

ALGONKIAN ELEMENTARY

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website: <http://www.lcps.org/algonkian>

Principal: *Mr. Brian Blubaugh*

Assistant Principal: *Ms. Karen Shields*

Bookkeeper: *Mrs. Eileen Veselick*

Attendance Secretary: *Mrs. Gail Farrar*

Volume 7

March 2015



EVENTS CALENDAR 2015

March

- 3rd PTA meeting
- 6th 3rd grade STEM labs
- 10th Spring Picture Day
- 13th 1st grade STEM lab
- 13th International Night
- 17th National Tornado Drill
- 18th Assembly Author Henry Cole
- 18th Invention Expo
- 20th 4th grade STEM lab
- 24th Reading under the Stars

April

- 10th Bingo Night
- 14th PTA meeting
- 21st Muffins with Mom
- 24th SOL Jeopardy Day
- 28th Sweet Frog Night

Assistance Notice

If, due to a disability, you need assistance to enable you to participate meaningfully in any of our school programs, please contact Ms. Karen Shields, Assistant Principal, at 571-434-3240 at least five working days prior to the activity.

Letter from the Principal

Algonkian Families,

Due to the snow there have been a few activities that have been rescheduled. I am hoping the snow is behind us and students can get back to a normal routine.

We are really excited about our first International night. International night has been rescheduled for Friday, March 13th beginning at 6:00.

We also had to reschedule our First ever Invention Expo and STEM night. That event has been rescheduled for Wednesday March 18th. Please come out to see the inventions and participate in our STEM activities.

Please join us on Tuesday, March 24th for Reading Under the Stars. Students can come and listen to teachers and others in the community read some of their favorite books.

During the month of March we are challenging the students to earn 1, 000 tickets for demonstrating respect, responsibility and relationships. Our students are doing a great job at Algonkian and we want that to continue the rest of the year. If students earn 1, 000 tickets they will earn a PBIS assembly.

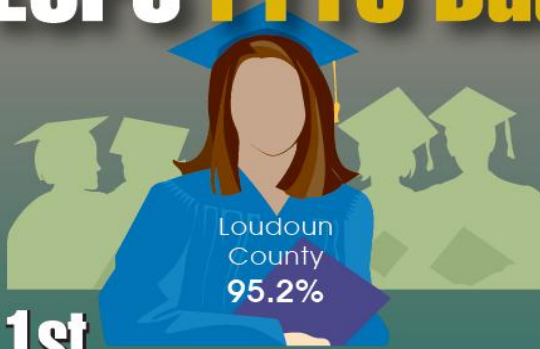
This year students in third grade will take a reading and math SOL test, fourth grade will take reading, math and VA studies SOL tests, and fifth grade will take reading, math, and science SOL tests. VDOE just released the 2014 tests. If you want to review the tests from last year please use the following link.

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/released_tests/index.shtml

Sincerely,
Brian Blubaugh
Principal

LCPS FY16 Budget

sustaining and
building on
excellence



1st

Loudoun's rank in the on-time graduation rate (95.2%) when compared to Fairfax County (92.9%), Prince William County (90.6%), Virginia Beach (88.5%) and Virginia as a whole (89.5%).

**2nd
Lowest
Cost**

Loudoun's current rank in cost-per-pupil spending compared to other Northern Virginia school divisions.

\$19,040	Arlington
\$17,041	Alexandria
\$13,519	Fairfax
\$12,195	LOUDOUN
\$10,365	Prince William

**\$60.4
MILLION**

Increase in local funding for the School Board's proposed budget. The FY16 budget would be \$982.1 million compared to the current budget of \$912 million.

**\$28
MILLION**

Amount allocated for growth, including 298 positions for new student enrollment and the opening of Riverside High School.

**\$30
MILLION**

Investment to maintain competitive salary and benefits package, including salary adjustments (\$17.7 million) and group health insurance adjustments (\$6.9 million).

**\$12.7
MILLION**

Improvements included in the new budget, including reducing high school class size, expanding full-day kindergarten, restoring summer school and restoring middle school deans.

**\$5.1
MILLION**

Money saved through strategically reallocating 46.5 positions.

