March is definitely coming in like a lion this year! Let’s hope for it to go out like a lamb.

As a staff, we have been focusing on Stating the Objective (and showing it to students in writing) during our lessons. You could help us at home by asking your students what they learned in school today (and not accepting “nothing” as an answer). Students are being asked to repeat the objective during lessons and teachers are closing the lesson by reviewing the objectives and checking with students to be sure they met the objective. Objectives are stated in kid-friendly language, so your students should be able to tell you what they learned today. Thank you for your continued support of our instructional program!

Have a marvelous March!

Jennifer

Letter from the Principal

Standard Tests Information from the Assistant Principal

It’s that time of year again! As the students prepare in their classrooms, we also need your help at home. Many of our standardized tests begin in the next few months and we wanted to give you dates in advance to add to your calendars. Please be sure your students are in school on testing days and ensure they get plenty of rest the night before the tests.

5th Grade Writing (SOLs)

Our fifth grade students will be participating in the English Writing SOL on March 18th and March 25th. The students will take the multiple choice portion of the test on March 18th. On this portion of the test, students will respond to multiple choice questions focused on 5th grade Language Arts SOLs. On the 25th, the students will be providing a

[continue to page 2]
Third grade will be participating in four SOL tests this year. They will be taking Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Third grade will be testing starting May 16th and continue on the week of May 19th.

Fourth grade will be participating in three SOL tests. The students take Reading, Math, and Virginia History. Fourth grade will be testing starting May 12th.

Fifth grade will be participating in three MORE SOL tests this year. Fifth grade students take Reading, Math, and Science SOL tests which will be given the week starting May 27th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 571-434-3240.

Karen Shields
Assistant Principal

Overview - Save the Dates!

SOL Testing Window

- March 18 – 5th Grade Writing (Multiple Choice)
- March 25 – 5th Grade Writing (Short Paper)
- May 12 – 4th Grade VA History
- May 13 – 4th Grade Math (Part I)
- May 14 – 4th Grade Math (Part II)
- May 15 – 4th Grade Reading
- May 16 – 3rd Grade Science
- May 19 – 3rd Grade History
- May 20 – 3rd Grade Reading (Part I)
- May 21 – 3rd Grade Reading (Part II)
- May 22 – 3rd Grade Math (Part I)
- May 23 – 3rd Grade Math (Part II)
- May 27 – 5th Grade Science
- May 28 – 5th Grade Math (Part I)
- May 29 – 5th Grade Math (Part II)
- May 30 – 5th Grade Reading
- Week of June 2 – Make Up Tests (if needed)

AUTHORS’ NIGHT!!

Algonkian has been hosting one Authors’ Night per month for each grade level. This means more students can participate. The criterion is still the same. Each teacher will invite 10 students to read stories that have been written in the classroom and have gone through the writing process. Students will be given an invitation the Friday before and an RSVP needs to be given to the classroom teacher by the following Monday. A practice session will be held either the day before or the day of the scheduled Authors’ Night.

On the night of the scheduled event, students are to arrive no earlier than 6:15 p.m. It will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Family and friends go to the Activity Room (gym) and participating students go to the stage. Semi-formal attire is required. Students may not wear jeans, sweats or shorts.

We will continue the fourth Authors’ Night with our 2nd Graders on Wednesday, March 19 and the fifth Authors’ Night with our 1st Graders is on Wednesday, March 26.

If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Mayobre at: tracy.mayobre@lcps.org.

School Improvement Plan

School Improvement Plan (SIP) has been developed for Algonkian Elementary by staff, parents, and the community. Annually, we review and revise our plan based on the data we receive. Our School Improvement Plan is available on our school website: http://www.lcps.org/Page/40302 and in our school office.

We continue to have a School Improvement Plan Steering Committee. If you are interested in participating on this committee or participating in the development of monitoring the School Improvement Plan, please contact Principal Jennifer Steeprow at 571-434-3240.
Independent Reading is an important part of the reading block in grades K-5 here at Algonkin. Take a look at this article by Donalyn Miller to see how we help students choose books to read and for some ideas about how you can help with book choice at home.

