

The Leopard Link



Principal's Corner

Let's hope we are done with more than our fair share of school closing weather for the year. The school board is supposed to meet tonight to give us the final and definitive word on how all of those days are going to be made up. I think we are all ready to get back into our regular routines.

In giving tours of the school to prospective parents I find that one area where there seems to be a lot of misconception is with Title I. Title I is a federal program enacted in 1965 for, "Improving the academic achievement of the disadvantaged." The district distributes Title I funds to schools with a free and reduced lunch counts over 35%. Since Lead Mine usually has a free and reduced lunch count of around 40% we are happy to receive Title I funds. Since we are a "school-wide" Title I school, that money can go to help any child in the school who needs it. The majority of our Title I money goes to salary for our excellent intervention teachers. I would much rather have our money for helping kids who struggle go to the best intervention teachers possible, than to programs and supplies. We have assembled an outstanding group of intervention teachers. Last week we had a mid-year budget meeting with Title I where it was revealed that we had access to more money than we were expecting. Some of that money is required to go to our Title I parent meetings. We have decided to leave some of that money in supplies, some will go to subs so teachers can have grade level planning time to keep them on track with the Common Core Standards, and we still had money left to make some significant technology purchases. We will be able to purchase more document cameras so there will be several at each grade level now. We will also be able to start purchasing more laptops for the classrooms. Part of our technology vision is to start moving the full sized computers from the classrooms to the labs as the lab computers conk out. The full sized classroom computers will be gradually replaced by laptops. The laptops take up a lot less room and are much better for collaborating on small group projects since they can be used anywhere in the classroom. Part of the reason we have been so successful over the years with *all* students is that we have received federal money from Title I that allows us to more fully support our students who aren't at grade level...yet.

We are hitting the ground running this week. I hope everyone is excited to be back to school. With 70 degrees predicted on Thursday hopefully we can return to business as usual and I can put away my gloves for carpool duty. Have a great FULL week of school! *Principal, Gary Baird*

FANTASTIC FEBRUARY FAMILY NIGHT OUT!!

Shake off the chill and join us for a delicious dinner at Milton's Pizza.

8853 Six Forks Road
Raleigh, NC 27615

TONIGHT February 18 5-10 PM

Please be sure to tell your server you are with Lead Mine - Milton's will donate a percentage of the profits to our PTA!

*Note this is a family event and no supervision is provided, parents are required to remain with their child.



Calendar

2/18

FNO @ Milton's
3rd Quarter Interim reports

2/25

Original Works of Art begins

2/27

5th Grade Dance – 7-8:30PM

2/28

Reflections Participant reception – 2:15PM

March

3/6

Math Night 6:30-8pm

3/7

March Madness/Favorite College Team Spirit Day
Early Release – 12:30PM

3/11

McTeacher Night @
McDonald's 4:30-7:30PM

3/12

Original Works of Art orders due

3/14

PTA Meeting – 8:30AM

3/18

First In Fitness

3/20

Kindergarten Orientation Night

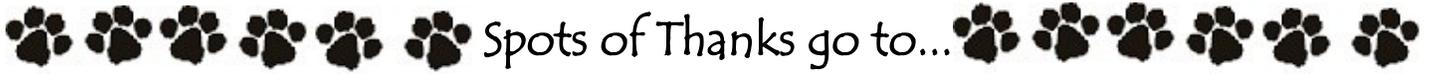
3/17-3/21

Staff Appreciation Week

3/25

FNO @ Panera Bread

Editor's Note: *The Leopard Link* is published weekly by the Lead Mine PTA. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate pertinent school, PTA, and education-related information to the Lead Mine community. Advertisements and solicitations from local and corporate businesses will not be accepted. The deadline for each issue is Thursday at 3:30 p.m. If you'd like to place an article, please email your submission to theleopardlink@gmail.com. Thank you!! Leopard Link Editors: Ashley Murr and Jessica Brueggeman



...Media Center Coordinator **Shannon Fields** and the wonderful parent volunteers for their help in the Media Center each week!
 ...**Catherine Foscatto** and ALL of the **volunteers** who help in the copy center! They copy all of the materials teachers use with our children and also produce our weekly *Leopard Link*.

Annual 5th Grade Parent/Student Dance Reminder

When: Thursday, Feb. 27th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm
Where: Lead Mine Elementary, MPR and cafeteria for refreshments
Who: All 5th grade students and their parents (please do not bring younger brothers and sisters)
Attire: please dress nicely for this event; bring a camera because photo opportunities will be available.

We invite the following classes to bring refreshments for the dance:
Refreshments can be dropped off in the cafeteria, before the dance begins.

We are all looking forward to this wonderful and exciting evening. We hope many of you

Ms. Campbell's Class

Salty snacks
(chips, pretzels, etc.)

Mr. Ryan's Class

Store bought - sweet snacks
(cookies, brownies, etc.)

Ms. Carroll's Class

Fruit and veggie platters

will be able to participate in this memorable event. Please remember that we will be doing many different types of dances, so everyone will be able to participate!

We hope that the 5th grade boys will remember to personally invite their mom's and the girls will invite their dad's for a special night of dancing and fun!! (adult or older sibling family members are invited to step in for any parent who may be unable to attend with their child)

Questions?? Contact Susan Cruickshanks at 870-4120.

Any parents interested in helping out with refreshment setup/cleanup or decorating please contact Susan Cruickshanks. scruickshanks1@wcpss.net

***This is a good opportunity for any high school students (brothers/sisters of our 5th graders) to earn service hours.

Box Tops due THIS FRIDAY!

We will be wrapping up our Box Tops collection drive this FRIDAY February 21st.

Each box top counts and helps us earn extra money for our school, so PLEASE keep sending them in through Friday!



Due to missed school during the snow days, we will now be sending Original Works of Art info home in next week's Tuesday folders. All orders will be due on March 12th.

THIS IS THE FINAL CALL FOR 5TH GRADE YEARBOOK SENTIMENTS

Tell your child how proud you are of them and their accomplishments in the **Yearbook Sentiments!**

Complete the form below and send it in to your child's teacher. You are welcome to include separate sentiments from grandparents, siblings and other loved ones. Please make the check payable to Lead Mine PTA (there is a \$25 returned check fee). Deadline to turn these in is

Feb 28th.

There are several options for your sentiments: 1. 25 words or less - \$5 2. 25-50 words OR 25 words or less with a small photo - \$10 3. 50-100 words, with or without a picture - \$20

Please write very clearly or email your message to camillehstephens@yahoo.com

Student's First & Last Name - _____

Message - _____

From Love With Love _____
 (circle one or write your own closing)

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