+19,000

More students projected to attend LCPS schools in 2015-16 (75,755) than attended in 2008-2009 (57,009), 33 percent growth.

\$25 MILLION

The gap between the LCPS contribution proposed by the County Administrator in accordance with guidance from the Board of Supervisors and the amount needed to fully fund the FY16 School Board Proposed Budget.

\$75

The amount per pupil less that would be spent in the proposed budget (\$12,705) when compared to the cost per pupil for the 2008-2009 school year. (\$12,780).

1/3

Approximate number of students served by full-day kindergarten through the proposed budget.

Growth in student population (2,522) between 2014-15 and 2015-16.

34%

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.lcps.org



Save the Dates!

-News from Ms. Shields

It's that time of year again! As the students prepare in their classrooms, we also need your help at home. Our standardized tests will take place in May and June. We wanted to give you these dates in advance to add to your calendars☺

Please be sure to have your child in school on these days (unless they are truly ill!). If your child is tardy on the day of a test he/she will not be allowed to enter the classroom until all testing is completed and will take a make-up exam on another day. The teachers and students have worked hard to prepare for the tests. On the day your child will be testing, it is beneficial if each child has had a good night's rest and has eaten a healthy breakfast.

3RD GRADE - STANDARDS OF LEARNING (SOLS)

Our third grade students will be participating in TWO SOL tests this year. They will be taking only Reading and Math online assessments. Morning test sessions will begin promptly at 8:15am and afternoon sessions will begin at 11:15am (lunch schedules will be adjusted as needed). Please see calendar that follows for specific testing dates.

4th Grade –Standards of Learning (SOLs)

Fourth grade will be participating in three SOL tests. Fourth grade students take Reading, Math and Virginia History. All SOL assessments will be taken online in one of our computer labs. Morning test sessions will begin promptly at 8:15am and afternoon sessions will begin at 11:15am (lunch schedules will be adjusted as needed). Please see the calendar that follows for specific testing dates.

5th Grade – Standards of Learning (SOL)

Our fifth grade students will be participating in the 5th grade Reading, Math and Science SOLs. All SOL assessments will be taken online in one of our computer labs. Morning test sessions will begin promptly at 8:15am and afternoon sessions will begin at 11:15am (lunch schedules will be adjusted as needed). Please see the calendar that follows for specific testing dates.

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

Karen Shields
Assistant Principal

Algonkian Elementary SOL Test Schedule May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 3rd Grade Reading I	13 3rd Grade Reading II	14 4th Grade Reading	15 5th Grade Reading	16
17	18 4th Grade Math I	19 4th Grade Math II	20 5th Grade Math I	21 5th Grade Math II	22 Make-Ups	23
24	25 NO SCHOOL	26 Make-Ups	27 3rd Grade Math I	28 3rd Grade Math II	29 Make-Ups	30
31						

Algonkian Elementary SOL Test Schedule June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 4th Grade VA History	3 5th Grade Science	4 Make-Ups	5 Make-Ups	6

Algonkian Counseling



Professional School Counselors Help Students Reach Their Potential!



Algonkian School Counseling Advisory Council

***** Meeting March 26th at 3:00 p.m. in Ms. Ryan's classroom**

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.

Please email Ms. Ryan at Theresa.Ryan@lcps.org if you are interested in joining this committee!

Attention! Parents of Rising 6th Grade Students



**Course Selection Forms have all been sent home!
Please return ASAP to your child's teacher!**



****New - This year no choice of regular or honors level courses is necessary. All academic classes at RBMS will now incorporate honors level material. Your child's math selection will be made this spring based on testing information available at that time.**

****Note – The course selection form is only used to make your child's music elective choice. Please complete your child's music selection and return to your child teacher no later than February 20th!**

*Attendance at an Instrument Test Drive is required for Band and Strings classes. If your child wishes to choose either of these electives **and has not** attended an Instrument Test Drive Night, please contact the RBMS music department at (571)434-3220.*

Student visit to River Bend Middle School and parent night were on February 24th

If you were unable to attend or would you like more information about transitioning your child to middle school, please visit our Algonkian's School Counseling page under Middle

School at: <http://lcps.org/Page/103895>

Algonkian Elementary



Bobcats PuRRRR!

