

LINDEN HILL HAPPENINGS

Deborah M. Brady, Principal

Principal's Message

We are off to a wonderful start to the 2011-2012 year at Linden Hill! It seems hard to believe that so much time has passed since that first day when we gathered as a community in the multipurpose room and pledged to act in a "safe and friendly way" and to do our best throughout the year.

The children have settled comfortably into the school routine. We thank you for participating in our Welcome Back Social and for all of your support in making the start of school such a pleasant one.

Latest Enrollment/Staffing Information, etc.

We have continued to grow...At present we have an enrollment of 824 students and an instructional staff of 49. In addition to our 35 classroom teachers, Related Arts staff and interventionists, we are fortunate to have the services of a full time nurse and counselor. At the present, we have 6 kindergartens, 6- 1st, 6- 2nd, 6- 3rd, 6- 4th, and 5- 5th grade classes.

We have added a new technology lab as well as 6 new classrooms which house two 2nd grades, two 3rd grades and two 4th grades.

Back to School Open House

Thank you to all who were able to attend our Open House on Sept. 22. We hope that you found the information shared helpful and that you had the opportunity to explore your child's learning environment. You may continue to access information relative to your child's school experience through our school website <http://tunaruna.com/LindenEvents/>

Upcoming...

Parent Volunteer Training

If you would like to volunteer in the classroom and work with children, we ask that you participate in our Parent Volunteer Training class. This class will be offered twice - October 4 at 6:00pm and October 5 at 9:30 am. Look for additional information via teacher's newsletters regarding this training.

A Few Reminders...

Our school day begins at 8:50. If you are transporting your child via car, please keep them with you in your vehicle until staff arrives. Also, if you arrive and the front doors are closed, you will need to come in with your child to get a late slip.

Thanks to all who are abiding by the terms of the **car rider line** agreement. It is very important to keep your green sign visible as you navigate the car line. If staff does not see your sign, they will ask you to park and walk to drop off or retrieve your child. Also, **if you choose to use the car line**, please enter only on Loudon Road and turn right onto New Kent, keep driveways clear and do not pull vehicles onto lawn areas, travel at a safe speed and do not cut through the neighborhood side streets. No one should be parking on upper New Kent Road as this impedes the flow of traffic for the car line as well as for our neighbors as they enter and exit their neighborhood. We surely want to be respectful of our neighbors who share their neighborhood with us during our entry and dismissal.

Please know that the **shuttle bus option** is still available to those car rider families eligible for bus transportation. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please call the office at 454-3406.

Vacations... at Linden Hill, we are very protective of instructional time. We try to minimize interruptions to classes as well as start and end the school day on time. In an effort to provide your child with the optimal opportunity to be successful, it is critical that s/he comes to school every day. We ask families to schedule vacations during our vacation windows or during the summer break. You may access information regarding the times when school is not in session on our website, the district website, and/or through the calendars that have been sent home. We ask that you consult these resources when planning trips, appointments, etc. Should a vacation be unavoidable, please know that any school assignments will need to be made up upon your child's return to school and will not be sent home in advance. In addition, should you need to pick your child up early, please send in a note and plan to pick your child up by 2:45.

We thank you in advance for your assistance with these requests.

Additionally:

*Please make sure you write a note every time you would like to request a change in your child's transportation

*Please access the carline to drop off and pick up students off of Skyline Drive by Linden Green turning left onto Loudon and then right onto New Kent

*Please have children ready to exit the cars in the am when you pull into the circle

*Please review the school calendar for important dates throughout the school year

*Please take time to review the Code of Conduct with your child

*Please take time to read to your child and ask him/her to talk to you about what s/he learned in school each day

In conclusion, thank you, once again, for your support, cooperation and partnership in starting the 2011-2012 school year. We look forward to working with you and your children and to an outstanding school year.