**The Importance of Choice in Fostering Independent Reading**

By Donalyn Miller, sixth-grade teacher at Trinity Meadows Intermediate School in Keller, TX

People who lose the ability to make choices become disempowered. This is true for adults, and it is true for young readers. When every book a child reads is chosen for them — by parents or teachers — children lose self-motivation to read and interest in reading. Children should choose their own reading material most of the time, but they need exposure to a book flood to determine what books they like and learn how to choose their own books. Here are some suggestions to get started in your classroom or home:

**Introduce authors and books through read-alouds.**

Select books by prolific authors or the first book in a series, and read these books with students. When your students enjoy the read aloud, locate another book or two by the same author, suggest they finish the series on their own, or read another book in the same genre.

With older children, visit authors’ websites and book review sites such as: [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com) and [www.kidsreads.com](http://www.kidsreads.com). Develop reading fans and you will develop readers.

**Create frequent opportunities for children to preview, share, and select books.**

Children need to become comfortable with books and feel growing proficiency in choosing books for themselves. Take children to the library and discuss books that they could read. Provide students time to share the books they enjoy during book commercials. Build anticipation for new books by counting down new book releases by your favorite authors or by introducing the newest book in a series.

One activity I use often with my students is the Book Pass, created by Janet Allen. When I notice that my students are in a reading rut, selecting the same books over and over or avoiding certain genres such as poetry or nonfiction books, I assemble stacks of books from that genre that we can preview and discuss during class.

Students select one book from the pile and spend two minutes looking through the book. They may flip around to graphic features such as photographs and maps or read the dust jacket and first few pages of a novel. Students record their observations of the book and decide whether they would be interested in reading it. Once the two minutes end, students pass the book to another student or return it to the pile and select a new book. After several rounds, stop and ask students to share with the group what books they discovered that they may like to read, and then encourage them to check out these books.

Beyond previewing books for independent reading, you can use a Book Pass to reinforce concepts from lessons — asking students to find a simile or metaphor in poetry books, locate one key fact about fossils or the American Revolution, or make predictions about the characters, settings, or plots in fiction books.

**Increase children’s access to books.**

Surrounding children with books — in libraries, classrooms, and at home — positively affects reading interest and achievement. It almost seems too simple: Give children books, and they will read them. Countless studies prove that well-stocked and cultivated school and public library collections lead children to reading and that the most effective reading teachers have well-stocked classroom libraries too.

Access to books means more than having books on hand to read, though. Access also means that the books are accessible — that children can find books they are capable of reading. Recognizing that some of our students may read below or above grade level, we must provide books in a range of reading levels so all students can select books they can understand and enjoy.

**Promote book ownership.**

The more books children own, the more they read, and the more comfortable they feel choosing books away from home. Scholastic Book Fairs provides a low-cost opportunity for families to buy books for their children.
Reading [continued from page 3]

and gives schools and libraries incentives to purchase books for students.

Above all, validate children’s book choices when they select their own books to read. We often complain that children do not read, and bemoan their less than high-brow choices when they do choose their own books. It is okay for children to read comics, read the same book over and over, or prefer fantasy books. After all, adult readers have strong preferences in what they choose to read too! Fostering children’s confidence and ability to select books for themselves is our ultimate goal.

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**Math**

Ms. Emily Dubnowski  
Mathematics Resource Teacher

Thank you to all the families who came out for Algonkian’s *Family Math Extravaganza* on February 12! I hope you enjoyed the math activities and had some fun. It warmed my heart when I walked out at the end of the night and saw “I❤Math” written in the snow. 😊

During the month of March, we will celebrate math fact automaticity with *Math March Madness* at Algonkian. Math facts are one of the layers a student needs to be successful in Mathematics.

Math fact fluency refers to the ability to recall the basic facts in all four operations accurately, quickly and effortlessly. When students achieve automaticity with these facts, they have attained a level of mastery that enables them to retrieve them from long-term memory without conscious effort or attention. Through automaticity, students free up their working memory and can devote it to problem solving and learning new concepts and skills (Geary, 1994).

At Algonkian, we have Reflex, an internet based program that makes practicing math facts fun. We challenge students Grade 1 thru 5 to do three Reflex sessions per week for 4 weeks during the month of March. We hope this will start a “habit” that will continue onto the end of the year. If a student meets this challenge, they will receive a golden ticket every week to be put in a class jar. A name will be pulled out every week from each class and those students will receive a special prize.

**Reflex login information:**  [www.reflexmath.com/home](http://www.reflexmath.com/home) -- click “Launch” (at the top right corner) and login using the username (your child knows the username); and “submit”.  [see page 13 for flyer information]

Please help us celebrate and encourage your child to practice math facts. Also, come visit and look for Math Madness all around the school!