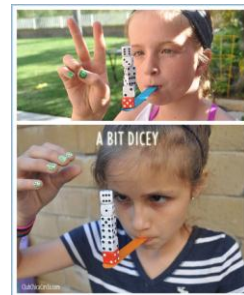
(Positive Behavior Intervention and Support)

Algonkian's PBIS framework is based on The 3 R's

Respect

Responsibility

Relationships



MINUTE TO WIN IT!

Ready for some fun?!

**If students earn 1000 tickets in March we will have a special
Minute to Win It Students vs Teachers!**



March cafeteria reward – March Madness Hoops on March 27th!

Parents, would you like to be a part of our cafeteria PBIS rewards?!

Visit our March sign up genius page to volunteer!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4CAAAA23A46-march1/>

Check out PBIS on our webpage: <http://lcps.org/domain/13641>

When students feel safe, respected, and connected to learning, fun happens naturally!



Follow Algonkian on Twitter @ ALG_lcps

twitter



2014-2015 CHESS CLUB

Next Chess Club Meeting

April 14th

2:45-3:45 in the Cafeteria

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

Visit our Chess Club webpage <http://www.lcps.org/page/40419>,
for dates and more information!

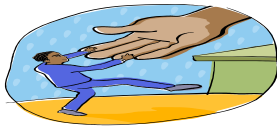
Here is a direct link to our online Chess Club Permission Slip:
Remember students need a NEW permission slip for every club date!
<http://www.lcps.org/page/40421>

Please email, or call Ms. Ryan to help with this activity.

Ms. Ryan: theresa.ryan@lcps.org
571-434-3242

ALGONKIAN EQUITY COMMITTEE



The Equity Committee is here to serve our Bobcat family by ensuring that our instruction and interaction with students, staff and families is equitable. We monitor activities, programs and projects to make sure they are relevant, diverse and support and represent all of our students and staff here at Algonkian Elementary School. The Committee welcomes parental/guardian participation and if you have an interest in attending the next open meeting or have questions, concerns or comments, please contact either Theresa Ryan, Counselor or Susan Smith, Parent Liaison.



Algonkian's Creativity Center

Welcome to Youth Art and Music Month. Youth Art and Music Month is the annual celebration of the creative empowerment of children. Ms. Smith and I have put together a calender of events and information to help spark creativity at home.

These are volunteery home activites that students and famlies can pick and choose from and do a many as you like.

 <i>Youth Art and Music Month</i>  <i>March 2015</i>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Create a new cover for your favorite book. 	2 <i>Dr. Seuss's Birthday</i> 	3 Use Your imagination to create a new Animal 	4 WEAR ORANGE <i>Antonio Vivaldi's Birthday</i>	5 <i>Listen to the Four Seasons by Antonio Vivaldi</i> 	6 International Night <i>Michelangelo's Birthday</i> 	7 Listen to Classical Radio  <i>Piet Mondrian's Birthday</i>
8 Daylight Savings  Watch the Sunset	9 Write new lyrics to your favorite song 	10 WEAR GREEN Create a sculpture with recycled materials. 	11 <i>Ezra Jack Keats Birthday</i> 	12 Create a new flower <i>National Plant a Flower Day</i> 	13 Dance an Irish Jig 	14 Visit an Art Museum or Gallery. 
15 Play a Music or Art Game Online 	16 WEAR RAINBOW COLORS	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day & Nat King Cole's Birthday</i> 	18 Henry Cole Author/ Illustrator Visit 	19 Create a piece of Origami Art 	20 Design your dream house! 	21 Give a Concert or Music Performance at Home 
22 <i>Andrew Lloyd Webber's Birthday</i> Listen to the Phantom of the Opera 	23 Try and or Watch an experiment on the science of sound 	24 Reading Under the Stars 	25 Wear Purple <i>Elton John's Birthday</i> Listen to The Lion King Soundtrack 	26 Find a Cool Quote about Art and Music 	27 Draw your favorite meal on a paper plate!  <i>Sarah Vaughn's Birthday</i>	28 Have an Art Show at Home 
29 Learn about an instrument from another country 	30 SPRING BREAK <i>Vincent Van Gogh's Birthday</i> 	31 SPRING BREAK Take a walk outside and draw what you see. 	Youth Art and Music Month is the annual celebration of ART and MUSIC in education. The Fine Arts empower students by providing an outlet for self-expression while developing creative thinking skills that can be applied to any subject. 			

