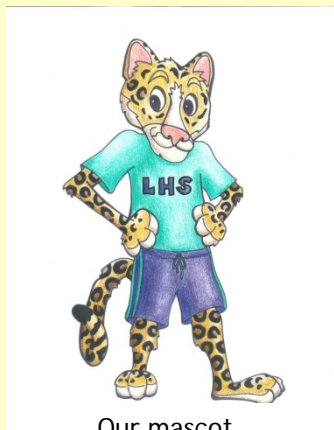


# Long Hill Elementary School Newsletter

April 2018

ANDREA D'AIUTO, PRINCIPAL  
JAMIE WEBER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

## A Message from the Principal



Our mascot,  
Leo the Leopard

Winter has seemed to linger and hopefully Monday's snow will be our last! During the month of March, many of our students participated in the Baseball Reading incentive. I enjoy talking with our students about their favorite books. Our "Read Across America" week included engaging school-wide activities that truly put smiles on our students' faces. It was great to see so many parents at our Parent/Teacher Conferences. Your continued support is essential to your child's success.

It is hard to believe that we are in the final trimester of our school year. We would like our students to continue to work towards their goals in Reading and Math. The LHS staff is very proud of their

continued success. Please remember to have your child read nightly and practice those math facts!

Even though we only have a few months left of school, we have a lot exciting events planned. There will be multiple opportunities for parent involvement and participation coming up. Stay tuned!

Finally, I would like to wish all of our families a happy and safe spring break. Whether you are traveling next week or staying local, I hope that all of you have the opportunity to pause and enjoy time with family and friends.



## Upcoming Events



- 🐾 Thursday, April 5 – Incoming Kindergarten Parent Night – 6:00pm
- 🐾 Friday, April 6 – Grandparent's and Special Visitor's Day – 9:15am-10:45am
- 🐾 Monday, April 9-Friday, April 13 –Spring Recess – No School
- 🐾 Tuesday, April 17 & Wednesday, April 18 – Spring Personality Portraits – refer to schedule previously sent home
- 🐾 Wednesday, April 25 – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade field trip to the Beardsley Zoo
- 🐾 Wednesday, April 25 & Thursday, April 26 – PTO sponsored Spring Book Fair



## Kindergarten News

We are having so much fun learning how to read fluently. We are learning to pay attention to punctuation and read with expression any time we read stories. We spent a lot of time building our fact fluency with adding and subtracting through 10. We are now learning all about teen numbers and place value. We loved writing steps to

teach readers how to do something that interests us and are enjoying learning and writing facts about nonfiction topics. We are also learning all about what happens in the spring!

**Spring assessments will begin shortly. Here are some ways to help prepare your child for these assessments:**

- *Play educational games at home to engage your child.*
- *Encourage your child to read as much as possible – and to increase vocabulary. Reading magazines, newspapers, and comics will also help improve reading skills.*
- *Have your child teach you about what he/she is learning in school.*
- *Please be sure your child has had a good night's sleep.*
- *Please have your child eat a good breakfast each morning.*
- *Please encourage your child to relax and do his/her best!*

## First Grade News

In the marvelous month of March, first graders learned many strategies for developing fluency, such as reading with expression and accuracy. In Writer's Workshop, we enjoyed writing, revising and editing nonfiction books. In Math, March was all about "double digits!" We learned to identify digits in the ones and tens places, and we have been practicing comparing, adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers. In Social Studies, we

enjoyed learning about Women's History Month, the changing seasons, and St. Patrick's Day. In Science, we wrapped up our unit on the three states of matter, and we look forward to learning about the engineering design process!

## Second Grade News

Second Grade is busy, busy, busy!! In Math, we are learning how to tell time. We are also discussing the difference between AM and PM, and why it is important to know how to tell time. In Reading, we are discovering non-fiction text features, such as maps, charts, and diagrams and learning how to use them. We are using the table of contents, glossary, and index to help us locate important information in our texts. We are authors and illustrators

in Writer's Workshop! We are writing our own animal research reports! In Social Studies, we are studying maps, map keys, and cardinal directions. We are even making maps of our classroom!



## Third Grade News

In Math, we are collecting and displaying data and students are creating various graphs to represent data. They are also working on solving one and two-step "how many more" and "how many less" problems using information presented in their graphs. Our students are measuring lengths using rulers marked with halves and fourths of an inch. Most of this unit is a review of the skills that the children have learned in previous years. We will continue to work with multiplication and division. Please have them continue to study their facts.

Third graders are also getting ready to take their third Word Masters Challenge! They have been diligently working on identifying the vocabulary words and their meanings through various activities. The children are finishing their unit of Character Analysis and identifying the Central Message of the stories. Our next unit

## Fourth Grade News

In Math, we have just finished our unit working with decimals. We will now start to explore measurement techniques and strategies to solve measurement problems using both the Metric System and the English System of Measurement. The Titanic project is almost complete in all three fourth grade classes, and we are focusing on assessment taking strategies in Reading. In Writing, we are going to use all the tools we have developed throughout the year to practice the specific skills we need for Smarter Balanced

is learning and applying assessment strategies. The children are learning how to determine the meaning of unknown words using the "FACADES" strategy, as well as, learning how to answer open-ended questions referring back to information contained in the text. They should read every day to continue to improve and maintain their reading skills.

