



LPA NEWS



NEWSLETTER | Volume 6 August 2024

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY

Hello LPA Families!!!

Welcome to all our new students and families and welcome back to our returning students and families. This has been a fantastic start to the school year! We have met many new friends that have joined us from neighboring schools, from other parts of the country, and from outside of the United States.

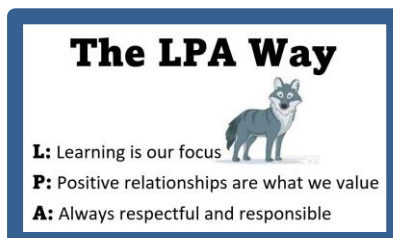
Students and teachers have been working on their routines, rituals, relationships, and academics, as well as implementing our LPA Way (**L**earning is our focus, **P**ositive relationships are what we value, **A**lways respectful and responsible) across the campus. We had such a wonderful turnout for the Curriculum Chats last week for both elementary and middle school classes. Our teachers did a great job presenting their grade/content area specific curriculum expectations and classroom instructional information. The Washington, DC, 8th grade parent information night was a well-attending event as well.

Looking ahead, our first SAC Committee meeting will be held September 16 at 4:00pm. This is opened to all families, community members, and staff. We look forward to seeing new faces. Our fabulous PTO will be hosting the Charleston Wrap Fundraiser this month and will have their next meeting September 25 at 9:00am in the cafeteria expansion room. Families are encouraged to attend and learn about the new initiatives and events. Please ensure that you are registered as an approved volunteer to be able to attend. We look forward to watching our volleyball teams complete this month as well. Lastly, our Fall picture days are scheduled for September 12 for middle school students and September 13 for elementary student.

As we venture into the month of September, we look forward to a wonderful year of learning and growing together. I am truly grateful for the continued opportunity to lead this amazing school alongside such wonderful educators, staff, and families. It is an honor and a privilege to partner with you in your child's education. Thank you for your continued support!

Gratefully,

Donny Hoessler, your proud LPA Principal



Kindergarten Tissues, Tea, and Teachers

By: Mia Dahana-Ellis and Anna Russo

Recently our newest Wolves all joined together at LPA for their first day as an entire class. Mrs. Rhodus, a kindergarten teacher here at LPA, said it's exciting and nice to teach a new group of students. She has been teaching for seventeen years and although this isn't a new experience for her, she always finds it cheerful to see all the parents drop off their kids for the first time. Most kids were happy to start a new kindergarten adventure. Her first week with her new class went very smoothly, but she says they have a lot of new procedures to learn still.

Mrs. Pallai is a teacher who has been working with kindergarten for twenty years. She loves the fresh starts and all the new faces. In her experience it is always emotional at the Tissues and Tea event because the parents sometimes cry. Her first week with all the new children went great but she says that it's still a lot of work considering that all the kids have much to learn. Nonetheless, kindergarten is amazing, and she is looking forward to spending the rest of the year with them!

WOLF NEWS



SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 No school- Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Charleston Wrap Fundraiser start	10	11	12 6 th – 8 th grade picture day	13 K – 5 th grade picture day	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Charleston Wrap Fundraiser end	21
22	23	24	25 PTO meeting in the cafeteria at 9:00 Character counts celebration K-5	26	27 Character counts celebration 6-8	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Character Counts!

By: Olivia Pappas

The Character Counts Pillar for this month is fairness! Fairness is a word we have been taught since the beginning of school. However, people pass over how important its effects have on us. Ms. Sullens, our kindergarten, first, and second grade counselor, says that fairness can create friendships, and will render others with the feeling of hospitality.

Being fair, or showing fairness is something everyone can improve on. It's important that we think about how others will feel if not treated fairly and treat others with open-mindedness. Simply just giving your peers the same opportunity can progress our ideas on fairness at our school. If we continue with treating people with fairness, it can become a habit and therefore, we will maintain our openness at LPA.

Lastly, LPA will continue with the rewards for the students who best carry the trait of fairness. The Character Counts awards will remain the same; nominated students will be recognized in assemblies towards the end of the month and receive a certificate and a bracelet.

