

Newsletter Date

Volume 1, Issue 8

Mark the Dates:

- Welcome Back Week (March 29th)
- 4th Quarter Begins (March 29th)
- April 1st- Mouthpiece Testing Band
- AIR Testing Schedule-Week of April 12th
- Remote Testing Days-Week of April 26th
- Easter Break-April 2nd-5th
- April 19th Progress Report
- April 26th Spelling Bee

Every Student Everyday Welcome Back Week

March 29th-April 1st

Monday: Wild About Being Together Wear Animal Print

Tuesday: Jamming Together Wear Jammies

Wednesday: The Team is Back Together Wear Your Team Shirt

Thursday: Super Excited We're Reunited-Wear Superhero Shirts



LIS- We Celebrate With Our Attire!

During the Month we celebrated reading by dressing up following a different theme each day. This newsletter contains many photos from that week of celebration.

We dressed up like detectives for Mystery Monday; imagined a tourist destination for Tourist Tuesday; wore wacky clothes for Wacky Wednesday; visited another decade with Throwback Thursday and dressed like imaginary characters for Fantasy Friday! What a fun week! Our first week back with all students beginning on March 29th will be a shared week of celebration with Bascom Elementary. The themes for each day (Monday through Thursday) are listed on the first page of this newsletter. We are so happy to be all back together.

This is the week of Easter Break, beginning on April 1st, so we only have four days of school during that first week of the 4th Quarter!



Stuco Sponsors Pennies for Patients

Our Student Council activities have been extremely limited because of our hybrid schedule and Covid limitations.

During the month of March, student council kicked off two weeks of activities to raise moneys under the Pennies for Patients program. The Pennies for Patients program raises money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma, which is the world's largest nonprofit organization that fights against blood cancer. Leukemia is the #1 most diagnosed form of childhood cancer.

Our Goal is \$600.

During the first week of March 15th, students could purchase a ticket for the "Pie in the Face" event. The dollar buys a chance to be selected to throw a pie at Mrs. Cusimano, who graciously volunteered for this event.

The second week is a theme week, where students bring specific coins each day to dress according to a specific theme. Flyers were sent home to announce: Monday-Pajama Penny Day; Tuesday-Neon Nickel Day; Wednesday-Dazzling Dimes Day; Thursday-Crazy Quarter Day and Friday-Dollar Team Up Day! Thanks for helping us reach our goal!

Easter Break

Easter Break will begin on April 2nd and continue through April 5th. Students will return on Tuesday, April 6th.



Mrs. Guesman wears her T-shirt from 6th Grade for Throwback Thursday!





Spelling Bee Participants

5th grade:

Bustard, Maria Church, Kaydence Hill, Macey Kempf, Miriam Lengel, Zabella Lutz, Mason McAllister, Kassidy Mills, Cameron Peace, Daisy Sackett, Conner Stuck, Sonya Sullinger, Garrett

4th grade:

Bailey, Noah Beck, Molly Delka, Zachary Goldbach, Emma Kascsak, Kaleigh

3rd grade:

Armeni, Nina Bustard, Johnny Carter, Jaxson

(Some students names are not listed due to parental requests not to publish names)

County Spelling Bee Rescheduled

To qualify for the Spelling Bee at LIS, students were given a spelling test. The students listed to the left will be able to participate in a school spelling bee that will take place after March 29th when we transition from the hybrid schedule to all students attending school daily.

Unfortunately because of the Covid restrictions, the spelling bee will be done without student spectators. There is no national spelling bee competition' however the county is planning a County Spelling Bee at 5:30 on Monday, April 26th. There will be a limited number of spectators permitted for each Spelling Bee participant.

The Bee will be held at the Event Center at the Eastwood Mall. Thanks to Mrs. Morgan, who is our spelling bee coordinator and in charge of the Spelling Bee.

4th Grade Band Mouthpiece Testing

Thursday, April 1st, we will have representatives here from Music & Arts to conduct mouthpiece testing for our 4th grade students to help identify which instrument would be best suited for their mouth formation. This will facilitate choosing a beginning instrument that they would be most successful in learning. Extra precautions are in place to keep students safe during the testing process.

