



LPA NEWS



NEWSLETTER | Volume 8 October 2024

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY

Hello LPA Families!

In the season of giving thanks, I would be remiss if I didn't start by saying THANK YOU to all the families for your generous donations and support during our Boosterthon Fundraiser! We were able to raise just over \$60,000!!! These donations will help with many school improvements including the completion of shade structures on our playgrounds. Thank you again to all students, families, and staff that contributed to this total.

Even with another school closure due to Hurricane Milton, our students experienced many exciting events during this past month. Kindergarten students learned about fire safety with a visit from the SJCFD, the middle school cross country and volleyball teams continued competing at high levels, our very own 8th grade student, Abigail Pflazer, was recognized at the St. Johns County Community Partners Character Counts ceremony, and our business partner nominee, Access Church, was recognized as a top five business partner in the district. Our students united to wear orange for World Unity Day, students participated in the Red Ribbon Week activities, and middle school students enjoyed the Student Council Fall Dance. The elementary students had a blast running at the Boosterthon Fun Run, many grades participated in Fall centers, kindergarten through 3rd grade students enjoyed parading around the bus loop in their costumes, we celebrated students for their recognition of the Responsibility "Character Counts!" Pillar of the month and inducted 33 new members into the National Junior Honor Society.

As we progress into November, we have many things to be thankful for here at LPA. I am thankful for the many successful events that are students were able to take part in this past month. I am thankful for the continuous support of our families. Most importantly, I am extremely thankful to be blessed with the opportunity to work with the most caring, dedicated, and committed staff in the county!

On a side note, beginning November 13 and running through February 5, there will not be any early release Wednesdays. Dismissal will be at 3:00pm for all Wednesdays through February 5. At this present time, early release dismissals will resume February 12.

Thank you again for your continued support!

Gratefully together,

Mr. Hoessler, your proud LPA Principal



Mark your calendars for the events below:

- Nov. 7: Fall Picture retakes
- Nov. 8: 16th Annual Liberty Parade celebration to honor our Veterans
- Nov. 11: Hurricane Makeup Day – Veteran's Day
- Nov. 18-22: LPA PTO Bookfair
- Nov. 18: In-house Spelling Bee Contest
- Nov. 18: SAC Meeting at 4:00pm
- Nov. 20: Fall Band Showcase Concert
- Nov. 25-29: No School – Thanksgiving Break

Over 160 students and chaperones enjoyed the "Honor Rows" Reward Trip on Sunday, October 27th!



WOLF NEWS

Jaguars Football Game Honor Rows

By Jackson Greathouse

On Sunday, October 27 the Jaguars who are now 3-6 played the Packers who are 6-2. They lost a hard-fought game, 30 to 27. They lost to a game winning field goal by the Packers. They may have lost, but many of our 6th and 7th grade Wolves were at the game cheering on the Jags. For a reward, 6th and 7th grade students were able use their points to purchase a ticket for a chance to go to a game! There were over 160 people including the chaperones and students from the 6th and 7th grades there watching the game. They got that opportunity to be there for their awesome behavior and good grades which helped them earn live school points.

They sat in the high seats in the 400 area. Mrs. Strillchuk was at the game and sponsored this event; her favorite players are Trevor Lawrence and Travis Etienne. She said, "It was super fun; it was the most sigma event." She said the best part was when the Jags mascot, Jaxson de Ville, ziplined down onto the field.



JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

Under the Sea with Third Grade

By Jaycee Greenmun and Caroline Linder

Our third grade Wolves took a submerged adventure to the St. Augustine Aquarium. They saw animals like sharks, sea turtles, and stingrays, but the sharks were immensely popular amongst the children. They went on October 17th and 18th. The teachers, chaperones, and students all thought that this sub-aquatic field trip was a great learning experience because they're learning about animals while simultaneously having fun and making memories with their friends. Ms. Hoekstra and the other third grade teachers thought this trip was very organized and would love to go again.



Third grader, Hutch Detlefs in Ms. Schaefer's class, had a spectacular time at the aquarium. He played clever games like, I spy McDonalds, with his friends on the thirty-minute bus ride. He enjoyed, "seeing the stingrays," and the sharks. His favorite activity was hunting and digging for the shark teeth. Hutch is looking forward to more adventures with his Wolf pack, and so are the staff. It was a convenient, yet organized trip and they can't wait to go on their next trip to M.O.S.H the science museum.

