

LYONS MILL ELEMENTARY

December 5, 2018
Volume 4, Issue 3

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Dear Lyons Mill Families,
Best wishes to you and your family for a happy and healthy holiday season. During our first quarter together, we enjoyed a great start with many activities and events such as our Fall Fun Run, Family Reading Night, Vex Robotics Tournament, STEM Expo and American Education Week.

The month of December is filled with some exciting opportunities to participate in our Scholastic Book Fair Family Fun Night and see our talented students perform at our Winter Concert. On Thursday, December 13th, we hope to see you from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at our Book Fair. If you are available to volunteer during the school day to help at our Book Fair, please email Sheila Beyer at sbeyer@bcps.org or Marley Max at mmax@bcps.org, or call the school at 443-809-1719.

On Tuesday, December 18th, our 4th Annual Winter Concert will feature our second grade through fifth grade Dance Team, A' Capella Choir, American Sign Language Club as well as our Grade 5 Chorus.

Please check out our website for up-to-date information:
<http://lyonsmilles.bcps.org>

Best wishes,
Mrs. Maralee Clark
Principal

ARRIVAL 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
DISMISSAL 3:20 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Upcoming Events

December 10th - 14th
Schoolwide Scholastic
Book Fair

Tuesday, December 11th
PTA Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 13th
Book Fair Family Fun Night
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Monday, December 17th
Interims Distributed

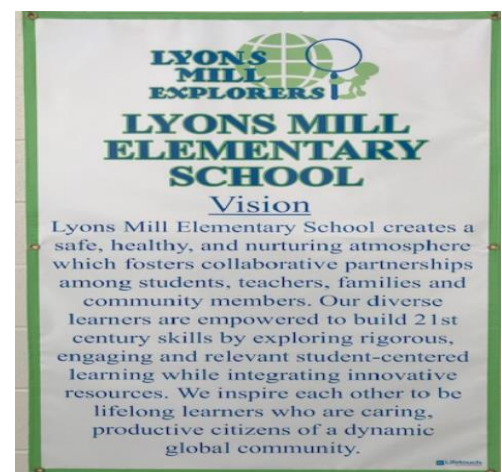
Tuesday, December 18th
Winter Concert 6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 19th
School Spirit Day

December 24th - Jan 1st
School Closed
Winter Holiday

January 2nd
School Reopens

Tuesday, January 15th
Math Night 6:00-7:30 pm



Explorers Believe, Explorers Achieve!

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Welcome to the Counselors' Corner for December

This month, we will soar to 132 classroom lessons being delivered by the school counselors focusing on vital social/emotional and behavioral skills. Our focus for December is Personal Safety. Through our discussions and activities, students will understand how to keep their bodies safe, as well as how to demonstrate internet safety. Due to the sensitive nature of these topics, we encourage you to engage in continued exploration of the concepts at home. After the lesson, ask your student about what personal safety means and what strategies they can use to keep safe. If you need any follow up discussion activities to help guide the home-school connection related to this topic, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Menikheim or Mrs. Dudley for suggestions. If you ever need to speak with a counselor, please call us at (443)-809-1719 and specify which counselor you need to speak with. We are split up by grades: Mr. Menikheim has grades Kindergarten, Second, and Fourth: Mrs. Dudley has grades First, Third, and Fifth.

American Education Week Update:

During American Education Week families were able to visit their children in the classroom and participate in the interactive activities that the teachers had planned. Thank you to everyone who participated by attending one of the assigned visitation days. We had over 200 family members come out to Lyons Mill Elementary between Monday, November 12 through Friday, November 16 in order support our young learners.

Families in Need:

As School Counselors, we are here to provide support to our families in any way possible! We are partnered with many community resources to connect families with the assistance they may need. Holiday help options are available for families who are seeking this specific type assistance. If you are experiencing financial or social/emotional struggles, please reach out to Mr. Menikheim or Mrs. Dudley to discuss the options that we currently have available to assist you. All communications will remain confidential.



