

Long Hill Elementary School Newsletter

June 2018

ANDREA D'AIUTO, PRINCIPAL
JAMIE WEBER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

A Message from the Principal

May was an exciting month for the LHS community. Mrs. Keene, our Math Specialist, was honored as Shelton's May Innovative Teacher at the BOE meeting. Ms. Manus, our Art teacher, was named CAEA's 2018 Special Education Art Educator Award. Bella Blanchet, a third grade student, won second place in the Youth Speaks Out Contest. Congrats to our third grade class who scored in the top 10 nationally for the third WordMasters Challenge.

We have had such a successful school year due to the collaborative partnership between students, staff, and parents. I am so proud of all our students as they displayed hard work, perseverance, and effort throughout the school year. LHS is an incredible school, filled with so many wonderful children who never cease to amaze me.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our PTO and the executive board. Without all their hard work and dedication, we would not have been able to have such a fantastic and successful school year.

It seems like it was just yesterday that I was welcoming our students on our first day in September. As I reflect on my first year as principal, it makes me realize how fortunate we are at Long Hill School. Thank you for making my first year as principal a great year. I look forward to next year! To all our families leaving LHS and moving to 5th grade at Perry Hill School, I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors. You will be missed!

Have a happy, safe, and relaxing summer break!



Our mascot,
Leo the Leopard

Upcoming Events

- 🐾 Thursday, June 7 – 3rd grade (Frank's & McGowan's classes) field trip
- 🐾 Thursday, June 7 – 4th grade field trip
- 🐾 Friday, June 8 – 3rd grade (Persico's & Keller's classes) field trip
- 🐾 Friday, June 8 – 4th grade Chorus visit to Wesley Heights
- 🐾 Friday, June 8 – PTO Year-end Social 6:00-7:30pm
- 🐾 Wednesday, June 13 – Kindergarten Step-up 10:00am
- 🐾 Thursday, June 14 – 1st grade field trip
- 🐾 Friday, June 15 – 2nd grade year-end activity 10:00am
- 🐾 Monday, June 18 – 3rd grade year-end activity 12:45pm
- 🐾 Monday, June 18-Friday, June 22 – Early Dismissal Days at 1:50pm
- 🐾 Thursday, June 21 – 4th grade Step-up 10:15am
- 🐾 Friday, June 22 – Last Day of School & PTO provided pizza lunch



Kindergarten News



We have been having a great time in Math learning about 2D and 3D shapes and how to describe them. We have also enjoyed writing our opinions on a variety of topics and giving supporting reasons why. In Reading, we are working on our last unit which focuses on building our comprehension strategies for fiction books. The most exciting thing we did this month was when we became engineers and learned about the engineer design

process to create and improve our own play dough! phonetically to help us with reading and writing. In Math, we have been decomposing numbers 11-20, and learning all about place value. We learned the differences between living and non-living things. We also learned all about Earth Day and planted some flowers to learn about the plant life cycle!

First Grade News

As first graders approach the end of the school year, they continue to work hard in our last units of study. In Reading, we are back to fiction. Students have been learning about character traits. This unit has given students the opportunity to take a deeper look at characters and their outside (physical) and inside (personality) traits. In Math, first graders have been exploring shapes. They have been working with pattern blocks to name defining and non-defining attributes of different shapes. The students have also been finding different ways to create the same

shape. In our realistic fiction writing unit, students have continued to develop their stories by creating a problem that their character will go through along with a solution to solve their problem. Our Painted Lady Butterflies have filled our time in Science. First graders have enjoyed learning about the life cycle of butterflies and seeing the metamorphosis that happened right before our eyes! In the month of June we have our first grade celebration and our final field trip to the Shelton Police Station to look forward to!



Follow us on Twitter

Mrs. D'Aiuto:
@DAiutoAndrea

Mrs. Weber:
@JWeberAP

Second Grade News

Wow!! It's the end of the year already! We still are working hard though! In Math, we wrapped up our Geometry unit and it's on to Fractions! We read and analyzed Poetry in Reader's Workshop. It was fun to listen to the students' interpretations of each poem. We also visited poetry4kids.com. The kids loved it! Now we are celebrating our favorite books with many different projects. In Writer's Workshop, we finished our opinion writing unit. We

are moving on to poetry writing. We can't wait to see how creative they are! Our pea seeds have sprouted in Science! We are keeping a journal to record our results. We will be sending our plants home soon! We will be sad to see the Second Graders go, but we also know they are well prepared and ready for Third Grade!!



Third Grade News

Reading: The focus for reading has returned to nonfiction. Students are reading different types of nonfiction texts. The children will notice what is the same/different about these texts. This allows students to see how different sources provide different information on the same topic. They are also identifying the main idea of the text and the key details that help them better understand what they are reading.

Writing: The children are really enjoying immersing themselves in Fairy Tales! They are writing their own Fairy Tale by making adaptations to a well-known story. This is a great unit for letting our imaginations run wild.

Fourth Grade News

In Reading, we are focusing on our dress-up biography project within our non-fiction research unit. Students are researching a person of their choice then creating interview questions that someone might ask the person. As a culminating event the students will work with a partner to stage an actual interview. In Writing, we are finishing up a fantasy narrative about an adventure someone takes in the future. Our last project will be a literary essay. We finished our unit of measurement in Math and will now finish the year with a geometry unit. The unit will cover deeper topics like measuring actual angles and

Math: The children are in the middle of our geometry and perimeter unit. The BIG question for this unit is "How can I use knowledge of shapes, area and perimeter to solve real world problems?" Students are categorizing polygons based on their attributes, such as parallel lines, number of sides and number of angles. Students are also using this information to solve real world and mathematical problems involving perimeters of polygons, including finding the perimeter when given the side lengths, finding the length of an unknown side, and drawing rectangles with the same perimeter and different areas. Addition and multiplication facts are used in this unit, and mastery of facts is extremely important.