LPA Girls Attend Tech Trek

By: Grace Rapolla

Over the summer, rising 8th graders were able to attend Tech Trek at Stenson University. This is a program where students who love STEM got to explore new things such as coding, learning how to use circuits, and improve their problem-solving abilities. The students who attended had to apply, only 40 girls got in throughout the state of Florida. There were 6 girls who were accepted from LPA: Tessa Nguyeh, Olivia



Pappas, Abigail Phalzer, Mahathi Raghavendra, Neora Varghese, and Alexandra Wilson. They were able to meet a lot of very nice, encouraging, and friendly people.

Abigail, who attended this camp had so much fun. Her core class was Qualicum Think-a-bit Lab. There were also many other core classes such as Marine Science, Forensic Science, and Environmental Science. Abigail loves everything about STEM and was thrilled when she heard of this camp. She was able to learn so many new things and even got to dissect a sheep's eye. One day she plans to become a Mechanical Engineer, and this program helped her want to be one even more.

These girls had the opportunity to meet people who work in the field of STEM. They showed them so many interesting facts about STEM and how their amazing jobs really work. If your child is really into STEM and is going to be a rising 8th grade girl next year school year, then this is the camp for them!

New Procedures

By Talitha Kalapala and Brooke Russell

This year at LPA, we have a few new procedures that were put in place for the middle school building. The main procedure we have now is the one-way entry and exit in the 400 area. Students must enter by room 401 and exit from room 406. Principal Hoessler has put this procedure in place due to the over-crowding that occurs in the hallways, to ensure the safety of our students. Because LPA is a growing school, we expect more and more kids every year, meaning we must adjust to the increasing number of students. school year has been off to a great start and now runs much more smoothly thanks to these new procedures. Please remind students to follow these procedures for the entirety of the year to ensure a safe environment for everyone.

WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

Meet Our New Media Specialist - Mrs. Rice!

By Molly Cebulko and Talitha Kalapala

LPA's Media Center has introduced a new Media Specialist, Mrs. Rice! We are very thrilled to have her be a part of our school's Media Center, so we wanted to share some information about her. Mrs. Rice previously worked at Guardian Catholic School, here in Jacksonville, Florida, and has been a media specialist for 17 years! She majored in library and information studies and graduated with a master's degree, and surprisingly had a bachelor's degree in interior design!



Mrs. Rice is quite the reader, for she is a librarian after all! Her favorite book is "The Giving Tree", by Shel Silverstein, and she enjoys reading mystery books. Of course, we needed to ask Mrs. Rice how she enjoys being our librarian! She says she is very passionate about being LPA's new media specialist. She enjoys this experience because she gets the opportunity to share her knowledge with others and help people discover happiness in their life. She can help them express this through books! She helps inform children about morals and kindness by reading various books to them.

The Media Center is an important part of our school and helps extend the reading and knowledge of LPA students. Mrs. Rice follows a similar routine with her students every day. She starts by reading the children a story out loud, followed by an activity relating to the book, and of course, the students finish by checking out a book! Twice a year, our school throws a book fair, where kids can buy books they are interested in. Our amazing PTO staff is a huge help to our book fair; they help with money, selling, shelving, and setting up, and even more! Mrs. Rice is also a huge part of this book fair and is familiar with the Scholastic book fair that LPA throws every year.

At our school, we have a reading program, formally known as Battle of the Books. Battle of the Books is a competitive program, that involves different schools competing against each other by taking a test based on the fifteen Sunshine State books, which are different depending on whether you are in middle school, or elementary 3-5. If you are interested in being a part of this program, please contact Mrs. Rice for more information. Although the teams are not fully formed just yet, Mrs. Rice is determined that our school will remain victorious! Go Wolves!

Paw Pats Are Back

By: Caroline Linder and Sophia Serena

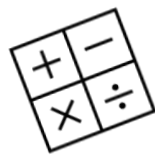
Paw pats are making a comeback! After one year of being gone, they are making a return, and the kids of LPA are here for it. Mr. Hoessler informed us that the admin decided to bring back the Paw Pats because he saw how they improved student's behavior wildly and wanted to keep that going for this 2024-2025 school year. In LPA there are a many students so trying to find incentives for kids varying in ages from 5-14 can be challenging, but Mr. Hoessler has been doing his best to give all students the recognition they deserve. Whether you just want to hear your name on the morning announcements, or you want the tattoo and pencil, you get it all. The Paw Pats and Live School Points always help the students be on their best behavior and follow the LPA way.

