

LAKEHURST NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Summer Fun</i>	1
<i>Superintendent's</i>	2
<i>Listening Program</i>	2
<i>Quote of the Month</i>	2
<i>Rediscover Your</i>	3
<i>Reading</i>	3
<i>Best Wishes</i>	4
<i>Summer Book Club</i>	4

CATCH THE PRIDE!

PRIDE AWARD RECIPIENTS 2009-2010

Kameron Minnick, *Kindergarten*
Elizabeth Oliver, *Grade 1*
Jasmine Prado, *Grade 1*
Jakari Spence, *Grade 2*
Jason Jozefick, *Grade 4*
Kaitlyn Kane, *Grade 4*
Thomas Conger, *Grade 6*
Kiana Garcia-Rodriguez, *Grade 6*
Travis Rastall, *Grade 6*
Joriam Rivera, *Grade 6*
Jasmine Carter, *Grade 8*
Matthew Fullerton, *Grade 8*



LAKEHURST TEACHERS OFFER STUDENTS A GIFT BASKET FILLED WITH TWENTY- ONE WAYS TO HAVE SUMMER FUN!

It's summer – that time of year when teachers bid farewell to students, hoping they don't forget the things they have been taught throughout the school year. As I began to write this article, I wondered how we can promote fun learning as our students are getting ready to set out on summer adventures and vacations. I decided to ask our teaching staff via email to share some of their own ideas about fun summer learning.

Within a few hours, I received a flood of email with loads of fun ideas and projects for parents, students, and families as they enter into July and August! Believe it or not, I found a few attractive ideas that I would consider for myself.

To help stay healthy and happy, it is very important for all of us to keep physically busy and mentally active during these long, hot summer days. Here is a list of the top twenty-one activities to share and enjoy with your children.

These fun activities offer something for everyone to enjoy.

- Play Hop Scotch, Marbles, or Double Dutch
- Explore educational web sites
- Read every moment you get the chance
- Create a summer scrapbook project
- Stay up late with Mom and Dad
- Keep a diary or journal
- Make math or language arts flash cards
- Investigate the Ocean County Library
- Visit the Ocean County and Monmouth County Parks and take a nature walk
- Learn to cook using step by step instructions from a recipe (parent support)
- Learn Origami
- Create a musical instrument
- Learn everything you can about fireflies
- Begin a rock collection
- Learn all about the National Parks
- Design an original paper airplane
- Turn plain white carnations into dramatic colored creations by using food coloring and water (parental supervision required)
- Redesign your bedroom to improve your living space
- Develop an aptitude for number and word puzzles and games
- Create a healthy salad with a homemade dressing and share with your family
- Design a flower or vegetable garden

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!
Mrs. Carmen Davis, Principal

TAKE A PEEK INTO THE FUTURE...

Each year our Lakehurst students have the opportunity to enjoy *Move Up Day*. Teachers prepare an orientation for prospective students by grade level. Students are introduced to new grade level requirements and expectations. Guidelines and routines are shared by each grade level team so that students prepare themselves for the up-

coming school year.

Our middle school students also have the opportunity to meet with their prospective teachers, our school nurse Mrs. Hess, and social worker, Mrs. Hughes. Responsibilities, discipline and dress code are a few of the topics covered by our staff.

Our eighth grade graduates

are given an opportunity to prepare for Manchester High School by writing a reflective piece regarding their future goals and upon high school graduation, their writing piece will be returned to them. This is a wonderful opportunity for Lakehurst students to set goals and prepare for the future.



A SEASON OF CHANGE

Just as the leaves change in Autumn, you will see significant changes in school programs when we return in September as a result of the reductions in state and federal aid funding. These will include elimination of the Autism Program, P.A.L.S. Summer Program, Volleyball, and Intramurals. Chorus and instrumental music instruction (grades 5-8) will be offered as extra-curricular activities and delivery of the classroom music curriculum will change. There will also be an increase in class size in some grade levels.

Be assured that the district will continue to provide the students of Lakehurst Elementary School with an excellent education in a safe, nurturing environment. Just as you know new growth will be seen every year as Spring arrives, you will continue to see our students thrive and grow in knowledge.



