As we reach the first portage at the end of Quarter 1, there is much to be grateful for – an enthusiastic roster of students, robust staff and some of the most passionate and invested group of parents I have ever encountered in my thirty-four years in the business! Let’s start by congratulating Garrett Basinger who applied and was selected to be MCCS’s first Student Council President! Our talent pool of candidates was VERY STRONG! Ms. Skelly, Ms. Morgan and I reviewed five resumes submitted for this position. We looked at leadership experience, extra-curricular involvement and community service. We invited grade 3, 4 and 5 students to sign up to be on a committee or lead a leadership team. “L” stands for Team Leader!

**School Safety and Office Patrol:**
Erin (L); Holland; Blaise; Nicole; Annika; Ananya; Kyra; Avery; Mona; Garrett; Lexie; Jorge; Colin; Liam T.; Jillian

**Fun Friday Team:** Avery (L); Blaise; Thomas; Charles; Max H; Preston; Lexie; Jonathan; Danny; Colin; Grace; Luke; Lucy; Erin

**School Newspaper Editor and Photographers:** Luke (L) Holland; Michael; Charles; Max H; Kyra; Maggie; Addison; Aedan; Rena; Mona; Will; Jorge; Liam T.; Luke; Winley; Erin; Garrett

**Gardeneeing Team:** Nicole (L); Mona; Grace; Michael

**Tech Team:** Ananya (L) Connor, Erin; Liam; Addison; Aedan; Rena; Colin; Blaise

Student Librarian: Alanna
Clean Machine Team: Gerardo (L)
Connor; Nicole; Max H; Will; Jonathan; Danny
Celebration Leaders: Drake (L) Connor; Thomas; Maggie; Addison; Will; Jorge; Winley; Lucy; Jillian
Horse Club: Annika (L)
Fish Nannies: Preston (L); Michael; Maggie; Aedan; Liam T
Recess Leaders: Jonathan (L) Max. W; Garrett
Board/Card Game Team: Cesar (L)
Max W.; Jonathan; Winley; Lucy; Liam
Bulletin Board Makers: Winley (L); Liam; Alanna; Maggie; Rena
K-2 Make Recycled Toys with Magnets

Big Picture – Focus on Community Science:
Environment theme and magnets

Preparation:
- Requests for families to bring in recycled materials – in daily folders/weekly blog
- Students learn in “hands on” and video stations about magnetic properties
- Parents invited to join class to help make toys out of recycled materials

Construction Day

Challenge – make a toy that uses magnets to help it work (Special requests for some parents to help out)

Time frame: approximately 90 minutes

Materials:
Recycled materials, duck tape, magnets, string, glue…

Dr. Smith’s Observations
- Exceptional level of engagement
- Talk about how toys function
- Students comfortable with changing and re-changing the prototype
- Students discuss their toys with others

Long term Impact

students making them at home after project

teachers recognized for providing an exemplar project

sharing of ideas with other schools

A mom with a student in a Grade 3-5 class shared a great idea for developing creativity at home: “I have a room with boxes and duck tape. That’s it! No TV, manufactured toys…”

UPDATES

LEO MORNING/NIGHT

**LEO FAMILY PROJECTS:**
Bring them in first thing Thursday morning!

Come in and view classes and the class work from quarter 1 - on Thursday, October 2nd!

Viewing Times:
- 8:30-10AM - Parents welcome to view classrooms
- For families who could not make it in the morning – we will share again at Leo Night (6-7pm)

WEDNESDAYS ARE WORKOUT

WEDNESDAYS (Wear sports sweaters/ fitness clothes to salute DaVinci’s focus on the healthy body!)

THURSDAYS ARE LEOBRED THURSDAYS wear something green/gold to celebrate school spirit!

FRIDAYS ARE FUN FRIDAYS: Student Council Leaders will announce each week!

