

LADSBS News . . .



Thankful



November

Important Dates

- 5 Daylight Savings Ends
- 7 Superintendent's
Conference Day and
Election Day
No Student Attendance
- 9 Picture Retake Day
LADSBS **new date**
- 10 Veterans Day—
Schools Closed
- 15 Board of Education
Meeting - 8:00 pm
- 21 Early Dismissal Drill
15 minutes early
- 22-24 Thanksgiving Recess
Schools Closed

Save the Date!

Tuesday, December 12th

**Parent-Teacher
Conference Day
LADSBS, AMPS**

No Student Attendance K-5

Mr. Zito & Mrs. Farley would like to share . . .

We hope this newsletter finds you and your families in great spirits as we enter the beautiful month of November.

During a month of “thanks,” we must not forget Veteran’s Day. Many of the wonderful things we are thankful for are because of the veterans who have served our country. Thank you to all our service men and women, both past and present!

The month of October was filled with a variety of events and excitement. Our fifth grade students had an opportunity to visit the Bronx Zoo and all of our students had a visit from our Local Fire Department to discuss Fire Safety. In our classrooms, routines have been established and we are fully immersed in the curriculum. The students celebrated Halloween with costumes and class lessons and/or celebrations. Music is in full swing, with lessons occurring and our concert ensembles are meeting each morning.

The School Improvement Team’s Kindness Initiative is also underway again this year. Throughout the year students will have an opportunity to receive a “kindness coupon” for going above and beyond by displaying superior character. The coupons are entered into a monthly raffle and winners will receive tokens to use on our PTO book vending machine! The first LADSBS Million Word Challenge will begin in December. Keep a lookout for more information.

These are just a few of the many things happening at LADSBS so be sure to continue reading and see all the learning and growing taking place.

If your child is missing something they may have left behind at school, please encourage them to peruse our **Lost and Found**. Any unclaimed items will be donated prior to Holiday Break.

On behalf of everyone at the Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School -

Have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving!

“Autumn is the season that teaches us that change can be beautiful”



Fourth Grade Focus ...



Grade four teachers have been working on exposing students to a variety of online components, including Google Classroom, and incorporating numerous opportunities for students to use technology in daily lessons throughout the school day has become routine. We highly encourage students to continue to log on at home to complete any of their assigned homework, or to utilize the many educational programs that they have access to.

We have finished our first module topic in math, and are now working on Module 3: Multiplication and Division. To access the Module 3 lessons and homework helper/assignments the students are working on, you can visit the Engage NY website using the following link: <https://www.engageny.org/resource/grade-4-mathematics-module-3>. It is important that students know their multiplication facts up to, and through the 12s. Please encourage your child to practice their facts daily or use the REFLEX math website to help improve their fact fluency.

This month we will continue reading various genres in our HMH Into Reading series. Students will continue writing responses to our reading and apply the learned reading strategies to help them monitor their own comprehension of texts. Some target skills that we will be focusing on are retell and summarize, main idea and details, problem and solution, theme, and figurative language. We strongly encourage having your child read for at least 20 minutes each night to practice their reading, fluency, and skills.

In science, we completed our unit of study about "Waves." The next unit of study will be, "Powering Thru the Fair." Students will be taking a virtual field trip to the NYS Fair in order to investigate the energy used there. They will be participating in a variety of hands-on experiments that will explore ideas such as speed, collisions, and energy conversions.

In social studies, the geography, resources, and regions of our state continue to be explored. Reading and interpreting a variety of maps relating to New York is also a key feature of our unit. All of which will lead us into our new unit of study on the Native People of New York.

Please continue checking take-home folders and agenda books each evening and help students be prepared for each school day. We thank you for your continued support and all that you do at home to continue making learning a valuable experience!

Third Grade Thoughts ...

Our third graders have transitioned to LADSBS, and are learning so much! We finished Module 1 of our reading program, HMH *Into Reading*, where students explored what makes characters interesting. As we begin Module 2, the students are excited to learn about poetry and letters in order to build their knowledge about how people express themselves. In math, our students learned the foundational skills of multiplication and division, and are moving onto learning about place value and problem solving with units of measure. We are beginning our weather unit, which has been an engaging unit for the third graders - from analyzing weather patterns to learning about weather tools, our students love being meteorologists!

Additionally, the Miller Place and Sound Beach Fire Departments visited our school to teach our students about fire safety! The students loved interacting with the firefighters, and learning what to do in case of an emergency.

Third grade students have had a great start to the school year, and we can't wait to see how much they will continue to accomplish this year!



Fifth Grade Flash...

What a great start to the school year! The students have been adjusting nicely and we have been delving into the curriculum as well as making new friendships! The month of October was filled with lots of learning as well as fun! We had our fifth grade trip to the Bronx Zoo and a great time was had by all!