Attendance Announcements

Attendance is an essential component to a student's academic and social success. Each day, the material presented in class establishes a foundation for future learning. Missed instructional time can lead to breaks in that learning process. If an absence or tardiness cannot be prevented, it is important to explain the reason for the absence or lateness. It is also important that you and/or your child request make-up work for the time that is missed.



Volunteer Information

Continue to complete volunteer applications if you would like to help in and around Lyons Mill. Even if you completed the training last year, it is required that a new volunteer application and training certificate be submitted each school year. All training is completed electronically. If you do not have access to the internet, arrangements can be made to utilize a computer at Lyons Mill. Please contact the school to make arrangements. The volunteer application and training module can be accessed at

http://www.bcps.org/community/volunteer_info/. Once you complete your application and the Safe Schools Training, send your application and your certificate to bmenikheim@bcps.org or tdudley@bcps.org

School Hours

- School hours 8:30 a.m.- 3:30p.m. Students may enter the building at 8:30 a.m.
- Arrival 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
- There is no supervision for any child dropped off before 8:30 a.m. Unsupervised students are not permitted on school grounds prior to 8:30 a.m. Students must arrive in their classrooms before the 8:45 a.m. bell.
- Homeroom begins at 8:45 a.m.
- Dismissal 3:20 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Hours

- Office hours 8:15 a.m.- 4:15 p.m.
- If your child arrives to school late or leaves school early for any reason, please report to the main office to meet him/her and not to the classroom. Parents are required to sign students in/out in the main office.
- If your child forgets materials necessary for the school day, these should be dropped off in the office. Please make sure items are clearly marked with your child's name.



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BCPS SCHOOLGY

Do you have a BCPS One account? Have you accessed your child's BCPS One account? Have you explored our brand-new Learning Management System-Schoolgy? If you've answered "no" to any of the questions above, visit the BCPS website and click on the BCPS One icon in the upper right corner so that you can get started. Schoolgy will give you access to your child's classes, grades, and instructional resources. You can also communicate with all your child's teachers via Schoolgy. To get started visit www.bcps.org. Please contact Mr. Jackson, S.T.A.T. teacher by email jjackson3@bcps.org with any questions.



access to your child's classes, grades, and instructional resources. You can also communicate with all your child's teachers via Schoolgy. To get started

visit www.bcps.org. Please contact Mr. Jackson, S.T.A.T. teacher by email jjackson3@bcps.org with any questions.



Baltimore County Public Schools Parents:

Are you interested in...

- Quick access to student courses, grades, and assignments for all your children?
- Anytime, anywhere access to resources that can support your student's learning needs?
- Improved communication with teachers?

BCPS One provides BCPS families with quick and easy access to a variety of resources!

After creating a myBCPS account and adding your students, you have will access to:



And much, much more!

Note: A parent or guardian e-mail address, first name, last name, and verification of educational rights must be on file with the school for each student prior to creating a myBCPS account.

To create a NEW myBCPS Account:

1. Visit mybcps.bcps.org.
2. Click **Create an Account** and complete **Your Account Profile**. You will be sent an activation code via e-mail, which is good for 24 hours after generation.
3. Click **Add a Student**. You will be prompted to select your child's school and enter their date of birth.
4. Click **Submit**.



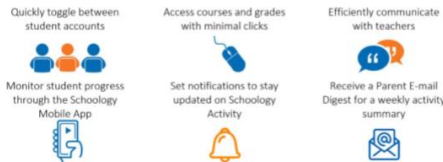
For parents that already have established a myBCPS account, but are not connected to their student, please login to <https://mybcps.bcps.org/> and follow Steps 3 and 4 noted above.



Schoolgy on BCPS One gives parents and students 24/7 access to student courses, grades, and assignments.



BCPS recommends that parents create and use their own myBCPS account, rather than use their students account. Using myBCPS parent account to access Schoolgy allows you to:



Interested in Learning More About Schoolgy? Visit the **Learn About Schoolgy** page, found on your BCPS One dashboard. Here you can find videos and support resources that review quick tips for using Schoolgy as a parent.



