



# LPA NEWS



NEWSLETTER | Volume 5 May 2025

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY

Hello LPA Families!

As we put the final touches on the end of the 2024-2025 school year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and commitment to our school.

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

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

As we look ahead to the future, I am excited about everything this coming year has in store for LPA. I'm confident that with our dedicated staff and supportive community, we will continue to achieve remarkable success while fostering a welcoming environment for all.

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

Gratefully together,

Mr. Hoessler, your **proud** LPA Principal



Monday August 11,  
2025 - Students Report  
to Class



2024 – 25 Newsletter  
and Yearbook Staff  
signing off and wishing  
you all a fabulous  
summer vacation!!!

# WOLF NEWS

## Class Of 2025 Senior Clap Out

By: Grace Rapolla

On Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup> more than 30 alumni of LPA who are graduating high school this year were invited back to LPA. The teachers clapped out the students in their caps and gowns as they paraded through the 200-300 wings, while current students gathered to celebrate them and their accomplishments. They wished them the best in their next adventures of life outside of high school. All the alumni and teachers enjoyed getting to see one another again.



## Wolf Warehouse

Thank you to the following families for their donations:  
Owen McDaniels & Jacksonville Sport and Spine  
Amy Zahra & Family  
Rylie & Bailey Krafft & Family

Thank you to Ms. DeGrazia for volunteering to help at the store this week! Your time and energy given is greatly appreciated !

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2YEPET1YTQBJ?ref>



So many fun  
events at LPA  
in May!!!

## New Safety Patrols Announced for 2025-26

We are excited to announce that we have selected the **2025–2026 Liberty Pines Academy AAA Safety Patrol Squad!** This is a special honor and a wonderful opportunity to take on a leadership role within our school. Out of approximately 70 4<sup>th</sup> grade applicants, only 25 students were chosen based on their strong character, responsibility, and readiness to serve as role models. Being a member of the Safety Patrol is a year-long commitment that requires students to follow a high standard of conduct and take their responsibilities seriously.

**Coach Allison Davis** and **Mrs. Christine Kelley** are looking forward to a great year with this outstanding group of student leaders!

Ailin	Rzayeva
Alicia	Gomez
Atticus	Yerger
Audrey	Chen
Avery	Corp
Brandon	Ashley
Callie	Pappas
Cameron	Korn
Cheyenne	Shelby
Connor	Collins
Emma	Lichtman
Grady	Hellstrom
Hazel	Gardner

Hudson	Daniel
Leona	Padgett
Lilly	Ryan
Mara	Caban
Michaela	Jackson
Nora	Beisiegel
Penelope	O'Leary
Randolph (Ace)	Island
River	Kramer
Safiye	Uylukcu
Simon	Vineyard
Zayvin	Salsberry





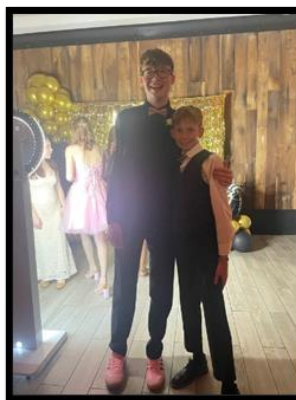
# WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

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## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance

By: Molly Cebulko

Last Tuesday, our eighth graders danced their way down the red carpet! The dance was held to celebrate the graduation of our eighth graders, and the start of their journey through high school. This year's theme was Hollywood, and our students sure had a fun-filled night! The dance was held at St. Johns Golf and Country Club's clubhouse and lasted from 6:00-8:00pm. Eighth grade student, Caleb Prather shared his experience saying, "It was very fun. My favorite part was getting picked up in the crowd and hanging out with my friends". LPA successfully sold over 140 tickets to eighth graders in our school. Special thanks to the teachers and staff who chaperoned and the amazing PTO volunteers who helped set up, prepare and clean up the dance!



## Kindergarten Year End Activities

By: Olivia Connell

The kindergarteners counted down the last days of school using the alphabet. They did things like Animal Day for **A** where they brought a stuffed animal to school. On **O** Day they enjoyed learning outside. And on **W** Day they did watercolors.