Academically, we have been moving right along! In math we are well into Module 2 which is multiplication and division. Memorizing multiplication facts at home is a great way for students to practice and be prepared for the upcoming lessons. In ELA, we have been focusing on the HMH curriculum but will be getting into novels shortly!

We should be starting our "Toy's Matter" unit which is a kit with many different hands-on lessons for the students. They really enjoy learning and exploring matter through this unit. We have started our ancient civilizations unit and students are enjoying learning about the Aztec, Inca and Maya.

The time is flying and before we know it, it will be Thanksgiving break! We are so proud of our fifth graders and are looking forward to a wonderful year!



Community Corner...

In an effort to give back to our community, the students of LADSBS are excited to participate in our “Food for Thought” Food Drive which will take place throughout the holiday season and the colder months ahead.

Beginning November through January, all classes will be appointed as “Ambassadors of Giving Back” for the entire duration of our food drive. To ensure that we get a broad selection of food during our collection, we are asking each grade level to bring in different items from the suggested lists below:

3rd Grade

- * Pancake Mix
- * Juice Boxes
- * Granola Bars
- * Oatmeal/Dry Cereal
- * Jam/Jelly
- * Peanut Butter
- * Apple Sauce/Fruit cups
- * Coffee/Tea
- * Cake/Brownie mixes

4th Grade

- * Chicken/Veg Broth
- * Pasta/Rice
- * Mac & Cheese
- * Taco/Enchilada Kits
- * Canned Tuna/Chicken
- * Canned/Boxed Soup
- * Canned Tomatoes/beans
- * Pasta Sauce
- * Ramen Noodles

5th Grade

- * Instant Potatoes
- * Stuffing Mix
- * Canned Vegetables
- * Cranberry Sauce
- * Canned Gravy
- * Biscuit mix
- * Canned meat
- * Meals in a Box
- * Crackers

*** All food should be “non-perishable” and please no glass jars!*

We are even accepting “self-care” items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, etc. as well as pet food items. As always, we are so grateful for the generosity shown by the LADSBS students, staff and families.

Music Musings...

General Music Hand Drums, Rhythm Sticks, Glockenspiels, Oh My! The beats and melodies keep flowing out of the general music classroom day after day. Kids are learning all about playing instruments, how songs are made and how to work as the ultimate team. The gift of music keeps on giving.



Orchestra Fifth Grade Orchestra is rockin’ out real hard every Monday and Wednesday morning on the stage. Get ready for the epic sound of this even more epic group of kids. While the fifth graders are busy vigorously practicing their concert music, the fourth graders are hard at work learning how to hold their instruments, and their bows as well as reading music all at the same time. Talk about a mental workout!

Chorus The Fifth Grade Chorus is massive this year. Over 100 students are participating! Tons of excitement, tons of energy and a whole lot of great singing happening every Friday morning in the cafeteria. We are hard at work preparing for our first concert in December. You’re not going to want to miss this one.

Band Our Fifth Grade Band students have been working so hard on their instruments this year and their improvement is very impressive. The fifth grade students are working on three different pieces right now getting ready for their concerts. They are enjoying learning all different styles of music from holiday classics to rock and roll hits. The fourth grade students have been loving learning their instruments. They are becoming experts and setting them up and getting those first few notes out - some of us have even been able to get some familiar tunes out already! We hope you enjoy the sounds of us practicing at home. We can’t wait to share our skills with you during the Thanksgiving Holiday!



Halloween Fun...



Nurse's Note ...

Sore throats are one of the most common reasons for visits to the LADSBS health office. Most sore throats are related to common cold viruses or allergies but sometimes it may be a symptom of Strep Throat, Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease or the Flu or Covid-19.

COXSACKIE VIRUS (Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease)

Hand, foot and mouth disease is a viral infection caused by the Coxsackie virus. It causes a blister-like rash that involves the hands, feet and mouth. The virus is spread by direct contact with the nose and throat discharges, blister fluid and feces of infected people.

Symptoms: Fever, poor appetite, runny nose and sore throat can appear 3 to 5 days after exposure. A blister-like rash on the hands, feet and in the mouth usually develops one to two days after the initial symptoms.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment. Treatment is aimed at fever control and maintaining good oral hydration.

Complications: The illness is typically mild; complications are rare.

Prevention: Children who feel ill or have a fever should be excluded from school until they are fever free for 24 hours, and the child feels well. Thorough hand washing is the best way to prevent spread of the virus.

STREP THROAT

Strep throat is a common bacterial infection and is easily spread from one person to another through coughing, sneezing or shaking hands. That's why it is so important to teach children the importance of hand washing.

If your child has been exposed to strep throat, please watch your child for the following symptoms which usually appear 2-5 days after exposure.