LMES Winter Concert

Our Lyons Mill Elementary Winter Concert is coming up on Tuesday, December 18th at 6 pm. The fifth grade will be singing, dancing, drumming, and playing ukuleles. The A' Capella Choir, Dance Team, and American Sign Language Club will also be performing during this concert. Please come out and support our music program and see our talented students perform.



TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Walkers

Thank you for following the daily procedures in the afternoon during dismissal.

Carpool

When dropping off and picking up your students, please pull to the end of the car loop to allow the LMES staff to load and unload as many students as possible at a time. If you arrive after the 8:45 am bell, please drive to the main office entrance.

Bus Riders

We are working diligently with the BCPS Office of Transportation to ensure all busses arrive on time daily. You may contact Baltimore County Public School's Office of Transportation by calling 410-887-4321.

Please Note

When visiting LMES, please park in our staff and visitor parking lot.

LMES PTA

Thank you to all who have already joined the LMES PTA. Our membership drive contest has come to an end. Look out for an email announcing the winners. Although the competition has concluded, we are still accepting memberships. Please join us today! Memberships are just \$10 and are open to everyone and benefits all our students. Joining is a great way to support our school! Dues are only \$10.00 per person and anyone in the family may join—parents, guardians, or grandparents. Your membership dues include three portions: local, state, and national. Individuals who pay dues to a local PTA are automatically members of the state PTA and National PTA. **Please join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, December 11th at 6:00 pm. Please feel free to bring a friend and children. Child care will be provided by Hot Spots beginning at 6:30 pm.**



Did you know....

You Can Save Money as a PTA Member

Whether you're buying school supplies for the kids or renting a car for your next family vacation, PTA members can save money on everyday purchases thanks to National PTA Member Offers. National PTA teams up with businesses committed to supporting PTA's mission of serving all children by offering our members special discounts. (Link to member discounts located on the back of your membership card)



Did you know....

BCPS has a PTA Special Education Liaison (SEL) Project? The Lyons Mill PTA is looking to recruit a SEL for our PTA to advocate for special education students in our school. If you are interested in learning more about this project, please email us at lyonsmillpta@gmail.com.



LMES Book Fair

The only Book Fair this year will be from Monday, December 10th to Friday, December 14th.

Students will be shopping during the school day. We are still in need of volunteers for each day and class. If you are available to volunteer, please email Sheila Beyer at sbeyer@bcps.org or Marley Max at mmax@bcps.org, or call the school at 443-809-1719. Our Annual Family Fun Night is Thursday, December 13th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Families will have the opportunity to shop the book fair. We look forward to seeing everyone there.



What is Digital Wellness?

Digital wellness is being aware of how you spend your time online. It includes being mindful of your online presence and footprint; how you interact with social networks, games and apps; the ways you protect your identity; and how you balance your time online within your daily life.

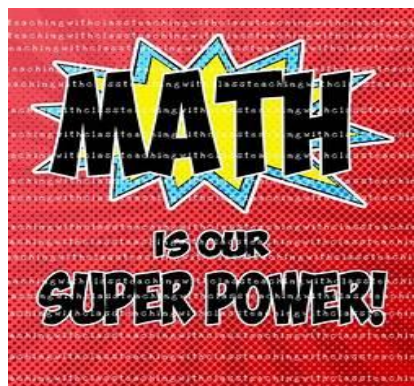
Understanding digital wellness helps families play, learn, connect and grow together. As our world becomes increasingly digital, the solution doesn't lie in eliminating technology. It's about making technology work for you and actively evaluating how you use your devices to, ultimately, better yourself and the world around you. (www.pta.org)

The Lyons Mill PTA would like to assist our community in exploring in-depth the issues that are on the minds of today's families, and connecting parents with tools, research and supports to make the best decisions for their children. Look for programming/events as we better understand digital wellness for our children together.