Educationally Speaking,

Deborah M. Brady, Principal
Nathan Palkovitz, Assistant Principal

Contact Information:

Deborah Brady, Principal 454-3406
Nathan Palkovitz, Assistant Principal 454-3406
Red Clay Transportation 322-0251

2010-2011 PTA Officers

Jackie Schaus, Co-President 892-9639
Kim Fetrow, Co-President 994-3211
Grace Logemann, Vice President 235-2033
Melanie Kenney, Vice President 234-2927
Laura Beth Taylor, Vice President 234-7828
Renee Paoli, Treasurer 995-0808
Shannon Marroni, Secretary 737-4608

Dates to Remember:

Oct 4 (Tues) Picture Day
Oct 4 (Tues) Parent Volunteer Training -6PM
Oct 5 (Wed) Parent Volunteer Training-9:30
Oct 6 (Thurs) WALKATHON
Oct 6 (Thurs) PTA Meeting – 7PM
Oct 7 (Fri) NO SCHOOL
Oct 13 (Thurs) Early Dismissal – 1PM
Oct 14 (Fri) Early Dismissal – 1PM
Oct 19 (Wed) School Board Meeting – 7PM
Nov 3 (Thurs) PTA Meeting – 7PM
Nov 4 (Fri) Pride Day
Nov 4 (Fri) 5th Grade Dance
Nov 11 (Fri) NO SCHOOL – Veterans Day

Linden Hill Happenings is a monthly publication of the Linden Hill Elementary School Parent Teacher Association. Editor: Claire Jose; LHE Webmaster: Yanaka Bernal; PTA Webmaster: Silvana Pineda.

Reminder.....Reminder....Reminder

NO SCHOOL!

Friday, October 7th – Teacher In-Service Day

EARLY DISMISSAL!

Thursday, October 13th – 1PM – Conferences

Friday, October 14th – 1PM - Conferences

2011-12 PTA Meeting Dates:

We generally meet on the first Thursday of each month – the exceptions are noted below with an asterisk. The meetings take place at 7pm in the Linden Hill library – and usually last no longer than 1 to 1 ½ hours. Hope to see you there!

October 6, 2011
December 1, 2011
February 2, 2012
April 19, 2012*

November 3, 2011
January 5, 2012
March 1, 2012
May 17, 2012*

Visitors and Volunteers:

For safety and security reasons, please sign in at the office before going to a classroom, library, lunch room, etc. Our School Safety Plan requires that we know of EVERY person on our campus, no matter how frequently they visit. In case of any emergency, we need to account for everyone's whereabouts.

All visitors and volunteers are asked to sign in on the computer in the office and to obtain and wear a visitor's pass. Anyone in the building without a pass will be asked to return to the office or leave the building. Thanks for your cooperation!



Guest Speakers

If you have any ideas for a specific guest speaker or a topic you would like to see addressed at a PTA meeting, please let us know. Contact Jackie Schaus at jschaus4@comcast.net Your input is always valued!

Red Clay Consolidated School District Choice Open House Dates for Middle School:

- A. I. Middle School –
Monday, November 7th (6-8pm)
- Brandywine Springs School –
Monday, December 5th (6-8pm)
- Cab Calloway –
Tuesday, November 29th (6-8pm)
- Conrad –
Monday, November 14th (6-8pm) &
Tuesday November 15th (6-8pm)
- H. B. Middle School –
Wednesday, December 7th (6-8pm)
- Skyline Middle School –
Tuesday, December 6th (6-8pm)
- Stanton Middle School –
Thursday, December 15th (6-8pm)

Volunteer training is required if you wish to volunteer in a classroom(s) working with our students – this also includes **helpers in the art room, music room, library and nurse's office. Home Room parents** are also asked to take the class. If you have attended the class in the past you will just need to sign a form stating when you attended. Sign-up forms will be coming home soon! *(To help clarify – the following volunteer opportunities would NOT require attending this class – field trip chaperones, volunteers for book fair, school store, picture day, carnival, walkathon, class party helpers to name a few.)*

Training Date:

Tuesday, October 4th at 6:00PM in the cafeteria

Wednesday, October 5th at 9:30AM in the cafeteria

From the President's Pen



It is October, which means it is time for our 9th annual **Linden Hill Walk-a-thon!** This exciting day promotes school spirit, physical fitness and plain old FUN! It is also our main fundraiser for the school year. Here at Linden Hill, the PTA organizes and finances many events that enrich the education of our children. These include assemblies, a field day, and a school store and post office. We also provide funding for expenses that would otherwise come from the administration's educational budget, such as student planners, staff support, and playground maintenance. None of this would be possible without your financial support. We hope that you will be able to make a donation to the walk-a-thon. If everyone participates, we can reach our goal of \$16,000!

