



# The Leopard Link

## Principal's Corner

They say that March usually comes in like a lion and goes out like lamb. It seems like February has come in like a five legged goat. With the crazy weather, every day seems to be an adventure in, "How should I dress today?" Regardless of the weather we do have a lot to look forward to on the near horizon. This evening I get to participate in one my favorite events of the year, *Spotlight on Students*. This event is held in the WCPSS School Board room in Cary. It is to honor one outstanding student from each school in the district (they don't do them all in one night). This year the honor of being the Lead Mine representative goes to fifth grader, Martin McSoley. Martin was selected by the Lead Mine staff for being an outstanding student, a good citizen, and for service to the school as a Safety Patrol member. He will be introduced to the board and get his picture taken with interim superintendent Dr. Gainey. We are proud to have Martin representing us this year.

Thursday night is going to be like a baseball doubleheader. Since our *Media by Moonlight* scheduled last month was cancelled because of inclement weather, we are combining it with the *Art Appreciation Night* that was already scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup>. Even though we are holding two events on one night we did not increase the admission costs at all...it's still free. The big night should now be twice as fun so I look forward to seeing you all there.

After a slight delay with HR we finally have our long term substitute to replace Ms. Stober for the rest of the year. Ms. Gabriella Norment started with the class all to herself on Valentine's Day. She is off to a great start. Ms. Norment is a recent honors graduate of UNC Charlotte and student taught for a full year in second grade. She has great references and impressed the interview committee with her passion for teaching, work ethic, and love of children. Please make her feel welcome as you always do with our new staff members.

On a more serious note, last Thursday afternoon we had a student with a medical emergency. When the fire truck and EMS vehicle arrived they had no place to park because several cars had illegally parked in the fire lane all along the front of the school. We have quite a few medically fragile students in our school and having to call for help is not that unusual. I realize that it was Valentine's Day and people just parked to bring in supplies for class "learning experiences." However, we don't get to pick when these incidents happen, so please be mindful of the safety of our students. I wish we had a bigger parking lot but in this case there were open spaces available, just not as handy. Thanks for your consideration.

As long as we are talking about safety, I had the Raleigh Police Department come back out last week to observe our traffic issues. The officer had some excellent suggestions. The most dangerous thing for our carpool drivers is leaving our lot when it is hard to see cars coming. The officer I spoke with wants to make the right lane coming into our lot a right turn only lane with lots of arrows painted in it, and then paint sort of a merging right hand turn lane coming out of our lot. That would make the outside lane a through traffic lane and the inside lane just for entering and leaving carpool. I'll keep you posted on how that is progressing.

Hopefully, I will see you all on Thursday evening. Gary Baird

**DON'T FORGET**  
Send in contributions by  
March 8 for the Spring  
Carnival Silent Auction  
Baskets. Please contact your  
class parent if you have any  
questions.

## Calendar

2/21

Art Appreciation Night @  
Lead Mine 6-7:30PM

2/25-3/1

\*All-Star Staff Appreciation  
Week\*

2/28

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance

**March**

3/1

Family Fun Night @ United  
Skates of America - 6-8:30PM

3/8

College Team Spirit Day

3/10

Daylight Savings Time Begins  
- Spring Forward!

3/12

FNO @ McDonald's  
McTeacher Night @Celebration  
at Six Forks location

3/13

Spring Picture Day & First in  
Fitness

3/15

Early Release 12:30PM  
PTA Meeting 8:30am All  
Welcome!

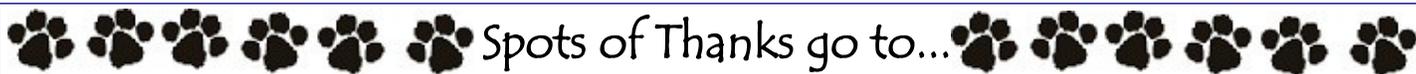
3/21

2nd Grade Music Performance  
@ 6:30pm

3/23

Spring Carnival & Health Fair  
12-4pm

**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](mailto:theleopardlink@gmail.com). Thank you!! Leopard Link Editors: Ashley Murr and Jessica Brueggeman



...all of the families who participated in our "100 Day Service Project" to benefit Duke Children's Hospital. What a perfect lesson in which to teach our children the importance of having a "giving heart". Thanks also to **Diane White** for organizing it.

...**Jeanna Reeves**, former Lead Mine parent, for providing delicious treats for the staff's meeting last Monday.  
...**the FNO Crew** for organizing a great Family Night Out at Milton's last Tuesday. We had a terrific turnout and thank you for showing your support!

### Staff Appreciation Week is NEXT WEEK!



Staff Appreciation Week begins on Monday! We hope you will join us in giving **Three Cheers for our All-Star Staff** and show your appreciation for the awesome staff at Lead Mine!

**MONDAY** Today, the PTA will be kicking off a great week by delivering a special gift to all staff.

**TUESDAY** Have your child show appreciation to teachers, specialists, administrative, and services staff with a note or picture of thanks.

**WEDNESDAY** The PTA will be making the rounds in the "stadium" with a food and snack cart stocked with treats for the staff.

**THURSDAY** The PTA will be delivering a sweet sentiment today to all staff. If you would like, have your child bring a small treat for his or her teachers!

**FRIDAY** It's the Super Bowl of feasts: our All-Star Chili Cook-Off! Staff will be treated to hot chili with all the fixin's, mini hoagies, cold beverages (no, not THOSE kind!), and yummy desserts for lunch! It's going to be a tailgate treat for our MVP's from their #1 fans!



### All-Star Staff Luncheon Chili Cook-Off!

Every year, our PTA sponsors an annual luncheon to wrap up Staff Appreciation Week. This year, we will be honoring our All-Star Staff with a chili cook-off on **Friday, March 1!** We will be offering a variety of yummy kinds of chili with all the fixins', and our staff will be casting their votes to choose the winner!

If you would like to participate in our All-Star Chili Cook-Off by whipping up a batch of your best chili, please complete the form below and return to school with your child.

Or, simply send an e-mail to the address below to let us know you would like to participate.

All items should be delivered to the staff lounge behind the front office by **9:00AM on Friday, March 1.**

If possible, please deliver your chili in a crock pot so we can keep it warm until it can be devoured!

*Questions? Please contact Sarah Nguyen at [the4nguyens@gmail.com](mailto:the4nguyens@gmail.com)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to participate in the All-Star Staff Chili Cook-Off and will be preparing my winning recipe in the following category:

Traditional Beef Chili  
 Vegetarian Chili

Chicken Chili  
 5-Alarm Chili

Dear LME Library Makeover Parents,

My special thanks for all of your joyful and creative help with sprucing up the library! We are almost finished and the students are loving Leo's Book Nook for reading & relaxing! Without windows in the library, the walls really needed to have some added color. I thank you all for sharing your time to make our Library Learning Center a more kid-friendly, creative place to thrive! New books are arriving and many are checked out already. Yeah! There are two boxes of books that are catalogued & ready for check out but they have not been covered with jackets or contact paper. We are so busy teaching, the books remain bare. If you are willing to learn how to cover books—it is not hard—we need two or three wonderful parents to tackle this! Thank you in advance for all of your willingness and assistance. Email me at [vcrosson@wcpss.net](mailto:vcrosson@wcpss.net) or call 919-870-4125.

## Middle School Open House Dates

Apex Middle	Feb. 19 <sup>th</sup> 6:00pm
Carroll Middle	April 16 6:30pm Rising 6 <sup>th</sup> graders
Durant Road Middle	April 12 Tracks 1 & 3 @ 9:30-11:00am
	April 26 Tracks 2 & 4 @9:30-11:00am
East Cary Middle	May 28 5:30-7:30pm
East Millbrook Middle	May 16 8:00pm
East Wake Middle	March 14 6:30-8:00pm
Heritage Middle	March 14 for tracks 3 and 4 @6:30 pm
	March 21 for tracks 1 and 2 @6:30 pm
Holly Ridge Middle	Thursday, April 11 7:00pm
North Garner Middle	Tuesday, March 19 6:30pm
Salem Middle	April 9 for tracks 1 and 2 @6:00pm
	April 16 for tracks 3 and 4 @6:00pm
Wakefield Middle	April 25 6:30 - 8:00pm
Wake-Forest/Rolesville Middle	April 23 6-7:30pm
Wendell Middle	March 21 5:45pm
West Cary Middle	April 18 6:00pm

Please note those that are not posted have already had their open houses.  
If you need additional information please contact Whitney Bennett at [wbennett1@wcpss.net](mailto:wbennett1@wcpss.net)



## Book Fair News

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be held April 22nd thru 26th this year. If you would like to help us with planning and setting up the book fair, if you would like to help, please email

Tama Berriman. ([tama@nc.rr.com](mailto:tama@nc.rr.com))

This spring we are offering our students an after school golf opportunity. The TGA will be conducting two 6 week sessions of golf instruction for students, which will include swing fundamentals, the rules, etiquette, character development and life values in a setting of eight kids per instructor.

Sessions will be held on Thursdays from 3:15 to 4:15 PM at Lead Mine Elementary.

Session 1: Runs from March 7 to April 25

Session 2: Runs from May 2 to June 6

Each 6 week session costs \$99.00

Each participating student will receive a TGA hat, TGA hat clip, and a Student Handbook. All equipment will be provided. For more information contact director Paul Maskill at

(919) 530-9355 or email him at [pmaskill@playtga.com](mailto:pmaskill@playtga.com)

To register for the class visit <http://playtga.com/wakecounty>

Flyers are available in the office. I checked this out with other principals who have the program and their schools and they think it is great.



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[@Lead\\_Mine\\_PTA](https://twitter.com/Lead_Mine_PTA)



facebook

Find us on Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/LeadMineElementaryPTA](https://www.facebook.com/LeadMineElementaryPTA)

## Lead Mine Yearbook Pre-Sale

We SOLD OUT Last Year. Don't be left out this year!  
Buy and pay for your yearbook now at the Discounted Rate of \$15 each

Simply fill out the form below and send it in with your payment of \$15 each.  
Make checks payable to Lead Mine PTA. (There is a \$25 returned check rec.)



**Hurry pre-sale offer ends February 22nd!** Rates increase to \$18 after 2/22

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

# of yearbooks \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 each Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact Lisa Freeman at 645-8757 or [LisaFreeman@nc.rr.com](mailto:LisaFreeman@nc.rr.com)

## Calling All Box Tops!



The Box Tops are rolling in and every single one counts! Last quarter, Lead Mine earned over **\$1200 in extra money** for our school through the Box Tops for Education program. You can help us earn some extra cash for our school by clipping Box Tops from the items in your pantry and grocery cart.

Lead Mine's Community Participation chairperson will be wrapping up this quarter's Box Tops collection drive at the end of the month on **Friday, February 22**, and every Box Top counts! Please round yours up and send them to school with your child by February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Questions? Please contact Meredith Ellison  
at [mellison42900@yahoo.com](mailto:mellison42900@yahoo.com)*

## Family Fun Night at United Skates!

**Friday, March 1st**

Only \$5 Admission—includes skate rental

Lead Mine will have the place

all to ourselves from 6-7 pm!



**Let's get movin' and skatin'!!!**

2901 Trawick Rd, Raleigh NC

Tel: 919-790-3808

[www.UnitedSkates.com/Raleigh](http://www.UnitedSkates.com/Raleigh)

## How You Can Keep Your Teeth Healthy

### Kids can take charge of their teeth by taking these steps:

**Brush at least twice a day** — after breakfast and before bedtime. If you can, brush after lunch or after sweet snacks. Brushing properly breaks down plaque.

**Brush all of your teeth** -- not just the front ones. Spend some time on the teeth along the sides and in the back. Have your dentist show you the best way to brush to get your teeth clean without damaging your gums.

**Take your time while brushing.** Spend at least 2 or 3 minutes each time you brush. If you have trouble keeping track of the time, use a timer or play a recording of a song you like to help pass the time.

**Be sure your toothbrush has soft bristles** (the package will tell you if they're soft). Ask your parent to help you get a new toothbrush every 3 months. Some toothbrushes come with bristles that change color when it's time to change them.

**Ask your dentist if an antibacterial mouth rinse is right for you.**

**Learn how to floss your teeth**, which is a very important way to keep them healthy. It feels weird the first few times you do it, but pretty soon you'll be a pro. Slip the dental floss between each tooth and along the gum line gently once a day. The floss gets rid of food that's hidden where your toothbrush can't get it, no matter how well you brush.

**You can also brush your tongue to help keep your breath fresh!**

It's also important to visit the dentist twice a year. Besides checking for signs of cavities or gum disease, the dentist will help keep your teeth extra clean and can help you learn the best way to brush and floss.

It's not just brushing and flossing that keep your teeth healthy — you also need to be careful about what you eat and drink. Remember, the plaque on your teeth is just waiting for that sugar to arrive. Eat lots of fruits and vegetables and drink water instead of soda. And don't forget to smile!

Reviewed by: Kenneth H. Hirsch, DDS Source: [www.kidshealth.org](http://www.kidshealth.org)