

# Shark Bait

Moorefield Station Elementary School  
22325 Mooreview Parkway  
Ashburn, VA 20148  
Principal: Karen D. Roche  
Assistant Principal: Colleen Flaherty  
Administrative Dean: Joe Dolansky

**November 2017**



## A NOTE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:

Dear Families:

The first marking period is coming to an end. I hope you have had an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss his/her progress and plan for the upcoming quarter. Regular communication is the key to a successful home and school connection. Studies show that consistent communication can only help to improve your child's educational program.

Teachers will be using the teacher workdays to finish conducting conferences, completing report cards, and planning for the upcoming second quarter.

Please remember that the more challenging work starts in November, so attendance is very important. When students are present in class and punctual, they get the important material covered by their teacher. Please make every effort to have your child in school each and every day.

Test scores are one way to determine Accreditation and Adequate Yearly Progress. Attendance rates are also a factor, so being in school ready to learn is a key to success.

Friday, November 3rd will be our first Code to the Future Epic Build. We hope you will be able to take some time to visit your child's class to see what they have been learning. It is impressive that teachers and students are already finding ways to incorporate coding into our daily curriculum. Please see the grade level times located in this newsletter or contact the school for grade level times.

November 13th-17th is American Education Week. I hope you will mark your calendar for STEM Night which will be held on November 16th at 6pm. This is always a fun night and another great opportunity to see what your child is learning in the classroom.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Karen D. Roche  
Principal

## Important Events for October:

Nov 3 – End of Grading Period  
Nov 3 – Code to the Future First Epic Build Event  
Nov 5 – Daylight Saving Time  
Nov 6-7 – No School, Teacher Workday  
Nov 9 – PTO Meeting, 7:00pm  
Nov 10 – Third Gr Veteran's Day Musical, 9am  
Nov 11 – "Lace Up for Learning" Race  
Nov 13-17 – American Education Week  
Nov 15 – Report Cards Sent Home  
Nov 16 – STEM Night, 5:30pm  
Nov 22-24 – Thanksgiving Holiday

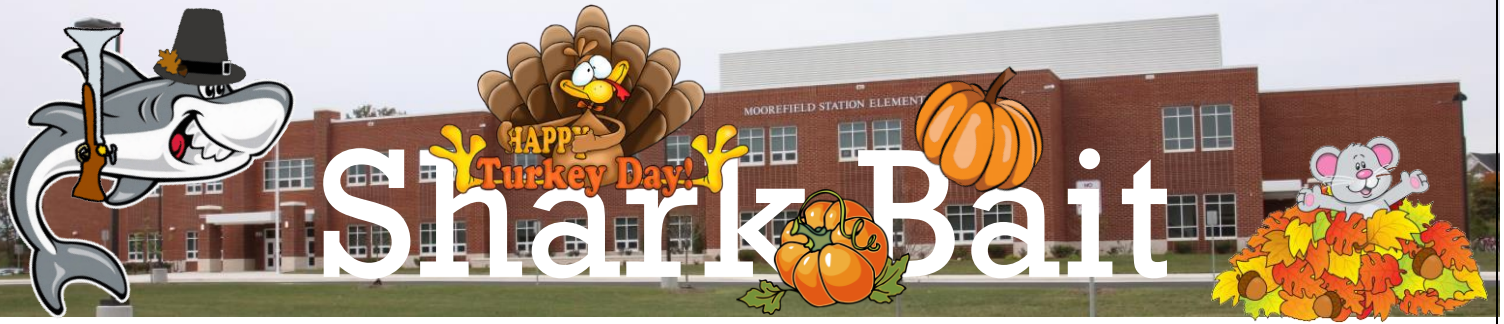


## A MEMO FROM MUSIC:

For the month of November, third grade students will be featured in their grade level music program, honoring the current and previous members of the United States Military, on Friday, November 10th at 9:00 AM. Specific information regarding performance attire/speaking parts has been sent home. If your child has been given a speaking part, please encourage them to work on memorizing it at home. Encourage all third grade students to sing at home too! The MSE Music page contains all words to the program for individual rehearsal.

If you, or a member of your family is a Veteran, we would love to honor you. Please complete the online survey. This invitation is extended to MSE families from each grade level. Fourth and fifth grade students continue to work on soprano recorder. Encourage your child to practice at home when possible. Remember that if they come to music without their recorder, they are given an "Oops" slip to be signed by a parent and returned. Three of these each quarter impact their grade.