Middle-School Fall Dance

By: Tinley Shaw and Lucy Crawford

During the month of October, the middle schoolers got to have a fun dance! It took place October 22nd in the cafeteria. The theme was "Old Hollywood," and it was a very fun event for many students!



A couple of middle schoolers who went were even interviewed about the event and how they felt about it. The first student interviewed was Noah Cassidy, a current seventh grader here at LPA.

Noah said that it was a good time to be with friends, and that it was worth going. His favorite part was the dance circle that formed, and he was happy he stayed for the whole dance. He said that the concessions that were offered, which were pizza, chips, water, and Little Debbie's- were tasty too!

The other middle schooler interviewed was Nohemi Navarro, a current eighth grader at LPA.

She said she enjoyed going to the dance, and that it was fun seeing her friends in such a fun environment. Her favorite part was also the dance circle where Noah Cassidy even did a backflip and Mr. Roach, one of the teachers at LPA, did the Cupid Shuffle. She also stayed at the dance the whole time and it was successful in making every moment fun and was glad she stayed. She wore a pink, sparkly dress, with a pearl headband and lots of jewelry.



WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

Student Council News

By: Talitha Kalapala and Charlotte Weger

Student Council has currently been selling “Boo Grams” October 24th to 29th where people spend only one dollar to send a message and a piece of candy to the person they want the Boo Gram to go to. Then the student council team worked together to put the candy on them and send them out to classes on Halloween Day. The student council also planned the recent middle school dance. They voted on multiple themes and came up with “Old Hollywood”. Each member was given job and helped at the dance. Student Council also created some of the themes for Red Ribbon week such as the magical “Disney theme” and the “Glow Up” theme. Next, they will be helping and planning events for the Liberty Parade and will sell other amazing grams and even make some of summer activities.

Spotlighting some of the student council members:

Courtney Hayes: Courtney is an amazing 6th grade student council member who loves being part of student council because she gets to plan things, decorate, and make creative posters. She even was helping with concessions such as giving out pizza, water, chips, etc.

Abigail Pfalzer: Abigail is a super sweet 8th grade student council member who came up with the school dance theme. She also helped come up with the Disney day for Red Ribbon week. Abigail loves student council because she says it’s fun and nice to be involved with the school.

Quinn Earley: Quinn is not only an 8th grade student council member, but he is the president. He says he loves being president because not only will he be giving a speech at the Liberty Parade this year, but can also help make bigger decisions.

Ms. Herkel: Ms. Herkel is our incredible drama and chorus teacher who runs student council with Ms. Hale. She enjoys working with student council and seeing them become great leaders. Ms. Herkel said student council will be ambassadors of LPA’s Liberty Parade service project and charity.



BOOSTERTHON BOLT

By: Jaycee Greenmun

Our Boosterthon fun run took place Friday the 25th and our Wolves raised over \$60,000!! As a reward, students got to wear Halloween costumes to school! Students ran numerous laps and helped raise money for our school. Principle Hoessler mentioned using the money we raised to help shade our playground for the benefit of the students. LPA Wolf students look forward to the Boosterthon each year and can’t wait for the next!!

Penelope O’Leary and Addison Harper in Ms. Osborne’s class participated in the Boosterthon. They both ran around forty laps, and said it was a very fun experience. Addison and Penelope helped make the sign for their group. Their artistic ability helped them create a beautiful sign. Penelope is a dancer, and Addison plays soccer. Penelope, “can’t wait for the next one!” and Addison, “loves Boosterthon...” because she loves running. Each year our Boosterthon improves, and our students absolutely love this annual activity!



Red Ribbon Week at LPA

By: Molly Cebulko

From October 23rd through October 31st, our school celebrated Red Ribbon Week, where our students take a stand in the fight against drugs! Students participated in different themes each day to support our school and promote a drug free life. The National theme this year was “Life is a Movie. Film Drug Free”. The Themes of the LPA days are listed below:

Wednesday 10/23– Wear Red! Walk the Red Carpet and Stay Drug Free!

Thursday 10/24 – Wear your favorite Disney outfit! Live a Disney movie life drug free!

Friday 10/25 – Wear your LPA Spirit Wear! Join the School Spirit to support a drug free life!

Monday 10/28 – Wear your favorite pajamas! Don’t sleep through the movie or your life, stay drug free!

Tuesday 10/29 – Wear your glow/neon clothes! GLOW UP and live DRUG FREE!

Wednesday 10/30 – Wear your favorite sports jersey! Life is a movie, be a SPORT, film drug free!

