

WOLF NEWS

Liberty Pines Academy



WOLVES

Message from Mrs. Hemingway for LPA Families,

Liberty Pines Academy Families,

Just a few reminders ...

Children Not Feeling Well – Parents, the flu season is upon us. We ask for your assistance in keeping your child home if they are not feeling well. Here are some tips that will help you determine if it is safe to send your child to school: Our district policy states that you should not send your child to school if he/she has:

- Fever in the past 24 hours (must be fever free without the help of medication)
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Strep Throat (must have been taking an antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school)
- Bad cold, with a very runny nose or bad cough, especially if it has kept the child awake at night (a child with a very deep cough that won't go away needs to see the doctor).
- Head lice – until your child has been treated according to the nurse or doctor's instructions
- Eyes that appear red, runny or have drainage in them in the morning or throughout the day

A child who is not feeling well will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. We suggest making a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he/she is ill. Currently, we have seen cases of flu, strep throat, and pink eye at LPA. Please help us to keep our school healthy. Any illness is considered an excused absence and students have as many days as they are absent to make up all work and assessments. Middle grade end of quarter exams can be made up after winter break. The health and wellbeing of our students is our number one concern.

More notes from Mrs. Hemingway continued on page 6

Your Learning Leader,

Mrs. Hemingway

UPCOMING DATES

December and January Calendar

- Dec 8- Interims issued
- Dec 19- Jan 3- No school Winter Break
- Jan 4 – Classes resume
- Jan 14 – PTO General Meeting, 10-11:00
- Jan 18- MLK Day: Student Teacher Holiday
- Jan 25- Second quarter ends
- Jan 29- Teacher Planning Day
- Feb 5 – PTO "Souper Bowl"
- Feb 12- Report cards issued
- Feb 15- Presidents Day- Student/Teacher Holiday



SAC COMMUNITY PROJECT

SAC (School Advisory Committee) has decided to do a Community Project- This year's project will be a pet food drive in January. We will be collecting dog and cat food, either dry or canned for one week in January. Collection will be Jan. 11th through the 15th.

Art Corner



- Ryan Avignone and Mara Tate

There is a new middle school art teacher at Liberty Pines Academy, Mr. Wolfe! He taught at Duval for a couple years, but we are now grateful he is here at LPA. He has been an art teacher for a long time. Mr. Wolfe has “always loved art” and says that art reminds him of family and love. Disney movies played a big role in his love for art. The kids are working on one-point perspective, which is drawing items on a flat piece of paper in 3-D. Mr. Wolfe says they have some fun projects coming up, and we can't wait to see what he has in store!



WOLF NEWS

Drama Corner

- Eva Graunke

Lights, camera, action! The cast and crew of The Sound of Music play had their first rehearsal on December 3rd. Everyone was so excited to finally be together again. It had been nine long months since they'd last practiced together, and this time they had a bunch of new faces amongst the group!



They started out by doing a read through, singing was involved of course, with their lines. Ms. Herkel was thrilled to hear the mix of the original students cast from the Spring with the new students cast this fall. “It was such an odd yet wonderful feeling to gather with this group to start this show again. I have never had to do this before and wasn't sure how it was going to go, but all it took was hearing those kids sing the first note and my heart was full!” commented Ms. Herkel.

The cast and crew consist of almost 60 students total, both elementary and middle school. They will rehearse from January to April and have plans to perform on April 21st, 22nd, and 23rd 2021 at 6pm. Be sure to put The Sound of Music on your calendars! Ms. Herkel, Mrs. Hale, and Mrs. McGinnis are all super excited to start rehearsals in January!

Other than our play, the drama classes have been having their own adventures. Technical Theatre is working on learning how to draw to scale for their second semester set design, Drama 1 is finishing up their unit on Greek Theatre History and are creating their own Greek plays, and Advanced Drama had to choose a famous work of art and bring it to life by writing a 10-minute play. Good luck to all of these classes and don't be afraid to let your imagination flow and your creativity run wild!

