

LPA NEWS

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER | Volume 5 May 2024

Hello LPA Families!

As we come to the end of the school year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for your continued support and commitment to our school.

It has been a year full of growth, some challenges, and a lot of successes. One thing that remained consistent was how much I have been impressed by the resilience, perseverance, and determination displayed by our students, staff, and families. Our school community has remained steadfast in our mission to provide a safe and nurturing environment where all students can thrive academically, athletically, and socially while doing so together!

I am proud of the accomplishments we have achieved this year, from academic successes to vibrant extracurricular programs. Our students have demonstrated great growth and achievement, both in and out of the classroom. Our teachers and staff have worked tirelessly to create cognitively engaging and inclusive learning environments for all students. In addition to our academic accomplishments, our students and staff continued to embody the core values of our mission through our school's mantra, **The LPA Way**, where Learning is our focus, Positive relationships are what we value, and we are Always respectful and responsible.

As we look ahead to the future, I am excited about everything this coming year has in store for LPA. I'm confident that with our dedicated staff and supportive community, we will continue to achieve remarkable success while fostering a welcoming environment for all. For the families that will embark on a new journey next school year at the new Lakeside Academy, we wish you a fond farewell and best wishes for future. We know you will be in great hands with their staff and administration. You will be missed, but as they say, once a Wolf, always be a Wolf!

Once again, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who have contributed to making this year a success. I wish you all a happy and restful summer full of making memories with family and friends. I look forward to continuing our journey together as a community for many years to come.

Gratefully together,

Donny Hoessler, your **proud** LPA Principal

Promotion Ceremonies End the Year

By: Lakshmi O'Connor

This year's 8th and 5th graders have officially graduated on to their next chapter of school. It is very exciting because the 8th graders get to move on to high school and experience something different. Also, it is exciting for the 5th graders next year to get to have 7 classes instead of just 2!

During the 8th grade promotion Ava Turner, the president of NJHS, gave a speech. Bryson Roberts, an Eagle Scout, lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Ali Stafford, Emelia Daniels and Katie McGrath sang the National Anthem beautifully. Mrs. Cox presented the Gold and Silver Presidential Awards. The Gold award is for students who got all A's and 4's and 5's on end of the year test throughout middle school. The Silver award is for students who made A's and B's and got 3 or higher on the end of the year tests throughout middle school. Some other rewards that were given are Pillar awards. Congratulations to Ella Dunson, Ty Hayes, Juliette Sweet, Blythe Duff, Logan Sinner, and Kate Bachman for winning Character Awards. The final award, the Principal's Award, was given to two students who have consistently embodied all pillars throughout the year – Reagan Heller and Erik Windness. LPA is excited for their students to move on to high school.

The 5th grade promotion followed the 8th grade ceremony in similar fashion. The rising 6th grade student council representatives led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mrs. Heller presented the Gold and Silver Awards. LPA is very excited to see these students thrive in middle school. We hope everyone has a great summer!

The LPA Way



- L:** Learning is our focus
- P:** Positive relationships are what we value
- A:** Always respectful and responsible





Favorite Staff Memories



By: Chloe Chang

Every year the staff goes above and beyond to help students and make everyone happy. The memories that everyone has made though out the year are amazing! Mr. Hoessler's favorite memory is all the celebrations of student success. Specifically, the Character Counts Awards and the all the pep rallies! Ms. Haugen's favorite memory is the Liberty Parade which is a fan favorite! Deputy Barnhart loves every year but said the D.C trip was a phenomenal experience! Dean Cromwell has so many amazing memories from this year that he could not decide! Ms. Walton loved getting to know the staff and students throughout the entire year! Overall, this year could not have gone better, and it was an exciting and eventful year!



Shout out to our amazing extended day staff that always make our window décor fabulous!!!