Information will also be made available to parents for procuring instruments for students for the 2021-2022 school year when they will begin band classes, which is a two-year commitment for 5th & 6th grade.

Link for Letter from LIS Band Directors for interested parents. <u>LINK</u>

AIR Testing Schedule

Though there has been much debate about moving forward with state testing, it is planned to happen on schedule, with a few allowable extensions. We are all aware of the questionable legitimacy of measuring student progress after a year of hybrid and distance learning; however, there certainly will be data that is useful for planning our academic recovery. Please make sure students are well rested & in attendance for testing.

April 12 th LaBrae Testing Window Opens.

ELA Testing

April 13th & 14th Grade 3 April 14th & 15th- Grade 4 April 20th & 21st- Grade 5 <u>Math Testing</u>

April 27th & 28th- Grade 5 April 28th & 29th - Grade 3 May 4th & 5th- Grade 4

Science Testing

May 5th & 6th

Remote Testing Schedule

Students who are still receiving instruction through Fuel Ed and are still 100% remote will be scheduled to take the AIR test following the completion of a Google Form that explains what Ohio Law states about testing. The survey asks a few simple questions about scheduling testing times; the test must be taken in the school building and not remotely.

In order to simplify scheduling of the testing, and limit the number of trips for parents to complete testing in all subject areas, we will limit the remote testing to one week during the Google Form Link to indicate testing participation for remote students

last week of April. Each test consists of two parts, so our plan is for students to take Part 1, have lunch and then take Part 2.

> Remote Testing Days April 27th, 28th & 29th for ELA, Math & Science

Fantasy Friday

<image>

Wacky Wednesday



4th Quarter Progress Report

The week of April 19th- interim progress reports will be sent home for the 4th quarter.

A key factor in continued student progress has been completion of remote work and engagement in continued learning opportunities through digital platforms and direct instruction on Google Meets. While returning to 5-day instruction will eliminate

remote assignments, there still are homework requirements for each grade

level. If your child has not developed the necessary selfdiscipline and patterns of accountability, I would expect there will still be challenges in completing work outside of the school day.

Our policies for accountability are the same for homework as they have been for remote work.

Literacy Update

Our staff has been focusing on a Literacy Initiative for over a year. We have had several training days on the Science of Reading and our Literacy Committee is currently reviewing materials to implement in the next school year that focus on phonics instruction.

LIS and Bascom are continuing a working partnership to learn and plan the implementation of the new Science of Reading into our instructional practices, all under the leadership of our county Curriculum experts.

This not limited to the teaching of Reading but also has instructional implications for all subject areas which will be implementing explicit vocabulary instruction in Math, Science and Social Studies.

I cannot stress how important it is for our students to continue to utilize our Lexia program, which continues to help us identify specific areas where individual student need help so we can intervene and fill those gaps,

Retention Notifications may be included (second notification) with the 3rd quarter report cards. If you receive a letter, a conference is the next step to discuss the many factors that would need to be reviewed (not just academic) to make the final determination of grade placement.



LIS Detectives Mr. & Mrs. Suzelis looking for Leprechauns?



Closing Comments

March 29th is a day we have been working towards for some time. I am extremely excited about the time when we can all be together every day. I think the students will be very glad to be together again and see each other in person and not just over zoom.

There will be some adjustments for students in returning to school

all together and we will be spending some time, reintroducing students to our routines and safety protocols. I expect there will be a period of transition before we enter into a more normal school routine.

While we know there is much to be done academically to address learning gaps over the last year, we are also acutely aware of our students' social-emotional needs.

New CDC Guidelines & Safety

Just a quick note to assure you that we have been preparing some time for the return of every student every day. Classrooms & the lunchroom have been reconfigured. Schedules have been reviewed and protocols of the CDC guidelines for schools have been considered in our planning.

We continue to put as a top priority the health and safety of our staff and students. We will continue to stress the appropriate wearing of masks and social distancing throughout our school day. It is always a challenge to find the balance between enabling behavior because of the extreme circumstances we have all been forced to walk and moving forward and adequately preparing our students for the academic and life challenges that lie ahead.

Thank you for the many ways you partner with us to keep our students moving forward and growing.