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**CHESS CLUB**

Chess Club Meeting on Tuesday, March 25  
2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. in the school cafeteria

Visit our Chess Club webpage: [http://www.lcps.org/page/40419](http://www.lcps.org/page/40419) for more information!

Here is a direct link to our online Chess Club Permission Slip: [http://www.lcps.org/page/40421](http://www.lcps.org/page/40421)

*Please remember students need a NEW permission slip for EVERY club meeting!*

We always need parent volunteers to help with our monthly after-school Chess Club meetings.  
Basic chess skills are helpful, but not necessary!

**QUESTIONS?**

Contact Ms. Ryan at: 571-434-3240 or email: theresa.ryan@lcps.org
Lines from the Library

Ms. Chrissie Devinney & Ms. Becky Wetzel

Did you know March 2nd was Dr. Seuss’ birthday?! It was also Read Across America Day! Read a Dr. Seuss book (or three) with your child.

Reading Under the Stars was a lovely evening of reading fun at Algonkian. I truly enjoy watching families read together and enjoy each other so much. A big thank you goes to the teachers who volunteered to stay at school and read bedtime stories to our children.

Chat N' Chew our lunch time book club for 2nd – 5th graders has had a wonderful year! The students seem to have enjoyed the books. We had a few who did not like a book or two but this lead to some wonderful discussions in the meetings. We will have our last meetings on March 19th and March 20th. Thank you to the wonderful parents who have read the books, and given up their lunch time to come share the books with the students. I am already looking forward to next year’s Chat n’ Chew.

The Honor Books are disappearing. Honor books are donated books which we allow students who have forgotten to return their library books to take home and return “on your honor.” If you find any honor books at your house please send them back to school. Thank you!

I am working towards my National Board Certification, and need documentation on ways I have helped students learn, or improve in school. Was your child excited to come to school for Reading Under the Stars, has your child participated in Chat n Chew, do you see improved reading or interest in reading? If you have comments that I may share with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, please email them to me at: chrissie.devinney@lcps.org.

Responsive Instruction (RI)

Ms. Ann Negley

March marks the beginning of new BLT groups throughout Algonkian. With the completion of Universal Screening, and DRA2 assessments, many students have been able to graduate from intervention groups. These students will continue to have weekly monitoring, but they will no longer meet for daily intervention groups. Watch your student’s backpack for a letter identifying their new grouping and assigned BLT teacher.

In response to this winter’s new math universal screening, and school wide winter benchmark assessments, RI is looking to expand into math. We are beginning to look at possible interventions and an overall design for the program. Check in next month for more updates and progress towards our new program.

Algonkian Counseling

Ms. Theresa Ryan

SOUPER BOWL XIII ~ A FABULOUS SUCCESS!!

Our annual Souper Bowl of Caring food drive to replenish needed food supplies at Link, our local food bank, was a huge success. Thanks to all students, families, and staff that participated in this character building event!! Well done, everyone!!

CONGRATULATIONS:

- Ms. Hearlihy’s 3rd Grade Class (class winner from 3rd – 5th Grades)
- Ms. Dionne’s 1st Grade Class (class winner from K – 2nd Grades)

Honorable mention:

- Ms. Messner’s Class
- Ms. Wippich’s Class

RISING 6TH GRADE MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION


→ Please visit our Algonkian Middle School Transition webpage: http://lcps.org/Page/103895

→ January/February – Band & Strings Night at RBMS
If your child did not attend a band/strings night please contact RBMS directly to schedule a time to test drive instruments. Students are not allowed to choose band or strings as a class without participating in a test drive night! For more information on Music in Middle School: http://lcps.org//Domain/3942

→ March 11 at 7:00 p.m. -- Parent Information Night at RBMS

→ April 1 – Course selection forms send home to parents [continue to page 6]
RISING 6TH GRADE MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION (continued)

- The Middle school program of studies is online this year: http://www.lcps.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1910
- If you need a paper copy, Ms. Ryan can get that for you.

→ April 22 ~ ALL Course selection forms DUE back to Algonkian
→ April 23 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. -- RBMS Counselor Sherri Robinson & students visit Algonkian in the cafeteria
→ June 4 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. (bus times 8:50 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) -- 5th Grade field Trip to RBMS

ALGONKIAN SCHOOL COUNSELING ADVISORY COUNCIL – The advisory council is composed of school and community members and is tasked with making recommendations regarding student and community needs, and advising the school counseling staff as it strives to meet these needs. The advisory council will meet once more this year on Monday, March 24 at 3:00 p.m. in Ms. Ryan’s office. Please email Ms. Ryan at: Theresa.Ryan@lcps.org if you are interested in joining us for our March Meeting!

