



# LPA NEWS



NEWSLETTER | Volume 3 March 2025

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY

Hello LPA Families!

Happy spring everyone! I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to some warmer temperatures ahead!

Let me start by saying thank you to everyone for the outpouring of support for our school, students, staff, and the family affected by the unbelievable tragedy that occurred during spring break. Our hearts are with this family during this unimaginably difficult time.

During the month of March, our eighth-grade students met with their high schools to create their schedules for next year, our fifth-grade finalist presented their FPL Speeches, the middle school Math Counts team competed in the state competition, the middle school band students performed their MPA, our elementary students competed in the Character Cup at Nease high School, our elementary students in kindergarten through second grade had fun at their field days, many elementary grade levels are experiencing their field studies, we celebrated the Trustworthiness Pillar of the Month, our middle school basketball teams played their hearts out in the playoffs, and the elementary and middle school Battle of the Books teams competed. In fact, our middle school Battle of the Books team won 1<sup>st</sup> place for the first time in LPA history! In addition, our girls' basketball team not only took home the K8 Championship this year, but they also did so in an undefeated fashion! Congratulations to both teams for these amazing accomplishments!

One of the big highlights this past month was the LPA Spring Carnival sponsored by our wonderful PTO! It was a huge success and a great way for the school and PTO to collaborate to give back to our incredible community.

As we begin the final quarter of the year, we are continuing to support our students to finish strong as we prepare them for the final push and the state testing window. The testing window began March 31 and runs through the end of the school year. You can access the testing calendar on our school website under the testing tab. Testing is not the only thing that will be happening around campus this month. We have the LPA PTO Bookfair, Night of the Arts Show, Newsies Spring play, the elementary Spring Dance, and field day for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. We will also celebrate our Volunteers of the Year, celebrate our volleyball, basketball, and cross-country teams at their Sports Banquet, and we will host a rising kindergarten night! If you have neighbors that have rising kindergartens for next school year, please inform them that our kindergarten registration process is open and please encourage them to attend the rising kindergarten night!

One additional note for the community. If you plan to be a volunteer in the school, please ensure that you complete an application well in advance of any volunteer opportunities to ensure your application is processed and approved ahead of time. Thank you for keeping our students, staff, and school safe!

As always, thank you for your continued support of our school.

Gratefully together,

Mr. Hoessler, your proud LPA Principal



## Parent Survey Exceptional Student Education Your Input is Important

Each year, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) conducts a survey designed to provide FDOE and the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, with information on how well Florida's schools are partnering with parents and promoting parent involvement in their child's education. The survey is open to all parents of children with an individual educational plan (IEP) receiving ESE services from preschool age through grade 12.

The 2024/2025 ESE Parent Survey is open beginning February 2025 and will close on 6/30/2025. The survey can be completed on the web or mobile phone by visiting:

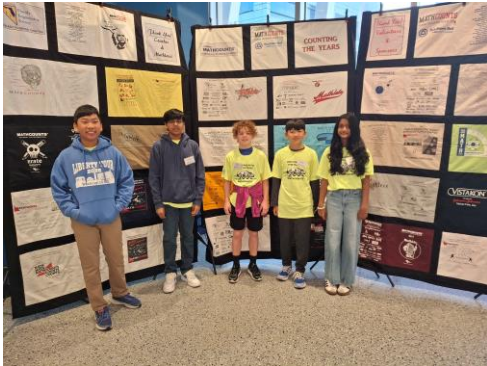
[2025 ESE Parent Survey](#)

Your responses will help guide efforts to improve services and results for children and families. All information provided will remain confidential. You may submit one online survey for each child receiving services.

### Mark your calendars for the events below:

- April 3: Volunteer of the Year Ceremony
- April 10-12: Newsies Spring Play
- April 17: Elementary Spring Dance (tickets must have been purchased ahead of time)
  - KG-1<sup>st</sup> = 5:00pm-5:45pm
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> = 6:00pm-6:45pm
  - 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> = 7:00pm-7:45pm
- April 18: No School
- April 21: SAC Meeting at 4:00pm
- April 21-25: LPA PTO Bookfair
- April 23: Rising Kindergarten Night at 6:00pm
- April 24: Night of the Arts Show
- April 29: Sports Banquet for Volleyball, Basketball, and Cross-Country

# WOLF NEWS



Congratulations to our Math Counts team members who competed in Daytona Beach in the State Math Counts Competition!

## NJHS: Wolf Warehouse and Spring Dance

By: Molly Cebulko

NJHS has been working especially hard this month for the Elementary Spring Fling in April! The dance will be held April 17 after school for all elementary students, in three different sessions. Kindergarten and first grade are from 5:00 – 5:45, second and third grade from 6:00 – 6:45, and fourth and fifth grade are from 7:00 – 7:45. Our NJHS members are in charge of making decorations, setting up, letting students in, cleaning up the mess, and making sure our students have a great time! This year's theme is Candyland, and we can't wait to see how our elementary students dress up for the occasion! Flyer is attached to the right for more information, if interested.