- Throat pain • Difficulty swallowing • Red and swollen tonsils, sometimes with white patches or streaks of pus • Tiny red spots on the soft or hard palate — the area at the back of the roof of the mouth • Swollen, tender lymph glands (nodes) in your neck • Fever • Headache
- Rash • Stomach ache and sometimes vomiting, especially in younger children

For accurate diagnosis, a throat culture needs to be taken. Symptoms generally occur 2-3 days before a culture will show positive results. If medication is prescribed for strep throat, your child needs to be on the medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

PTO News...

Thank you to the MPPTO for hosting our Fall Book Fair! Students were so excited to once again have the book fair visit our building and hope everyone was able to bring their love of reading and new books home to share with you. They will have another opportunity to shop with the MPPTO during the week of December 18th when they visit again for our Holiday Shoppe. Be on the lookout next month for your child's scheduled date and thank you for supporting our community!



Art-I-Facts...



LADSBS students set the bar high with much success in their first art projects of the year. This month, third graders are studying the surreal works of French artist, Rene Magritte. We've focused on his paintings that depict a sharply dressed man with different objects floating in front of his face. Students had a lot of fun selecting which object they'd draw to hide themselves behind as well. Fourth graders are learning how to paint like one of the greats.

Channeling our inner Bob Ross, we've learned some really cool new techniques to take our landscape paintings to the next level. Finally, fifth graders are working on an exciting self-portrait in a comic book style. These mixed media pieces pay homage to Roy Lichtenstein's dynamic pop-art pieces, and will feature bold lines, bright colors and, of course, benday dots.



Marvelous Math...

October has been a busy month in the math lab! The students are settling in well to their routines. Our third graders have been working on using picture strategies to solve multiplication and division problems. In fourth grade, our students have been exploring place value, rounding, as well as addition and subtraction of multi-digit numbers. Fifth grade has hit the ground running with decimal multiplication and division, converting metric units, and adding and subtracting decimals. Each grade continues to work on multi-step word problems as well as fluency with multiplication facts.

Halloween brought some spooky math activities for all grades. Keep working hard to get those green lights on Reflex Math!! Our students are learning that we can do hard things...and with a growth mindset, anything is possible!

Kindness Corner...



Congratulations to our November Kindness Winners!

*Jonathan Acosta,
Mackenzie Makarius,
Sadie Pachter,
Presley Braun,
Lila Modrzyński,
Leo Jones*

The LADSBS School Kindness Initiative continues to thrive with kind acts observed daily. Throughout the year students who display superior character and kindness may receive a coupon. The coupons are entered into a monthly raffle to win a token to use on the Book Vending Machine.

Meet our Mascot!

Our LADSBS Mascot, Panther Bob, is getting excited to kick-off our "Million Word Challenge" this December. His love of reading is sure to inspire each student to **make each word count**, so be on the lookout in coming weeks for more information on how to participate in this *purrfect panther* challenge!



Board of Education

Lisa Reitan, President
Bryan Makarius, Vice President
John Galligan, Trustee
Andrea Spaniolas, Trustee
Johanna Testa, Trustee



Save the Date . . .

*Tuesday, December 12th—No Student Attendance
Parent-Teacher Conference Day at LADSBS and
AMPS. More details to follow!*

Citizenship...We help others!

Central Office Administration

Seth A. Lipshie, Superintendent of Schools
Susan G. Craddock, Assistant Superintendent
Sandra A. Wojnowski, Executive Director for Educational Services
Colleen V. Card, School Business Official
Christopher J. Herrschaft, Director of Human Resources
**Ron Petrie, Administrator for Physical Education, Health,
Athletics and Intramurals**
Kurt Roth, Administrator for Instruction and Data Reporting
Barbara A. Weir, Director of Technology
Dennis Warsaw, Director of Facilities
Jeremy Koch, Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services
Donald Pearce, District Treasurer
Patricia Morbillo, District Clerk

Helpful Hints...

- **Early Pick Up:** When you know ahead of time that you will be picking your child up from school, it is very helpful that you send a note in to that effect. If anyone other than a parent picks a child up from school, we require a written note from the parent, even if the person picking up is on your contact card. If your appointment/plans are cancelled and you find you no longer need to pick your child up, please call to let us know. When we have a note saying that a parent will be picking a child up from school, we will not send him/her on the bus unless we receive a call.
- **Emergency Closing Information:** Green "Emergency Closing" forms were sent home over the summer. If you have not already done so, please provide information as to how your child will travel home in the event of an early school closing due to an emergency or inclement weather. If your child attends SCOPE after-school child care, be reminded that after-care closes in the event of an emergency early dismissal. Please let us know your alternate arrangements, and make sure to have the forms back to us before November 9th.



*"The sum of us is greater
than all our parts."
Maya Angelou*