



Long Beach Island Consolidated School District

“Riding the Waves of Excellence”

Dear Parents/Guardians,

October is looking bright and cheery as we are excited to introduce our Student of the Month program to recognize students in Preschool through 6th grade who consistently demonstrate positive character traits. Two students will be recognized at each Board of Education meeting. In addition, we will have a 6th grade LBI Board of Education student representative to begin this month. The student representative will report out many of the great things taking place within our school and communities.

We have mailed home the NJSLA-A Performance Reports, and teachers reviewed the performance results. Our staff and students are always doing amazing work, and it's really great to see how well our students perform on the NJSLA-A and IXL assessments.

The Southern Regional Skateboard Club will visit our students in grades 3-6 on October 26th to learn more about skateboarding. The program was a great success last year, and the students are already looking forward to it. Permission slips have been sent home. This year, we would like to start some new clubs that would meet before and/or after school. The PTA will be sending information soon.

We had an informative and well planned visit for district and school articulation sessions that were held on October 16, 2026. Colette Southwick and Danielle Hagler represented the Board of Education. Jacqueline Ramilo, Kindergarten Teacher and LBIEA President, Lauren Rothstein, Math Teacher, Shelley Smith, District Technology Coordinator, and Victoria Hannum, parent and Southern Regional Middle School Teacher met at the Point Pleasant Borough, Point Pleasant Beach and Lavalette Elementary School to experience new STEAM programs, Math initiatives, and discuss cafeteria lunch programs. Similar to past trips to the Spring Lake Heights, Berkeley Township, Stafford, and Southern schools, these are great opportunities to share in our practices and learn from nearby districts.

Special thanks to the PTA as we had the Little Circus Give and Take Jugglers assembly! In addition, the Farm to School Hispanic Heritage Celebration was spectacular, and LEAD U was amazing! The students really enjoyed it.

To celebrate the season, classrooms will weave in fun October traditions, from fall-themed projects and pumpkin-inspired activities. As we enjoy crisp autumn mornings and the excitement of upcoming events, we look forward to continuing to nurture a culture of respect, safety, and healthy choices throughout our school.

The Long Beach Island Elementary School is partnering with the Kiwanis Club of LBI to collect new socks for their Happy Feet sock drive. If you would like to donate new socks in any size please send them in to school with your child during the month of October. The Kiwanis Club is so grateful for our participation in the Happy Feet campaign!

Best,

Dr. Peter Kopack



Farm To School Hispanic Heritage Celebrations today with many events, and special guests.



Parent Teacher Association



PTA Corner: Fall Highlights & What's Next

As we move through another exciting year at Long Beach Island Elementary School, the PTA is proud to partner with our students, staff and families to support programs, activities and experiences that help make our school community so special.

This fall, the PTA helped bring the school's Circus Assembly to students, continued providing snacks for students who need an extra boost during the school day, and connected volunteer room parents with teachers to help foster communication and support throughout the school year. We are also excited to partner with the school and the Southern Regional Skateboard Club on an upcoming after-school skateboarding event for students in grades 3-6, providing a fun opportunity to learn new skills, stay active and build confidence.

As we look ahead, there is still plenty to be excited about. Keep an eye out for our annual Book Fair, Holiday Grams, Spirit Wear sale and other opportunities for students and families to connect, celebrate and show their school spirit. The PTA is also looking forward to supporting this year's school play (the title is still under wraps!) along with several end-of-year events and activities that help create lasting memories for our students.

None of these opportunities would be possible without the support of our families, volunteers, community sponsors and school staff. Thank you for helping us continue to build a strong school community and enrich the educational experience for all students.

Not yet a PTA member? There is still time to join. We are always looking for new ideas, volunteers and helping hands. Whether you have an hour to give or would simply like to stay informed, we'd love to have you involved as we continue working together.



Students in Grade PK-6 enjoyed the high energy LEAD U Program.



Special thanks to our LBI PTA for the Little Circus Assembly!

Health Happenings

The Long Beach Island Health department gave presentations for kindergarten and first graders on handwashing.



Science Grade Level Happenings

Our sixth grade students have been investigating and figuring out how cells sustain life and describing the functions of cells and their parts. Through microscope investigations with real and preserved specimens, informational text, analogies, 2D models, computer models, and 3D models, students have been exploring the functions of cells and explaining how the parts work together as a system to keep organisms alive. In technology, students have been exploring data and conducting data analysis of various real-world datasets such as roller coaster data.