Congratulations to our first Paw Print Recipients:

Brayden Highsmith
Cole Reach
Katerina Valentine
Maya San Jose
Olivia Torrence



September 2024		LIBERTY PINES WOLVES ACADEMY		LPA PM1 Testing Calendar			
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
						1	
2 No School Labor Day	3	4	5 4 th grade FAST Reading (adjusted resource schedule)	6 Middle Grades Group A FAST Reading (adjusted bell schedule)	7	8	
9 Middle Grades Group B FAST Reading (adjusted bell schedule)	10 5 th grade FAST Math	11 Kindergarten STAR Math	12 K-5 Fall Pictures	13 Middle Grades Group A FAST Math (adjusted resource schedule)	14 4 th grade FAST Math (adjusted resource schedule)	15	
16 3 rd grade FAST Math	17 Middle Grades Groups B FAST Math (adjusted bell schedule)	18 FAST Makeups	19 FAST Makeups	20 No School for Students Teacher Inservice Day	21	22	
23	24 (adjusted bell schedule)	25	26	27 PM1 window closes	28	29	



Cool Club News

By: Katie Bonday & Tinley Shaw



Here at Liberty Pines Academy our students have a wide range of clubs and extracurricular activities to select from. Student Council, Math Counts, National Junior Honors Society, Science Olympiad, Moonlight Howlers and that's just to name a few. The leaders of these clubs are looking forward to the amazing year that they're going to experience. Ms. Herkel, who runs student council, is ready to get started when student council has their first meeting in early September. Student council does many things such as Carolgrams, Boograms, Bunnygrams, the fall dance, and so much more! Ms. Herkel enjoys running it since she thinks it's amazing that the kids can elect students, they feel represent them. She also thinks it helps kids get out and socialize more with their peers and improve on their teamwork skills.

Another club called Math Counts is run by Mrs. Bridenbaugh. In Math Counts students will learn and practice complex math problems fluently and compete. The big competition is in March at UNF. Mrs. Bridenbaugh loves going to competitions and seeing all the students and people that enjoy math. There are many more clubs and groups as well! National Junior Honors society which is run by Mrs. York and Mrs. Langowski should be having an induction ceremony soon for any new members! Also, there could possibly be another Science Olympiad where there are many different events and fun activities all relating to science! With all these club options it'd be hard for a student not to be able to explore their interests and passions, have an amazing fun filled year Wolves!



Getting to Know Our New Assistant Principal Ms. Beish

By: Kylee Blood

Mrs. Beish is from Youngstown, Ohio (Go Cleveland Browns). Before she came to LPA, she was an assistant principal at Ocean Palms Elementary school. She moved to LPA due to rezoning. So far Mrs. Beish is loving LPA. This has been her favorite school that she has worked at so far.

She loves how she gets to interact with the younger K-5 kids like at her old school but is glad that now she can interact with the older 6-8 kids as well. Right now, her plans for LPA consist of helping new teachers feel welcome and creating a sensory room for the little kids and helping the ESE department. When asked if she would change anything about LPA her response was that she wishes LPA were closer to her house.

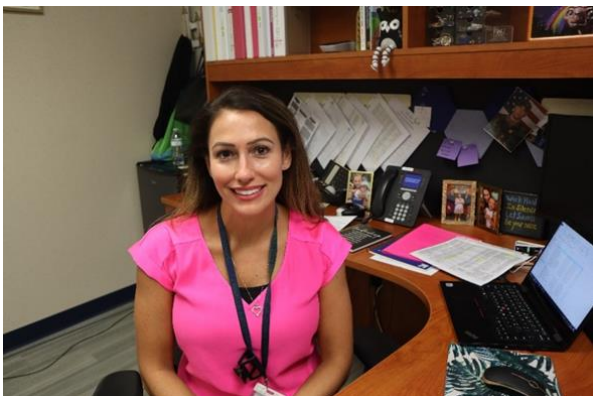
Now here is a little bit of background info to help you get to know her better. Her birthday is April 15th While she has no family in Florida, her father and siblings all still live in Ohio. She has a dog who is her child. He is a white Yorkie Poo, and his name is Thomas. One of her big goals that she hopes to achieve is to write a book.



