

Blast Off On A Learning Adventure

This Month's Edition
August 2020

The Leopard Letter

Lake Forest Elementary
16 Berkshire Avenue
Greenville, SC 29615
864-355-4000
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/forest

Monday, August 24 ~ First Day of School

Principal's Report

Dear Lake Forest Family,
I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer! We have been busy preparing for the year ahead. I am looking forward to the 2020-2021 school year. Our school-wide theme this year is "Blast Off On A Learning Adventure". We will definitely be embarking on an adventure into the unknown as we begin the year under unusual circumstances. Regardless of how we start the year, we look forward to welcoming our astronauts whether in person or virtually. New adventures await!

If you are new to Lake Forest this year, I hope you will attend our **Virtual New Student Orientation on Thursday, August 6 at 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm**. Parents can attend the time that works best for them. During this orientation we will go over important back to school items, introduce our administrative team and PTA board, as well as provide a virtual tour of the building. In addition, we hope to answer any questions you may have.

Meet the Teacher will be held virtually at the following times:

Aug. 13	Aug. 14
K4/K5 – 12:00 1 st – 12:00 2 nd – 12:00 3 rd – 5:00 4 th – 5:00 5 th – 5:00	K4/K5 – 5:00 1 st – 5:00 2 nd – 5:00 3 rd – 12:00 4 th – 12:00 5 th – 12:00

We will use Google Meets for our Meet the Teacher format. Parents and their child will be invited to attend one of the two sessions offered by their teacher. On August 11 and 12, your child's classroom teacher will call you to introduce themselves and obtain important information about your child as well as invite you to attend their virtual Meet the Teacher event.

All 4K through 8th grade students are invited to attend school one day the week of **August 17-21 to Learn, Evaluate, Analyze, and Prepare (LEAP)**. Students will follow Attendance Plan 1 for this week of instruction. That means last names starting with A-D attend on Monday, E-K on Tuesday, L-Q on Wednesday, and R-Z on Thursday. Two sessions will be held each day, with in-person students in the morning and virtual students in the afternoon. Chromebooks will be distributed during this time. Look for more information about LEAP days in this publication.

All parents are asked to 'Like' Lake Forest Elementary School on Facebook for updates and photos! We enjoy using social media to share positive stories about LFE and upcoming events.

We have included a list of new

staff members in this newsletter. Please join me in welcoming them to our school!

Our school's 60th anniversary is this year! Lake Forest Elementary was founded in 1960. To commemorate 60 years of excellence in education, we look forward to honoring the heritage of our school and surrounding community throughout the year. We hope to plan a special event when we are all able to meet together. Because our school began near the start of the US Space Race, we are excited to have a school-wide space theme. We have also had a special mural painted this summer to recognize important figures from the NASA program. Be on the look out for pictures shared on our social media page.

Finally, let me know if I can help you in any way as we begin a new school year together. We are here to support one another during such challenging times. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we will see you soon!

Sincerely,
Julie R. Cooke
Principal



Important Dates

Virtual New Student Orientation, 12:00 and 6:00 pm	8/6
Virtual Meet the Teacher Events (see chart for times)	8/13-8/14
LEAP Days Blue group—8/17 Red group—8/18 Green group—8/19 Purple group—8/20 Makeup Day—8/21	8/17-8/21
First Day of School , 7:45—2:15 pm Extended Day Program Begins, 2:30-6:00 pm	8/24
Labor Day—No School	9/3
4K Half Day 11:15 am dismissal	9/25
Fall Pictures	10/8
School Spirit Day—wear LFE shirt	10/2
CogAt Testing (2nd grade)	10/12-10/14
Iowa Testing (2nd grade)	10/15-10/16
End 1st Quarter Grading Period	10/22
Teacher Workday—No School for Students	10/23
1st Quarter Report Cards	10/29
Election Day—No School	11/3

'Like' us on Facebook for school event reminders!



<https://www.facebook.com/LakeForestES>

Attendance Plan Reminders

Student Groups
ONE Day Attendance:
(First Letter of Last Name)

Blue A-D	Red E-K
Green L-Q	Purple R-Z

Student Groups
TWO Days Attendance:

Blue/Green A-D/L-Q	Red/Purple E-K/R-Z
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	1 Day	2 Day
Blue Group	Monday	Mon. & Wed.
Red Group	Tuesday	Tues. & Thurs.
Green Group	Wednesday	Mon. & Wed.
Purple Group	Thursday	Tues. & Thurs.



Lake Forest PTA BOARD



Jamie Hicks
President

jamiechicks@gmail.com

Brantley Shugart
Treasurer

brantleyb.shugart@gmail.com

Liz McCall
Volunteer Coordinator
elliesimister@charter.net

Vacant Position
Memberships

Vacant Position
Secretary

Vacant Position
Hospitality/Room Mom Coordinator

Please contact Jamie Hicks if you are
interested in serving on the PTA
Board. We need your help!



Please support
LFE by joining
the PTA!
\$5

Space News New Staff Members

Sarah Jones
Second Grade
Teacher

Shannan Fastzkie
Special Education
Teacher

Jodi Imes
Part Time ESOL
Teacher

Peg Witbeck
Team 2
PE Teacher

Katie Jones
Team 2
Art Teacher

PTA President's Report

Dear Lake Forest Family,

As we near back to school time, the PTA wants you to know that we are still here! We are navigating a different way of doing things and working hard to come up with a way that PTA can engage and enrich staff, students, and families here at Lake Forest Elementary. Please know

that whether you are doing virtual or in-person learning you can be a part of the PTA family. We appreciate your patience as we all work through these unusual times together!

Jamie Hicks
PTA President



LEAP Days—August 17-21

GCS has set aside the week of August 17-21 for LEAP (Learn Evaluate Analyze Prepare) days. The South Carolina Legislature requires school districts to offer these instruction days to students in response to the COVID-19 school closures. The first official day of school in Greenville County is Monday, August 24.

Our 4K-5th grade students who plan to attend traditional, in-person school will have the option to attend for ½ day based on the GCS Roadmap Attendance Plan 1. (7:45-10:15 for elementary students)

Attendance Group	Attendance Day
Blue Group (A-D)	Monday
Red Group (E-K)	Tuesday
Green Group (L-Q)	Wednesday
Purple Group (R-Z)	Thursday
Make-Up Day (based on space availability)	Friday

Friday is a make-up day for any student who was unable to attend on their color-coded day. During their ½ day of LEAP, students will meet their teachers and the

classmates who share their Attendance Plan color grouping and practice social distancing. They will also be issued/trained/refreshed in the use of the Chromebooks and Google Classroom and take tests that are required by the state to be conducted in person to help determine their academic strengths and weaknesses.

Breakfast and a bagged lunch will be served to students in the LEAP program. Transportation will be provided to those who completed their transportation forms by July 15 and requested bus service.

Students in the new **Virtual Program** will attend at the assigned school during the 2nd daily session (12:00-2:30 pm). They will also attend based on their last name/color group.

Students at all levels enrolled in the new Virtual Program are invited to pick up their Chromebook during LEAP days.

Students who attend LEAP must be enrolled in GCS.

What's Cooking in the Cafeteria?

Breakfast and lunch will be available for all students. Students will eat in the cafeteria on Attendance Plan 1 and in their classroom on Plans 2 and 5. Lunch will be provided free of charge to eligible GCS students.

Parents must complete the Free and Reduced Application:

<http://greenville.schoollunchapp.com>.

GCS students on full-paid meal status will be required to pay for their meals at the time of pick up. Parents should preload funds on

their child's My School Bucks account or bring cash/check. Students may bring their lunch as well.

Cafeteria Prices 2020-2021 School Year

Breakfast:

All students- **FREE**
Adults- \$2.20

Lunch:

Paid student- \$2.50
Reduced student- \$0.40
Adults- \$3.95



Important Transportation Information



Due to COVID-19 safety guidelines issued by our school district, parents will not be allowed to walk their child into school during LEAP days or school attendance days after that. Students should be dropped off in the appropriate carlines, and parents are asked to remain in their cars. We will have sufficient staffing to be sure that students get to class safely. Thank you for abiding by this request.

All parents who pick up children in the carlines need a school issued hangtag. These will be given out during **August 10-14** at the times listed in the chart to the right.

Children will not be released to cars unless the NEW school issued hangtag is displayed. Parents should set a good example for their children by following these guidelines. Please be patient with the carlines, especially in the afternoons during the first few weeks of school (if we are in

attendance). We have been tasked with maintaining social distancing even during dismissal.

If you have not signed up for bus transportation or you have questions about which bus your child will ride, please contact the office at 355-4000. **IMPORTANT!! If you have a K4, K5 or 1st grade child who will need bus transportation at any time this year, you need to have a school-issued, numbered hangtag to show the driver at the bus stop.** K4, K5, and 1st graders will not be allowed to exit the bus without the parent or designee showing this school-issued tag. These numbered tags will be distributed to all parents of K4, K5, and 1st graders who are coded as bus riders in our database.

If you do not pick up your tags the week of August 10-14, please come by the school office during your child's first day of LEAP or during their first day of school if in attendance. The parent/guardian can select

Attendance Group	Back to School Material Pick Up
Blue Group (A-D)	Monday, Aug. 10 12:00-5:00
Red Group (E-K)	Tuesday, Aug. 11 12:00-5:00
Green Group (L-Q)	Wednesday, Aug. 12 12:00-5:00
Purple Group (R-Z)	Thursday, Aug. 13 12:00-5:00
Make-Up Day	Friday, Aug. 14 9:00-12:00 & 3:00-5:00

a designee to be at the stop. The designee may be another adult or student who is in fourth grade or above. If the designee is another adult, give that person a numbered tag issued by the school. If you need additional numbered tags, please contact the office. Thanks for your help!

Bus Tag Procedures for K4, K5, and 1st Grade

We look forward to providing bus transportation during the next school year for your young child. As part of our continuing efforts to improve our quality of service, we want to ensure that you are aware of everyone's responsibilities, especially those concerning the safety of your child at the morning and afternoon school bus stop.

