



LPS PANTHER PRESS

Lecanto Primary School
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 Lecanto, FL 34461
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 Principal: Vicki Lofton
 Asst. Principal: Jaime Baize



SEPTEMBER 1, 2018

Dear LPS Families,

On behalf of the staff at Lecanto Primary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year! Our theme this year is "Don't Just Fly, Soar". There are so many wonderful and exciting learning activities planned for the school year, some have already begun! It is our goal this year to encourage our students to set goals and celebrate successes. And there is already so much to celebrate! You can help, here's how!

- We are a PBS School (Positive Behavior Support) which means we have consistent school wide rules and many rewards and incentives. From Proud Panther to Panther Pride Passes, and Panther tags, students are being recognized for their efforts in being responsible, respectful, and safe. Academic achievements are also recognized with Panther tags. Ask your child if they have earned any of these incentives.
- Communication is key between home and school and we utilize daily planners at grades 3-5 and Communication folders at PK-2 to assist us. Please ask your child to see these daily. They will help you have conversations with your children as to how their day went, expectations, and assignment due dates!
- Another way you can support the school would be to allow your child to stay in school until dismissal, without checking them out early. Every day that we interrupt classes to call students to the front desk for check-out means an interruption to your child's education. We teach bell to bell, so even the last 30 minutes of the day is vital instructional/assessment time.
- School Spirit Days are every Friday. Students and staff are encouraged to wear school colors (green and gold) to show their school pride. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for dress code guidelines as well.
- New state legislation requires our students to have both Structured Physical Activity (referred to as SPA) time as well as unstructured free play (referred to as Recess). Additionally, your child will have P.E. Due to our focus on physical fitness, it is important for your child to wear appropriate footwear daily, high heels and heeled boots are not permitted. Some children choose to bring sneakers to change in to, please keep in mind they may not have a lot of time in between classes to make this change.
- Safety and security are our utmost focus. For this reason, we need to minimize the traffic at the front office in the mornings and afternoons. Please utilize the car line except in the case of a family emergency.
- Maintaining a learning focused atmosphere is important to us each and every day. Dress code plays an important role in these efforts. Please remember that hair dyes (unnatural colors) are not permitted at the elementary level due to the distractions it causes. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for guidelines. Ask your child's teacher when in doubt.

Mark your calendars, PTO Family Book Fair Night is September 6th, Picture Day is September 7th, and our first School Advisory Enhancement Council meeting is September 19th. Also coming soon is Take Your Dad (or significant role model) to School Day on September 26th. Stay tuned for more information! We look forward to seeing you!

Respectfully,

Vicki Lofton, Principal

8/31 - 9/7	- PTO Book Fair	
9/3	- Labor Day; NO SCHOOL	
9/6	- PTO Book Fair Family Night; 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	
9/7	- Fall Individual Pictures	
9/12	- Early Dismissal @ 12:30 p.m. SHAC meeting @ TRC; 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	
9/19	- SAEC meeting @ 4:15 p.m. in LPS Media Center	
9/26	- Dad's Day	
9/23 - 9/29	- National Child Passenger Safety Week	
9/29	- FREE National Seat Check Saturday (see page 2)	

PTO News

Our LPS PTO has a Box Top Challenge for us again this year!!
 If we can collect **25,000** Box Tops by October 5th, we will get to **DUNK Ms. Lofton** in the tank at the Fall Festival!
 Let's do this!!!

Book Fair

Dates: August 31 - September 7th
 Parent Night : Thursday, September 6th; 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Hot Dog Dinner will be served

Be on the lookout for more information about these upcoming events:
 Sept. 10th - PTO meeting @ 5:15
 Oct. 5th - Fall Festival; 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Nov. 16th - Fun Run

WELCOME NEW STAFF

Debi Collins	ESE Specialist
Pamela Fullerton	School Nurse
Kristin Handley	KG
Samantha Churchwell	1st Grade
Tricia Rankin	3rd Grade
Judy Stocker	3rd Grade
Ashley Quinn	4th Grade
Brittany Burkhardt	5th Grade
Brenda Cleveland	5th Grade
Sonia Tribble	Paraprofessional - Title 1
Heather Kroning	Administrative Aide

Long Term Substitute Teachers

Christine Wright	KG
P. Daayiah Rashid	1st Grade
Sherry Dunn	2nd Grade
Katherine Willes	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.

Teachers Working Out-of-Field

Carla Swistack	ELL
Kristin Handley	ELL

We know that you will join us in making them feel a part of the LPS community!

