

PAW PRINTS

Lipscomb Elementary Newsletter

• *Helps You Keep Track*

• October 2009

Principal's News

Dear Lipscomb Families,

I hope you had the opportunity to participate in our wonderful Fall Fest. I truly enjoy this event sponsored by our PTO that brings our community and our families together. What a treat! I thank all of the volunteers that made the night such a success, with special thanks to Andrea Wingo, Elizabeth Martin and Dawn Watson, who chaired the delightful event, room moms and the PTO Executive Board. Please remember that the festival was the culminating event for our Invest in the Best campaign. Thank you for your kind and generous donations to our PTO for our children's classrooms. Our children are so worth the investment!

The Principal's Book Club is underway and I thank you very much for the money you are contributing to purchase books for the classrooms. It is very exciting that we can share our love of reading with our children and that we can have school-wide conversations around the same book each month. What a great way to spark an interest in reading and connect to each other!

School will be closed October 19th and 20th for fall break. Teachers will be at school on October 20th for teacher professional development. We hope you have a delightful time with your families.

Mr. Mike Looney was selected by our Board of Education to become our new Superintendent. We are excited for him to begin on December 1st. Our Board worked hard to bring the right person to our district and we appreciate their hard work.

There is a report of a suspicious stranger around children's bus stops in Brentwood. The neighborhoods noted are Brookefield and Willowick. Please contact Brentwood Police at 371-0160 if you have any information regarding these two incidences. This would also be an excellent time to talk with your kids about what to do if they are approached by strangers.

Just because parent conferences are officially over, please don't stop the communication. Let us know how your children are doing and any concerns we can help with!

Construction is proceeding and the new classrooms are looking really great. It may be the third week of October before the classrooms are turned over to us. We are anxiously awaiting to move in!

Thank you for all of your dedication to your children and your support of Lipscomb! Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

Sincerely,

Michelle Contich

From the Heart of the PTO . . .

Dear LES Families,

What a tremendous way to start off the school year!! Our INVEST IN THE BEST campaign was an amazing success and it is because all of YOU! As of today, our INVEST total has surpassed 50K!!!! I have always believed that Lipscomb is one of the best schools in Williamson County with the most engaged parents and the results of this campaign confirm my belief! Your money is going to immediately go to work. First, with the purchase of Leveled Books for all grades. This was #1 on all of our teachers Wish List! Second, by the end of this semester every teacher that wanted an ELMO for themselves will have one. Third, the library will be getting new books. Fourth, our guidance department will be receiving much needed upgraded materials. Finally, our PE and Music teachers will also be getting new equipment to keep up with the growth of our school and enrich the programs. All of this because of the success of the INVEST campaign and YOU!!!

What an accomplishment our FALL FEST committee made to transform our school into the OK Corral in light of some questionable weather. Hats off to Andrea Wingo, Dawn Watson, Elizabeth Martin and the rest of the Fall Fest team for such a successful event. Also, congratulations to Jennifer Mathews, Lori Mercurio and Anna Coggin for all their efforts in organizing 83 baskets with limited amounts of space!! And yet still raised a record amount of money. Most importantly, thanks to all of you once again for your patience and flexibility with the change of venue! It was warm, but cozy!! :)

I hope October brings us lots of sunshine and a beautiful change of season. Many thanks and blessings to you and your families.

Sincerely, Jennifer McMillan

The Box Top Team would like to thank everyone for collecting soooooo many Box Tops for the first contest of the year. The Box Tops Coordinators and each of their classrooms did a fantastic job. We collected over 22,000 Box Tops that is already over 3/4 of what we collected all of last year. Way to go Team. The Winner of Kindergarten was Ms. Shelton followed closely by Ms. Gilliland. The winner of 1 - 5 grades was Ms. Knapple followed closely by Ms. O'Brien; Ms. Evans was third and did very well. We will receive our first check in December. We appreciate everyone's hard work on this ongoing school fundraiser.

The next contest starts October and will end right before the Thanksgiving Break. Batty for Box Tops forms will be given to each classroom to use for fun.

Once again, thank you for all your hard work.

Debbie Sheridan

PTO MEETING SCHEDULE

In an effort to accommodate more people's schedules we are going to have a morning PTO meeting every other month this year. Please make note of the dates **and** times for this year's meetings listed below. Morning meetings are held in the cafeteria and evening meetings are in the library. We hope to see you there!

November 2	6:00pm	March 1	6:00pm
December 3	8:30am	April 1	8:30am
January 11	6:00pm	May 3	6:00pm
February 4	8:30am		

Has your child ever had an accident at school and need a change of clothes? The school nurse is in need of extra clothes for just those times. Shorts, pants, and sweatpants in all sizes are needed. Send in to the clinic.

Do you have some Lipscomb field trip t-shirts that your children have outgrown? Please send them to Mrs. Wauford, our guidance counselor.

Thanks for your help!

Yee-Haw!!