Thursday 10/31 – Happy Hollywood Halloween! Dress as your favorite Hollywood character and live drug free!

This week was full of so many amazingly creative theme outfits! So, here’s a big thanks to our students who showed school spirit by joining the fight against drugs. Go Wolves!



November							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1 Health Screenings	2	
3	4	5	6	7 Liberty Day Parade Practice	8 Liberty Day Parade	9	
10	11 Veterans Day – School is Open	12	13	14 Interims Issued	15	16	
17	18 Book Fair	19 Book Fair	20 Book Fair	21 Book Fair	22 Book Fair	23	
24	25 Thanksgiving Break	26 Thanksgiving Break	27 Thanksgiving Break	28 Thanksgiving Break	29 Thanksgiving Break	30	

MORE WOLF NEWS! Celebrating the Teachers and

Rookie Teachers of the Year



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OCTOBER PAW PAT WINNERS!!!

Middle School:

Lucas Camacho – 8th
Makenzie Bates – 8th
Jacob Garzon – 8th
Mila Wilhelmy – 7th
Parker Harnitchek – 6th
Middle School:
Joshua Rubin – 8th
Logan Griner – 8th
Owen Reach – 8th
Brady Davis – 8th
Sophia Serena – 8th
Luke Thielemann – 8th
William Shook – 8th
Sofia Iordanov – 6th

Elementary School:

Danio Halilovic – 5th
Lior Cohen – 4th
James Pappas – 4th
Kyler Harrital – 3rd
Brookelyn McDonald – 1st
Sophie Harnitchek – 5th
Zachary Dillon – 5th
Hazel G – 4th
Amaya Smith – 4th
Kyler Harrital – 3rd
Brynnley Reaves – 2nd
Mackinnon Wylie – 1st



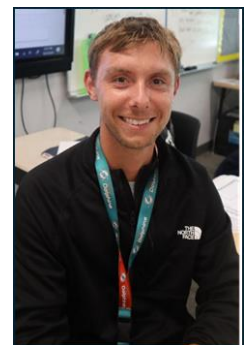
By Kylee Blood

Mr. Roach is this year's recipient of the Middle School Rookie Teacher of the Year Award. When he found out he won the Award he felt very proud and honored to have received it. Last year was his first year at LPA. He is loving LPA so far. He decided to become a teacher 3 years ago and has not regretted his decision.



When asked who his biggest inspiration along the way is, he replied, his father. His father would encourage him to find the trade that fit him so he would end up with a job he loved.

Mr. Nicholson is the winner of this year's Rookie Elementary Teacher of the Year. Mr. Nicholson teaches fifth grade. This is the first time he has won an award like this one. He felt very honored when he found out he won.



This is his 2nd year teaching at LPA. When asked who his biggest inspiration has been his answer was Mrs. Sutaria & Mrs. Hayes. Without their support he believes he would have quit teaching.

Mrs. Scoggins was this year's winner of the Elementary Teacher of the Year award. Mrs. Scoggins teaches elementary art. This is not her first time winning this kind of award. She was the recipient of Rookie Teacher of the Year during the 2019-2020 school year.



This is her 7th year at LPA. She loves it here. She loves how tight knit the staff is and the resource team. Her biggest inspiration along the way has been her High school Art teacher. He would encourage her to push herself further then she thought she could

Mrs. Herkel was this year's recipient of the Middle School Teacher of the Year Award. This is her second time winning the Award. She teaches Musical Theater, Theater 1&2, Honors choir, and Chorus.



When interviewed she said that her biggest inspiration along the way has been her students pushing her to be her best. She started teaching when a friend got her a job as a drama teacher, and she just fell in love with it.



LPA SPOTLIGHTS!

Teacher Spotlights – Ms. Martin and Mr. Bejarano

By: Addie Spradlin and Maggie O’Leary

This month LPA spotlighted 2 new teachers, Ms. Alysia Martin, and Mr. Brandon Bejarano. Ms. Martin teaches 2nd grade, and this is her first year here. She enjoys teaching 2nd graders because they are smart, sweet, and independent. 2nd grade teachers are preparing you for the big switch while entering 3rd grade. Ms. Martin’s favorite part of the day is when they do teacher led PE because she enjoys watching her kid’s awesome dance moves.

Mr. Bejarano is also new to LPA. He has moved here from Las Vegas. He teaches beginner and intermediate Spanish for our middle schoolers. Mr. B, while still adjusting, loves the school and the St. John’s area. Although our school is different from where he used to teach, he enjoys the enthusiasm and energy LPA brings.

