

April 2017



Sugarland Elementary Wildcat News

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Spring has sprung, even though at times, it does not feel like it! We are working hard before Spring Break arrives. Students and teachers are looking forward to the time to just relax and have some fun. Once we return from Spring Break, we will be in our final push for this school year. It will be very important to have your children at school each day. We are at a 95.2% attendance rate, and we must work hard to increase that rate, so we will not lose accreditation. Schools cannot go below 95%. I cannot say, "Thank you" enough for the increase in parents who now volunteer. We will have several projects coming soon and will need volunteers: Picture Day and Field Day (both in April), and other end-of-year activities. Please let me know if you can help! Happy Spring!

APRIL EVENTS AT SUGARLAND

April 4	5 th grade parent meeting 8:00 am
April 5	PTO Board meeting 6:30 pm
April 6	4 th Grade to Jamestown
April 7	No-Sale Yard Sale
April 10-14	Spring Break
April 17	2 nd Grade Natural Mus. Field Trip
April 19	Spring Picture Day
April 19	5 th Grade Rust Watershed Field Trip
April 20	Earth Day Concert 6:00 pm
April 21-22	All County Chorus
April 24	4 th Grade to Kennedy Center
April 24	Volunteer Breakfast
April 25	Last Day for SOL Club
April 26	3 rd Grade Musical "Lemonade" 6:00 pm
April 27	Super Hero Day for grade 3-5
April 28	SOL Kickoff (Field Day)

2016-17 LCPS School Calendar

August 29 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
 September 5 Holiday (Labor Day)
 October 10 Holiday (Columbus Day)
 November 4 End of First Grading Period
 November 7-8 Student Holiday)
 November 23-25 Holiday (Thanksgiving)
 December 22 - January 2 WINTER BREAK
 January 3 Classes Resume
 January 16 Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
 January 26 End of Second Grading Period
 January 27 **MOVEABLE STUDENT HOLIDAY**
 February 20 Holiday (Presidents' Day)
 April 6 End of Third Grading Period
 April 7 Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Day)
 April 10-14 SPRING BREAK
 May 29 Holiday (Memorial Day)
 June 9 Last Day of School for Students/End of Fourth Grading Period

Sugarland Elementary School
 65 Sugarland Run Drive ♦ Sterling, VA 20164 ♦ Telephone 571.434.4460 ♦ Fax 703.444.7463
 Absentee Line 571.434.4461

Sugarland Elementary School website: www.lcps.org/sugarland
 Principal: Dr. Gail Brady Bookkeeper: Mrs. Karen Cole
 Assistant Principal: Mr. Tim Sparbanie Attendance Secretary: Mrs. Netzy Cossio

Music Notes

April is a busy month for the Sugarland music department! Our 2nd graders will be performing their Earth Day Musical on Thursday, April 20th at 6:00 pm. Three 5th graders will represent Sugarland on April 21st and 22nd at All-County Chorus. The 4th graders will be visiting the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. on Monday, April 24th for a performance by the National Symphony Orchestra. Our 3rd graders will be performing their musical, Lemonade, on Wednesday, April 26th, at 6:00 pm. -- Mrs. Blum-Marciano

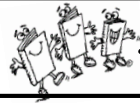


Technology

This month, students will be preparing for SOLs, utilizing effective test-taking strategies. Computer Lab will provide the opportunity to familiarize students with practice tests. In addition, fourth grade students will complete their Force & Motion videos and Revolutionary War timelines. The lower grades will continue to incorporate STEM Lab with coding and sight words. -- Ms. McCord

Art

In Art this month, students will be exploring environmental and seasonal themes. If you have plastic bags and/or cereal boxes, please send them in so we can recycle them into art. -- Mr. Maier



Library News Twitter: @Suglibrary

In April, we will focus on using an atlas, a thesaurus, and a dictionary. Grades 3-5 will practice using guide words and understanding a dictionary and thesaurus entry.

In addition, 5th grade will finish researching the scientific process and complete a paper airplane experiment. Fourth graders will complete their work on creating an American Revolution Timeline. Grades K-2 will be reading about spring, plants, and gardens as we prepare to plant the Sugarland Garden with Mrs. Timothy!