LIVESCHOOL REWARDS

By: Tinley Shaw and Addie Spradlin

Welcome back Wolves! With this new school year, we are happy to announce that we are still doing Live School points and rewards! Live School is a system where good student behavior gets rewarded daily with points. With those points students can get special rewards and treats. Every day if the student's behavior is acceptable, they will receive seven points, one from each teacher. There will be quarterly rewards for Live School points. Some rewards will be more geared towards seventh and sixth grade and elementary students, others will be for eighth grade as well. Some rewards include V.I.P tickets for the school plays, school dances, etc. Plus, this year there will even be special tickets for a Jaguars game. You can earn these points by listening to teachers, doing your homework, being a good student, and most of all following the LPA way.



LPA SPOTLIGHTS!

Kindergarten Student Spotlights -

By Sophia Serena and Caroline Linder

Nathaniel Jackson:

Nathaniel is 5 years old and is in kindergarten in Ms. Galat's class. He has 2 brothers who are 16 and 11 and he has a sister who is 9. Nathaniel is a student who likes school, and he is particularly fond of the resource music. He loves to watch tv; his favorite movie is The Lion king, and his favorite show is Garfield. His favorite food is broccoli, and his favorite dessert is chocolate cake. Nathaniel's favorite part of the day is recess because he gets to play with his friends Corbin, Jetson, Adalyn, and James. His favorite place he has traveled too is SeaWorld. Nathaniel plays basketball and it's his favorite sport. Nathaniel is a very well behaved and kind student.

Athena Barrientos:

Athena is a kindergarten student also in Ms. Galat's class, making her and Nathaniel classmates. Athena has a 2-year-old younger brother, and a twin sister named Arabella in the same class as her. Athena was born in the Philippines, and she speaks Filipino. She is very fond of LPA and loves the resource media, however her favorite part of the day is seeing her best friend, Layla. Her favorite color is pink, and she loves the animal flamingos because they are pink, and unicorns because they are pretty. Athena's parents are both nurses and she wants to be a doctor when she grows up. Her favorite tv show is Doctor McStuffins and her favorite Disney princess is Aurora. Athena is a respectful and warm student who is a joy to all.



Nathaniel



Athena

LPA's Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Randle-Hayes

By: Lyla Linton

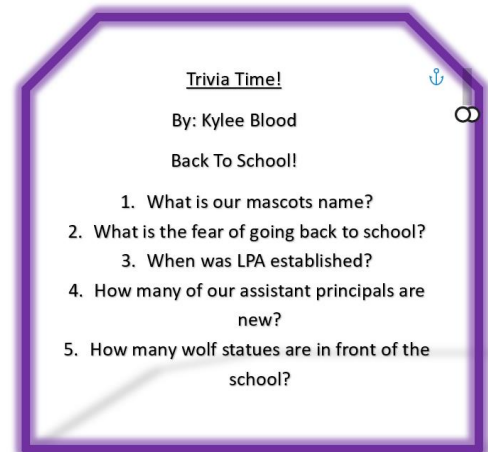
Ms. Randle-Hayes is a kindergarten teacher at LPA. She has been teaching for 31 years but this is her first year at LPA. Despite teaching for over 30 years, Ms. Randle-Hayes has only ever taught kindergarten. She knows exactly what she likes and sticks with it!

She is from Illinois and went to the National Louis University. Before she realized her true passion for teaching, she was interested in psychology and decided to major in it. Although she went to college for psychology, she later found her love for teaching, and it became her career.

Ms. Randle-Hayes decided to be a teacher because of her love for school and kids. Growing up she loved going to school and learning new things. She also loves little kids and teaching them about the world. This inspired her to become a teacher. and she has loved every second of it.

She loves teaching all subjects, but her all time favorite is science. She loves science because she enjoys teaching how things happen and why. Kindergarteners are so curious about everything, which is why she thinks they are so much fun to teach.

Ms. Randle-Hayes is such a kind teacher and loves all her students. Her classroom is full of smiles, joy, and young minds ready to learn. LPA is so excited to have this amazing new teacher. and we are all ready for a great year with Ms. Randle-Hayes!



Answers can be found on p. 9

MORE LPA SPOTLIGHTS!

LPA Teacher Spotlight - featuring Ms. Lee!

By: Charlotte Weger

Ms. Lee is a 5th grade teacher at LPA who has been teaching for 5 years. She teaches social studies and ELA, which are her favorite subjects to teach. She's from Jacksonville and originally used to teach in Callahan, Florida.

