LPA NEWS



NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

LIRERTY PINES ACADEMY

Hello LPA Families!!!

Fall is here and we are hopeful that cooler temperatures will be with us soon. As we approach the end of the first quarter, I want to take a moment to thank our amazing staff, students, and families for a wonderful start to the school year! I would also like to recognize our phenomenal PTO for "making waves" and supporting our students, staff, and families unconditionally. Families, please consider joining their Facebook page, join them as a member, and see how you can support them too.

It is my honor to formally congratulate LPA's Teacher of the Year, Ms. Ford, and our Rookie Teacher of the Year, Ms. Knuckley! I would also like to formally congratulate LPA's School Related Employee of the Year, Ms. Patty Barrera-Moore! Each of these recognitions are well deserved. We are so proud of the work they do with children and how they represent LPA.

During this past month of September, we hosted our first SAC meeting of the year, smiled brightly for our Fall pictures, kicked off the Charleston Wrap Fundraiser, and our cross-country team and our volleyball teams began competing against their opponents. We ended the month by recognizing our students for the Character Counts! Pillar of the Month, Fairness, and we were honored to induct 30 new members into the National Junior Honor Society.

We have a lot of events that will be occurring in October. We will kick off the month with our 3rd annual Rock Your School Day! This year's theme is "Making Learning Sweet!" Students will experience room transformations, highly engaging lessons, and more to increase a love of learning, get excited about school, and increase our school culture through a sense of togetherness! We will kick off with an elementary pep rally in which students that were the highest PBIS points earners for their class thus far will compete on behalf of their class in a hulahoop toss competition! Our cross-country team and volleyball teams will continue to compete, we will host another SAC Committee meeting, we will kick off our Boosterthon fundraiser with a DJ kick off on the 6th, Elementary students will participate in the Boosterthon Fun Run on the 24th, Fall Centers will be occurring in the elementary classes (teachers will send details), Red Ribbon Week will occur at the end of the month where we emphasize being drug free and taking an active role in a healthy lifestyle, and more.

Mark your calendars for the events below:

- -Oct. 6: Boosterthon DJ kick off during arrival
- -Oct. 6-24: Boosterthon Fundraiser
- -Oct. 10: First Quarter Ends
- -Oct. 13: No School: Teacher Planning Day
- -Oct. 14: Second Quarter Begins
- -Oct. 22: World Unity Day wear Orange
- -Oct. 16: PTO meeting at 6:30pm in cafeteria
- -Oct. 20: SAC Meeting at 4:00pm
- -Oct. 27-31: Red Ribbon Week (daily themes will be sent prior to this week)

-Oct. 24: Boosterthon Fun Run for Elementary students (Parents MUST be an approved volunteer to attend and watch. An RSVP form will be sent beforehand and will be used to check visitors in at the gate. If you are not an approved volunteer, you will not be granted access to the fields.)

- -Oct. 30: Fall picture retakes
- -Oct. 31: Elementary Character Parade (more information to come from the teachers)

We are looking forward to another amazing month of learning as well as exciting experiences for our students. Thank you for your continued support!





CONGRATULATIONS
to our Teacher of the
Year – Shannon Ford,
our Rookie Teacher of
the Year – Erica
Knuckley, and our
School Related
Employee of the Year
– Patty Moore!!!



Gratefully, Mr. Hoessler, your proud LPA Principal

WOLF NEWS







Student Council: Red Ribbon Week

By Adelaide Madelly, Spoorthi Sindhaval, Navya Sadanaveni, and Ashweja Mechineni

This year's Student Council committee looks amazing! Some important events coming up are Boo Grams on October 20th and Spirit Week during the 27th through the 31st. We interviewed some members, asking them why they chose to be in Student Council. Zachary Dillion in 6th grade says, "I love helping people and bringing smiles to their faces, so I thought Student Council would be the perfect thing!" We also spoke to Courtney Hayes in 7th grade, and she says it is her second year in Student Council and enjoys planning and helping people through this club.

Liberty Pines Academy Red Ribbon Week for 2025 was officially announced! Red Ribbon Week is in October and each day you dress for a specific theme. The overall message encourages students to stay healthy and take care of themselves. Every year, Student Council oversees curating the themes and fun slogans for Red Ribbon Week.