On **U** Day the kindergarteners dressed up in USA colors and did Fun Centers. The fun centers were a big hit with things like limbo, eating popsicles, doing dance parties and more. Charlotte Hannon's favorite part of the centers was the tattoos and Aaron Wong really liked doing limbo. On Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> the kindergarteners had a pizza and ice cream party to celebrate all their hard work. Milaniya Borissova liked the pizza, but Ronin Sachdeva liked the ice cream.

Earlier in the month the kindergarteners hosted a Mother's Day spa for their moms. This was an opportunity for the kindergarteners to pamper their moms with things like giving hand massages, using lotion, putting stickers on their nails and more. William Buning enjoyed giving cake to his mom and Alisa Golubeva enjoyed putting hair clips on her mom's hair.

## Market and Circus Day Fun in 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

by Jackson Greathouse, and Owen Reach

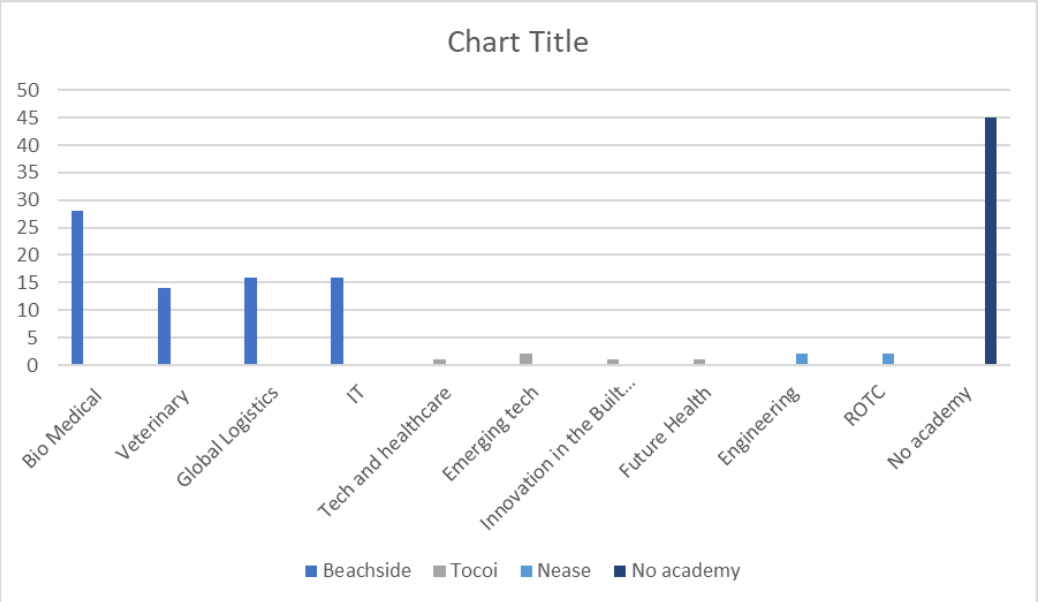
The 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders just had their market and circus day. The market day is a day when kids learn about supply and demand and how goods and services are provided. They all made their own items such as magnets, bookmarks, paper roses, and more. They all started with 3 dollars and 20 items which they sold to earn more money and buy other kid's items. Circus day is when there

are circus games lined up and kids get to experience the circus at school with friends! They get to watch movies eat snacks and play games. What a great way to end the school year!

## Dr. Seuss Show in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade!

The third grade packed 200 students on the stage at once to perform *Dr. Seuss the Musical* this month. Each class had both a featured student with a speaking part and a dancer who performed in the audience. The third graders performed for kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and second grade during the school day and then held a 5 o'clock performance for the families. Students wore bright colors, and Dr. Seuss costumes. It was a fun and wonderful performance that made the audience laugh. Of course the favorite song was *Green Eggs and Ham*.





# High School Academies Here We Come

By: Caroline Linder and Sophia Serena

Many our 8<sup>th</sup> graders are attending Career Academies next year. A Career Academy “provides an opportunity for a group of students to enroll in a specific set of courses associated with a designated career area. Each Career Academy has the following components:”

- A recommended sequence of courses.
- A capstone project, a work site experience, a research project studying careers in the academy area, or some other experience in which students learn more about the career cluster with which the academy is affiliated.
- A demonstrated need for employees within the Career Cluster.
- An advisory board consisting of business leaders in the Career Cluster.
- Adherence to specific rules established by the school system.
- Hands-on project-based learning throughout the four years of the program.

