



The Leopard Link



Principals Corner

Anyone who has spent any time at all in the Lead Mine office knows what a friendly and helpful office staff we have. Cindy Hendren does a nice job as receptionist despite still being a relative newcomer to the position after years at Lead Mine as a media center assistant. Laurence Henrion is our data manager extraordinaire who has been working at Lead Mine since 1998 when she started as a teacher assistant. Mary Beth Copeland is starting her sixth year as the lead secretary at Lead Mine after working at Magellan and also running her own business. On November 27th Ms. Henrion and Ms. Copeland were recognized in a ceremony at the WCPSS board room as district Employees of Excellence. Despite the cold, rainy night approximately twenty Lead Mine staff members showed up to show their support for these two amazing women. An excerpt from my nomination letter below was read at the ceremony.

I am nominating the office team of Mary Beth Copeland and Laurence Henrion for the employee excellence award because they define what employee excellence is all about. While they have their own specific jobs to do they go beyond that to do whatever is necessary to keep the school running smoothly. Ms. Copeland, as lead secretary, is an extraordinary bookkeeper and could easily run her own business - in fact she has. She also has superior people skills. Ms. Copeland is always pleasant and shows incredible patience in dealing with the public and staff alike. Ms. Henrion has been our data manager for years and does a tremendous job. She can't tolerate anything done half-heartedly and so takes personal responsibility for all of our cum folders, which makes her a hero with our teachers. She also has great people skills and is upbeat with everyone. These are both women who other people in the district call to find out what they should be doing when they have questions about procedures. In addition to being outstanding at their own jobs they also do an amazing job of helping wherever else they may be needed. No one has to ask them. They just see what needs to be done and act on it. They will do cafeteria duty when TA's are absent, carpool duty in the pouring rain, in addition to assisting with students getting birthday ribbons or getting sick in the health room. In 37 years of education, in four different states, I have never seen a dynamic duo like these two incredible women. Any school would be lucky to have one of them working there. Having both of them at Lead Mine is a true blessing.

I always have a hard time when people ask me what makes Lead Mine so successful, because success depends on so many different things. So much has to come together to create a positive environment for learning. That includes a lot of hard work by teachers, assistants, specialists, custodians, office staff, and parents. Ms. Hendren, Ms. Copeland and Ms. Henrion play a big role in fostering that positive environment. *Gary Baird, Principal*

Don't Forget
to show your school
spirit by wearing your
crazy socks on Friday!

Calendar

- 12/7**
Crazy Sock Spirit Day
Cultural Arts Presentation
- 12/11**
Staff Holiday Luncheon
- 12/14**
Dinner & a Movie
(5:30 dinner, 6:30 movie)
1st Grade Music Performance
6:20PM
- 12/21**
Early Release – 12:30 PM
- 12/24-1/1/13**
Winter Break
- 1/2**
School Resumes
- 1/11**
Sports Team Spirit Day
- 1/12**
Media Center Makeover 9AM
Volunteers Needed!
- 1/15**
General Membership PTA Meeting
7-8PM
- 1/17**
2nd grade Music Performance
6:30pm Multipurpose Rm.
- 1/18**
End of 2nd Quarter
- 1/21**
NO SCHOOL MLK Day
- 1/22**
NO SCHOOL– Teacher workday

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



...Many thanks to Sandy O'Neill for adding a little curb appeal by planting the pansies in the two pots in front of Lead Mine and around the sign by Old Lead Mine Road! Thanks!

Policy Change: School Tardiness



After meeting with the Lead Mine attendance committee, it was decided to make a change in our tardy procedures to bring us more in line with what is happening with most other schools in the district. Effective December 10th, any carpool students arriving after 8:30 will need to be checked in by their parents/guardians at the front desk. Some of you already do this and we appreciate it. So, after 8:30 you cannot just drop your child at the curb. You will need to walk them into the office. The main goal is to have every child in their homeroom seat and ready to learn by 8:30 AM. So if tardiness has been a problem please adjust your morning schedule so you are able to leave home a few minutes earlier. Remember, the children may enter the building after the 8:00 AM bell. Thanks for your cooperation. Gary Baird

Upcoming Wake County School Registration Information:

The Wake Young Men's and Women's Leadership Academies are currently accepting applications. Applications can be found on their respective websites (<http://girls.wakeacademy.org/> or <http://youngmen.wakeacademy.org/> the deadline for applications is 5:00pm on DECEMBER 3rd for rising 6th graders.

