

THE LION'S ROAR

Long Beach Elementary School

April 2015 Newsletter

PARCC Testing

Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will be taking the PARCC End-of-Year assessment in April and early May. This end of the year assessment will only consist of 3 sessions, one for English Language Arts and two for Math. 3rd and 4th grade students will take their assessments the week of April 20th, while the 5th graders will again take their assessments online, starting the week of April 27th, and finishing the week of May 4th.

Dress Code Reminders

As the weather begins to warm up, I would like to take a moment to remind all parents and guardians of the district's dress code expectations. The following is taken from the district's Student Rights and Responsibilities Code:

Students are not allowed to wear clothing and/or accessories that disrupts the educational process, including clothing that:

- a. Displays comments, pictures, slogans, weapons or designs that are obscene, profane, lewd or vulgar, including clothes that symbolize or represent profanity or sexual innuendo; or may reasonably forecast a disruption to the educational process;*
- b. Displays or references drugs, tobacco products or alcoholic beverages;*
- c. Is suggestive (e.g. extremely tight fitting, cleavage bearing, fails to cover the midriff, halter-tops, sheer/see-through clothing, strapless tops/dresses, tops with spaghetti straps), shredded clothing or night wear.*
- d. Hats, headwear, lined coats headbands, bandanas, handkerchiefs and gloves must be removed upon entering the building. Spike jewelry, chains or any chains or spikes worn on clothes or coats are prohibited.*
- e. Sunglasses, pacifiers and inappropriate and/or unsafe footwear are not to be worn during the school day and must be left in the students' lockers/backpacks.*

Please help us abide by these guidelines as we finish the school year with positive momentum! Thanks.

Safety Reminders

I would like to ask that each family have a conversation with their students regarding safety procedures for walking/riding bikes to and from school; discussing road safety, use of sidewalks, and what to do should a stranger approach a students. As the weather warms, more students will be outside, and we would like to partner with you in making sure all our students are safe and are aware of what to do in emergency situations. We practice various drills here at school all for the continued safety of everyone associated with Long Beach. It would be outstanding if we could carry on this idea of safety into our neighborhood after school hours. Thanks so much for being our partner in keeping all students safe!

Returning Student Registration

Registration packets for the 2015-2016 school year went out this week. If you have not received your student(s) packet, please contact the office. The following needs to be completed for students currently in Kindergarten through fourth grade: 1) Go online thru Home Access and check that all your information is correct; 2) Complete the Annual Affirmation of Legal Residency and Custody form, sign and return this form to Long Beach office.

Current fifth grade students need to: 1) Go online thru Home Access and check that all your information is correct; 2) Complete the following forms: Annual Affirmation of Legal Residency and Custody form, Student Health Information, Acceptable Use of Network and Technology Resource Procedures form, and Residency Documentation form along with the required 3 proofs of residency. If residency documentation is not completed your child will not be officially registered for Junior High. You will be notified if your student's registration has not been completed properly.

Long Beach's Junior Diversity Council

Attached to this e-mail is information about a fundraiser that Long Beach's Junior Diversity Council is taking part in. The proceeds will help purchase school supplies for those families in need. Any support you can lend to help those less fortunate is always appreciated!

Upcoming April Events

- 4/14 – 5th Grade Step-up Day to Traugher
- 4/15 – 5th Grade Step-up Day to Plank
- 4/17 – Spring Picture Day
- 4/17 – Gym Night (Father's Forum) for 2nd/3rd Graders 6:00-7:30
- 4/20 – 5th Grade Step-up Day to Thompson
- 4/20-4/24 – PARCC Testing for 3rd/4th graders
- 4/27-5/4 – PARCC Testing for 5th Graders
- 4/28 – Market Day Pick-up 6:00-7:00

Upcoming May Events

- 5/1 – Home & School Movie Night 6:30-8:30
- 5/6 – Culver's Night
- 5/7-5/8 – Athena Dental to visit Long Beach
- 5/7 – Home & School Meeting 6:45
- 5/13 – Honor Choir Festival @ OEHS 7:00
- 5/14 – Ozzie Reading Night @ Kane County Cougars
- 5/15 – Gym Night (Father's Forum) for 4th/5th Graders 6:00-7:30
- 5/26 – Long Beach Field Day
- 5/27 – Long Beach Field Day Rain Date
- 5/27 – Yearbook Signing Party 3:35-4:00
- 5/28 – Last day of student attendance

1st Grade Happenings...

