

RAIDER REVIEW

Newsletter of Lamar Elementary School

FEATURED THIS MONTH:

Read Across America

April Fools' Day

Big Raider, Little Raider

Kite Day

Varsity Baseball

Share Your Spring Break

Girl's Bible Study



The True Meaning of Easter

BY: ADDIE WALKER

As the sun rises, the magical bunny quickly hides the colorful eggs. What is this holiday? It is known as Easter which has continued since the 2nd century. Plastic eggs for children are hidden with candy inside. Many think this is the reason Easter is celebrated. But the Easter story is so much more!

Easter is a time of joy and remembrance of the all mighty Lord who died for our sins and rose once again. To this day, numerous people don't even know about this wonderful story.

The story began the day before the Sabbath, (which is the most holy day). Jesus was having dinner with his disciples and said something that worried them very much. "I will leave you soon and my helper will come to you." Though these aren't his exact words they are pretty inspiring. Then the Romans arrested Jesus and held a trial for him the next day. After they decided that he was guilty, they started his persecution.

-Story Continued on Page 2-

The True Meaning of Easter (cont.)

BY: ADDIE WALKER

The jealous leaders made a wooden cross and had him drag it up to the place called Golgotha. They hung him with a crown of thorns on his head and a sign that read King of the Jews. Next, he was placed in a tomb, wrapped in cloth with Roman soldiers guarding it. Suddenly, an angel appeared on top of the tomb and scared the soldiers away so that they could roll the heavy bolder away. Soon, Mary (Jesus's friend) came and saw that the tomb was empty and ran to a hill so that she could cry in silence. Suddenly, a figure asked, "Why are you crying?"

She answered, " I am crying for he is gone." Then, she looked up and saw Jesus. That giant paragraph is the true meaning of Easter. What I am trying to say is Jesus is the reason for the season!

If we have him in our hearts, he will lead us to the true meaning of Easter and many more wonderful things to come.

ENJOY COLORING
THIS PICTURE!



Read Across America at Lamar Elementary

BY: GARRET BOWERS

Lamar Elementary celebrated Read Across America on Monday, March 3. On campus, students enjoyed partner reading across grade levels with younger students reading to older students. Fifth grader Andy DeBardeleben said, "It was fun reading and listening to the second graders." Fourth grader Kirk Roger's said, "Kindergartners did good reading."

Off campus, the Elementary Student Council and Raider Review staff traveled to Aldersgate Retirement Community and read to residents there. Mrs. Syner shared that it brings so much joy to both the students and residents. "It is the highlight of everyone's day," she said.

It's good to make time to read. Franklin Davis suggested, "read as much as you can when you're allowed to at school." You can listen to a book while you're running with headphones, read when you're doing a school project, or you can read and listen just to enjoy the book.



The Fun and Mystery of April Fools' Day

BY: LOGAN BOWERS & KIRK ROGERS

April Fools' Day, celebrated every year on April 1, is a day full of pranks, jokes, and laughter, but where did it come from? The origins of this fun holiday are uncertain, but some believe it started with festivals celebrating the arrival of spring.

One of the earliest recorded April Fools' pranks happened in 1698 in England. People were tricked into going to the Tower of London to see "lions being washed"—but, of course, there were no lions! (Source: Museum of Hoaxes)

Different countries have their own traditions. In Ireland, people would give a victim an "important letter" to deliver, but each person who received it would just send them to someone else. When the letter was finally opened, it read, "Send the fool further!" (Source: Irish Times)

In the UK, classic pranks include tricks like the whoopee cushion, which makes a funny noise when someone sits on it. Whether funny or surprising, April Fools' Day is a time to be extra careful—not everything you hear or see might be true!

RIDDLES

Why was the math book so good at playing pranks?

What's the best way to catch a squirrel on April Fools' Day?

Why did the banana go to the doctor on April 1st?

Why don't eggs tell jokes on April Fools' Day?

Why did the pencil cry on April Fools' Day?

What did the calendar say to April 1st?

Big Raider, Little Raider

BY: CALLIE WATERS

Big Raider, Little Raider is a time where the first graders and seniors get to bond with each other. According to first grader Marilyn Mitchell, "The best part about Big Raider, Little Raider is that you get piggy back rides." Enjoy learning more about the Big Raider, Little Raider in the following passage from my interview with Mrs. Gena Dye.

Q: Can you give me a brief history of the program? How did it start?