LPA is so overjoyed to have these new teachers here with us!



Staff Spotlight – Ms. Langowski

By: Gianna DiBenedetto and Mia Dahana-Ellis

This month's staff spotlight is Mrs. Langowski, LPA’s instructional coach! Mrs. Langowski has worked in the school system for twenty-three years, twelve of those being at LPA. This is her third year as an instructional coach. She helps to train new teachers, run parent/intervention meetings, work with our administration, and lots more. Mrs. Langowski hasn’t always been our instructional coach. She taught fourth grade for six years, ICT adventures and reading, and a few positions in middle school. We asked Mrs. Langowski what her favorite part about working at LPA was. She answered, “My colleagues and of course the kids.” Mrs. Langowski is a highly valued member of our LPA community!



Student Spotlight – Macie Williams

By: Sophia Serena and Caroline Linder

Macie Williams is a 7-year-old 2nd grade student in Ms. Dougherty’s class. She was born in St. Johns on June 4th 2017. She has a sister in 12th grade at Beachside named Ellie. Macie’s favorite color is pink, and her favorite movie is *Descendant’s the Rise of Red*. Her favorite color is Red. She has a sweet tooth and loves Reece’s and ice cream, but her favorite food is chicken wings. She loves animals especially dogs. At school her favorite subject is math, and her favorite resource is art; when she grows up, she wants to be an artist. Out of school Macie plays softball, and it is her favorite sport. Macie believes that responsibility is the best character trait to have because it makes you a better person in and out of school.

Student Spotlight – Veer Prakash

By: Caroline Linder and Sophia Serena

Veer Prakash is in Ms. Kessel's 2nd grade class. This is his first year at Liberty Pines Academy but loves his class and has made a close friend already, Rayan Krikor. Veer is 7 years old and has lived in Florida his whole life. So far at LPA Veer has found interest in the resource PE because of the freedom to play many different types of games with his friends.

Outside of school he loves to eat pizza and for a sweet treat he loves ice cream. His favorite movie is *The Wild Robot*. His favorite colors are red, white, and blue. He doesn’t have any pets but strives to have a golden retriever when he is older. Veer loves Ms. Kessel because of the movies they get to watch in class. He can’t wait to see what the rest of the 2nd grade year holds!



NJHS Welcomes New Members

By: Olivia Pappas and Anna Russo

October 23rd, National Junior Honor Society held their yearly induction ceremony and inducted 33 new members. These new members consist of Kylee Blood, Dylan Brand, Sarah Cheng, Lucas Colca, Olivia Connell, Brielle Coppola, Quinn Earley, Sanika Garge, Lillian Hough, Ruby Grace Kight, Cooper Koury, Nora Maas, Adelaide Madelly, Areej Maqsood, Lindsey McDaniel, Caleb Milne, Sophie Norcia, Maggie O'Leary, Namah Pavaskar, Julia Radecki, Emily Rapolla, William Shook, Spoorthi Sindhaval, Addison Spradlin, Davis Templeton, Elizabeth Thorpe, Olivia Torrence, Amelia Veniard, Clara Wayne, Mila Wilhelmy, Bradley Willman, Ashley Windness, and Mallory York.

The leaders of NJHS, Mrs. Cassidy and Mrs. Langowski put together this wonderful ceremony, with the help of their newly elected officers. Congratulations to our officers, Ruby Grace Kight as President, Anna Russo as Vice President, Jaycee Greenmun as Secretary, Hayden Warren as Treasurer, Rhea Sidi as Parliamentarian, and Ariana Turner as Historian. The officers were assigned to perform speeches on the pillars of NJHS such as, scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. We are so proud of our NJHS family and can't wait to continue helping our community and school.

One of our newly inducted members, Mila Wilhelmy, was interviewed about NJHS. Mila is a 7th grade student at LPA. Mila became interested in NJHS because of her passion to help both the school and community. Being here since kindergarten, she finds it important to look out for LPA. She was so excited to be inducted because she couldn't wait to make a positive impact. Mila already has 15 out of school volunteer hours but is aiming to complete as many as possible. She's eager to participate in food drives, with her other members who are as motivated as her to help our community. Her picture is down below.



Elementary Character Parade

By: Olivia Connell



Grades K-3 had a blast showing off their Scary, Silly, fun, festive Halloween costumes in the Character Parade on Halloween. They walked around the bus loop and the hallways showing off their costumes. Parents and younger siblings came to watch and cheer their kids and siblings on.

