



Vision

- Lynx to the future
- ### Mission
- Each child at Lithia Springs Elementary will acquire the skills to become effective decision makers, problem solvers, and communicators to confidently solve real world challenges. Each child will possess sound values, a sense of self-worth, and a life-long love of learning.

Upcoming Events:

- Dec 5-9** – PTA Holiday Store
- Dec 7** – Media Center Volunteer Luncheon 11:00AM
- Dec 8** - 5th Grade Math Bowl Competition
- Dec 9** – 4th Grade Math Bowl Competition
- Dec 13** – 4th/5th Grade Tropicana Speech Contest 8:15AM
- Dec 14** – All Pro Dad's Breakfast 7:00AM
- Dec 14** – School Science Fair
- Dec 19** – 30 – Winter Break
- Jan 2** – Students Return to School
- Jan 6** – Parent Lunch Day
- Jan 9** – SAC Meeting 5:30PM
- Jan 10** – PTA Program, "What's On the Menu?" 6:30PM
- Jan 13** – End of 2nd Grading Period
- Jan 16-17** – Student Holiday
- Jan 18** – All-Pro Dad Breakfast 7:00AM
- Jan 27** – Grade reports sent home

EVERY
Monday is an
Early Release
day in
Hillsborough
County! LSES
students are
dismissed at
1:15PM every
Monday!

Lithia Springs Elementary School - (813)744-8016 – <http://lithiasprings.mysdhc.org>
A Hillsborough County Public School

Principal's Message from Mrs. Keene

School Happenings

There are many events going on at Lithia Springs during the months of December and January. Special events that are taking place in December are: Tropicana Speech contest for 4th and 5th graders, Math Bowl competition for 4th & 5th grade, PTA Skate Night, and PTA Holiday Store. In January, the Goal

Getter Celebration, PTA Meeting, Parent Day Lunch and SAC Meeting will be held. I hope you will plan to attend as many of these events as possible. You may want to view our calendar on our school website.

Holiday Greetings

The Faculty & Staff at Lithia Springs Elementary wish you the best of Holidays. The winter break begins on Monday, December 19th and students will return to school on Monday, January 2nd. Happy New Year!



MaryAnn Keene, Principal
maryann.keene@sdhc.k12.fl.us
(813)744-8016 x 224

AP News from Mr. Martin – Parent Link

Parent Link is a communication system that enables schools to send messages to student home numbers or parent contact numbers depending on the situation.

For example, when we know that a bus is going to be running late, we send a message to all parents because the timing of the message is so important. When we send a message such as a reminder for something like picture day, we send the message to the students' home phone.

A new feature has been added to Parent Link giving us the ability to send email messages to addresses on record. It could go without saying, the system is only as effective as the contact information maintained in our computer system, so we

have on a record. This way you will know what we have on file and can make changes as needed. If you don't get an email, either we do not have one for you or the information needs to be updated. I am assuming enough phone messages have been sent home for you to know what numbers we have. Feel free to use the form if you just want us to verify your information.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of our school! Have a fantastic winter holiday break and always please contact me with questions, concerns or comments!

Kevin Martin, APEI
kevin.martin@sdhc.k12.fl.us
(813)744-8016 x 223

Media Center News...

A huge thank you goes to all the students, teachers, and parents who made our fall Scholastic Book Fair a success. Opening the night of the Fun Fair was a terrific idea that we will try to repeat with some other activity in the spring.

Our media volunteer luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14 at 11:00AM. This is the opportunity for me to thank all my wonderful volunteers for all they do to help our media center run smoothly. They are an essential part of our program and do so much for our students.

January brings the kick off dates for three more bowls – first grade's fairy tale bowl, second grade's FRA bowl, and third grade's battle of the books bowl. These activities are so much fun and they all culminate in a friendly competition among classrooms. We now have a bowl for every grade. The dates for all the upcoming bowls are:

Fairy Tale Bowl

FRA Bowl

Fourth Grade BOB

Third Grade BOB

Fifth Grade Historical Fiction Bowl

Thursday, February 9

Friday, February 17

Thursday, May 17

Friday, May 11

Wednesday, March 7

Another treat we have scheduled for January is our Goal Getter Celebration on Friday, January 20. This is an event where all students who have made their AR goal for the second grading period are invited to come to a special program celebrating their success. Our entertainment for this event is the Tricky Dog Show!!!!!! I know everyone is going to want to see this! It's one of our very favorites so READ, READ, READ!

