Dear Families,

This is the time of year where our staff comes together to recognize Teacher of the Year and School Related Employee of the Year. We are so very fortunate to have a staff of dedicated and committed individuals that are passionate about working with children. Please join me in congratulating, Kim Cirona, Teacher of the Year and Frank Catucci, School Related Employee of the Year.

Coming soon, our annual Science-Technology Night is scheduled for 11/14 and brings hundreds of families out for an evening of Science and Technology projects throughout the grade levels. Along with various special guests, we will have Science Fair Projects on display from our 4th and 5th grade students. More information will be coming home soon. Hope to see you there! November 22nd, we will host another Panther Fun Run. Stay tuned for more information about that exciting event. Also, up and coming...1st quarter PBS reward for all those students who exhibited positive behavior all quarter! Our School Advisory Council meeting has been changed to 11/13/19 at 4:15 in the Media Center. This meeting is always open to all who wish to learn more about LPS. For those of you who are new to our school, this is an exciting time of year that brings many events over the next several weeks, including Thanksgiving break 11/23-12/1.

I am hopeful that all of you who have had a chance to conference with your child’s teacher by this point and celebrated all the amazing things your child is learning. Our Florida Standards are rigorously set every grade level and require every minute of the day with purposeful and relevant curriculum activities. Our teachers create and plan engaging and challenging lessons all day, every day with the goal to help each child reach their fullest potential. When your child is absent or withdrawn early, they have missed valuable instruction. Sending home “make-up work” does not replace the actual lessons, so students are often developing gaps in their learning that mayly later. As we enter cold & flu season, we are reminding our students to wash their hands frequently, cough into their arm and stay home if they are running a fever.

Another topic I’d like to address is Internet access and elementary aged students. There are so many wonderful sites that help students practice their learning and gain new knowledge. We at LPS take great pride in helping our students grow and experience S.T.E.M (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics). However, our teachers research the sites very carefully only allowing approved websites. Please monitor your child’s Internet access at home. There are some very inappropriate and dangerous sites out there.

As always, we welcome you to participate in school events, communicate with your child’s teacher, and/or attend our School Advisory Council or PTO meetings. Remember, it takes the school and our families working together to help all our students reach their fullest potential and become PANTHER STRONG members of our school community.

On behalf of Lecanto Primary School, I wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,

Vicki Loifton
LPS Principal

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Calendar of Events

11/4   PTO meeting; 4:15 p.m.
11/5-11/7  5th gr Duke Energy
11/6   4th gr Fl. Cooper Days
11/7   PTO Twister Treat Night
11/11  Veteran’s Day - NO SCHOOL
11/13  Upward Bound - 8:30 am @ CSCC
11/13  SAC meeting in Media Center; 4:15 p.m.
11/14  Yearbook Club meeting; 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
11/14  Science Night 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
11/15  Kg Farm Day
11/20  Family Night @ Lecanto McDonalds; 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
11/22  Panther Fun Run
11/23 - 12/1 - Thanksgiving Break; NO SCHOOL

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CONGRATULATIONS!!

Lecanto Primary’s
Teacher Of the Year:
Kim Cirona
Support Related
Employee of the Year:
Frank Catucci
Do you need help this holiday season? The following organizations are willing to help make your child’s holiday brighter. Please contact them by the designated date for assistance. Don’t wait until the last minute as most agencies have a limit they can help.

Citrus United Basket is accepting applications for Christmas assistance from October 23rd through December 10th from 9-2, M-F. For questions or further information, please call 344-2242. (Children up to age 12)

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A BIG thanks to Rural King for the popcorn donation for our quarterly PBS rewards!

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**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 professional development 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. Some fundraisers are for specific purposes such as Jump Rope for Heart. We are always mindful that these are optional for students and are deeply appreciative of the support of the LPS community.

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**Teachers Working Out-of-Field**

Sarah Listrap ELL 5th grade
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**

Sherilyn Tambrini 1st Grade
Taylor Williams Kindergarten

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**GET INVOLVED**

PTO News

Thank you to all who sent in candy and attended the Fall Festival this year! It was a great success because of your support! Special thank you to our Panther Partners: Pave-Rite Inc. and Eagle Buick GMC.

Upcoming Events:

11/4 PTO Meeting at 4:15
11/7 Twister Treat Night
11/8-11/22 Fun Run Pledge Collections
11/22 Panther Fun Run

We will be doing the Panther Fun Run again this year! This year’s theme is Mind Spark Lab and will focus on STEM and the growth mindset! Be on the lookout for more information to come home soon.

Thank you to our community partner SMW Rotary for their ongoing support of Lecanto Primary.

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**YMCA**

The holidays are quickly approaching! Need child care during holiday breaks? Look no further, the YMCA is here for you! We offer holiday care packages for Thanksgiving break!

Our hours of operation are 6:30 AM-6PM. We will be located at 3 different schools for your convenience: Forest Ridge Elementary, Crystal River Primary and Pleasant Grove Elementary.

If you are currently not enrolled in the program, we do offer holiday specific packages.

For pricing information and any other questions or inquiries please contact Tiffany Graber at tgraber@suncoastymca.org or 352-500-9622.

The staff here at Lecanto Primary YMCA wish you all a safe and prosperous holiday!

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**Guidance Corner**

Guidance lessons this quarter will focus on being a good friend. We all want others to treat us well but are we acting like a good friend to others? We will identify 5 traits of a good friend and strive to be a Dino mite friend. We will be reading “We don’t eat our Classmates.” By Ryan Higgins. It’s a funny look at a young dinosaur who doesn’t understand why others do NOT want to be friends with her.

It is always a pleasure to get teach your son or daughters.

Dr. Shannon Bowman

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**Family Night**

On Monday, November 20th at the Lecanto McDonald’s from 4-7 p.m., our LPS Safety Patrol will be hosting a Family Fun Night. 15% of every order will go back to the students for their Washington, D.C. trip. Please come out and support your LPS Safety Patrol students. Hope to see you there!

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**LOST & FOUND**

Please be sure to have your child(ren) check the Lost & Found in the cafeteria. We have an abundance of jackets with no names accumulating and the cool months are ahead!

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**Availability of Title 1 information for Parents**

The monthly Title 1 newsletters are available for your to view on our LPS school website. Just visit https://lpa.citrusschools.org/. The Title 1 link is on the top. It’s so easy!

Click the Parent tab, LPS information for the School Improvement Plan and the Parent Involvement Plan.