

From the Principal's Desk

High School Course Registration

Reminder to our 8th grade families:

Southwest, Washburn and South High Schools in addition to evening registration events will be visiting our 8th graders here at Lake Harriet Upper sometime the week of April 23. In an effort to provide a smooth transition to high school, representatives from the above mentioned schools will meet with our 8th graders to discuss high school graduation requirements, appropriate academic planning for educational goals and course options and course request procedures.

The following evening registration events have also been planned to involve the parents in the process. If you are attending one of the above mentioned schools you should have received something in the U.S. Mail with the details.

Southwest = Tuesday May 1st (last name alpha A-K) and Thursday May 3 (last name alpha L-Z) at 6:30 p.m. in the SW auditorium

Washburn = Thursday, April 19th - last names A-K at 6:30 p.m. and last names L-Z at 7:15 p.m. Enter doors 3 (49th Street) or 10 (50th Street), program in the auditorium.

South = Thursday April 19th at 6:00 p.m. in the SH auditorium

Sincerely,
Merry Tilleson, A.P.

Testing Time

Parents of 3-8th graders: It's testing time again. Our spring testing schedule is in full swing and began right after spring break.

Our online MCA Math (3rd – 8th) testing and our online MCA Science (5th and 8th only) testing will take place between April 9 and May 18. All of our 3rd – 8th graders will take the MCA paper and pencil reading test on April 17 and 18. Again like in the fall and winter we will be doing spring online MAP testing and this will take place between May 8 and May 31.

About MCA

The MCA is the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment that is given each spring. This is the test that helps the district measure student progress toward Minnesota's academic standards. State tests are given to students in a district once a year, based on their grade level and subject area. The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) is given in math, reading and science.

The MAP is the Measure of Academic Progress test that our school gave the students three times (fall, winter and spring) this school year. It is a computerized adaptive test in reading and math that reflects the instructional level of each individual student. It measure growth over time in addition to performance. Many parents/guardians have asked how they can help their child prepare for these tests. The best advice I can give is to make sure your child gets a good night's sleep before each test, have your child eat a

healthy breakfast on the day of each test, remind your child to dress comfortably on the day of the test and most importantly get your child to school on time the day of the test.

Check in with your child's classroom/homeroom teacher to find out the exact date of each of the above tests that your child will be taking. Make sure you let your Childs classroom/homeroom teacher know if your child will be gone during their scheduled testing time so that the test can be rescheduled for your child.

Remember that testing is used in schools to measure student achievement. Thank you all for your continued support of Lake Harriet and your child's academic success.

Sincerely,
Merry Tilleson, A

Classroom Placement Form Due this Friday, April 20

Families submitting a form for child's classroom placement for 2012-13 need do so by Friday April 20. Please remember, this form is not a request for a teacher. It is to inform us about your child's learning style and also to list some of their friends so we can try to have one friend in their classroom. Forms are now available on the school website at

http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Student_Placement_Forms.html

DRAGONFEST CARNIVAL IS COMING IN LESS THAN 2 WEEKS!

(Deep breaths. You can do it. This is the stuff childhood memories are made of!)

Haven't volunteered for your shift at the Carnival yet? It's easy! **Go here**

(http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/2012_Carnival_Volunteers.html) to do so and/or to sign up as Cake & Junk Food Walk donors.

A heartfelt SHOUT OUT to all the amazing small business owners, managers, and workers of Fulton & Linden Hills Neighborhoods, especially our 26 sponsors and all the silent auction donors! Seriously. What a vibrant, eclectic, hard-working, earnest, customer service-focused bunch of entrepreneurs around here.

A few special sponsor notes:

New sponsor **Perspectives Vision Clinic** (50th & Xerxes) and return sponsor **Calhoun Cycle** deserve huge pats on the back for stepping up last minute as two of our top sponsors. We are grateful for even more new surprise sponsors: **South Lake Pediatrics, Michael's Construction Services, Jim Fisher & Ellen Beecher (Coldwell Banker Burnet) Boger Dental, and Encore Music!** Thanks to **Hockeyfinder** for helping us cook up some games for a "Sports Court" out on the blacktop. Keep your fingers crossed for great weather!

Find all this year's sponsors listed on the wesite

http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/thank_you_dragonfest_carnival_sponsors.html

PARTIES GALORE UPDATES

Presenting a new Party...