This Month's Tech Talk Tip

Ask your kids which apps they use the most to "hang out" and share posts with friends. You might just learn how often they're sending snaps or streaming live video. Have them show you the ropes.

| Time | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| 9:00-9:50 | Ms. Askew 5 th Grade | No Volunteers Needed | Mr. Broome Ms. Cianelli 5 th Grade | Ms. Green 5 th Grade | Ms. Schill 5 th Grade |
| 9:55-10:45 | Ms. Stakem Ms. C. Leonard 3 rd Grade | No Volunteers Needed | Ms. Williamson 4 th Grade | Ms. Ginex 3 rd Grade | Ms. Hesjen Ms. Mckeown 3 rd Grade |
| 10:50-11:40 | Ms. Mitchell 4 th Grade | No Volunteers Needed | Ms. Hammersla Ms. Barer 4 th Grade | Ms. Sanner 4 th Grade | Ms. Reider Ms. Passmore 4 th Grade |
| 12:20-1:10 | Ms. Diener Ms. Shipp 1 st Grade | Ms. Andrulonis 1 st Grade | Ms. Dudek 1 st Grade | Ms. Lentz 1 st Grade | No Volunteers Needed |
| 1:15-2:05 | No Volunteers Needed | Ms. Hudspeth Ms. Carringer Kindergarten | Mr. Mummert Ms. S. Leonard Kindergarten | Ms. Ward Kindergarten | No Volunteers Needed |
| 2:10-3:00 | Ms. Manger Mr. Gifford 2 nd grade | No Volunteers Needed | Ms. Molofsky Ms. DuBritton 2 nd Grade | No Volunteers Needed | Ms. Friedman Ms. Mitrovich 2 nd , Grade |



Superhero Math Night! Save the Date: Tuesday, January 15, 2019

On Tuesday, January 15th, LMES will host Super Hero Math Night from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Students and families can participate in math skills, activities, and games. A superhero lives inside us all!



VEX Robotics Awards

2018 VEX IQ Fall Classic Robotics Tournament was held on November 10, 2018 at Lyons Mill Elementary. Thirty-five middle school and elementary schools competed.



The **Excellence Award** is the highest award presented in the VEX IQ Challenge. This award is presented to a team that exemplifies overall excellence in creating a high quality VEX Robotics **program**.

Team 3131D - Alvin, Noah, and Aamir won the Elementary Excellence Award. This qualifies them for the Maryland State Championship in March.



The **Judges Award** is presented to a team that the Judges determine is deserving of special recognition.

Team 3131C - Shrushti and Riyansha, won the Judges Award.

5th Grade Ballroom All-Stars

During the week of November 12th, our Lyons Mill 5th graders participated in a week-long program called "5th Grade Ballroom All Stars". The program was taught by a professional dancer, Ms. Christine, who traveled from New York City. Our 5th graders learned how to perform the Merengue, Tango, Swing, and Cha-Cha. The program culminated with a performance on November 16th. A huge thank you goes out to Mrs. Clark, the Special Area Team, and the 5th Grade Team for their support!



Fall Fun Run Assembly

On November 16th, Mr. Crouthamel hosted an all school assembly in the gymnasium to celebrate our top fundraising students from the Fall Fun Run. Students PIED a teacher of their choice! The gymnasium floor still smelled like cool whip for days. Congratulations again to the top students. Fun times were had by everyone and no teachers were harmed during this event.

Are You Moving?

If you have moved, please make sure you notify us immediately. **If you do not notify us within 15 days of moving, then you are considered to be fraudulently enrolled.**

It is important for the school to have the most up-to-date information concerning your children in the event of an emergency. Even if you switch apartments in the same development, you must re-register. Any changes to email addresses or phone numbers need to be reported to the main office. Please contact our Lyons Mill main office at 443-809-1719 with any questions.

Replacement of Student ID Badges

During the school day, as long as it is safe, student identification (ID) badges need to be worn visibly by lanyard or clip. All students **MUST HAVE** ID badges.

If a student identification badge is lost or stolen, there is a replacement fee. Fees for replacement badges are \$5.00 per badge.

Please submit \$5.00 in cash in a sealed envelope clearly labeled with your child's name addressed to Ms. Stacey Enty, Assistant Principal. The new badge will be printed and given to your child's teacher.