Winter Chorus continues rehearsing for the concert on Thursday, December 14th at 6:30PM. Lyrics to all the chorus songs have been posted on the music page of the school website. This site is updated regularly to keep you informed of upcoming musical events during the school year. In addition, be on the lookout for information regarding All-County Chorus auditions taking place this month. Kindergarten is busy playing unpitched percussion instruments, learning how to follow a conductor, keeping the steady beat pulse, and having a wonderful time with dramatic play.



The first graders are hard at work keeping the steady beat, up and down melodic direction, and learning to read their very first rhythms. Second grade is working on understanding the difference between rhythm and steady beat, learning the half note pulse, and performing ostinatos. Check out the music website! You can listen to our featured classes performing the song of the month.

This quarter, all music students will be learning American Patriotic music and its' various composers. Encourage your child to share what we are learning and maybe find some time to listen to some of his music together! If you'd like to find out more about what we are doing in class, ask your child!

### SNIPPETS FROM SEARCH:



During the month of November, students will be enjoying a variety of fun SEARCH lessons. Kindergarten students will be introduced to dominoes. We will discuss and practice the rule for connecting dominoes as well as talk about their features (including the real name for the dots). In our "Not a Stick" lesson, kindergarteners will be challenged to use their imagination to turn their "not a stick" into an imaginary object.

Students in 1st grade will practice spatial reasoning as they use sticks to create symbols in our "Stick Tricks" lesson. Students will then figure out answers to our "Q is for Duck An Alphabet Guessing Game" and use the book as inspiration as they create and illustrate their own animal riddle. Second grade students will learn about perspective and use spatial reasoning to try to complete a very challenging puzzle called "IZZIE". Second graders will also use clues and deductive reasoning to solve logic matrix problems. In 3rd and 4th grade, students will rely on strong mathematical reasoning and creative thinking in our "Spaghetti and Meatballs for All" lesson. Then, 3rd grade students will work collaboratively and use picture, context and sound clues to "Finish That Thought". Students in 4th grade will utilize their reasoning thinking to decode rebus puzzles.

After the Thanksgiving break, we'll begin our next cycle of lessons that will take us into December. Kindergarten students will be introduced to "Dot", the hero of his own unique stories. We'll read about his adventures in the snow. First graders will use their "Reasoning Thinking Key" and work cooperatively to "Create a Creature". Students in second grade will try their hand at one of my many favorite lessons - "Puniddles", which encourages students to make the connection between words and picture clues. Third and fourth grade students will rely on their reasoning skills and a lot of perseverance as they tackle a challenging mathematical activity.

November might be getting colder, but our brains are just starting to heat up!

*Please check my website for the most updated information on LCPS Gifted services, eligibility criteria, and important dates and deadlines. The site is located on our school page under Specialists.*



### ART E-FACTS:

Throughout the month of January, students in grades first through fifth have been busy exploring medias, techniques, and categories of Art. The students have been learning new "art words" and studying various artists and art styles.

The full-day kindergarten classes recently finished thumbprint spiders and learned about different types of lines. The first grade students created an Op Art stars and stripes project in honor of Veteran's Day. The second grade class also used elements of the American flag to create an overlapping stars project and finishing them by adding repeating patterns. The third graders are creating patriotic pieces to be displayed for their Veteran's Day music program next month. They are creating three dimensional stars and experimenting with the value and patterns. Also, the students in fourth grade recently finished a seasonal leaf project using analogous colors and chalk pastel. Fifth grade was introduced to the art work of Pop artist, Burton Morris, before creating a patriotic cut paper collage.