We interviewed 128 eighth grade students here at LPA. We gathered a lot of results about what academy students chose, if they decide to take one. LPA is mainly zoned for Beachside Highschool so most of the kids are going there, but there is a handful of students that are going to Toco or Nease.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Finishes With Fun

By: Olivia Connell

The 1<sup>st</sup> graders enjoyed their last 2 weeks of school in some fun ways. They started reviewing their ELA skills by trying to solve a fun mystery. They also pretended to go camping and did a book reading day. Roman Beisiesel brought a book about glow in the dark animals.

They also had a puzzle day, a virtual field trip to an Aquarium and they solved another mystery using their math skills. They had a game day and a movie day. Advika Arvanchalam played a game called pancake flip on game day and Dominic Atles watched *Moana* on movie day. On their last day they made memory books. But everyone’s favorite day was Luau Day on Friday May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Luau Day was filled with a ton of fun activities like dressing up in their best Hawaiian attire, beach ball toss, limbo, eating ice cream, play mini golf, crafts, and Hawaiian relay races. Channing Ellanburgs favorite part of Luau Day was the beach ball toss and Milana Johnson liked the limbo because it was funny. Each 1st grader enjoyed something different which made this day so special for them all.



# LPA SPOTLIGHTS!

## LPA's Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Hairston!

By: Lyla Linton and Charlotte Weger

Ms. Hairston is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher here at LPA who teaches all subjects. She grew up as an only child in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and has lived in seven cities. Growing up she was very passionate about school and dance, especially ballet. She went to college at Purdue University, and UW Milwaukee. She got her masters in elementary education and studied psychology.



Ms. Hairston has been teaching 16 years and has taught every grade. She was inspired to start teaching by the idea of educating the future of society and making a change in students lives. She was motivated and enjoyed having fun kids and seeing them grasp new ideas.

At home she has five kids, the oldest being ten and the youngest being four. Her favorite hobby is running, she only does it for fun not competitively. Ms. Hairston loves watching football and is always cheering for the Green Bay Packers. Another fun fact about Ms. Hairston is her favorite food is sushi! Although, she isn't fond of traveling, her bucket list destinations are any tropical island, Spain, or Paris.

Her favorite parts of working at LPA is the professionalism, our good rankings, the family-like environment and our culture. Her classroom is full of motivational posters and smiles of her young minds. We enjoy seeing Ms. Hairston everyday here at LPA, she is one of the many educators that make this school great.

## NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

### Drama in May by Gianna DiBenedetto and Katie Bonday

On May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm, LPA's Musical Theatre and Choir classes performed their showcase of all the songs they had been working on. Choir student Ace Castello found a liking to the ASL song that Ms. Herkel showed her choir class. Ace led the choir in their performance of "Both Sides Now" as a soloist and an ASL coach. The Musical Theatre soloists were Ella Madelly in "Heart", Courtney Hayes in "This Is Me", Clara Wayne in "I See the Light", Grace Osborne, Ezra Navarro, Erienne Scales in "Seasons of Love", and Olivia Torrence in a "Wicked Choral Medley". Choreographer for the Musical Theatre showcase and Newsies Jr., Gianna DiBenedetto, was given her 8<sup>th</sup> grade award during the showcase. 8<sup>th</sup> graders who participate in the spring musical get these awards as a goodbye before heading off to high school.

Have a great summer, Wolves! We can't wait to see what LPA Drama accomplishes next year.

## Media Center News

By Thanisha Thavakalsha

The Media Center has some new updates! If you still have any unpaid fines, we ask you to please pay it by the last day of school. Fines carry over from year to year and school to school. If students have any unpaid fines, they might not be able to participate in checking out books in the next school year. We want to make sure all our students enjoy the benefits of borrowing library books at LPA.

