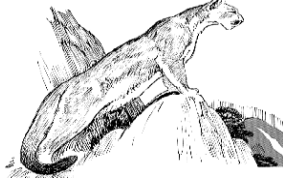


Lake Shipp Elementary Cougar Happenings MAY/JUNE 2009



The Mission of Polk County Public Schools is to ensure rigorous, relevant learning experiences that result in high achievement for our students.

Lake Shipp website:

<http://schools.polk-fl.net/lakeshippelementary/>

Polk County website:

www.polk-fl.net

Pre K is now accepting applications for the 2009/2010 school year!

Administration News

May is Teacher/Staff Appreciation month. The teachers and staff at Lake Shipp are committed to providing a successful learning environment for the students and are thankful for your kindness and consideration. You can help Lake Shipp Elementary by becoming involved in this school. We need parents that are willing and able to take a leadership role in student activities and organizations. We are looking for parents that are interested in serving on the PTA Board or the School Advisory Council (SAC). In addition, we could use many more parents as volunteers to assist students on a regular basis. Volunteers must be enrolled to obtain "VIP" clearance. This may be done online at the Polk County School District's website (www.polk-fl.net). Your involvement in PTA, SAC, and as a VIP can help us make this a better place for all of the students. Let your child's teacher know or call the office (291-5384) if you are interested.

It is hard to believe that the last nine weeks is finally here! It seems as though this school year has flown by. As the year closes, it is time to thank the parents and students for a wonderful year. The students have shown tremendous growth in reading, writing and math. Please keep them engaged in learning this summer by reading.

Vicki K. Stangle, Principal

Kindergarten News

It seems like it was only yesterday we were extending to you a hearty welcome. Time really went fast! Thank you for trusting us with your child. Please read and write this summer with your child. Visit the public library! Get your child a writing notebook and let him/her write a story about their daily activities. We hope you have a safe, happy, and reading and writing summertime!

1st Grade News

First Grade is On the Move



Reading: Make sure your first grader can understand Vocabulary: **compare**(same) **contrast**(different), **sequence** (beginning, middle, end), **cause**(reason), **effect** (outcome)

1. Can your child - *retell a story in his/her own words or in the order that it happened, and recall the most important details?*
2. Can he/she compare two stories – *tell how events and characters are similar/different?*

Math: Money

Vocabulary: penny, nickel, dime, quarter, half-dollar, dollar

1. Recognize coins and their value
2. Identify the value of a group of coins through \$.99

***Review adding/subtracting two digit numbers with/ without regrouping**

Science: Plants (1st grade continued)

How they grow and change

Vocabulary: **seed, stem, flower, fruit, roots**

Social studies: Work

Why do people work?

Vocabulary: **goods, services, occupation, needs, wants**

2nd Grade News

Wow! May has arrived. It is almost the end of the school year. Second grade has accomplished a lot so far. We will continue to learn and review skills and strategies until the last day of school. The following topics will be taught during this month.

Reading-

Topic: Information and Resources

Concepts:

- **Gathering Information**
- **Organizing Information**
- **Presenting Information**

Math-

Topic: Accelerating Multiplication

Concepts:

- **Multiplication**

Science

Topic: Living Things Interact With Their Environment

Concepts:

- **Living Things and Their Environment**

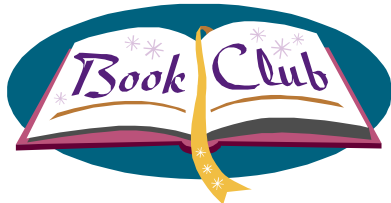
Social Studies

Topic: Major Scientists and Inventors since the Renaissance

Concepts

- **Scientists**
- **Inventors**
- **Technology**

Second grade teachers thank you for all your support during the school year. Have a wonderful summer.



3rd Grade News

In Reading, our focus skills for the month of May are concerning 'Written

Responses, Text Connections, and Evaluating Literature'. We are now using longer passages. The unit essential questions we will be addressing this month are, "How can writing about what I'm reading deepen my understanding of the text?" and "How can making text connections deepen my understanding of what I'm reading?"

In Math, review all math skill, work on multiplication division problems.

In Science, our focus skills are Plants and Animals. Some of the **LEQ's** (Lesson Essential Questions) are; "How do organisms interact with, and depend upon one another, and how do they depend on the physical environment?"

In Social Studies, we will learn about different forms of communication and their effects on the world, different types of transportation and its effects on the world.

4th Grade News

Where has the time gone!!! As we approach the end of the school year, the fourth grade teachers would like to thank all of the parents for your support. The students have accomplished a lot this school year. We are very proud of all of them. The students were willing to learn and were anchored for success. This is evident by the progress they have made. Therefore, parents please encourage your child to continue to be focused on academics and complete all assignments as we finish up this school term. During the summer, students should spend some time reading fun and interesting books. Have a safe summer and we'll see you all next school term as fifth graders!!!

