

# LPMS Newsletter

JUNE 1, 2010



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Lakelands Parents/Guardians:

Last month, we celebrated Staff Appreciation Week. I am really grateful for all of the support from the PTSA. Our parents provided treats during the week. The staff also received notes and emails, from students and parents, thanking them for all they do for our students. It is amazing how saying "Thank you" makes a big difference. We appreciate all of your continued support. We also had the first ever Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. It was a huge success. We hope to have it again next year.

It is hard to believe this is the final month of school! With this being said-school is far from over. Final exams begin next week. The review day is Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Exams begin Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. We want all our students to end the year on a successful note! It's not too late to turn in that missing assignment, finish a long-term project, or go to teachers for extra exam preparation help. The final days of school are just as important as the first, so let's be sure our students come to school each day and come to school on time — there's not a

minute to waste. The last day of school for students is Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at 12:10pm.

While it is sad to see our eighth graders leave us, it is exciting to know that we will welcome a new group of students to Lakelands in August. Good luck eighth graders on your new endeavor to high school. We wish you a lifetime of success. There is a sense of excitement when planning for a new school year, knowing changes and new challenges will occur, yet there is a recurring theme year after year that allows Lakelands to shine. It is the way the entire school community works together to support the best interests of our students. To all our Lakelands parents and guardians, I want to wish you an enjoyable summer and thank you for being an active part of the Lakelands family.

Warmly,  
Deborah Higdon

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PTSA PRESIDENT

MRS. JENNIFER PALMIERE

The final PTSA social event, Basketball Night, was held on May 14th at LPMS. Teams from all three grades competed in a playoff-style tournament for championship bragging rights. It was an exciting evening of hoops and friendly competition!

As we approach the end of the school year, the PTSA Executive Board members are preparing to pass the baton to the new Board. We are happy to announce the newly elected 2010-2011 PTSA Board members:

Kim Skimmons, President	Katie Gurcan, VP Community
Carla Johnson, VP Fundraising	Heather Miller, Treasurer
Melissa Wilson, Secretary	

We thank them for their dedication to the Lakelands Park community and ask that you give them your support in any way that you can. We hope that everyone has a safe and relaxing summer!

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## COUNSELING CORNER

### Tips for Creating a Summertime Routine (taken and adapted from About.com)

Do you feel like your kids just want to watch TV all day during the summer? Here are some tips for how you can create a summer routine that works for you:

#### 1. Schedule Some Regular, Fun Activities, and Family Time

Sleep away and day camp programs can give children opportunities to improve skills and make friends. Hobby stores, libraries, museums, and community centers often run summertime programs for children too. Call the Counseling Office 301-670-1410 for information on summer offerings in the area.

In addition to vacations, summer also provides great opportunities for families to see or do things together that they might not have had time for during the school year. Whether a leisurely family bike ride or a visit to the aquarium, summertime is the perfect time to catch up on activities that enrich a child's life and bring families closer together.

#### 2. Set a Time for Reading Every Day

This is something that you can do whether your kids spend their days with you or another caregiver. After lunch is a great time to schedule a regular, daily, reading siesta. If you can, try to model the importance of reading by picking up a book for yourself at the same time.

#### 3. Limit Your Kids' Screen Time

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children ages two and older watch no more than two hours of total screen time per day. In order to meet those guidelines, most families have to make a concentrated effort to turn off the TV and limit computer and video games. Talk with your kids about the amount of time that you think is reasonable, and be firm about maintaining those limits.

#### 4. Set a Time For Learning

Whether they are working on their summer math and reading assignments or if you've picked out a particular workbook you'd like them to complete, set a regular block of time aside each day when they can work toward completing this project. In addition, plan to explore various topics your kids have shown an interest in. Summer is a great time to tap into their natural curiosity!

### Counseling Office Summer Schedule

The school year may be coming to an end, but the Lakelands Park counselors will continue to be available. Counselors are available at a reduced schedule throughout the summer. They can be reached at 301-670-1410.

### Service Learning Throughout the Summer

Summer is a great time to get involved in high quality service-learning. Search the Web site [www.mcpsssl.org](http://www.mcpsssl.org) to find something that will be meaningful.

During the summer months when school-based SSL coordinators are not in their buildings, SSL questions and requests for preapproval may be referred to Pam Meador at 301-279-3454.