Carolyn Lemanski, Media Specialist
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County School Board
 Chair—Candy Olson
 Vice Chair— April Griffin
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Superintendent of Schools
 MaryEllen Elia

www.sdhc.k12.fl.us



Cafeteria News

All students are entitled to **FREE** breakfast in the cafeteria. Breakfast begins at 7:20AM; students may enter the gates to go to the cafeteria, but will remain there until the 7:30 bell. Bagged breakfasts will be available for those who want to be sure they are in class for the beginning of the morning show!

Isespta.com

Coach's Corner...

Our Jump Rope for Heart Event was a HUGE Success! Envelopes are still being turned in but from what have been collected thus far we are just shy of \$2,000.00. Your support to this worthwhile cause is greatly appreciated! Thank you to everyone who made this possible. I want to especially thank Mrs. Mayfield and our other PTA moms for manning the Sno Cone station. I could not have done it without you☺.

As part of our fitness unit the students have been using Pedometers to measure their steps and Heart Rate Monitors to monitor their heart rates after participating in moderate to vigorous physical activities. These devices can be purchased at a fairly inexpensive price and be utilized by the entire family to measure your activity level. Why don't you give them a try?

As the winter break approaches, I want to extend a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and every one of our students and their families here at Lithia Springs.

Nancy Nowakowski, PE Specialist
 nancy.nowakowski@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Science Olympics

Grades K-5 have participated in the Science Olympics during class. Congratulations to the following grade level winners who went on to compete at MOSI on November 19th!

- K- **Skyscrapers**- Aiden Gambone and Tobias Needham (Mrs. Grace's Class)
- 1- **Foil Boats**- Reece Rogers (Ms. Janasiewicz's Class)
- 2- **Paper Airplanes**- Ian Wells (Mrs. Manigold's Class)
- 3- **Hover Crafts**- Nick Cicilla and Zeke Needham (Ms. Reid's Class and Mrs. Terrell's Class))
- 4- **Marshmallow Flyer**- Merrick Bessell and Mark Grabeau (Ms. Hall's Class)
- 5- **Marble Roller Coaster**- Nick Beavers and Jordan Demian(Mrs. Boyle's Class)

The Third Grade Team made up of Nick Cicilla and Zeke Needham won their heat and will go on to compete at the District competition on Thursday, December 8 at MOSI. We wish them the best of luck!!!

NFL Play-60 Contest

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the National Football League-NFL PLAY 60 Super Bowl XLVI in Indianapolis. Log on to www.NFLRUSH.com/superkid to apply for a chance to be an NFL PLAY 60 Ambassador and a chance to be selected to run the game ball onto the field fo help kick off the Super Bowl. **The deadline for this contest is December 8, 2011.**

PTA News You Can Use

Holiday Store – ALL items will be \$2

Once again this year, the PTA is organizing a 2011 **Holiday Store** for the students of Lithia Springs to purchase holiday gifts for family and friends. This gives the children the opportunity to choose and purchase gifts on their own. In the past years, they have absolutely loved this store! There will be items available for men, women, and children of all ages. This year's **Holiday Store** will be open from December 5th through December 9th. Your child will shop with their class and your child's teacher will notify you of what day they are going to shop. The store will also be open before school each morning from 7:30 until 7:50.

Skate Night - December 14

Plan to join your friends for a fun night skating before Winter Break! Pre-sale tickets will be on sale in the breezeway December 12th – 14th for \$3.50. Or you can purchase tickets at the door for \$5. Look for more info to go home in your Tuesday folder.

All Pro Dad / Donuts with Dad

Please plan to join us for our next meeting, Wednesday, January 18 from 7 am to 7:45. We will be providing donuts for you and your students and a great program to enrich your relationships. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Mitchell at rmitchell@lasishealthcare.com or visit www.allprodad.com/dd/2710.

Box Tops

Keep saving your box tops through the holidays! Look for a new Holiday form to go home in next week's Tuesday folder. Turn in those forms no later than January 6th!

Math Night and General PTA meeting

Save the Date: JANUARY 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Please plan to join us for our General PTA meeting and a Math Program on January 10th. We will elect the nominating committee for next year's PTA board positions. Following the meeting, we will host a math event titled "**What's on the Menu? Financial Education for Families.**" Did you know that 58% of Americans are unable to

figure out a 10% tip and only 30% of parents talk regularly to their kids about money matters? These startling facts are the motivation behind "What's on the Menu Financial Education for Families", Florida's popular program to teach elementary students how math and money go hand and hand. This FREE financial education program targets 3rd-5th grade students and families, strengthening the connection between classroom and home learning. It is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis so be sure and sign up early. Sign-up sheets will be sent home in the next few weeks. A Complimentary dinner will be provided by the PTA and served at 6:00 P.M. and the program will start at 6:30. We need a minimum of 20 families so please support our school!

Look for more information in the January 3rd Tuesday folder and to RSVP for dinner.