LPA Hosts School Spelling Bee

-Jacob Ducker

The 2020 Liberty Pines Academy Spelling Bee took place on December 7, 2020 in the Gymnasium. There were ten precipitants in each of the middle grades and ten in fifth grade bee as well. The middle school spelling bee lasted twenty rounds with Christian Bradley coming in 1st place. Heidi Dearling earned 2nd place and Grace Taylor came in 3rd. The winning word was “Civility”. The fifth-grade spelling bee was won by Ryne Fennell and he won on the word “sudden”. Sam Willis came in 2nd place. The two 1st place winners will move onto the District Spelling Bee where the first round will be completed virtually on Tuesday, January 5th at 3:30pm. The second-round will be completed in person in the auditorium of the SJCS Administrative Building on Wednesday, January 13th at 4:00pm. Great job, Wolves!



Student Spotlight

- Ava Varney and Jaycee Jones

This month's brick and mortar student spotlight is 3rd grader Cooper Koury! He is in Mrs.

Lamb's class. His favorite subjects are math and reading. He thinks school has been easy so far and that he likes it. Covid hasn't affected him too much, minus the fact that he is not a fan of the masks. He says Mrs. Lamb has helped him a lot.



How Christmas is Celebrated Around the World

- Ahrwel Quindara and Jacob Ducker

Christmas is a global celebration that brings joy to all, but some countries have different customs when it comes to the holidays! Each country observes Christmas in their own, unique, and special ways.

Australia is actually in the summer season during December due to the Earth's tilt on its axis, so they turn up the heat compared to us. Australian families enjoy surfing, swimming, surfing, and biking together in the sun and feast on barbeque or "barbie" as they call it for lunch. Homes are decorated with ferns, palm leaves, evergreens, and seasonal flowers in the region.

Across the Atlantic, the Philippines starts the festivities at the beginning of September, and they pack up the decorations in the fourth week of January. Simbang Gabi is a nine-day series of masses leading up to Christmas day. A popular belief is that you can make a wish on the day of the final mass and it will become true. Filipinos feast on a great dinner called Noche Buena on the 25th at midnight with the entire family.

Over in Greece, children will go out and sing carols, or "kalanda" for money, nuts, or dried figs. An old tradition is decorating homes with a shallow wooden with wire around the rim. Hanging from the wire is a cross wrapped in basil. This is meant to keep bad spirits away and are only present from December 25th to January 6th.

Despite our differences, we all celebrate with our families. Happy holidays, Wolves!

Teacher Spotlight

- Jacob Ducker and Ahrwel Quindara

Coach James Kirk is the newest addition to the P.E. team for elementary grades here at LPA. Coach Kirk was born and raised in Orlando. While this is his first year teaching P.E. he's been a football coach for 10 years and has been here at LPA for 6 years. P.E. is his favorite subject to teach because he loves to be able to teach the fundamentals of new games to younger students out in the sun. His inspiration for wanting to become a coach came after watching our very own Coach Eisenuth, who helped him rise to where he is now. The best part of coming into school every week for him is to be able to see and be able to work with all of the hundreds of students and the amazing administration and staff here, especially Coach Eisenuth. His hard work and dedication has paid off as he's been recognized as Rookie Teacher of the Year. He's incredibly grateful to be recognized so early in his career teaching P.E. His best is yet to come!



Media Matters

- Jaycee Jones & Ahrwel Quindara

Attention all Wolves! The Middle School Battle of the Books test to determine the team members will be held on Thursday, January 14 at 8:00 AM in the Media Center. The test for the elementary students will be on Tuesday, January 12 at 8:00 AM and in the Media Center. Distance Learners will be able to take the test using Zoom in Schoology. Once the teams are created, they will begin meeting 2-3 mornings a week to practice for the district competition. The dates below are for the district competition:

Elementary School: North 9-11 AM & South 12-2 PM on March 11th (Thursday)

Middle School: 9-11 AM on March 9th (Tuesday)

More books will be arriving to the media center after the holidays, so be sure to go check out the selections for any good stories to read! There's also an event coming up, "Celebrate Literacy!" It's going to be held January 25-29, 2021. The theme this year is 'Humanity Tells a Story: What's YOUR Chapter?'. Many guest readers will be coming in to read some fantastic books to the students.



The Media Center has the Holiday Spirit!!!





