

LIGHTFOOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Home Of The Timberwolves!



January 11, 2026

Dear Timberwolf Families,

We had a great first week back in 2026! Thank you for taking ACTION to make sure your student is reading, practicing math facts, studying, and completing their homework daily. Homework in elementary school matters as it reinforces classroom learning, builds essential life skills like responsibility and time management, fosters independent learning, and serves as a crucial link between school and home. Homework also helps solidify concepts through practice, improves understanding, and prepares children for future academic and professional success by cultivating positive study habits. Homework also acts as a regular communication tool between teachers, students, and families. Looking for fun family activities? Check out the [VDOE's website](#) to support Mathematics at home.

The staff cultivate a positive environment through our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Students are acknowledged at the classroom level as well as schoolwide and on the bus. Students are recognized for "Practicing RESPECT, Accepting RESPONSIBILITY, While we Stay SAFE." Timberwolves have earned 1,043 PAWSitive Tickets. 22 students have received a PAWSitive Office Referral. You can take ACTION and partner with us to increase these great numbers by reviewing the school rules with your student at home, especially around playground, lunchroom, and bus rules and never saying anything that someone may deem to be a threat or threatening.

As always, we can continue to work together by partnering with you to support your student's regular school attendance. Research shows that missing two days every month, which is ten percent of the school year, can have a significant impact on a student's academic success. Frequent absences can cause students to fall behind and can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help students catch up. Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Casasanta, and Ms. O'Leary's class tied for the best attendance last week with 100.00% attendance. The class with the best attendance for the month of December was Mrs. Headley's 3rd grade class with 97.32%. They earned hot chocolate. The class with the best attendance for January will earn a snowball fight with Mr. Tinsman. 34 students have perfect attendance. Our chronic absenteeism is at 4.63%--our goal is 3%.

Let's have a PAWSitive second semester, Timberwolves!

Sincerely,

Merilee R. Grubb
Principal

Important upcoming dates:

Reading Tutoring Mondays and Fridays 8:00-9:00 from 1/12/26-2/6/26

Math Tutoring Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00-9:00 from 1/12/26-2/6/26

Varsity Tutoring for GR 4 and 5 every Monday and Tuesday 8:30-9:00 1/12/26-2/17/26 (except days with no school)

Science Tutoring with Ms. Wayne and Mr. Duay for 4th & 5th graders, Monday and Tuesday, 2/9/26-2/10/26 and 2/16/26-2/17/26

Reading Tutoring with Ms. Penley, Wednesdays 3:55-4:55 PM, 1/14/26-4/1/26

1/12/26-1/16/26 PTA Coin Wars - the grade level with the most points in their Coin War Jug will win a treat from the PTA

Pennies = +1 point

Nickels = +5 points

Dimes = +10 points

Quarters = +25 points

\$1 bills = -100 points

\$5 bills = -500 points

1/19/26 No School for Students or Staff

1/20/26 Bible Class off campus

1/26/23-1/28/23 Reading SGA (GR5, GR4, GR3)

1/29/26 Student Early Dismissal/Teacher PD

1/30/26 PTA Hat Day for \$1

1/30/26 SGA Makeups

1/30/26 Movie Night - Wild Robot 6:00-7:30 PM (No drop offs - students must stay with an adult. Popcorn and water will be for sale from the PTA, cash only - no outside food or beverages. Students may bring blankets and stuffed animals. Electronic devices must be off during movie.)

2/2/26-2/6/26 Math SGA (GR5, GR4, GR3)

2/2/26-2/27/26 Kids Heart Challenge

2/6/26 Interims go home

2/12/26 2 hour early dismissal (1:53 PM) for Parent Teacher conferences (2:30-6:00 PM)

2/13/26 No school for students for Parent Teacher conferences (8:00 AM-12:00 PM)

2/19/26 PTA Meeting

2/27/26 GR 5 Geography Bee 2:00-3:30 PM