

LINDEN HILL HAPPENINGS

Mary E. Bradley, Ed.D., Principal

Principals' Message

Welcome to 2011- it has been a snowy start to say the least! We have had an exciting beginning to our year at Linden Hill.

The third marking period is underway and it brings with it many opportunities for children to continue to engage in learning in their classrooms! In addition, you may have heard about our students participation in the Lego League, Stock Market Games, Odyssey of the Mind, Science Olympiad, Chorus, Band, and Strings – just to highlight a few or the extra curricular activities for students!

It is also a time for increased student responsibility. We are asking that students continue to come to school with necessary assignments and that they leave us each day with the books and materials needed to complete homework. Please remind your child of this as the classrooms and building will be locked at the end of the day and children will not be able to retrieve forgotten items.

Congratulations

...to Gail Humfeld and Patti Purcell who applied for and were awarded a grant from the Delaware Literacy Foundation this year. Moneys from this grant will be used to support – in part- our before school reading support program for identified students in grades 3-5.

... to Yean Son (and Mrs. Huckleberry – the advisor of our Stock Market Team) for winning the 4-5 grade Investwrite competition in Delaware. Yean will be recognized at the University of Delaware on January 18th and by the Red Clay Board on the January 19th.

...to all the members of our Chorus and band who under the guidance of Mrs. Murphy and Ms. Ayars put on an outstanding Winter Concert- well done.

...to Aaron Ribchinsky who secured a full time teaching position in the Brandywine School District.

Staffing

I would like to welcome Miss Kelly Ann Frawley to Linden Hill. Miss Frawley is a graduate of the

University of Delaware with a dual certification in elementary education and special education. Miss Frawley will assume the Race To The Top position vacated by Aaron Ribchinsky.

Progress Reports

A Progress Report went home with your child the first week of February. While the year is only half over and we will continue to offer students every possible avenue to assist in their academic growth. At this time, we are required to inform families of any concerns regarding promotion.



February is "I Love to Read Month"

Although classroom teachers and Related Arts staff promote the love of reading throughout the school year, February brings with it some special celebrations and activities revolving around literacy. Mrs. Marinelli, our librarian, has planned some special activities around this theme- so be sure to check out her webpage.

Also, Mrs. Marinelli has her own website and offers many reading incentives for students. She also has students' reading logs posted on her website – so if your child should lose his/her reading log you can print it out from home.

Clubs

Starting the third semester our related art teachers will be offering recess clubs for students in grades 4-5. Students will have the opportunity – based on space available- to select a club of their choice to enjoy with their friends. Each club will last for a semester and will include offerings from technology, art, library and gym.

Car Rider Reminder

Families of car riders, please be sure that your last name is written in large bold letters on your blue car sign, for easy reading at a distance. This sign should be hanging on the passenger side, possibly from the visor. If you are in need of a replacement sign, we have some in the office.

Just a reminder also that school starts at 8:50 and ends at 3:40. If you find you will be late picking up your child, please call the office. Also, we continue to receive some calls from our neighbors expressing concern about cars that are blocking their driveway and others that are exceeding the speed limit. Please be aware of these concerns as you travel to and from the car line- thank you.

Winter Weather

Should we experience snow or other inclement weather, we would like to remind you to listen to the radio and/or check the following websites for information regarding school closings: (<http://www.redclay.k12.de.us/> go to transportation and click on inclement weather procedures; or www.doe.state.de.us and click on School Closing/Delays.

Please refrain from calling the school office to determine if school is in session as we need to keep the phone lines available for emergencies. Thank you.

Additionally (in the event of bad weather), in order to facilitate safe passage in the Linden Hill parking area, we will be redirecting vehicles as you exit school. Please be prepared for changes in the traffic pattern as you drop off or pick up your children should the roads become snow covered.

DCAS Dates

The dates for the second round of DCAS testing began the end of January and will carry over into February. Barring illness, it is critical that all students in the testing grades attend school on these days. Thank you in advance for your support in insuring your child's attendance during these tests dates.

Communication Devices

Student use of communication devices such as cell phones is not permitted during the school day. Although children may have items such as cell phones in their back packs, etc. they need to be "off and away during the day!" Should you wish to get information to your child or your child's teacher, please call the office at 454-3406.

