

The Cardinal Courier



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Dear Families,

Happy Fall, everyone! The air is definitely getting crisp and the fall sports seasons are well underway! Go Ravens!

As the weeks have progressed, we have noticed the number of students reporting to school late each day is increasing. Because we begin instruction immediately, students must be in the classroom at the 7:50 bell, or they will be considered tardy. Parents must sign tardy students in at the office. If you have received a letter regarding your child's attendance (absences and/or tardies), and you have questions, you may contact Mr. Chiet. Please let us know if we can assist your family with regular school attendance and on time arrivals to school if these issues present a challenge for you.

Transportation is still working out some of their glitchy issues and route times. With traffic the way it is in Northern VA, your child's bus times may vary from day to day. Your patience is very much appreciated! Ms. Jodi Kenney is the Lead Driver for Catoctin Elementary. Should you have any questions or concerns with regard to transportation, you may contact her directly at Jodi.Kenney@lcps.org.

Access to Parent VUE, the online assessment and grading site, is now open! This is system brand new for all of us, so we appreciate your patience in figuring out and navigating this new tool for grading and assessment practices. Parent support can be found on our school's website at <http://www.lcps.org/domain/12620>.

PTA is having their Annual Harvest Festival this month! Come join in SO much fun on October 23rd. More info will come home throughout this month.

See you in October~

Mrs. Rueckert

**PTA HARVEST FEST
OCTOBER 23RD
6P-7:30P**

10/2: Q1 Interims Go Home

10/7: WATCH D.O.G.S, 6:30pm- Cat Café

10/7: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) 7:00pm - 9:00pm Admin Bldg

10/8: Mobile Dairy School Assembly

10/8: PTA Spirit Night @ California Tortilla and Sweet Frog, 3p-9p

10/12: Columbus Day Holiday-No School

10/13: Gr. 1 Field Trip to Nat'l Zoo

10/13: Follow Monday Specials Schedule-NO FUTURA

10/14: PTA Mtg, 6:30 p, Café

10/14: Loudoun Education alliance of Parents (LEAP) 7:00pm - 9:00pm Admin Bldg

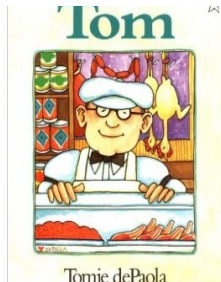
10/15: Earthquake Drill

10/16: USTMA Parent Night Out @ USTMA

10/21: Minority Student Achievement Advisory (MSAAC) 7:00pm - 9:00pm Admin Bldg

10/22: Loudoun Education Foundation (LEF) 8:00am - 9:00am Admin Bldg

10/31: Turn Clocks Back 1 hour



LIBRARY LINES MR. SHANNON - MRS. MOATS



In the library, we have been learning about all of the different uses of the dictionary. Grades K through 2nd are learning about authors Kevin Henkes and Tomie dePaola. Grades 3rd through 5th are learning about Author Jon Scieszka and illustrator Lane Smith. Students in grades 3rd through 5th are being encouraged to check out and read books that are on our Battle of the Books list which can be found on the library's webpage!



Fitness Matters Mr. Shepard & Ms. Maged



Hey Catoctin Family!!! It almost seems impossible that the first nine weeks is halfway over. We are motivated and dedicated in Physical Education. This year we will cover, and have covered a lot of great things with your wonderful students. In these coming weeks, we will be going over components of fitness, soccer, loco motor skills, etc. We also will continue incorporating muscles, nutrition, and the pacer/pacing in our curriculum. Once again, we are very excited and enthused about Physical Education.

We in the PE department feel humbled and honored to have the jobs we have. We love working with the students. We hope that they will bring some of the activities and knowledge of healthy practices home with them. If you have any questions/concerns or are interested in helping out at Field Day feel free to call or email. As always, thank you for all of your support, time, and effort. It is always appreciated!

Will Shepard & Michelle Maged
Physical Education Teachers
Catoctin Cardinals

FROM THE READING ROOM OF SABETTO AND SCHWARZ



Congratulations to all our participants of the summer reading program. We are so proud of our hall of fame students listed on the wall outside of the library.