Mrs. Heller's 5th grade lessons

By: Olivia Detlefs

Mrs. Heller, our 5th and 6th grade counselor has been helping our rising 6th graders. She has visited every 5th grade classroom with a fun and interactive lesson to help the rising 6th graders. She brought a panel of current 6th graders to help discuss helpful tips for the next year. They talked about how to transition from class to class efficiently, stay organized, complete homework and assignments on time and how to remember your locker combination. She even brought locks for the 5th graders to practice unlocking! They also talked about summer venture, a half day camp to help the 6th graders become more comfortable and prepared for middle school!

The 6th graders loved helping out the 5th graders and giving them tips. The 5th graders found it helpful and said it made them less nervous. Thank you, Mrs. Heller!

NJHS Welcomes New Members

This year NJHS welcomes upcoming 7th and 8th graders to be a part of this incredible organization. The new members of NJHS are listed as follows:

Elizabeth Thorpe, Spoorthi Sindhaval, Kylee Blood, Davis Templeton, Lucas Colca, Quinn Earley, Sophie Narcia, Alice Korman, Nora Maas, Aralinn Cornett, Alyssa Lei, Anarghya Patil, Akshara Kumbamu, Areej Maqsood, Sarah Cheng, Clara Wayne, Caleb Milne, Ashley Windness, Mallori York, Ameila Veniard, Olivia Connell, Dylan Brand, Adelaide Madelly, Sanika Garge, Maggie O'Leary, Bradley Willman, Namah Pavaskar, Oliva Torrence, Lindsey McDaniel, Lillian Hough, Madison DeTura, Julia Radecki, Mila Wilhelmy, Addie Spradlin, Emily Rapolla, Cooper Koury, Brielle Coppola, Ruby Kight and William Shook

These students will be inducted next year!

Kindergarten Spa Day

Our Kindergarten Wolves made Mother's Day special by giving their moms a relaxing day at LPA! They had spa rotations and stations with snacks and water as well as spa music, making it an interactive experience full of fun! Our students had many activities such as giving their moms a manicure, a massage with lotion, and some hair styling! Students also enjoyed sharing a laugh by putting cucumbers on their mom's eyes! Finally, Kindergartners also drew self-portraits of their moms that they got to take home. Successfully, everything went smoothly, and we look forward to more exciting activities to thank our mothers for all their hard work!



WHAT ELSE IS NEW ...

Flashlight Friday

On Friday the 10th of May, Mrs. Balcita's ELA classes had a class period dedicated to celebrating the end of the year in a youthful and memorable way. Students each brought something to read, a flashlight, and they had the option to bring blankets or pillows to build forts, or to just make a cozy setup. All while doing this, the lights in the classroom were off, and the shades were down making it as dark as possible in the room, enabling the kids to use their flashlights to read!



The reason Mrs. Balcita decided to do this, was because she wanted the 7th graders to have a special year end event in ELA. Everyone was so happy that Mrs. Balcita had the idea to do this. This was a great way to end the year!

Student Council: Fundraisers and Elections

By Gabe Chapman and Ty Hayes

Student council has been very busy lately. Trying to get one last fundraiser done and finishing the election of new sixth, seventh, and eighth grade council members. The results are in, and the new student council members for sixth grade are: Michaela Cookson, Courtney Hayes, Brianna Motycka, and Brantley Shepherd. The new student council members for seventh grade are: Rhett Fortner, Hayden Harper, Justin Howard, and Ashley Windness. Finally, the new members for eighth grade student council are: Kylee Blood, Quinn Earley – Student Council President, and Abigail Pflazer.

We interviewed Courtney Hayes, a newly elected 6th grade student council member. She said she chose to run for student council because she wanted to help her school. She wants to improve her school by stopping bullying, because she has seen many people get bullied and she wants to put an end to it.

The student council has also put together one last fundraiser. A Goodwill fundraiser on the 15th of May. Mrs. Herkel said that student council partners with Goodwill to have students and parents donate thrift store goods that would be given to Goodwill. If 60% of students at LPA donate goods to the fundraiser, the school gets \$2,000! At this point Mrs. Herkel and the student council don't know how much was donated, or if the 60% goal was reached, but the morning pick up seemed very successful.