GUIDANCE LESSON – STRESS

Stress is a normal part of living, and a certain amount of stress is necessary for growth and learning. STRESS IS POSITIVE when it energizes and challenges us! Here are some ways for adults and children to manage stress:

- When overwhelmed take a deep breath and prioritize!
- Take a break and relax!
- Get some exercise!
- Exercise is relaxing as well as energizing!
- Drink water and have a healthy snack!
- Ask for help! (We ALL need help sometimes!)

Home Connection: Discuss the following situation and take time to encourage your child before any new challenge!

COUNSELING GROUPS

A new round of groups is beginning in March! Groups are 6–8 weeks in length. If you feel you signed your child up for a group and your child hasn’t participated in any group yet please call Ms. Ryan! The request form may not have made it to her office! As always, please let Ms. Ryan know if there are any special considerations or concerns that need attention individually or if your child may need to be added to a currently running group!

CALLING ALL PARENTS, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBORS!

Looking for something to do?
Do you love spending time with kids?
Do you love volunteering at Algonkian and looking to get paid for helping out?
We have the job for you!
Apply to be a cafeteria hostess! Hours are between 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Email Jennifer at: jennifer.steeprow@lcps.org ASAP if you are interested in the position.
We want YOU to be a part of our team!
¡Hola, padres! Spring should be just around the corner, and despite the snow, the learning in FLES keeps going strong.

In fifth grade, the students are in the midst of a cumulative assessment, which tests their abilities to listen, read, comprehend, and speak Spanish after their experience in FLES. The county gets the results of this exam and decides what is best for the FLES program based on these results.

In fourth grade, the students have learned about the names for the members of their family, adjectives to describe them, and the names for basic clothing. A brief in-class oral project is to follow.

If your younger Bobcat is a member of the ¡Hola Español! Club, I am sure he or she is excited about the new material we are learning. The club finished a unit about numbers and basic math, and now will take a few sessions to learn about the history, culture, and food of Spain. If your family has any artifacts from Spain (only Spain right now) that your child would like to show and tell with the club, I will be happy to give your child the floor to share those things.

Technology
Mrs. Pauline Burkett

Emphasizing March Math Madness – get those extra REFLEX times in! Remember, you can get to the REFLEX link on any of the grade level web links and use the same username and password that you use in school (lunch number/lunch number).

REFLEX - http://www.reflexmath.com

5TH GRADERS – I REALLY WANT THOSE PICTURES!

CALLING all 5th grade photos!!!! Please send in ONE image of your fifth grader from an earlier grade level. If you have a few group photos from previous years from special Algonkian events, I would appreciate them as well. Please send images via e-mail to me at: pauline.burkett@lcps.org.

Bonus idea – We have had so many snow days – if you took pictures of things you did during those SNOW days – please share them with me. I have another idea for the 5th grade side show.

Parent Liaison
Ms. Susan R. Smith
Email: susan.r.smith@lcps.org

March Madness!!!! Most people associate March madness with basketball tournaments but I am here to tell you it’s all about registering for Summer Camps! This week in the Post was the Guide to Summer Camps and Schools. Every year at this time, I encourage parents who are interested in summer camps to research early and register early!

Over the next couple of months we will be receiving flyers from Loudoun County Parks & Rec, YMCA, and various other sports leagues and organizations for their Spring and Summer activities. Because we receive such a large volume, we decided to display all flyers on a table in the school office foyer. Next time you are in the school, please stop by and see what is available for Spring and Summer activities.

Reminders……..
Judging from the Lost & Found, many students are missing their hats and gloves. We also have several coats and sweatshirts. Please remind your student to check the Lost & Found.

If you have a fifth grader and no younger students, please consider donating your used Recorders to the Music department. You can send them to the attention of: Alicia Smith.
SEARCH
Ms. Patty Peterson

Discovering and Expanding Interests

The National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) publishes numerous articles of interest both to educators and parents concerning all facets of gifted children and their education. One of the most common topics concerns how to keep children challenged. Parents often wonder if their child is being challenged sufficiently in school, but a recent article on the NAGC website: http://nagc.org/index.aspx?id=967 explores the multi-dimensionality of that topic.