Living Wax Museum - A Big Success

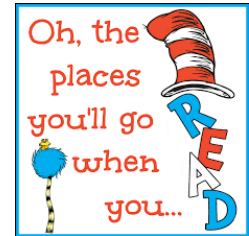
Our 4th grade held their 2nd Annual Living Wax Museum on Tuesday, November 20th. After working through their English Language Arts Unit focused on memorable people and the journeys they take, our students selected a memorable person and put their research skills to work! On the day of the museum, students dressed up as their person and gave speeches, recapping the most important events that in that person's life. Each student did a fantastic job and we look forward to holding the Living Wax Museum in the years to come!



Read-A-Thon

Read-A-Thon results are in, and we are so impressed!! **LYONS MILL EXPLORERS READ OVER 140,000 MINUTES AND RAISED OVER \$7,000!** We are so grateful for your

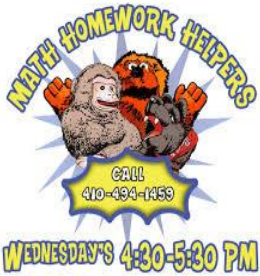
support. By talking with your students about Read-A-Thon, reading with them, and asking your families and friends for donations, you've shown them the importance of reading. You have also shown them your support for our school.



With the funds that were raised, we are going to be able to buy so many new reading materials that will go straight into our classrooms. Our teachers are incredibly grateful for your support.

Math Homework Helpers

Does your child love math? Do they need a little extra math help? Would they like to be on TV? Do they like to win prizes? If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, we are here for you. Give it a try, have your child "Tune In" and "Call In" to Math Homework Helpers every Wednesday, from 4:30-5:30 on BCPS-TV, Comcast Channel 73 or Verizon FiOS Channel 34.



After each call, your student will win a cool prize which will be mailed to his/her school. The phone number to call on Wednesday is: 410-494-1459. We hope your student will join the fun!



National Honor Society

The National Honor Society held its second annual Induction Ceremony on November 14th. The ceremony was enjoyed by staff and families alike. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13th.



Navigators Dance Team

Both the LMES Junior Navigators and Navigators will have their first performance at the LMES Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 18th. They will also be performing during the daytime dress rehearsal concert at the evening concert.



Jazz Band

All our cool cats in Jazz Band are working hard on our improv skills, chord building skills, and ear training to make our Band/Strings Winter Concert on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 the best one yet! We may even have some special guests sitting in with the Jazz Band for some of our Wednesday morning rehearsals in December. Don't miss our performance on Tuesday, January 22nd at 6:30 p.m. It's gonna swing!

Nurse's News

The health suite is still in need of gently used clothing. All sizes will be accepted.

Hearing & Vision Screening - Hearing and Vision screening will be held at Lyons Mill from January 8th to January 17th. All students in kindergarten, first, and fourth grade will be screened. In addition, any students new to Baltimore County Public Schools in grades second, third, and fifth will be screened. If you have any questions about the screening, please do not hesitate to contact Nurse Limmer at 443-809-6758.

When should I keep my child home? - The cold weather is here, and the flu season is coming. The question always arises when to keep your child home from school? Children who have the following symptoms should stay home and not come to school until these symptoms have been gone for at least 24 hours without the help of medication. The doctor must send a note that states the condition is not contagious and that it is OK for your child to come back to school.

FEVER - If a fever over 100 degrees is present, please do not send him or her to school. It doesn't help your child's health to give medicine for fever and send him/her to school...that only reduces the fever for a short time and doesn't take care of the illness that is causing the fever. Children must be fever-free for 24 hours, without the use of medicine, before returning to school.

VOMITING/DIARRHEA - Until we know that these are no signs of a contagious illness, such as a stomach virus, your child should be kept home. If the vomiting or diarrhea happen more than once that day, or if they are associated with fever, you must keep your child home.

