankee Candle fundraiser is wrapping up on Feb 28th. Packets went home on Feb 21st. There are extra packets in the front office or go to [www.yankeecandlefundraising.com](http://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com). Group #990108158

A big THANK YOU to our local Cub Scout Pack 111. They recently collected change and donated it to LPA PTO's Blessing in a Backpack program.

**The new playground** and awning installation on the K – 2nd grade playground is complete. It looks like the kids are loving it!

PARENTS! YOU MADE THIS HAPPEN! THANK YOU for always supporting PTO fundraising efforts!

Next up: New equipment and awning for the 3rd – 5th grade playground.



**CONGRATULATIONS!!** The PTO would like to congratulate our “of the month” winners! Mrs. Woolston, Coach Combs and Michelle O’Halloran

Mrs. Woolston: She makes learning fun and takes a genuine interest in the well being of her students. She encourages kids to set goals and to work hard to achieve them. She is an invaluable asset to LPA and appreciated by students and staff alike!

Coach Combs: He has expertly handled the car line growth this year. He is out in the heat, rain, and cold weather making sure the car line runs smoothly. Thank you Coach Combs!

Michelle O’Halloran: Michelle volunteers behind the scenes for the PTO. She heads up the Blessings in a Backpack program for us. Every week, Michelle is either searching for donations or good deals at the grocery store to supply weekly bags for LPA students in the program. She works even harder around the holidays, making sure these students have enough food during the longer break. She does her job passionately and quietly. Thank you Michelle!

Each winner will receive a sweet treat!

Know a person who goes above and beyond at LPA? The PTO wants to hear about them. They can be student, teach/staff member or a family member. Please email your nomination, telling us why you chose them, to [stephcross13@yahoo.com](mailto:stephcross13@yahoo.com) (please put volunteer in the subject line). The voting takes place every other month and three winners are chosen.

### LPA's 4th Annual Spring Carnival

Carnival Ticket Pre-Sale begins March 2nd! Each Pre-Sale form is eligible for our gift card giveaways, which include two \$250 gift cards for Code Ninjas and one \$500 gift card to Mathnasium! Also, this year, if you complete the coloring sheet and bring it to the Carnival, you will receive 5 game tickets for FREE! (see below)



### Staff Appreciation Week is May 4th - 8th!

The theme this year is "Grab your passports because we think the world of you!" Our teachers will get FIRST CLASS service as they travel to places like France, Mexico, Australia and Italy. Be on the lookout for communication from your classroom parent detailing the schedule for each day, along with a sign up genius for donations/volunteer opportunities.



**Championship Event  
A.K.A.**

**Relay for Life of  
St. Johns County**

**Saturday, April 4, 2020**

**Noon—10 PM**

RFL.stjc@gmail.com  
www.RelayForLife.org/NSTJfl

**Allen D. Nease High School  
10550 Ray Road                      Ponte Vedra Beach, FL**

**We always need volunteers**

E-mail us or follow this link to Sign-Up Genius:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044AAAAA2A1-championship>

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