Kindergartener Marlon Harper had super fun time in the parade. Marlon dressed up as the orange Ninga Turtle. One of his favorite things was being able to go outside. He also liked seeing his friends and his mom.

Kindergarten on Fire for Fire Truck Visit



By: Kylee Blood

This October, LPA's smallest Wolves had a visit from the Fire Department. We were visited by Lieutenant Chris Cavanaugh, Engineer Harrison Howerton, and Fire Fighter Joshua Moore.

When asked what their favorite thing about the fire truck visit was, Kindergartener Catherine Walston said taking the picture in front of the truck.

Leilani Flores on the other hand liked getting to look inside the fire truck better. She loved looking at all the cool stuff inside of the truck.

The fire truck visit has been a favorite for many years and is a tradition enjoyed by all.



NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

LPA Drama in Action

By: Grace Rapolla

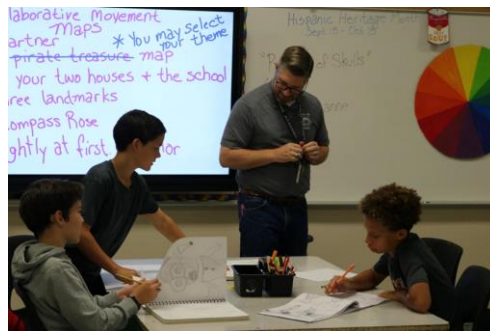
The LPA drama department is in action. The Cast of the “Christmas Bus” is working hard and is very excited for the upcoming show on December 5th and 6th at 6:00 P.M. The tickets will be going on sale on November 18th via school pay and will also be available at the door for only \$5. Don’t miss out; tickets sell fast!

Throughout the school year Drama classes take place. Ms. Herkel makes sure every day of Drama class is fun and filled with memories. Students in all classes do improv with a group of students as well as journaling. After practicing these improv and writing their journals, the students then present them to the class. While doing improv and journals the students get to be themselves, and not worry what other people think about them. This also, helps tremendously with self-confidence. Overall, Drama class is an amazing place to be while in school. When your child gets to middle school or is in middle school, they should definitely try drama.

October Art Corner

by Katie Bonday

This month, middle school art is working on many interesting aspects, from maps that show movement, to mosaics and monochromatic drawings. Mr. Wolfe is excited to teach his classes painting skills and portraits later in the year.



In the elementary art wing, they’re currently working on postcards for the Right Whale Festival! After they finish their current project, Ms. Scoggins is looking forward to teaching the kids how to use clay.

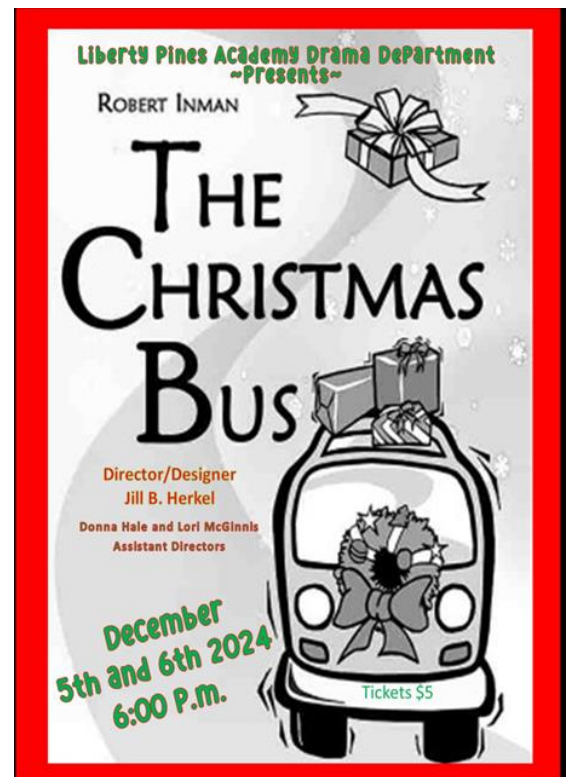
Both Ms. Scoggins and Mr. Wolfe believe that art helps teach kids patience and perseverance. It teaches students how to embrace mistakes and learn from them. Our talented art teachers enjoy seeing the growth and different types of creativity in their students.

Moonlight Howlers and Elementary Music

By Erienne Scales

Don’t miss all the exciting events elementary music is doing! Thursday, December 12th at 5PM the Moonlight Howlers will be performing “Jingle Bell Jukebox”; Wednesday, December 18th at 5PM kindergarten will be performing “Jingle Bell Jukebox”; Tuesday, December 17th, 1st grade will be performing “Cookies the Musical” with the 1st grade group A performing at 5PM and 1st grade group B performing at 6PM.