Our fifth grade students have been observing and measuring properties of matter to identify substances. Students collaborated in small groups to conduct investigations of substances, record observations of their properties, and used their observations to identify a mystery substance. In technology, students have been exploring data and conducting data analysis of various real-world datasets such as roller coaster data.

Our fourth grade students have been investigating structures and functions of plants by observing a plant's vascular system and exploring and describing parts of flowers. Our third grade students have been investigating motion and forces with station activities and by asking their own questions, conducting their own experiments, and collecting data.



We enjoyed meeting many world-renowned international kitters at the Long Beach Island Elementary School. Many thanks to Lisa Willoughby and local sponsors!!!

Music with Mr. Cotov



This week, the entire school will perform an original song by Mr. Cotov called "Song of Salsa" as a part of our Spanish Heritage celebration. In music class, our younger students are learning reading skills by sounding out lyrics from "Up The Creaky Stairs". We are also learning our first piano songs in music class. Our older grades are learning materials for Veteran's Day. Ukuleles are learning an original song entitled "We Love Our Veterans" composed by our music teacher, Mr. Cotov. Additionally, many of our fourth grade students are starting instruments such as violin, trumpet, flute, clarinet and saxophone.

ART

October in Art has been full of exploring the elements of line and color. Students have enjoyed experimenting with these elements while creating a variety of fun and imaginative artwork. Students are creating three-dimensional ghosts, spiders, and monsters. They have also been working on pumpkins, eerie silhouettes, self-portraits, Pop Art scenes, and line landscapes. We have been having a spooktacular time in the art room!



Pumpkin creations from 5th Grade!

PreK

In PreK, we are celebrating **Fire Safety Month** by learning about firefighters and the important role they play in keeping our communities safe. We'll explore the special gear they wear, discover how it protects them while they work, and discuss ways we can practice fire safety at home. One of the highlights of the month will be our Fire Safety Assembly, where we'll have the exciting opportunity to see real firetrucks, firefighter uniforms, and some of the tools firefighters use every day!

We'll also be exploring the **life cycle of a pumpkin**, learning how a tiny seed grows into a vine, blossoms into a flower, and eventually becomes a bright orange pumpkin. To bring our learning to life, we'll pick pumpkins from our garden, open one up to investigate what's inside, and decorate our own pumpkins with paint. We'll also discover the tradition of carving Jack-o'-lanterns and how this fun, creative activity has become a beloved way to celebrate the fall season!

Kindergarten Crew October Happenings

Fall is finally here and the month of October is flying by with so many fun-filled lessons! In ELA we are learning our first sight words and continuing to work on our letter sounds. In Math we are working on greater than, less than and equal numbers along with comparing groups. In Science, the Kindergarteners have become scientists while exploring with apples and pumpkins in our Science Center. In Social Studies, we discussed Community Helpers and enjoyed a visit from our LBI First Responders. At the end of month, we will be mastering our home address and phone number. Let's not forget about all the hands-on activities such as planting and exploring in our garden, carving a pumpkin and constructing lots of Halloween artwork! We can't wait to see you at our Halloween Parade!



Kindergarten Crew pumpkin decorating family projects!

First Grade

September sure flew by! It's hard to believe we're in October already! The students in 1st grade have really settled into our routines and understand classroom expectations well! In Phonics this month, we will begin by working on compound words and flossy words (words that end in double letters like floss or jazz) and will finish the month with syllable division. For Math, the students are doing a really great job solving doubles facts and near doubles facts. We've been using a lot of different manipulatives to get our hands involved in the learning! In Science, we will be finishing up learning about sound and how it travels through the air in the form of vibrations.

While in Social Studies we are learning about various symbols of the United States of America along with how our government and country work! October is a busy month for everyone and we are really looking forward to Halloween.

Second Grade

Second graders have had a terrific start to the school year, and continue to serve as amazing role models for their peers at LBI Elementary. Our second graders continue to handle school and classroom procedures with ease. We are so proud of their hard work during this time. Students were extremely excited to attend the wonderful Fire Prevention and Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations this month.