Change of Address or Phone Number

If you should change either your address or telephone number – please notify the office at

454-3406 so that we can keep your current information updated. Thank You

Alert Now Messages

In an effort to let families know of bus issues, weather related issues, early dismissals, etc.; the district purchased a contract with the Alert Now Messaging Company. Recently, when we had our first snow dismissal delay we made calls home to families using this system and we learned that the only number that was called was the **family's home number**. Upon further investigation, we learned that that is the way the Alert Now System is set up. The only time all phone numbers would be contacted would be if there was a national emergency. Given that, I would ask that you please check your home phone for messages if your child is late coming home from school before calling school as we will continue to make a concerted effort to let you know of any dismissal changes. Thank you.

Early Arrivals

Please be aware that the school doors open at 8:35 each day. Students who arrive to school before that time need to have an adult with them as there is no supervision before the 8:35 entrance time. If your child comes to school from Skyline Drive, please keep him/her with you until 8:35. Car riders need to remain in their vehicles until staff appears to facilitate students entering the building. Thank you for cooperating with these safety measures. As we embark upon the third semester, we continue to place the safety and education of your children as our top priority and continue to value your partnership in this endeavor.

Educationally Speaking,
Mary Bradley
Deborah M. Brady

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

NO SCHOOL!

Teacher In-service – Monday, February 7th
President's Day – Monday, February 21st

EARLY DISMISSAL!

Thursday, February 17th – 1PM for Conferences
Friday, February 18th – 1PM for Conferences

Dates to Remember

February 3rd (Thurs)	PTA General Meeting – 7PM Library
February 4th (Friday)	Pride Day
February 5th (Sat)	LHE Carnival – 10AM – 2PM
February 7th (Mon)	No School – Teacher In- service Day
February 16th (Wed)	Staff Appreciation Lunch – Hosted by 3rd Grade
February 16th (Wed)	School Board Meeting – 7:30PM Brandywine Springs
February 17th (Thurs)	Early Dismissal – Conferences – 1PM
February 18th (Friday)	Early Dismissal – Conferences – 1PM
February 21st (Mon)	No School – President’s Day
March 3rd (Thurs)	PTA General Meeting – 7PM Library

Food Drive

We would like to thank all of our Linden Hill Families for their very generous response to our December Food Drive. Our goal was to collect 1,600 cans of food for the Food Bank of Delaware. Over the course of ten days, we collected 2,443 cans of food. The Food Bank of Delaware was extremely appreciative for all of the donations. We can't thank you enough for the wonderful response.

Congratulations goes out to Mrs. Peyser's class who alone collected over 300 cans of food. Mrs. Peyser used this opportunity for the children to practice their math skills and learn percentages at the same time. The kids were very enthusiastic about giving back to our community. They were equally thrilled to be awarded the gym bag from Ms. Cox.

Thanks again for all of your donations!
Ms. Cox, Jodi Sweeney and Cathleen Noonan



Carnival

The Family Fun Carnival is February 5th from 10-2 at Linden Hill. Hope to see you there!



Contact Information

Dr. Mary E Bradley , Principal	454-3406
Deborah Brady , Assistant Principal	454-3406
Red Clay Transportation	322-0251

2010-2011 PTA Officers

President	VACANT
Jackie Schaus , Vice President	892-9639
Kim Fetrow , Vice President	994-3211
Laura Beth Taylor , Vice President	234-7828
Renee Paoli , Treasurer	995-0808
Nikki Graham , Secretary	633-1509

2010-11 PTA Meeting Dates:

We generally meet on the first Thursday of each month – the exception is 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!

February 3, 2011	March 3, 2011
April 7, 2011	*May 19, 2011

PTA Vacancy for 2010-2011 School Year – President Needed!

We need your help! We are currently without a leader this year – unfortunately no one stepped forward to fill the President’s position. No organization can run very efficient or very long without someone leading the way. Please consider taking on this very vital roll – there are many people within the PTA will to assist with the transition. The Linden Hill PTA can do fantastic things for our children but we need YOU to make it happen! Come join us today!



We Need You!

“Visit the Linden Hill PTA website at www.lindenhillpta.org for all of your important dates, forms, etc.”

School Spirit Wear Committee

Happy New Year and thank you to all the families and faculty who have purchased their spirit wear – what a great way to show your Lion Pride! Order forms for Spirit Wear are available on the LHE PTA Website – www.lindenhillpta.org under “Spirit Wear”. You can also find the form on the Linden Hill Elementary School website - <http://tunaruna.com/LindenEvents/> under “Need Links? – Document Library – PTA Documents”. Or, email Kim Fetrow - I will be happy to email you an order form or send one home with your child via kiddie mail. Remember – Pride Day is the 1st Friday of the month.