Ms. Lee went to college at University of North Florida and majored in elementary education. In her years of schooling, she enjoyed writing and reading. Writing has always been her favorite and that's why she enjoys teaching 5th grade so much because she can share this with her students and prepare them for a great year.

Outside of teaching and writing, Ms. Lee loves to go to amusement parks and ride roller coasters in her free time. It's a great way to have fun with family and friends while making memories! Ms. Lee is super excited for the 5th grade Sea World trip because it will be another great opportunity to ride roller coasters and create memories with her students.

Her classroom looks so friendly and is full of good vibes. All her students always look happy and ready to start the day when they enter her classroom. Ms. Lee always has a stunning smile and is ready to teach. Overall, LPA is super excited to have Ms. Lee here!



Joke Of The Month!

By: Kylee Blood and Adhiyan Balaji

What is blue but not heavy?

Light blue!

CARTOON CORNER

A New Beginning ♡
By: Leyla Phillip

Are you okay?

To Be Continued

Scanned with CamScanner

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Riddle Of The Month!

By: Kylee Blood and Adhiyan Balaji

What does a child make but can't hold or see?

NOISE!

NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT



Art Corner

By Maggie O'Leary and Addie Spradlin

For the 2024-2025 school year we have the pleasure of Mrs. Scoggins and Mr. Wolfe returning as our art teachers! Mrs. Scoggins has been at LPA for seven years teaching k-5 students; Mr. Wolfe has been here for almost 4 years teaching our middle schoolers. They are both very excited for the brand-new school year and fresh creativity.

Mrs. Scoggins has loved making art since she was a freshman in high school. She loves Art because it allows her to be creative, calm, and connect with people in ways that words can't. She carries a passion for all types of art, but her favorite type is clay and colored pencil drawings.

Mrs. Scoggins loves working with kids because "they have no limits and are willing to try new things." She has many projects planned for this year, such as, clay, glow art, drawing, and collages. She is currently teaching kindergarteners lines, 1 - 2 grade is learning movement, and 3 - 5 are learning neuro graphic art.

Our middle school art teacher, Mr. Wolfe is currently teaching shape and color reflections but later in the year he has planned for self-portraits and painting. He discovered his love for art at the age of six. He enjoys art because of the creative process and the ability to try new things. His favorite type of art is 2d paintings and drawings.

These Wolves are so excited for the year ahead making art and learning new forms of art with our teachers.

LPA's Choir and Honors Choir

By Erienne Scales

Starting a new year at LPA means new and bright opportunities for singers! During an interview with Ms. Herkel, our director for everything music and theater, we found out a little bit more for what we're doing this year!

In LPA's choir, they are currently working on the National Anthem for the Liberty Parade. Some upcoming projects for the choir are Christmas carols, Hannukah songs, and a few special songs from movies!

New to LPA is the addition of an Honors Choir. This is our first exciting year working with BHS for a concert! Honor Choirs students consist of many talented choir students and musical theater students, so make sure to watch out for concert tickets!

Everyone Loves Theater!

By Gianna DiBenedetto and Katie Bonday

The theater department's Big Reveal will take place September 3rd from 3:00 to 3:30 in Ms. Herkel's room. The school is buzzing to see what this year's theater productions will be. A little fun fact Ms. Herkel has never repeated a show!

It is not commonly known that fewer boys participate in the school's theater productions. When 8th grade student Quinn Earley, who has participated in many school performances, was asked why he enjoyed being in the drama productions he answered "I like the feeling of the audience giving you the biggest smile or applause or laughter. It makes me feel so excited and happy to do what I do." Quinn also has some advice for any boys who are hesitant on auditioning. "If anyone is hesitant, do it. It might seem like something you're not good enough for, but it's so much fun and there is always a place for everyone."

Ms. Herkel is thrilled to have an increased interest in drama this year. "We have some very talented guys and this year we have so many more and I am thrilled about it!".

If the drama classroom could talk, what do you think it would say? Ms. Herkel says, "If my drama classroom could talk it would say, 'WOW that was funny! Aw that was sweet! And finally, WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON IN HERE!?'". When asked what TV show, movie, book, etc. do you think would make a great stage adaptation? Ms. Herkel said she "would love to see the original 1996 movie 'Twister' made into a musical. It would have some amazing rock style numbers, would be a "breeze" to design, and the Wizard of Oz references would be off the charts!".

LPA's Theater department is a fun experience that fosters learning, friendships, and most importantly, fun! All are welcome!