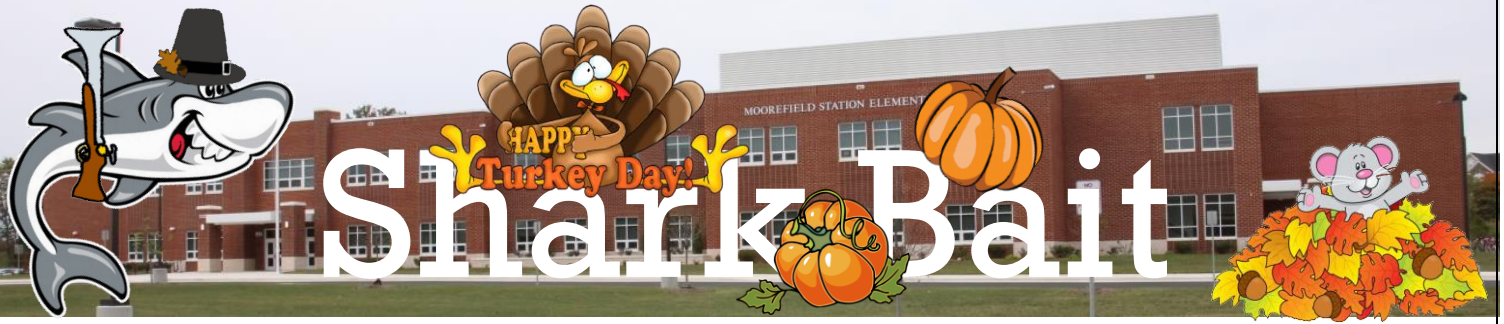
During the month of November, the students will continue to learn and apply the art elements and design principals in works of art. We will look at art from other cultures, eras, and art movements.



### BITS AND BYTES FROM THE LAB:

Our Code to the Future program is off to a great start and students in grades K-5 are learning to code. Students have learned basic coding and are now integrating coding projects into their grade level curriculum. In kindergarten students are coding apples falling from a tree and retelling 5 Little Pumpkins. In first grade, they are learning about day and night and some students made projects showing what they learned using Scratch. Second and third grade students are working on creating a game with code as well as curriculum integration projects related to reading and social studies. Finally, 4th and 5th grade students are animating





stories and working on projects related to VA studies and science. All the students are excited to share these projects and more at our first Epic Build.

### LINK TO THE LIBRARY:

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Thanks to our current parent volunteers who have been helping students find books during check-out time and helping shelve books. We are so grateful to have you! We can always use helping hands! Please see the link below to sign up for a time – whether on a regular basis or just once in a while – we are happy to have you any time. We will continue to add more dates, but for now, we have dates added through the second quarter.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4babaf23a13-library>

#### BOOK FAIR

Our first BOOK FAIR was a success. Our sales earned us \$2,000 in cash profit and \$3,800 in “Scholastic Dollars.” We were also able to take \$1,200 worth of books from the fair itself. We will be able to purchase so many more books for our library this year as well as general supplies. Thanks so much for your support! Save the date for our next fair – March 19–23, 2018.

#### BOOK SWAP – DONATIONS NEEDED

We are accepting donations of gently used books for grades PreK–5 all year in preparation for our annual book swap. In June, we have students pick a gently used book to take home for the summer. We are grateful to those families who can donate several books to help those who many not be able to donate any. We are always have a large need for chapter books for grades 4–5. There is a big box in the office for these books. We will empty the box as it gets full, so keep bringing them in!

### COUNSELOR'S CORNER:

Our school year is well underway, and the School Counseling Office has been in full swing. The month of October was filled with school-wide bullying prevention lessons and ways to become an “upstander” rather than a “bystander.” We held our annual “Orange Out Day” on

October 18th where many Sharks came in wearing orange to show their support in preventing bullying. We encourage you to ask your student what “Stop-Walk-Talk” means for handling bullying and ways to stand up to bullies. Our theme this year was “Sharks don’t bully- we lift each other up.” As part of that theme, we asked each class to come up with ideas to encourage and show kindness for others and wrote those ideas on paper balloons for a school wide display outside of the gym. Check it out next time you walk by!

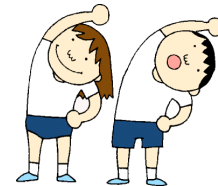
Our fifth grade Service Club also has been meeting and thinking of service projects for the upcoming months. They also helped decorate cards for our faithful bus drivers and attendants for School Bus Driver/Attendant Appreciation Day.

For the month of November, the Counseling office will be focusing on empathy and exploring activities that prepare students’ minds for learning. Also, our New Sharks Club, Lemonade Club, and Changes groups will be concluding this month. New small groups focusing on social skills and self-control will be starting soon.

Finally, the Counseling Office will be hosting a Parent Coffee in the future to help parents learn strategies to deal with various concerns, with possible topics ranging from coping with stress to resilience. If you have an idea for something you’d like to see us conduct a workshop on, please feel free to share it with us!