SKIN RASHES - If the rash has any fluid or pus coming from it, the child must remain out of school until the rash has been treated. A note from the doctor should be sent stating it is ok to return to school. If the rash is gone, dried, or scabbed over with no new spots appearing, students may also return. **Anytime a rash is associated with fever, the child may not come to school until that fever is gone for 24 hours without medication.**

RED EYES, ESPECIALLY IF THERE IS ALSO DRAINAGE OR CRUSTING AROUND THE EYE - This can often mean your child has *conjunctivitis*, also known as **pink-eye**. Not all pink-eye is contagious. Sometimes it is just allergies or other irritations that are causing the red color. Until we know for sure, which means we must have a note from the doctor stating the condition is not contagious, or until the redness and drainage are completely gone, students must stay at home.

Wellness Policy for Schools

Policy 5470: Wellness

This policy establishes standards for all foods and beverages such as those provided at classroom parties, school celebrations and as rewards and incentives. For example, all foods and beverages used in classroom celebrations will meet the same nutrition standards that are used for sale in the school meals program (competitive foods and beverages).

Please use this link to learn more information

http://www.bcps.org/system/policies_rules/policies/5000Series/POL5470.pdf



No Birthday Celebrations

Due to food allergies and the new wellness policy, students are not permitted to bring in snacks to share with other students. We thank you for your understanding that birthday celebrations are not allowed at school.



Spanish Passport Program

We have been having so much fun in Spanish class! I hope that you've been enjoying seeing your child's progress in Spanish from all the graded papers that have come home each week. If you have not seen any graded papers, please let me



know and ask your child. As a reminder, these grades are to help you and your child gauge their progress in Spanish class. There will not be a report card grade, but your child will receive 2 Spanish progress report cards (2nd quarter and 4th quarter). In addition to our classroom lessons, your child has been learning more Spanish in Middlebury on **GOOGLE CHROME** through BCPS One in **Schoology**. Your child can also access Middlebury at home the same way we do in school. There are a lot of ways you can help your child **at home** to prepare him or her to be as successful as possible throughout the year and even into next year.

* Ask each week (on their Spanish class day) ask what they learned in class & look on **Schoology**.

* Ask what they are working on in **Middlebury** and ask them to show you in Schoology. (It's self-paced.)

* Get some Spanish books out of the library and have them find words they know and/or recognize.

* Remind your child to **ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE** in class at all times. (This includes **repeating** the words/phrases, **acting out** the vocabulary, staying **focused**, and **following directions**.)

Señora Chupnick

Twitter: @SraChupnick

ichupnick@bcps.org

In 4th grade, we now know how to:

- * say our name.
 - * say our age & count from 0-31.
 - * say our birthday.
 - * say our favorite color.
 - * say how we're feeling.
 - * greet others at all times of the day.
 - * say the date, weather, & season.
 - * name the 7 days of the week.
 - * name the 12 months of the year.
 - * express an activity & sport we like to do/play.
 - * say where we're from (nationality/born).
 - * say where we live.
 - * **FROM MIDDLEBURY:** identify family members
- UNIT 2 WILL START IN DECEMBER!

In 5th grade, we now know how to:

- * do all things in the 4th grade box to the left.
 - * say the clothing we'd wear in the 4 seasons.
 - * describe ourselves in many ways.
 - * introduce our family members.
 - * describe our family members.
 - * say where my family & I are from.
 - * say where my family & I live.
 - * say what I want to be in the future.
 - * say what my family members' jobs are.
 - * express the activities & sports we like to do/play.
 - * express the activities & sports our family likes to do.
 - * say **WHERE** we & our family likes to do these things.
 - * talk about animals in a variety of ways.
- UNIT 2 WILL START IN DECEMBER



Hot Spots

Hello LMES Explorer Families!



I cannot believe we are getting ready for our Winter Break! We hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving with your families and friends. Hot Spots Explorer Students will be participating in the theme of Students Helping Students. Our focused skill is Character Building! We will be learning to show compassion to students in hospitals with stuffed animals, making holiday cards to share the warmth to those in nursing homes, and

learning about the power of positive words! We would like to welcome our newest staff member, Ms. Kyra! Mr. Kendall and I are hard at work initiating some company-wide changes to enhance our collaborative efforts - we have started a PHA! A Parents Hot Spots Association. Our staff, old and new, work together with Mr. Kendall and myself to create these wonderful nights to Educate and Connect with our current families as well as the school community. We look forward to you hearing about some exciting activities that you and your family can attend!