Grades K-2 can read in BookFlix by [visiting](https://digital.scholastic.com/slp/login?productCode=bkflix&ucn=612458981&ref=MTcyOTcyNTE2Njc4NHxodHRwcZovL3d3dy1scGEuc3Rqb2hucy5rMTluZmwudXMv) <https://digital.scholastic.com/slp/login?productCode=bkflix&ucn=612458981&ref=MTcyOTcyNTE2Njc4NHxodHRwcZovL3d3dy1scGEuc3Rqb2hucy5rMTluZmwudXMv>. Students have already been taught how to log in. We encourage everyone to visit your local SJC public library for their summer reading program and summer events. There are activities for all ages and they're all free! Just 20 minutes of reading a day will expose you to more words per year, increase reading stamina, and prevent any summer slide. Make sure to keep reading this summer!

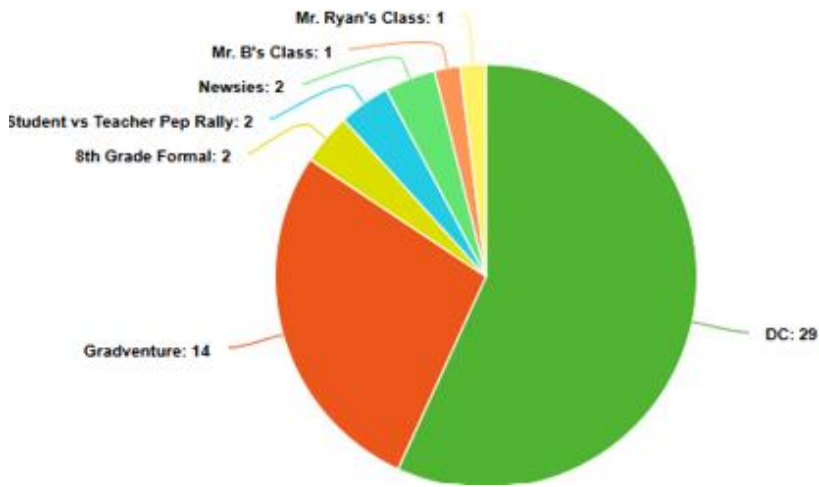




## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Memories

By: Anna Russo and Olivia Pappas

8<sup>th</sup> grade had quite an eventful year with many fun activities taking place, opening the perfect opportunity for memories to be made. DC won as the 8<sup>th</sup> graders favorite memory by a landslide. Many students enjoyed how they got to see snow and there were also special mentions regarding the dinner cruise. 8<sup>th</sup> grade has had a memorable year and will have many more exciting moments to cherish in high school.



## Student Council 2025-26

By Talitha & Ava

As the end of the year approaches, students vote on the upcoming student council. Behold our new student council members:

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- Zachary Dillon
- Norah Madden
- James Reid
- Anna Scalia

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

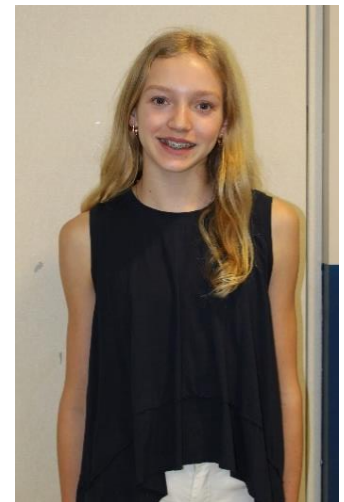
- Michaela Cookson
- Courtney Hayes
- Brianna Motycka
- Manassa Satish

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- Ella Madelly
- Ashley Windness
- Rhett Fortner
- Clara Wayne
- Spoorthi Sindhaval

After being elected to the council, our new representatives of the student body voted on a president to lead them to success. 3 candidates prepared speeches to present their ideas and why they should be president to the other members. Out of these 3 Ashley Windness won by majority vote. She's wanted this position since she was a 6<sup>th</sup> grader. She believes that she won this role because

she has been part of student council for 3 years, which gives her valuable experience as a student council member. Ashley is excited and driven to accomplish tasks during the next year with well-earned victory. Ashley is looking forward to improving the student council's role in the school by presenting new ideas and involvement.



### Trivia of the Month

By: Kylee Blood

Which well recognized monument gets bigger in the summer?

What cold, creamy treat was first introduced at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904?

Which president named July "National Ice Cream Month"?