This past week, NJHS members also volunteered at our Wolf Warehouse Live school store. Wolf Warehouse is a store we have at LPA, that allows our students to use their Live school points in exchange for cool prizes, to reward their good behavior. If you missed it this week, no need to worry! The store will be open again next month for all students to use their points.

## Wolf Warehouse Updates



The Wolf Warehouse returned to LPA this month and the students were very excited to spend their Live School points on a variety of fun items. Thank you to Moses Floyd and family for your generous donations!! If you are interested in contributing items to the Wolf Warehouse we would love your help. You can either use the QR code above or the link below to connect to the Amazon wish list for items needed to stock the PBIS reward warehouse.

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2YEPET1YTQBS?ref>

## Battle of the Books – MS Championship Win!

By Thanisha Thavakalsha

The District Battle of the Books took place on March 25<sup>th</sup> for Middle School and March 27<sup>th</sup> for Elementary. The middle school team members are Thanisha Thavakalsha (captain), Sahasra Rajeshkhar, Ashweja Mechineni, Rhea Siddi, and Arjun Tirumalasetti. The alternates were Kylee Blood and Abigail Pfalzer. The elementary team members are Emma Natanzon (captain), Ashika Tirumalasetti, Grady Andernora, Bhargav Raghavendra, and Ilisha Pahwa. The alternate was Emma Irby. Both teams had been practicing for the battle by doing practice questions and re-reading the SSYRA books.

We are very proud to say that our middle school battle of the books team won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the district battle! This is the first time in LPA history that our middle school team has ever won the district battle. Before the battle, Sahasra Rajeshkhar from the middle school team said that she was feeling confident. She was sure that the team would do well. After the battle middle school team member Ashweja Mechineni said that during the battle she was nervous but also excited. She said she felt great about the team winning.

The elementary battle of the books team got 12<sup>th</sup> place in the district battle. Before the battle, captain Emma Natanzon said she felt scared, and anxious. Despite feeling nervous, she was also excited for the battle, saying “we got this” since the team had been practicing a lot together. After the battle Emma Irby said she felt excited but also a little anxious during the battle. Afterwards, she felt frustrated that they got 12<sup>th</sup> place since they had been practicing very hard over the past few months. She thought they could've improved during the battle by slowing down when answering the questions. Team member Bhargav Raghavendra said he felt nervous and excited during the battle. After the battle he was upset about their placing and thought the team could've practiced more to prepare. Ms. Rice is very proud of both teams for practicing so much over the past few months. Regardless of the placing, both teams spent a lot of time preparing, and did their best at the battle!

# WHAT ELSE IS NEW...



## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade's Kennedy Space Center Field Trip

By: Maggie O'Leary and Addie Spradlin

This month our 4<sup>th</sup> graders took a trip to Florida's Kennedy Space Center. While they were there, they learned about all things space themed. We interviewed Fiona Kern from Ms. Marton's class about her experience. She told us she had a great time with her friends and her favorite part was the rocket simulator; in the rocket simulator people get to experience space travel with projections. A new fact that Fiona learned is that astronauts have to workout up to 5 hours a day. She also learned that Mercury Red stone was the first rocket to launch an American crew.

All our 4<sup>th</sup> graders had a blast learning new things and socializing with their peers. They have thoroughly enjoyed their trip to The Kennedy Space Center and are now excited for their futures in science and space discovery.

## Winning with Words!

By Erienne Scales and Mia Dahana-Ellis

This year at LPA, one of our Wolves won 1<sup>st</sup> place in a recent poetry contest! Sahasra Rajashekhar wanted to change people's perspective on how we think of the world. Loss of morals and integrity are things Sahasra believes today's society struggles with. Sahasra expressed these emotions through creative forms of figurative language, making her poetry stand out from the rest. Her determination to make a difference in the world by changing people's point of views on challenging subjects such as this is truly admirable. Congratulations again to Sahasra and we hope our Wolves keep writing!

## Character Cup Fun!

By: Jaycee Greenmun and Caroline Linder

The Character Cup is a friendly competition where the schools in St. Johns County come together to compete in a variety of challenges. Some of these include the 4x100 relay race, the jump rope, or the 100-meter sprint.

This year the LPA's Character Cup team consists of eight people: Norah Madden, Lake O'Donnell, Keira Tapley, Kilyn Austin, Savannah, Weger, Anna Scalia, Zachary Dillon, Jett Felix, Josh Crawford, Miles Madden, Preston Sinner, Marcelo Juarez.

All the players tried their best. While we didn't take home the first-place victory, it was a great experience that taught them many things. Including sportsmanship, determination and grit. They loved working as a team while each representing LPA in their own way. Congrats Wolves!





# Testing News

By: Anna Russo and Olivia Pappas

Testing season is approaching at LPA. It is important that you don't schedule anything interfering with your scheduled test dates like medical appointments, vacations, etc. Some helpful tips to take into consideration would be to get a good night's sleep, eat a nutritional breakfast, drink plenty of water, and arrive on time to your testing location/classroom. Make sure to try your best and stay positive! Testing dates and groups are listed below.