Summer Afternoon at Tilia - Saturday, June 2nd 3-5pm - Join your friends for a drink and appetizers at Tilia Restaurant on the new outdoor patio. Tilia is one of the hottest restaurants in town and, as part of your ticket, you will also have the rare opportunity to make dinner reservations for Saturday evening. Kids are invited for dinner only. Go to the website for further details.

Parties this month in April...

This Week! 1st Grade Parent BBQ - Pig Out for the PTA - Saturday, April 21st 7-10pm **SOLD OUT**

Kindergarten Art Party at Simply Jane Studio - Saturday, April 28th 6-8pm TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

Buy your tickets today!

Visit our Parties Galore Website to learn more about parties and purchase tickets.
http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Parties_Galore.html

Student Essay Contest

This year the Upper Campus is holding an essay contest for grades 3-8. If it goes well this may become an annual event. Join us this year by writing an essay on:

How gratitude influences our lives?

Deadline: All entries must be received no later than **May 11**. Please email your entry to julie.hirsch@mpls.k12.mn.us or place it in her mailbox in the main office by May 11. The PBIS Committee and the Literacy Coach will review all entries. Two people will review each essay to determine an average score using the rubric shown on the back of this document. Please click on the link for more detailed contest information.

Call for Yearbook Photos

We've received no, or very few photos from the following classrooms. Please help out and send some by April 26. Sisler - AM & PM; Carlson PM; Marchetti; Shuff; Cologna; Weidenback; Beckman; Pier; Krawetz; Streit; Weiher; Tousignant; Meyer; Thompson; Sparks; Matsumoto; Wood; Riley; Wings, and Boys and Girls Sports. If you provide photos, please make sure they are the highest possible resolution and include the grade and class. Photos can be emailed to lhcsyearbook@gmail.com or preferably burned to a CD and left in the yearbook mailbox at the upper campus. All photos must be received by Thursday April 26th. Thank you!

Community News

Summer Registration for Park Programs Now Open

Summer Registration is open for all park programs at Linden Hills and Pershing Park beginning 9 am on SAT April 14- visit minneapolisparcs.org for more info Some spots remain for T-ball, Pitching Machine baseball (register at Linden Hills), Softball and Baseball (3rd grade and older) and Track (Register at Pershing). Space is based on availability, call parks with any questions. Summer Rec+ Childcare! Do you need care for your child this summer? Do they like sports, beach excursions weekly, swim lessons, awesome field trips and tons of other fun stuff? For much more info- click here. Don't wait- spots are going quick! Coaches needed! Would you or someone you know make a great Coach? There are many openings available Please contact your local park if you can help. Teenagers also eligible, no drivers license necessary. Pershing [612 370 4928](tel:6123704928) pershing@minneapolisparcs.org Linden Hills [612 370 4913](tel:6123704913) lindenhill@minneapolisparcs.org

Running Club

The Community Education Lake Harriet Running Club is back and ANYONE (students, parents, or staff) can still sign up to participate. There are already about 70 runners at the Lower Campus and over a dozen runners at the Upper campus who are training on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 4-5. Our goal is to have the most runners at the Get in Gear 2K School Team Race on Saturday April 28th as possible. By the way, ANYONE can run/walk with our our school team at the Get in Gear, whether you train with us or not! If you'd like to participate in a fun fitness event (and earn a medal and a T-shirt), go to the following website to sign up for the Lake Harriet School team:https://secure.getmeregistered.com/get_information.php?event_id=5531 (Note: If you are signing up someone under 18 years of age, put the parent's age down instead of the child's age and then it will work.) To practice with the Running Club now, please see your child's teacher or find some extra sign-up sheets in the school office at Upper or Lower. That's all for now, as I gotta run:) Coach D.

Sleepy Tigers Mandarin Club Summer Camp

Sleepy Tigers Mandarin Club Summer Camp July 30th--Aug 10th, Monday thru Friday, 9:30am-11:30am
Chinese Cities & Traditions/Festivals Join us to "visit" Chinese cities, "taste" the food, learn traditions,
culture, art and more! Details please visit www.sleepytigers.com. Registration ends on May 4th, 2012

2011-2012 Connection Contacts:

Mary Anne Welch Lavin: maryanne.lavin@gmail.com
Gwen Spurgat: gwen.spurgat@objectpartners.com

Published every Tuesday. Deadline for submission is 4pm the preceding Thursday.

Submissions: email to maryanne.lavin@gmail.com or use the online submission form at:

<http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/connection1.html>.

Please try to limit each submission to approximately 150 words in length.