The children love participating in the walk-a-thon. Our favorite dj, J.R. Fleetwood, provides entertainment, and each class gets a chance in the spotlight. There are freeze pops and plenty of water, and everyone goes home with a fun prize. This year the children will be "Walking on Sunshine"! Please contact Barb Creswell at blcreswell@comcast.net if you would like to volunteer. Find out when your child will be walking by checking in with his or her teacher, and stop by to watch if you can!

Please continue to attend PTA meetings and be sure to read Linden Hill Happenings each month to keep up with all the things we have planned for the students and families. Thanks for your support! It's going to be a great year!

Jackie Schaus and Kim Fetrow, Co-Presidents

SMILE AND SAY CHEESE!

Everyone get your big smile ready because picture day is **October 4**. Photo flyers and information packets will be sent home soon that will describe available photo purchase options. Individual student and class photos will be taken with a make-up day November 15.



SMILE!

Special Thanks To...

- To all who came out to our first PTA meeting of the School year! We had a terrific turnout and hope you will continue to join us each month. PTA Meetings are a great way to meet new people and find out what the PTA has going on for the school and the children as well as get school updates from the Administration.
- Shannon Marroni, Kim Fetrow and all the volunteers who assisted with PTA Membership and Spirit Wear at Open House.
- Kristin Armstrong, Karen Brakeley, Marissa Livatidis, Amy Malick, and Angie Melasecca for organizing a delicious breakfast for the Linden Hill staff after Open House. Thank you to all of the families who donated food and drinks to make this a success!
- Sheri Aukamp and Holly McReynolds and all the teachers and staff who made McPrincipal's Night such a fun evening!
- Silvana Pineda for her continuous efforts to keep our PTA website updated and looking terrific! Check it out at www.lindenhillpta.org
- And a shout out to all the former and current Linden Hill students who helped to scoop ice cream at the Welcome Social and to those who helped with planner distribution in August! We are always so proud of our LH Lions!

5th Grade Dance!

Friday, **November 4, 2011**

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Linden Hill Multi-Purpose Room

Cost: \$3.00 per student

Music – Food – Games

Look for permission slips coming home soon!

Thank you!

5th Grade Activities Committee

Product Incentives

Please continue to support our product incentives program by sending in you General Mill's boxtops, Campbell's labels, Zingo's receipts, and by participating in Target "Take Charge for Education" program. We hope you will also consider participating in the "My Coke Rewards" program. A collection bag for box tops, labels and receipts has been sent home. Don't forget to put your child's name, teacher and room # if you would like the Ziploc bag back. Donations can be sent in with your child or dropped off at the office. Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions, please contact **Shannon Marroni**, smarroni@msn.com



Staff appreciation

We kicked off the school year with a wonderful staff breakfast the morning following the Open House. Thank you to the many PTA families that contributed to making it such a success! On October 19th we will be having a Halloween Luncheon hosted by the 2nd grade families. If you have a second grader, please be on the lookout in your "in-box" for details and donation information.



In an effort to "go-green" the Staff Appreciation Committee is working on sending all communication with our families

via email. For those that do not use e-mail we will do our best to see to it that you receive a paper copy. Please bear with us as we make this transition!

Anyone interested in helping with the staff luncheons please email Kristin Armstrong at kkarmstrong2@verizon.net

The Staff Appreciation Committee:

Angie Melasecca, Karen Brakeley and Kristin Armstrong

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• *Don't forget Target's "Take Charge for Education" incentive program! This program offers our school a percentage of Target credit card sales when you designate Linden Hill as a recipient.*
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School Beautification



Thanks to the efforts of this committee and McDonald Landscaping, the front of the school as well as the entrance sign look beautiful! We hope everyone appreciates the beauty as much as we do! Please consider using McDonald Landscaping for your future needs they really came through for the school at the last minute with a fair price for mulching and cleanup the morning of the Welcome Social (and it was raining).

