

# Long Hill Elementary School Newsletter

May 2018

ANDREA D'AIUTO, PRINCIPAL  
JAMIE WEBER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

## A Message from the Principal



Our mascot,  
Leo the Leopard

I cannot believe it is May already! Where did the school year go? The pace picks up at this time of the year as we begin to wrap up units of study and plan end-of-year activities. I enjoy seeing all of the great and engaging activities our students are taking part in. I am proud of all of our students for the progress they have made throughout this school year.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our current PTO officers, Mrs. Beth Jones (President), Mrs. Beth Boivin (Vice President), Mrs. Jennifer Sanborn (Treasurer), and Mrs. Melissa Rich (Secretary), for all their hard work and dedication this school year. I would also like to thank all of our PTO committee chairs who have also devoted much time and effort this school

year. Additionally, thank you to all our parents who have volunteered for various school events.

The week of May 7<sup>th</sup> is Teacher Appreciation Week. I want to thank all the teachers and staff members for their dedication and impact they make on a daily basis. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful staff at LHS!



## Upcoming Events

- 🐾 Thursday, May 3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trip to Bridgeport Cabaret
- 🐾 Thursday, May 10-Friday, May 11 – Plant Sale
- 🐾 Monday, May 14 – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade field trip to Lyman Center
- 🐾 Tuesday, May 15 – Kindergarten field trip to Beardsley Zoo
- 🐾 Thursday, May 24 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade field trip to Lyman Center
- 🐾 Friday, May 25 – Field Day
- 🐾 Monday, May 28 – No School – Memorial Day
- 🐾 Wednesday, May 30 – 4<sup>th</sup> grade visit to Perry Hill School
- 🐾 Friday, June 1 – Field Day rain date
- 🐾 Monday, June 18-Friday, June 22 – Early Dismissal at 1:50pm
- 🐾 Friday, June 22 – Last Day of School



### Field Day is May 25 (raindate: June 1)

Here are some field day tips from Mr. Beloin, our PE teacher:

- *Have your child wear shorts or comfortable clothing and sneakers*
- *Apply sunscreen at home*
- *Students should have labelled water bottles*
- *Students may wear hats while participating in events*
- *Promote good sportsmanship and encourage your child to have fun and cheer on his/her classmates*



## Kindergarten News

During the month of April, we finished our reading unit focusing on fluency. We rehearsed and presented reader's theater plays for our classmates, which we really enjoyed! We spent a lot of time learning about non-fiction topics and wrote lots of facts about different animals and events. We are still focusing on sounding out words

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

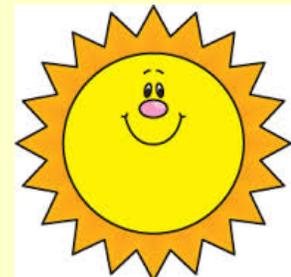
After a nice Spring Break, first graders picked up where they left off. In Reading, the focus was on non-fiction books and passages. Students learned to read closely to determine the topic, main idea, and supporting details of their texts. In Math, students learned how to add within 100 and subtract multiples of ten. Also, students are applying the skills and strategies they are learning to solve word problems. In Writing, first grade started their

final unit, *Writing Fiction*. Students started to develop characters for their realistic fiction stories. In addition, we are looking forward to our field trip to see the play "Dr. Seuss" on May 24<sup>th</sup>!

## Second Grade News

Second Grade is as busy as bees!!! We just finished our Google Slideshow presentations about our animal research reports in Writer's Workshop. They worked so hard! Very impressive! Now it's on to opinion writing. In Math, we learned how to collect, organize, display, and analyze data. We also practiced measuring! In Reading, we are learning how to make inferences using our schema and clues from our stories

about characters' feelings and the author's message. We just wrapped up a fun unit in Social Studies on map reading. We will be starting a unit in Science on plants, just in time for Spring!!!



## Third Grade News

In Reading, students have been working on test taking strategies. All grade 3 teachers will be administering the Smarter Balanced Assessment in May. The students will be assessed in Reading and Math. The Practice and Training Tests are available for practice and training purposes. Visit the website below:

<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/>

Students have been working on finding the area of a rectangle or square in Math. Students used graph paper to calculate the area of shapes by counting the number of squares. They also used multiplication ( $l \times w$ ) to find the area, and division ( $A \div s$ ) to find the missing dimension. Please have students practice the sections on IXL to reinforce what they learned in school.

The children have been sharpening

their editing and revising skills in Writing. Editing involves making sure that correct punctuation is used, checking for spelling, and correct use of mechanics of writing. Revising involves making the writing better by making better word choices and adding details.

The third grade has completed their study of crayfish. They learned the parts of the crayfish as well as their habits. They crayfish have all found new homes.