The following students won a gift card to either Sweet Frog or Target –
In kindergarten – Connor Webber

In first grade – Caelyn Cherubin, Arianna Dobbins, Patrick Connor, Liam Sheppard, Elsie Dinsmore, Payton Hughes, Connor George, Louis Chou, Grace Allred, Jack Stevens, Dominick Gadell

In second grade - Audrey Szebalskie, Emma Hawkins, Vivian Bogusz, Aiden Armistead, Dylan Johnson

In third grade – Jake Poor, Owen Wikel, Silas Bates, Grayson Webber

In fourth grade – Lindsey Johansen, Nate Casarrubias, Emily Cook, Ashley Conner, Daniel Robinson, Thompson Brock

In fifth grade – Sarah Zurfluh, Cody Madson, McKenna Fox, Kate Morrison, Sofia Shingledecker

Elsie Dinsmore and Sarah Zurfluh even won a gift card to each place!

3 classes tied for the most returned summer bingo boards. Ms. Malayil, Mrs. Powell and Ms. Tandy's class all got an extra recess. Yahoo!

We hope more of you will participate next year. Thank you to our PTA who generously supported all our summer readers.



SEARCH



Verbal Talent in Children

Verbal talent may be described in general terms as an adeptness with language. More specifically, it involves a child's precocity, intensity, and complexity with regard to reading, writing, speak and listening.

Verbally talented children:

- ♦ *Read well.* They read avidly and at more advanced levels than their age peers.
- ♦ *Have advanced vocabularies.* Verbally talented children have a prowess with words that is often clearly evident in their writing and oral language.
- ♦ *Write well.* This is often a reflection of their reading experiences. Verbally talented children may write for pleasure, branching into areas of writing not typical of their age peers such as poetry, drama, reviews, and journals.

The behaviors exhibited by verbally talented children reflect passion, depth, and breadth. They choose to read and write for pleasure, and the outcomes are noticeably more sophisticated than those of others.

Listed below are a few ways parents can help children develop their verbal abilities at home.

- ♦ *Read aloud to them even after they are capable of independent reading.* Listening to stories and poems that are read aloud helps children develop vocabulary, a sense of the structure and rhythm of language, and a storehouse of literary experiences from which they can draw.
- ♦ *Create a family environment and time for reading.* Children who grow up in homes where the adults are readers are likely to develop that habit. Adults should serve as models for the enjoyment of books.
- ♦ *Introduce them to the magic of the public library as soon as they are old enough.*
- ♦ *Have a collection of books and audio books available in places like the car so that they always have access to them..*
- ♦ *Encourage them to broaden their reading selections.* Children who are in a rut reading a particular series of books may be persuaded to read more challenging books in a related genre. Additionally, children who read and reread their favorite books rather than moving onto other literature may be nudged to expand their literary horizons.

Parents of children who are verbally talented may want to look into supplementary reading and writing opportunities in their community. Often, libraries, bookstores, colleges, and universities offer programs and services that may be of interest to verbally talented children. Such prospects might include summer or Saturday classes at a local college for children interested in creative writing, journalism, science fiction, fantasy literature, or a foreign language. Families of verbally talented children may also want to consider establishing their own reading and writing groups for those with similar abilities and interests.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER - MR. LOTZ

Catoctin Elementary is once again teaming up with Loudoun Cares and Loudoun Interfaith Relief to participate in *Make a Difference Day*. This program assists low-income residents of Loudoun County during the holiday season by providing them with household, personal care and food items.

Here's how you and your student can help... The next time you are at the grocery store, please consider purchasing any of the following items:

100% Juice
Boxed Instant Potatoes
Boxed Pie Crust
Canned Chicken/Tuna
Canned Fruit
Canned Vegetables
Chunky/Meaty Soup
Cereal
Peanut Butter (18 oz.)
Pie Filling
Spaghetti Sauce with Meat



**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE DAY**
NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD

Your son or daughter can then drop off any donations into the collection boxes located in all three pods. All donations must be received by **Thursday, October 22, 2015**.

If you have any questions about the food drive, please contact Mr. Lotz at 571-252-2940 or George.Lotz@lcps.org.