HOLIDAY WOLF

NEWS...



Most Popular Gifts Asked For in 2020

- Katie Fallon and Ainsley Drenning

With Christmas right around the corner, kids are starting to get their lists together and here's what seem to be the most popular asked for gifts this holiday season... The top 5 most wanted gifts by Kids ages 5-10 seem to be LOL surprise dolls, 5 surprise mini brands, LEGO's and Barbies and sports equipment. As for teens, they seem to want Air Pod Pros, Disney+ subscriptions, Nintendo switches, Bluetooth speakers, and Fitbits. What are you asking for this Christmas?

What is Your Elf's Name?

- Faith Sebregandio and Abby Knauff

One of the most fun traditions in the Christmas season is to have your elf come from the north pole and watch over you and your siblings to make sure you are being good, and to see them move to different places each night. Sometimes they can do funny, naughty, clever things overnight. The journalism staff placed a box in the media center and the k-5 kids submitted their elves' names on a sheet of paper. The most common names were Sparkle and Elfie. Although those are super cute names, there were also some really funny names such as Edward, Mr. Jingles, Zuko, and Grumpy. Although the elves are only here for 30 days it is fun to have them here while it lasts.



Cookies for Santa

- Ava Varney and Ellie Williams

With Christmas coming up, that means Santa Claus is coming to town! Many kids at LPA leave cookies out for Santa, so they have their favorites to leave out. Many LPA students said they like to leave out chocolate chip for Old Saint Nick; others have said sugar cookies, sprinkle, peanut butter, M&M, snickerdoodle, gingerbread, Oreo, smores, and dark chocolate powder are the cookies to leave out for Santa. These are all interesting and very yummy treats to leave out, and don't forget to leave out a glass of milk!

Covid Impacting the Holidays

- Katie Fallon and Ellie Williams

As many may know, this past year has been very different due to Covid. Many events have been canceled/postponed and we haven't been able to live our regular lives lately. With the holidays coming up, seeing friends and family may be difficult considering the Covid travel protocols. Unfortunately, this holiday season will be different, and maybe a little tricky to all come together and celebrate. We all just have to remember to wear our masks, sanitize, and social distance. Happy holidays to all from the 8th grade Journalism staff!!!

Christmas Tree Decorating Contest

- Savannah Lada and Catherine Adkins

The students of LPA were asked to send in pictures of their Christmas trees for a chance to be featured in the December newsletter. Thank you to everyone who submitted their pictures. The contest winners of the LPA journalism contest were:



1st Place: Kennedy and Keegan Bunnell



2nd Place: Reed Howell



3rd Place: Dean Cromwell



LPA Soccer Season is Underway

- Mara Tate and Ryan Avignone

The SJMSAA LPA Boys Soccer team has had some challenges kicked their way, but the team has found ways to overcome them! 8th grade team member Brock Wilson says, “the season’s been good, but some players have either broken bones or got an injury.” This may seem like an issue, but he says that it made “the team work together more” which helps the teamwork grow stronger!

Wilson says that the hardest games were “Swiss Point and Valley Ridge” because the Swiss game had tons of missing players, and the Valley Ridge team was very skilled, but ultimately the team all played strong! He also states that Valley Ridge game was the highlight of the season, because they all worked together well. The team is growing together more each day and can’t wait to see how they work together in the future!

The LPA Girls Soccer team is also doing well with Brandy Cooper as the coach and Jen Earnshaw as assistant coach. Brandy’s daughter Abbi is on of five 5th graders on the team. It’s a young team with only one 8th grader. This young team is improving every game with only one game left after winter break and then playoffs start Jan 22nd.

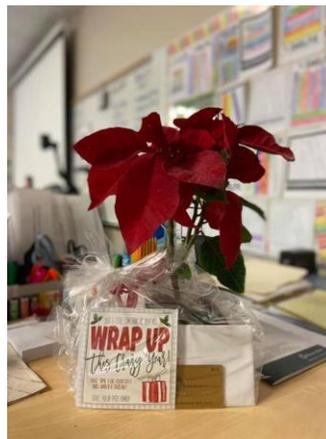


LPA PTO NEWS



PTO would like to recognize the hard work of our Hospitality Committee and PTO helpers, along with local businesses who donated gift certificates for LPA staff holiday gifts. We hope everyone has a wonderful Winter Break!