Grade Level News: Thank you for returning the registration packets. We almost have all of them in, it is not too late to return yours. There is another round of PARCC testing taking place the week of April 27th. The first grade schedule will be affected but your child's instructional time will not be changed, just the order of our day. The month of April always gives us interesting weather. Hopefully, the temperatures will allow for outdoor recess. Please send you child with appropriate clothes for the weather.

Science Information: The larva will be arriving in April. We will be tracking the growth and learning more about butterflies.

Math Information: We are completing chapter 8 soon, which was Measurement and Time. Chapter 9 will focus on Two-Dimensional Shapes and Equal Shares.

ELA Information: We are learning about explanatory writing. The students will do research to complete their writing assignments. First grade students are inferring and questioning! Continue to read to and with your child at home!

Other Grade Level Needs/Reminders: Don't forget to send in your \$3 for the field trip. The money is due Wednesday, April 15th.

Upcoming Grade Level Events/Calendar:

April 15th - Field trip money due

May 7th - Bug Fest field trip

2nd Grade Happenings...

Second Grade has lots going on this quarter! Our most exciting news is that Mrs. Rogers is going on maternity leave as of April 17th. Her substitute will be one of our own aides in the building - Miss Friel. We are back doing science this quarter. We are studying air and weather. See if your child comes home and shares what they have learned about air, water, and the weather. We are doing biographies in class. We read many different biographies and now have picked a special person we would like to learn more about and are writing our own biography. We might even create a replica of our person! In addition we are going to be sending home an animal project to be completed at home. The due date is April 20th. If the information hasn't come home yet, keep your eyes peeled. There are a variety of suggestions as to how to go about completing the report. We just finished a unit on coins with our second graders, so continue to practice with your student at home about the different coins and their values. We will be moving into learning about time, graphs, and measurement in the next few weeks. Also, please continue to monitor the weather each day and make sure that your student is dressed appropriately for the day. We are going outside and want to make sure coats are still being worn. Spring is very up and down for temperatures.

Thank You,
The Second Grade Teachers

3rd Grade Happenings...

Math - Third grade is working on a unit with measurement and data. We will learn how to collect data, analyze data, and interpret it to make decisions. Also we will be learning about and using both Metric and U.S. Customary measurements. Our final math unit will be geometry.

Science - Our final area of study will be the human body. We will use owl pellets to begin learning about different bones and then move into how they compare with human bones.

Social Studies - Our final unit of study will be focused on the fifty states and how they are grouped by regions. We will study the resources, climates, and landforms within these regions.

Reading - All classes will be reading a variety of genres as well as continuing to compare and contrast fiction and non-fiction texts to improve comprehension.

4th Grade Happenings...

Happy Spring! We are excited for all the upcoming learning adventures that will take place this last quarter! We are finishing up Mr. Cavello's math multiplication March Madness tournament (In April 🤓)

On the horizon is the start of our Process of Investigation Unit. Be on the lookout for information on the egg drop experiment with a twist! This is the kick off for this science unit.

We've already "submerged" into our reading unit on the Titanic! This is an all-time 4th grade favorite! They will become immersed in their passenger identity and research soon.

Finally to culminate the 4th grade experience, will be our REVOLUTIONARY WAR LIVING TIMELINE! This is another creative way to bring history to life! Look for your invitation near the end of May.

Thank you for your continued support!

The 4th Grade Team

5th Grade Happenings...

Science Info

We will begin our final science unit on levers and pulleys. The students will learn that humans are arguably the only living creatures that have been able to put materials together to construct machines to do work. This unit will involve the students in fundamental concepts of simple machines.

Social Studies and ELA

We are moving on through history by reading and discussing Westward Expansion, World Wars one and two, and hopefully finishing up with the learning about major events of the decades. In Reading and Writing we continue to focus on responding to literature. We have spent time discussing nonfiction text features that we find in much of our reading. We are exploring Time For Kids, our social studies text, and articles that bring history and current events to life. Some of our classes have completed a biography unit, while some are just beginning. Watch for information coming home soon regarding the biographies. Our final focus in writing will be persuasive writing.