On Monday, October 27th, each grade wears their own color, soon to be announced. On Tuesday, the theme is Decades Day. Wednesday is World Culture Day. Thursday you Dress for Success. Finally, on Friday, the 31st students are allowed to wear their Halloween costumes for character day as long as they are in dress code (including, no masks or face paint)!

When asked what day of Red Ribbon Week Tyson Jordan was most excited for, he replied that he is, "looking forward to Dress as Your Favorite Character Day because I can wear my Halloween costume to school." Jonah Herbert said that he is anticipating Different Color Day because he is passionate about representing school pride.

	October 2025						
ı	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	Volleyball Game- At Lakeside (Girls: 5:30 Boys: 6:30)	Rock the School Day	4
	5	6	7 Volleyball Game- At Valley Ridge (Girls: 5:30 Boys: 6:30)	8	9 Volleyball Game- At LPA Vs Trout Creek (Girls: 5:30 Boys: 6:30)	10 1 st quarter ends	11
	12	13 Teacher Planning Day- Student Holiday	14 Volleyball Game- At LPA Vs Patriot Oaks (Girls: 5:30 Boys: 6:30) Quarter 2 Begins	15	16 PTO General Meeting- 9-10am (No Volleyball Game)	17	18
	19	20	Volleyball Game- At Mill Creek (Girls: 5:30 Boys: 6:30)	Report Cards Issued	(No Volleyball Game) Fire Truck Visits Kindergarten	24 Fundraiser Fun Run	25
	26	Red Ribbon Week begins!27	28 8 th Grade Night Volleyball Game- At LPA Vs Valley Ridge (Girls: 5:30 Boys: 6:30)	29	Volleyball Game- At Pine Island Vs (Girls: 5:30 Boys: 6:30)	31 Halloween	

MORE WOLF NEWS



Media Matters

By: Alice Poynton and Elena Heavener

The Media center has been booming since the beginning of school! Lily Ryan loves reading! She says her favorite genre of books to read is mystery because she likes how she has to finish the book to solve the mystery, and that her current favorite book is <u>Sisters</u> by Raina Telgameier. She reads in her free time with her brother when they can read together!

Christian Laboy is also a big reader! His favorite book is A Dogs Way Home by Bobbie Pyron; just like Lily his favorite book genre is mystery as well, but he likes mystery because he likes to solve problems! He reads in his free time for about 30 minutes.

Mrs. Rice says that the most popular book genre is fantasy, and that the most popular book series is Diary of a Wimpy Kid. She loves the book fair because she loves seeing all the kids checking out books and being happy and that she loves that the funds from it go towards more books for the kids! Her favorite parts about working in the library are interacting with the students and helping them pick out a good book! Mrs. Rice is also the Battle of the Books teacher/coach and her favorite part about being the teacher of that is seeing all the students put in so much effort into winning!

Chicken Update

By Alice Poynton and Lucy Collins

At this point we all have heard about LPA's chickens! Right when the eggs came into the school, we were all buzzing. The chickens are not only a fun experience for students but also helps us learn more about life and see how interesting it can be. Let's see what the classrooms have to say.

Starting off on a great note with Mrs. Gray's class, we have two amazing students, Olivia Midani and Zachary Alkhouri. The first question we asked them was, what are you most excited for when the eggs hatch? Olivia replied with, "I am very excited to get to pet and hold them in my hands." Her answer melted our hearts! Zachary followed with, "I'm just excited to see their cute little faces." Spectacular Zachary says he wishes he could name one of the baby chicks Quacks. Don't these kids just make you want to smile!



This year we have the one and only Mrs. Thomson taking on this job! The starting question we asked was, what do you think the students will gain from this experience? She said with "Learning about the technology around the incubator." Of course, Mrs. Thomson would say something involving computers. Next question is, what are you most excited for when the eggs hatch? Mrs. Thomson declared "I'm so excited to get to finally hold these adorable baby chickens." Last but not least, we have, what is your favorite part about having chickens in the classroom? She answered with "The excitement of the students and all the anticipation of them to hatch."

Finally, we have the wonderful Mrs. Cassidy. Our very first question is, what do you think the students will gain from this experience? She answered with "The kids will learn about biology and how the embryos form." Such a scientific answer from such a great science teacher. Next up is, what are you most excited for when the eggs hatch? Much like us all, she said she is excited to put them in her pockets. I can't even imagine how adorable that would be! The last question is, what is your favorite part about having chicken in the classroom? Mrs. Cassidy made it very clear that she is most excited to snuggle these cute baby chickens.