1st grade's Hawaiian Centers

By Chloe Chang

On May 17, first grade had their end of the year Hawaiian centers. Teachers decorated their classes, and everyone dressed in Hawaiian-themed outfits. Students got to do fun challenges, arts and crafts, and had sweet treats. Each class had a different activity, and the students had an amazing time! Some classes did photoshoots and students got to use fun props!



Camp Day!

By: Ava Turner

Camp Day was a fun, imaginative, and exciting day for the for all of first grade! The amazing first grade teachers organized this creative and lively event for their students to celebrate the end of the school year. The day started off with the kids creating campsites out of their desks for them to spend the day in. Next, they designed maps for their newly made campsites. The kids got to spend the school day learning, reading, and writing in their tents while doing fun activities. They decided which materials were vital for a safe fun camping trip and did many other engaging projects that taught them to be resourceful and cautious while camping outside. All the students had an amazing time roleplaying in their classrooms and learning cool skills! Overall camp day was a huge success!



Welcome to Middle School 5th Grade Interviews

By: Sofia Figueroa and Zoe Lathan

This year's graduating 5th grade class is looking forward to going into middle school next school year! All the classes were asked what they were most excited for; this is what they said.

Electives:

Classes: 28

New Friends: 13

Gym Class: 20

Freedom/Responsibility: 13

Electives: 33

Lunch: 18

Lockers: 12

Learning New things: 12

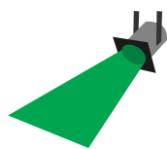
Different Teachers: 5

Clubs: 11

No walking in lines: 4

We wish them the best of luck, Go Wolves!

LPA



SPOTLIGHTS

8th grade Anticipation!

By: Juliette Sweet

As our 8th grade class moves on to high school there are many changes awaiting them. So many 8th graders are eager and ready for their next step. One student, Rosabella Giovenco is not going to our zoned high school Beachside High School but going to Toco Creek High school. She is excited for cheer because she recently made the Toco cheer team. She is also excited to make new friends and have a good high school experience. Also, another student, Kate Bachman, who is going to Beachside Highschool is excited to meet new people, join sports and the veterinarian academy she was accepted into. Good luck to all our other 8th graders and have fun in high school!

8th Grade Dance

By: Abbi Cooper and Mary Catherine Adams

On May 21st the 8th graders had their 8th grade dance at the St. Johns Golf and Country Club clubhouse. The theme was an "End of an Era", and the dress was semi formal, so everyone was dressed nicely. They've been looking forward to this all year. The dance was put on by the PTO who created amazing decorations and chaperoned by our 8th grade teachers and administration. Students loved seeing their peers all dressed up and everyone had an amazing time!

Gradventure

By: Abbi Cooper and Mary Catherine Adams

On Friday, May 17th the eighth graders went on their last field trip in middle school; they went to Gradventure! Gradventure takes place at Universal in Orlando. They get to experience both parks, Universal Studios, and Islands of Adventure. They traveled there on four buses Spiderman, Harry Potter, Minions, and Hulk. The eighth graders also got to design their own shirts in a design contest. 8th grader and Journalism staffer Jamila Jones created the winning design. When they got to Universal, they split up from their chaperones and met up with them at the end of the night for the bus ride home.

Kindergarteners Rising to 1st Grade

By: Jamila Jones

As the school year came to a close, kindergarten was buzzing with elation as they began to think of next year here at LPA. A few young wolves transitioning into 1st grade shared their excitement and their goals for next year.

According to students in kindergarten, Hope and Meredith, they looked forward to meeting their future teachers in the next school year. She expressed that she is very excited to meet new teachers and try new things. Other students like Emilio and Alice shared that new activities were key to their excitement, and that new activities would be a new and fun experience. Other students like Austin were generally ecstatic for all the new things 1st grade will bring.

From learning the basics in language arts to having a ball working on fun activities, 1st grade will be one happy experience for our kindergarteners rising to be the 1st graders of next year!

NEWS FROM THE ART WORLD



“A Tribute to Broadway!”