5th Grade News

Important Dates in May

May 8 – Westwood Field Trip

May 15– "**Just Say No!**" Rally

The month of May will be used to review all of their skills and push them forward onto a beginning 6th grade level. As the school year winds down, we would like to thank all of the parents who have supported us throughout the school year. The students have worked hard at becoming independent learners ready for middle

school. We will have an award ceremony to celebrate their accomplishments, **June 4th at 9:00 a.m.**, more details to follow.



Music News

INSTRUMENTAL

There will be an orchestra concert on Tuesday, May 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Chain of Lakes Elementary School cafeteria. Students from Lake Shipp Elementary and other area schools will perform as well as orchestra ensembles from Westwood Middle School and Denison Middle School. Come and listen to what these students have accomplished this year.

Laura Greenberg, Elementary Orchestra

MUSICAL CLASSROOM

The end of the year is a busy time for our music program. Selected fifth grade students, determined by tryouts, will represent our school at the annual “Ukulele Festival” held at Bethune Elementary School in Haines City on Thursday, May 14. Our “Cougar Chorus/Mallet Band” will perform at Spring Haven Retirement Community for the 21st year in a row this month! We travel to this beautiful facility on Lake Hartridge on Friday, May 24, to perform for the residents. Our groups are always well received at Spring Haven, and they will show their appreciation for us coming to perform, by having a pizza lunch for our performers after the concert. There will be a final Chorus/Mallet Band performance for the student body back here at Lake Shipp as well.

Mr. Greulich



PE News

Parents, we have enjoyed working with your students this year and hope to see them again next year ready to go. Some things we would like to pass on to do over the summer are;

- Please teach the little ones how to tie their shoes, untied shoes lead to accidents.
- Please remember when buying new things for next year to write names in, jackets, sweaters and coats.
- Please make sure your child has the right kind of shoes and clothes to wear during PE.

If you have something like jackets or sweaters that have been lost or left at school, please look in the lunchroom in the box by the stage, before school is out.

Field day is over and we only have a few weeks left before summer break.

Parent: Please make sure your kids get up and out each day and move around, and are active in some kind of physical activity. We need them to come back in August refreshed and ready to start a new year. Have a great summer!

Coach Hartman

Art News

All students (K-5) this month will be finishing their portfolios of quality artwork successfully anchored in the principles and elements of design; focusing on balance, emphasis and unity. We will be using a variety of art materials including clay; some of these contain pigments that may stain clothing. If students want to bring a cover-up shirt or apron they are welcome. The Polk Museum of Art had a reception for their show, Free to be Me: Elementary Work 3-5 on April 18th. Congratulations again to Jakayla and LaShanta, two of our fifth graders, for having their work in this show. Last month I submitted 10 more works of art to the Polk Museum of Art for judging for the next show, Learning to be Me: Elementary Work K-2.

Thank you for returning entry forms in a timely fashion. Also, thank you for

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supporting the art and music programs at Lake Shipp Elementary. All students please remember you are smart, you have talent and you will excel.

Mr. Stone

Guidance News

Patriotism

Patriotism – The love or devotion to one’s country.

Memorial Day is May 25th. May is a great month to teach children about patriotism. Respect for the United States and its’ leaders is an important character trait.

Ideas for developing **Patriotism**:

1. Talk about the historical importance of the holiday you are celebrating. Explain to them that it is more than a day off.
2. Revisit your family tree. Who in your family served in the armed forces? Did anyone serve in wartime? Encourage your children to talk to family veterans.
3. Discuss what it means to be free. Do they know the limited choices people living in some other countries have?
4. Vote. No other lesson will have a greater impact than seeing democracy in action.
5. Buy a flag and fly it.

Have a great summer and work on developing character in your children.

Mr. Rider – Guidance Counselor
(From Keys to Character 4/09)



Editor: Mary B. Nelson, Program Facilitator

Lake Shipp Book Drive

As advertised on “Good Morning Lake Shipp” and in parent notices, we will be collecting donated books for our school. We have a twofold purpose in this book drive, one is to share books with students that don’t have a lot of books at home and, if we have any left, to add to our classroom libraries. Ms. Sheffield will collect, inspect, sort the books, and oversee a time when students can come and select books or trade an old one for a “new” book.

(Book drive will take place May 4th – 22nd)



- Donations begin May 4th. Classes are competing to collect the most used books. The winning class will receive a pizza party. There will be a winner for K-2 and for 3-5.
- This is your chance to clean out closets and bookshelves of books you no longer want.

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