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY							LPA PMS Testing Calendar	
April 2025							March 31 <sup>st</sup> - April 11 <sup>th</sup> B.E.S.T. Writing (grades 4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> )	
							April 14 <sup>th</sup> - May 30 <sup>th</sup> FAST STAR (grades K-2 <sup>nd</sup> )	
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN		
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	April 1 <sup>st</sup>	2	3	4	5	6		
Middle Grades Group A B.E.S.T. Writing (m/a adjusted bell schedule)	Middle Grades Group B B.E.S.T. Writing (m/a adjusted bell schedule)		5 <sup>th</sup> grade B.E.S.T. Writing (adjusted resource)	4 <sup>th</sup> grade B.E.S.T. Writing (adjusted resource)				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
B.E.S.T. Writing makeups can take place anytime 4/1 - 4/11								
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade FAST STAR Reading	Makeups: 2 <sup>nd</sup> STAR	1 <sup>st</sup> grade FAST STAR Reading	Kindergarten FAST STAR Early Literacy	No School				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade FAST STAR Math	Makeups: K-2 <sup>nd</sup> STAR	Makeups: K-2 <sup>nd</sup> STAR		1 <sup>st</sup> grade FAST STAR Math				
28	29	30					*See last page for Middle School Group A and Group B teacher names. Students will test with their 1 <sup>st</sup> period/homeroom teacher.	
Kindergarten FAST STAR Math	Makeups: K-2 <sup>nd</sup> STAR	Makeups: K-2 <sup>nd</sup> STAR						

Middle School Testing Groups	
Group A Homeroom Teachers	Group B Homeroom Teachers
Balcita	Bridenbaugh
B. Bejarano	Cassidy
Brun	Cox - 1 <sup>st</sup> period interns
Deagle	Eisenhuth
Dill	Hale
Herkel	Grubbs
Johnson	Lutts
Olson	W. Lynch
Perra	McGinnis
Roach	Quimby
Strillchuk	Raimondo
Wolfe	K. Ryan
	Sexton
	Spilling
	Wurstner

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY							LPA PMS Testing Calendar	
May 2025							May 1 <sup>st</sup> - May 30 <sup>th</sup>	
							FAST Reading and Math 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Science 5 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Civics EOC* Geometry EOC* Algebra EOC* Biology EOC*	
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN		
		1	2	3	4			
FAST/EOC makeups can take place anytime 5/1 - 5/30								
			3 <sup>rd</sup> grade FAST Reading (adjusted lunch & resource)	Civics EOC (m/a adjusted bell schedule)				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Middle Grades Group A FAST Reading (m/a adjusted bell schedule)	Middle Grades Group B FAST Reading (m/a adjusted bell schedule)	Makeups	5 <sup>th</sup> grade FAST Reading (adjusted resource)	4 <sup>th</sup> grade FAST Reading (adjusted resource)				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
5 <sup>th</sup> grade Science (adjusted resource)	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Science and Biology EOC (m/a adjusted bell schedule)	4 <sup>th</sup> grade FAST Math	5 <sup>th</sup> grade FAST Math (adjusted resource)	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade FAST Math (adjusted lunch & resource)				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
Middle Grades Group A FAST Math Algebra EOC Geometry EOC (m/a adjusted bell schedule)	Middle Grades Group B FAST Math Algebra EOC Geometry EOC (m/a adjusted bell schedule)	Makeups	Makeups	Makeups				
26	27	28	29	30	31		*See next page for Middle School Group A and Group B teacher names. Students will test with their 1 <sup>st</sup> period/homeroom teacher.	
No School		8 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremonies		Last Day of School Early Release				

# The Whimsical World of Dr. Seuss!

By Adhiyan Balaji and Bradley Willman



This month kindergarten completed a unit on Dr. Seuss, learning about his books and participating in Dr. Seuss themed activities. The children did everything from rhyming to tasting green eggs and ham! These activities let the children explore their creativity through rhyming.

After interviewing Kindergartners Jack Schultz and Ethan Tanner, this is what they had to say. Both said that their favorite part of the week was the green eggs and ham. They said that they learned a bunch about Dr. Seuss.

# FPL Speech Contest

By: Sophia Serena

Fifth graders participated in the annual FPL Speech Contest last week. This is a speech done by 5<sup>th</sup> graders every year where they write a speech, and they are judged on how well they present it. There are many different levels to this speech: first they start off in their classrooms, then the winners from each class present in front of judges to see who the winner from the school will be. The winner from our school then goes on to districts and so on and so forth.

This year's school winner was Joshua Wade. His speech this year was titled "Life Might Be a Simulation". He came up with this topic because he wanted the judges to hear something new that they had never heard before. He said he was a little nervous for the speech but once he started speaking all his nerves went away. When Joshua won, he said he was so happy, and he just wanted to jump off the stage and celebrate. Now he is off to districts, and he is so excited. Good luck Joshua, LPA is cheering for you!

# LPA SPOTLIGHTS!

## LPA'S Staff Spotlight: Mrs. Sullens!

By: Lyla Linton

Ms. Sullens is the K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade guidance counselor here at LPA! Her office is in the front office, and she has been working at LPA for 3 years. Her favorite part about being a counselor is getting to know students and families, and spending time with them.