- Hot Yoga on CR210
- Liberty Tax St. Augustine
- Circles of Wellness Spa at WGV
- Heather Gilbert
- Elaina Sinner
- Jen Hayes
- Melinda Howell
- Robin and Abby Cebulko
- Jill and Ava Struble
- Jen Bachman
- Tracy Hayes
- Cronin Ace Hardware



NOVEMBER PAW PATS

December 4

December 11

KG:
Walker Adams

3rd Grade:
Rylie Cerveny
London Patterson
Gianna Zardetto

2nd:
Cora Kotek
Nicholas Lagoutaris
Brianna Motycka
Ezra Navarro

3rd:
Gracyn Hogan

4th Grade:
Joli Smith

5th:
Christian Capling
Layla Doyle
Stephania Kawamura
Ava Palacios
Kathy Yates

5th Grade:
Gwen Bergstrom
Hunter Dison
AJ Kamau
Emily Peralta
Harrison Warren

6th:
Scarlett Luettich
Taylor Shaw

6th Grade:
Emmanuel Florez
Izzy Ortiz
CJ Tilton
Brody Welch

7th:
Isabella Duenas
Gabby Gibson
Donovan Purvis
Olivia Riegler

8th Grade:
Max Carson
Leighton Clute
Kyla Crooks
Tanner O'Halloran
Kylie Smith
Landon Stevens

8th:
Julia Brodeur
Owen Dudley
Bella Frame
Rhea Marshall

Student Council Sings Carolgrams

- Jacob Ducker

The Student Council has completed their first fund raiser of the year. The Student Council usually provides "carolgrams" for the middle schoolers, but this is the first time that Student Council has let elementary grade students participate. For the elementary grades a carolgram included a candy cane and a coloring packet. For the middle grades a carolgram included a candy cane and Student Council members sang a Christmas song to students at lunch. Elementary Parents could purchase carolgrams for their students and Middle Grade students could purchase them for fellow students. Student Council has sold close to 800 carolgrams and has raised over \$800 for the school so far this year.



Notes from Mrs. Hemingway cont. from Page 1

Student Health Screening Entry Form

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Uncontrolled cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Muscle aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Is your child currently awaiting COVID-19 test results? **If yes, please keep your child home and notify the school nurse when test results received. Further instructions will be discussed at that time.**
- Does your child live in the same household with someone positive for COVID-19? **If yes, your child must quarantine for 14 days from the last date of contact with the positive individual. A negative test result does not reduce the quarantine requirement for the full 14-day incubation period.**
- Has your child had close contact with someone who in the past 14 days who tested positive for COVID-19? **If yes, your child must quarantine for 14 days from the last date of contact with the positive individual. A negative test result does not reduce the quarantine requirement for the full 14-day incubation period.**



Remember that we are supporting the local Department of Health. DOH is the responsible agency for requiring isolation/quarantine of 6 students.



Liberty Pines Academy
Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!
January 25-29, 2021

Monday, January 25

Hats off to Reading!

Hat Day



Tuesday, January 26

Kick up your heels for Reading!

Silly Sock Day



Wednesday, January 27

My future is bright because I read!

Sunglasses Day



Thursday, January 28

Team up with a good book!

Favorite Team Shirt Day





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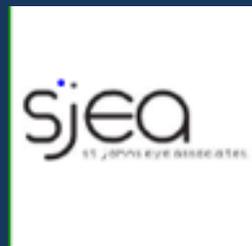


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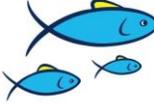


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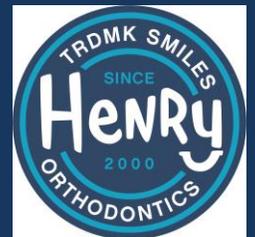
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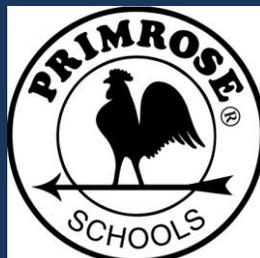


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