We look forward to working with your students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

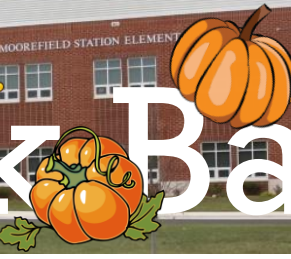
### GYM SHORTS:



During the second 9 weeks in PE our learning focus will be on Nutrition. In the month of November, students will learn about the five food groups and how to create a balanced, healthy plate. In November, we will also begin our dance unit. Students will learn various folk, modern, and fitness dances. Additionally, students in grades 3–5 will create their own dances using basic moves taught in class. At the end of the month we will begin our rolling unit, applying the skill to



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small-scale games. Please remember to send your child with appropriate footwear so that they can safely participate!

## WE LOVE READING!



Supporting a child's love for reading is one of the best things you can do for them. Reading for pleasure is important for both educational purposes as well as personal development.

Reading for pleasure can help children:

- improve their vocabulary
- explore new worlds
- develop their confidence when speaking
- improve their understanding, as they often take on the role of the main character
- learn about new things that will help develop their interests
- grow their imagination and keep them from being bored

Parents can support reading for pleasure by:

- building a home library. Children who have their own books read more and read more frequently
- giving children choice. Allow them to choose what they read and how they read
- being a role model. Parents' relationships with reading influences their children's relationship with reading. Be seen reading!

## SAFETY FIRST:



All visitors to schools will be required to verify their identification with school personnel prior to entry; regardless of the frequency they may visit an individual school.

To Request Entry:

- Have Photo Identification Ready
- Stand on the yellow footprints
- Push and release button

- Present photo id when asked
- Please go directly to the office to sign in and obtain a visitor's pass

All exterior doors will be closed and locked at the beginning of school and remain so until students are released for the day. Using the AIPHONE will be the only way visitors will be admitted to the school.

These security practices are intended to assure parents, students and staff of the school's commitment to safety and security, balancing both the needs of the public with reasonable security provisions.



## VOLUNTEER NOTICE:

Don't forget that Loudoun County has a policy that all volunteers must submit a "volunteer form" to the elementary. If you are planning on volunteering at Moorefield Station, please submit this form to our office staff. A copy of the form can be found on our school's website on the right side bar.



## HEALTH ROOM NEWS:

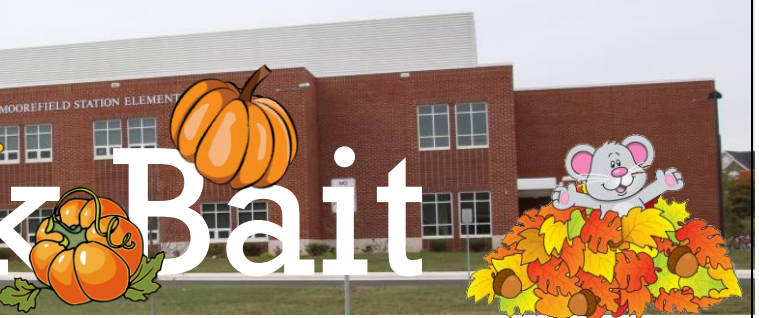
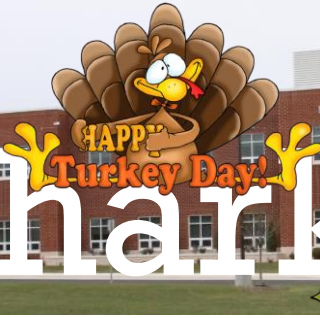
Just a Reminder...

Students are not permitted to transport any medicine to or from school, including: prescription medications or over-the-counter medications (cough drops, Benadryl, Motrin, Advil, etc.) A parent /guardian must bring medication to the health office specialist, or designee and fill out the Medication Administration Authorization form.

Students with the following medical concerns: had surgery, seen in the ER, have a fracture, have a cast or diagnosed with a concussion, need a written release, signed by a physician, clearing him/her to return to school. The clearance should include: 1/ return to School Release Date; 2/ any Restrictions and the duration of the restrictions.

Spills, bathroom accidents and mud happen to students of all ages, from PK to 5th grade. Please put a change of clothes in your child's backpack- just in case it is needed!

This year at MSE, there are children who have a weakened immune systems. In an effort to provide a healthy



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environment for these students (and all students) we will need your help.

