

# Lockhart Link

## NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Lockhart Elementary Year Round! These first days of our school opening have not only been exciting, they have been incredibly smooth! A heartfelt thank you goes to our students, parents, and staff for the positive transition back to school after the short break for Tracks 1, 2, and 3. We would like to thank our families that joined us for our Tracks 1-3 Pizza Dinner and Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night on July 9<sup>th</sup>. We would also like to thank our PTA for sponsoring the dinner. Our school family has certainly pulled together to make our opening successful.

We look forward to the return of Track 4 students and would like to extend an invitation to our Track 4 families to join us for a Pizza Dinner and Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night on July 30<sup>th</sup> for Track 4.

Whether your child is returning to Lockhart, or is just joining our school for the first time, we welcome you to the Lockhart family. At Lockhart, our goal is that each of our students experience success. Our staff believes that every child can learn and be successful. As a school, we will offer your children – our children – the support, care, confidence, discipline, and classroom instruction necessary to foster success. We invite you, as parents, to work with us. Together we can make a difference for your child.

How can you have a positive effect on your child here at school? Here are some suggestions to consider:

\*Come to school. Meet with your child's teachers. You are welcome. Your support will help your child learn.

\*Become familiar with school rules and classroom expectations. We have very high expectations for both your child's discipline and classroom performance. Help support these expectations at home.

\*Help your child see that school attendance and his/her best effort daily is desirable and important. These are necessary ingredients for success.

\*Ask your child what happens each day in school. This shows you value their day and think school events are important. If your child says "not much or nothing," don't give up. Ask questions about specific activities during their day.

\*Get involved. Review the Monday Folder each week. Review your child's planner daily. Attend parent conferences.

\*Volunteer. Join the PTA.

Parents are important partners in their child's education. Work closely with us. Support what's being learned and done here at school. Be sure that your child knows that you think school is important.

Together, schools and families can help children succeed. Students, parents, and the school – we're all in this together. Let's work as a team to make this the best year possible for your child!

## IMPORTANT CHANGES TO NOTE FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

- **BELL SCHEDULE CHANGE:** Our opening bell rings at 8:00 a.m. The instructional school day begins at 8:20 a.m. After 8:20, students are considered tardy. Please plan for your child to arrive at school prior to 8:20 each morning.
- **EARLY DISMISSAL EACH WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON:** Recently, the Wake County Board of Education approved a school schedule for the 2009-2010 school year that allows for more collaboration and Professional Learning Community/Team (PLC/T) sessions.
  - Every Wednesday, all Wake County Schools will release one hour early to allow for PLC/T meetings. This means that Lockhart will dismiss school at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.
  - Early-release days are also scheduled for 2009-2010. All Wake County schools will dismiss 2.5 hours early on early release days. These early release days will now occur

on Wednesdays. On EARLY RELEASE DAYS, Lockhart will dismiss students at 12:30 p.m. Our Early Release Wednesdays are: July 22, 2009, August 12, 2009, September 2, 2009, October 21, 2009, December 2, 2009, February 17, 2010, March 10, 2010, and April 21, 2010.

## MEDIA

The Library Media Center has changed its schedule and now offers Open Circulation to students in grades 2-5 at an earlier time, 7:55 to 8:20 am. Before students come into the library, they must visit their homeroom to get a pass.

Classes in grades K-3 will visit the media center for checkout and a lesson on a weekly fixed schedule. Fourth graders will have a short checkout time each week and a research lesson added on a couple of times each quarter. Fifth graders visit the library for an extended checkout every other week with a research lesson added on a couple of times each quarter.

If your child's media day is for example, Wednesday, then on Tuesday evening, ask them if they have remembered to get their books ready for turning in so they can get new books. Kindergarten and First graders start the year with checking out just one book. Second and Third graders check out two and move up to three later in the year. Fourth and Fifth graders can check out three books.

The thermostat in the Media Center is not locally controlled and the large room can feel very chilly to the

younger students. Please remind them to bring a sweater on their Media day even though it is summer outside.

Take time to look at the library books your child is selecting and read with them if you have time. If students lose or damage books, we do not charge late fines, but we do not let them check out more books until replacement costs are paid by exact cash or check.

Lockhart Elementary has a great website and you can look under "Media Center" to locate our catalog of titles and our list of Accelerated Reader quizzes. Go to: [lockhartes.wcpss.net](http://lockhartes.wcpss.net)

Please call Ms. Peeples, the Media Specialist, if you have questions or would like to help out in the Library. Phone 266-8529, or email: [mpeeples@wcpss.net](mailto:mpeeples@wcpss.net)



## PBS NEWS

Lockhart is a PBS (Positive Behavior Support) school. The PBS program impacts the learning environment by supporting high student performance and reducing behavioral problems. Lockhart Lions "ROAR" by demonstrating:

- Respect
- Order and Safety

Awesome Attitudes, and Responsibility

Parents can support their child and the PBS program at Lockhart by helping us fund our reinforcement system for individual students and classrooms in one of three ways:

1. Send in empty Capri Sun (or similar brand) drink pouches to be recycled; our school will earn two cents per pouch.
2. Link your Food Lion MVP card to Lockhart Elementary PTA by filling out an application form available in the school office or by going to [www.foodlion.com](http://www.foodlion.com). Food Lion will make a donation to our PTA each quarter.
3. Go to [donorchoose.org](http://donorchoose.org) and type in we can roar in the search projects tab. This is an online charity which connects directly to Lockhart and to PBS program. Parents may donate any amount to assist in the purchase of "Paw" medals for students demonstrating the ROAR behavioral expectations.

