



The Leopard Link



It's a Busy Week!



THURSDAY is our October **Family Night Out at Zaxby's** and **Goodberry's** at Harvest Oaks Plaza from 5:00-8:00PM.

Join us for dinner, dessert, or both, and support our school! And **FRIDAY** at 7:30AM is our 3rd Annual **Walk to School Day!** Join us for an energizing walk to school! Wear a Lead Mine t-shirt (or anything blue and yellow) and don't forget your Crazy Hair for spirit day! For more information, see page 2.



President's Perspective

Ahhh, Fall! Don't you just love the crisp feel to the air and the subtle change of color in the leaves? It is definitely one of my favorite times of the year. The back-to-school rush is behind us and we are settled into our routines. There is always so much to look forward to at this time of year! Decorating pumpkins for our awesome Fall Carnival is just one of many exciting events coming up.

Did you happen to notice that the **doors at the front of the school** have a nice fresh look? Good news! Principal Hill was able to convince the county to give our school some much needed TLC. The railings out back have also received a fresh coat of paint. It's so good to see these needs being addressed - without PTA money!

Thanks to each of you who participated in our **Go-Play-Save fundraiser**. At last count, we had sold 380 books. Unfortunately, this one fundraiser is never enough to meet all the needs of our school. In addition to the various student activities and our ongoing curriculum and teacher support, we have a few larger projects that need attention.

1. The **Always Dream Outdoor Learning Area** is being designed at this moment. We have grant money that will expire if we don't break ground by early next spring. We don't want to lose this grant money so we must raise some additional funds to complete this important project.
2. **Repairing the track** is our next big project. We are hoping to apply for some grants but there is a lot of competition out there for those funds, and they typically do not cover the full cost of the improvements needed. Some of them are actually "matching" grants for which you receive an amount of money equal to what you have already raised.
3. **Technology upgrades** are a need that will always be with us. The computers in our classrooms, media and technology centers are woefully outdated and many of them simply don't work.

With so many important projects underway and in our future, we have set an ambitious goal of \$10,000 for our **Leopard's Pride Fundraiser**. It is a No Fuss Fundraiser which means you don't have to sell a thing. 100% of what you give goes to the school and is tax deductible. Please talk to your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to see if they are willing to contribute. Also, please check with your employers. Many companies have a "matching funds" policy which would really help us to reach our goal. We will happily accept all donations - big or small. You'll find more information in your student's Tuesday folder. You can also find the information on our website and Facebook page.

Don't forget—after Walk to School Day on **Friday morning**, please stick around for the **PTA meeting at 8:30AM** where you will learn more about all the great plans for the upcoming year.

I hope you have a wonderful fall! I look forward to seeing you around the school.

B.J. Cady, PTA President
bjcady2@gmail.com or 919-614-4542

Calendar of Events

10/9

FNO @ Zaxby's & Goodberry's
5:00-8:00PM

10/10

Walk to School Day
PTA Meeting — 8:30AM
Crazy Hair School Spirit Day

10/14-10/16

CogAT Testing for 3rd Graders

10/17

Early Release - 12:30 PM
Family Day Out (FDO) @
Coconut Charlie's Bump n'
Bounce — 12:30-7:00PM

10/22

Fall Picture re-takes

10/25

Grounds Clean-Up Day

10/27

Backpack Buddies Food Drive

10/28

End of 1st Quarter

10/29

NO SCHOOL
Teacher Workday

11/1

Lead Mine Fall Carnival

11/4

Parent Chat — 8:30AM
1st Quarter Report Cards

11/6

Pawsitive Assemblies

11/7

Early Release — 12:30PM

11/11

NO SCHOOL
Veterans Day

11/13

Lead Mine Math Night
6-8PM

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 submission deadline for each issue is Monday at 3:30 p.m. for the following week's issue. Please e-mail newsletter submissions to theleopardlink@gmail.com. Thank you!! ~ *The Leopard Link* Editors: Tricia Lane and Sarah Nguyen

Principal: April Hill

Assistant Principal: Teresa Caswell

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Principal's Corner

Happy fall to all of you! We are thrilled that the year is going smoothly. We are working together to continue our focus on increasing student achievement and maintaining a positive learning environment. Thank you for your partnership and support of Lead Mine. Without you, it would be extremely difficult to reach our goals. Listed below is our **overall proficiency score in reading, math, and science and our growth data**. Both data pieces are important as we work to ensure that students are learning and growing. When we analyzed data over the last three years in each of these areas, we noted a drop in our scores. Therefore, we revised our school improvement plan to reflect the data results and created action steps to ensure that we make progress in achieving the highest level of achievement for all students. Our school improvement plan is posted on our school's website for your review.