Extended Day at LPA

By: Tinley Shaw and Lucy Crawford

Extended day is an afternoon and morning program for kids whose parents can't pick them up as soon as school is over; it's a very useful program for Liberty Pines. The kids get snacks and water, and time to do their homework as well as time to play games and such. The person who runs extended day is Mrs. Patty, and she is amazing at her job.



Elementary Music

By Katie Bonday

As the school year gets started, elementary students are beginning to learn the magic of music! Mrs. Snyder, the elementary music teacher, is excited to get started and has lots planned for this year! She wants to do lots of musicals and will be doing musical shows with her Moonlight Howlers group such as The Polar Express which will be happening in December. Of course, Mrs. Snyder loves teaching music but her favorite part of it is being able to share her passion of music, seeing the kids find passion for it, and see the magic of it. She loves to see the kids build relationships with each other and with music.

When teaching about music, Mrs. Snyder loves to use xylophones. She thinks they're a lot of fun to play. She also loves singing, and she majored in vocal performance in college. Elementary music has so much in store for this wonderful school year!

Extended Day has been going on for years. Ruby Grace Kight, a current eighth grader within the Extended Day program has been going there for two years. She likes Extended day since it gives her time to do her homework and remain a good student. She also enjoys messing around and having fun. Her favorite staff member is Mrs. Ferraro, the middle school Extended Day teacher, because Mrs. Ferraro has always been there for her. Another student interviewed was William Harty, a current first grader. He enjoys extended day and loves to play games there; he's been going to extended day for a year. His favorite staff member is Mrs. Patty since she's super nice and sweet. Kady H. in second grade was also interviewed; she enjoys extended day since she can play games and have fun with her friends! She's been going for one to two years, and her favorite staff member is Ms. Camacho since she's nice but strict when she needs to be.



Most of the students enjoy homework time since it's quiet and gives them an opportunity to get work done, however some do think it's a little boring. Mrs. Ferraro was also interviewed; she enjoys helping with extended day and loves getting to know all the kids. She prefers to work in the afternoon and loves the middle schoolers and fifth graders. She enjoys hanging out and doing fun activities with the kids.



What's new in the Band Room?

By: Olivia Connell

There are some big changes in band. Mr. Spilling has added a new course called "Jazz Lab" and he is no longer teaching chorus as he has passed the opportunity off to Mrs. Herkel. After passing chorus and adding jazz lab Mr. Spilling is teaching 5 different band classes such as Beginning Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Lab, and Jazz Band. This year there are 68 kids in beginning band!

All the bands are working on different things. Beginning band is working on instrument trial. Concert band and jazz band are both working on their fall showcase pieces. Jazz lab is having fun with their intro to jazz and Symphonic band is getting ready for the upcoming event on November 8th. The Liberty parade!

Molly Tromba and Sean Hirsch are two second year band players. They are both in Symphonic, but Molly is in Jazz and Sean is in jazz lab. Molly plays Trumpet and is most excited for MPA Jazz Band. Sean Plays Tuba and is excited for MPA as well.



SPORTS NEWS!!!



Bump, Set, Spike! LPA's Boys Volleyball Team



Adhiyan Balaji

LPA is home to multiple different sports teams, from football to basketball, but one of the teams has immense potential, as stated by their Coach, Mr. Ryan, and that team is the Boys volleyball team. Volleyball is a sport that requires practice, technique, speed, but most importantly, Volleyball requires the highest level of teamwork, which this year's boys' team has. The boys' team coach, Mr. Ryan said that "It went well, there's a lot of interest this year, from the girls and boys. There's a lot of talent, good ability, and they are overall a solid team so far" when asked about how the tryouts went and asked about the strength of this year's team.

The tryouts for the boys' volleyball team were held on the 20th and the 22nd, with their first practice being on the 23rd. Preseason practices have already started and will continue till their first game on September 10th against Freedom Crossing. With the season coming soon, Coach Ryan said that he is excited to play Patriot Oaks because, "In the past few years they have been pretty strong and the games against the better teams are usually exciting". The season will end on November 12th with the playoffs being the week after.