She was a psychology major at UNF and went to grad school for counseling. Her favorite childhood memory was boating, specifically in the Gulf of Mexico. She loved boating during summer, seeing all the animals, and catching sharks.

She decided to become a counselor because she was interested in helping people. She wasn't sure what career to choose at first, so she tried counseling and ended up loving it!

She is married to her husband and has a cat named Sadie. She mentioned that she has lived in Jacksonville for 10 years now and really enjoys it. Her mother also lives in Florida. She also has two nieces and one nephew that live in Colorado.

Her favorite food is Chick Fil A, and she enjoys playing volleyball. She is the LPA girls' volleyball coach. She also loves riding horses and owns a horse named Chief. When asked about her dream vacation, she said she doesn't really have a one but would want to go anywhere relaxing with good weather.

Her goals for next school year are to meet more students and pull more small groups. She loves the staff at LPA and how friendly everyone is. She enjoys the diversity of a K-8<sup>th</sup> school. Overall, we all love Ms. Sullens, and we are so excited to continue the school year with her!



## Staff Spotlight! Mrs. Cox

By Charlotte Weger

Ms. Cox is a seventh and eighth grade guidance counselor here at LPA. She has been counseling at Liberty pines for eight years and loves the family vibe here. She says that LPA has created a wonderful environment for kids and families making counseling even more enjoyable. When counseling, she helps students with several things including help with academics, goal setting, social support, and emotional support.

Ms. Cox went to Jacksonville University and got her masters in guidance and counseling at UNF. She grew up in Northern Georgia and eventually moved down to Florida. Growing up, she loved talking to friends and socializing at school. Ms. Cox has always enjoyed working with people and helping them achieve their goals, which was her main inspiration to start counseling here at LPA.

Also, Ms. Cox enjoys reading books during her free time, her favorite genres are historical fiction and mysteries. She and her husband have two boys, one a junior in high school and the other a 7<sup>th</sup> grader. She is always going to baseball games to watch her son play. She also has a dog named Stella that her family loves very much. Her dream vacation is taking her whole family to Italy for a fun and relaxing time.

Overall, Ms. Cox is an amazing and super helpful Guidance Counselor who is always there when students and staff members need her. Her warm smile and cheerful mood is always welcoming to everyone. LPA can't wait to finish off this school year with her!

## New Nurses are Here!

By: Grace Rapolla

LPA has welcomed two new school nurses. They have both enjoyed how welcoming and friendly everyone has been. One of our new school nurses is Ms. Marissa. This is her first time as a school nurse, but she has worked as a nurse in a daycare previously. She became a school nurse because of her love of kids. She enjoys knowing that she made a difference in a kid's day. Our other new school nurse is Ms. Jenny who has been a school nurse for 2 years. She enjoys being a part of LPA's spirit weeks. She finds being a school nurse interesting because she enjoys trying different types of nursing. We are happy to have our two new wonderful nurses at LPA!



## Student Spotlight – 7<sup>th</sup> grade

By: Talitha Kalapala & Ava Smith

Ella Madelly has been at LPA since kindergarten, and she loves it. Ella is looking forward to being an 8<sup>th</sup> grader. However, she's nervous about the pressure of being a soon-to-be high schooler. Despite it being a least favorite for most students and many of her friends questioning her choice, her favorite subject is Algebra 1. One of her electives is musical theatre, and she enjoys it so much! She is quite a theatre kid and is involved in our school show *Newsies Jr* as well.

Clara Wayne has been at LPA since 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. At home, Clara deals with 3 younger siblings: Josh, a 11-year-old, Zach, who's 8, and Sophia, who is 6.. School life wise she's looking forward to being in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and getting all those 8<sup>th</sup> grade privileges! She is loves playing volleyball, but her real passion is theatre. She is in musical theatre just like Ella; they're a pair of theatre kids. Clara is in *Newsies Jr*; she plays Medda, a woman who owns a theatre and performs in it. Come out to see her and the rest of our cast and crew on the dates in our Drama Corner. Clara is also a bit of a bookworm; her favorite book series is a dystopian tale called *The Divergent*.



## LPA's Teacher Spotlight: Mr. Ryan

By: Kylee Blood

Mr. Ryan is one of our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade history teachers here at LPA. He teaches US History and Civics both of which he enjoys getting to share with his students. His students all love having Mr. Ryan for a teacher. Mr. Ryan has been teaching for 22 years! Not all of them have been at LPA though. If his students had to describe him in one word, it would be "Awesome".

Mr. Ryan is married to Mrs. Ryan who used to be a kindergarten teacher here at LPA. They have 2 children and one dog. Their son is currently serving in the Air Force! Mr. Ryan is immensely proud of him. Their youngest child is currently in college. Their dog is an adorable pup named Fuzz.

One cool thing Mr. Ryan has is an old voting booth. Every year he pulls it out for his Civics class, and they get to vote. Fun Fact about that old voting booth - it was used in the Bush. VS. Gore election. We asked Mr. Ryan who his favorite student was, and his answer was **CLASSIFIED**.