There is a printable copy of this calender on the Algonkian webpage. Also, I have created a list of online Art games found on my school webpage: <http://lcps.org/Page/149175>

Music News

Miss Alicia Smith

Alicia.smith@lcps.org

3rd grade Musical

“Update Earth”

April 23, 2015 – 1:15pm & 6:30pm

March is Music in Our Schools Month

What is Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM)?

Music In Our Schools Month or “MIOSM” is NAFME’s annual celebration during March which engages music educators, students, and communities from around the country in promoting the benefits of high quality music education programs in schools.

Music In Our Schools Month began as a single statewide Advocacy Day and celebration in New York in 1973 and grew over the decades to become a month-long celebration of school music in 1985.

To learn even more about this wonderful celebration, please visit the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) website <http://www.nafme.org/programs/miosm/>



Check out Ms. Michael’s Art section of the newsletter to see how Algonkian is celebrating Youth Art and Music Month. Also, visit the Algonkian Music webpage to find fun links to help you celebrate!

March Elementary School Lunch Menu

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

MARCH NEWSLETTER LCPS GIFTED IDENTIFICATION

Many parents have already attended the LCPS Gifted Education Department's information sessions, and from those sessions they have learned about the process of screening and identification for gifted services in Loudoun County. If you were not able to attend one of the information sessions, you might want to view the power point presentation available on the Gifted Education website: <http://cmsweb1.lcps.org/Page/617>

<http://cmsweb1.lcps.org/Page/127733> "All children may demonstrate gifted behaviors on different levels and in different ways. It is a matter of the complexity, frequency and intensity of the demonstrative behaviors that determine whether students require the differentiated instruction of Gifted Education." No matter what grade your child is in, you can find detailed information about the identification process on the LCPS Gifted Education website: It is the goal of the LCPS identification process to find those students who truly need gifted services.

To accomplish this, LCPS adheres to the best practices of identification as outlined by the National Association for Gifted Children: "Identification needs to occur over time, with multiple opportunities to exhibit gifts. One test at a specific point in time should not dictate whether someone is identified as gifted." (<http://www.nagc.org/resources-publications/gifted-education-practices/identification>) For this reason, SEARCH teachers work with all students in the regular classroom during the first three quarters of the 3rd grade year on portfolio lessons. These lessons are used during the identification process in addition to test data from both 2nd and 3rd grade and teacher observations based on the first three quarters of 3rd grade. In these, as in all respects, LCPS endeavors to follow the best and most equitable practices current in gifted education.

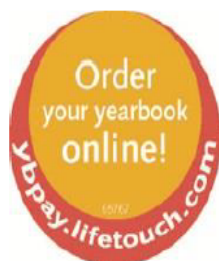
If you have questions about gifted identification, please contact the SEARCH teacher at your child's school.

School Improvement Plan

School Improvement Plan (SIP) has been developed for Algonkian Elementary by staff and our leadership team. 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 Brian Blubaugh at 571-434-3240.

Bobcats 2015 Yearbooks on sale now!



Purchase your Algonkian Yearbook Online!

Online only! Early Bird Sale

Price: \$14.00

Early bird deadline: April 6

It's Easy, fast and safe! Go to: ybpay.lifetouch.com

Enter school code: 1744015

Follow prompts and pay with your credit card

Online ordering Questions? YBPay Customer Care 800-453-9764

Please note: Flyers will be sent home in April for students who wish to pay with check or cash. (Price will be \$15.00). Order online now and save!

Visit us at <http://www.lcps.org/algonkian>

Algonkian Elementary PE Newsletter



Dear Algonkian Parents,

Another month has passed and more good things to report from the PE department. We have recently finished the ABL 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 1-3:

Completed scooter activities
Completed parachute activities
Completed organized skills circuit

Grades 4 and 5:

- Completed beach volleyball unit
- Finished ABL season
- Completed striking mobile targets (stepping with opposition)

Currently and in the near future:

Grades 1-3:

- Long jump rope skills
- 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.

Have a great month,

Joe Terango and Kristen Barker