

Lake Shipp Elementary
Cougar Happenings
October 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



Calendar Events

October 22 SAC Meeting (Media)

October 23 Student Holiday

October 29 Media Family Night

October 29 "Book Fair" begins

News from the Media Center:

Accelerated Reader (AR) is off and running! The theme this year is "Driven to Read". Please encourage your children to read their AR books carefully so that they are prepared to do their very best on the quizzes. The students are working to earn AR points to get stars on their "car" (K – 2nd grade) or to move their "car" along the "reading highway" (3rd – 5th grade). However, their most important goal in AR is to maintain an 85% or higher average on their AR quizzes.

**Destination
BOOK FAIR**

The Book Fair is coming!!!

October 29th – Nov. 6th

Family Night – Oct. 29th 5:00 – 7:00

***Watch for an information letter – it will be sent home about the middle of the month.

***Interested in volunteering in the Book Fair? Please contact Ms. Blue in the media center. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Administration News

This continues to be an exciting and fast moving year at Lake Shipp Elementary. We are already into the sixth week of school! If you have not already had a conference, be sure to set one up with your child's teacher to discuss his/her progress.

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Harboe to our staff. She is our newest Kindergarten teacher.

Halloween is coming soon, but we are keeping our focus on student achievement. Therefore, we will not be celebrating with parties for this occasion and students will not be able to wear costumes to school. We want to keep this school day as normal as possible so that we may get as much learning in as we can. Also, students should not bring candy or costumes to school the following day. We thank you for your support in keeping our students focused on learning.

Thank you to all of the parents that consistently sign-in at the front office and obtain a visitor's badge when visiting our campus. We realize that parents are very busy people and the procedure to sign-in may cause a delay. However, we appreciate your responsibility and concern for the safety of all students by taking the time and effort to let us know who is on campus and by wearing a visitor's pass. We also appreciate appropriate dress of visitors on campus.

Also, the administration would like to thank the parents that have abided by our policy to not leave students unattended

before 7:45 a.m. or after 3:15 p.m. Our staff hours are 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. and students that arrive early or stay late have no personnel to supervise them. Students that are on campus outside of our supervised times are a safety risk and some have been found wandering the campus. Although we try to keep the most of the gates on campus locked during the day, we must open all of them for personnel and buses before and after school. As a result, the campus is not completely secure at those times. If you need to bring your children to school before 7:45 am, you are welcome to wait with them in the parking area until duty personnel arrive, but do not leave them here or have them walk to school until someone is on duty. There are local daycares that are able to supervise and transport students to and from school if you need additional hours of supervision for your students. Most can be found in the telephone directory. We thank you for your understanding and observance of this policy.

Kindergarten News

Listening is very important. Being able to focus on what other people are saying is an important element in learning. So, whenever possible, try to build your child's listening skills. Here are some strategies that will help:

- Read aloud to your child on a regular basis — even after she has learned to read by herself. Ask questions as you read, to make sure your child understands what s/he hears.
- Limit television, computer, and video game time. While they're all entertaining, and can even be educational, they tend to promote tunnel vision. Make sure the time your child spends in front of a screen is balanced by time spent with other people, talking face to face.
- When you speak to your child, make eye contact and gently touch his shoulder or arm, to secure his attention.
- When giving directions, ask your child to repeat back to you what she heard you say — to make sure she really did

hear, and does understand what s/he needs to do.

- Model good listening behaviors. When your child wants to talk to you, for example, stop what you're doing and look at him while he's speaking. When he's finished, say something that indicates you heard him.
- Play talking and listening games with your child like: Charades, Red Light/Green Light, Duck, Duck, Goose, and Twenty Questions.

1st Grade News



Testing is almost complete. **Contact your child's teacher about a conference.**

Reading Tips:

1. Listen to your child read every night.
2. Let your child see you read.
3. Have a different variety of books for your child to read

Math Vocabulary: Add, sum, equals, subtract, minus, difference

2nd Grade News

October is here. We will review what was taught and introduce the following topics.

Reading – Fiction

Concepts

- Literacy Forms
- Responding To Text
- Telling About A Book
- Inference

Math- Place Value through the Thousands

Concepts

- Number Concepts
- Compare and Order Numbers

Science- Earth Systems and Patterns

Concepts

- Energy From the Sun
- Evaporation
- Air Around Us
- Weather Patterns
- Severe Weather

Social Studies-Government/Citizenship

Concepts

- Citizenship
- Rules and Laws
- Rights and Responsibilities

We encourage you to read with your child. We also suggest that when you read with your child ask him/her about what was read. Give your child the gift of loving to read.