YEARBOOK

Attention all Fifth Graders! Start thinking of the perfect cover for our yearbook this year! We will have a contest for the best cover of our 2012 yearbook. More information to follow. Feel free to send me any pictures from McPrincipal Night or Storybook Character Day for consideration for the yearbook.

Thank you!

Karen Brakeley

Time to "Fall Back" as Daylight Saving Time Ends

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, **November 6, 2011**. Also, this is a

great time to check / change the batteries in your in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.



From the Art Room...

If you are interested in helping out in the art room this year, please send Mrs. Phillips a note at laurie.phillips@redclay.k12.de.us Keep in mind that all in-class volunteers MUST take the Volunteer Training in October if you have not already taken it.

The art room would like donations of hand lotion, paper towels and buttons.



Thanks!

Mrs. Phillips

A Note from the Library

The library is up and running with all students checking out books at this time. Please check out my web page to keep updated about reading incentives, library checkout policies and special events. I also have information about library grades for fourth and fifth grade students.

I want to thank all the parents that have volunteered to help in the library. My job is manageable with the parent volunteers coming in during their child's library class to help with shelving, checkout and cataloging new books.

Mrs. Marinelli

Thank you to all those who assisted with the start of the year - including those who took books home and covered them for Mrs.



Marinelli. Volunteers interested in assisting in the Library this year can contact Nikki Graham at nikgraham@mac.com. Please include your child's library day &

time (or the time you wish to volunteer) in the email.

If you have not attended the Volunteer Workshop in previous years mark your calendars to attend in October. It is a requirement to work in the Library with your readers.

Nikki Graham

Gym-New-ium

Webpage and Homework Information

Please view my webpage at least once a month (4th & 5th grade parents more often). There is information concerning health issues, games, activities for the families, and up to date information about what is happening in the gym.

4th and 5th grader's homework can be found on the site as I am trying to go paperless.

IMPORTANT...In order to help me through this process I am asking that ALL homework have the STUDENT'S NAME, ROOM NUMBER, and SECTION on the paper. Papers handed in without a name are hard to locate. As this is part of the homework assignment, papers without a room number and section will result in a grade reduction of up to 10 points for the assignment. You may view your child's missing and percentage grade average on the "Home Access Center".



You will need a special access password to get to your child's grade. If you do not have a password, please check with your child's homeroom teacher.

Feel free to email or call with questions and concerns.

Ms. Cox

Cheryl.cox@redclay.k12.de.us

Lost and Found....Lost and Found...Lost and Hopefully Found!

Each year our lost and found is overflowing with coats, jackets, sweatshirts, gloves and hats as well as lunch boxes. If you would please write your child's name on these items more of our extensive lost items can be Found! Thank you!



Cub City School Store



The Cub City School Store will have its first shopping event in the end of October. Half of the school will shop on October 20th and the other half will shop on October 27th. The school store offers a variety of school supplies as well as a limited amount of logo items. Order forms will be sent home with each student on the Monday prior to his/her scheduled shopping day. As the students shop during their lunch period, it is important that the forms are filled out and items are selected prior to attending the store. This helps the volunteers process the orders and offers students more time to enjoy lunch. If you have any questions, please contact us at tjackst@gmail.com or 463-6288. We look forward to seeing the smiling faces of our new and returning friends!

Tammy Jackson and Theresa Barbato

Spirit Wear Committee

Hellooo October! Time to start gearing up for the cooler weather! Don't forget we have Linden Hill hoodies for sale to help keep the kiddies warm. They are available in both Youth and Adult sizes. Check out the samples in the display case in the lobby of the school. Order forms are available on the table below the display case as well as on the Linden Hill PTA website www.lindenhillpta.org Thank you to all of our Linden Hill Families who have purchased their Spirit Gear and thank you for your patience – we ran out of a lot of items but a stock order was placed and orders were filled as quickly as possible! I want to send out a HUGE thank you to *Grace Logemann, Barb Creswell and Renee Paoli* for all of their help at Welcome Social – WOW what a crowd we had! And a very special thank you to *Abby Robinson* for her help at the table with bagging up the Spirit Wear sales! Don't forget Pride Day is the 1st Friday of every month!



Kim Fetrow

Oct 2011

Recycling Effort Needs Your Help!