Other than performances, elementary music is currently working on instruments like xylophones, recorders, as well as learning rhythm, beat, and sight reading. Stay tuned for all the exciting things these young musicians will be doing next!



History Reflection

- Veterans Day

By: Ava Smith

Veterans Day is a federal holiday that takes place on November 11th each year in the United States. It's a celebration to honor the brave men and women who have served in the U.S. military. Veterans Day became official in 1954, when Congress passed the bill that President Eisenhower signed. But before that, Veterans Day was known as Armistice Day, because November 11th marks the day World War I ended with an armistice that went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month between the Allied nations and Germany. Armistice Day was a day set aside to honor Veterans of World War I. However, in 1954, after World War II, the Act of 1938 was amended. This changed Armistice Day to Veterans Day, a day to honor American Veterans of all wars.

Veterans Day is celebrated with parades, ceremonies, and tributes for veterans. A well-known event on Veterans Day is the National Veterans Day Ceremony. It's held at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia to honor the former and current U.S. military members. The ceremony begins at 11 a.m., when a presidential wreath is laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a symbolic grave for all the war dead whose remains were never discovered or identified. After the wreath laying, a color guard performs "Present Arms" at the tomb. Then, the bugler plays "taps." Lastly, a parade is held. The ceremony is free to the public to view. Another well-known event on this holiday is the New York City Veterans Day Parade. It's the largest Veterans Day commemoration in the United States, with 20,000 marchers and more than 150 vehicles.

To show thanks for the veterans' service, you can attend parades, donate, learn their stories, send a letter, or give words of gratitude to the brave veterans in your life.



Fourth Grade Live School Celebration

By: Katie Bonday and Tinley Shaw

In the month of October, the fourth graders here at LPA got to have a celebration for receiving live school points. There were plenty of fun activities for them to enjoy such as a dance party, arts and crafts, extended recess, and computer lab time.

In Ms. Olive's room the students were able to watch a movie. With Ms. Hardy, Ms. Hairston, and Ms. Osborne the kids were able to have time on the computers. With Ms. Curran and Ms. Hefter, the kids got to have extended recess time outside. In Ms. Lovett's room the kids had a dance party, with glowsticks, and super fun music and finally, in Ms. Marton's room, and Ms. Lamb's room the kids got to have fun with fall themed arts and crafts.

Good job Wolves, keep earning those live school points- and earning those rewards!



Band News

Ava Rosey

This year's band team is plowing through their practices! They have not had any recitals yet, but the members of the band all have had many positive experiences! When interviewed Aditi Banakar said that her favorite part about band was "Mr. Spilling. He makes the class so fun!" Aditi plays the flute. Many students seem to have the same reasoning. Lizzie Jones said that just playing an instrument is enough reason for her to love the class. Lizzie plays the French horn! Come watch our Band superstars at their recitals throughout the year!



SPORTS NEWS!!!



Inside Girls' Volleyball



By Ava Rosey and Brooke Russell

Our amazing girls' volleyball team has made so much improvement throughout their season. They've greatly enhanced their communication skills and consistency, thanks to their incredible coach, Ms. Sullens. They've won most of their games and are improving every single day. With one month left in the season, our girls are striving for victory and supporting each other every step of the way. They'll be having practices every Monday after school, and games every Tuesday and Thursday starting at 5:30pm.

Come support our Wolves!

Girls 5:30 games and Boys 6:30 games

Oct 29 – Home v. MCA

Nov 7 – away at VRA

Nov 5 – Home v. TCA

Nov 12 – away at POA



LPA Boys Volleyball

By Adhiyan Balaji

After a rough start to their season, the boys' volleyball team is finally making a comeback; after a string of 4 losses, the boys team found their footing in their last 2 games, winning both. The Boys team's win-loss record is now 3-6. The season is coming to a close with it ending early-November; the playoffs will start mid-November. See the remaining schedule below for more details.

"I think that our team just needed a little push, after winning our game against Lakeside, our morale shot up, and after that we just kept on going," said Adhiyan Balaji, an 8th grader on the team. "We beat Pine Island Academy most recently, who were undefeated, which boosted our morale a ton."