A: We started Big Raider, Little Raider last year before school started. We always wanted to do some kind of "bookend" program with big kids and little kids, so Mrs. Honeycutt and Mrs. Ballou and I decided it would be special to work with our first grade students and our seniors.

Q. What is the goal of big Raider little Raider?

A. The goal is to match students in August and watch them develop a special friendship throughout the school year. It is a fun way to bring the elementary and high school worlds together.

Q. What kind of activities do they do together?

We start the year with a "Get to Know You" popsicle party and we try to get together once every month. We had Halloween cupcakes after the 1st graders "Boo-ed" the senior lockers. We have attended pep rallies together and exchanged Valentines and played on the playground together and even read our favorite Christmas books together. The key is just taking the time to be together.

Q. How are the seniors and first grade students matched?

A: We work with the 1st grade teachers to match students that might have similar interests.

Q. What do you think the program teaches the seniors?

A: I think the program teaches the seniors to slow down and enjoy the little things. Seniors are really busy wrapping up high school and preparing to go to college. It is important for them to appreciate the special day-to-day moments, and first grade buddies always make the seniors happy and grateful.

Up, Up, and Away! Kindergarteners Fly Their Kites

BY: MAGGIE NEWLIN

Kindergarten Kite Day is a special event that happens every year in March. The kindergarten class got to buy their own kite for Kite Day. "I got a butterfly kite and my favorite part was getting to fly my kite," Nora Komar said.

Mrs. Long shared how Kite Day is so special. "Kite Day is special because we have been doing it for a bazillion years! The kids have so much fun because their parents get to come and have a picnic together with their kids and help them fly their kites. The kindergarten kids have a great time with their parents!"

The weather for kite day has to be perfect in order to fly a kite. There needs to be wind, but not too much or your kite could fly away. Spring weather is sometimes unpredictable, and in the past Kite Day has been canceled due to storms. Mrs. Whittington said, "It was a little less windy than we wanted it to be, but it was still a very beautiful day, especially after the bad weather we have been having."

From manta rays to dragons, all the kites were amazing, and according to some kindergarteners the desserts that their parents brought them were amazing too.



New 3rd Graders at Lamar Elementary

BY: WESLEY EASON

LAMAR ELEMENTARY WELCOMES NEW 3RD GRADE STUDENTS TO THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR.

Remaining new students will be featured in the next issues of Raider Review



"I like art."

Ailie Lin



"Art is my favorite."

Hadley White



"I like my teachers."

Landon Ward



I like P.E. and Mrs. Castle's class."

Jude Lee

Celebrate Creativity at the Annual Art Gala!

BY: KATE DEBARDELEBEN

Lamar's Art Gala is just around the corner! This year's event will take place from Wednesday, April 30, through Saturday, May 3, at the Meridian Museum of Art. The theme, "Creative Horizons: Exploring Art & Environments," will showcase student creativity inspired by the world around us.

Students are encouraged to attend to see their artwork on display and celebrate the artistic talents of their classmates. Plus, those who sign the guest book at the gala will receive a free dress code day as a special reward!

Mrs. Causey invites everyone to take part in this exciting event. Don't miss this opportunity to support the arts and admire the amazing work of Lamar's talented students!

Lamar Baseball Aims for Championship Glory

BY: ANDY DEBARDELEBEN

The crack of the bat, the smell of fresh popcorn, and the roar of the crowd—there's nothing quite like a Lamar Raiders baseball game!

The Lamar Varsity Baseball Team is having a fantastic season, with an impressive 16-4 record (5-1 in division play) as of March 31. Division games are the most important games because that's what gets the team into the playoffs which will begin later this month.

Head Coach and Athletic Director Matt Boone said this could be the year the team makes history. "We have only won one state championship, and it's been a while. I think this year we have a good chance to win it all." The last time Lamar won the state championship was in 1985.

Students have the opportunity to play baseball on the Lamar team beginning in seventh grade. Coach Boone shared the following advice with elementary students who want to play baseball: "Don't put too much pressure on yourself. Make sure you love and enjoy what you are doing. Play as many sports as you can, college coaches love kids that play a lot of different sports. Don't play baseball twelve months out of the year, go be a kid and enjoy other things," he advises.

Coach Boone has coached baseball for 19 years. His coaching philosophy is "coach them hard and love them harder."

The next big matchup is this Friday, April 4, at 6:00 P.M., when the Raiders take on Leake Academy at Jim Wall Baseball Field. Come out, cheer on the team, and experience the excitement of Lamar baseball!