With a lot of teamwork, hard work, and fun, this year's boys' volleyball team is one to look out for. Wish them luck! The volleyball team schedule is as follows:

Girls 5:30 games and Boys 6:30 games

Sept 10 – Home v. FCA

Sept 12 – Home v. LA

Sept 17 – Home v. PIA

Sept 19 – away at PVA

Sept 24 – away at MCA

Oct 1 – Home v. POA

Oct 3 – away at TCA

Oct 8 – Home v. VRA

Oct 10 – away at FCA

Oct 15 – away at LA

Oct 17 – away at PIA

Oct 24 – Home v. PVA

Oct 29 – Home v. MCA

Nov 5 – Home v. TCA

Nov 7 – away at VRA

Nov 12 – away at POA



Girls Volleyball

By Brooke Russell and Ava Rosey

Our undefeated girls' volleyball team has a new group of excellent players! Congratulations to everyone who made the team. The amazing Coach Sullens, a very experienced volleyball player, is once again leading our team to victory during her third year at LPA. This year, she's hoping to create bonds between players, expand on communication, and have fun! The season starts on September 10th and ends right before Thanksgiving break. Our Wolves will have sixteen games this year and there is no doubt they'll make it to Playoffs on November 18th. Mill Creek Academy, LPA's volleyball rival, stands no chance against our wonderful new team this year. We hope to see you every Tuesday and Thursday to support our Wolves!

Volleyball girls' roster

1. Elizabeth Jones 8th
2. Ariella Bostic 8th
3. Kinley Herring 8th
4. Ashley Windness 7th
5. Avery Martin 8th
6. Hannah McFadzean 7th
7. Stella Alexander 7th
8. Clemmie Lanza 7th
9. Brooke Russell 8th
10. Nina Simanic 7th
11. Ava Rosey 8th



Trivia Answers from p. 5

1. Wolfie
2. Didaskaleniphobia
3. 2008
4. 2
5. 2
-



MORE SPORTS NEWS!!!

Cross Country

by Jackson Greathouse and Olivia Pappas

The Wolves are ready to run. After the tryouts Anthony B, Molly B, Noah C, Blake C, Anupama D, Rhett F, Jae G, Jackson G, Rylee H, Ethan L, Logan L, Abhilash M, Brianna M, Olivia P, Hritvi P, Michael R, Carlos S, Dylen S, Aliyah S, Angel S, Mary Angel T, Harrison W, Madeleine W, Nolan W, Christian W, and our star runners and our team captains Louis L and Haden W, are faster and better than ever, ready to leave everyone in the dust at the meets. These runners will now be required to run 3 miles a week to practice for the 3 kilometer meets.

Cross Country is a lot more than just running laps and getting faster. You can make lifelong friends and lots of memories being on the cross-country team. "Cross Country is a personal and team sport; you can push yourself and compete against yourself," said Mrs. Cassidy. One of the best parts about cross country is going to the races, you get to compete against your personal best time and other people from other schools. When we run, we feel connected because we are all a big Wolfpack working together to get better.

Cross Country may be a good form of exercise, but it also improves more than just your speed. First, it can enhance your mental health. Running improves your brain functions and can factually make you happier. It will socially make your self-esteem and confidence rise. At some points, it may seem like one of the hardest, most exhausting sports, but as time goes on it brings many benefits to you, physically and mentally. Think about these things the next time you feel as though running is a challenge, and then maybe you'll find that cross country is for you.



Football in Florida

By Owen Reach and Bradley Willman

The LPA football team has been gearing up all summer long. They have been preparing to hit the fields all summer working through the hot sun almost every day. They have been stepping up their game this year as they got a transfer quarterback from Bolles and a whole lot more people and are stacked for this upcoming season. They are being led by Coach Mike Watson who is the father of the star receiver Miles Watson.

Liberty Pines football opened against Palm Valley on Wednesday the 28th. They opened with a tough loss against Palm valley 14-46. Lucas Colca ran a touchdown in and scored on the 2pt conversion. Joel Wood caught a touchdown from Charlie Bowler. We had the chance to talk to Charlie Bowler and Miles Watson and their favorite people on the team are all of their teammates because they are one big wolfpack.

In other football news, the Jaguars are opening against the Dolphins, one of their Florida foes in recent years. The Jags are 1-2, but all time they are winning the series and are 6-5 against the Dolphins. The Jags are looking to have an explosive offense because they signed Gabe Davis and drafted Brian Thomas Jr in the first round. The Dolphins didn't make any big changes, but they extended Tua Tagovailoa and Jaylen Waddle. A familiar face will be seen as the Dolphins signed former Jaguar Calais Campbell who had the most sacks and tackles of his career for the Jags. Tune at 1 o'clock on Sunday September 8th on CBS to see how the Jags and Dolphins open.



