



THE WILDCAT'S ROAR

Lebanon Borough School Family Newsletter

April 2022

Important Dates

- Apr 4 PTA Mtg 6:30PM
- Apr 6 **Early Dismissal - 12:45 PM**
Teacher Inservice
- Apr 7 BOE Mtg 6:30PM
- Apr 8 PTA Around the World Night
6:00 - 7:30PM
- Apr 15-Apr 22 - **School Closed**
Spring Break
- Apr 25 School Reopens Full Day

Mr. Arcurio's Corner

Welcome to April!! As we move further into the Spring, please consider allowing your child to walk to school. It is a great way to get some additional activity into their day and can be a wonderful social experience. Many of us as children had the experience of walking to school with friends and truly enjoyed it. Talk with the other parents who live near you and organize a group of children to walk to school together. It will make your morning and afternoon less hectic and they will probably enjoy it too!

One thing that we are all confronted with as parents is setting limits with our children. Something that doesn't often get too much press today is the experience of hearing and accepting the word, "No."

"Can we get ice cream?" "Can I have \$40 for a new video game?" "Can I have a puppy?" These are all questions that parents may have had to field from children. Although these examples are fairly harmless and easily dispatched with a yes or no, when the answer is, "no," it provides an opportunity for learning and growth. As parents, we want to provide for our children and protect them from harm or hurt feelings, but we also need to prepare them for the

normal successes and struggles in life. Learning to gracefully accept, "no," teaches children a valuable character lesson. John MacDonald wrote, "There must be a positive and negative in everything in the universe in order to complete a circuit or circle, without which there would be no activity, no motion." This is true in the education of our children. If a child does not experience failure, it is truly more difficult to appreciate success. If a child does not experience losing, it is more difficult to appreciate winning. If a child receives everything for which they ask, they come to expect everything they want.

Although this is not a popular topic, it is important to cover with children when we are learning about life experiences. It is also important for us as adults to model a gracious response to disappointment. There are times and methods for approaching disappointment that reflect dignity and concern for others. It is not appropriate for the leader of a school or manager in a company to yell and scream if requests for funds or staff are denied. There are appropriate avenues to seek information as to why. However, it is important to realize that sometimes the answer is, "no." This is true of children, as well. As educators we want our children to have every opportunity afforded to them; however, we also want them to understand the experience of "no."

Finally, as we continue to move toward a greater sense of normal, our staff has begun to schedule our traditional Spring events. Here are some tentative dates for your planning purposes:

- K-2 Field Trip - May 24, 2022
- TREP\$ Marketplace - May 26, 2022
- Grades 4-6 Field Trip - June 1, 2022
- Spring Concert - June 9, 2022, at 6:30 pm
- Field Day - June 10, 2022
- 6th-grade Promotion - June 14, 2022, at 6:30 pm
- 6th-grade trip - June 15th

Better Together,
Bruce Arcurio
Lead Learner/Superintendent

**Registration Information
for
Preschool &
Kindergarten
can be obtained at
www.lebanonschool.org,
the main office, or by
calling:
(908) 236-2448**

Office Items

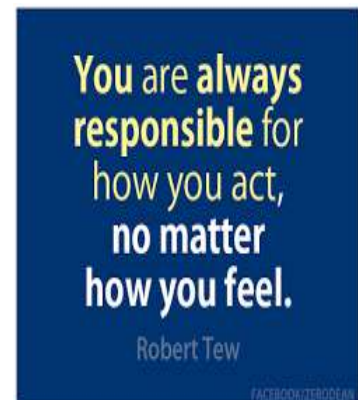
Kindergarten and Preschool Registration

- It is time to start thinking about registering for preschool and kindergarten! The 2022-2023 school year will be here before we know it. If you have a child who will be 3 or 4 before October 1, 2022, please consider our integrated preschool program. If your child will turn 5 before that date, they are eligible to register for our Kindergarten. There is more information on our website. Registration forms can be found there too. We will be scheduling orientations in the summer as we get closer to the new school year.
- We have created a preliminary schedule for the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments that all students in grades 3-6 take. Below are those dates:
 - Gr 3 & 6 ELA - May 9, 10, 11
 - Gr 3 & 6 Math - May 12, 13, 16
 - Gr 5 Science May 10, 11, 12 in the afternoons (tentative)
 - Gr 4 & 5 ELA - May 17, 18, 19
 - Gr 4 & 5 Math - May 20, 23, 24

Health Office

Bully-Free Zone: For the month of March we focused on the character trait of Responsibility. We will continue this trait for the month of April. Please encourage your child with the following ways to be responsible in the classroom.