We appreciate your help from home! Please consider contributing your paper recyclables (you can even send in some with your student to put into the recycle bin in the classroom!) – Items that Abitibi accepts:



- Newspapers/TV guides
- Magazines/shopping catalogs
- Office/school papers/folders/poster paper spiral notebooks(no need to remove the spiral but please remove front and back hardcover/theme books (white paper, construction paper, etc)
- Junk/other mail/weekly advertisement circulars (envelopes with “windows” are accepted too!) – no need to remove the staples!

(Please - NO cardboard, phonebooks, plastic, glass, metals, or trash – also, if the bin is full, please do not leave contributions until the bin has been emptied...we don't want to litter the neighborhood!)

Kindergarten Orientation Committee

The Kindergarten Orientation committee is looking for a next year's committee chair! Parents of the current 2011/2012 kindergarten class who wish to volunteer should feel free to contact Silvana Pineda via email at pineda.silvana@gmail.com or send an email through the Linden Hill PTA website at www.lindenhillpta.org.



Silvana Pineda
KO Committee Chair

PTA Website Committee

Did you misplace an important PTA form? Are you unsure of the calendar events at Linden Hill? Do you have a question or feedback for the PTA? Want to get the Linden Hill Happenings Newsletter before it is off the press? Then come visit us at www.lindenhillpta.org!!!! You'll be amazed at all the great information available at your fingertips.



Emails submitted through the website are viewed daily and will be replied to within 24 hrs. Come visit us click on the "Contact Us" menu item and let us know what you think!

Silvana Pineda
Website Committee Chair

Linden Hill PTA

"Help us grow Together"

It's a great start to a great new year – only a few weeks into the new school year and we already have over 100 members in the LH PTA! A big thank you to all who have joined already – without your support our PTA would not be as strong as it is. For the month of November, PTA Membership will be running a contest. The homeroom with the highest number of enrollment will win a special treat party (teacher's choice). The contest will run November 1st to November 30th. The winning class will be announced the first week December. More information, along with membership applications, will be sent home with students in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me – smarroni@msn.com. Show your lion pride and join the LH PTA today! Remember, it's never too late to join and show your support for our LH Community.



Linden Hill PTA

Where does your money go?

Linden Hill's PTA is a non-profit organization that works to enhance the learning environment

by the things we do and the enrichment programs we provide for ALL of the children here at LHE. Although we must raise money for our events, we are NOT solely a fundraising organization!

Here is where some of the money we raise goes:

- purchase all student planners for 2nd - 5th grade (\$1,300 annually)
- purchase all student of the week books (\$2,000 annually)
- organize & run a spring fun field day (\$600 annually)
- organize & run the Welcome Back Social before school starts (\$700 annually)
- organize & run a student based post office (\$200 annually)
- provide at a minimum of two school based assemblies each year – like author visits or the Walnut Street Theater program (\$4,500 annually)
- organize & run the kindergarten orientation for the parents of our youngest students
- organize & administer a Reflections creative arts program
- organize & run the annual Book Fair – bringing affordable books to our students
- provide stipends to classroom teachers, related arts, technology and the library for the purchase of additional supplies (over \$11,000 annually)
- organize & host a monthly staff appreciation lunch for the entire staff at LHE (\$2,000 annually)
- organize the school picture days and publish the annual yearbook
- publish a monthly newsletter for our families
- organize & run family activities like our annual Family Fun Carnival, cosmic bowling, blue rocks games and TV turn off events like bingo or pizza at Grotto's
- cleanup and re-mulching of playground and all flower beds – making our school a safe and attractive place for our students to attend (over \$4,000 annually)
- provide welcome back to school packets to each family (over \$1,000 annually)
- grandparent's/special visitor day and portfolio party refreshments (\$1,063 annually)
- advertise and sell spirit wear to boost school pride

Special Projects – 2011-2012 School Year – aeration and maintenance of playground field area and Kick-ball field renovation (over \$5,000)

PTA Board & Committee Vacancies 2012-2013 School Year

Shadowing Opportunities



Calling all parents! Have you ever said to yourself, “I would really like to help out more with PTA but all the committees are full”? Well, here’s your opportunity! Currently we have the following committees that will be **vacant in the 2012-2013 school year**:

5th Grade Activities
Book Fair
Carnival Sub Committees
Directory
Field Day
Kindergarten Orientation
Library
Nominating Committee

Reflections
School Pictures
School Programs
Spirit Wear
Theater
TV Turnoff
Welcome Social

This is the perfect opportunity to check out these committees and see if you would be interested in helping out with one of them next year. You would shadow the current committee chair to learn all the wonderful things the committee does. If you find it is something you would enjoy doing next year you can inform the current chair or one of the board members. If you would like more information about any of the above committees, please contact Jackie Schaus or Kim Fetrow and we will be happy to put you in touch with the current committee chair.

The above are just a few of the active committees within the PTA. There are many opportunities for you to help and be involved. Even if the committee has a current chair and may not be vacant next year, you are more than welcome to shadow that committee or

become a part of it. If you see a committee you would be interested in working with or on, please let us know!

We will also have 2 board positions vacant in 2012-2013 – Vice President and Treasurer. If you would like more information regarding the open board positions, please contact Jackie Schaus or Kim Fetrow and we will be happy to provide you with information regarding the duties for the position.

There are many, many, many opportunities to volunteer, donate and help the PTA that present themselves throughout the year – please join us!

Linden Hill
PTA[®]
everychild.onevoice.[®]

**Red Clay Consolidated School District
2011 –2012 School Calendar**

Dates	Day(s)	Reason	Teachers	Students Grades Days
August			7	BK- 9 3 10-12 2
22- 25	Mon-Thursday	Staff In-service Day (No School)		
29	Monday	School Opens Pre-K-9		
30	Tuesday	School Opens 10-12		
September			19	19
2	Friday	No School		
5	Monday	Labor Day (No School)		
29	Thursday	Rosh Hashanah (No School)		
October			21	20
7	Friday	Staff In-service Day (No School) ¹		
13- 14	Thursday –Friday	Early Dismissal for Conferences Elementary Schools 1:00 p.m. Middle Schools 11:25 a.m.		
November			19	18
11	Friday	Veterans Day (No School)		
23	Wednesday	Staff In-service Day (No School)		
24- 25	Thursday- Friday	Thanksgiving (No School)		
December			16	15
8- 9	Thursday –Friday	Early Dismissal for Conferences Elementary Schools 1:00 p.m. Middle Schools 11:25 a.m.		
22	Thursday	Staff In-service Day (No School)		
23- 30	Friday–Friday	Winter Vacation		
January			20	20
3	Tuesday	School Reopens		
16	Monday	M. L. King Day (No School)		
17-20	Tuesday - Friday	Early Dismissal for High School Mid - Terms High Schools 11:25 a.m.		
February			20	19
17	Friday	Staff In-service Day (No School)		
20	Monday	Presidents' Day (No School)		
March			22	21
1-2	Thursday –Friday	Early Dismissal for Conferences Elementary Schools 1:00 p.m. Middle Schools 11:25 a.m.		
19	Monday	Staff In-service Day (No School) ¹		
April			15	15
6- 13	Friday –Friday	Spring Vacation		
May			22	22
11	Friday	Early Dismissal for Conferences Elementary Schools 1:00 p.m.		
28	Monday	Memorial Day (No School)		
June			7	6
8	Friday	Last Student Day		
11	Monday	Last Teacher Day ¹		
12	Tuesday	Weather Contingency		
13	Wednesday	Weather Contingency		

- All grades will meet the number of hours as required by the State.
- June 12th and 13th are weather-related contingency days. In the event the district misses less than two days, the calendar will be shortened by the appropriate number of days. Any additional days lost because of bad weather or forced closings will be made up with the cancellation of the following staff In-service days: February 17 and March 19. If additional days are needed, above and beyond the two weather-related contingency days and the Staff In-service Day days listed, they will be added at the end of the school year, so the total school year for teachers does not exceed **188** days, and the student year does not fall below 1060 student hours.
- The Central School, which houses grades 6-12, will follow the middle school calendar. Conrad and Cab Calloway will follow the high school calendar. Brandywine Springs will follow the elementary school calendar.
- ¹ in the reason column indicates that paraprofessional staff members do not report to work.