The article states that parents must be their child’s first “teacher.” Parents must nurture an attitude of curiosity and exploration in children in order for children to be able to see the benefit in exploring new subjects, ideas, and activities. “In a study of parental influence in female U.S. Olympians, we learned how important it is for children to receive multiple opportunities to try a variety of activities. One of the most powerful roles the parents played for these elite athletes was that of ‘opportunity maker’.”

In order for children to realize their full potential as learners, they must be exposed to multiple opportunities. Parents do not need to be experts themselves in a particular field of study or proficient themselves at a particular activity, but they must be willing to allow children to experience a variety of activities at which the child may fail or may succeed. It is only in experimentation that children will find their true interests.

One of the female Olympians explained that “both my mother and father were really great about sniffing out the opportunities and laying them in front of us, saying maybe this is something that you kids would like to do. They would scour newspapers, fliers, whatever, and they would make different things available. …Now when I see an opportunity I'm not afraid to try it. Maybe I don't know anything about it, but I'll go out and give it a try.”

How does this relate to keeping a child interested in school, feeling excited about learning, and having the motivation to pursue his/her interests? It is certainly true that there are certain areas in school that are not in themselves particularly interesting. If, however, you link a child’s interests to those subjects, and if you help the child understand that he/she is gaining the tools which will help him/her continue to learn about those interests, school subjects which previously seemed somewhat uninteresting can become stepping stones to mastering the child’s own goals. Help your child connect school to the achievement of his/her own goals. A child who is working toward the accomplishment of his/her own goals will welcome the challenge of school, whatever the subject may be!

A child’s interests and enthusiasms provide a natural springboard to learning. Educator/philosopher John Dewey believed that a child could receive a complete education through the careful guidance of his/her interests: “To be interested, to be absorbed in, wrapped up in, carried away by some object…We say of an interested person that he has both lost himself in some affair and he has found himself in it.” --- Dewey, 1916

As a challenge this spring, help your child both lose him/herself and find her/himself in some new area of interest. Get out there and start exploring!

Music
Ms. Alicia Smith

We’re all Super Heroes in Music!!
What’s happening around Algonkian:

3rd Grade Musical: “Mighty Minds”
RESCHEDULED for: Wednesday, April 2 ~ 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

5th Graders students have started to play recorders. We reviewed the notes B, A, and G, as well as the songs that they played last year. This month we will be learning the notes D and E. The students will be playing various songs that include these five notes. I will be testing them on two specific songs in addition to their ability to produce a nice tone on each note.

4th Graders students are beginning to play recorders. Last month we focused on how to read the music and techniques that we use to play the recorder. This month we will be learning the notes B, A, and G. I will be testing the students on their ability to produce a nice tone with proper technique on each of the notes. We will be taking a look at the first three songs in the “Recorder Karate” packet. I will be testing the students on their ability to play these three songs as well. [continue to page 9]
Music [continued from page 8]

3rd Graders students are diligently preparing for “Mighty Minds”. Due to the amount of recent snow days, the musical has been rescheduled for Wednesday, April 2 at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Please have your child to school by 6:00 p.m. that evening. We will be having a dress rehearsal on Tuesday, April 1. The students DO NOT need to wear their t-shirt that day. Please keep an eye out for information being sent home about these changes.

2nd Graders students put drumming on hold for a few weeks to talk about jazz music and two different jazz artists: Dizzy Gillespie and Ella Fitzgerald. This month we will wrap up talking about jazz and move onto drumming. We will review techniques learned last year and focus on question and answer form. Towards the end of the month we will move onto learning different rhythm patterns in preparation for playing drum ensembles.

1st Graders students also put drumming on hold to talk about jazz music. Last month, they were introduced to a few jazz artists and learned all about the art of scat singing! We will wrap up our jazz until and finally move on to World Music Drumming. We will be talking about the area that the tubano drums come from, as well as basic playing technique. The students will practice high and low tones in addition to a few basic patterns.

Gently Used Recorders Needed!
If you have a fifth grader and no younger students, please consider donating your used Recorders to the Music department. You can send them to the attention of: Alicia Smith, Algonkian Music teacher.