“Don’t be pushed by your problems ... Be led by your dreams.”



FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT’S PEN.....

Summer is upon us! Can you believe it? Was it really that long ago that you and your children were shopping for school clothes and supplies? I can certainly say that my first year here has passed by quickly and I am proud to be a part of this caring school community. The year has been a busy and productive one for all of us at Lakehurst Elementary School.

It is a reflection of the excellence of a school when one can see children who are happy to be there every day. This is what I have observed throughout the school this year. It is due to the creativity

of our dedicated teachers, the contributions of our support staff, the efforts of our PTA members, and the ongoing support of our board members, parents, and the community. These stakeholders provide the key elements needed to ignite the curiosity and imagination of our children and instill in them a desire for knowledge. The result is a school environment where learning is exciting for children and children are excited to learn.

So here come “those lazy, hazy days of summer” although they really are not lazy at all. There are still schedules and responsibilities that

keep us on the go. However, it is important to set aside some leisure time because everyone has worked hard to make this year another successful one for the students of Lakehurst Elementary School. I hope that summer vacation holds only pleasant experiences for you and your family.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Mrs. Theresa Hamilton

DEVELOPING A SUMMER LISTENING PROGRAM STRENGTHENS LANGUAGE ARTS LITERACY

Summer reading is as much a seasonal pastime as baseball and fireworks. Many parents put together a selection of books that are meaningful, educational, and engaging — books to nourish and stimulate young minds during these few freewheeling months. Parents should consider assembling a summer listening list, too. When we

think of literacy, we tend to think first of reading and writing. That’s because for centuries, printed text has been the dominant means of recording and sharing information. Yet for most children, listening is really the first entry point into language — the cornerstone of learning and of cognitive development. In an age when kids are regular users of per-

sonal multimedia technologies, the importance of learning to listen and listening to learn is as great as ever.

Research has shown that combining reading and listening through the use of audio books or text-to-text speech programs improves literacy. For more information, refer to: www.readingrockets.org

WHO’S THAT LADY?

Have you been wondering who is doing our beautiful bulletin board in the center hallway of our school? Each month, Brenda Mihalko, a Lakehurst parent and a freelance graphic artist can be found tediously creating a masterpiece for all of our school community. On one occasion every student and teacher’s face in our school was placed on the bulletin board. Another time, many bows were placed on the

board for students, parents, and staff members to share random acts of kindness. It was a wonderful way to build a sense of family.

Recently, I interviewed Mrs. Mihalko who also worked as an art director for a national women’s publication.

When asked “why” she volunteers so much of her time to Lakehurst Elementary School, she responded, “It’s a cool way to keep kids thinking in-

teractively about school.” As a military family, Brenda, her husband, Mark, and their three children transferred here from Virginia Beach. Her husband is very supportive of her craft and talent. Mr. Mihalko smiles, “Our dining room is her studio!” We will keep you posted as Mrs. Mihalko places postcards on June’s bulletin board for our students to use over the summer. Check it out!

REDISCOVER YOUR DREAMS AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY...

A wonderful way to begin the summer is visiting the public library or a local book store. Personally, it has been one of the most fun activities for my family. We enjoy getting together and visiting the library.

Reading books, magazines, and newspapers is an opportunity for students and their families to discover their dreams and interests together. In order to meet the interest of every family member, the book store or library provides a variety of activities such as music and technology, and covers every and any sub-

ject area. Students are able to learn more about the world around them just by reading a book.

The library supports students by providing educational and cultural enrichment. Libraries and book stores also offer valuable information regarding current events, and provide many programs for free or at a minimal cost. This is an advantage to many families who are working within a specific budget in today's economy. The top 9 reasons I enjoy visiting the local library:

1. Free programs and activities
2. Story times

3. Workshops
4. Books
5. Audio Books
6. Movies
7. Music
8. Magazines and newspapers
9. Computers

Libraries are also working to get more of their own resources online. Your local library may have its own website with links to other resources within your community. If you are looking for the internet or the street address of your local public library, go to "www.ilovlibraries.org/findyourlibrary"



*"Obstacles are
the things we
see when we
take our eyes off
our goals."*

- Zig Ziglar

READING DRIVES STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS THE NATION

Did you know there is research to support the fact that the time a child spends reading is the best predictor of achievement? Here are a few helpful hints.