If your child is ill because of a contagious disease such as flu, strep, chicken pox, measles, etc. note the reason for the absence when you call the absentee call-line or absentee email.

Students who have fevers should be kept at home until free of fever for 24 hours. Students who do not feel well should stay home. When students come to school ill, they not only are unable to participate fully in class, but they may also infect other students with their illness.

When requesting a copy of your child's School Entrance Health Form, email, [jeni.stuart@lcps.com](mailto:jeni.stuart@lcps.com) and include your child's name, grade and teacher allow 24 hours turn-around time. The form will be sent home with your child.

## DAY CARE RIDERS:



If you are a parent with children attending daycare facilities at the end of each day, it is important that you communicate with them if your child is absent on a particular day or that you have picked up your child early from school.

## SPEED LIMIT ON SCHOOL GROUNDS:

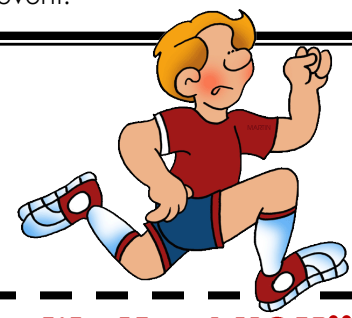
We are concerned for the safety of your child at school. If you are on our grounds, please pay attention to your speed while driving on our campus. We have noticed adults going over the state required speed of 25 MPH. Please help us keep your children safe!



## PARKING AND SAFETY:

We need your help! When visiting our campus, it is important for you to PARK in the SAFE locations. Parking spaces in our parking lot are safe! The "straight away" nearest the track is also safe. Abandoning your car in the car pick-up line to go get your child is NOT safe. Crossing traffic is also not safe. Safety is our goal. Please work with our staff to help the flow of traffic on our campus run smoothly.

**Note:** If due to a disability you need assistance to enable you to participate meaningfully in a school meeting or event, please contact the school office (571-252-2380) at least five working days prior to the event.



## We Need YOU!!!

Our annual Brambleton "Lace Up for Learning" race will be held on November 11<sup>th</sup>. This event is **ONLY** successful if Moorefield Station has volunteers or runners.

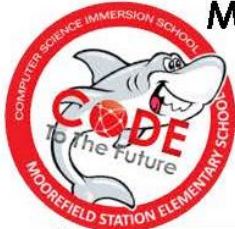
**Volunteering** is as easy as handing out shirts or checking runners in. **Running**...well, that is a little more difficult.

Consider helping – MSE needs more volunteers to receive money from this **GREAT fundraiser!** (see our website)





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## MOOREFIELD STATION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EPIC BUILD SHOWCASE

"Sharks are Chomping on CODE!"

Friday, November 3, 2017



Times	Topic	Location
8:30am-9:00am	Opening Session - Kindergarten	Multipurpose Room
9:00am-9:30am	Epic Build - Kindergarten	Respective Classrooms
9:30am-10:00am	Opening Session - Preschool, Gr 1, & Gr 2	Multipurpose Room
10:00am-10:30am	Epic Build - Preschool, Gr 1, & Gr 2	Respective Classrooms
12:00pm-12:30pm	Opening Session - Gr 3	Multipurpose Room
12:30pm-1:00pm	Epic Build - Gr 3	Respective Classrooms
1:00pm-1:30pm	Opening Session - Preschool, PM Kindergarten, Gr 4, & Gr 5	Multipurpose Room
1:30pm-2:00pm	Epic Build - Preschool, PM Kindergarten, Gr 4, & Gr 5	Respective Classrooms

Grade	Time	Teacher-Room	Grade	Time	Teacher-Room
Kindergarten	9:00am-9:30am	Amazeen - 127 Grof-Tisza - 130 Pedersen - 132 Urbaniak - 128	PM Kindergarten	1:30pm-2:00pm	Amazeen - 127
Preschool	10:00am-10:30am	McQuade - 124	Preschool	1:30pm-2:00pm	Chartuk - 124
Gr 1	10:00am-10:30am	Alls - 138 Crispell - 134 Dials - 126 Rather - 137 Schulte - 135 Taylor - 131 Thomas - 136 West - 133	Gr 4	1:30pm-2:00pm	Aubin - 223 Clarke - 227 DeLuca - 225 Dennison - 226 Hoffman - 230 McIntosh - 232 Vaughn - 228
Gr 2	10:00am-10:30am	Aksamitowski - 214 Ater - 222 Buss - 216 Farren - 220 Griffis - 219 Grzech - 218 McNeme - 224	Gr 5	1:30pm-2:00pm	Edwards - 207 Kaciban - 209 Kelley - 205 Leach - 208 Lee - 210 Lissak - 203
Gr 3	12:30pm-1:00pm	Furtek - 202 Gilbert - 237 Gorli - 229 Kleffman - 202 Marlin - 239 Sarman - 234 Schroder - 236			