Art

Ms. Caryn Michael

This Month in the Creative World of Art ~ Hello Again from Ms. Michael! In art, students are creating fantastic masterpieces inspired by many amazing cultures, artists, movements, and stories. Here is a synopsis of what each grade has created in the month of February:

First Grade: Totem Toys

1st grade student artists learned about the paper toy artist Dolly Oblong and how she created a paper toy series known as “Paper Totems” in which she collaborated with other artists to create toy totems. The students learned about texture printmaking and used these different textures to print patterns on their totem toys. Students also studied the history of Alaska, and Totem Poles. Using this knowledge they created three Totem faces inspired by the native designs of the Pacific Northwest. Students put their cutting, gluing, and assembly skills to the test to create their very own paper totem toy.

Second Grade: Winter Weaving Self-Portrait

2nd grade artists learned about self-portraits and how math can be used to create a more accurate portrait. They also learn about printmaking and used this knowledge and inspiration from “Snowflakes a Pop-Up book” by Jennifer Preston Chushoff to create a printed snowflake filled background. They then learned about the ancient art of weaving to create a winter hat for their portrait. The final part of the project was to assemble their self-portrait, print, and weaving into a winter collage.

Third Grade: Super Hero Op Art

3rd grade students created a comic book extravaganza this month. They learned about Roy Lichtenstein and how he used onomatopoeia and comic books to create abstract art. Using this knowledge students created an original onomatopoeia comic book collage. They then learned about the history of super heroes and photography. The students photographed each other posing as super heroes. They then created an original cityscape silhouette using architecture from all over the world and collaged their super hero photograph into their cityscape. The final step of this project was the Op Art. Students turned their onomatopoeia collage and super hero cityscapes into a Op Art 3D collage! These works will be on display for their 3rd grade Musical & Art Show on April 2, 2014.

Fourth Grade: Metamorphosis Flipbook

4th grade student artists learned about the artistic and mathematical genius M.C. Escher. They learned about gradual progression of creating a metamorphosis flipbook. The first part of this art project was to learn about shading and how to draw a observational still life of a fruit using only lines and shading value scale. Students drew and shaded a still life from memory of a favorite object. Students then drew and shaded 4 pages showing
Physical Education

Mr. Joe Terango & Mr. Dan Craig

Another month has passed and more good things to report from the PE department. We have recently finished the ABL (Algonkian Basketball League) season and have had much success. We started out slowly where students were getting used to the idea of organized basketball and progressed into a league that was very competitive and fun. Thanks to all those who participated and supported the league!

Grades 1, 2, 3:
- Completed scooter activities
- Completed juggling
- Completed organized skills circuit
- Completed hula hoop manipulation

Grades 4, 5:
- Completed beach volleyball unit
- Finished ABL season
- Completed striking mobile targets (stepping with opposition)

Currently and in the near future:

Grades 1, 2, 3:
- Begin scoops activities
- Introduce fleeing and dodging games
- Field Day games preparation

Grades 4, 5:
- Fifth Grade student & staff all-star game
- Fitness Test preparation
- Participate in Fitness Gram testing
- Two and four square activities

Fifth Grade: Petri Dish Portraits

5th grade student artists learned about the mathematical art of self-portraits. The students drew a self-portrait using the knowledge about spacial anatomy of the human face. Students studied a scientific artist, Zachary Copfer, and learned how he grows portraits inside of petri dishes using bacteria. They then learned about the art of printmaking and used their self-portrait as a design for their petri dish printmaking plates. Students then learned about the artist Andy Warhol and how he created multiple prints of portraits of people from pop culture and changed the colors to create an abstracted version of their portraits. The students then printed a series of their petri dish portraits and mounting them in the style of Andy Warhol.

Clinic Corner

Ms. Peggy Franzen

Clinic Hours
7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
margaret.franzen@lcps.org

Spring cleaning is here! If you find any elastic waist pants that your student has outgrown (girls or boys), please consider donating them to the clinic. Thank you!!

It’s time for a change! Change your clocks and batteries...

Safe Kids USA would like to remind you that when it's time to change your clocks for daylight saving time (forward 1 hr) on March 9, 2014, you also should change the batteries in all your smoke alarms. It’s important to change the batteries once a year, unless they're 10-year lithium batteries. Please forward this friendly reminder to your friends and family members.

For more fire safety information, please visit Safe Kids Fire at:
http://www.safekids.org/fire
You Are Invited
to attend the

Parent Informational Meeting
for Rising River Bend Middle School
6th Graders

Tuesday,
March 11, 2014
@ 7:00 P.M.

The meeting will be held in the school’s Auditorium and is for parents only, due to limited space.