## Extended Day

By: Tinley Shaw and Lucy Crawford

In the extended day classes the kids are getting ready to celebrate spring! Mrs. Patty was interviewed, and she has been working at LPA since 2008. Her favorite age group of students in extended day are the little ones since they can help build them into good people, however she does enjoy the older kid's maturity. She noted that they are preparing to celebrate spring with fun projects that are related to spring and celebrating spring with flowers!

The kids are also having fun in extended day. First grader Maxwell Norman was interviewed. His counselor is Ms. Julie, and he loves extended day since she's so nice, lets them play with friends, and lets them be creative and color for fun. He said that in extended day its lots of fun and that the activities make it enjoyable.





# MORE WOLF NEWS!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MARCH PAW PAT WINNERS!!!

### Middle School:

Quinn Earley – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Nora Thompson – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Emily Rapolla – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Angel Stodel – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Emma Crowley – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Bristol Masters – 6<sup>th</sup>

### Elementary School:

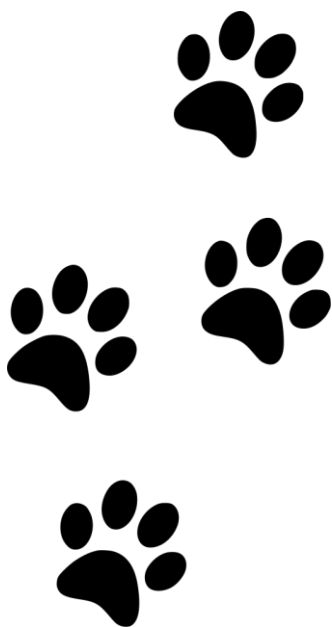
Cooper Sipes – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Lilly Ryan – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Kyler Harrilal- 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Shepherd Peacock – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Gemma Bedi – 1<sup>st</sup>

## Elementary Field Days

By Jackson Greathouse and Owen Reach



The elementary school students are excited about their spring field Day events. Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade have already had their field day but for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade it will be on Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup>. Field day is a day full of fun and activities. Some of the main activities they do include tug of war, swamp people, dancing, and soccer. This event occurs once every year for the elementary students. Field Day happens every March or April and there are parent and student volunteers helping the teachers and assisting students in their activities. This is a great way for kids to have fun and be with friends from other classes and a cool activity to look forward to each year.



Beachside High School

## BARRACUDA SOCCER CAMP

2025

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Rising 6-8th graders
- Co-ed Camp
- June 9th - June 12th

**\$175** SIGN UP VIA QR CODE

Beachside High School

## BARRACUDA SOCCER CAMP

2025

### HIGH SCHOOL

- Rising 9-12th graders
- Girls Monday & Wednesdays
- Boys Tuesday & Thursdays

**\$195 PER SESSION** SIGN UP VIA QR CODE

**2 SESSIONS!**

**JUNE SESSION**

**JULY SESSION**

# NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

## Drama Corner

By: Gianna DiBenedetto and Katie Bonday

In the upcoming month of April, LPA Drama will be performing *Newsies Jr!* Come support our Wolves on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Tickets went on sale Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10 each.

Thrilled with how the cast and crew have been hard at work, putting great effort into the show. Ms. Herkel is thrilled with how far along the production is at rehearsals. She loves how hard working the kids are, and she believes *Newsies Jr.* may be one of LPA's best shows! Ms. Herkel is so excited to see the audience's reaction. "They're going to be blown away."

In Drama 1, students worked in groups to create a puppet show that they would perform in front of elementary kids. Each puppet show included an important message that the audience could learn. Not only did the students make the ideas and write the scripts for their puppet show, but they also handmade their own puppets!

## Middle School Band!

By Brooke Russell and Ava Rosey

Our middle school band has recently performed in an MPA concert! The performance took place on March 6<sup>th</sup>, at Beachside Highschool. They received a rating of excellent and played to the best of their abilities. Mr. Spilling, our wonderful band teacher, is very proud!



Mr. Spilling has been teaching band for seven years, six of which have been spent at LPA. He plays a multitude of different instruments but takes the most pride in his saxophone skills. He became interested in teaching band while he was in high school. He noticed how much fun his band teacher was having while teaching and decided to follow in his footsteps. Currently, his favorite part of teaching band is "...being able to goof off while also doing my job."

As a band teacher, it is essential to keep students engaged in the curriculum. To do this, Mr. Spilling allows his students to participate in exciting games and choose their favorite songs to play. He claims that for a student to have a successful music career, they need to have a good attitude and push through hard times.

Mr. Spilling is currently preparing his students for an upcoming concert that will take place on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Make sure to tune in!

## Elementary Music and Moonlight Howlers

By Erienne Scales

It's an exciting season for the Howlers and elementary music classes with the spring musicals coming up! Right now, the Moonlight Howlers are rehearsing and practicing for their musical "Making the Band"! Their performance will be on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5PM. Our elementary students also have exciting events planned for us, with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade's upcoming performance "The World of Dr. Seuss" on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5PM. All performances have a donation stand at the entry. All proceeds go to our elementary music program! Other than performances, our kindergarten performers are learning different beats using bean bags, our first and second graders are playing singing games to become more vocally independent and learn how to recognize other's voices, and our fourth and fifth graders are using tennis balls to practice tempo and rhythm changes. Make sure to come out and support these talented students on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>!





