

LYONS MILL ELEMENTARY

November 2019

Volume 5

Issue 2

Principal's Letter

Dear Lyons Mill Families,

One of the highlights of November happens during American Education Week. You are invited to experience first-hand our innovative, instructional practices at Lyons Mill by visiting classrooms Monday, November 18th - Thursday, November 21st. Please use the schedule in this newsletter for visitation information. If you are not able to attend on your assigned day, you may visit on a different day.

Elementary Conference Day is Friday, November 22nd, which means no school for our students so we may meet with parents. Report cards are distributed (grades 1-5) on November 21st. If you are not able to meet your child's teacher, we encourage you to arrange a phone conference. Please use this link to get more information about BCPS Grading and Reporting procedures: <http://www.bcps.org/academics/grading/>

We enjoyed seeing all of our families at PTA's Trunk or Treat, Family Math Night, Fall Fun Run and our STEM Expo 2019. We are looking forward to a successful Read-A-Thon which starts on Monday, November 11, 2019. It is a great way to get the whole family involved in reading for pleasure.

Wishing your family a very happy Thanksgiving holiday,

Mrs. Maralee Clark
Principal

Upcoming Events

November 8: 3-hour early dismissal 12:15 – 12:30 pm

November 11: Read-A-thon begins

November 18 - 22: American Education Week

November 18: Picture Retake Day

November 21: Report Cards Distributed

November 22: No School – Conference Day

November 28 & 29: No school – Thanksgiving Holiday

Maralee Clark, Principal
Samantha Maile, Assistant Principal
Stacey Enty, Assistant Principal

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Owings Mills, MD 21117
443-809-1719 main office
443-809-1720 fax
443-809-6758 nurse

lyonsmilles.bcps.org

Follow us on Twitter @LyonsMill
Like us on Facebook: Lyons Mill

Counselor's Corner

So far this year, Mr. Menikheim and Ms. Arrington have delivered 68 classroom guidance lessons that have focused on vital character education topics. We have enjoyed our time teaching in the classrooms building and nurturing our relationships with the students, while fostering positive social skills with the content of our curriculum. During the month of November, we will teach an additional 34 lessons that are centered on the topic of Conflict Resolution. Discussions about the effects of our words and/or actions is a predominant focus of these lessons. Please take some time with your student to initiate follow up conversations at home. Ask your student what his/her guidance lesson was about this month and what strategies they can use while handling disputes with peers. 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 First, Third, and Fifth

Ms. Arrington has grades Kindergarten, Second, and Fourth

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 Ms. Arrington to discuss the options that we currently have available to assist you. All communications will remain confidential.

Volunteer Information:

It is time to get in those volunteer applications! Even if you completed the training last year, it is required that a new volunteer application and training certificate be submitted each school year. If you are interested in chaperoning field trips, helping out at Sports Day, or assisting teachers in the classroom please complete both mentioned items at your earliest convenience. 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 in order to complete the training. Please contact the school to make arrangements, if needed. The volunteer application and training module can be accessed at http://www.bcps.org/community/volunteer_info/. Once you complete your application and the SafeSchools Training, send your application and your certificate to bmenikheim@bcps.org!

Magnet School Information:

Attention all 5th grade parents!! Magnet applications are currently available and the deadline for submission is quickly approaching! You can access the application at: www.bcps.org/offices/omp. All applications must be submitted online or mailed by November 15, 2019. Online applications are accepted until 1 pm. Mailed applications must be postmarked by November 15, 2019. Applications submitted after the deadline date will not be considered.

Here are some important reminders about the magnet application process:

- + students can apply to up to 3 magnet programs. Those 3 programs can be within the same magnet school, or at separate schools.
- + there are no assessments for middle school magnet programs. Admission into programs are based on random lottery.
- + pay close attention to the transportation guidelines. Not all magnet schools provide transportation to this area, therefore parents/guardians will be responsible for transporting students to that particular school.

