The Leobred Letter
A “DaVinci by the CREEK” Community Charter School

Chief AJ asks us all to stick out our tongues at cancer!

The “Community” in Middleburg
Community Charter School (our starter list!)
How does MCCS embrace our local community?

- Middleburg Community Centre (after school programming for school)
- Members of Middleburg Police Department visit for Friday lunches
- Police Chief AJ Pannebianco, took part in summer PD, "Safe Schools" Leo Talk
- Firefighters brought truck and firefighters to K-2 curriculum focus on community helpers (Thanks for arranging, Ms. Lutter!)
- Classes walking to Middleburg Library
- Community talent teaching during Intersession (Thank you Susan for tapping your community resources)
- 4H Program rents facility on Saturday
- Local church group has classes on Sunday

We value your communication, questions and ideas. Please email Dr. Smith at Barbara.smith@lcps.org if you have questions or need clarifications about all we do.

DATA DRIVE

Enrollment: 111
Daily Attendance: 98% +
Staff Applications to date: 347
Classroom Teacher Planning Support: 100 minutes/day individual and group planning time
Reduced Teacher- Student Ratios in key subject areas
Language Arts and Mathematics - 12 or fewer students to 1 teacher/TA
Arts Classes - parents invited in to support arts teachers
Other classes - teachers invite parents when project work requires more hands on deck
Intersession - 35 students overall
Five letters were written to the President to ask for more support for research into pediatric medicine to respond to the recent Gabriella Miller bill

Classroom Volunteers in Quarter 1 – 47 parents (55% of parents came in to support classroom arts classes and lunch supervision)

Back to School Barbecue - over 200 people in attendance
Family Science Night - 90% parents and students come out from 6-8pm at night
Leo Day and Night - 97% - parent turn-out;
Parent-Teacher Conference Day – 92% parent turn-out

Leo Talks (parent education for families and staff) monthly 6-7:30pm
- Multi-age Learning (60 parents);
- Safe Schools (35 parents)
- Race to Nowhere (50+ signed up) October 28
- Next - Project Based Learning - November 23

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Paying it Forward as Application of Thoroughbred Times! Each classroom has selected a community service campaign to launch for the year.
- “Seven Loaves” (Ms. Morgan – Nov.)
- “Mitten Tree” (Ms. Emmel’s – Dec.)
- Heifer International (Ms. Skelly’s class)
- Middleburg Humaine Foundation (Ms. Wood’s class)
- Random Acts of Kindness (Ms. Browning class)

“Service learning, provides students with the motivation necessary to put forth effort in academics, it gives them more opportunities to integrate and elaborate on their knowledge, and it increases the likelihood of transferring theoretical knowledge to actual practice.”
http://sitemaker.umich.edu/356.black/benefits_of_participation_in_service

Quarter 2 Leo Project:
Grades K-2 (Create your own "state"
Grades 3-5 (Family Heritage Map)
Next Leo Night (Thursday, December 18th) - include music, dance, visual arts and photography exhibitions)

LEO FAMILY PROJECT

- Grades K-2 (Create a community stamp/postcard)
- Grades 3-5 (Create your own planet)

94% of the parents who responded to survey supported this innovative collective homework project throughout the quarter

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 (Costume Day October 31st)

Quarter 1 Parent Communication Surveys – Thank you to everyone who shared feedback. We appreciate your positive words of encouragement and we are working hard to address improvements! 😊

Grant/Fundraising News
McAuliffe Grant $40,000 to support Intersession programming, robotics materials and robotics training for staff members who will champion robotics in the curriculum next year.
PTO News – President Richa Badami

Welcome back after intersession! Just ten days in to the second quarter and we have already have so much excitement at MCCS…

The PTO has had a busy month…

✓ **Leo Talks:** Thank you to all who attended the screening of the documentary “A Race To Nowhere”. It was reaffirming and an eye-opening movie to watch and I hope all families will try to watch it as well. Thank you to Britt Cooper for another terrific Leo Talks night, and to Dr. Smith for facilitating the parent discussion. Big shout out to Popcorn Monkey for donating popcorn and An Easy Dish, food blogger and MCCS parent Nicol Pomeroy for donating the delicious brownies. Rosalba Negrete and Loree Posey, both MCCS parents, thank you for volunteering as the greeters and at the concessions!

✓ **Fall Fox Faire:** Thank you to Mark Pomeroy for representing MCCS at the Middleburg Fall Fox Faire on October 25th where we exhibited some of our kids’ Leo Projects and mingled with members of the community, building relationships and sharing our successes at the school. Dr. Smith and Rosalba Negrete, thank you for being there all day as well!

✓ **Parent Volunteering:** Thank you to all who attended our Parent Volunteer training in person as well as virtually. Links to the audio were sent to you via email, along with the necessary materials to review and submit before Nov 5.

✓ **Spirit Team:** Your car magnets were sent home. Show off your MCCS pride!! The branding team is ready with our new school logo and we can’t wait to bring you new spirit wear options before the holidays. Please reach out to Yvette Jacobs, our Spirit Chair to help on this committee at yjacobsm@gmail.com

✓ **Breakfast With Santa:** The Chairs for breakfast with Santa had a planning meeting this month. You will receive letters requesting auction items, donations and your volunteer support. Please join us for the biggest MCCS PTO event of the year and spread the word about this event!

✓ **Please find our teacher wish lists on our PTO 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…

✓ **PTO Board and Committee Chairs** will be meeting on 11/6/14 from 7 to 8 pm. If you are a committee chair or have a key role on a committee, please send your RSVP to Kami Cleary by 11/3, our PTO Secretary at clearyfam@hotmail.com for more details.

✓ **Leo Talks** with Miriam Hughey-Guy 11/25/2014 on “Learning More About the Leonardo DaVinci Model” – 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.

✓ **Our Gratitude Committee** is hosting a Teacher Holiday Luncheon and requests $5 from families that are able to make the contribution. Please drop of $5 in an envelope and addressed to Beth Barts (Thank you Beth!).

✓ Once again, **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! Please contact our Treasurer and event Chair, Mark Pomeroy at Treasurer@MiddleburgPTO.org to get involved.

**PTO Board is now accepting nominations for the PTO Vice-President position!**

Our incredible PTO VP Lisa Mohrman and her family will be leaving MCCS shortly due to relocation! We will miss Lisa on the Board as well as her “class blasts” for the Green Frogs! An email requesting nominations for this position will be coming to you. Please nominate yourself or someone who you think will be a great fit for this role. If you have any specific questions, concerns or comments for the PTO please reach us directly at President@MiddleburgPTO.org, VicePresident@MiddleburgPTO.org, Treasurer@MiddleburgPTO.org or Secretary@MiddleburgPTO.org. We are here to help support our families, teachers and above all the children at MCCS have a wonderful year!
A huge shout out ‘thanks’ to Mark Pomeroy, Rosalba Negrete and Caryn Humphrey for spending the day in our MCCS booth at the Middleburg FoxFaire on Saturday, October 25th.

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LEO TALKS
The showing of RACE TO NOWHERE (Leo Talk 3) on Tuesday, October 28th prompted some good discussion about stress and youth! Our next Leo Talk is Miriam Hughey-Guy who will speak about the DaVinci Curriculum.

K-2 Wagon Ride Field Trip

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