YMCA

Partnering with the Citrus County School District, the "Y" operates an onsite before and after school child care program in all 11 Elementary Schools. The YMCA School Age Program provides child care for children in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Hours: 6:30 am – 8:50 am, 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Fees:

- * All Inclusive Plan - \$48 per week; 42 weeks (Includes All In-Service Days and All Holiday Breaks)
- * Standard Plan - \$50 per week; 38 weeks (Includes all In-Service Days and Early Release Days)
- * AM or PM Only - \$30 per week; 38 weeks (Includes Before or Afternoon Care Only, Teacher Work Days and Early Release Days)
- * Annual Membership Fee - \$25 per individual/\$40 per family

*Financial assistance available for those who qualify; Financial assistance may also be available to qualifying families through the Early Learning Coalition's School Readiness Program .

For more information on the YMCA Before and After Care program, please call the Y's Administrative Office at (352)500-9622 or visit www.ymcasuncoast.org/locations/citrus-county-branch. You can also email Kayla at kluid@suncoastymca.org.

A Note from your Guidance Counselor

Guidance lessons will be taught with KG-2nd grade for the first part of the year. I will be focusing on social emotional regulation. The book I will be using is titled "Soda Pop Head." This book gives students positive ideas and ways to handle anger. It also addresses strategies other students can use when one of their classmates is frustrated. This is going to be a great year!

Dr. Shennen Bowman
School Counselor



Teach your child to be Financially responsible....

Open an "EARLY SAVER ACCOUNT" at GTE Financial in Crystal River. This account is FREE!

- ONLY \$5.00 to open account
 - * Kids earn 1.99% APY on balances up to \$500
 - * FREE Building Block Coin Bank
- A representative will be here at LPS on the 3rd Thursday of each month to assist with accounts and process deposits for students.
What a wonderful opportunity right here at LPS!!

Citrus County School's Emergency Form

Persons listed on the Citrus County School's Emergency Form are, as stated, for **Emergency Contact/Pick-Up only**. Therefore, if you would like to authorize person(s) to have lunch with your child, pick up your child in non-emergency situations, attend your child's school functions, etc., please send a note to school. **Please send your note to the attention of Heather Kroning and include your child's name, teacher's name, the authorized person's name, authorized activities, indicate whether it is a one-time authorization or authorization for the whole school year, your signature, and date.**

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.

NCLB/Title 1/School Public Accountability Reports (SPAR)

In an effort to reduce duplication, DOE will no longer be producing the School Public Accountability Reports (covering Elementary and Secondary Education Act Requirements for State and LEA Annual Report Cards) in a printed version. Instead the DOE will post these reports online before the end of September 2017. These reports can be viewed at http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclb_spar/index.cfm. The link will continue to be provided on our district's website under the "District" tab if you choose to use that one in your notification to parents/guardian (<http://www.citrus.k12.fl.us>). You may also request a paper copy from your child's school.

LPS will continue to participate in the **Citrus County Blessings** program. Citrus County Harvest Inc. partners with our community to meet the nutritional needs of school-aged children. This program helps to bridge the meal gap that occurs between the school week and the weekend. For **BLESSINGS SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM ENROLLMENT**, please visit: www.citruscountyblessings.org/enroll/ Password: **enroll2018**

If you need a paper enrollment form, please contact our school guidance counselor, Dr. Shennen Bowman.

Citrus County's **School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)** is a group that meets quarterly to provide advocacy for school health and identify needs and opportunities to maximize community resources. We welcome parent and community involvement.

The meetings scheduled for the 2018-2019 school year are as follows:

Wednesday, September 12, 2018, December 5, 2018, February 13, 2019 and May 1, 2019.

***** All meetings are 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the TRC on the Lecanto School Complex. *****

September 23 – 29 is National Child Passenger Safety Week

The goal of this National Campaign is to make sure parents and caregivers secure children correctly in car seats or boosters that are appropriate for their age and size, and are installed securely. Although parents want to protect their children at all times, keeping them safe in vehicles isn't as easy as it might appear. Car seat inspections show that 4 out of 5 car seats are not used correctly or installed securely. (SafeKids.org) Car seat check-ups in Citrus County show an 87% misuse rate.

Saturday, September 29 is National Seat Check Saturday

This is an event to give parents the opportunity for a car seat check-up at no cost with no appointment needed. **The event for Citrus County residents will be held at the Pleasant Grove Road Church of Christ 3875 S. Pleasant Grove Road from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.**