Explorers Believe, Explorers Achieve!

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Bringing Literacy Home Tips to Help Your Child with Reading at Home.

Literacy is for **life.**

Explaining F&P Levels

Have you ever wondered which level books are

appropriate for your student? All students in grades 1 – 5 are informally assessed using the Fountas & Pinnell (F&P) Benchmark Assessment System. This is an informal assessment that allows teachers to determine students' instructional and independent reading level. Teachers use the data from this assessment to help determine student's reading needs and to make reading groups, but parents can use this information as well! When helping your child pick out books at the library or the bookstore, look for titles that are on their **instructional** or **independent** level. If it's a book on their instructional level, you can read it with them, asking

questions and monitoring their understanding as they read. Books at a student's independent level or lower can be read independently. Check out this Scholastic website for some examples of books on your child's reading level: <https://tinyurl.com/booksbylevel>

Questions to ask your student while reading:

- *What do you think will happen next?
- *Why do you think _____ did that?
- *What does that make you wonder? Is this making sense to you?

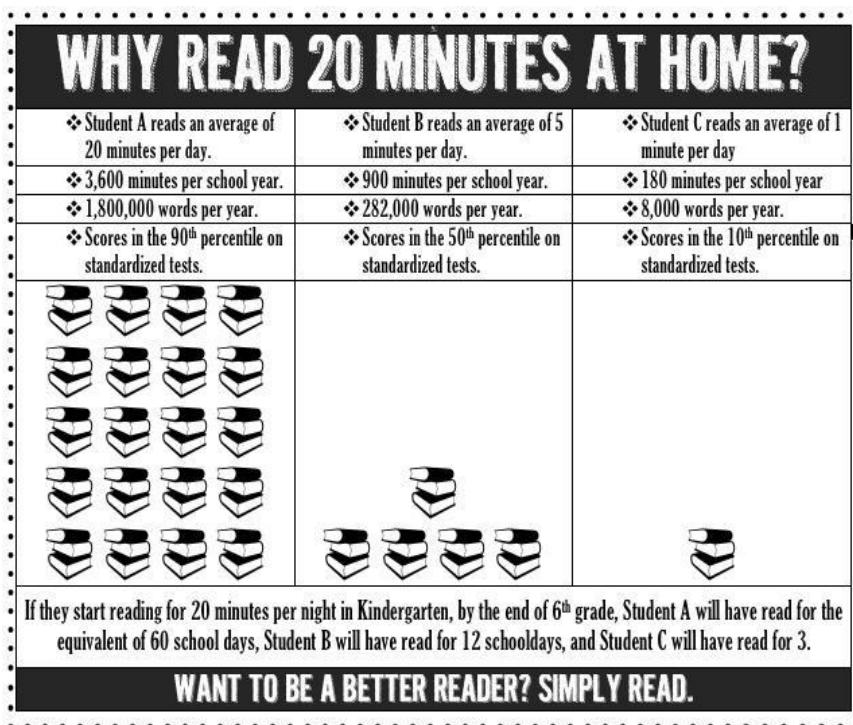
Questions to ask your student after reading:

- *Can you retell me what happened in the story in your own words?
- *What were the most important events in the story?
- *What was the main message or lesson in this book?
- *Did you think this was a good ending? Why or why not?



LMES Spirit Wear Delivery Information

Be on the lookout for our new spirit wear items. LMES spirit wear orders will be distributed on Friday, December 14th. We have a LMES School Spirit Day on Wednesday, December 19th so you can show off your new gear. Please contact Mrs. Passmore with any questions by calling our main office at 443-809-1719.





Our Scholastic Book Fair will take place from December 10th to December 14th.

Our Book Fair Family Fun Night is Thursday, December 13th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.