By: Reagan Heller

Our 2024-2025 Musical Theaters last production was on Thursday, May 9th, at 6:00 pm. They raised two hundred and fifty dollars going towards purchasing music for next years. Musical Theater had played many songs beloved by all in the Broadway industry at this amazing event.

They played “Rodgers and Hammerstein Medley” featuring Olivia Torrence, Ruby Grace Knight, Rasleen Singh, Josephine Hurkes, Olivia Pappas, Katie McGrath, Ella Dunson, Neorah Varghese, Quinn Early, Lua Klipa, Alan Esteves, and Ali Stafford. They also played “I Want it That Way” and “Highschool Musical” featuring Luka Klipa, Caroline Nowroozie, Ruby Grace Knight, Stephanie Valdes, Areej Maqsood, Alan Esteves, Ella Madelly and Aubrey Long. Next, they played “You’ll Be in my Heart” with a special solo to Stephanie Valdes and “A Million Dreams” with a solo to Emmy Daniels. Their final song of the evening was “Best of Broadway”.

Ms. Herkel, the Musical Theater Teacher/Director, loved the production. Her favorite song was a draw between “You’ll Be in my Heart” and “Rogers and Hammerstein Medley”. This group of students being her first Musical Theater class she knew that they’d always be in her heart.



Band and Chorus May

Gabriella Bear

On May 15th at 6:00 pm, the Liberty Pines Academy band and chorus delivered an excellent concert at Beachside Highschool's auditorium. The evening included impressive performances from the chorus, beginning band, concert band, symphonic band, and jazz band. Each group conveyed their talent and skill, charming the audience with a collection ranging from singing to the melody of musical instruments.

The concert was a symbol to the work of the students and the guidance Mr. Spilling, making it a night to remember for everyone involved. Adding to the excitement, it was recently announced that new band lockers will be installed over the summer, with the project set to begin around the week of June 10th. This improvement looks to increase the experience for band students, providing them with better storage for their musical equipment.



SPORTS NEWS!!!

High School Cheer

By: Layla Doyle

A few of our 8th grade students have tried out for high school cheer and made their high school's cheer team. Ava Shields, Izabella Elefante, Maddie Thornton, and Ava Palacios all made Beachside JV.



Sofia Nabers made Beachside Varsity. They are all most excited for UCA camp, bonding with teammates and showing school spirit. Rosabella Giovenco made Toco Creek's JV squad. She is looking forward to showing school spirit on the sidelines and she is excited to win and build relationships with her teammates. Finally, Olivia Detlefs made Bartram Trail JV. She is most looking forward to meeting new people and building bonds with her teammates.



The Sensational Spring Football Game

By: Priya Reddy

Recently, an amazing Spring Football game took place with our future LPA football team and Valley Ridge! Unfortunately, our LPA team lost with the score being 14-26. When asked about how practice was going team member Connor Riley, stated "The team practice was very challenging and difficult." Even though he said the team practice was hard, they managed to pull through and put up a great game! When asking another player, Berkem Ley, what his favorite moment in the game was, he said "My favorite moment was when Jull Joel hit a 68-yard touchdown".

Training with the Champions!!!

This year the Beachside High School Soccer teams both won their respective championships! Come train with the champions this summer!!!

Even though the team lost, both team members Berkem Ley and Connor Riley stated that they had points and coaches that made them not give up and keep playing with courage. They were very confident in next year's football season! They even said, "If we keep training, then we will win the upcoming games." This Spring Football game showed a true spirit to never give up and always give it your best!

**Beachside Barracudas
2024 SOCCER CAMPS**

MIDDLE SCHOOL CO-ED @ 9:30AM- 12PM
 Session 1 / June 10th – 13th
 Session 2 / July 8th – 11th

Rising 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders

CAMP SIGN UP

\$175 Per Player

Venmo @Ron-Messick or Cash/Check
made payable to Mark Forrester

Email questions to @ronald.messick@qphs.k12.fl.us OR @mark.forrester@qphs.k12.fl.us

**Beachside High School
2024 SOCCER CAMPS**

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS @ 2PM- 4:30PM
 Session 1 / June – 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27
 Session 2 / July – 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25