If you are interested in participating further in *Make a Difference Day*, volunteers will be gathering on Saturday, October 24, from 9-3 at the Leesburg Amory (41905 Loudoun Center Place) to sort food and other items. Visit loudouncares.org or interfaithrelief.org, or call 703-669-4636 for more information.

Thank you in advance for supporting *Make a Difference Day*!



Music - Worth News From Ms. Olejer



Welcome to the music room! The Standards of Learning for music education are varied and great. Our students work on accomplishing these standards throughout the year through many activities. Here is what we are focusing on this month: Our composer of the month for October is Edvard Grieg. All students will be learning about his life and music in music class, as well as listening to music composed by him. First grade working on comparing steady beat to rhythm and discovering musical opposites. Second grade is continuing their exploration of musical opposites, focusing on fast/slow and high/low. Third grade is learning about dynamics, or how loud and soft music is being played. Fourth grade is experiencing world music drumming, as well as singing on pitch and identifying new tempos. Fifth grade is experiencing world music drumming and learning about many percussion instruments. All grade levels will be starting to work on our Veterans Day songs. Please see the Veterans Day form in this newsletter. We will be having a Veterans Day program on November 11, 2015 at 9 am in the gym. All Veterans are invited to attend. All grade levels will continue to learn about notes and rhythms, which they practice every day. We will all also be playing mallet instruments, such as xylophones, this month with various songs in all grade levels.

~ Mrs. Olejer



ART NEWS FROM MS. LABBE



Happy October! The "Selfies" are a great success! If you haven't seen our "Wall of Selfies," check it out by the Cafeteria! This month 4th and 5th grades will be painting landscapes based on connections to Social Studies. 3rd grade will continue with self-portraits, and how color can show mood, with an emotional self-portrait. 2nd grade will learn about collagraph printmaking and animal habitats. 1st grade will become scientists and explore everything about leaves, and how the environment changes with the seasons. We will also be painting a pumpkin patch! Ms. Hawkins Kindergarten will move from lines to shapes and color-mixing, with the mischievous mice from Mouse Paint.

If you haven't had a chance to create your account with Artsonia, please contact Ms. Labbe with any questions. Artsonia is an on-going portfolio for your child, and you can also publish Art that is made at home! Catoctin Art also receives a portion of proceeds from any purchases made through Artsonia (and the Holidays will be here soon!) Consider getting your shopping for relatives done all at once with one-of-a-kind items from Artsonia!

FAST FACT BOND REFERENDUM



Bond funding for school construction will be up for voter approval in the Tuesday, November 3rd, election.

On the referendum this year are two schools: ES-31 (a Dulles North elementary school) and HS-11 (a Dulles North Area high school). The maximum amount in capital improvement bonds this referendum would authorize is \$150,995,000. This money would be used to finance the cost to design, construct and equip these school.

ES-31 is anticipated to provide primary enrollment relief for Creighton's Corner, Hillside, Legacy, Mill Run, Moorefield Station and Rosa Lee Carter elementary schools.

HS-11 is anticipated to provide primary enrollment relief for Briar Woods, John Champe, and Rock Ridge high schools.

This is not a referendum on whether these schools should be built. They have already been approved by the School Board and Board of Supervisors. This referendum seeks the authority to issue general obligation bonds to fund these projects.

The Board of Supervisors has selected general obligation bonds as the method of funding these projects. General obligation bonds have historically been among the least expensive means of financing school construction and sold with a 20-year repayment schedule for construction projects. Using this method, people moving into Loudoun will pay for the schools that will be built for the county's increasing school population.

If the bond referendum is not approved, the Board of Supervisors must find other means of funding for these projects that is typically more expensive and less timely.

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3rd.

Voter Deadlines:

In-Person Voter Registration Deadline: 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 13th.

By-Mail Voter Registration Deadline: Postmarked no later than October 13th.

Last day to apply to have a ballot mailed to you is 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 27th.

Last day to vote an absentee ballot in person is Saturday, October 31st (registrar's office will be open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

For more information, contact the Voter Registration and Electoral Board Office at 703-777-0380. This office is located at 750 Miller Drive, SE, Suite C, Leesburg, VA 20175-8916.