Spring Break Adventures: Where Did Students Go?

BY: AVA MATTHEWS & MADISON MARTIN

From Huntsville, Alabama to the mountains in Sun Valley, Idaho and more, Lamar students experienced a lot of fun during Spring Break!



Barrett Wilder enjoys an obstacle course in Biloxi.



Scott & Amanda Ray loved the hot tub at the beach!



Henry Rush loved riding Slinky Dog at Hollywood Studios!



Rob Hales and his dad went to the SEC Tournament in Nashville



Hayden Conway went snow skiing at Dollar Mountain in Sun Valley, ID.



"I got to go down three mountains with my ski instructor Vince"
-Stone Powell



"Snowboarding on the mountains"
- Crawford Powell



Paisley Pinkney had a blast at the Space Center Texas.



Mia and Parker Harrison at the New Orleans Aquarium.



Ruth Westbrook loving the outdoors at Tishomingo State Park



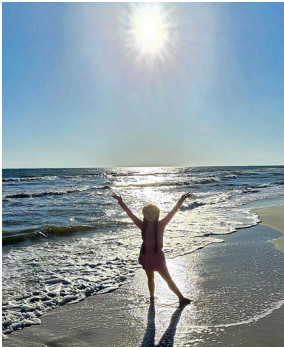
Dakota Coleman making a splash in Destin, Florida.



Madison Martin competed in a softball tournament in Alabama.



"TRAVELS LEAVES YOU SPEECHLESS, THEN TURNS YOU INTO A STORYTELLER" -IBN BATTUTA



Ann Hadley Graham loved her time at the beach, especially riding in her uncle's Jeep!



Ruby Mosley went to the Hattiesburg Zoo. "My favorite animal was the Capybara!"



Prescott Lee enjoyed swimming with the pigs in the Bahamas!



Valeria Yepes went to the Titanic in Pigeon Forge. "Everything was so cool!"



Ian Clark went on a cruise to the Bahamas.



Jenasys Kersh having fun at a trampoline park in Jackson.



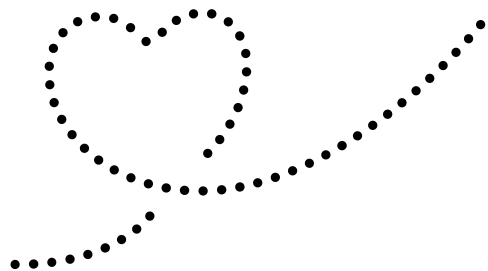
Ellie Heart Saul went to the Children's Museum in Jackson



Cooper Lott at the aquarium in Gatlinburg, TN



Mrs. Singley traveled abroad to Italy. "My favorite part was seeing the Pieta statue that Michelangelo sculpted! It was so moving to see Mother Mary holding her Son Jesus after he was crucified."



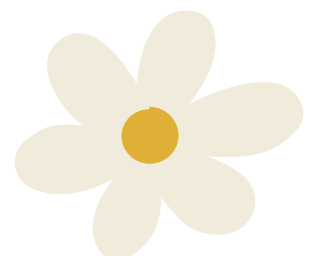


GIRLS BIBLE STUDY: GOD'S BRAVE GIRL

BY: CAROLINE TATE

The Girls Bible Study for 3rd – 5th grade has been meeting weekly since February 11 on Tuesdays from 7:30 until 8am. The study will wrap up on Tuesday, April 15. Mrs. Castle leads the study and it is a great way to start the school day.

Last year the Bible study was on the Fruits of the Spirit. This year it is on God's Brave Girls. Mrs. Castle said, "I want girls to know that they can be brave and they can turn to God." She also wants to be an encouragement to her students and wants to help her students with their walk with Jesus.



Raider Review Newsletter Staff



FRONT ROW (FROM LEFT) ADDIE WALKER, CAROLINE TATE, MADISON MARTIN, AVA MATTHEWS, KATE DEBARDELEBEN, WESLEY EASON, AND MRS. SYNER

BACK ROW (FROM LEFT) MRS. CASTLE, CALLIE WATERS, GARRET BOWERS, ANDY DEBARDELEBEN, KIRK ROGERS, LOGAN BOWERS, MAGGIE NEWLIN, AND MRS. DEBARDELEBEN

Garret Bowers

Madison Martin

Maggie Newlin

Addie Walker

Ava Matthews

Callie Waters

Andy DeBar

Kate DeBar

Wesley Eason

Logan Bowers

Kirk Rogers

Caroline Tate