Kim Fetrow

Spirit Wear Committee



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

Lost and found is overflowing with **coats, jackets, sweatshirts, gloves and hats** as well as lunch boxes.

Please remember to label all belongings.

**OUR COLLECTION OF LOST AND FOUND ITEMS
IS ENORMOUS!**

Mark your calendars! Field Day 2011

Friday, May 27, 2011

(Sorry NO rain date)

Theme: "C.A.T.C.H. Me if You Can"

More information and a volunteer registration form will be in the February newsletter.

Thanks
Ms Cox, Mrs. Noonan



Notes From the Music Room

Congratulations to the Linden Hill Chorus for a spectacular performance on December 16, 2010 and December 20, 2010. Yes, once again we had to reschedule due to snow. In Mrs. Murphy's 26 years of teaching this has only happened twice, this year and last year! She was very proud of the chorus and we are sure your parents and families were as well. The chorus hopes our music helped to put everyone in the holiday spirit! Mrs. Murphy would also like to say thank you again to everyone for the wonderful Christmas gifts. She loved and appreciated everyone's kind thoughts and words. Thank you to Mrs. Barry and to the PTA for supporting another fantastic concert by Jonathan Sprout. The staff and students had a wonderful time listening to stories and songs about some amazing heroes like Martin Luther King and Sacajawea. Mrs. Murphy still has some CD's for sale from the concert. They are only 10.00 and autographed by Jonathan! Students can stop by any time to purchase one. We have Heroes One, More American Heroes and American Heroes Three available. All are full of wonderful songs about incredible American Heroes. Finally, Linden Hill third, fourth and fifth grade students were treated to a fantastic concert by the HB Du Pont 7th/8th grade band on December 15, 2010. Many of our fifth grade band members worked very hard learning a middle school piece of music, "Charlie Brown Christmas" and actually had the chance to perform this number with the HB Band. What a fantastic experience.



NEEDS: The music room continues to use and need paper towels, music or positive message stickers and lollipops or Hershey kisses for music star of the day. Thanks to all who have contributed. We do not need tissues as we had a large container donated to our room.

Thank You,
Mrs. Murphy
maureen.murphy@redclay.k12.de.us



Reflections - "Together We Can..."

The PTA would like to recognize the following students for their participation in the 2010-2011 Reflections Program.

This year's theme is "Together We Can..." Linden Hill Winners will be posted in next month's news letter.

Literature - Intermediate Division

Jakob	Andress	Shivani	Mehta
Steven	Boyles	Eve	Melbouci
Sean	Cribb	Jinwoo	Park
Abbygail	DeVore	Hyewon	Park
Pranav	Gupta	Nikki	Pilla
Chris	Hallman	Nyla	Pugh
Raquel	Herrera	Rishith	Ramamurthy
Austin	Hicks	Gia	Reilly
Jinay	Jain	Alexis	Schiaffino
Minha	Kim	Kaushik	Senthilraj
Sarvagnya	Kompella	Jake	Stephan
Evan	Leager	Garrett	Thomas
Tara	Lennon	Erin	Walker
Chloe	Maher	Jamier	Williams
		Amanda	Yeung

Literature Primary

Delaney	Armstrong
Emma	McKinley
Sindhu	Narayan
Alyssa	Tran
Heran	Yang

Musical Composition

Tara	Lennon
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Photography

John	Bonkowski
Antoinette	Collazo

Dance Choreography

Tara	Lennon
Erin	Walker



Visual Arts -Intermediate Division

Hyunjun	Ahn	Jinay	Jain
Hardee	Bhavsar	Sarvagnya	Kompella
Matthew	Bowen	Tara	Lennon
Madison	Denhardt	Elizabeth	Logemann
Zachary	England	Dhruv	Murthy
Madelyn	Francisco	Nikki	Pilla
Nina	Goldfarb	Molly	Pratzner
Shomudro	Gupta	Rishith	Ramamurthy
Harshitha	Henry	Swara	Sakarwala
Arynn	Hernandez	Kaushik	Senthilraj

Primary Division Visual Arts

Emily	Albans
Abhijeet	Annigeri
Saiadhityan	Babu
Gabriella	Costantini
Vibha	Gunturi
Anjali	Iyenger
Akaash	Mahinth
Ryan	O'Malley
Nandhini	Parthasarathy
Siddhi	Patil
Emily	Sachau



Theme Search

Hardee	Bhavsar
Kate	Creswell
Pranav	Gupta
Sarvagnya	Kompella
Elizabeth	Logemann
Nikki	Pilla
Hayden	Ryan
Swara	Sakarwala



Vincenza Pilla - Reflections Committee

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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.