# SPORTS NEWS!!!



## Basketball Season Recap

By: Olivia Pappas and Anna Russo



LPA had an eventful basketball season this year. The boys' basketball team had a hard-fought season and made it to the district semifinal playoffs. The boys took home seven wins this season and worked hard for everything they achieved. On the other hand, the girls team took home a championship win! They went undefeated the whole season and gave their competitors no chance. LPA is very proud of their sportsmanship and diligence.

When interviewed Hayden Warren said it felt magical and great winning the championship. When asked how she prepared for the championship she said she would individually practice about 6-7 days a week. Her favorite thing about playing basketball for LPA was the people and coach because she loved the bond, they were able to develop.

When interviewed Cruz Figueroa said he has been playing basketball for five years. His favorite memory from playing on the LPA basketball team was learning different practicing techniques such as six inches. The one thing he took away from playing on the LPA team was to not doubt himself and other players.

## Golf Season Starts Spring Season

By: Olivia Connell

The Golf team is in full swing! They have been practicing super hard every week and ready for anything. The team had their first match on March 26<sup>th</sup> at St. Johns Golf and Country Club. They played against one of the hardest teams in the league, Landrum Blue and they pulled out a tie! Their next match is on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Johns again. They are playing Landrum White and are ready to go win. Let's Go Wolves!



Arianna Marray is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and this is her 2<sup>nd</sup> year on the team. Her favorite part of the team is her teammates and coach. The best part of the match for Arianna was when her teammate and her won the 4<sup>th</sup> hole. Arianna's favorite club in her bag is her driver because she hits it super far. The golf team is coached by former LPA parent, Ken Heba.

## March Jokes and Riddles

By Adhiyan Balaji and Bradley Willman

What falls in March but never gets hurt?

The rain!

What can you find in the middle of March and April that you can't find in any other month?

An R!



## Baseball In the News

By Jaycee Greenmun and Caroline Linder

The baseball team is striking through the year winning \_\_\_ games. They have worked together as a team with their coach, Scott Robinson. They're on the second season and are hoping to improve with every game.

We interviewed Rylan Tribby on the first season. He said his favorite memory was when he got a triple. He has played baseball since he was 3. Some advice he'd give to an upcoming baseball player is to be prepared for try-outs.

We also interviewed 5<sup>th</sup> grader, Titan Walford. His favorite memory is hitting a walk-off. His advice for any upcoming future baseball player is to be ready for whoever you're playing, no matter what.



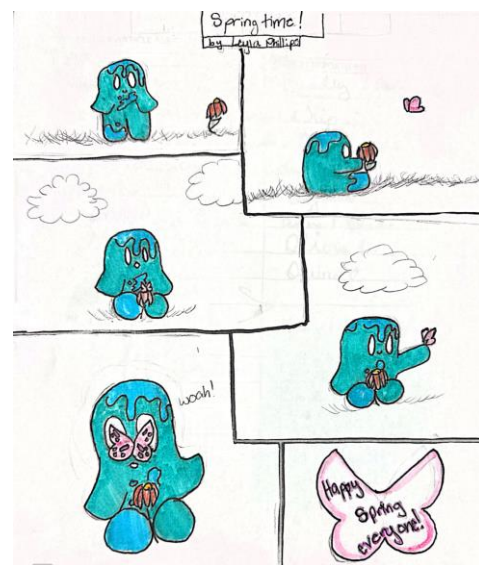
LPA Lady Wolves  
Bring Home the  
2025 District  
Championship  
Win!

# Character Counts

By: Kylee Blood

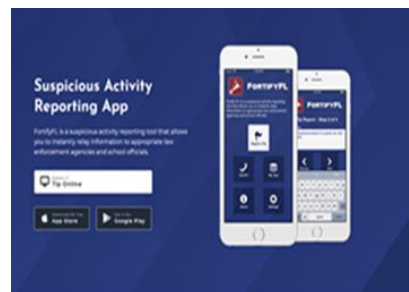
This month's Character pillar is Trustworthiness. Trustworthiness sets the base for all the other pillars; it is one of the most important pillars of character you could have. All the students pictured here demonstrated trustworthiness to their teacher, and staff. Some examples of trustworthy actions are as follows:

- ❖ Keeping their promises
- ❖ Being reliable
- ❖ Honesty
- ❖ Showing integrity



Middle School Mayhem  
All the Tea that needs to  
be Spilled

By: Mr. Ryan



“Character is made up of core moral principles called the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness and citizenship. Each of these virtues are independently important but together they provide the foundation for a worthy life.” – Michael Josephson

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.



