

Sailing the Seas of Success

This Month's Edition:
May 2019

The Leopard Letter

Lake Forest Elementary
School
16 Berkshire Avenue
Greenville, SC 29615
864-355-4000

Last Day of School - June 5, 12:00 dismissal

Principal's Report

Dear Lake Forest Family,

This is always an exciting time as we prepare for end of the year activities such as field day and awards! I hope you will make plans to join us for these events as we celebrate our students and their achievements.

I would like to thank PTA for providing so many treats for our staff during Staff Appreciation Week. It was a fun week, and we all felt very spoiled. We are excited to announce that our sunshade has been installed on the playground. We also have our new kindergarten playground equipment installed. Thank you PTA for making this possible for our school. I also want to thank our parents for participating in our school fundraiser. Because of your generosity, we were able to purchase this equipment for our school.

This year, students in third, fourth, and fifth grades in South Carolina will take the SC College-and-Career Ready Assessment (SC

READY). Students in those grades will take ELA (writing and reading) and mathematics tests.

Additionally, students in fourth and fifth grades will take SC Palmetto Assessments of State Standards (SCPASS) science (4th grade) and social studies (5th grade) tests. Your child's teacher will communicate testing dates with you. These dates can also be found on our school website.

Looking ahead to the 2019-2020 school year, parents will be allowed to send me a letter providing information about their child. This information will be considered as the administrative team makes classroom assignments for next year. Separate letters should be submitted for each child, and you are asked to submit a hard copy of your letter(s). Parents will not be allowed to request specific teachers. If a specific request is made, it will not be honored. The

deadline to submit letters to me is **May 31st**.

Many students and parents have asked about Mr. Sloan. I wanted to let everyone know that Mr. Sloan will not be returning to Lake Forest due to personal reasons. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

As we near the end of the school year, I would like to thank the Lake Forest community for the support you've shown me this school year. I am truly honored and blessed to serve as your principal. We have a wonderful school community and the best students! Please let me know if I can help you in any way as we finish another great school year! Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,
Julie R. Cooke
Principal



Important Dates

National Teacher Day	5/7
Art Show, 5:00 (gym)	5/7
Talent Show, 6:00 (cafeteria)	5/7
National School Nurse's Day	5/8
SCReady Testing—ELA Day 1 (3rd, 4th, 5th)	5/8
SCReady Testing—ELA Day 2 (3rd, 4th, 5th)	5/9
Chick-fil-A Biscuits (\$3)	5/10
SIC Meeting, 12:00	5/10
Beta Club Meeting, 2:30	5/13
PTA Meeting, 6:00 (K5 & 1st Grade Performing)	5/13
SCReady Math (5th grade)	5/14
SCReady Math (4th grade)	5/15
SCReady Math (3rd grade)	5/16
Kona Ice at lunch (\$2)	5/17
Mother/Son Game Night, 6:00-8:00 pm	5/17
ALL Library Books Due	5/20
SC PASS Social Studies (5th grade)	5/21
Zaxby's Spirit Night, 5-8 pm	5/21
SC PASS Science (4th Grade)	5/22
Field Day	5/23
School Spirit Day	5/24
Memorial Day—No School	5/27
Yearbook Day	5/28
K5 Awards, 8:30 am (classrooms)	5/29
2nd Grade Awards, 8:30 am (cafeteria)	5/30
Field Day Rain Dates	5/30 & 5/31
3rd Grade Awards, 8:30 am (cafeteria)	5/31
1st Grade Awards, 10:00 am (classrooms)	5/31
K4 Awards, 11:30 am (classrooms)	5/31
Helper Party	5/31
5th Grade Awards, 8:30 am (cafeteria)	6/3
5th Grade Day	6/4
4th Grade Awards, 8:30 am (cafeteria)	6/4
5th Grade Clap Out, 8:30 am	6/5
Last Day of School, 12:00 pm Dismissal	6/5



We Need Your Help!

Are you interested in serving on the School Improvement Council at Lake Forest next year? If so, please contact Mrs. Cooke to express your interest. The SIC meets monthly to discuss student achievement and suggestions for improvement.