Who had the longest signature on the Declaration of Independence?

What is the most harvested fruit?

### Riddle Of the Month

By: Kylee Blood

I'm Loud and Bright

I light up the sky at night

But only for 2 days of the year

I come in many colors' shapes and sizes.

What am I?

Fireworks!

# MORE WOLF NEWS!

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

### Middle School:

Isabella Rios Castillo – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Juan Sebastian Rios Castillo – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Elijah Benton – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Walker Adams – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Koa Anderson – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Parker Harnitchek – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Liam Kern – 6<sup>th</sup>

### Elementary School:

Kason Anderson – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Deniz Basar – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Pranav Kolluru – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Heaven Smiley -3<sup>rd</sup>  
Lia Akmon – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Kinsley Wilcox – 2<sup>nd</sup>

## Summer Vacation Poll!

By: Jaycee Greenmun and Maggie O'Leary

As school begins to come to an end, summer vacations are one thing everybody looks forward to. Whether it's staying home and having a break from school for 2 months, or going somewhere to spend the summer months, our students love to share their summer plans. We took a poll of first grade through eighth grade seeing what their summer plans are inside or out of the United States.



As you can see, more of our students staying in our country than out of, with a 68% to a 32% ratio. One of the most popular destinations, especially with eighth graders, is Universal. Adding to the percentage in the country. Some shout outs of cool vacation spots that stood out to us go to first grader Matthew in Mrs. Shephard's class and fourth grader Sophia in Mrs. Hairston's class. Matthew is going all throughout Europe visiting Morocco, Spain, and Portugal with his family. Sophia is going to Korea. Some other shout outs are people going to Dubai, Germany, Austria, Alaska, India, and Italy. Our students at LPA are going to have their best summer yet going into 2026.

**BARRACUDA SOCCER CAMP**  
2025  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

**\$175**

SIGN UP VIA QR CODE

**BARRACUDA SOCCER CAMP**  
2025  
HIGH SCHOOL

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

**2 SESSIONS!**

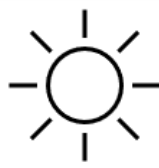
**JUNE SESSION**

**JULY SESSION**

**\$195 PER SESSION**

SIGN UP VIA QR CODE





## Extended Day

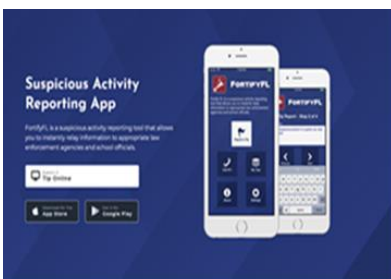
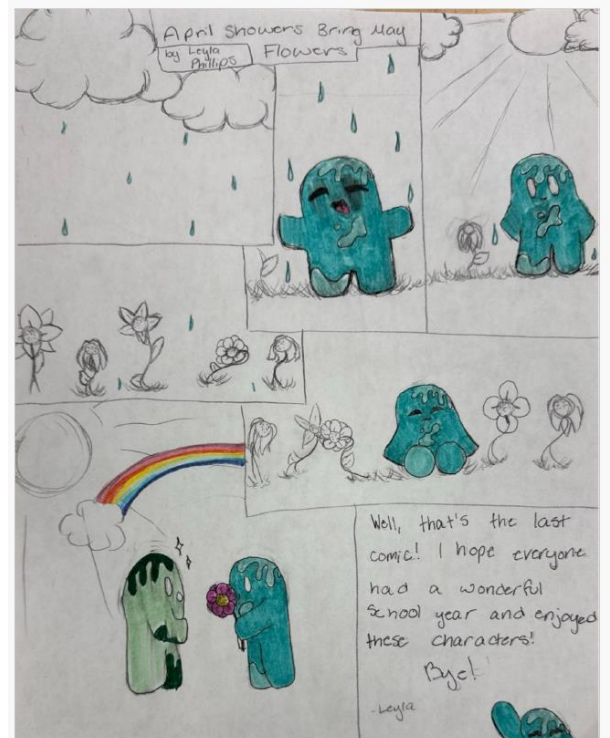
By: Tinley Shaw and Lucy Crawford

This year in Extended Day, things are coming to a close. After months of super fun activities and hanging out with friends, the kids are going home for summer. The extended day counselors may even have a special surprise for the kids planned.