Career Day Planning

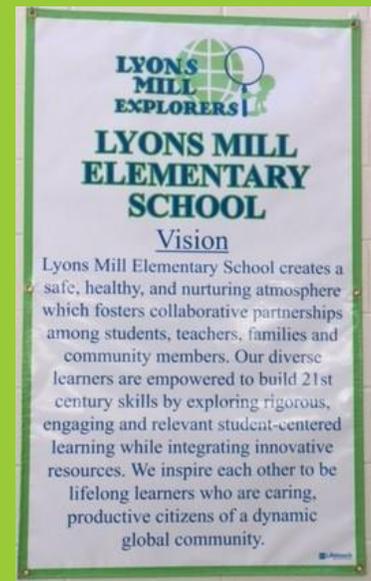
Career presentations will be delivered to our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students this year. We need your help! Career Day will be on *Friday, March 27, 2020*. If you are interested in being a presenter or would like to provide a contact that would be interested in presenting, please contact Mr. Menikheim at 443-809-1719 or bmenikheim@bcps.org. We are hopeful that we will secure a diverse, engaging roster of careers for our young learners to explore!

School Hours

- School hours 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.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.





First Grade teachers were feeling emotional! Anger, Joy, Fear, Disgust, and Sadness swirled around in Riley's brain.

Below, Mrs. Sanner wrapped up Mrs. Clark like a mummy! Students had to guess how many squares of toilet paper it took to wrap her up! Jaden from 4th grade was the closest – he guessed it took 305 squares. It actually took 308!

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.



Family Math Night



Math Night continued...

Math isn't so spooooooky after all!

Math night was an amazing success! We were so happy to see so many amazing costumes. Each pod had a different activity for the students to complete:

Parent Workshop – BCPSone, Schoology, Dreambox, & Pearson

Students also had a chance to see their principal as a mummy, and win some spooooooy prizes!

Grade Level Activities –

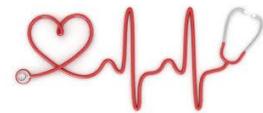
- K – Counting with spiders/one-to-one correspondence & number identification
- 1 – Spooky story problems
- 2 – Addition/subtraction BINGO
- 3 – Multiplication
- 4 – Geometry – spider web angles, lines, protractors
- 5 – Data & Measurement

Students who completed their activity tracker were able to turn it in to their homeroom teacher for a special reward!

Nurse's Note

With flu season upon us, it is important to keep our children healthy. Children are two to three times more likely than adults to get sick with the flu. Usually, the flu is spread from person to person through coughing and sneezing. Occasionally, people get the flu from touching a germ-infested surface. It is important to know the difference between cold and flu. Common symptoms of the flu include high fever, severe headache, muscle and body aches, chills, sore throat, exhaustion and

dry cough. Children may also experience nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Cold symptoms often come on gradually and include a stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat and hacking cough. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the best way to prevent your child from getting the flu is to take him/her to get the flu vaccine. Other ways to prevent getting sick are: wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; avoid sharing drinks; avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.



You can prevent the flu from spreading at home by disinfecting surfaces, toys and other commonly shared items. Please help prevent spreading illness to others by keeping your sick children home from school until they have been without a fever and or without vomiting for 24 hours. It is important for your child to rest and drink plenty of fluids. Stay healthy LMES families!

~Nurse Burger

Physical Education

We have hit the ground "running" in Physical Education! I mean this literally. This month, students in grades 3-5 have been jogging and running with a focus on aerobic exercise and pacing. Our goal for this unit is not to train the students to run a marathon, but to teach them how to set a pace for a long distance that is challenging and aerobic. The students are taught to take their pulse, understand the meaning of aerobic, and to be able to set a pace that they

can maintain for a longer period of time. The K-2nd grade students began the year discussing boundaries, listening activities, locomotor movements and speeds. Locomotor movements are movements performed using your feet that take you from one place to another. As jogging and running are locomotor movements, primary students have been comparing the speeds at which to move so we can identify the best speed to jog a long distance.