Our second graders continue to work hard in all content areas. In Math, students have been working on Fluently Adding and Subtracting within 20 and have moved toward using strategies to Add within 100. We work daily to improve our basic math fact fluency by completing basic math fact drills for practice. We are excited to announce that second grade learned to work with equal groups to create arrays made of pumpkin seeds to show various repeated addition equations. Their creations are on display in the hallway. Please come by to see them. In ELA we are working on sentences that describe by creating descriptive spooky sentences for Halloween. In Spelling, we are currently working on final blends using the Orton Gillingham method of practice. In Social Studies second grade is continuing to learn about rules and laws and the importance of being a good citizen. Finally, in Science, the second grade is continuing their work on Unit 1 Properties of Matter. Students are working on identifying the three states of matter and investigating the properties of matter. Looking forward to all of the exciting things happening in second grade this month.

Third Grade

3rd graders are doing an awesome job of following our classroom rules and routines and earning new privileges and rewards. They continue to practice multiplication and have learned a variety of strategies, such as drawing pictures, using arrays, number lines, bar models, and skip counting. The 3rd graders have begun using the scientific method in the Science Lab. Predictions, observations, questions, and conclusions are being discovered! In Social Studies, students are learning about the culture of LBI and creating maps that include their favorite places. They are exploring local landmarks, traditions, and community events. They're showing what they know in ELA by practicing their reading and writing skills and learning about different kinds of literature.

Fourth Grade

October is a busy month full of learning and information! We are working on the many ways to conquer multiplication in our Math classes. In Science, we are studying Plant Structures & Functions at this time. During Social Studies, we are moving from the Northeast and traveling to the Southeast part of the United States. We will discuss the climate, industries, and landscapes found in this region. This month we will also continue with our Reading program, learning and applying various skills to the stories we read. Quite a few Autumn decorations adorn our hallways, with pumpkins, colorful leaves, and more adding fun stories for all to read. It's been a month full of activity, and we're having a great time!

FIFTH GRADE

The fifth graders are really in the swing of things now! We are starting our first novel study in ELA. They will be reading and analyzing *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan. In writing they are beginning their monster descriptions where they create their own fictitious monsters and describe them in dripping detail. Keeping things creepy, in math they are playing the Game of Life. Finally, in Social Studies they are starting to "explore" North America. They have really enjoyed all the assemblies they have had this month and they are looking forward to the Halloween Parade!



STEAM data collection and interpretation, activity without digital devices; identify factors observing a paper helicopter drop. Thank you Ms. Smith!

Sixth Grade

In math, students just began learning about integers and rational numbers. They have been practicing graphing and comparing them. Later in the month, the 6th graders will dive into the coordinate system where they will create their own coordinate plane design using ordered pairs.

In ELA, the 6th graders are diving into their first novel of the year. They will begin reading and discussing *Maniac Magee* as a class. We also will be examining the author's use of figurative language, sentence structure, and author's craft. In addition to studying mentor sentences from the novel, sixth graders will be drawing inspiration from the novel to write their own fictional narratives later this marking period.



The LBI Elementary School Morning Show Crew! Many thanks to Mr. Brady and Ms. Smith and to our dynamic grade 6 news team

Garden News

October in our schoolyard garden was a mash-up celebration that combined Farm-to-School Month and Hispanic Heritage Month. Our students Grades PreK to Grade 6 enjoyed a day of festivities that included flavor, music and language. This garden-based learning event began with a bi-lingual ping-pong dialogue with Mr. Birney and Senora Rosa, followed by a music original by Mr. Cotov entitled “A Song of Salsa” with several rounds of our students participating in its echoing lyrics. Ivy Zheng finished this segment with a Spanish classic “Malagueña” on the keyboard.

Farmer Maria, from Fair Grown Farms, was on hand with a beautiful display of salsa ingredients, which were introduced to the students in both English and Spanish by Farmer Maria and a special guest Emily Ramon Aquino who attended our kindergarten in 2014, graduated from the LBI School in 2020 and is now attending college. Emily’s family made the red and green salsas from their Mi Pueblito restaurant and our very own Ms. Maria, from Maschio’s, created a tropical orange salsa.

Next up was a bilingual musical performance by “Musiquita.” This part of the program offered an immersive and interactive music experience. Our students embarked on a musical journey that blended English and Spanish languages, fostered cultural appreciation and language development. During lunch this garden-based learning event was rounded off with three different salsa tastings: red, green and orange. Mr. Brady tallied the students' votes and the winner was – Salsa Verde!

A big thank you goes to the many hands and unsung garden heroes that made this event possible.