One more thing, we would love to shout out to Mrs. Cassidy for showing all these teachers how to take care of the eggs, candle them, etc. She has truly been a lifesaver; thank you Mrs. Cassidy for making this possible!

Welcoming New NJHS Members

By: Mallori York and Stella Alexander

Our school's National Junior Honnor Society held the induction ceremony on September 26th, 2025. NJHS welcomed twenty-nine new seventh graders and one new eighth grader. At the ceremony the NJHS officers spoke before inducting the new members.

One new member is Walker Adams. Walker is a seventh grader at LPA. She's been here since kindergarten and is very excited to join. When asked why she joined she said that it's a good opportunity to help the community. She is most excited volunteering at the dances and doing the hype crew. She said that NJHS ceremony is a very welcoming and rewarding organization and makes her happy that she's able to help.

Caleb Milne is an eighth grader, and it is his second year of NJHS. He said he's also most excited to help the community and volunteer. He is excited to have the ability to be a beacon of light to help others. He said National Junior Honor Society is not a higher standard but recognition for those who love to help and do the better thing.



By-Alice Poynton and Elena Heavener

Rock Your School Day is an international initiative that offers out-of-the-box experiences. This year rock your school day will be on Friday, October 3rd. The theme for this years Rock Your School Day is "Making Learning Sweet". The elementary wing is



already looking very sweet. LPA is celebrating fun themed learning activities. One other way we are celebrating is with LPA school spirted baking/sweet themes shirts! This year's rock your school day will be a sweet day full of fun times for your student! Make sure to bring your biggest smile and your sweetest attitude!

A NOTE FROM THE CLINIC FOR STUDENTS IN K, 1st, 3rd, and 6th GRADES

In compliance with Florida Statute 381.0056 (4)(a), regarding school health services, we are notifying you that student sin the St. Johns County School System will be offered the following health screenings:

Vision (Grades KG, 1st, 3rd, and 6th) Hearing (Grades KG, 1st, and 6th) Height/Weight (Grades 1st, 3rd, and 6th) Scoliosis (6th grade only)

These screenings are offered in an effort to decrease health barriers to learning and may be performed by school nurses, other school personnel, and trained volunteers. If your child is tested and the results are not in the "normal" range for the particular test, you will be notified by letter. Your child will be screened unless you notify the school nurse, in writing by signing below, no later than Friday. October 24th, 2025, that you do not want your child to participate. It should be understood that such screenings do not substitute for a thorough examination by a health care provider.

We are pleased to be able to offer programs that support the health and wellbeing of our students. Please contact the clinic at 904-547-7919 if you have any questions or concerns.





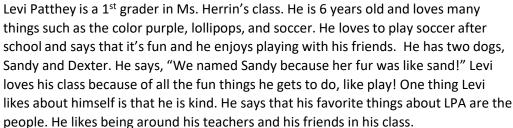
Character Counts Award Winners

LPA is proud to congratulate middle school students Charlotte Russo, Brianna Motycka, and Ashley Windness for receiving CHARACTER COUNTS! Awards at the annual SJCSD Middle School Character in Action Awards! These students will be recognized for their impressive character at a reception on Wednesday, October 22 at 5 p.m., at First Coast Technical College (FCTC).



1ST GRADE





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT 7TH GRADE

Shreenidhi Kumar is a 7th grader in Mr. Raimondo's homeroom. She has an older sister who is currently in college. One of the things she loves about herself is that "when I start something new, I can keep doing it. It's good to keep working toward your goals." Shreenidhi also loves



the pool because it's one of the few places where it isn't hot in Florida. Some of the things she likes about school are that she has seven classes and loves seeing her friends. Her favorite subject is ELA because it's about opinion and there is no right or wrong.

This Month's Terrific Teachers

By: Julia Radecki and Nora Maas

Mrs. Veale is our next elementary spotlight teacher! She has been teaching for eighteen years, and math is her favorite! She has taught 1st-5th grade. Her biggest priority is to make things fun and entertaining for her students. Mrs. V also focuses her time on making sure her kids are growing as a student and as a person. Mrs. Veale's favorite part of the year is the fall and winter because of the fun activities! In her free time, she likes to hike. Mrs. V is a great teacher; we are so lucky to have her!