LCPS has transitioned to a new library circulation system called Destiny. We are excited about this new system. Students will be introduced to it after Spring Break. -- Mrs. Grim



STEAM LAB Twitter: @SugSteam

On April 5th, Sugarland will have STEAM day in the afternoon from 12:10-2:00. Grade levels will visit each other to present and see all of the hard work our Sugarland STEAMers have accomplished this year. Our garden area will soon be busy again with preparations for the spring planting season. The STEAM lab was just awarded a grant by Northern Virginia Dietetic Association for our school garden! The funds will help us purchase materials and tools for building our garden. -- Mrs. Timothy



Keeping up with PE

HEALTH BENEFITS OF PLAYING OUTSIDE

There are many reasons kids should play outside: from expressing creativity to running freely to making messes without worrying about dirtying the house. In addition to these fun reasons, there are also many health benefits that make outdoor play great for children.

1.Improves Vision

A study reported by [Optometry and Vision Science](#) found that children who spend time outside have better distance vision than those who primarily play indoors.

2.Promotes Social Skills

Getting kids outside and having unstructured play promotes a wide range of skills. On a playground not everyone gets to go down the slide first. Going to a playground with your kids is not just about running around and being active, but it's also about learning social skills, executive functions and behavioral skills as well through play.

3.Increases Attention Span

Children who play outside have a high attention span comparatively speaking, and much more self-directed (they want to investigate things), where other kids might just sit back.

4.Reduces Stress

Spending time outside playing is such a huge outlet for stress. It's relaxing; it is healing.

5.Provides Vitamin D

According to the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) , lots of kids are suffering from vitamin D deficiencies. This vitamin has several health benefits, including preventing kids from future bone problems, diabetes and even heart disease.

Vitamin D can be received by supplement, but you can also get it through its free and natural version: sunlight. Have your kids play outside for a few minutes without sun screen (which blocks cancer-causing rays, but also vitamin D).

<https://www.care.com/c/stories/4178/5-health-benefits-of-playing-outside/>

Notes from the School Counselor

Character Trait for March/April is Trustworthiness

Students are reviewing this character trait in guidance lessons.

We will also continue our Career Lessons this month in Kindergarten through Third grade.

We are beginning our Career Lessons in Grades 4 and 5 this month.

Counseling Groups

Ms. Fore will be sending home interest forms for counseling groups. Please return the form if you are interested in a counseling group for your child.



Comcast Internet and Laptops Available

Students who qualify for Free Lunch may also qualify for a discounted internet price, just \$9.95 per month. Laptops are also available at a discount for \$149.99.

Please call Comcast for more information 1-855-846-8376.



BIRTHDAYS

Parents, we have received a very generous offer from a donor to help us celebrate students' birthdays. If you celebrate birthdays, and would like for your child to participate, please let us know. Parents will receive a gift card to purchase a birthday cake, so please contact Ms. Fore the week before your child's birthday.

The Backpack Buddy Program provides food every weekend for families.

Contact Ms. Foré for more information.



No-Sale Yard Sale April 7th

The Quarterly No-Sale Yard Sale will be held on April 7th from 9:00-10:00. Clothing and household items will be available free of charge.

Reduced or Free Dental Care:

Loudoun County Health Department Children's Dental Clinic

102 Heritage Way, Suite 101

Call 703-771-5959 for more information about eligibility process



Fairness Award Winners

Emelyn Mejia
Priscila Martinez
Denilson Guillen Perez
Sofia Oliva Sarmientos
Justin Salguero Cruz
Brittany Ramirez Gonzalez
Zainab Abdul Waheed
Lorelei Banks
Nahomy Aguirres Lopez
Isabella Aviles Ortiz
Katherine Bolianez Barrera
Nailea Gonzalez Angeles

Melissa Linares
Donny Martinez
Juan Erazo Melgar
Alicia Lopez
Anna Ferman Reyes
Cristian Ramos
Jonathan Nguyen
Alejandra Gomez Arenivar
Jeremy Chavez
Jhonatan Ruiz Garcia
Torren Santiago
Bryan Santos
Alex Velasquez

Congratulations To All!



After-School Activities

Saturday Computer Lab and Saturday Science Academy will not meet on April 8th or April 15th. They will start back on April 22nd.

A few of our after-school activities will be ending in April. The last day for SOL Club will be April 25th. The last meeting for Saturday Science Academy will be on May 5th and Saturday Computer Lab will end on April 29th.