Students may earn one SSL hour for every hour of service during the summer months. (maximum eight hours in a 24-hour period).

All service for which SSL hours are granted must occur in a public place under the supervision of an adult representing a nonprofit, tax exempt organization.

Well-written reflections on MCPS Form 560-51 become part of a student's permanent record. Taking time to write a good one is a good idea.

## SIXTH GRADE NEWS

### Reading

In reading, students will learn how to find the main idea and supporting details from news articles, learn about the 5W's and H in newspaper articles (online and print) and participate in a Shared Inquiry on a current issue. We will also work together to publish a class newspaper.

### Math

The students have just finished up Unit 4. We will be starting Unit 5 which focuses on probability.

### IM

The students have just finished up Unit 6, Other Operational Systems. We will be starting Unit 7 which focuses on probability.

### English

Unit 4 is centered around choices and the consequences that result. Students have read and discussed a class novel and are currently writing an essay about an important choice one of the characters made. This unit also introduces three of William Shakespeare's plays: *As You Like It*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. Students gain experience interpreting the language and performing the scenes.

### Social Studies

Our social studies students are now learning about cultures and how they influence political, economic, and social systems; change over time; and influence the development of society. Also, the children will be introduced to the five major religions, their origins, traditions, and customs.

### Science

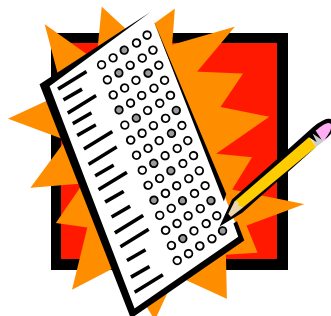
Students recently finished up (or will be soon) the Sudden Impact Unit in which they designed and built vehicle bumpers to minimize the peak force of an impact. We have started our final unit, Alternative Energy. This is a perfect time to study alternative sources of energy given the recent dangers from harvesting fossil fuels.



### Spanish

In Spanish, students are working in the Sports and Pastime Unit. They are describing their favorite sport or hobby and telling what they need in order to play, practice, or do the activity.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE



All foreign language classes are beginning to review for county final exams. Students will be receiving an exam review guide from their teacher. Students will be responsible for material covered during the semester or school year depending upon the course. The county final exam consists of an oral and written section.

## EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

### End of Year Events

(Questions can be addressed to Stephanie Sheron or Kelly Gowetski)

- June 8: Recognition Ceremony—Students must arrive by 6:30 p.m. The ceremony is being held at Quince Orchard High School from 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- June 11: Spirit of Washington—Students must report to the cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. We will be returning at 11:00 p.m.
- June 15: Six Flags—Students will be returning at 7:00 p.m. to school and must be picked up at that time



### English/Reading Department

Summer reading packets will be sent home with students on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Copies are also available on the LPMS website.

## READ 180

Read 180 is winding down for the year as we finish our final workshops! We have learned about many things such as natural disasters, underwater creatures, and spent time reading stories written by Edgar Allan Poe. The students have worked very hard this year and have made great progress with their reading skills! Please continue to read this summer!

## MEDIA CENTER

It's been a great year in the media center! We checked out over 11,000 books this year. Our collection is now over 20,000 materials with a good portion of these representing student requests.

We also had a record number of students participate in the Black Eyed Susan Book Program this year and cast their votes for the state book award winner. This year's winners were:

Grades 4-6 – Swindle by Gordon Korman  
Grades 6-9 – Schooled by Gordon Korman  
High School – Unwind by Neal Shusterman



All books are due back to the media center this year on June 2, 2010. Students who return all their books between **Friday, May 28** and **Wednesday, June 2** will be entered in a drawing to win a \$50 dollar gift card.

Have a wonderful summer, and don't forget to read .

## IMPORTANT DATES

### JUNE

- 2 Lakelands Night at South Street Steaks
- 8 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony
- 9-16 Final Exams
- 11 8th Grade Spirit of Washington Trip
- 15 8th Grade Six Flags Field Trip
- 16 Last Day of School  
6th Grade Awards Assembly
- 23 Report Cards Mailed



### JULY

- 5 Holiday—Independence Day
- 6-30 Summer School

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!**