As a culminating event, all students in grades K-5 participated in the Fall Fun Run on October 31st, 2019! Huge shout out to all the families for their support in raising \$478.04 for the LMES Physical Education Program and the Cultural Arts Program.

If you ever have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, please feel free to email me. My email address is hbatong@bcps.org. Have fun and stay active! Mrs. Owen, Mr. Dorsey, and Mr. Hopper

Picture Make Ups

Picture retakes are scheduled for *Wednesday, November 20, 2019*. Every child's picture will be taken for our yearbook. All students who were absent on picture day, or anyone enrolled afterwards, will receive a picture retake form and envelope. There are extra forms in the office for anyone who needs one. Parents may contact Lifetouch directly at Lifetouch.com or 410-644-7700 with any questions.

Picture Day is Coming

Order before
Picture Day at: mylifetouch.com

Picture Day is:
Wednesday, November 20, 2019
Lyons Mill Elementary School Retake Day!

- 1 Visit:
mylifetouch.com
- 2 Enter
your Picture Day ID
MJ619161Q1
- 3 Order
your perfect package—and
don't worry about returning
anything on Picture Day!

Lifetouch
REWARDS™
Order online and receive
exclusive offers from
Lifetouch Rewards.



Questions? Please contact Customer Service at 800-736-4753.

Engineering Squad

The Lyons Mill Engineering Squad (LMESquad) has begun and is off to a roaring start! Planning and preparation for our FLIP (Family Learning Innovation Project) is under way.

During our first two sessions, families learned how to use Scratch and "Create with Empathy in Mind".

The LMESquad follows the Eat, Learn, Make and Share model. We have had wonderful donations from restaurants such as Artful

Gourmet, Rock & Toss Crab House, Jose Tequilas, and Colin's Seafood. A special shout out to Tiffany Ahmad for cultivating and growing community partnerships. All families are welcome to join.

The only requirement is parents MUST attend and Eat, Learn, Make and Share right alongside their students.

Families explored the technology tool "Makey Makey" at our November 5th meeting, in preparation for our Community Showcase on November 19th.

Clubs

SGA

Student Government is now accepting applications. If you are interested, please email Molly Rigney mrigney@bcps.org.

SLIME

SLIME club is off to a great start! We spent our first meeting cleaning up our school yard and brainstorming ideas for the year. During our second meeting, we began weaving with plastic bags that we have been collecting for 3 years!

Dance Team

The Lyons Mill Navigators and Junior Navigators have started practicing for our 2019-2020 season. We are beginning to prepare for our first performance at our winter concert. Keep listening for our other future performances!

Photos: SLIME club students cut plastic bags into strips to get ready to weave into door mats!

ASL Club

ASL Club has been revamped this year and will be using blended learning so students can practice their ASL at home and at school. We had fun learning fall vocabulary this week and look forward to learning a song for the winter concert!



American Education Week

Kindness Blooms at LMES

Join us during the week of November 18th to see your child learning!

The visitation times are below. Don't forget to wear their grade level color!

- Nov. 18 – Kindergarten (9:00-10:30am)
- Nov. 19 – First Grade (9:00-10:30am)
- Nov. 20 – Third Grade (9:00-11:00), Fifth Grade (10:00-12:00)
- Nov. 21 – Second Grade (9:00-11:00), Fourth Grade (2:00-3:00)



Literacy Night

Join us on December 10th from 6:00-7:30pm. Come dressed in your cozy pj's and curl up with a good book! You can participate in Storybook STEM, as well as shop at the Book Fair!

Read-a-thon

November 11th – December 10th

Welcome Parents, Students and Friends to our Read-A-Thon!

We are excited to announce that in November, we will hold our most successful fundraiser of the year: READ-A-THON! Our Read-A-Thon is a program that brings students together with family and friends to encourage reading and to build literacy skills while raising money for reading materials for our Lyons Mill students. The focus of the Read-A-Thon is for everyone to know we are committed to improving reading skills. Read-A-Thon promises to be a fun, exciting journey for all participants as they begin a Reading Adventure that challenges each reader to complete 30 minutes of reading per day over our 4-week event.