Congratulations to the following students who took and passed the Programming and Logic Certification Exam in Mrs. Grubbs Computer Science Classes:

Brown, Griffin  
Camacho, Lucas  
Curtiss, Blake  
Davis, Brady  
DiBenedetto, Gianna  
Dushad, Gul  
Fox, Wyatt  
Garge, Sanika  
Gorman, Gabriella  
Johnson, Cooper  
Kamireddy, Sreehas  
Le, Thanh  
Michel, Grayson  
Nowroozi, Caroline  
Pfalzer, Abigail  
Powers, Mason  
Terriault, Juliann  
Thiagarajan, Anya  
Watson, Miles  
Willard, Hailey  
Banapur, Ahan  
Behera, Saurav  
Blasy, Max  
Boggarapu, Prathik  
Colca, Lucas  
Denmark, Adrian  
Fisher, Corbin  
Friedman, Justin  
Gomez, Jacob  
Gonzalez, Aiden  
Graham, Ryan  
Guerrero, Ethan  
Hurt, Zion  
James, Cole  
Jones, Shane

Karp, Sienna  
Milledge, Kaniya  
Mohammed, Najma  
Rajashekhar, Sahasra  
Saunders, Kevin  
Singh, Aarya  
Singleton, Aaron  
Toledo, Laila  
Topal, Kerem  
Ventura, Julian  
Wizer, Christian  
Adkins, William  
Allen, Aiden  
Banakar, Aditi  
Bonday, Katie  
Bridges, Daniel  
Butler, Gabriel  
Figuroa, Cruz  
Fortini, Luca  
Grubbs, Ayana  
Kellom, David  
Konecny, Jack  
LeNeave, Jason  
Magarao Guimaraes, Luca  
Mohammed, Zayan  
Monteiro, Emanuella  
Rosey, Ava  
Russell, Brooke  
Shyzade, Sana  
Smith, Ava  
Sureda, Cade  
Thavakalsha, Thanisha  
Turner, Ariana  
Weger, Charlotte



## March History Reflection: Women's History Month

By: Ava Smith

Women's History Month began as "Women's History Week" in 1978, where people in Santa Rosa, California celebrated to bring awareness to women's contributions to society. Over time, other cities began to join Santa Rosa in celebrating. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter officially declared the week of March 8<sup>th</sup> as Women's History Week and urged everyone to join celebrations. In 1987, March was declared as Women's History Month by Congress.

Even before Women's History Week, it was Women's History Day. On February 28<sup>th</sup>, 1909, the first Women's History Day occurred in New York City. This day marked the one-year anniversary of the garment workers' strike, also known as the New York shirtwaist strike. From 1909-1910, women who worked in garment factories protested long work hours and low wage. More than 20,000 women went on strike. It resulted in gains for the garment workers, like better pay and shorter work hours.

This month honors many important women in the past, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902), leader of the women's rights movement, Harriet Tubman (1822-1913), an abolitionist who saved about 70 enslaved people after escaping herself, Marie Curie (1867-1934), the discoverer of radium and its properties, Amelia Earhart (1897-1937), the first female pilot to fly by herself across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, Malala Yousafzai (1997), a female education activist, and so many more incredible women!



Ms. Glennon enjoyed reading to Ms. Kemnitz's class about leprechauns in March!



# Liberty Pines Academy 2025-2026

Registrations for Extended Day

**Kindergarten students ONLY!**

Opens **APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>**.



**Registration will remain open until spaces are filled.**

**Classes will fill up quickly – First come first served!**

**\*\*Note:** *Students must be registered as a student at LPA prior to submitting Extended Day Registration*



Liberty Pines Academy  
Drama Department  
~Presents~

Disney

# NEWSIES JR.

Jill B. Herkel  
Director/Designer

Donna Hale  
Assistant Director

Lori McGinnis  
Assistant Director

Music By: Alan Menken  
Lyrics By: Jack Feldman  
Book By : Harvey  
Fierstein  
Based on the Disney Film  
by Bob Tzudiker  
and Noni White

April  
10th, 11th,  
and 12th  
2025  
6:00 p.m.  
Tickets  
\$10

Disney's Newsies Jr.! Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.MTIshows.com](http://www.MTIshows.com)