LPA PTO NEWS

MEET THE 2024/2025 PTO BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS!

Introducing our 2024/2025 PTO Board Members: **Oana Norman** serves as our President, followed by **Abigail Lake** as Vice President for Membership, **Courtney Cicchetti** is Vice for Fundraising, **Miral Shah** is our new Treasurer and finally, **Pavitra Varghese** is our Secretary.



Along with our PTO Board, there are Chair positions that serve with us to help ensure things run smoothly all year. Those roles are **Mary Lea Watson** for Hospitality, **Keri Hill** for Spirit wear, **Pavitra Varghese** for Sunshine Chair, and **Kathy Kurtzner** for Business Partner Liaison. **Kacey Bedi** will be the PTO Room Parent Liaison while **Bre Willman** manages the School Supplies and **Jenny Fitzpatrick** coordinates Blessings in a backpack.

MEMBERSHIP

Hello LPA Families! It is not too late! If you haven't joined the PTO yet, you can sign up on LPAPTO.COM or in person at the PTO meeting. If you have any questions, contact Abigail Lake at

Our next meeting is on Thursday, September 26th at 9am in the cafeteria. You must be an approved volunteer to attend the meeting. You can register at <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/volunteer> . Please sign in at the front office and walk outside to the side door of the cafeteria for the meeting.

Please note that the online store is open for spirit wear purchase. Check out the t-shirts, hats, sunglasses, earrings etc.!

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Mary Lea Watson for being nominated for the volunteer of the month for all her efforts for the Boo-hoo Yahoo breakfast hosted on August 16th for the kindergarten parents! Shout out to the 20 students who helped with setting up the 1st day school supply kits. And, special recognition to Kathy Kurtzner for her efforts in getting sponsorship and gift basket donations for the PTO Membership drive!

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). If students would like to vote, please have them submit it to their teacher and they can drop it in the PTO mailbox.

FUNDRAISERS

It's that time of year again Wolf family, **Charleston Wrap!** You can get your holiday shopping done early and help support our school! The fundraiser begins on September 9th and will conclude on September 20th. If you have any questions, please email Courtney at fundraising@lpapto.com.

STAY CONNECTED

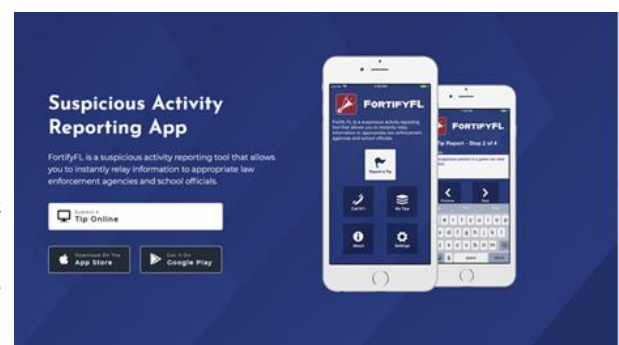
In addition to our website lpapto.com, check out our Liberty Pines Academy PTO Facebook page to learn about upcoming events and stay current with happenings at LPA.

UPCOMING DATES

09/09- 09/20 – Charleston Wrap Fundraiser

09/26 - PTO meeting 9am in Cafeteria

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.



WELCOME 2024-25

PTO BUSINESS PARTNERS

PLATINUM WOLF

Smiles by Dr. Craig Hadgis Orthodontist

Henry Advanced Orthodontics

BB's Shebang

TITAN CONTRACTING

Tutoring Club of St Johns

GOLDEN WOLF

Access Church

St. Johns Eye Associates (SJEA)

Sign Gypsies St Johns

St. Johns Pediatric Dentistry

Bright Smiles Pediatric Dentistry

Jacksonville Tongue Tie Center

Code Ninjas Saint Johns

Root to Rise Power Yoga

Ossi Orthodontics

Orangetheory Fitness

Ulich Law Firm

Anderson Realty

SILVER WOLF

Mochi Cafe

Pediatric Associates

Taps Bar & Grill /South Kitchen + Spirits

Scenthound St Johns

Landmark Title

V's Barbershop St. Augustine

Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery

