



The Leopard Link

Principal's Corner

The first quarter is over, which means report cards are coming soon. We always send ours home with our Tuesday Folders which means you should be receiving your child's report card on Tuesday, November 5th. As you probably know by now the state is using a new all-encompassing software system called Home Base to keep track of everything from grades to attendance. With this new system the report cards are going to look a lot different. So different in fact that you will also be receiving an information sheet with the report card that explains how to read your child's card. In a nutshell, the cards will break down the subjects the students are attempting to master in more detail. Since you will be able to see clearly how your child is doing in each subject, they have only allotted room for 100 characters in the comment section. The new cards show a lot more data, so less explanation of strengths and weaknesses is needed. The program has been in and out of service a lot, and is usually out during the weekends. Hopefully it will be up and running enough of the time so you can see your child's report card next Tuesday. One small caveat, the year-round schools had to extend their deadline the first quarter. We hope that won't be necessary for the traditional schools. It is important for there to be ongoing communication between parents and teachers so there shouldn't be any big surprises on your child's report card.

Another assessment called CASE 21 was given last week. It is an assessment required by the district that gives us a benchmark as to how our students are progressing towards the attainment of objectives they are required to know by the end of the year. These benchmark scores are extremely important for us to see, so we know where our students stand currently, so we can plan more effectively in getting them where they need to be by the end of the year. CASE 21 scores are a good thing to talk about when you are conferencing with your child's teacher.

And while we are talking about test scores, the EOG scores from last year are due to be released shortly after report cards go home. The new tests were more rigorous and the expectations for each level on the test were raised as well. It will come as no surprise then that according to information we are getting from the state, the scores will be considerably lower this year. The same thing happened when they re-normed the EOG math in 2006 and the EOG reading in 2008. Every time they raise the bar the scores go down and then we get to work to raise our achievement levels to meet the new higher bar.

One of the real joys of my job is being able to take people around the school on tours. I love showing off Lead Mine. People are always impressed with how calm our school is and how students are engaged in learning in every classroom. Most of the people who take tours have heard great things about the school from their friends and neighbors who have children attending here. I appreciate all of the positive comments. To paraphrase an old PR maxim, "If you are happy with Lead Mine tell your friends. If you are unhappy with Lead Mine tell me." May all your report card news be good news! *Gary Baird, Principal*

Aloha Spirit!

FRIDAY is Hawaiian Spirit Day! Show your school spirit by wearing Hawaiian attire, a Lead Mine t-shirt, or school colors (blue and yellow)!

Calendar

October 10/30

Fall Picture Retakes
Reflections Submissions Due

November 11/1

Hawaiian Spirit Day
Staff Appreciation Committee Meeting – 8:30AM
Scholastic Book Fair Begins

11/5

1st Quarter report cards

11/7

Pawsitive Assemblies
Book Fair Dessert Night
6-8PM

11/8

Book Fair Ends
Early Release 12:30PM

11/11

No School - Veteran's Day
Family Day Out @ Six Forks
Cinema

11/19

PTA Meeting – 7-8PM
Everyone Welcome!

11/27-11/29

Thanksgiving Break – No
School

December

12/3

2nd Quarter Interim Reports

12/9

Cultural Arts assembly – Bright
Star Children's Theater "Gift of
the Magi"

12/13

Crazy Sock Spirit Day
Holiday Luncheon for Staff

Deadline to Re-register to Volunteer is Oct. 31!

If you registered during the last school year to volunteer in WCPSS but have not reviewed your information this year, Oct. 31 is the deadline to reapply. Also, if you need to register for the first time, please plan to do so by tomorrow at 3:30PM. Thanks!

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



... **Jonathan & Kim Blaes**, who put together our school directory again this year. The directory is off to the printer, so look for distribution in the next few weeks.

... all of the **Lead Mine families and friends** who participated in our Leopard's Pride fundraiser. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

... **Glenn Scott** for organizing the Campbell's Labels for Education program! Thanks also to **Laura McSoley** and our **5th Grade Box Tops Counting Crew** for counting and mailing off almost \$1000 worth of Box Tops last Friday!

... **Cami Stephens** for all of her hard work in getting our student-run Yearbook Club up and running this year. Cami has also worked tirelessly to create Lead Mine's new student newspaper. The first issue will be printed soon and we can't wait to see this awesome student creation!

Carnival Committee Help Needed

The Carnival Committee needs your talent! Our annual carnival is planned for Saturday, April 26th. In addition to a Carnival Committee chair, we need help planning and organizing prizes, tickets, food, games, and volunteers. It is a great way to get involved, especially if you are new to Lead Mine. If you are interested, please contact Lacy Drummond at lacydrummond8@yahoo.com.

Staff Appreciation Committee

Consider joining our Staff Appreciation Committee at Lead Mine! The committee will be holding a brief planning meeting on Friday, Nov. 1st, at 8:30AM. This committee organizes hospitality events, the annual Staff Holiday Luncheon, and Staff Appreciation Week festivities in March. We welcome your involvement, so please join us! For more information, please contact Sarah Nguyen at the4nguyens@gmail.com.



Reflections Art Entries Due Wednesday, Oct. 30

Theme: "Believe, Dream, Inspire"

Please drop off all artwork entries in the Reflections box in the front office before 3:00 tomorrow. Remember to fill out and attach the entry form to the back of the artwork. Also, please include title and artist statement on the entry form. Thanks for supporting the arts!

For more information and forms visit: <http://leadminepta.weebly.com/reflections.html>

Special Sale! One Day Only!

There will be a special sale day for all Lead Mine branded items on Thursday, November 7th. Beginning with Pawsitive Assembly in the morning and continuing throughout the Book Fair Dessert night. You'll get to see the newest Lead Mine magnet and you will want to check out the low prices for all vintage t-shirts. Be sure to stop by and see all the awesome items to support our school. Don't miss out!

CHESS CLUB

Interested in learning Chess?

Do you know how to play Chess and need people to challenge you?

Come to room 300 on Thursday, October 31st 3:30-4:30 for an informational meeting about Chess Club and to play some chess. This is for those students that know how to play chess in addition to those students who want to learn. Meetings will be held every other Thursday. A calendar will be passed out at the meeting. If you are interested, but cannot attend the meeting, please email abrozell@wcpss.net.



SAVE THE DATE!!

Please join us for Lead Mine Elementary Family Day Out at the Movies!

"Free Birds"

November 11, 2013

Six Forks Cinema, 9500 Forum Drive

Mention Lead Mine at the ticket counter for any movie all day for a portion of the proceeds to be donated to the Lead Mine PTA!



Get ready for the Lead Mine Scholastic book fair!

Friday, November 1st – Friday, November 8th

The book fair begins this week! Even though it seems early, the holidays are fast approaching. *Books make great gifts!* Fill your holiday shopping lists while giving back to school. In addition to hundreds of fantastic kid's titles, there will also be great books for adults including cookbooks & adult novels.

The book fair will be open each school day, **Friday, November 1st – Friday, November 8th**, from **8:00am until 3:15pm**. Students can shop during any of these times, *as long as* they bring a parent, or have permission from their teacher *and* money.

***Lead Mine Books & Dessert Night** is scheduled for **Thursday, November 7th, 6:00 - 8:00pm**. The PTA will hold a bake sale in conjunction with the book fair. Bring the whole family for great sweets and books.

Parent supervision is required if your child is planning to participate in the Book Fair Dessert Night. Please plan to attend with your child, and do not drop him or her off to attend unsupervised. This is a PTA sponsored event, and school personnel, other parents, and volunteers will not be responsible for, or guarantee your child's safety.

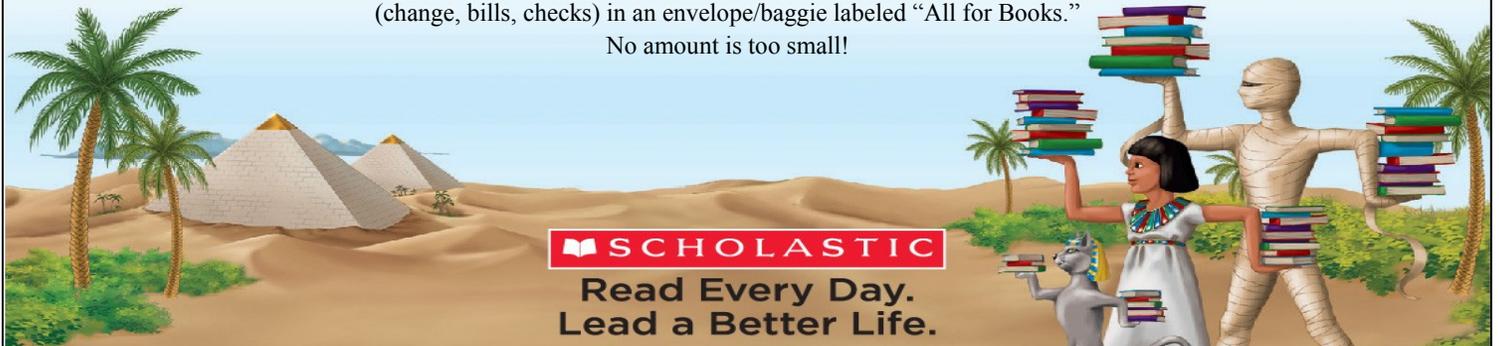
***Dining with Dad** will take place **November 4th – November 8th**. Invite your dad, granddad, uncle, brother or other special person to have a lunch date with you at the book fair. Dads should arrive during their student's lunch time. After eating, enjoy special access to the book fair. Bring your lunch or purchase it in the cafeteria. Enjoy your lunch in a special area in the media center, which will be set-aside just for you!

Gift Certificates, redeemable at this year's Scholastic book fair, will be available for advance purchase. This is a great opportunity for grandparents, and extended family members to be involved in the book fair. Information came home in your child's Tuesday folder last week. Refer to the Lead Mine website for instructions.

Volunteers: If you are interested in working at the book fair this year, please email Lacy Drummond (lacydrummond8@yahoo.com).

Preview titles & purchase books online at Lead Mine's special Scholastic book fair website. Lead Mine gets credit for online purchases made through our link.: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/leadmineelementaryschool>

All For Books is a fantastic opportunity for Lead Mine families to give back to children who are not able to purchase books. Send money (change, bills, checks) in an envelope/baggie labeled "All for Books."
No amount is too small!



Bake Sale Donations Needed

We need bake sale donations for book fair night on November 7th. We need 2 dozen, individually wrapped deserts, from each class. Some ideas might include cookies, brownies, bars, mini-cheesecakes, cake/pie slices on small plates (cover with plastic), etc. The baked goods need to be delivered on Thursday morning, Nov. 7th. If you can help, please contact your child's class parent or you can email Lorri Heilig at heilgirl@bellsouth.net.



Health and Wellness Article

Fostering Good Sportsmanship

Remember the saying "Actions speak louder than words"? That's especially true when it comes to teaching your kids the basics of good sportsmanship. Your behavior during practices and games will influence them more than any pep talk or lecture you give them.

Here are some suggestions on how to build sportsmanship in your kids:

- ⇒ Unless you're coaching your child's team, you need to remember that you're the parent. Shout words of encouragement, not directions, from the sidelines (there is a difference!)
- ⇒ If you are your kid's coach, don't expect too much out of your own child. Don't be harder on him or her than on anyone else on the team, but don't play favorites either
- ⇒ Keep your comments positive. Don't bad-mouth coaches, players, or game officials. If you have a serious concern about the way that games or practices are being conducted, or if you're upset about other parents' behavior, discuss it privately with the coach or with a league official.
- ⇒ After a competition, it's important not to dwell on who won or lost. Instead, try asking, "How did you feel you did during the game?" If your child feels weak at a particular skill, like throwing or catching, offer to work on it together before the next game.
- ⇒ Applaud good plays no matter who makes them.
- ⇒ Set a good example with your courteous behavior toward the parents of kids on the other team. Congratulate them when their kids win.
- ⇒ Remember that it's your kids, not you, who are playing. Don't push them into a sport because it's what you enjoyed. As kids get older, let them choose what sports they want to play and decide the level of commitment they want to make.
- ⇒ Keep your perspective. It's just a game. Even if the team loses every game of the season, it's unlikely to ruin your child's life or chances of success.
- ⇒ Look for examples of good sportsmanship in professional athletes and point them out to your kids. Talk about the bad examples, too, and why they upset you.
- ⇒ Finally, don't forget to have fun. Even if your child isn't the star, enjoy the game while you're thinking of all the benefits your child is gaining — new skills, new friends, and attitudes that can help all through life.



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Math At Home

What you'll need : Grocery store coupons and paper

What to do :

Involve the family in making a shopping list. Mark checks or tallies next to each item to indicate the number needed. This helps children learn to collect data.

Involve the children in predicting how much milk or juice will be needed for a week. You might decide to estimate by cups, explaining that 4 cups are equal to a quart and 4 quarts are equal to a gallon. Also, try estimating by liters. How does a liter compare to a gallon?

Choose coupons that match the items on the grocery list. Discuss how much money will be saved on various items by using coupons.

Website Source: <http://www2.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Math/mathhome.html>

Understanding New Vocabulary

Old Term	New Term	Video Source
Carrying	Regrouping: To arrange into a new group in order to be able to add	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CDZt93xBOW
Borrowing	Ungrouping: To break into a new group in order to be able to subtract	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7Ab2vzy_xk

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