Ms. Brown is our next middle school teacher! She has been teaching for 6 years, and ELA is definitely her favorite. She grew up in Indiana and loves to spend time at the beach or with her dogs. She chose LPA 2 years ago because of the welcoming and loving environment. Whenever



someone is struggling in her class or needs a little helping hand, she suggests having a planner to write stuff down in, and 100% checking Schoology! Everyone loves Ms. Brown! We hope to have her for many years.

Johnny Appleseed Day!

By: Gianna Zardetto Casanova and Spoorthi Sindhaval

Johnny Appleseed Day is a holiday that honors the American folk hero John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed). Johnny Appleseed is known for planting apple trees throughout all the United States of America. This holiday recognizes how much Johnny Appleseed contributes to our nation.

For Kindergarten, teachers provided fun apple themed activities, including science projects or homemade cinnamon apples with side of whipped cream! Kids love this day for the fun snacks and getting to learn more about the holiday.







MORE LPA SPOTLIGHTS!

Staff Spotlight

By: Elizabeth Thorpe and Stella Alexander

This month's Staff Spotlight is featuring our school's Resource Deputy, Officer Barnhart. He has been a member of the police force for twenty-three years. With his extroverted personality and protective nature, he suits this job perfectly. Officer Barnhart always welcomes everyone with open arms and can make even the rainiest day sunny with his smile. He brings such joy to this school that fills the whole atmosphere, all the while keeping every student in LPA as safe as can be.



During lunch hours the Deputy occupies the silence with his wonderous singing. He always seems to make everyone sing along, even if they don't notice that they are humming along with his tunes. If Officer Barnhart wasn't a part of the LPA family, he would love to be a part of Broadway cast. He enjoys entertaining people and using his voice and love for acting to do so. Along with his talent for theatrics he is a very talented cook. Though most students don't get to see this side of him he is an amazing chef in the kitchen.

Overall, Liberty Pines Academy is extremely lucky to have Officer Barnhart as our schools Resource Deputy. We know for a fact our school would not be the same without him!

This month's other staff spotlight feature is Ms. Chaviano. She is the head custodian and keeps our hallways and classrooms squeaky clean. Ms. Chaviano has been a loyal member of our LPA team for five years and hopes to stay for much longer. She enjoys her job because of the interactions with the kids and employees she gets to experience in her day-to-day life on campus.

Ms. Chaviano is such an important part of our school and we would not be complete without her. She participates in many school events like the staff vs. student's volleyball game. The students love to say hi to her in the hallways and are excited to see her every day. She brightens our hallways with her beautiful smile.

Her hard work is always shown throughout LPA and we are so grateful for Ms. Chaviano!



Fun Stuff by Ariana Ali

Jokes:

Q: What is the difference between ignorance and apathy?

A: I don't know, and I don't care.

Q: Why can pirates never learn the alphabet?

A: They always get lost at "C".

Riddle:

Q: What is there one of in every corner and two of in every room?

A: The letter "O".

Trivia:

Q: What is the plastic or metal part at the end of a shoelace called?

A: An aglet

Q: What is the most stolen food in the world?

A: Cheese

Weird Fact:

The government has a real training plan for handling a zombie apocalypse. Called CONPLAN 8888, the first line states, "This plan was not actually designed as a joke."

NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Band News: 8th Grade Band Night at Beachside High School

By Ava Harper and Ella Madelly

On September 12th, the 8th graders in LPA Band were invited to the Beachside High School football game to perform with their marching band. The 8th graders did all the same songs and cheers along with the high schoolers and it was a great chance for them to see if they want to do band in high school.

For the halftime show, the marching band went and performed their normal routine and then the middle schoolers joined to play a song. It was a way for them to enjoy the full marching band experience.

The middle schoolers were able to go off to explore the stadium and get some food during the 3rd quarter. They joined back in the bleachers to finish out the show and then they marched off to the car loop to be picked up by their parents.

Mr. Spilling said that the band has changed a lot over the years. It has been more organized, and many new students are participating. The performance this year allowed the marching band to go on the field for the halftime show, and it was overall better than previous years. His favorite part was seeing how much the students loved playing songs on the field with the high schoolers to guide them. Also, the fun, happy atmosphere that was created made the experience very enjoyable.