Reading Team

Developing Writing and Spelling at Home

Writing is a terrific way for children to express their thoughts, creativity, and uniqueness. It is also a fundamental way in which children learn to organize ideas. Learning to write well helps children to be better readers. When engaging in writing, young children often mirror what they see around them – adults and older children writing lists, notes, text messaging. They are observing the way writing is used in our everyday lives.

Writing at home

Here are some suggestions that engage your child in the writing process:

- Have your child write instructions for taking care of the family pet. These will be useful as you plan summer vacations!
- Write a letter or thank you note to a relative. Talk through what your child wants to say before writing begins.
- Make a shopping list before going to the grocery store.
- Write an online review of a book or an item you recently purchased (www.amazon.com) or a recipe you tried (www.allrecipes.com).
- Talk about the presidential election and write a description of the kind of president you want.
- Find a picture in the newspaper and write an article to accompany it.
- Start keeping a personal diary, a household guestbook, or a baby book for a younger sibling.

Does spelling count? Early attempts at spelling are not the random swings they sometimes appear. Children's "invented spelling" gives us a window into what they understand about written language. A good teacher will be able to tell the difference between the misspellings that indicate normal literacy development and those that suggest a possible learning disability. If you have questions, talk to your child's teacher or reading specialist. Writing tip: Stay positive! Kids who are worried about spelling every word correctly will often stick to a small group of words they can spell, or may avoid writing altogether.

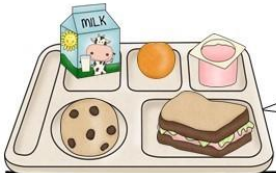
For more information about kids and writing, visit:

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/c37/>






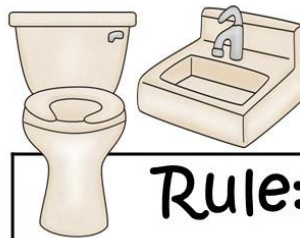
PBIS – Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

What does PBIS look like at Sugarland? Each area of the school has a poster that lists the 3 Rs- Ready, Respectful, Responsible, and what is expected to show those traits. Here are the posters for the bathrooms and cafeteria so you can reinforce expectations at home with your Wildcats.






Here are the three **Wildcat** R's of the Cafeteria...

Rule:	Behavior:
I am respectful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raise hand for help. •Use quiet voices.
I am responsible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Eat your lunch. •Keep hands, feet & food to yourself.
I am ready. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Clean up messes. •Line up quietly. •Face front.



Here are the three **Wildcat** R's of the Bathroom...

Rule:	Behavior:
I am respectful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wait my turn. •Use a quiet voice. •Walk in and out.
I am responsible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wash my hands with just enough soap. •Keep the bathroom clean.
I am ready. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Line up quietly. •Face front.



Don't forget to order you Sugarland Yearbook Now!!

Cost: \$18.00

Two ways to order:

1. Online at ybpa.lifetouch.com
school code: 12754616

2. Send in check or cash to school

All orders must be received by April 28th -- Don't miss out!

Yearbook de Sugarland

Los estudiantes de Sugarland
tendrán la oportunidad de ordenar un Libro del Año 2016-17 de
Sugarland.

El libro contiene:

- Fotos de estudiantes, personal y de las clases
- Fotos de clubs y deportes
- Fotos de eventos especiales
- Y más!

Precio: \$18.00

Hay dos maneras de ordenar:

1. Ahora: Compre su Libro de Sugarland a través del internet!

[Es fácil, Seguro y Fácil!](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) Diríjase a: ybpay.lifetouch.com

Escriba el código de la escuela: 12754616

Siga las instrucciones y pague con su tarjeta de crédito

[Preguntas acerca de cómo ordenar?](#) YBPay Servicio al cliente **800-453-9764**



2. Empezando noviembre 1: Compre su Libro de Sugarland con efectivo o con cheque.

[Nota:](#) Porfavor considere el ordenar por internet para ahorrar recursos. Gracias!

Volantes con sobres para pagos serán enviados a casa después del feriado de primavera para los estudiantes que prefieran enviar efectivo o cheque a la escuela. Favor de pre-ordenar su libro del año antes de la fecha de vencimiento para recibir su copia garantizada y evitarse la molestia de no recibir una copia si no lo ordena a tiempo!