Avery Dillon and her Fun Friday team have designated Friday, Oct. 24th as “80’s Day”. Find some fun clothes to wear that day to salute the ‘80’s’!
PTO News – President Richa Badami

September has honestly flown by; I can’t believe the end of 1st quarter is just two days away. So much has happened at MCCS in such a short time – but most important of all is that the children are having such a great time, learning, exploring and thriving. That one thing alone simply puts everything else into perspective!

The PTO has had a busy month…

✓ Spirit Wear is here! We have been seeing our students and staff in their spirit wear and it makes us really happy! Thank you for supporting the PTO’s first fundraiser. If you haven’t ordered your T-shirt, Magnet, Lanyard or Rear View Mirror Tags yet, please email our Spirit Chair, Yvette Jacobs at vjacobs@me.com
✓ Family Science Night: I sincerely hope you did not miss this FABULOUS event chaired by Angie Tomaszewski and her amazing team of volunteer helpers. The kids truly had a “BLAST” and learned so much as well as earned their first badge for their MCCS Leobreds lanyards that the PTO gave all kids for free.
✓ Leo Talks: The video and companion PowerPoint for Dr. Smith’s Leo Talk on the research benefits of multi-age learning can be found on our school website (www.loudoun.k12.va.us/middleburg> PTO > Leo Talks)
✓ In addition to the above the Gratitude Committee has had their kick off meeting to plan their staff and community appreciation events for the year. The Outreach Committee and many others have started brainstorming on their ideas and plans. Please reach out to the various committee chairs to offer your support where possible! (www.loudoun.k12.va.us/middleburg> PTO > MCCS Committees)
✓ Teacher Wish Lists can be found on our website as well at (www.loudoun.k12.va.us/middleburg> PTO > MCCS Staff Wish List) Thank you for supporting all our teachers!

What’s coming up…

✓ Movie Night on 10/28 from 6 to 8 pm – “A Race To Nowhere”, a reel line film by Vicki Abeles. Race To Nowhere is a close up look at the pressures on today’s students, offering an intimate view of lives packed with activities, leaving little room for down time or family time. A Sign Up Genius will be sent out to RSVP, babysitting will be provided.
✓ Leo Talks with Miriam Hughey-Guy 11/25/2014 on the Leonardo DaVinci Project – a NOT TO MISS Leo Talk! Miriam retired after being the Principal for 20 years at the Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington, VA and now is the lead consultant here at Middleburg Charter providing us with her mentorship and guidance. “If all principals were as good as Hughey-Guy, this would be the golden age of American education. Many people she trained are now running schools, or soon will be. We should be glad they are out there showing what they learned from a remarkable woman who always hugged kids, and knew all their names.” – as quoted in the Washington Post last year.
✓ Breakfast with Santa is coming up on 12/6/2014 – join the BWS Team and be part of the biggest PTO event of the year!
✓ Our school Technology Chair, Michelle Nicholson is looking for volunteers for the Technology Committee. Anyone knowledgeable in the areas of Hardware, Software and Online Subscriptions, please contact Michelle at Michelle@NicholsonCottage.com … Thank you!

I want to thank MCCS staff and teachers, management and board members, and most of all YOU, the PTO members, chairs, volunteers and all our parents, grandparents and families for your time, talent and support. Remember – YOU ARE THE PTO!! Thank you!!

“It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.” ~ Leonardo Da Vinci
Math is Happening Here

Every day students do their Math Problem of the Day followed by small group teaching and partner work. Check out these equations in Ms. Emmel’s class! Check out group work in Ms. Skelly’s class!

MCCS Gardeneers and Butterfly Enthusiasts

Stay Tuned for Incredible: Intersession News!

Details on next Leo Talks: “Race to Nowhere”
Movie Night AND…

Miriam Hughey-Guy’s DaVinci

Family Science Night Sours to over 90% Family Participation!

Si tiene preguntas que quiere hacer en Espanol, por favor llame a Susana Calley (702-297-7899)