- Attend class regularly
- Arrive to class on time
- Be prepared for class with the right pencil, book, and completed assignment
- Listen when the teacher is talking
- Do not disrupt the learning of the other students
- Do your best whether it's a classroom assignment, homework or a test
- Cover their cough/sneeze with their elbow
- Stay in their own space, use their own supplies
- Keep their hands away from their face
- Wear a mask properly as needed
- Wash their hands
- Stay home when sick
- Don't share germs
- Maintain social distancing





Safety Patroller of the Month

Congratulations to Mary Elwell for being Safety Patroller of the month for March 2022. She has shown great leadership skills by being responsible, trustworthy, and ready to work. She is consistently kind to the younger students at LBS. Great job and keep up the good work! Congratulations Mary!



Congratulations to Doruk Mevlevioglu for being Safety Patroller of the month for March 2022. He has shown great leadership skills by being respectful and helpful while on post. His hard work and dedication are

recognized by many. Great job and keep up the good work! Congratulations Doruk!

Art

Some artwork may not come home until the end of the year because it's being saved for art shows. Viewing works on [Artsonia](#) is a great option until it makes its way home to you. The artwork from our students at LBS at North County Branch Library was very impressive., and I hope you had a chance to see it. A new routine was introduced this month. When I say, "Mona," the students say, "Lisa!" Immediately afterward, they pose like her with eyes on the speaker, mouths closed and slightly smiling, and calm hands resting on their laps. We talked about how Mona Lisa is such a great example of what a good listener looks like. We'll practice striking our best Mona Lisa pose when directions are being given.



A focus on artists is coming up for the younger grades. Now that the kindergarteners and first graders finished their Wabi-Sabi Tea Bowls AND

family portraits, they'll begin to learn about Henri Matisse while making self-portraits. The second graders finished their cake painting inspired by Wayne Thiebaud and as a reward for their focus, they are making a stop motion video of cardboard robots!

We've started filming already and it's brought really fun energy into the room! The third graders are nearly done with their cake paintings and have begun to learn about James Rizzi and his pop art. They are making reduction prints in his unique style. Fourth, fifth, and sixth graders are wrapping up a challenging painting project. While painting can, at times, be frustrating, collecting painting experiences also helps us



grow in ability. Experience is what teaches how the brush behaves when it's too dry, how much more yellow than red is needed to make a good orange, or how to keep the palette colors clean while working. Overall the paintings are colorful, rhythmic, and engaging. I know the fourth and fifth graders are really looking forward to their clay project that's coming up. The sixth grade will start to work on decorations and props for the Spring musical.

Enrichment, A.T., BSI

Enrichment/Media: We have honored famous Women throughout history for March: Women in History Month. As a collaboration, students worked to color and build a mural/wall for the library. It features some very famous women. As the students worked to color according to the code, cut out the puzzle pieces, and label them for assembly, they could not tell who their piece of the puzzle might be. Once assembled and displayed, students 3-5 grade then worked to independently try and figure out "Who Is

Who and What Did They Do". It was such fun to share different approaches on how to solve this mystery. Here are the famous women who were featured: Ruby Bridge, Anne Frank, Malala Yousafzai, Amelia Earhart, Frida Kahlo, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, and Georgia O'Keeffe. Additionally, to welcome spring (it's here, right?!) younger grades have learned about Claude Monet. They learned how he and his friends, the Impressionists, wanted to paint a different way. We read a picture book called Philippe in Monet's Garden which is about a frog that escapes Paris with its cafes that serve frog legs and finds himself in Monet's Garden. We then recreated Monet's garden with its pond and lily pads. We used crayons and then "created" our own paint with markers and water. Sixth graders have also been on a virtual field trip through Anne Frank's Secret Annex to support their novel study in their classroom. If you are interested in seeing it yourself, here is the link. I found it so interesting. <https://www.annefrank.org/en/anne-frank/secret-annex/> Moving forward into April, 4-6 graders are starting their work with TREP\$, which is short for Entrepreneurs. Our TREP\$ Marketplace has been set for May 26th from 5:30 - 7:00. Students will be participating in 5 weeks of workshops and learning as they embark on this exciting adventure. More information will be coming home to those students' families about this and all will be welcome to come to visit the Marketplace. Stay tuned!

A/T: Students in A/T worked on independent projects based on their interests and passions. We have finally completed almost all of the presentations and it was such fun to see! Moving forward, students will get to dig into some interesting new STEM activities and kits to problem solve and discover. We also will be voting on our next adventure together for April so more to come on that once they help determine our next challenge!