Liberty Pines Academy  
Choir and Musical Theatre Ensemble  
~Present~



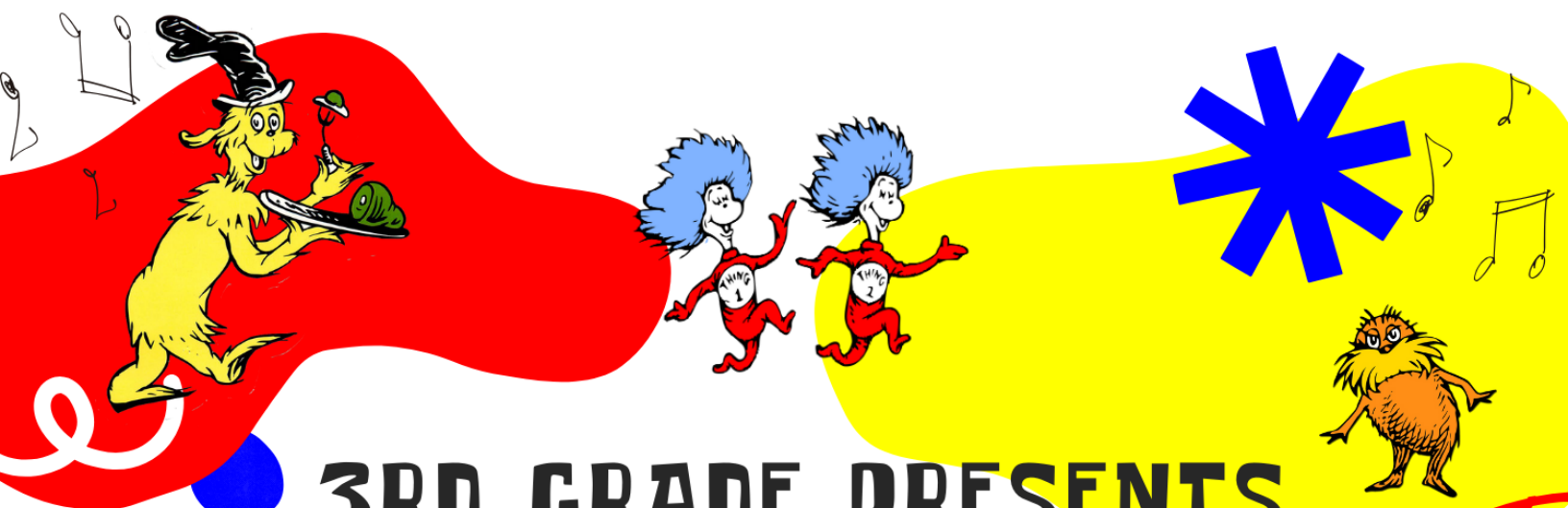
*“Music  
is in  
the Air”*

**May 8, 2025**

**6:00pm**

Tickets are free, cash donations at the door





**3RD GRADE PRESENTS**  
**THE WORLD OF DR. SEUSS**

*A MUSICAL DIRECTED BY ELIZABETH SNYDER*

**THURSDAY, MAY 15TH**

**5:00PM**

*A SUGGESTED DONATION  
OF \$100 PER PERSON FOR ENTRY  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS  
LPA'S ELEMENTARY MUSIC PROGRAM.*





**MOONLIGHT HOWLERS  
PRESENTS**



**MAKING  
THE BAND**

*a musical*

**DIRECTED BY ELIZABETH SNYDER**

**MAY 1ST @ 5PM**

A SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5 PER PERSON FOR ENTRY  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS LPA'S ELEMENTARY MUSIC PROGRAM





Art by Anja Schneider, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Join us on Thursday, April 24th 2025  
from 6:00-8:00PM for an evening celebrating LPA's artists!**

**By giving a \$5.00 or more donation per family,  
you can take your student's artwork  
OFF THE WALL and HOME!**

**There will be fun activities, a GLOW room, and giveaways!  
All elementary school students will have artwork on display.  
Featuring artworks from middle school art students.**

**All proceeds benefit LPA's Art Department**



# Happy Earth Day

**April 22, 2025**

**Earth Day- It's more than recycling and planting trees, though these are ways to help! It's about taking the time to think about the fact that we only have one Earth. It's also about listening to birds or skipping rocks or doing yoga outside or walking barefoot. Earth Day is a chance to recognize how beautiful the planet can be and do anything possible to keep it that way.**

**Without our earth, we wouldn't even be here. So, this Earth Day-- help out in your own way: do a beach clean up, or spread the word or just throw away your trash, Every little thing helps. If you want to help out more, reach out to Ms. Cassidy!**

**By Eco Warrior: Neora Varghese**



# PTO NEWSLETTER

## PTO INFORMATION



What an incredible time we had at the LPA Spring Fair! From exciting games to delicious treats and lots of laughter, it was a day filled with fun and memories for our kids. A HUGE thank you to all the parents and families who supported the PTO's fundraisers that made this possible!

## PTO HIGHLIGHTS

### Volunteers of the month

Ms. Claudia Diaz was nominated for always being so helpful.

Ms. Rice was nominated for all her efforts with the battle of the books competition!



### Upcoming PTO events

The PTO Hospitality team is working hard for the upcoming Staff Appreciation Week.



Do not forget to participate in the Spring Book Fair coming up!

### Snack Donation!

Thank you to those who have donated snacks for the teacher's lounge and middle school cart, the teachers and staff really appreciate YOU!



## REMINDERS



Birthday marquee announcements are now available for purchase at [www.lpapto.com](http://www.lpapto.com).

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The earth has music for those who listen." - William Shakespeare

Happy Earth Day!



# WELCOME 2024-25

## PTO BUSINESS PARTNERS



(904) 429-0095  
www.henryadvancedorthodontics.com



### 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  
Travis Fulton Golf Studio



Bright Smiles  
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Dr. Matt Bright  
welovebrightsmiles.com  
904.584.9004



The Studios of St. Johns Parkway  
616 South Boulevard #130  
St. Johns, FL 32259  
904-315-8223 / info@stjohnspediatric.com  
www.roottoriseyoga.com  
@ROOTTORISEYOGA @STJOHNSPEDI



### SILVER WOLF

Mochi Cafe  
Pediatric Associates  
Primrose Schools  
Taps Bar & Grill /South Kitchen + Spirits  
Scenthound St Johns  
Landmark Title  
V's Barbershop St. Augustine  
Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery  
Kids Can Code  
Sylvia Sanders | C2 Financial Corp  
Peterbrooke