Our Read-A-Thon will start on November 11, 2019 and will end at our Family Literacy Night on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Before our first reading session, we will send home paperwork with your reader explaining how to activate the personal Read-a-Thon page.

We understand that as parents, you have high expectations for the quality of your child's education but also have limited time.

That's why we chose to hold a Read-a-Thon!

Read-A-Thon is the easiest fundraiser possible. By simply activating your reader's personal page and using the promotional tools found there, friends and family anywhere in the world can show their support for your reader by making a donation to our Read-A-Thon. Your involvement in the Read-A-thon will help your child develop a lasting love of reading and will help raise money for our school!

We hope each one of you will activate your child's personal page the day your child brings home the paperwork.

Please contact Lauren Sager at lsager@bcps.org with any questions.

Happy Reading!

Music

In vocal music this month, we will be focusing on Indian music with all grades. All students will listen to a variety of Indian styles and identify instrumentation and musical elements found in Indian music. Students will sing a variety of songs about fall as well. Kindergarten will be focusing on distinguishing high and low pitches, using movement to show high and low, and singing a variety of songs with large leaps between pitches. First grade will be drawing, singing, moving, and identifying melodic contour in songs. Kindergarten and first grade will both play melodic instruments to show their understanding of high and low. Second grade is finishing up our unit on major and minor and will play major and minor chords and aurally identify songs as major or minor tonality. They will also identify whole notes and begin to analyze melodic contour by identifying the space between pitches as the same, a step, or a skip. They will sing, dance, and play melodic instruments to show their knowledge. Third grade is working on their music literacy skills. They are learning how to read the letter names on the staff using a variety of stations. A few of the stations also work on preparing skills to play recorders. They are learning about the rhythmic structure of music with time signatures. Additionally, they will do some singing games practicing and preparing for skills we focused on or will focus on in

LITERACY NIGHT
at Lyons Mill Elementary

get cozy With a good Book
Tuesday, December 10th at 6-7:30 pm

other months. Fourth grade is working on single eighth note two sixteenth note combinations, focusing on ta-ti-ki this month. They will play a variety of singing games with this rhythm in the song. Fifth grade will continue to practice their syncopated rhythms, preparing for the assessment and begin learning about how musical scales work, through song, movement, games, and instrument playing.

Feel free to email Mrs. Safford esafford@bcps.org or Mrs. Alleman dalleman@bcps.org with any questions.

In instrumental music, fourth grade is working on violin and the string family in exploratory music. They are working in small groups learning the basics of how the instrument functions and is played. Other students work on small projects in their station rotations. With Mr. Poissant, fifth grade instrumental students are using their books to help them learn their first notes. Please contact Mr. Poissant, mipoissant@bcps.org, if you are not able to purchase your child's lesson book and supplies.

The A Cappella Club is building their repertoire of songs in preparation for their upcoming performances. You can see them perform Saturday, November 23, 2019 at the Foundry Row Tree Lighting. Please contact Debbie Alleman at dalleman@bcps.org with any questions and concerns.

The Musical Theater Club is building their performance skills in the areas of dance, song, and acting. Recently, they learned choreography to some simple songs that can be sung separately or together, working on their memorization and part independence skills. They also worked in small groups to prepare a small performance using nursery rhymes. These students are showing impressive performance and critical evaluation skills. They are excited to demonstrate these skills in the musical in the spring. Please contact Debbie Alleman at dalleman@bcps.org with any questions and concerns.

Spanish

Queridos estudiantes, familias y amigos del cuarto grado (4th grade) y del quinto grado (5th grade),

¡HOLA! Es el otoño y hace fresco.