A big thank you to the following companies that helped make our Fall Festival a success:

Publix

Reliant Bank

Churchill Mortgage



Got news for Paw Prints?

If you have any information you would like included in Paw Prints please email Leigh Caylor at pawprints_editor@yahoo.com. Paw Prints is sent via email the end of the week of that month's PTO meeting – information must be received a **week prior to that date**. Thanks!

Lipscomb Families,

We had a wonderful Fall Fest this year. Many thanks to our PTO and parents for making it a great event. It's just another example of why we are the best school. Thank you for your hard work! Families, thank you for attending Fall Fest and supporting Lipscomb. The food, entertainment, booths, auction items, inflatables, and games were a success. I saw many kiddos with grins from ear to ear throughout the night.

Thank you for investing in your child's education during our Invest in the Best campaign. We truly are the best school and we appreciate your support.

Many thanks to the moms that quickly volunteered during picture day. I appreciate you directing the picture lines, calling classes and making sure the students looked their best. Thank you.

This year our Lipscomb Leadership team will again host Love and Logic Parent meetings. Meetings are planned for October, November, February, and March. More information about the October meeting will be coming home soon.

Love and Logic was developed by Jim Fay and Dr. Foster Cline. It revolutionized the way educators and parents approach working with children. Last year our teachers read Love and Logic for Teachers and began practicing suggested strategies in the classroom. This year, our Lipscomb Leadership Team will be reading Parenting with Love and Logic as it lends itself to relevant elementary situations. We are excited about this opportunity and look forward to learning additional strategies. Beginning in November, Love and Logic Parenting Pearls will be available in Paw Prints. The Pearls offer strategies and suggestions for parents.

We hope to see everyone at our October meeting.

Sincerely,

Ann Marie Schulz, Assistant Principal

LIPSCOMB class

5th Graders are preparing for postcards to come pouring in. In conjunction with their study of the US Region, students have sent travel logs throughout the United States. They'll soon receive postcards from another region and their logs will continue traveling around the country with more cards to come!

In second grade, students just released their butterflies after watching their lifecycle unfold in the classroom from a caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly. In Mrs. J-Rae Dodd's second grade class, students are working on plants and in social studies they are learning about maps and globes.

Students in Ms. Bridget O'Brien's class are having a fun time keeping their eyes open for our "dinner plate" words. Dinner plate words are *fancy* words that you would use if you were at a nice dinner and wanted to impress the adults around you. We have had words such as "thrive," "pursue," and "scarce." Students are finding these words being used everywhere—from books they are reading to concerts they are attending! (That's right...the Jonas Brothers used our word "commence"!) They are also doing a great job including these words in their speech and their writing. Keep up the good work, Rockstars!

In Mrs. Lindsey Litzner's first grade class, students are learning the differences between plane shapes and solid shapes. Students are learning to sort the shapes by their faces and vertices. Students are also learning that some shapes are made up of other shapes. They will work to combine shapes and break apart shapes to make bigger or smaller shapes. Students will also tie in addition and subtraction through sums of 10. Students are working on the following math vocabulary: solid shape, plane shape, faces, vertices, cone, triangular prism, rectangular prism, cube, sphere, and cylinder

GOLD MEDAL winners

Adam Biancheri
Sarah Carroll
Katie Contich
Sophie Essig
Joseph Hertz
Hannah Hohn
Callie Freeze
Patty Orem
Savannah Blasdel
Payton Dahl

Daniel Shipp
Makenzie Stillman
Delaney Trushel
Kinton Lewis
Ford Joyner
Erin Hudson
Micalah Gregory
Lauren Driver
Carly Wynans
Noah True

Joseph Hart
RJ Taylor
Catherine Forbes



LIPSCOMB kids

Congratulations to Brooks McDonnough (Knapple) for reaching the 100 book club *well before* the 100th day of school!

Sunni Luo in Mr. Peterson's class got 'honorable mention' in the youth group of the National Arts Program organized by Vanderbilt University. Her work 'Cell Comic' is on display in the Vanderbilt medical building at 100 Oak.

Congrats to Casey Crowe (Wille, 3rd) for receiving a gold medal!

Congratulations to Parker Nordstrom in Ms. Polsteen's class for learning how to play Star Wars on the piano. His piano teacher - Ms. Sandy Davis - is first rate too!

Great job on your three "Caught Ya's" Sam Volpintesta!

Awesome job on getting into the 500 Club for spelling Max Volpintesta!

Congratulations to Maggie Robertson (Rhew) for being the first in her class to read 100 books.



Invest in the Best

The Lipscomb PTO is proud to announce the total for the 2009 "Invest in the Best" fundraiser.....

\$50,631.85

WE DID IT!!!! We reached our goal thanks to your generous support!
We thank you all for participating.

We also want to say "thank you" to all the Room Parents for coordinating the class baskets.

This year, our Fall Fest Auction raised over \$11,500.00!!!
Congratulations!!!

