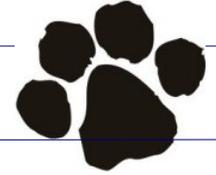




# The Leopard Link



## Principal's Corner



After such a *long* cold winter we really are going to appreciate a nice warm spring this year.....please, Mr. Weatherman! I hope all of you had a chance to relax with your families last week, whether you were cruising the Caribbean or just staying home and recharging your batteries on the living room couch. Nature seems to wake up in the spring and the same might be said for Lead Mine. We'll try our hand at taming nature a bit this Saturday when the PTA hosts their annual, spring Grounds Day. If you can work for 30 minutes or for three hours we would love to have your help sprucing up the school grounds. We are fortunate to have such a beautiful setting for our campus but it does take some effort to keep it looking so nice.

This is really the first opportunity I've had to thank all of you for your efforts in supporting the staff during Staff Appreciation Week in March. It means so much to the staff to know that their hours of hard work are recognized and appreciated. I don't think anyone can fully understand everything a teacher does in a single day until they have walked a mile in their shoes. What I love about Staff Appreciation Week is that it is circular. While the parents show their appreciation of the staff, it also reminds the staff of how lucky we are to have such great PTA support.

Report cards will go home next Tuesday followed by our Pawsitive Assembly on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup>. It is always so much fun to recognize the accomplishments of our awesome students. While spring is here it is not a good time for our students to come down with a case of spring fever. In many ways this is the most important part of the school year as students head down the homestretch in preparing for all the end of year assessments. All of the data we have gathered this school year indicates that our students are showing good growth. Since the bar was set much higher last year to achieve proficiency at each grade level we have worked hard to try to meet those new standards. Last year we had a significant drop off in our proficiency scores, along with the rest of the state, since it was the first time we had actually seen the new test. This year we have increased the rigor in the classroom so that, hopefully, in addition good student growth we will also see significant increases in our proficiency scores. None of this happens without the students, teachers and parents all working together. So have fun in the sunshine this spring, but don't forget there is still of work to do before those end of year tests. I'm excited about all that lies ahead for this final quarter of the year. Thanks, as always, for all of your support. Principal, Gary Baird

### Family Night Out at Five Guys & Yogurt Mountain Tonight!

Double the pleasure, double the fun!  
Our April FNO is TONIGHT at Five  
Guys & Yogurt Mountain on  
Creedmoor Road. Lend your  
support to Lead Mine by  
participating in one or both!



## Calendar

### April

**4/8**Cultural Arts Assembly  
Storyteller Antonio Rocha

K -2 @ 8:45

3-5th @ 9:45

FNO @ Five Guys &  
Yogurt Mountain**4/8-4/9**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Artist-in-Residence –  
Leni Newell**4/9-4/18**Food Drive to support Back Pack  
Buddies Program**4/11**Patriotic/Red, White & Blue  
Spirit Day**4/12**

Grounds Clean Up Day – 9AM-12PM

**4/15**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter report cards**4/15-16**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Artist-in-Residence (contd.)**4/17**Pawsitive Assembly \***date change**  
PTA Meeting 7:30PM \***date change****4/18**

Holiday– No School

**4/26**

Spring Carnival 12-4PM

## Grounds Day April 12<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 12pm Please Join Us!

We need all hands on deck for our spring clean-up. We'll be adding some new plants, tidying up the outdoor classroom and generally sprucing up around the place. We'll provide snacks and drinks. If you have any questions please contact

B.J. Cady [lilbit@nc.rr.com](mailto:lilbit@nc.rr.com) or Krista Brinckek [rosequartz66@hotmail.com](mailto:rosequartz66@hotmail.com)



**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



...**Bonnie Bendell** and **Sharon Pratto** for taking care of all the details to organize our FNO's at Panera Bread in March and Five Guys/Yogurt Mountain tonight.

...the **parent volunteers** who provided help for Spring Picture Day on March 26.



**Step Right Up for the  
Lead Mine Spring Carnival!  
Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 12-4PM**



Lead Mine's Spring Carnival is just a few weeks away on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>! Join us for a fun afternoon of games, inflatables, prizes, face painting, a silent auction and \$1 raffles, and some tasty food! As if that wasn't enough fun, pop in and see students performing in the Lead Mine Band (1-1:45) and Jump Rope Team (3:15-3:45), and consider taking part in the Tech Run out on the track to help raise money for technology in the Media Center (2:00-3:00). Avoid the lines by sending in the order form below along with your payment to pre-order food and game tickets/unlimited play wristbands. Also, look for more information on the Tech Run in your child's folder today. The Spring Carnival is always BIG fun, so don't miss it!

**Spring Carnival : Saturday, April 26th the ID Program will have a booth to raise funds for the "Always Dream" adaptive playground**

There will be a silent auction with fabulous items, including gift cards and gift baskets. There have been many generous donations from local businesses such as: an Angus Barn gift card and gift basket valued at \$150; Freshwater pearl necklace from Ora Jewelers valued at \$200; Candles from Diamond Candles valued at \$25 each; a Thirty-One bag valued at \$80; Facials, haircut and massage from Tanas Hair Salon valued at \$100; a 42nd St. Oyster Bar gift card for \$50, Jason Michael Carroll CD and two autographed photos, Hill Ridge Farm Family 4 pack , and Gotcha Paintball passes.