Lead Mine Staff Holiday Luncheon

*Tuesday, Dec. 11
11:00-2:00 PM*

Plans are underway for the annual Staff Holiday Luncheon. The event is a real treat for our staff, as they get to travel off-campus to enjoy an hour-long lunch with colleagues! Although many parents have already volunteered to assist with classroom coverage, we are still in need of registered volunteers to help in some classrooms. Please check the sign up link below to see if your child's classroom has volunteers. If you have a flexible work schedule, if you can get away over your lunch hour, or if you have extra time that day, PLEASE consider helping out in this capacity. The link to the sign up is:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COF44AAA829A02-classroom> . Please note that **all parents who volunteer must have approved volunteer clearance from WCPSS.**

Registration is open on Mondays only now in the Media Center, so if you need to take care of that, please do so next Monday.



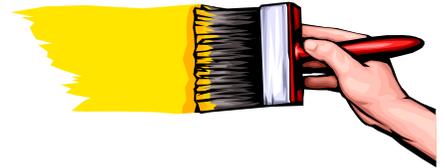


Cookie Dough is Coming!!!

The Classic Creations cookie dough will be delivered Wednesday, December 5. Some families had multiple cookie dough orders and we will not be able to send those home with your child. Please make arrangements to pick them up on Wednesday after 12:00pm. There is a shelf life to the cookie dough and they will need to be delivered.

If you have any questions, please email: bethldunn@gmail.com

Save the Date! Extreme Makeover: Media Center Saturday, January 12, 2013 9:00 AM



The colors will POP! There's BIG CHANGE in store! It's going to be totally EXTREME! Mark your calendar and get your painting clothes ready! Come get your DIY on and join us **Saturday, January 12, at 9AM** to help with some easy home improvement tasks in the Media Center. Come for an hour or two and lend a hand. We hope to see you there!

Clear those shelves...

Several Lead Mine teachers are in need of old, gently used books to build their classroom libraries.

Please bring in any good condition books your children have outgrown. A collection bin will be placed in the lobby. All books will be sorted and distributed to the age appropriate classes. Thanks!

Questions please contact Lorri Heilig at heiligirl@bellsouth.net



Angel Tree Update!

The Angel Board is empty! Oh my gosh! I am always humbled by the amount of support that we have from both staff and families at Lead Mine. It is wonderful! Thanks to everyone who is sponsoring one of our angels. Whitney Bennett, School Counselor



For families who have angels on our Angel Tree: Items will be ready for pick-up on Monday, December 17th - Friday, December 21st between the hours of 8-4pm. Please come to the office with a picture ID to claim your items. You will sign your items out with the office staff. If you plan to send a friend or someone else to pick up the items, please send a note with them and have your friend bring their picture ID.

Save the date: Friday, December 14

Dinner and a Movie at Lead Mine is scheduled for Friday, December 14. The 1st grade will also be presenting a winter musical performance. Mark your calendars for a fun evening out! Chick Fil A sandwiches and nuggets will be available for purchase. Order forms will come home soon!



Health and Wellness Feature

Helping Kids Reduce Stress

- Eat healthy. A healthy body is better able to withstand stress-induced illness. Schedule regular meals and snack times. Don't allow your child to skip meals.
- Vigorous exercise is a good stress reliever. Just like adults, kids need time to unwind. If your kids are bound to video games, television, or a computer, get them on their feet by providing and encouraging the use of active toys like balls, punch bags, and bikes. If your child presently appears to be stressed, make a point of playing with them. Time spent with your kids is a great vehicle for getting them to open up the lines of communication.
- Be clear in setting rules and consistent with discipline. Kids live in a "black and white" world. Blurred guidelines and inconsistencies are even more confusing for them than they are for adults.
- Gentle physical touch is a great healer. Sometimes a hug is worth more than a thousand words. Another physical stress reliever can be a gentle massage of your child's neck and shoulders. Like you, your kids can also get knotted up with stress!
- Learn to be a good listener. When your child wants to talk about his or her problems, don't criticize. In addition, it isn't always necessary to give advice. Sometimes kids just need to talk. Encourage them with open-ended questions like, "So what happened next?" "How do you feel about that?"
- Teach your kids that everyone (including you) makes mistakes. A good start is admitting your mistakes to your children with an "I'm sorry" or "My mistake" when you goof-up. If the situation warrants, use personal examples of stressful situations you encountered during your childhood. Even if you were unsuccessful in dealing with your situation, you'll teach your kids that you can learn from and even laugh at your own mistakes.

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