Music

At the end of March, we began rehearsing for our full school spring musical, *Disney's Cinderella, Kids*. This performance will feature the 5th and 6th grade Drama Club Members in the on-stage roles and students in grades preschool through 6th grade in the chorus of the show! We are so excited to be performing this musical LIVE during the LBS Spring Concert on Thursday, June 9th at 6:30 PM!!! Please be on the lookout for more information and volunteer opportunities soon. Next month, we will be continuing to prepare for the musical in all grades.



Earlier in the month, our lower grades worked on their sight-singing and ear-training skills using solfege on the music staff. The 3rd-grade students put their treble clef reading skills to the test as we began our recorder unit. Our 4th-grade students learned about meter and created rhythms together as a class in various time signatures. This really helped to reinforce our knowledge of note values. We also performed rhythm charts together and solo. Finally, the 5th and 6th graders completed their rhythm chart compositions and each student performed them for their classmates.

The 4th Grade Band began their first large band arrangement this month! We were a little worried when we first looked at the challenging piece but, we are really excited about this challenge! We love the way it sounds when the various parts come together. We will be continuing to work on one section at a time in order to gradually piece the song together for our spring concert. In the 5th/6th Grade Band, we are making wonderful progress on our concert music. We have added new pitches and vocabulary through these songs. We have also been working on our sight-reading skills which have come such a long way since the fall. We are continuing to work on our reading skills and counting rhythms in order to put the parts together in our spring concert music.

Physical Education/Health

This March in PE we played games that focused on striking with an implement. Students participated in games and activities such as floor hockey, paddle, and racket games, and baseball. Health focused on the



body parts and body systems, such as the skeleton, heart, lungs, brains, and more. We had a great time, below are some pics of students playing with our noodle rackets. In April we will touch on dealing with emotions, and ways to relieve stress.



Spanish

We are having a blast in Spanish class! Kindergarten students have started identifying clothing vocabulary through a song called Ponte la camisa (“Put on your shirt”) and using manipulatives to spell words like pantalones (“pants”), guantes (gloves), and calcetines (“socks”). First graders have started learning verb vocabulary with the YO conjugation to talk about “I paint”, “I write”, and “I read”. First, second, and third-grade students have started to demonstrate the ability to answer questions about season vocabulario, including “calor” (hot) and “frio” (cold). Second graders are enjoying a video about an invitation to fish, shop, and go to the movies—all in Spanish! Third graders are working on a video conversation between friends getting ready for the first day of school.



Grades 4-6 are continuing to study verbs in context. Fourth graders are working on creating a video based on the school supplies they have learned about and the verb TENER (“to have”). Fifth and sixth graders are engaged with verb conjugation in preparation for reading our first Spanish “novel” ever. We are very excited to start Billy y Las Botas, the novel!

Preschool

AM: We had a fun march in Preschool, we learned about Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's day, spring, and continued our ball unit. In our balls unit, we learned about bounce and force used to roll the ball, we compared different balls and how they moved. We got to look at different types of balls, used colorful goldfish to practice sorting and completing patterns, planted seeds, and made rainbows! We learned the letters W, Y, V, and X and the numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. We watched the eagle's nest, we saw the eggs hatch and enjoyed watching the baby eagle grow. In April we will learn about rain, finish going through our alphabet and enjoy spring break. We hope to get outside a lot now that the weather is warming up.



PM: We had a fun march in Preschool, we learned about Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's day, spring, camping, and started our community helpers unit, we made truffula trees, planted seeds, and made rainbows! We learned the letters W, Y, V, and X and the numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. We watched the eagle's nest and animals at the



San. Diego Zoo, we saw the eagle eggs hatch and enjoyed watching the baby eagle grow. In April we will learn about rain, continue our community helpers unit, hopefully, have some community helper

visitors come in, finish going through our alphabet and enjoy spring break. We hope to get outside a lot now that the weather is warming up.



Kindergarten

During the first week of March we celebrated “Read Across America” week. We enjoyed reading Dr. Seuss books and participating in many activities. We had fun each day with our school-wide spirit week. We read to our stuffed animals and dressed up. We got together with the second-grade students to read. We also completed many centers with Dr. Seuss activities. We listened for rhymes and practiced writing sentences with rhyming words. We also practiced

reading and writing from various word families. We discussed the genre of poetry this month. We read short nursery rhymes along with our Dr. Seuss books. We listened for the rhythm and clapped it out. We listened for the rhymes throughout, as well. We discussed characters, setting and plot this month.