## Fourth Grade News

In Math, we have been focusing on converting multiple units of measurement. Students are evaluating and solving a variety of problems while converting between base units. In Reading, we have been investigating biographies and how an author chooses to format them. We have also been spending time formally practicing for the SBAC assessment. Writing numerous stories and applying word analysis strategies has filled our time in Writer's Workshop. Invention Convention has taken on a more prominent role in our schedule as our prototypes come in and we start to prepare our

presentation boards. In Social Studies, current events and regional investigations continue to keep us busy. We are looking forward to our upcoming visit to Perry Hill School on Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.



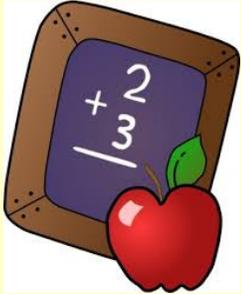
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Mrs. D'Aiuto:  
**@DAiutoAndrea**

Mrs. Weber:  
**@JWeberAP**



## News from the Math Specialist, Mrs. Keene



The end of the year is approaching and grade levels will begin or have begun to learn about Geometry. Encourage your child to find shapes in their everyday lives. This could take place at home, in the car, or out at a store. Name the shape together and discuss the attributes of the shape. Attributes of two-dimensional shapes include number of sides, number of angles, and number of vertices. Attributes for three-dimensional shapes include number of edges, number of faces, and number of vertices. You can also discuss similarities and differences between shapes. This helps students not only work on their geometry vocabulary, but also on their mathematical reasoning.

Geometry goes beyond shapes. Students will also learn about the different types of angles and how to measure them. When looking at the number of angles a shape has, work on what type of angles they are. For example, a square would have all right angles. The other types of angles are acute and obtuse. Another fun activity you can do at home is build your own shapes using Play-Doh, straws, toothpicks, or paper. This allows your student to apply their understanding of the shape attributes in order to accurately create the shape.

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

Great news! We are in the home stretch. There are many things to celebrate this year. Every child has increased their literacy skills. It is exciting to see kindergartners read a book, first graders retell a story, second graders develop higher level thinking skills, such as inferring, third graders express their thinking in written form, and fourth graders discuss in-depth theme and character development in a story.



Over winter break our students took part in a reading challenge and decorated marshmallows in hot chocolate for all the places they read over break. We had 261 students and 46 staff members participate. During the last week of February, Long Hill staff and students participated in daily Dr. Seuss activities culminating in a hat day to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. That day also kicked off our month-long Baseball Reading Challenge. We had 111 students participate and they will receive a free New Britain Bees baseball ticket to the May 18<sup>th</sup> game. The Blooming Readers Challenge took place over spring break. 230 students read and decorated their flowers which are currently displayed in the lobby.

Throughout the year, all students have been learning new vocabulary words across all disciplines. Third and fourth graders participated in the WordMasters Challenge three times over the year. The students gained a deeper knowledge of words and enjoyed doing it. Every Friday our *Reader of the Week* gets to choose a book from the Readbox to keep at home for a week.

All of the literacy activities that have been done over the year are to show our students the importance of literacy as well as the fact that learning should be fun!

## 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.
-  If you have plans to move before the start of the new school year, please let the main office know. This helps us in making class lists. The staff and I devote much time and thought when placing your child in a class. Parental requests for specific teacher placements will not be considered; however if there are any special circumstances or consideration regarding class placement, please notify me via email at [adauto@sheltonpublicschools.org](mailto:adauto@sheltonpublicschools.org)
-  As the weather gets warmer, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately. According to the district's student dress policy, students are not allowed to wear tank tops or sleeveless shirts. Students should be wearing appropriate footwear as they have outdoor recess and gym. If your child is not dressed appropriately, then a parent will be called to bring in appropriate clothing.
-  Our third and fourth grade students will be taking The Smarted Balanced Assessment during the weeks of May 7<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure your child has a good night's sleep and breakfast the morning of.

## From the PTO

We have had a busy past month! Thank you to the following people for making April a great month:

- Jamie Stasko - The Nature Nick animal assembly was a hit!
- Tracy Buchanan and Jennifer Severs - Our LHS boys had a fantastic time bowling with their special ladies!
- Jennifer Severs and Beth Boivin - Another successful and fun book fair!

**\*\*And a special thanks to *all of the volunteers* who came out to help the students shop!!\*\***

### Coming up:

- Quassy Family Fun Night with all Shelton Elementary Schools May 4
- Teacher Appreciation Week May 7-11
- Plant Sale May 10 and May 11
- Final General Meeting June 4 at 6:00. Location TBD.
- Year-End Social June 8. (Rain date June 15.) Details TBA.

It's not too late to inquire about how you can fit in to our PTO for next year. Please email us at [PTOlonghill@gmail.com](mailto:PTOlonghill@gmail.com) if you have interest in becoming more involved at LHS next year.

[ptolonghill@gmail.com](mailto:ptolonghill@gmail.com)  
[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