We are off to a GREAT start to the year! Thank you to everyone who has filled out and returned the parent letter from the 2nd week! By now, your child should have brought home several graded papers (one from each class we've had so far). If you have not, please let me know and/or ask your child. There will not be a report card grade, but your child will receive 2 Spanish progress report cards (2nd quarter and 4th quarter). You and your child can access their grades and class notes weekly on Schoology. As a reminder, these grades are to help you and your child gauge their progress in Spanish class.

I am VERY impressed at how we are communicating in Spanish and how much the 5th grade students remember from last year! It's really quite incredible, and I'm so proud of everyone! Below, you will find a list of what we have learned so far in 4th grade and what skills we have reviewed in 5th grade. Remember, in 5th grade, Unit 1 is a review of the skills we learned last year. Please remind your children that although they may not understand everything I'm saying, they can follow some strategies that we've talked about in class: look for words that look like/sound like English; watch me as I'm teaching & pointing on the board; and look at the board for the picture clues I show to help them learn.

In 4th grade, we know how to ask & talk about:

- * how we're feeling
- * our name, age & birthday.
- * our favorite color.
- * count from 0—31.

We can also:

- * greet others at all times of the day.
- * say the date, weather, & season.
- * name the 7 days of the week.

In 5th grade, we know how to:

- * do all things in the 4th grade box.
- * 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 when I grow up.
- * say what my family's jobs are.
- * say what my family & I like to do.

ALL CLASS NOTES are glued into students' cuadernos (notebooks) at the end of class. These do not ever come home, so please go on BCPS One in Schoology in the link for Spanish class to find all class notes in a marked folder. These are added weekly.

There are a lot of ways you can help your child at home to prepare your child to be as successful as possible throughout the year and even into next year.

- * Ask each week what they learned in class & look on Schoology. Ask him/her to teach you the skill!
- * Get some Spanish books out of the library and look for 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.)

Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or concerns! Please also check Twitter often to see all the fun things we do in Spanish class! I thank you for all your support & involvement in your child's education!

Señora Chupnick
 ichupnick@bcps.org
 Twitter: @SraChupnick

PTA

Thank you to all of the families who came out to Trunk or Treat! We hope you enjoyed the night. The PTA will be hosting a fundraiser at Ledo Pizza in Owings Mills on November 5th. Please stop by to purchase a pizza or two and let them know you are there to support Lyons Mill Elementary PTA. Spread the word to family and friends. The more we make, the more we can support our school. We look forward to seeing you there.

Did someone say celebration? The months of October and November are filled with many reasons to celebrate. Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is celebrated by the people of the Hindu, Sikh and Jain religions. It is a holiday that began in India and marks the start of the Hindu New Year. The first day of Diwali was on Sunday, October 27th and it lasts 5 days.

Día de Los Muertos translates to The Day of the Dead. This is a Mexican holiday that is celebrated to show love and respect for family members who have died. In Mexico and some parts of the United States people celebrate by wearing costumes with make-up, holding parades, singing, dancing and making offerings to loved ones. This year Día de Los Muertos begins on October 31st and ends on November 2nd.

Indigenous Peoples' Day was celebrated during the month of October on the 14th. This is a day that celebrates the history and cultures of Native American people. There are at least 8 tribes of American Indians that are native to the state of Maryland. Some local communities celebrated this special day by holding pow-wows, pot lucks and film festivals.

The Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, was celebrated from September 29-October 1. Rosh Hashanah is a time for people to pray, reflect and hear the shofar. On this holiday, Jewish people eat traditional foods like challah, a traditional bread, and apples with honey.

We wish everyone who had or have something to celebrate, a wonderful holiday!

All the best to all the best,

Angela Hamm
 PTA President



Join our PHA Facebook Group

How to join our Schools Facebook Group:

- Log into Facebook
- Search HotSpots Extended Care Programs
- "Like" our main Facebook page
- Choose "groups" on the left side menu bar located on our homepage
- Select your school and choose "+ join group"

Thanks for joining!

Stay tuned for updates, events, and communication all year long!