Success at State Championship

By: Anna Russo

Louis Lyons and Brianna Motycka competed in the Cross-Country state championship. To compete you had to be in the top 10% of all cross-country runners in Florida. Louis and Brianna were two out of the three runners at LPA that were chosen to run in states. The runners both ran a 3K; Louis placed seventh in the 8th grade category and Brianna placed fourth in the 6th grade category. Over 200 people competed in each category, and we are so proud of our Wolves for placing top ten and representing our school.

Boys Soccer



By: Leyla Phillips

The boys' soccer season started this month. They've been working hard during practices and games. Though they've unfortunately lost a hefty number of games this season, however, they strive to work hard and do better. The soccer season ends December 12th.

When asked about his opinion on the season ending in a few months, 8th grader Aiden Gonzalez mentions feeling disappointed, thinking the team could've done better. He says, "the members could use some work on controlling the ball and passing to their teammates."

However, when Aiden was asked about his opinion on being on the team in general, he mentions it to be rewarding and enjoyable. Aiden spoke of having friends on the team and liking a few of the other players. The last question he was asked was "what's your favorite part of being on the team?" he said that it was overall fun and didn't put a lot of pressure on him until the play-offs". He also mentioned enjoying the games.



MORE SPORTS NEWS!!!

Soccer Stories

By: Ava Rosey



This year's girls are strong and powerful soccer players; they have determination, aggression, speed and exceptional footwork - all the ingredients of a supersonic team!

Our girls are still learning everyone's names and getting to know their teammates. Solving this could be the solution to the teams' previous losses. But don't worry, this year's amazing coaches: Coach Dennis and Coach Temur are working to fix that! With just about a month left in their season the girls are working hard to improve their teamwork, and communication. Although they still need to improve on other things, they have greatly enhanced their mindset, determination, and energy! Most of all they have improved their adaptation to playing with each other and the coach's way of teaching. Come cheer on our girls every Monday and Thursday!

LPA Football

By: Owen Reach and Bradley Willman

The LPA Wolves fell just short on their playoff run as they went 2-5. They played their last game on the October 23rd and fell short to POA losing 36-0. They may have, lost but they played as hard as they could, making sure to enjoy their last game as some of them are going to high school next year. But the transfer Charlie bowler exited to head to high school quarter back. We interviewed some of the players including Alex Hutchins and he said, "It was a fun season and we played well but we came up short this season." Even though varsity came up short this season, junior varsity made it to the championship game and played well but they lost 6-0.

LPA History Reflection: The Origin of Halloween

By: Lyla Linton

Halloween is one of the biggest celebrated holidays worldwide. This spooky day is typically associated with monsters, candy, and pumpkins. Many children look forward to dressing up in a fun costume and going trick or treating on Halloween night. Halloween is even one of the oldest holidays still commonly celebrated.

The origins of Halloween are believed to have first begun with the Irish. Over 2000 years ago there was an Ancient Celtic festival, called Samhain. Samhain translates to "summers end" in English. Samhain was celebrated on November first and was a celebration to welcome the harvest. Many of their traditions consisted of bonfires, dancing, and dressing up in costumes to warn off spirits.

In the eighth century Catholicism adapted a similar holiday. Pope Gregory III made November first "All Saints Day", a day of celebrating their saints. The night of October thirty-first later become known as "All Hallows Eve".

Over time traditions from both holidays began to combine. Halloween is an adaptation of both holidays, but historians are unsure of when that exactly happened. Halloween is one of the world's favorite holidays and has a very interesting history!

Joke of the month

By: Kylee Blood

Why did the cranberry turn red?

It saw the turkey dressing!

Riddle of the month

By: Kylee Blood

It's a flower but doesn't bloom it sounds like a month but floats on the water. What am I?

The Mayflower!

Thanksgiving Trivia

By: Kylee Blood

What US president declared Thanksgiving a national holiday?

What big sale is the day after Thanksgiving?

What is the big parade that takes place every year for Thanksgiving and where is it held?

Colchester, Connecticut postponed their Thanksgiving in 1705 due to what?





Character Counts

By Talitha Kalapala

Congratulations to our Character Counts Winners for September and October!!! These students were recognized for adhering to the character traits below.

RESPECT

- Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule
- Be tolerant and accepting of differences
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone
- Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements

RESPONSIBILITY

- Do what you are supposed to do
- Plan ahead
- Persevere: keep on trying!
- Always do your best
- Use self-control
- Be self-disciplined
- Think before you act — consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes
- Set a good example for others



Media Matters!