Performance Composite in All Subjects

		2012-2013	2013-2014
Grades 3-5 Combined	% Proficient (Level 3, 4, 5)	68.2%	68.0%
	% College Ready (Level 4, 5)	57.3%	55.1%

2013-2014 Growth Data

	Grade 4	Grade 5
Reading	-1.1	-3.2
Math	0.7	-3.4
Science (5 th Grade Only)		-1.4

Please welcome our **new specialist**, Pamela Lawson, who will join our school team on October 9. She will be part of the specials rotation of art, music, PE, and media and will offer students engaging lessons that will integrate science, math, and technology. We have named this special: PROMISE IT (which stands for Promoting Rigorous Opportunities in Math Instruction and Science Education and Integrating Technology).

We hope that you joined our school counselor, Robin Phillips, for our first Parent Chat on Wednesday, October 1. These chats will be offered throughout the year so that we can establish an even greater partnership with you and discuss important topics that will help us support our goal of meeting the needs of all students. In an effort to also offer time for parents to chat with me, Ms. Phillips and I are working together to offer a **Parent Chat with the Principal on Nov. 4 from 8:30am to 9:10am**. This will be an opportunity for you to meet with me to chat about topics of your interest. It will be an open forum for you to ask me questions and get my insight on topics that you feel are relevant to student success.

The latest update with the hiring of our **Crossing Guard** is that someone has been identified to take this role. Surprisingly, the Crossing Guard will not be assigned to the area that faces our parking lot and across from the Lead Mine school sign. The Crossing Guard will be assigned to Foxwood Drive and Old Lead Mine Road. According to an officer, a guard cannot be assigned on our school's property (the area near the parking lot) because the guards are considered city employees and not WCPSS employees. Guards or WCPSS employees are not responsible for directing traffic. Due to safety and liability reasons for employees and the lack of a Crossing Guard at the entrance of our school, we must urge you to walk with your child to school. You may also want to consider the request of our PTA president and consider contacting the Police Department at 919-996-2073 to voice concerns about this issue.

Finally, October is **Disability History and Awareness Month**. We are encouraged to learn about the many abilities that people with disabilities possess, increase our awareness, and support the disability rights movement. The North Carolina General Assembly designated this month as Disability History and Awareness month in 2007. We hope that that this recognition will help enrich our lives, community, state, nation, and world.

Thank you for your attention to these notes. May you find all of the additional information in this *Leopard Link* helpful as we work to provide as much communication as possible.

Ms. April Hill, Principal
ahill1@wcpss.net



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...Lorri Heilig, the PTA Cultural Arts chairperson, for organizing the "Didgeridoo: Down Under" event last Tuesday! Staff and students alike enjoyed the performance!

...the 20 parents who attended the first Parent Chat on Anxiety with our school counselor, Robin Phillips. Parent Chats will continue throughout the year. The next one will be with Principal Hill on Tuesday, Nov. 4 from 8:30-9:10 in the cafeteria. Ms. Hill be available to talk with parents about school-related topics.

THIS FRIDAY is



THIS FRIDAY, October 10th, is Walk to School Day! Join Leo the Leopard, your friends, and some of our wonderful teachers, as we start the school day off right by exercising our way to Lead Mine! This is our third annual Walk to School Day and we hope you will join your child and participate!

Here are a few helpful reminders about the event:

- Plan to meet in the parking lot of Paverstone Drive and Old Lead Mine Rd. at 7:30 a.m. Sonitrol Security and Dr. Maya Martin, DDS, have graciously allowed us to park in the spaces designated for their businesses. Please look for the spots marked with the Walk to School Day logo.
- Wear a Lead Mine t-shirt or school colors (blue and yellow), and help us make a colorful statement for Lead Mine.
- Wear your walking shoes and a smile!

IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY for ALL children involved, students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for our walk to school. Please do not drop your child off to walk alone.

Questions? Contact Krista Brinckek at kbrinckek@gmail.com



Shop Online at Amazon.com and Help Lead Mine!

Do you frequently shop online at Amazon.com? If so, consider helping Lead Mine while doing your online shopping. Every time you make a purchase on their site, Amazon will donate a portion of the sale on eligible items to our school. Simply go to smile.amazon.com and choose "Lead Mine" before shopping, or follow this link: (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-1716988>). It's an easy way to help our school earn a little extra money!



WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Magnet & Early College Fair

Saturday, November 1st

Expand your knowledge about educational options within WCPSS at the school system's annual Magnet & Early College Fair on Sat., Nov. 1st, from 9AM-12 noon at Southeast Raleigh High School. Representatives from each K-12 magnet school as well as early college schools will be in attendance to visit with parents and answer questions.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- If you signed up to receive the **Leopard Link** via e-mail, you should now be receiving it in your inbox on Tuesday mornings. If you did not get it, or if you would like to help us save paper by signing up, please e-mail Bonnie Bendell at bonniebendell@hotmail.com.
- **4th Grade Parents**, the recorders have arrived! Your student can purchase a recorder at the school store on Tuesday & Friday morning from 8:00 - 8:30AM. The recorder and the book are sold as a set for \$7.
- **Register or re-register to be a volunteer.** Daily registration in the Media Center will end **October 31**. Volunteer clearance is not a quick process, so don't wait until the last minute if you are planning to chaperone an upcoming field trip or help in your child's class this year.
- Are you planning to attend the **NC State Fair** October 16-26? Purchase your tickets online in advance using Lead Mine's school code **470** and our school will receive a portion of the proceeds! Use this link to purchase your tickets today: https://www.etix.com/ticket/online/performanceSearch.jsp?performance_id=1833322&cobrand=ncstatefair14-wakecounty.
- The 5th grade needs **newspapers for an art project** they will be doing in December. A recycling bin is located in Ms. Zelliche's classroom for any contributions you may have. Newsprint is needed, but no ads, please.
- If your child is planning to participate in the **Reflections Art Program**, please return your intent form. All artwork must be submitted by October 27, 2014. If you need an extra copy, you can download one from last week's *Leopard Link* here: http://leadminepta.weebly.com/uploads/1/6/4/5/16452972/ll_9-30-2014_final.pdf.
- Don't forget to save those **Box Tops for Education!** Our Box Tops volunteer will be mailing in our first period collection soon, so the submission deadline is **October 24th**. Please bring your Box Tops to school and drop them in the collection bin in the front lobby. Thanks for participating in this easy way to help our PTA earn money for Lead Mine!



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Literacy Corner

Great ideas to support & promote literacy at home

From Mrs. Stacey Daniels, M.Ed
K-5 Literacy Coach/Tier II Literacy Teacher/mCLASS Leader

Make a Book! Give your child some paper and markers or crayons. Invite her to write a story about a favorite activity, for example, playing at the park. First, talk with her about what she did. "First, you played baseball with your friends. Then, we looked at trees and collected leaves." As she writes, help her put each activity in the story. Use words like **begin** and **end**. "How will you *begin* the story?" When she is finished, encourage her to number the pages and decorate the cover. Help her to write her name on the cover using the words *author* and *illustrator*.



Parenting Quick Tips

Provided by the Lead Mine Positive Behavior Interventions Support (PBIS) Team



Power Struggles...No One Wins! Most children engage parents in power struggles at one time or another, but they commonly end up being "no-win" situations as parent and child vie for power. The parents feel angry, drained, helpless and wondering if they are the only parents who can't control their child. The kids usually feel like they have succeeded in gaining attention, manipulated the parent and if they put up a big enough battle, wear the parent down.

Parents can avoid power struggles by not allowing themselves to get in an argument and responding calmly and firmly. Rules and consequences should be consistent and enforced. "When...then" is a good phrase to use. "**When** you finish your homework, **then** you can watch TV." Parents need time to make decisions and it's okay to say, "I'll think about this and let you know my decision." Remember, YOU are the adult in charge.

Sources: *Raising Responsible Children* by Joe Tooley and *Practical Parent Education*

October Staff Birthdays!

Don't forget to wish these awesome staff members a Happy Birthday!

Peggy Dousharm
October 28



Carol Milstead
October 29

Save the Date for the Lead Mine Children's Holiday Shoppe! December 8-11

The Lead Mine PTA will be hosting a Children's Holiday Shoppe Dec. 8-11. There will be a wide variety of small trinkets and gifts priced just right to fit any child's pocket-book and free gift wrapping! Let your little gift-givers know so they can start saving their pennies and nickels. It's a great opportunity for our kids to enjoy the gift of giving to others. Look for more information in November.



Happy Fall, Y'all!

The ID Team is selling raffle tickets to benefit their **Always Dream Outdoor Learning Center**. They are raffling off a **50+ pound pumpkin!** Imagine the envy of all your neighbors with THAT decorating your doorstep!

Tickets sell for **\$1.00** and can be purchased through your child's classroom teacher or from Ms. Stephens in the front office. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn on Leopard Live the morning of **Friday, Oct. 17**.

Let's show the ID Team our support for their adaptive playground dream. Buy your raffle tickets today!