## AG

Parents/Guardians of fourth or fifth grade AG students are invited to attend an informational session on the Academically Gifted Program at Lockhart for the 2009-2010 academic year. A general overview of the program will be presented. The Differentiated Education Plans and the Differentiated Course Plans will be distributed, reviewed and discussed at this meeting. Two meeting times will be offered for your convenience. Please choose one to attend.

Meeting dates and times:

**July 30, 2009 (5:15 p.m.-5:45 p.m.)**

**September 17, 2009 (6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.)**

The meetings will be held in Mobile Unit 706. Please e-mail Mrs. Behrendt our AG Resource Teacher at [tbehrendt@wcpss.net](mailto:tbehrendt@wcpss.net) if you have any questions.

## RECYCLE

### **Recycle Inkjet – Reduce Pollution – Raise Funds for PBS**

Most of us have inkjet printers at home or work. The next time you have an empty cartridge, don't throw it away. Just put it in a plastic bag or the original cartridge box and bring it to school. We have a special recycle box in the main office. The funds we raise will help fund our Positive Behavior Support (PBS) program. Inkjet cartridges thrown in our landfills do not decompose for 1,000 years.

## KINDERGARTEN

We are off to a fantastic start of our Kindergarten year. During the first month of Kindergarten, the children will be working together with their teachers to learn classroom routines as well as beginning academics. We will begin working on letter and sound recognition as well as working on our print concepts. During this time it is very important that you read to your child each day making sure your child can identify the parts of the book such as the front and back, as well as the title. You can spend time looking for familiar letters or words in the books you read as well. In math we will begin working on learning to recognize and create simple patterns. We will use manipulatives such as colored unifix cubes to give the children a hands-on experience with pattern making.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year with you and your child. Please e-mail your child's teacher with any questions and look for updates in your child's folder.

## FIRST GRADE

Welcome to first grade. We are very excited to see some familiar and some new faces on the hall.

We are looking forward to a great year. We will be learning how to read and write stories with lots of details. Please make sure that you check your child's homework every night. Homework is an extension of what we do in the classroom and gives you a chance to experience what your child is doing in the classroom.

We will soon be sending reading books home as part of their homework. It is very important that you read with your child for at least 15 minutes every night.

With your cooperation and support we are all looking forward to a great year in first grade!!

## SECOND GRADE

Welcome to second grade! This year will be a year full of learning and growth for our students. To help ensure they are given the best possible experience in school, there are a few things which you can help with at home.

Go over your child's class rules and discuss them with your child. This will let him/her know you support his/her teacher's rules and expectations.

Send a small, healthy snack each day with your child. Each second grade class has a snack break to

help hold the students over until lunch.

Have a special routine for doing homework. Designate a special place and/or time for working on homework. If your child has difficulty completing his homework all at once, breaking down the assignments and taking mini breaks may help.

Ask your child how his or her day went at school and be specific (what are you learning in math, what did you work on in reading today). They are anxious to share what they've learned and even more pleased that you are interested!

Finally, keep the lines of communication open with your child's teacher. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. We're here to make this year as successful as possible for your child. But we need your support to do so.

Together we can ensure the success of each and every student!



### THIRD GRADE

What a super beginning! By now all students should be well stocked with all necessary binders, paper, pencils, zip pouches and notebooks. Teachers can always use tissues, paper towels, baggies and hand sanitizer. In an effort to establish good study habits and routines, please check your child's homework planner each night and sign after seeing that assignments are complete. Remember the planner may have notes and reminders concerning behavior, assignments, special classes and track information.

Thank you to all who came out to tracks 1-3 Meet the Teacher/ Curriculum Night. We will have the presentation added to the Lockhart website on the third grade page. Track 4's Meet the Teacher night will be July 30<sup>th</sup>. Reminder: Have your child keep a rain poncho in their book bags for bad weather. Please no umbrellas due to safety concerns.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing each of you at conference time.

### FOURTH GRADE

#### **WELCOME BACK!**

Please make sure your child has all the necessary school supplies. Students should get their agendas signed nightly. Monday folders go home each Monday. Please review all papers and sign the log sheet and return the folder the next day.

ROAR kickoff week starts July 13<sup>th</sup>! We will review what ROAR means and add ROAR to the cafeteria, playground, and, bathroom. Our ROAR week will conclude with a ROAR assembly on Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to all the parents who came out for Curriculum Night on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

### FIFTH GRADE

The fifth grade 2009-2010 school year has had a smooth start. We are excited to have the opportunity to assist your child in having a successful year. Your support is needed to monitor homework/conduct; sign logs and planner nightly; and sign Monday work folders. Setting up a conference with your child's teacher is always important to set and achieve common goals for the year.

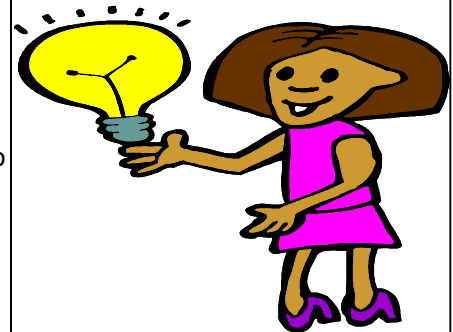
#### Fall Conference Dates

**(4:00-7:00)**

Track 1: August 27, 2009

Tracks 2, 3, and 4: September 17, 2009

Sign up times are made with each teacher. Contact your child's teacher for other mutually convenient days and times.



### IMPORTANT DATES

- **July 22 -Early Release at 12:30 p.m. All Early Release Dates are on front page of Link.**
- **July 30 – Teacher/Curriculum /Pizza Dinner Night for Track 4**
- **July 30 – AG Meeting – Mobile 706 (5:15-5:45)**
- **August 12 – Early Release at 12:30 p.m.**
- **August 27 – Conference Night for Track 1 (4:00-7:00)**