- Have your child see you read whenever possible.
- Read to your child each day. 10 minutes a day

can have a big impact.

- Make reading a privilege. "You can stay up 15 more minutes to finish that story!"
- Encourage your child to read items like cookbooks, commercial signs while traveling, and instruction guides.
- Give books as gifts.
- Create a special date for the

family at the local bookstore or library!

- Start a book club in your neighborhood.
- Swap your favorite book with a friend.

Check out this website for more ideas:

www.readingrockets.org

Happy reading!

150 YEARS? THIS CALLS FOR A PARADE! SCHOOL-WIDE CLAP OUT FOR LAKEHURST RETIREES.....

The sun wasn't the only thing shining on Monday, June 21st. The excitement gradually filled the air as the entire student body, administration, and board members of Lakehurst Elementary School formed a student-to-student pathway on the school playground. Several Lakehurst teachers and one member of our custodial staff is retiring this year.

Our LEA President and

fourth grade teacher, Kim Lambusta, along with the school community, spear-headed this festive celebration. The retirees are as follows: custodian, Bob Sawyer, and teachers, Virginia Ferrara, Henry Graham, Barbara Farr, Kathy Thomas, and Richard Mackiewicz.

Marching band music filtered through the loud speaker system as teachers and students clapped and cheered for all of the retirees. It was a thrill

to see the enthusiastic crowd. The retirees glowed as each one was handed a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

"Together they represent over 150 years of experience in the school system," Interim Superintendent Theresa Hamilton told the crowd. "We will all miss them around here, but we wish them health and happiness in their retirement, which is their new career!"



LAKEHURST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
301 UNION AVENUE
LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY 08773

Phone: 732-657-5741
Fax: 732-408-0681
Email: www.lakehurstschool.org

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kevin Oliver, *President*
Joann Septor, *Vice-President*
April Chillemi, *Board Member*
Joseph Leo, *Board Member*
Allison Werner, *Board Member*

CATCH THE PRIDE!



“Man’s mind stretched
to a new idea never goes
back to its original
dimensions.”

- Oliver Wendell Holmes

Wishing you a safe and fun-filled summer!

From:

The Board of Education

The Administration

and The Entire Staff of

LAKEHURST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SUMMER FUN BEGINS WITH STARTING YOUR OWN BOOK CLUB!

Starting your own book club can seem like an overwhelming undertaking, but there are a few simple considerations and steps to follow. Before you decide to start a book club, make sure that your child wants to participate. If your child is not really interested and willing, the book club may be a disappointment for you both.

The next decision you will need to make is who will participate in your book club. Ideally, all children involved in your group will be at a similar reading level. So you may want to target a particular age range for your group, such as second and third graders. Remember that younger children or weaker readers can participate in book clubs by having parents read books aloud to them or by listening to books on tape. In addition, you will need to consider whether you would like to

have mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, or simply parents and children. It is important to consider how many participants are ideal for your book club. You may simply want to invite your child’s friends and their parents by sending an invitation via telephone, mail, or e-mail. You can also post a flyer at your local library or children’s book store.

You must also decide on a meeting location. Meetings can be held in participants’ homes on a rotating basis, in a local library, local book stores, or at local coffee shops or restaurants. The size of your group may help you identify the ideal location for your meetings. Once you have found some children and parents who are interested in participating in the book club, hold an organizational meeting to orient participants to the club. The or-

ganizational meeting is a time for group members to get to know one another, to establish some ground rules for the group, to decide on a meeting schedule, and to decide on the first book the group will read. Ask group members to bring some of their favorite books to the organizational meeting and come prepared to provide a summary of each book.

For more information on starting a book club, refer to:
www.readingrockets.org