Rising 9th – 12th Graders

BOYS SIGN UP

GIRLS SIGN UP

\$225 Per Player

\$25 off when you sign-up before May 20th

Venmo @Ron-Messick or Cash/Check
made payable to Mark Forrester

Email questions to @ronald.messick@qphs.k12.fl.us OR @mark.forrester@qphs.k12.fl.us



June History Reflection: D-Day Landings

By Sebastian Robinson & Ty Hayes

On June 6th, 1944, the Allied Forces made a landing on the beaches of Normandy, France during World War Two. This allied incursion into Nazi occupied territory gave hope to the people of Europe and was one of the markers of the beginning of the end of the war.

D-Day however was not just sending troops to France as that would have been impossible without the necessary preparations. "Operation Neptune" was the operation of establishing total naval control across the English Channel and getting tens of thousands of Allied Troops onto those ships. Britain and America would allocate thousands of warships and merchant ships to this operation to make sure it moved smoothly the entire time. This would take place in the early hours of June 6th.

In an operation dubbed "Operation Overlord" by American & British command, the Allies would use everything they could to land thousands in Normandy in Nazi-France to begin a campaign of liberation. The conditions were incredibly brutal as the infantry landing would have to endure constant gunfire and the sight of their comrades falling before them. Once the landing was successful, though with many casualties, a foothold was set in Europe for the first time in years. Upon having liberated Normandy, the Allies would be able to launch a liberation campaign into the rest of France and Western Europe.



All New PE uniform for the 2024-2025 school year
New Uniform design at the same old price!

\$25.00 for the set

All rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders Pre order yours today!

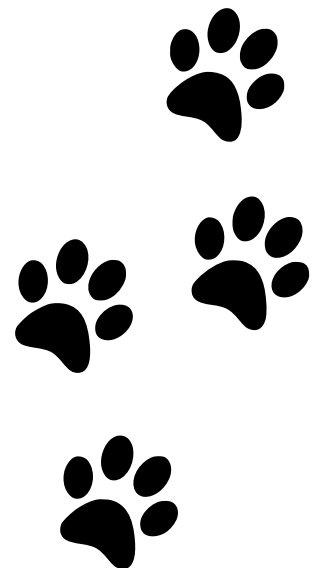
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"Pre order 2024-2025 PE Uniform"

LIMITLESS Liberty Place PE Uniform 2024 Contact: Ann Clouston, Mark Pomeroy



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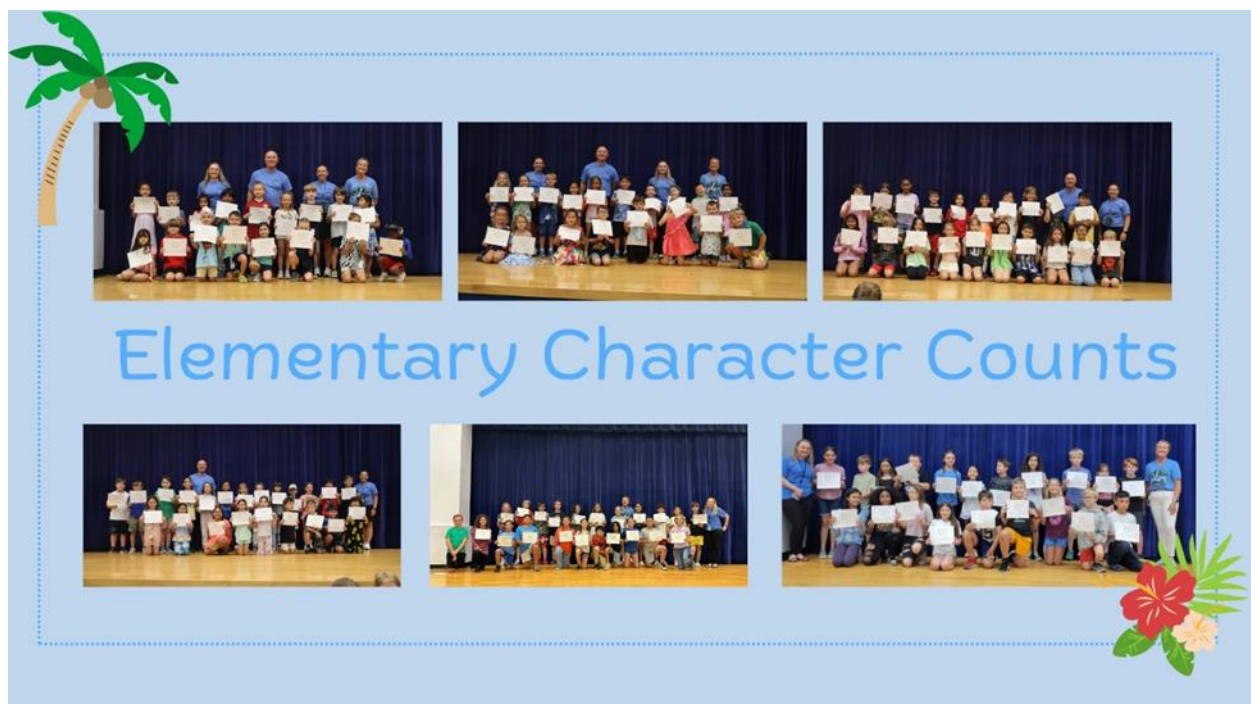