If you have questions, you may contact Ms. Sherri Robinson
6th Grade Counselor - Fall 2014 school year @ 571-434-3220
Loudoun County Public Schools

Parent Resource Center

Event Schedule

All Events are Held at:

LCPS Administrative Building
21000 Education Court, Ashburn, 20148

Events will be cancelled when schools are closed or after school activities cancelled.

Call 571-252-2185 or go to: www.lcps.org/prc to register.

Titles are linked to the flyer and registration.

Promoting Independence


Feb. 27 at 9 am

For children with Autism and Related Developmental Disabilities

Supporting Students with Asperger Syndrome


March 13 at 6:30 pm

Topics include social skills, sensory, anxiety and organization

Life After high School Flyer


A resource fair for families of students

with more significant disabilities

March 22 from 8:30 -12:30

Functional and Social Communication Skills


March 27 at 9 am

The relationship between behavior and communication and the strategies

that lead to functional communication across all environments

Keys to Successful Toileting


April 9 at 9 am

Determining readiness, developing routines, overcoming fear, pre-teaching

Play Skills


May 8 at 9 am

For young children with Autism and related developmental disabilities.

Designed for children who are just acquiring play skills or have not yet developed them.

If due to a disability, you need assistance or an interpreter, call 571-252-2185 10 days before an event.
Math March Madness

Are you ready to celebrate Math?!!!

How do we celebrate Math March Madness at Algonkian?!

With REFLEX!!

Reflex is a web based resource that makes practicing math facts fun, and helps students become fluent in math!

Here is the Challenge:
Encourage your child in grades 1st – 5th to complete 3 Reflex sessions per week for the 4 weeks in March. Each student that meets this challenge will receive a GOLDEN TICKET for a special Golden Ticket prize drawing each week!

Reflex log in information:

http://www.reflexmath.com/home

Thank you for helping us celebrate Math March Madness!
Come in for a visit during the month of March to look for signs of Math Madness all around the school!
School Food Service

Free and Reduced Price Meal applications are available ALL YEAR

Anytime there is a change in employment status or wages, a new application may be filled out and sent to Food Services for approval. Please note that a social security number is not required for approval. This process is a year-long process not just at the beginning of the year.

Please feel free to call the Food Services Office with any questions at 571-252-1010 or visit website: http://www.lcps.org/Page/73936.

Parents Make the Difference

March 2014

Parents Make the Difference newsletters are posted on the LCPS website: http://www.lcps.org/page/1597

Parent Resource Center

March 2014 Events & Spring Schedule

http://www.lcps.org/Page/76179

March 2014 Breakfast & Lunch School Menu

http://www.lcps.org/Page/68454

Loudoun County Guide to Services…

COMMUNITY SERVICES
- Family Services (daycare referrals) 703-777-0353
- Childcare/Preschool 703-777-0353
- Elementary Age Programs 703-737-8042
- Youth After School (Middle School) 703-737-8042
- Youth Shelter 703-771-5300

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
- Financial Assistance 703-777-0353
- Emergency Housing 703-777-0353
- Transitional Housing Shelter 703-777-0353
- Loudoun Cares 703-669-4636
- Loudoun Interfaith Relief 703-777-5911
- LINK 703-437-1776
- Career Support Services 703-777-0353

HEALTHCARE SERVICES 703-777-0234
- Loudoun Community Free Clinic 703-779-5416
- Dental Care 703-771-5831
- Nutrition Services 703-777-0239
- Mental Health Centers
  Eastern Loudoun 571-258-3026
  Leesburg 703-771-5100
- FAMIS (Family Access to Medical Insurance Security) 703-777-0353 or toll free 866-873-2647

Algonkian School Cafeteria News

Parents/Guardians of Algonkian students! The school cafeteria is offering snacks to purchase in the morning for students to eat during "snack time" in class!

If you would like your child to purchase a snack, please let them know when they arrive to school in the morning to go straight to the cafeteria before heading to class.

They are still allowed to purchase a cookie at lunch but the snacks listed below are not available during lunch times (ONLY can be purchased in the mornings during breakfast).

SNACKS: We are offering fruit (apple slices, whole apple or banana) at $0.75 each and Quaker Snack kids mix (tiny twist pretzels, bite-size nacho cheese doritos, white cheddar cheese flavored popcorn, and cheetos brand flavored snack) at $0.60 per snack mix.

** Please note the snack mix does contain wheat and milk ingredients. **