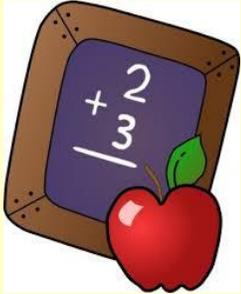
calculating the angles that make up certain shapes. We wrapped up Invention Convention in Science and will now investigate magnetism. Our students were very excited to share their inventions with judges and family members. Most classes have finished or are close to finishing region four of the United States and will complete the year with our final region.



- *Have your child continue to read daily. Complete your summer reading bookmark!*
- *Visit museums, zoos, beaches, and other exciting places – make learning about new things fun!*
- *Have your child play outside daily.*
- *Visit the local library.*
- *Practice math facts and play math games.*
- *Spend family time together playing board games.*



News from the Math Specialist, Mrs. Keene



Over the summer there will be a math challenge for students to participate in. A student entering 1st or 2nd grade will be given a Splash Math account to use. Students entering 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade will go on IXL. Both IXL and Splash Math can be accessed through the Shelton Public Schools website and by using an app. Students will get more information about the math challenge and log on information. As students go on the program they are to complete the skills they need to work on. At the start of the 2018-2019 school year students will return their skill completed sheet signed by their parents to their teacher. Students who participate will earn a reward at the start of the school year.

Reading News from Mrs. Mulligan and Mrs. Saas

Summer is a wonderful time for children to read what they enjoy, learn new things and have fun!

Summer reading is an important way to prevent children from losing too much ground over the summer. Research shows that summer reading can make a significant difference in a student's overall academic achievement.

As a parent, there are a number of things you can do to encourage and support your child to continue to develop strong reading and writing skills over the summer.



- *Make time for reading.* Every day set aside a quiet time for reading.
- *Keep different types of reading materials at home.* To stimulate your child's excitement for reading keep various reading materials around such as newspapers, magazines, brochures and comic books. Keep fun things available as well, such as games, puzzles, or word searches. This will increase your child's access to printed material.
- *Beat boredom with books.* Help your child find interesting books to read, especially on rainy days! This can include fun facts books, cookbooks and arts and crafts books.
- *Read aloud every day.* Try to find time to read aloud every day even to older children. Reading aloud benefits all children especially those who are struggling readers or those who do not particularly enjoy reading.
- *Encourage children to learn new words.* You should introduce new words to your children every day.
- *Write away!* Try to keep writing materials around for your children to use. Encourage them to write letters or post cards to friends or keep a daily journal.
- *Visit the public library.* Take advantage of the resources and activities that are provided at the library.

Remember all of these activities will reinforce Long Hill School's summer reading incentive. Your child received a bookmark to log their books read over the summer. Our theme this year is Libraries Rock! We will celebrate with all students who participate in September. We look forward to 100% participation this summer!

Friendly Reminders

- 🐾 Our last day of school is Friday, June 22. Monday, June 18-Friday, June 22 are early dismissal days (1:50pm) for students.
- 🐾 Please have your child check the lost and found - we have a collection of various items including clothing, water bottles, and lunch boxes. All items not claimed will be donated to a local charity at the end of the school year.
- 🐾 All library books must be returned or fines paid prior to the last day of school. Report cards will not be issued to students who have outstanding books or fines.
- 🐾 Student supply lists for next school year will be provided for each grade level at the end of this school year.
- 🐾 All LHS families will receive a summer informational packet in early/mid August. This packet will include school policies and procedures, important back to school information and dates, and PTO information.

From the PTO

As another school year comes to a close, we would like to take the time to thank all of our dedicated parents and PTO members who have helped us to fundraise, who have volunteered their time and donated goods and services, and who have attended our PTO meetings. Your support is vital to our organization's success!

We have accomplished a lot this year! We enhanced our children's experience at LHS through cultural arts programs, social events, and our newly initiated teacher mini-grant program, just to name a few. Through fundraising and restaurant nights, we raised almost \$10,000! With these funds we were able to award multiple teachers and grade levels with supplies through the mini-grant program. We are also very excited to have purchased 3 new water fountains, two of which have water bottle filling stations, and these will be installed this summer. In addition, we bought a 40 ft storage container for the school to use for storage rather than the stage, which can now be utilized in the future for school functions and concerts.

A very special thank you to Kelly Boone and Samantha Libby as their time at LHS has come to an end with their children moving up to Perry Hill. We appreciate your commitment to our PTO over the last 5 years. You have both been incredible assets to our organization.

If anyone has interest in joining our PTO and finding a way to play a larger role in your child's education, please reach out to us at PTOlonghill@gmail.com. We have many opportunities for parents to chair an event or program. We have a place for everyone no matter how small or large your commitment can be.

And lastly, CONGRATULATIONS to our new Executive Board for the 2018/2019 school year:

Melissa Rich, President
Jennifer Severs, Vice President
Jennifer Sanborn, Treasurer
Jamie Stasko, Secretary

Have a fun and relaxing summer, and we will see everyone in September!

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School Hours:

Regular Day: 9:00am – 3:45pm

Early Dismissal: 9:00am - 1:50pm

Delayed Opening: 11:00am – 3:45pm