Lake Forest PTA BOARD



Shavon Davis

Co-President

sdavis2620@gmail.com

Kendra Robinson

Co-President

kendrarobinson75@gmail.com

Perry Behrens

Treasurer

itssewyu@gmail.com

Jessica Turner

Vice President/Memberships

jessicajturner@yahoo.com

Lauren Mabry

Secretary

topsailcmom@icloud.com

Liz McCall

Volunteer Coordinator

elliesimister@charter.net

Pamela Maxwell

Room Mom Co-Coordinator

pamela.maxwell3@yahoo.com

Brandy Laster

Room Mom Co-Coordinator

Brandy Laster

Hospitality

bl4bizz@yahoo.com

Lake Forest Elementary



School Moto:

"Taking Pride in Learning!"

Vision Statement

To empower students to learn, grow, lead, and succeed.

Mission Statement

The mission of Lake Forest Elementary is 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.

PTA Co-Presidents' Report

The end of the 2018-19 school year is upon us! We want to sincerely thank each and everyone of you for your continued support throughout this school year. As Mrs. Davis and I have stated many times, we could not have done ANYTHING without your kindness and generosity. A million times, THANK YOU!

Our PTA board needs new volunteers. If you are interested in joining the LFE PTA board, please let us know ASAP. We will have elections at our next PTA meeting on May 13th. As every position we have will need to be filled, we are feverishly searching for replacements so we can continue to support our scholars and teachers at Lake Forest. Those positions include: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Volunteer Coordinator. We do understand if holding a board position is too time consuming, and to assist with this circumstance, we are imploring you to search your hearts to commit to an event

committee. Our events include but are not, limited to the following:

- Leopard Loop (September)
- Fall Carnival (October)
- Book Fair (November/March)
- Holiday Shop (December)
- Daddy/Daughter Dance & Candy Grams (February)
- Color Fun Run (March)
- Staff Appreciation Week (April)
- Mother/Son Game Night (May)

*Spirit Nights (skate night, various restaurants and Spare Time); Kona Ice; Chic- fil-a

**PTA also assists with school pictures, Grandparents Day, Terrific Kid days, field day and anywhere else Mrs. Cooke asks us to assist. Please email Shavon Davis at shdavis@greenville.k12.sc.us or myself, Kendra Robinson, kendrarobinson75@gmail.com.

Shavon Davis and Kendra Robinson
PTA Co-Presidents



State Testing Begins This Month

This year, students in third, fourth, and fifth grades in South Carolina will take the SC College-and-Career Ready Assessment (SC READY). Students in those grades will take ELA (writing and reading) and mathematics tests. Additionally, students in fourth and fifth grades will take SC Palmetto Assessments of State Standards (SCPASS) science and social studies tests. In addition to the letters you received, you may

view our testing calendar by visiting our school website. This test is untimed. This test is important to our students and school. We need to make sure that we provide the best testing environment possible so our kids do well on this test. No visitors are allowed in the building for any grade (even if you are not a testing grade). We will allow parents to eat with their child on the days their child is NOT testing.



Counselor's Corner—Emotional Awareness

Why is emotional awareness important for children? Children who are able to identify how they feel are often better able to communicate their needs. They are also more likely to understand the feelings of their friends, classmates, and the grown-ups in their lives. This builds empathy, a crucial life skill. Becoming comfortable with their feelings is important as children face new challenges and learn to manage their changing emotions.

Research has shown that emotional intelligence or EQ “predicts over 54% of the variation in success (relationships, effectiveness, health, quality of life).” Additional data concludes that “young people with high EQ earn higher grades, stay in school, and make healthier choices (Lisa Firestone, Psychology Today). By talking about emotional awareness with your children, you can help them to identify specific feeling words, learn

Children who are able to identify how they feel are often better able to communicate their needs.

definitions of new feeling words, recognize feelings in self and others, and understand that all feelings are okay.

Helping your child build emotional awareness:

There are simple things you can do at home to help your child learn more about emotions. Try some of these ideas:

- Ask your child how he/she is feeling. List some feeling words to choose from.
- Share how you are feeling. Be specific.
- Play feelings charades. Show your feelings on your face and body.
- Read stories with your child and talk about how the characters are feeling.

