Dear Lecanto Families,

Hello March and hello warmer weather! Coming up soon will be our FSA kickoff and pep rally for grades 3-5 on March 13. We conduct this event to both recognize students who have done exceptionally well the previous year on FSA and motivate those who are about to test. We have a pep rally to excite the children in “showing what they know” rather than to stress over upcoming testing. Our students have had excellent instruction and we are excited for them to show their best work. Other events this month include a Staff Kick Ball Game on March 6th (stay tuned for more information), PBS reward (Positive Behavior Support) is meant to reward all students who have not had office referrals/discipline infractions within the 9-week period. Students who do not qualify for the reward receive specialized lessons to help improve their behavioral choices.

With further testing in the upcoming months, lots of end of year activities including some field trips, awards and recognitions, we remain committed to maintaining our academic focus day in and day out. You can help us by seeing that your child is at school every day and is on time. We have a growing concern with many students dropped off late or picked up early. Students may enter the classroom at 8:50 with our School Morning Show airing at 9:10. Children are academically engaged upon entering the room. If your child arrives to school at 9:19, they are technically not tardy but have missed the opportunity for twenty-nine minutes of work time. Over the course of a week, they will have missed more than two hours of school, eight hours each month and thus approximately thirteen days of school in one year. You can see how significant those few minutes can be! Our goal is to work together to support our children.

With safety as our number one priority, we are requesting that you avoid picking up your child at the front office at dismissal time unless it is an emergency. This will allow us to conduct our dismissal procedures in the most effective and secure manner.

As the weather warms and our children revert to their summer clothes, please take a moment to assess the fit of their clothing. Our children grow so quickly and it is at this time of year that we often find students wearing shorts and tops that are now too short. Please remember that tops must cover midriffs, straps must be two inches wide or more, and shorts must be mid-thigh or longer. Unnatural hair coloring is not permitted as it is very distracting to students at the elementary level. Please call me if you have any questions.

I wish you all a wonderful Spring, a Happy Saint Patrick’s Day, and a memorable Spring Break (March 20th-March 29th).

Respectfully,

Vicki Lofton
Principal

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Thank You Publix for your $100 Gift Card that will be used to buy mints for students to have during FSA Testing!

Your efforts are so much appreciated!!
*YMCA Spring Break Information*

Register your child today for Spring Break Camp! Camp will be held the starting Friday, March 20th-27th at Forest Ridge Elementary, Pleasant Grove Elementary and Crystal River Primary. Students will swim once during the week at the YMCA in Lecanto! They will also engage in sports, arts and crafts and will be able to get a sneak peak of what summer camp will look like! Care will be from 6:30am-6:00pm each day. Each child will need to bring a lunch, two snacks, change of clothes, towel and a water bottle. The cost is $51 for the week and financial assistance is available to those who qualify. To register, please visit your child’s YMCA program at their school or call 352-500-9622.

Citrus County Blessings

Citrus County Blessings weekend food program designed to give supplemental food to children on the weekends. Blessings program operates August through May each year. To enroll go to www.citruscountyblessings.org/enroll password: Enroll2019 or ask your child’s Teacher for a enrollment form. Citrus County Blessings is funded entirely by donations. If you would like to donate to the Blessings program call 352-341-7707.

* 2019-2020 Lecanto Primary Yearbooks *

**ONLINE ordering is a SNAP!!**

Ordering has never been easier for the 2019-20 LPS Yearbook. Log on to: www.ybpay.lifetouch.com and enter school code 9906720 and make your credit card payment of $20/book. If you would like to pay by check or cash (made payable to LPS), please send in your payment and indicate your child’s name and teacher on the order. THANKS for supporting the LPS Yearbook Club!!

**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**

LPS sponsors several fundraisers each year, including student pictures, for different purposes. Profits from fundraising at LPS will be used, among other things, to purchase school wide needs, such as additional playground equipment, technology supplies, and instructional materials. A small amount of these funds may be used to provide food and other consumable items for faculty and staff sessions throughout the year, staff appreciation, and student recognition. LPS sponsors several fundraisers each year, including student pictures, for different purposes. Profits from fundraising at LPS will be used, among other things, to purchase school wide needs, such as additional playground equipment, technology supplies, and instructional materials.

**Guidance Corner**

In guidance lessons, I will be teaching 3rd grade about big and small emotions. We will identify the difference between a big or small emotion and then determined how we can control/work through them. Ask to see their fun emotions finger-prints. I also wanted to make parents and family members aware of an amazing upcoming program. Camp Good Hope has an event coming up on April 25th. This day long camp provides age appropriate activities for children who have experienced loss. They will do crafts and activities aimed at helping the child talk about their loved one and gain tools to use as they move through their grief. Please go to: www.friendsofcitrus.org or call me for more information.

**We’d like to give a HUGE thank you to the Walmart Transportation Center for their generous donation through the Miles for Education Program. They donated $2,000 to our school. Thank you for your supporting Lecanto Primary School!**

Please check the **LOST & FOUND** rack in the hall outside of the cafeteria if your child is missing any items brought from home. We have SO MANY jackets on the rack!

Please remember to write your child’s name on all coats, lunchboxes and items brought to school so that if misplaced, we can return it right away.

**Media Center News**

Spring Break is the perfect time to look for lost library books. All books need to be returned to the Media Center no later than May 18th. If you have any questions about your child’s library account, please call Ms. Tribble or Mrs. Hurley at ext. 5811.

May 18 – Last day for students to check out books

May 19 – Media Center closes for the year

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**Teachers Working Out-of-Field**

Debbie Newman 5th grade
Out of field teachers have met all of the requirements for certified Primary/Elementary Education. They are either in the process of receiving their certificates from the Florida DOE or have completed the process and will have this added to their certificates.

**Long Term Substitute Teachers**

Christine Wright ESE Teacher
Sherilyn Tambini 1st Grade
Sara Washburn Kindergarten

**Long Term Substitute Para**

Lin Adams Kindergarten
Summer Williams Kindergarten

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**ESE**

The 2019-2020 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey will be open from February 1 to May 31, 2020. In an effort to increase parent participation, we are providing paper surveys for parents of all children receiving special education services. The online version of the survey is also available at www.esesurvey.com. Please take a moment to provide feedback by completing this survey. The valuable information you give us will help us make decisions on the effectiveness of our services in meeting the needs of our students. Thank you for your time!

**Come out and support Lecanto Primary’s Safety Patrol to help fund their Washington DC trip**

**Location:** Homosassa McDonald’s

**Date/Time:** Monday, March 9th, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**15% of every order will go back to the students for their trip.**