Lipscomb Book Fair

Join us November 16-20 for the LES Book Fair. If you can spare a few hours to volunteer, contact Debbie Kennedy at elk40@comcast.net. It's a fun way to get involved & interact with the kids. We need many volunteers to help with set up, shopping, checkout, reordering, restocking, & teardown. We are also looking for a Chairman for the 2010-2011 school year; let Debbie or Ms. Brown know if you are interested in this opportunity. See you at the Fair!



Did you know that you can monitor your child's grades throughout the nine weeks?

Parents of students in grades 3 – 5 should log on to Parent Connection to follow their child's progress throughout the semester. Grades K – 2 can see only the report card. Go to <https://www.parentconnection.wcs.edu>. You will need your child's id # to log on the first time. If you don't know their #, your child's teacher has it. Teachers are asked to have grades updated by the 15th and 30th of each month. Please contact Mrs. Contich if you have any questions.

Parents will still receive a hard copy of the report card.

Picture Day for retakes will be Tuesday October 13

Fall picture proofs just arrived. This year the picture deadline is Monday October 19th. You may return your order in the envelope provided in your package by that date. A basket will be in the office for your child to return their picture order.

Do you ever wonder what to do to celebrate your child's birthday at school? **The LES café has the answer.**

Brownies	\$.50 each	Slushies	\$.60 each
Cookies	\$.20 each	Pizza	\$.75 a slice
Gushers	\$.25 each	Fruit Roll ups	\$.40 each

Email the cafeteria ladies at reginaw@wcs.edu at least a week ahead with your order. (Student name, class and number of items.) Pick it up on your way to celebrate. *How much easier can it be?*

Lipscomb Elementary 4th grade Girl Scouts will be holding a food drive the week of November 2nd-6th for the Second Harvest Food Bank. Please bring your non-perishable food items to car line or bus drop-off in the morning.

Contact Kim Biancheri at kakmjb@msn.com for more information.

Join the Girl Scouts on November 14th at River Park for the American Diabetes Association Sleep Walk. Wear your pajamas for a 2 mile walk! For more information contact Heather Pinckard at 476-9405 or hpinckard@comcast.net or www.stepout.diabetes.org

Do you want to recognize your child's outstanding teacher?

You can nominate your teacher in the following ways: go to

- 1: titansradio.com Teacher of the Week
 2: wkrrn.com Educator of the Week on the community page

Let's tell everyone else how great teachers at LES are!

Congratulations to the Lipscomb Swimmers!

Lipscomb Elementary School came in **FIRST PLACE**
 in the Middle Tennessee
 Elementary School Swim Meet on October 3rd!

Those that participated, swam their best, and lead our team
 to this victory are:

Lauren Hurt (2nd)
 Jordan Hurt (2nd)
 Reagan Hurt (K)
 Callie Lancaster (5th)
 Ford Luken (1st)
 Max Meland (1st)
 McKenna Morello (5th)
 Anne Marie Schiedemeyer (K)
 Emily Schiedemeyer (2nd)
 Daniel Schiedemeyer (4th)

If you want to be included on the e-mail list for future
 Elementary School swim meets please contact Kristan
 Schiedemeyer at schiedemeyer@comcast.net



Lipscomb will not be entering the Purity Milk Lids contest this year. If you are holding lids at home please bring them to the school and we will donate them to Woodland Middle School who is participating in the contest.

See the 'new TCAP Scoring story' following this Paw Prints to find out about TCAP changes for 2009-2010. Please see Mrs. Contich with questions.....

The “new” TCAP Scoring Story

This year, the state of Tennessee rolled out a set of new content standards (*what students should know and be able to do*) in Literacy, Mathematics, and Science. These new standards are nationally-based and are more rigorous, rely more on thinking and problem-solving, and go deeper into learning. To assess these new standards, the state also designed a new version of the TCAP Achievement test ensuring that students will be tested on what they are now expected to learn.

TCAP scores have been reported based on how students perform for that year compared to a state norm (*a state average*). These state norms were calculated in 1998---10 years ago. As a result of everyone’s hard work across the state, our students have been doing better and better and our “grades” reported to the public have continued to climb.

The state reset the norms using the May, 2009 TCAP. This may affect the grades that schools will receive when scores are sent out in November, 2009. In other words, a school whose performance may have earned them a B last year may result in a C this year even if though their progress is the same. Additionally, the new assessment performance levels will be redefined. In the past we had the following categories: Advanced, Proficient, or Below Proficient. This year we will have four categories: Advanced, Proficient, Basic and Below Basic. Proficient will also be defined differently. Proficient used to mean that students met minimum standards. Proficient will now mean students have mastered the standards. Therefore, individual student scores and standings on the TCAP Achievement for the upcoming assessment may decrease due to the more difficult assessment, higher level standards, and new definitions of proficient. The state is helping to make our standards more rigorous and in the process helping to improve education.