By Thanisha Thavakalsha

Our Media Center has some exciting new updates! Our school bookfair is coming up soon! The book fair will take place from November 18th through November 22nd. It is the biggest fundraiser for the Media Center, and it is the 1st of 2 book fairs we will be having this year.

More exciting news, Mrs. Rice has created a Media Center Schoology group for middle schoolers! Middle schoolers can check the group to see any updates about the media center.

Mrs. Rice would also like to remind once again that checkout times are from 8:20 a.m. 8:40 a.m. She encourages more middle schoolers to come by the media center to check out in the mornings!

The Battle of the Books club meetings are going really well. The club members are meeting on Tuesday mornings from 8:00 to 8:30. As there was so much interest this year, there are more students interested in being on the school's team than the limit of team members can be. The final team members will be decided at the battle of the books meeting on December 10th. Good luck to everyone who wants to be on the team!



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.

November Literacy Book Float Contest

Rules

Independent participation contest for students in any grade beginning **October 30th--** Think Macy's Day Parade! Completed floats will be accepted for entry from November 12th-15th. No entries will be accepted late. Voting will open on November 18th and close on November 20th. The top three finalists from each of the following groups will be announced on November 22nd: Grades K-2, Grades 3-5, and Grades 6-8.

Entries must meet the following criteria:

- Visually represents a book or book character—The title must be on the float.
- Be no larger than 18"x12" in length but can be any reasonable height.
- LEGOs kits are not permitted, and neither are any other building sets. All elements of the float must be fabricated by the contestant (i.e. recycled materials, craft supplies).
- Weapons, violent scenes, and any obscene depictions are prohibited.

Judging

The top three finalists in each group (Grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8) will be decided by student and staff voting from November 18th-20th via Microsoft Forms. A QR code will be available in the Media Center, provided to all teachers to have in their classroom, and sent home in the *Wolf Weekly*. The nine finalists will be announced on November 22nd and awarded Amazon gift cards in the following amounts: \$10 for third place, \$20 for second place, and \$30 for first place.

Inspiration



Kindergarten presents a POLAR EXPRESS SINGALONG

Wednesday, December 18th
at 5:00PM

directed by Mrs. Elizabeth Snyder



SUGGESTED DONATIONS
\$5 per person
includes student artwork,
photo booth, & entry ticket



Trivia Answers

Abe Lincoln, Black Friday, Macy day
parade in New York City, Absence of
pumpkin pie

Moonlight Howlers presents

“Jingle Bell Jukebox”

Thursday, December 12th
at 5:00PM

directed by Mrs. Elizabeth Snyder

Suggested Donation
\$5 per ticket



**The First Graders of
Liberty Pines Academy
Proudly Present**

COOKIES

The Musical

By: John Jacobson



**Tuesday,
December 17 in
the LPA
Cafeteria**

The evening will have 2 performances:
5PM - Classes of Ellie, Shepherd, Pate and M. Veale
6PM - Classes of J. Veale, Herrin, Raya, Floyd and Gray

*If you would like to donate to our upcoming musical, please use the link below.
All donations can be turned into Mrs. Snyder in room 200 (elementary music).

[Cookies! The Musical Amazon Wish List](#)

*An admission donation of \$1 per person is appreciated and encouraged. All proceeds will benefit our Elementary Music Department at LPA.

PTO NEWSLETTER

PTO EVENTS



Thank you for all your support with the Boosterthon Fun Run! Parents and students loved the prizes this year! Shout out to all the volunteers.
GO WOLVES!

PTO HIGHLIGHTS

Volunteers of the month

Reagan Fitzpatrick for being such an attentive patrol in the carline. Also, Jamie Dougherty and Tyler Jennings for helping deliver prizes for the fun run!



Membership

Additional drawings every month for prizes donated by our LPA sponsors. How can you win? Join the PTO and you are automatically in the drawing. This includes teachers and staff!

**LIBERTY
PINES
ACADEMY PTO**

Spirit wear

New fall/winter line of spirit wear is now available at www.lpapto.com. Items will be delivered to the school



REMINDERS



Birthday marquee announcements are now available for purchase at www.lpapto.com.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"In a world where you can be anything, be kind."

Jennifer Dukes Lee

WELCOME 2024-25

PTO BUSINESS PARTNERS



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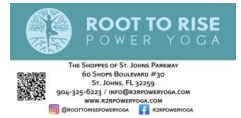


GOLDEN WOLF

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
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Dr. Matt Bright
welovebrightsmiles.com
904.584.9004



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Taps Bar & Grill /South Kitchen + Spirits
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