We will continue to build on those comprehension skills next month. Our next genre is myths. We are

also continuing to work on adjectives and pronouns. We are working to add more sentences while writing in our journals. We learned about the “magic e” so we can read both long and short vowel words. Everyone seems to be feeling very proud of their accomplishments while reading the decodable readers. They are progressing well. This month in math we finished our modules on count sequence and numbers to 10. Now we are beginning a



module on geometry. We will begin by analyzing and comparing three-dimensional shapes. Next, we will describe the positions of objects.

In social studies, we are learning about famous women who have helped make a difference in our lives today. We learned about Susan B. Anthony, Amelia Earhart, and Jane Goodall. In science we have been learning about animals and why they have their babies in spring. We also discussed the weather patterns and signs of spring. Next month, we will begin learning about seeds and planting.

We also had a lot of fun with our St. Patrick’s Day activities. We learned about pennies and how copper dulls and changes. We used vinegar and salt to shine some pennies, we left some shiny pennies for the leprechaun. The kindergarten went on a scavenger hunt through our classroom to find some coins and charms. They had to follow the rhyming clues left for each of them. They also enjoyed setting their leprechaun traps, that they made for homework. They all had very creative designs! It was a fun day.



First Grade

March was another busy month in 1st Grade and! We celebrated Read Across America Week and St. Patrick’s Day! During Read Across America Week, we completed a STEM activity where the students had to create a nest for Horton the elephant to sit on so the egg wouldn’t break from his massive weight (from the book Horton Hatches the Egg). The students were also thrilled to buddy read with 3rd Grade! Also, the sneaky leprechaun made his way into our classroom causing all kinds of silly chaos... check out the pictures below!

Did you know that koalas eat eucalyptus leaves? Or that the Emperor Penguin is the largest penguin? In Science, the students have enjoyed researching and taking notes on the animal they each chose. This week, we are working on turning those notes into an Animal Research book. Later, we will wrap up

our animal unit with some Mystery Science lessons about the relationships between animal parent-offspring and their parents. We will also resume Social Studies and discuss topics like what the mayor of a town does, and what inclusion means both inside and outside of the classroom.

In reading, we took a break from the regular MyView reading program to focus on researching the animals we chose for our Animal Research Books. We have focused on using nonfiction text features like the table of contents, chapter headings, captions, and index to help us search and locate information to take notes. Next week we will resume MyView and we will begin our fourth unit. In this unit, we will read biographies, write a personal narrative, and learn about people who made history.



In Math, we've learned how to solve word problems that include "how many more", "how many fewer", and solving for an unknown quantity using the same words "more" and "fewer". The students can use their cubes, bar models, and pictures to solve and compare numbers. In the next module, we will move on to using bar graphs, picture graphs, and tally charts to interpret and represent data. We are looking forward to warmer days this spring and a bunch of new things to learn... thanks for stopping by!

Second Grade

March has been a very productive and fun month in second grade! We have gotten to learn so many new things, and are excited to start applying all of the knowledge we have from the first half of the year to all of the challenging, new things we will learn.

In Reading and Writing, we have been learning all about traditions and different types of stories that accompany them, like folktales, legends, and fairy tales. At the beginning of the month, we celebrated Read Across America Week and read to the kindergartners, and also attended "Camp Read a Lot!" We are using our knowledge from these stories to help us learn about new cultures and the traditions that they may have. We have also been practicing different techniques for writing poems. We learned about imagery, alliteration, and similes and how to include them in our poems!



In Math, we have mastered two-digit addition and subtraction with two, three, and four numbers, and are beginning to apply what we know to different types of word problems. I am so proud of how hard the second graders have worked on these important skills!

In Social Studies, we learned all about our natural resources, and how they can be used to make other resources that we may use in our everyday lives. We worked with partners to research all about a specific natural resource and then present it to the class. In Science, we began learning about different types of materials, how we need them to survive, and what we can do if we are stranded on a "desert island."

I am so proud of all of the hard work that the second graders are doing, and we are having so much fun together. I can't wait to see what April brings!