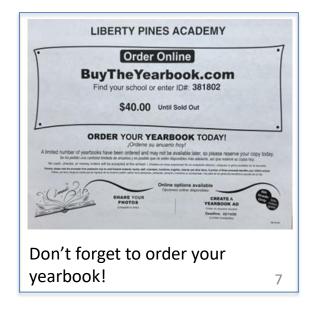


ART CORNER

By: Elena Heavener and Lucy Collins

Art is an amazing elective that you can take in middle school. Art can bring out the creative side of your brain to make amazing masterpieces! Art comes in all different shapes and styles while also being fun and challenging. We asked the amazing art teachers some questions on what's going on in the classroom. Starting with Mr. Wolfe (our middle school art teacher), who told us that he is most excited for the 7th and 8th graders to do their selfportraits. His favorite medium to work with is oil paint and tempera paint with the kids. When we asked him if he preferred still life or free drawing more, he replied that he likes still life drawings because he likes visual references. Last but not least, his favorite artist is Hukusai. He says that he uses simplistic medium but still has good outcomes.

We had some amazing answers from Mr. Wolfe, but let's go to elementary art. Mrs. Scoggins is our wonderful elementary art teacher. She said that she is most excited to make cute little pumpkins with the first graders. She told us that her personal favorite medium to work with is color pencils, and her favorite medium to work with the kids is watercolor. Finally, she told us that she prefers free drawing instead of still life. Mr. Wolfe and Mrs. Scoggins are amazing teachers who love art and are great at teaching it. Anyone who has art is lucky to have them!



MORE NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

LPA Honor Choir

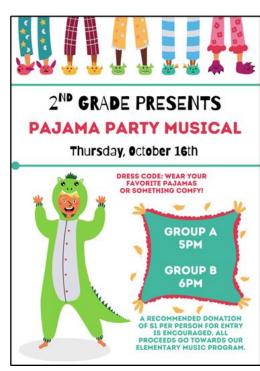
By Ella Madelly and Ava Harper

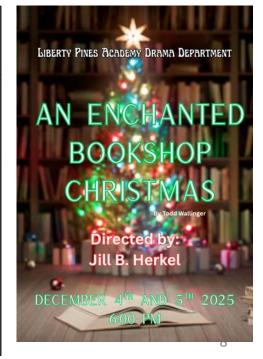
Last year, Liberty Pines Academy was invited to sing in the district's Honor Choir. They were ecstatic! LPA was such a great addition to the choir, that they were asked to come join for another year. Ms. Herkel is directing the LPA students in preparing them for the performance. Students who wanted to be a part of the choir had to audition with one minute of a song.

The students selected for Honor Choir at LPA are Anna Bond, Jayce Colavalla, Kiera Dhima, Kassia Driggers, Gianna Guzman, Rylee Harris, Melina Jones, Ella Madelly, Ezra Navarro, Grace Osborne, Ilisha Pahwa, Deanna Ramos, Manasa Satish, Stella Slobozien, Clara Wayne, Maddie Wellschlager, Mila Wilhelmy, and Ava Williams. Congratulations to all of our members!

Honor Choir is a program where students from many schools in the district are chosen to sing together. They will all practice at Pacetti Bay and then will perform four songs on stage at Beachside Highschool. The high schoolers also sing there and perform one or two songs with the middle schoolers. The performance in on October 9th at Beachside. Come out and support our talented LPA students!







Congratulations to our Character Counts Fairness Winners

By: Collins Haney

The pillar this month for Character Counts is Fairness. These students that were picked are great examples of the following traits:

- ★ To play by the rules
- ★ To be open-minded
- ★ To share with others
- ★ Follow the LPA Way















ELA Textbook Adoption Underway

LPA is participating in the ELA Textbook Adoption process for the upcoming school year. We are looking for a parent to be a part of the review committee.

If, as a parent you are interested in participating on the review committee, please fill out the link below to get more information.

SPORTS NEWS!!!





LPA Girls and Boys Volleyball Boys Volleyball

By: Sylvia Thomas and Gianna Zardetto

LPA Boys Volleyball season has just begun, and we are already off to an amazing start! They have celebrated several victories that have brought them closer together. So far, they have faced Trout Creek Academy, Lakeside Academy, Mill Creek Academy, and Hallowes Cove Academy, with a result of three wins and one loss. Teamwork goes a long way, and everyone believes the team will come together in the end.