In Writing, our students have written opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting their point of view with reasons. They learned how to introduce the topic they are writing about, state their opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons that support the opinion. They are also expected to provide details that support their reasons to help persuade readers to support their opinion.

testing. Experimenting with electric circuits and conductors, developing oil spill techniques, discussing current events, and region investigations have kept us busy in Science and Social Studies. Invention Convention and Smarter Balanced formal practice will take a larger part of our time as May approaches.



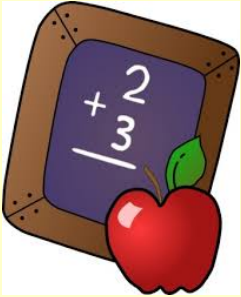
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Mrs. D'Aiuto:  
**@DAiutoAndrea**

Mrs. Weber:  
**@JWeberAP**



## News from the Math Specialist, Mrs. Keene



As spring sports begin, start to talk to your student about the math involved in sports. You can talk about player statistics; compare players based on the number of baskets scored, or their batting average. Once the weather is warmer, take your student outside to play basketball. Keep track of points scored by using skip counting or addition. Another fun family activity is to go mini golfing and have your student keep score.

Students can also track data such as team wins using graphs. This can be done on a bar graph, line plot, or pictograph. By tracking wins, students can determine which team is first or last in the league. If watching or playing a game with halves or quarters discuss what those vocabulary terms mean and relate them to fractions. When connecting math to real world applications, students are more likely to remember the concepts taught.

## Reading News from Mrs. Mulligan and Mrs. Saas

As the end of the year approaches, our focus changes to the long, lazy days of summer. As much as we all look forward to those days, we are not there yet. This may be the busiest time of the school year. Returning from spring break, all of our students will participate in several year-end assessments that will culminate a very busy year of learning.






The best way to prepare our students for this is to keep them calm and remind them they really are prepared for this. Several test taking tips that you, as parents, can do to help prepare your children for these assessments are:



- Make sure your child gets a sufficient amount of sleep the night before the test.
- Mark testing days on your calendar to help remind you and your child when the testing will take place and be prepared.
- The student should eat a nutritious and filling breakfast. Avoid high sugar cereals which can make the student unfocused.
- Set aside time each night prior to the test for several weeks to review the concepts that will be covered.
- Make sure the student is on time (if not early) on the day of testing. If your child wears glasses, please be sure they have them in school on testing days.
- Set a backup alarm to avoid the possibility of oversleeping.
- If your child is sick, please contact the school immediately to inform them.

Try not to put too much pressure on the student. Reinforce that as long as they have worked hard and did their absolute best that you will be proud of them. Try to plan for a fun activity, outing, or treat after the assessments are over. Always keep a positive attitude about testing in general around your child, and always emphasize their ability to demonstrate what they have learned.

## Friendly Reminders

-  Our last day of school is Friday, June 22, 2018.
-  Please be sure to label all of your child's belongings (including coats and lunch boxes). If your child is missing a belonging, please remind him/her to check our lost and found.
-  When dropping off your child in the morning after 9:00am, please park in a parking spot in the lot and escort your child into the main office. You will need to sign your child in. Please do NOT drop off your child or park in front of the school building.
-  **IMPORTANT DISMISSAL REMINDER:** Daily dismissal changes will **NOT** be approved. Any changes to your child's dismissal must be put into a note to the classroom teacher. If during the day an emergency arises, you must call the main office **NO LATER** than 3:30pm to notify us. This policy is to ensure the safety of our children.
-  **ABSENTEE REMINDER:** Board of Education policy requires that parents/guardians call the school when their child will be absent. If a child is absent and no parental notification has been obtained, the parent/guardian will receive an automated call at home, cell phone, or place of work.

### From the PTO

Thank you so much to all of the lovely ladies of Long Hill School and their handsome dates for attending the 2nd annual Spring Fling dance. The music was great, the dancing was fun, and a lot of memories were made! A special shout out to Tracy Deleo, Jennifer Severs, Michele Pearson, and their whole crew for creating such a beautiful and successful event!

And thank you to Jamie Stasko, our cultural arts chair, for arranging the Dr. Seuss magic show which was a huge hit with teachers and students alike!

#### Upcoming Dates:

- Panera Bread Fundraiser 4/4 4:00-8:00: Dine-in or take-out and LHS PTO gets 20% back!
- Wear your spirit wear on 4/4!
- Cultural Arts 4/5: This in-school event will feature real live animals! Make sure to ask your student which animal was their favorite.
- Boys event 4/22: Stay tuned for details.
- Book Fair 4/25 and 4/26: Be on the lookout for a sign-up for volunteers.
- Teacher Appreciation Week 5/7-5/11
- Plant Sale 5/10 and 5/11: Volunteers will be needed.

LHS PTO

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[www.facebook.com/groups/longhillpto](http://www.facebook.com/groups/longhillpto)

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#### School Hours:

Regular Day: 9:00am – 3:45pm

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

Delayed Opening: 11:00am – 3:45pm