Third Grade

"Hello! How are you?" , or as a Scottish person would say, "Lang may yer lum reek!" That's a typical Scottish greeting, which literally means, "Long may your chimney smoke!" Can you tell 3rd Graders

are learning all about Scotland? We're preparing a table for the International night at LBS and have been studying culture, specifically Scottish culture. We are working in teams to learn traditional dance and clothing and food and geography, and more! It is a great experience to compare and contrast our Scottish research with what we know of American culture. In math, we have just completed our unit for problem-solving with perimeter and area, and have begun our unit with fractions! In science, we built bridges from paper that could hold many pennies. We learned all about different bridge designs and how they use force to provide structure and safe travels. In reading, we are enjoying the novel, The Chocolate Touch by P. Catling. We are learning some new and fascinating vocabulary! We



are also using summary skills to retell without sharing too much detail. Additionally, we've learned about many brilliant women who made a difference in the world by being courageous. Many of these women faced the world head-on and were tenacious in their goals! We also completed our historical fiction stories, and like we said, *it's fact-packed but it's just a story!* We learned incredible information about people's lives and then placed ourselves within the history to design our own take on their factual story. This month we also

shared a St. Patrick's Day reading/craft activity with the 1st Graders, which was fun and festive! We look forward to reading biographies in our next reading unit and sharing spring experiences in April!

Fourth Grade

Who knew eaglets grew so fast! We love having the Eagle Cam at Duke Farms during working time and watching changes the eagle has made in the last few weeks. The eaglet has been feeding what seems like all the time lately. Hopefully, soon the adult feathers will replace the down and we can see the eaglet fly.

In Math, we have been learning about naming fractional parts, comparing fractions, and equivalent fractions. We were able to connect our knowledge of multiplication/division facts when finding common denominators or numerators. We just started understanding the connection between fractions and decimals this week. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to learn how to complete computations with fractions.

Last week we were able to have another Mystery Google Meet. The children have really enjoyed these meetings plus we are learning about the geography of our country at the same time. Fun and learning... a teacher's dream!! I am hopeful I can find additional classes to participate with us in the next few months. We are also learning about the early colonization of New Jersey.

A few weeks ago we started the novel study, The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, it was a fictional story about a china rabbit "doll." The children are enjoying all the twists and turns of Edward's life and how he changes throughout the book. We keep making predictions as we read and we are always thrown for a loop. Everyone is excited to see how the book ends.



Fifth Grade



For the last month, fifth grade has been exploring Ancient Egypt in social studies class. The students created a number of short projects that emphasized the importance of the Nile River, the mysterious qualities of the Great Sphinx, and the everyday routines and dwellings of that long-ago civilization.

After a pause to explore Ancient Egypt, our class is excited to dive back into Science! We have an interesting new unit to tackle – Chemical Magic – which gives us lots of opportunities to get hands-on as we explore the properties of common (and not so common) mixtures and solutions. We began our studies by learning about the alchemists who tried to convert cheap metals into gold. Then, we tried to duplicate their efforts. And while we didn't quite succeed in our 'get rich quick' attempt, we *did* become experts at cleaning old pennies! (And more importantly, we understand that the rust

simply didn't *disappear*, but was conserved throughout the chemical reactions we witnessed.)

Moving forward, we'll conduct experiments that show how matter dissolves into liquids and learn exactly what acids and how they work, as well as how to find them. Then we'll look at how chemical reactions can yield substances with fascinating (and sometimes goopy) properties. Our final mystery of the unit, "Why do some things explode?" promises to be a fan favorite!

Math class has had Grade 5 continuing our work with decimals. After exploring place values out to the thousandths, students have been using visual strategies to add and subtract numbers with pieces small than a whole. The students have done a great job building on their knowledge of fractions (and their strong math fundamentals) to add and subtract decimals. After that, we look forward to adding multiplication and division of decimals to our repertoire.

In the afternoons, the class will continue to review important language arts skills such as identifying themes, supporting answers with textual evidence, and composing essays and stories that persuade, entertain, and teach their audiences.

Sixth Grade

In March we have been exploring topics and people related to Women's History Month. Each day we have a link (or two) about a topic and/or person from history who has contributed to the welfare of our country, particularly as it relates to women. It is a good time for the students to become familiar with these important people in our history.

We are just completing our study of the novel, *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne. It is a fable about the Holocaust, told from the perspective of a nine/ten-year-old German boy. Leading into this book, we learned about fables and their function as a story genre. This fable is more complicated than most, but it has a number of important life lessons for our time. Once finished with this, we will work on some poetry and then move on to a new novel after Spring Break.

In history, we have completed our brief foray into the Abrahamic religions, and have moved on to Medieval history. I'd say this is an area most are interested in as it deals with kings and knights, sword fights and wars, castles, and manors.

In math, we are continuing to hone our algebra skills and review previously learned skills. Meanwhile, in science, we have completed our explorations of biomes and are now working on forces and motion. We will continue this into April and then move into learning about the universe and geologic time scale.

Visit our district website
www.lebanonschool.org
and follow us on Twitter at
[@LBSWildcats](https://twitter.com/LBSWildcats)