The booth will also be serving fresh, homemade french fries (plain or with cheese), cotton candy, blow pops, and a variety of sodas. Please come out for a fun filled day and support a great fundraiser!

**Lead Mine Spring Carnival  
Ticket Pre-order Form**

Our Spring Carnival is **Saturday, April 26** from **12-4PM!** In order to make planning easier, we are offering a pre-order option for game ticket cards and meals. While we will have a few tacos on hand the day of the carnival, it is highly recommended that you **PRE-ORDER** to guarantee your meal choices. **Food will be served from 12:30 – 2:30 only** on the day of the carnival. Meals with one taco are \$5 and include: chicken or beef soft taco, chips, and a drink. Meals with two tacos are \$7.50 with chips and drink. Vegetarian Nachos are also \$7.50 with drink. Game ticket cards are available for \$5 and include 20 game punches (25 cents per game). This year we are also selling unlimited game play wristbands for \$10 each.

**Meal Tickets (includes tortilla chips and drink)**

# 1 chicken taco meals x \$5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
# 1 beef taco meals x \$5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
# 1 Nachos meals (vegetarian) x \$7.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

# 2 chicken taco meals x \$7.50 = \_\_\_\_\_  
# 2 beef taco meals x \$7.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Game Tickets**

# of game cards x \$5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
# of unlimited game play wristbands x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the pre-order form with payment to your child's teacher by **Tuesday, April 22.**  
**All checks should be made payable to the Lead Mine PTA. There will be a \$25 charge for all returned checks.**



## Date Changes!

The recent inclement weather days have wreaked havoc on everyone's calendar! There are a few date changes we want to make you aware of on the school and PTA calendars. April 17<sup>th</sup> is going to be a busy day! The **Pawsitive Assemblies** for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter have been rescheduled for Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. With the PBIS Parent Night being planned for that evening as well, we will be rescheduling our **April PTA meeting** for that night. The PTA meeting will take place in the Media Center at 7:30PM. EVERYONE is welcome and encouraged to join us!

## LEAD MINE ELEMENTARY FOOD DRIVE



The annual Lead Mine Food Drive will be held on **April 9<sup>th</sup> through April 18<sup>th</sup>**. It is a wonderful tradition started by the Helping Hands Mentor Program. The program is led by Mr. Ray Douglas and the "fabulous five" fifth grade boys: Joshua Boone, Joshua Whitaker, Jalen Harris, Jalen McDonald and Shimor Gardner. This year the food collected will be donated to North Raleigh Ministries to support Interfaith Ministries Back Pack Buddies Program, which benefits students all over the Wake County area. The food is to be delivered to the classrooms and the "fabulous five" will tally up how much is brought in from each classroom and will collect the food. The class that collects the most food will win a pizza party! Please help us in our efforts to assist in this wonderful program! Here is the list of specific food items that need to be collected for the food drive:

**CANNED VEGETABLES    CHEF BOYARDEE CANS    CAMPBELLS CHUNKY SOUPS  
BOXED MAC AND CHEESE    SHELF STABLE MILKS    100% FRUIT JUICES    FRUIT  
CUPS    HEALTHY SNACKS    BOXED CRACKERS    CANNED MEATS    BOXED  
MEALS    BOXED PASTA    NOODLES    PEANUT BUTTER    BREAKFAST BARS**



## Lead Mine Band Registration is Open!

If your child is interested in learning to play flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or percussion, consider joining Lead Mine's after-school band! All rising 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are welcome to join. For more information or to register for next year's band, please visit our website at <http://www.leadmineband.com>.

## Literacy Corner: Tips for Parents of Struggling Readers

**R**eading is based on 5 factors: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Learn more to target where your child is struggling.

**E**ncourage kids to read anything—even if it isn't a book. Magazines, comics, or websites can engage kids.

**A**sk the teacher for work that is at your child's developmental level if the homework is consistently too hard.

**D**on't say no to your young reader. If your child is excited to read about dinosaurs don't push him/her to read something else.

**I**ncrease motivation by making connections to the real world, like writing a letter to Grandma or a favorite singer.

**N**ever concentrate solely on what is wrong. Focus on what your child CAN do. Build on your child's strengths.

**G**enerate a positive environment, keep the mood light, and keep your eyes on the goal of enjoying reading.

## Dollar Dice Game

### **You will need:**

- coins (real or plastic)
- a die

### **How to play:**

The object of the game is to get exactly one dollar.

Player 1 rolls the die. You will get to take a coin after you roll. Use the chart at the bottom of this page to see which coin you get to take. For example, if player 1 rolls a two, they would get a nickel. Then, player 2 rolls and takes their coin.

Players will take turns until someone gets exactly a dollar.

If the player rolls an amount that would bring their total to an amount greater than one dollar, then they would take no coins that turn. For example: Player 2 has 98 cents and then rolls a four. Player two would not take any coins that turn.

### **If you roll... You get to take a...**

<b>1</b>	<b>penny</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>nickel</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>dime</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>quarter</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>any coin</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>lose turn</b>

### Website Source:

[www.superteacherworksheets.com](http://www.superteacherworksheets.com)