We would like to thank the many people that made this Coding program possible:

Dr. Williams, Superintendent

Dr. Ashley Ellis, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Loudoun County School Board

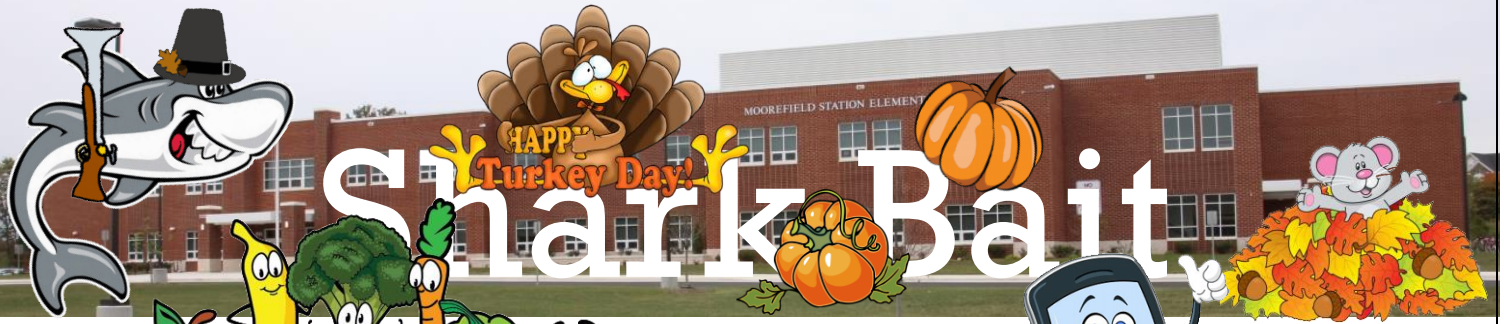
Justin Donovan, Director of Technology Operations & Support, and the DDI Team.

Teri Finn, Supervisor of Elementary Education

Nick Grzeda, Digital Integration Specialist

Joshua Johnson, Code to the Future Instructional Coach

Jill Buss, Instructional Facilitator, Technology & Christian Schmidt, Technology Assistant



### Lunch Information:

Find all your needs for school lunches on our website under "Our School" or at <http://www.lcps.org/Domain/14983>

Schedules, Menu, Online Payment, Nutritional Values, etc.

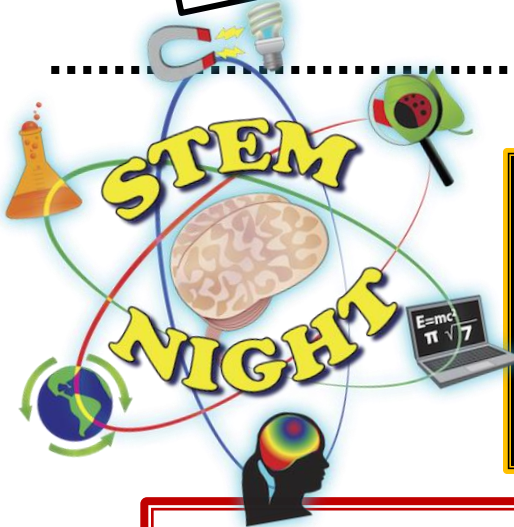
Lunches are  
\$3.05



### Transportation Changes:

If your child's dismissal plans have changed during the school day, please provide us with the following-

- Note to teacher preferred OR phone call to the front office BEFORE 2:00pm
- Do NOT email as teacher or secretaries may be absent



Join us in our annual **STEM Night** on **Thursday, November 16**. This special event starts at **5:30pm**. Participate in science, technology, engineering, and math activities.

### Help our school...

Support our **Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**. Meetings are held monthly in our library.

The November meeting will be held on Tuesday,

November 9 at 7:00pm.

Your participation can make a difference!!!