PBIS



September Cardinals of the Week

Every student at Catoctin is expected to be **Respectful, Responsible** and **Ready** at all times. When teachers notice students demonstrating the 3 R's, they may reward that student with a red *Cardinal Cash* ticket!

Every week, one student per class who has earned a *Cardinal Cash* ticket is selected to be the **Cardinal of the Week!**

Cardinals of the Week are recognized during the morning announcements, receive a certificate & wristband, and have their names added to the PBIS display located between Pods 2 & 3.

Congratulations to all of the students who were selected during the month of

September!

Kindergarten

Bailey Blazier
Chloe Tilghman
Colin Campbell
Estelle Bauer
Harper Paxton
Katherine Hamilton
Kensley Tumblin
Lideya Zaepfel
Rachel Shepard
Sami Schenck
William Bassett

Louis Chou
Madison Karschner
Malachai Hoffman
Maui Garcia
Mia Vierkorn
Naomi Bates
Philip Judy
Rocco Zagorites
Whitney O'Neil
Yadiel Cervantes-Resendiz

Second Grade

Anna Herlihy
Charlie Hertle
Cordelia Laughlin Ferry
Elisha Casarrubias
Emma Hawkins
Hudson Longendyke
Jhanya Lane
Kalie Brown
Kennie Hernandez
Keylin Cruz Monroy
Luis Martell Platero
Reagan Sutton

Ryan Stultz
Sean Morrison
Spencer Rahim
Zachary Johansen

Third Grade

Alyce Snead
Dulaney Luhrs
Jamison Moran
Jane Fox
Jonathan Perez-Yanez
Kahled Gomes
Lauren Cleveland
Macy Singleton
Maya Segura
Natalie Schoch
Patrick Groves
Quin Miller
Silas Bates
Taylor Keys
Xavier Russell

Fourth Grade

Bennet Schwarting
Carina Smith

Faith Fanning
Grace Bukowski
Hayley Sutton
Helena Calloway-Jones
Joseph Santos
Kaylie Garcia
Levi Fuchs
Michael Rosa Hernandez
Sean Parker
Stephen Huff

Fifth Grade

Alexa Sisson
Arman Aujla
Daniel Basil-Barker
Grant Dickerschied
Jada Venson
Jonny Sheppard
Kate Morrison
Kevin Martell Platero
Landon Rahim
Sarah Zurfluh
Sydney Tamsett
Yesenia Mosquera Zelaya



We would like to invite relatives of the students and staff of Catoctin Elementary who have served in the military to celebrate Veterans Day with us on November 11, 2015. If your military guest is able to attend, they should sign in at the office around 8:30. The program will consist of presentations and songs in honor of current and former members of the military and will last approximately 30-45 minutes. We would be so honored to have your military family member be a part of our celebration. If your veteran will be at the Veterans Day Program, please return this paper **by Friday, October 30, 2015.**

Also, we will have a Veterans Wall of Fame in the PE hallway that is for anyone who served or is still serving in the military, whether they are able to attend or not. If you have any pictures you would like to have included in the Veterans Wall of Fame, please send them in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name and teacher's name on it so that I will be able to return them to you. Clearly label pictures and feel free to add pertinent information as well. ***All pictures are due by Friday, October 23 or there may not be time to hang them.***

Name: _____

Branch of Service: _____ Rank: _____

Retired or Active Years served: _____

Name of relative at Catoctin Elementary and relationship:

Student's Teacher: _____ Student's Grade: _____

I will be attending the Veterans Day Program on the morning of November 11th.

Any other pertinent information: _____

Sincerely,

Mrs. Olejer, Music Teacher

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Olejer at

Bethany.Olejer@lcp.org

We look forward to receiving your photos by Friday, October 23, 2015, and seeing you on Wednesday, November 11!

FROM THE DESK OF THE ATTENDANCE SECRETARY

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

If your child is going to be absent please remember to call the absentee line, 571-252-2941, to report their absence.

When taking your child to the doctor/dentist, please don't forget to get a doctor's note.

Remember to



get up on time.

Don't be late for



or the



Students must be in their classrooms by 7:50 ready to learn. Otherwise, they will be marked "tardy."

Excessive tardies will be referred to the Attendance Officer.