One kid in fourth grade named Samantha Kirbyson was interviewed about her extended day experience. She has been going to extended day since she was in kindergarten. Her favorite thing about the program is that she gets to see her friends and play around with them for hours, for example they do gymnastics together. She also says her counselor is super nice and is never mean to them, plus that she makes extended day so much better.

Next year in extended day there'll be a new second grade counselor. Her name is Michelle Clark. She's been working in similar programs at different schools for nearly five years, however next year will be her first at LPA. She used to work with first graders however she's excited to work with second graders since they're more easily capable of doing projects. She said her favorite part of her job is getting to know the kids and instilling good morals in them.

This year  
LPA and  
SJMSSA  
Fielded it's  
first  
Pickleball  
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.



**Congratulations to all of the students who took and passed the Gaming Certification Exam in Mrs. Grubbs Computer Science Discovery (CSD) classes.**

Bowler, Charles  
Brown, Griffin  
Camacho, Lucas  
Curtiss, Blake  
Davis, Brady  
DiBenedetto, Gianna  
Dushad, Gul  
Fox, Wyatt  
Garge, Sanika  
Hutchins, Alexander  
Johnson, Cooper  
Jones, Presley  
Kamireddy, Sreehas  
Le, Thanh  
Michel, Grayson  
Nowroozi, Caroline  
Pfalzer, Abigail  
Powers, Mason  
Terriault, Juliann  
Therrian, Layne  
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  
Bailey, Henry  
Banakar, Aditi  
Bonday, Katie  
Bridges, Daniel  
Butler, Gabriel  
Figuerola, Cruz  
Fortini, Luca  
Grubbs, Ayana  
Konecny, Jack  
LeNeave, Jason  
Magarao Guimaraes, Luca  
Mohammed, Zayan  
Rosey, Ava  
Russell, Brooke  
Shyzade, Sana  
Smith, Ava  
Sureda, Cade  
Thavakalsha, Thanisha  
Turner, Ariana  
Weger, Charlotte

## Trivia Answers

The Eiffel Tower in Paris can grow up to six inches taller during hot summers due to the expansion of its iron structure!

Ice Cream!

Ronald Regan!

John Hancock!

Tomatoes!

# ATTENTION

## Rising 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>- 8th grade parents

Online store opens June 1, 2025

**IF** you would like to purchase a **NEW** LPA PE uniform for next school year, please go to the LPA website and scroll down near the bottom of the page for the online ordering (School Pay) link. From there, you will be directed to login or create a school pay account where you will be able to purchase your child's PE uniform for the next school year. Look for "Pre order: 2025-2026 PE uniform."

You may also access the link directly by using your phone camera and clicking on the QR code.



The PE uniform consist of shorts and a Tee shirt. The cost for the uniform is \$25.00 for the set. If buying only a shirt, or only shorts, the cost is \$13.00 for the shirt only and \$12.00 for shorts only.

All students that pre-order will be given their PE uniform during their first week of school in PE class next school year. We will size your child at that time and give them a uniform that fits. Any student that does not have a uniform will need to order one at the beginning of the next school year and may need to wait for a second order to arrive before they receive their uniform.

Ordering is easy and secure so please go to the LPA website and order now.

If you need assistance, please email Coach Eisenhuth at  
alan.eisenhuth@stjohns.k12.fl.us





**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



# PTO NEWSLETTER

## PTO INFORMATION



We love the teachers and staff at LPA! Staff Appreciation Week was a success! Huge thanks to our amazing hospitality chair (Mary Lea Walston), dedicated volunteers, generous vendors, and of course, our incredible staff!

## PTO HIGHLIGHTS

### Volunteers of the month

**Mary Lea and Abigail Lake** were nominated for their efforts for SAW!  
**Ginger Butts and Gina Lyons** were nominated for supporting the PTO throughout the year!



### Upcoming PTO events

One-click, and you're done! School supplies ordered and delivered on time from 1st Day School Supplies.



### 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

"Never stop learning because life never stops teaching"

- Kirill Korshikov



# 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  
Travis Fulton Golf Studio