Cooper Koury is the 8th-grade setter on the Boys Volleyball team. He has been playing for four months and joined the school team to prepare for club volleyball. Throughout his time playing volleyball, he has learned the key to success is teamwork. Cooper believes that the team's hard work and determination will help them reach victory in the championship.



By: Brielle Coppola and Nora Maas

Liberty Pines' girls' volleyball team has just started their season on September

16th and they are already on a roll! The coach for the girls team is Coach Sullens, who some of you may know her as the K-2 grade guidance counselor. She has been the volleyball coach for 4 years and she decided to start coaching because she wanted to become more involved in the school.

The girls' volleyball team's focus isn't only volleyball but bonding as a team and making new friends. Brooklyn Amato said, "My favorite part of the LPA volleyball team is our teammates and Coach Sullens." There is a wide range of experience on the team. Some girls have been playing volleyball for 4 years while this is some girl's first season playing volleyball. Coach Sullens' favorite part of coaching is watching the girls improve and work together. The girls' record is 4-0 as they are undefeated so far! We hope to see all our fans at the next games! Go Wolves!







Cross Country News

by Sadit Anwar

Cross Country is a running sport where runners compete on natural terrain for various distances. This year there are twenty-two students participating in the LPA Cross Country team. Cross Country meetups are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:20 to 4:20.

Their goal for this year it to make state in November 1st. In the typical day the runners stretch, then run one to two miles, and then do a cool down. The challenges they are facing right now are that the competitive people are not thinking cross country as a sport, but just running.

This year's team is coached by Mrs. Cassidy and Ms. Lutts. Mrs. Cassidy sees how they are improving by comparing times on their mile runs. Mrs. Cassidy also sees the teammates encourage each other and she is proud of that. "As long as they're doing their best, they will be successful," says Mrs. Cassidy. Th Team's first meet will be Saturday, October 4, at Landrum.



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.



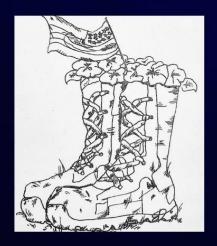
What- An original artwork that will be on display for our Veteran's Day celebration here at Liberty Pines Academy on November 7th! We are looking for patriotic artworks that honors Veterans of the United

States Armed Forces!

*Artworks of any size, color, and medium will be accepted for the Veteran's Gallery

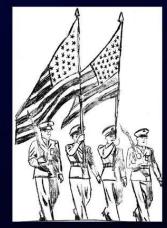
*If you are interested in having your artwork selected for the program cover, only use <u>Black and White</u>. There will be 1 elementary winner and 1 middle school winner for the program covers.

When - All art is due to Mrs. Scoggins or Mr. Wolfe no later than October 27th









Previous years cover winners



















PTO INFORMATION



Our middle school snack cart is back up and running. If you want to sign up to stock the cart please visit our website https://lpa.ptboard.com/sgnvw? group=&signup=3e772763-e83b-4ac2-bb93-

8b799d627f3a~s.9223370281546491 633

PTO HIGHLIGHTS

Sunshine of the month Ms. Mo, Mr. Hoessler's wonderful Executive Secretary is one of our Sunshine of the Month winners! She is so helpful to all the kids and families! A special thank you to Sarah Guin for all her help



with our business partners.

Upcoming PTO events

Fun Run Oct. 24th- Please make sure you are an approved volunteer to come watch all the fun!

Congrats to Katie Carlise for winning the premier parking spot. Enjoy!



REMINDERS



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

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"In every conceivable manner, the family is link to our past, bridge to our future."

-Alex Haley



LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY PTO Business Partner Spotlight

October

PLATINUM WOLVES











NEW PLATINUM WOLVES



Wolves stay strong by training together, and 210 Fit Body Bootcamp is the perfect place for parents to unleash their strength. With high-energy group workouts, expert coaching, and a supportive community, this local fitness den keeps the pack motivated and fit for the hunt.

Every pack needs sharp minds, and Kids Can Code helps our young wolves build problem-solving skills for the future. Through fun, hands-on coding classes and camps, they empower students to think creatively, work as a team, and lead the tech trails of tomorrow.