Parents/guardians of a child being transported on a school bus are responsible for the safety and conduct of the child prior to the arrival of the school bus at the child's designated school bus stop for pick up and transport to school, and after the school bus drops off the child and departs the child's

designated school bus stop when transporting the children from school (S.C. Law Section 59-67-415).

In addition, parents/guardians should ensure all contact information at the school is accurate and update information whenever changes occur.

In order to ensure the safety of your 4K, 5K, or 1st grade child, Greenville County Schools has implemented the following procedures:

4K, 5K, and 1st grade students preparing to depart the bus at their assigned stop, whether alone or in a group AND without a parent/guardian/designee present to receive them, could be brought back to their

elementary school. The designee

may be another adult or student designee (4th grade or above). One person can serve as designee for multiple children. A Bus Tag application is to be requested from the school, completed and returned to the school before the student rides the bus.

If the student is returned to school, the parent/guardian will be contacted and required to pick up his/her child at the elementary school. If the parent/guardian cannot be reached, the matter could be referred to the Greenville County Schools Law Enforcement Division.



IMPORTANT...Please read carefully!! Incidents of the parent/guardian/designee, with the numbered card, not being at the bus stop for PM drop-off, will result in all transportation services being discontinued according to the following schedule:

- First Incident: Warning
- Second Incident: 3 days off the bus
- Third Incident: 5 days off the bus
- Fourth Incident: 10 days off the bus
- Fifth Incident: Removal from bus for the remainder of the school year



Please note the above table of incidents and loss of transportation bus privileges is absolute with no discretion on the part of the school administration. Parents are asked to have a designee to serve in your place in the event of an emergency.

REMINDER: A parent/guardian/designee must be present at the bus stop to receive all 4K, 5K, & 1st grade students. The parent/guardian/designee **must** have a numbered card.



Lake Forest Elementary School

16 Berkshire Avenue

Greenville, SC 29615

Phone: 864-355-4000

Fax: 864-355-4072

www.greenville.k12.sc.us/lforest

Principal:

Julie Cooke

Assistant Principal:

Curry Wilson

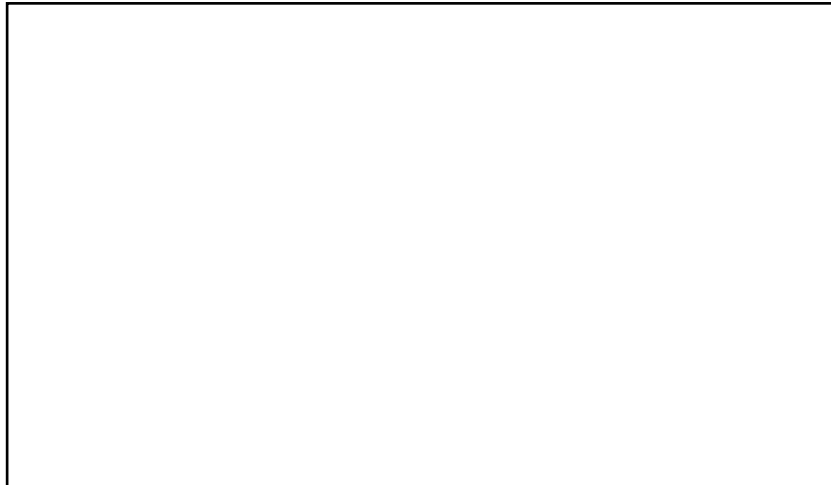
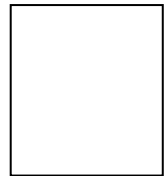
Administrative Assistant:

Morgan Warner

PTA President:

Jamie Hicks

Lake Forest Elementary
16 Berkshire Avenue
Greenville, SC 29681



Vision and Mission of LFE

At Lake Forest Elementary, our vision is to empower students to learn, grow, lead, and succeed. We hope to accomplish this vision through our mission: to provide a nurturing, student-centered learning environment where students are empowered to learn

about the world, persevere through challenges, and develop positive character traits.

School Moto:

"Taking Pride in Learning!"



Extended Day Program

Shavon Davis is our **Extended Day Director**. The extended day program will begin on the first day of school, August 24, if students are attending on plans 1, 2, or 5. Students can attend the days they are in school. Virtual

Program students cannot attend the Extended Day Program. You can contact Mrs. Davis at 355-4979 or shdavis@greenville.k12.sc.us if you have any questions.

**Your child's
teacher for the
2020-2021
school year is...**

Student Medication

All medication must be delivered to the School Nurse or other designated school employee by the student's parent, legal

guardian or a previously designated adult. All forms may be downloaded from our school website. Feel free to call our school nurse,

Heather Reeves, at 355-4007 to make arrangements or ask any questions.

Elementary Start and End Times Have Changed

With the start of the 2020-21 school year, the elementary instructional day will **begin at 7:45 and end at 2:15**. Students arriving to school after 7:45 am will be marked tardy

and should be walked in by a parent. If and when we have students attending school in the building, please make every effort to arrive to school on time. For more

information, please visit the GCS webpage at <https://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/News/main.asp?titleid=2001starttime>