



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, 2019

Dear LPS Families,

On behalf of the staff at Lecanto Primary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year! It is truly my favorite time of the year. Our theme this year is "Learning is an Adventure...Let's Explore", and our teachers have lots of exciting learning adventures planned. There is already so much to look forward to! You can help, here's how!

1. 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.
2. We are a PBS School (Positive Behavior Support) which means we have consistent school wide rules and many rewards and incentives. From Proud Panther, Panther Pride Passes, and Panther tags, students are being recognized for their efforts in being responsible, respectful, safe, and always kind to all. Academic achievements are also recognized with Panther tags. Throughout the school year, ask your child if they have earned any of these incentives. Ask them how they were kind to a friend.
3. 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! Please let your child's teacher know the best way to communicate with you.
4. This year we are engaging in an attendance initiative. An important way you can support the school would be to ensure your child remains in school until dismissal, without checking them out early. Every day that we interrupt classes to call students to the front desk for checkout 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. Please know that every 3 early dismissals equal an unexcused absence. Please remember to bring in excuse notes from the doctor when your child has an appointment.
5. 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.
6. 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.

Mark your calendars, Parent Information Night for all grades is August 26th beginning at 5:30, our first PTO Dance is scheduled for August 30th from 5-7, Family Book Fair Night is September 5th from 5-7, Picture Day is September 6th, and our first School Advisory Council meeting is September 18th. Also coming soon is Take Your Dad (or significant role model!) to School Day on September 25th. Stay tuned for more information! We look forward to seeing you!

Respectfully,

Vicki Lofton, Principal

Mark Your Calendar



- 9/2 - Labor Day; NO SCHOOL
- 9/3 - 9/6 - PTO Book Fair
- 9/5 - PTO Book Fair Family Night; 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- 9/6 - Fall Individual Pictures
- 9/11 - SHAC meeting @ TRC; 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- 9/18 - SAEC meeting @ 4:15 p.m. in LPS Media Center
- 9/25 - Dad's Day

PTO News



Our LPS PTO has a Box Top Challenge for us again this year!
If we can collect 15,000 Box Tops by October 9th, we will have Ms. Lofton kiss Daisy the Pig! Let's do this!!!



Book Fair

Dates: September 3rd -6th
Parent Night: Thursday, September 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Hot Dog Dinner will be served



WELCOME NEW STAFF

Heather Celani	Kindergarten
Jenifer Ashby	1st Grade
Tiffany Hengesbach	1st Grade
Leka DeGroot	1st Grade
Rebekah Meahl	3rd Grade
Sherry Dunn	3rd Grade
Tricia Rankin	3rd Grade
Taylor Smith	4th Grade
Debbie Newman	5th Grade
Tiffany Barker	Para-Professional
Sheri DeBarge	Para-Professional
Cristy Ingram	Para-Professional
David Kelly	Para-Professional
Kay Meyers	Food Services

Long Term Substitute

ESE Teacher

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
Sarah Masse	ELL
Debbie Newman	5th grade

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 - \$51 per week; 42 weeks (Includes All In-Service Days Early Release Days and All Holiday Breaks)
* AM or PM Only - \$31 per week; 42 weeks (Includes Before or Afternoon Care Only, Teacher Work Days and Early Release Days)
* Annual Registration Fee - \$25 for one child/\$40 for 2+ children

A Note from your Guidance Counselor

This year we will be focusing on our emotions and how they can affect others. A specific lesson will be on how some words hurt others. A student (or an adult's) frustration could lead to using unkind words or focused anger on another.

There is a big term that I will be teaching and that is "What is a threat?" We want our schools to be safe for others to learn and threats can interrupt this learning. Since this is an expectation that schools have, I want to focus on what a threat is and how words can hurt the other person. An example will be my friend Z (he's an alien) was upset about someone cutting him in line and he said, "if you cut me in line again, I'll punch you." We are going to use several elementary appropriate examples to show how Z could react differently and how his classmate probably felt.

I will team this up with how kindness matters and how words of affirmation can enhance ones' learning. Z will come around and start using encouraging words to his classmates.

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 2019. These reports can be viewed at <http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbpar/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

<https://www.citruschools.org/>

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Reports

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), requires every state and district to publish report cards that show how the state, district and schools are doing with regard to student achievement and success. While it is not required to provide a paper copy of these reports for every student, we are required to notify parents/guardians of the availability of these reports via the internet. Florida Report Cards link: <https://edudata.fldoe.org/> School Financial Report: <https://lps.citruschools.org/>

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: Enroll2019

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 2019–2020 school year are as follows:

Wednesday, September 11, 2019, December 11, 2019, February 26, 2020 and May 13, 2020.

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



A Big Thank You for Community Support

Thank you to the Christian Center Church, Christ Community Church, Lecanto Wawa, Kona Ice, and the VFW Post #8189 Auxiliary for supporting LPS!