Thanks for reading to your child!

Art News

All students (K-5) are developing a portfolio of quality artwork successfully anchored in the principles and elements of design. We are currently focusing on line, color and shape. This month I will be submitting our 5th grade “Kids Tag Art” designs for judging. Thank you to all those 5th graders that took part in this activity. I will announce the **Kids Tag Art Awards of Distinction** from our school in a future newsletter. All students please return your Polk County Schools Release Letter for Art to Mr. Stone if you haven’t already done so and a big thank you to all those that have. Remember you are smart, you have talent, and you will excel.

Thank you,

Mr. Stone Art, Lake Shipp

PE News



Well! October is upon us and we hope the weather starts to cool off a little. The first of October always means, “Cougar Mileage Club.” This is a running/walking club for all the students. Those in grades 2nd-5th will be working towards certificates and other rewards when they reach various milestones. The Kindergarten and 1st grade students will be learning how to run and collect their sticks each lap, count them and work on improving each month. When we are not doing “Cougar Mileage Club”, we will be doing large and small group

activities with each grade level. This is a great way to incorporate social skills along with good sportsmanship.

Parents: Please check your child’s P.E. schedule days and have them dress accordingly. As always, we keep them hydrated during their time so they can perform efficiently while having a good time.

Coach Hartman P.E.

Music News

This is an exciting time for fourth and fifth graders in music classes as we are just getting our chorus and mallet band started again. For many years Lake Shipp Elementary has had two performing groups to represent our school to the Community. They are our “Cougar Chorus” & “Mallet Band”. The two groups practice separately, but perform on the same concerts. The “Cougar Chorus” is for all fifth graders who wish to belong, and the “Mallet Band” is for both fourth and fifth graders who try out and are chosen to be in this group.

The “Cougar Chorus” & “Mallet Band” perform several times during the Holiday Season. Some of the places you might hear us would be the Publix at Spirit Lake Crossing, for their annual “Holiday Fest”, and the City of Winter Haven’s annual “Carols in the Park” Christmas Festival. Then we will perform for our School’s December PTA meeting also. Watch for dates and times of these performances as they come out in our School’s Newsletter, and try to attend if you can.

Mr. Greulich, Music

Guidance News

Key to Character: **Self – Control**

Hints for Parents:

It is important to select age-appropriate goals for children who are learning self-control. Try setting simple, easily attained goals first, and work toward achieving success one goal at a time. For preschool children, appropriate goals might include not interrupting or fighting with siblings. For early elementary school

children, appropriate goals might include complying with bedtime rules or showing anger appropriately (instead of hitting or screaming).

Take a Break: Encourage children to “take a break” or a “time out” from a situation when they are feeling angry or upset.

Teach and Provide Attention: Children can learn to resist interrupting others by learning how to watch when others are not talking, so they can join in appropriately. Also parents should provide children with attention at appropriate times, so that they are not starved for attention and more likely to interrupt inappropriately.

Use Appropriate Rewards: Children need consistent, positive feedback to learn appropriate behavior. Praise and attention are highly rewarding for young children, as is special time with a parent. Be sure your child knows what behavior is expected.

Parents can help teach even young children the skills that develop self-control

(Source: adapted from “Self Control Skills for Children” by Louise Eckman)

Mr. Rider Guidance Counselor



Title One
POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
For the learning time of your life!

| |
|--|
| PARENT RESOURCE ROOM |
| OPEN Tuesday and Thursday 1:00-2:00 |
| Title One room found in Guidance Building |
| Materials available to assist parents who help their children |
| <p>Check this OUT! www.spellingcity.com It is free and your kids can access it at home. It will pronounce the word, spell the word, and use the word in a sentence. It will then</p> |

quiz your child. There are also learning games that go with it.

NOTICE TO BUILDING OCCUPANTS AND PARENTS

NOTIFICATION OF INSPECTION FOR ASBESTOS CONTINUING MATERIALS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule, 40 CFR Part 763, Asbestos Containing Material in schools, commonly referred to as AHERA. This rule requires all Local education Agencies (LEA’s) to identify asbestos containing materials (ACM) in their school buildings and to take appropriate actions to control release of asbestos fibers.

All inspections for Lake Shipp Elementary School have been completed and a Management Plan describing the results of the inspection and the action plan to control any asbestos found during the inspection , where applicable, has been submitted to the Governor for approval. A copy of this plan is located in the administrative office of this school and at the District School Board of Polk County Environmental and Safety Department and is available for review upon request.



Book Fair - October 29- 5:00-7:00

Editor: Mary B. Nelson
Program Facilitator