Character Counts Awards

By: Juliette Sweet

Congrats to all of our winners of our final Character Counts Celebrations of the year! We are celebrating the pillar of citizenship for our last pillar. This month's celebrations were extra special! Principal Hoessler celebrated by playing music for each grade and dancing before announcing the representatives. Also, this month many 8th graders watched elementary ceremonies and cheered their younger peers on! Here are the characteristics of our representatives of citizenship.

- I help make my school and community better.
- I am a cooperative student.
- I obey by the rules.
- I respect my teacher's staff and administrators.
- I help protect the environment.



PTO NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST PTO OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

New Board members

Treasurer-Miral Shah

2nd VP Membership - Abigail Lake (2nd term)

Committee Chairs

Hospitality Chair- Mary Lea Walston

Business Partners Liaison- Kathy Kurtzner

Blessings in a Backpack- Jenny Fitzpatrick

Room Parent Liaison- Kacey Bedin

MEMBERSHIP

Hello LPA Families! We look forward to seeing you all in the next school year, we will have a membership drive before school re-opens. Please see the Liberty Pines Academy PTO Facebook page for updates!

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Mason Ross for being so wonderful with the kids during the book fair!

Know a person who goes above and beyond at LPA? The PTO wants to hear about them. They can be a student, teacher/staff member or a family member. Please email your nomination, telling us why you chose them, to secretary@lpapto.com (please put volunteer in the subject line). The voting will take place every month. If students would like to vote, please have them submit it to their teacher and they can drop it in the box located in the mailroom.

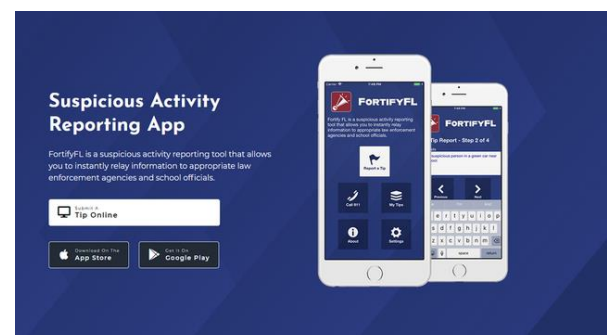
STAY CONNECTED

In addition to our website at lpapto.com, check out our Liberty Pines Academy PTO Facebook page to learn about upcoming events and stay current with happenings at LPA.

UPCOMING DATES

5/24- Last Day of School

Fortify FL FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows students or parents to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. By accessing FortifyFL at <https://getfortifyfl.com> or <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/blog/fortifyfl-app/>, individuals can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. The Office of Attorney General, Department of Education and Florida Department of Law Enforcement coordinated its development and rollout.



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