Math Info

We are currently working on Unit 6 which is Volume and Measurement. Throughout the unit the students will learn how to recognize volume as an attribute of solid figures, measure volume, relate volume to the operations of multiplication and addition, convert among different-sized measurement units within a given measurement system, and make line plots to display data sets of measurements in fractions of a unit. Some of our classes will be wrapping up our unit on volume with a Robot Project. The students will be building robots in class using rectangular prisms (boxes) of all different sizes, finding the volume of each of the individual pieces used on their robot and the robot as a whole (composite figure), and then writing an essay about their robot and why they deserve the title “Inventor of the Year”.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank Deputy Schmitt, our Student Resource Officer, for his expertise in drug and alcohol education. Over the past several weeks he has presented our 5th graders with valuable information that will help guide them in their future.

5th Grade News

Step Up Day: Traugher April 14th, Plank April 15th, Thompson April 20th, Bednarcik May 8th

Picture Day: April 17th Puberty Talk: April 23rd

Robert Crown: April 24th PARCC testing: week of April 27th

Specials Happenings...

Long Beach Artists!

5th grade: Artist Andy Warhol and Printmaking
4th grade: Continuing weaving on cardboard looms
3rd grade: Aboriginal Artists from Australia and Dot paintings
2nd grade: Finishing Artist Henry Rousseau projects
1st grade: The Color Wheel and color mixing

If you have any questions you can reach Mrs. Kearns at fkearns@sd308.org

Long Beach Music Department

Students and staff are re-energized after a needed Spring Break. There are many happenings in the music room. Grade 3 did a wonderful job at their performance of "The Granny Awards". DVDs are available for purchase for \$5.

***Honor Choir** is preparing for the District Festival and Concert on May 13th at 7:00pm in the OEHS gymnasium. They will also perform the National Anthem at the Cougars game on May 14th. Make sure your student participated in the Ozzie Reading Program for a free ticket!

Grade 5 is finishing Railroad Songs. Their next project is the Soundtrack of My Life. **IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD MAGAZINES, PLEASE SEND THEM WITH YOUR STUDENT ASAP!**

Grade 4 is finishing Sea Shanties. They will be learning the recorder next. **Parents and Guardians: students are responsible for their recorder. They must bring it to every music class. Please help them to remember.**

Grade 3 is learning about Spirituals.

Grade 2 is finishing their unit on Patriotic music. Next, they will learn about multi-cultural music.

Grade 1 is continuing to practice steady beat through movement and singing. They will also resume instrument playing.

*The music room is in need of black dry erase markers and Kleenex. Please send them with your student if you can. Thanks!

Please contact me with any questions. Happy Spring!

Stacy Courchaine

630-636-3360

scourchaine@sd308.org

Specials Happenings...continued

Long Beach Library Lions

Thank you for your support during the Spring Book Fair! I always enjoy meeting Long Beach Families; and am surprised to see all the young and older siblings of our students. My first Long Beach 5th grade classes are juniors now! Good thing I'm not getting any older.

All of the items that were ordered at the Book Fair were given to the students on Tuesday, April 7th. It was a nice surprise to see them right after the break. A portion of your purchases from the Book Fair will go towards purchasing more books for the Long Beach LRC.

The 2016 Award Book lists are published. The Books on the Monarch Award List appeal to all readers but are aimed at the children in grades K to 3. The name Monarch was chosen because of its familiarity to K-3 children and to symbolize the growth, change and freedom that becoming a reader brings. The Illinois Bluestem Book Award List is designed for students in grades 3-5 who are ready for longer titles than found on the Monarch list, but not quite ready for the more mature content of some of the Rebecca Caudill titles. The Rebecca Caudill Award is given to the author of the book voted most outstanding by students in grades four through eight. The LRC will have many of these books, but as always I encourage you and your families to go to the Public Library, they have many copies of each title.

LRC Inventory - As the end of the school year approaches please make sure your children are returning their library books. If books are lost or damaged we will ask that you reimburse Long Beach for the cost of replacing the book. All library books are due on May 15.