You can also try some of these books about feelings:

- *The Way I Feel* by Janan Cain
- *In My Heart* by Jo Witek
- *How Are You Feeling?* by Saxton Freymann
- *When Sophie Gets Angry* by Molly Bang

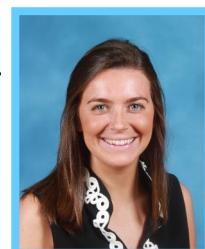
Resources & Further Reading:

<https://www.gottman.com/blog/strengthen-childs-emotional-intelligence/>

<https://imaginationsoup.net/emotional-intelligence-activities-kids/>

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/compassion-matters/201603/why-we-need-teach-kids-emotional-intelligence%3famp>

Written by:
Julia McKissick
School Counselor



Field Day is Coming!

Parents! It is my favorite time of year! Not the end, but Field Day!!! Field day will be on Thursday, May 23, with the rain dates being 5/30 and 5/31. K5, 1st, and 2nd Grades will be from 8:20 -10:50, and 3rd, 4th, and 5th from 11:30-2. I am looking for volunteers to help with events and will be sending out volunteer

May 23

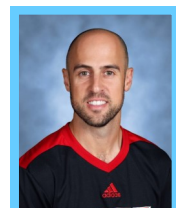
K5-2nd: 8:20-10:50

3rd-5th: 11:30-2:00

forms soon. You can do either half or all day! More info will be coming home with your student soon. Information will also be on Coach Nocks's website. Thank you for your support!



Written by:
Matt Nocks
PE Teacher





Sailing the seas of Success

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

Administrative Assistant:
Curry Wilson

PTA Co-Presidents:
Shavon Davis
Kendra Robinson

End of Year Awards Day Programs

We look forward to celebrating the success of our students this school year with our End Of Year Awards Day Programs. Your child's teacher will let you know if your child will be receiving an award. We will be recognizing students for achieving A/B Honor Roll and All A Honor for the year, Perfect and Prompt Attendance, Outstanding Achievement in Related Arts, Citizenship, and more. We are so proud of our students!



Awards Day Schedule

May 29	8:30 am	K5 (in classrooms)
May 30	8:30 am	2nd Grade (cafeteria)
May 31	8:30 am	3rd Grade (cafeteria)
May 31	10:00 am	1st Grade (in classrooms)
May 31	11:30 am	K4 (in classrooms)
June 3	8:30 am	5th Grade (cafeteria)
June 4	8:30 am	4th Grade (cafeteria)

Summer Reading Is Important For Student Success

Summer is a time for relaxation and reading, of course! Many children forget some of what they have learned over the summer months and even lose gains they have made during the school year. The good news is that research shows that **reading just four or five books during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing.**

We would like to make sure that all of our students have access to high-quality, engaging, and appealing children's literature over the summer. In order to make sure that happens, our school library will be allowing students with a clear library record and parent permission to borrow library books for the summer! If you would like for your child to borrow books to read over the summer, encourage your child to stop by the media center for a parent permission form.

In addition, our school library will be open for book check-out two mornings this summer. We would love for you to bring your student to return books and get new library books. **The library will be open from 9:00-11:00am on June 24th and July**

22nd. All students do need to be accompanied by an adult.

Please also encourage your child to participate in our school's **Summer Reading Challenge**. Students will receive a Bingo sheet of reading activities before the end of the school year. Students who complete the Summer Reading Challenge Bingo sheet will be invited to the library for a celebration. Your child will not want to miss it!

The Greenville Library System also offers a wonderful summer reading program that is free, open to the public, and does not require a library card. Register online or visit any public library branch to sign up! Prizes include a reading medal, ticket to the Greenville Drive Reading All-Star Celebration game, a coupon for a free 1-topping Pizza Hut Personal Pan pizza, and a coupon for a free pastry from the Swamp Rabbit Cafe & Grocery. All participants will also be entered to win a one-year household membership to the Greenville Zoo. Summer Reading Kickoff with Tim Sonefelt Magic & Comedy will be



**Sail Away with a
Good Book this
Summer!**

on Friday, May 31st from 4:00-5:15pm at the Hughes Main Library downtown.

The public library will also allow your child to get his/her own library card and borrow up to 50 books and 10 DVD's at a time. They also offer access to free audiobooks that students can download and stream. Consider a visit to the public library to see what they offer this summer!

Most importantly, please encourage your child to read every day. Reading aloud to your child is important at any age, as well. Thank you for all you do to partner with us in helping your child succeed!

Written by:
Sara Glenn
Media Specialist