If you have any questions please contact me at dgallery@sd308.org

Thanks,
Mrs. Gallery
Library Media Specialist

Physical Education

Mr. Winder and his wife welcomed a healthy baby girl to their family over spring break. We would like to welcome Mr. Hettinger (back) to Long Beach! Mr. Hettinger will be filling in for Mr. Winder during his leave. Mr. Hettinger also did a leave cover at Long Beach last school year.

Fitness logs for the Plunge Into Fitness Raging Waves challenge are due no later than Monday, April 13th. One pass to Raging Waves waterpark in Yorkville will be handed out to each student who completes the fitness log and turns it into Mr. C. Raging Waves opens up for the season on May 30th.

Long Beach Field Day 2015 is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26th. Our rain date will be Wednesday, May 27th. A sign-up sheet for parent volunteers will be sent home in the coming weeks for those interested in helping out on the day of the event.

Please remember to send your child to school with gym shoes. Children without proper gym shoes will not be permitted to participate in PE per district policy.

Mr. C TCarstensen@sd308.org

Mr. Winder JWinder@sd308.org

AT Happenings...

AT Math

3rd Grade - The students have just begun a unit on geometry. They are currently learning about angles, polygons, and quadrilaterals. In addition, they are continuing to work on critical thinking and problem solving within math through a variety of word and logic problems.

4th Grade - The students have been working hard learning how to estimate and measure length, weight, mass, and capacity. They are currently calculating the perimeter and area of squares and rectangles. We will soon begin our unit on geometry in which the students will apply geometric concepts to solve real-life problems.

5th Grade - The students have learned how to accurately estimate and measure length, weight, mass, and capacity. They are currently reviewing measurement conversions and will soon take their test over these concepts. After this, we will begin our next unit on geometry. In addition, the students are continuing to learn how to think critically, work collaboratively, and apply math to solve real-world problems through a variety of activities and exercises.

Notes/Reminders

All AT Math students who do not use the ALEKS program have been given access to Khan Academy. Students should practice their math facts at least two nights a week and then work on this website at least two nights per week.

AT Reading

3rd Grade - The students recently finished reading *Alone in the Ice World* by Mary Ann Easley. This novel is about the journey of a young girl's survival when her plane crashes in Alaska. The students learned about cultural differences and discussed the theme of diversity. We have just begun reading a biography about Jackie Robinson. I have asked the students to bring in books and articles about him to share with the class.

4th Grade - The students are currently reading *Chasing Vermeer* by Blue Balliett. This mystery novel takes the students on a journey to find a missing Vermeer painting where two 6th grade students find themselves in the midst of the investigation. The students have been working hard to piece the clues together and make inferences in order to catch the thief.

5th Grade - The students have just finished reading *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne. This novel is set during the Holocaust and focuses on an unlikely friendship between a Nazi commandant's son and a young Jewish boy in a concentration camp. The students are currently discussing final reactions and speculations for this outstanding story.

Contact Mrs. Gabris

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (630) 636-3300 or via email at mgabris@sd308.org.

The Reading Corner

It's Poetry Month!

National Poetry Month is a time to celebrate poets, rhymes, rhythm, and word choices that make poetry fun for kids. Sharing poetry with kids is a great way to highlight and play with language especially for emerging readers, academically talented and English language learners.

Did you Know?

Reading poems builds **fluency** and motivates students to read because the sing-songy, humorous nature of poems is enrichment for our brains! Explore and share:

K-2 Nursery Rhymes, You Read to Me, I'll Read to You Very Short Stories to Read Together,

3-5 Shel Silverstein, Jokes and Riddles, Jack Prelutsky, Limericks, Concrete poetry (the words form pictures)

Check it Out!

Scholastic has Poetry Writing Workshops with celebrated poets Jack Prelutsky and Jean Marzello , an *Interactive Poetry Making Machine*, and several

News from the EL Room

Hello EL Families!

In a few weeks I will be going on maternity leave. I will not be returning for the rest of the school year. It has been a wonderful privilege to work with your child this year! They have grown so much and I know they will continue to grow next year with their reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Sometime in the next month you will be receiving your child's 2015 ACCESS scores. This was a test they took that is only for ELL students and measures their ability and growth in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. You will also receive a 4th quarter progress report at the end of the year which will be based on these scores. If you have any questions or concerns about their test scores or about next year, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Francis. I hope you all have a wonderful summer!

~ Mrs. Seema Leigh
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