Post Office

Parents of all third graders, if you would like to volunteer to help out, we can make arrangements to have your child help on the same day. For the parents of children in other grades, we can always use extra hands. Thanks again,
Deanne Foth and Melanie Kenney

From the Library...

Please check my website for reading incentive opportunities. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in extra reading incentives over the next few months. On February 12 students who read 3 books will be going to the University of Delaware Men's Game. Tickets will be given out during the first week of February. The Six Flags - Weekly Reader Challenge will be starting soon. Students who choose to do this challenge will be given a ticket to visit Six Flags during the summer months. In the spring students can earn tickets to the Blue Rocks game. Check my web site for all these reading incentives!



Mrs. Marinelli

Debbie.Marinelli@redclay.k12.de.us

Special Thanks To:

- **Vincenza Pilla** for getting Reflections information to all of our LH Families and submitting all the entries to the State! Looking forward to finding out who our LHE winners are this year!
- **Maureen Carp** for shopping and providing the school with all the wonderful books for our Students of the Week!
- **Kathleen Aviles** for attending the School Board meetings and keeping up to do on legislative issues and passing on to the PTA!
- **LH Craft Moms** for stepping up and taking on the task of coming up with and helping the kids make a classroom craft – the kids are going to have a blast creating and then watching their work be raffled off!



Library

Thank you for a wonderful first half of the year. Your volunteer time helps make the library most accessible to students and staff. Looking forward to a great second half of the school year. If you are interested in becoming a new volunteer, it's not too late. Email Nikki Graham for information.

Family Activities

Mark your calendars.....

Family Fun Night at the Wilmington Blue Rocks will be Saturday May 21st. Game starts at 6:05pm. Tickets are \$7.00 per person. Registration Forms will be sent home in March. Come join your Linden Hill friends and cheer for our local baseball team. Please note this is not a fireworks night.

Thanks,

Grace Logemann

(Family Activities Chair)



Product Incentives...

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Box Tops contest! Results will be published next month. Please continue to submit your boxtops throughout the school year.

Please continue to support our product incentives program by sending in your General Mill's boxtops, Campbell's labels, Zingo's receipts, and by participating in Target's "Take Charge for Education" program. We hope you will consider participating in our new Acme gift card program. Additional information is included in this newsletter. A collection bag for boxtops, labels and receipts has been sent home. Donations can be sent in with your child or dropped off at the office. Thank you for your participation!

Jackie Schaus



Help Wanted

Our Linden Hill Theater committee is in need of a co-chair. Please contact Siobian Hicks if you are interested in learning more.

Adult Silent Auction Night!!

Saturday, March 12, 2011

7:00-11:00 pm

Hartefeld National



*Basket Raffles - Silent Auction - 50/50 – Teacher / Staff
Surprise Donations*

*Hors d'oeuvres – Cash Bar – Music – Dancing – Family
Preview Night*

Look for more information coming home soon!

If you own a business or know of a business willing to
donate an item or service(tax deductible!)

for the silent auction, please contact

Barbra Creswell (creswell918@comcast.net)

Lynn Correll (lkcorrell@verizon.net).

Thanks!

C.A.T.C.H. (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) has arrived at Linden Hill Elementary

This school year, LH was invited to participate in a program called the C.A.T.C.H. program. This research based program provides statistical information regarding obesity in the United States (especially among children), health issues stemming from obesity, food trends, etc. The goal is to bring schools, families, and communities together to teach children how to be healthy for a lifetime and to provide 150 minutes of physical activity per week.

C.A.T.C.H is in almost every Delaware school. At LH, staff is at the beginning phase of being trained and provided with some excellent learning materials that will help carry the importance of physical fitness as well as nutrition into the classroom.

Since this is a coordinated approach, we need to get everyone involved. The nurse, cafeteria workers, classroom teachers, parents, etc. The idea is that with everyone involved we can better show the students the importance of what we are trying to achieve. Statistics show that healthier children produce better grades, attend school more, etc., so what better reason do we need to get involved?

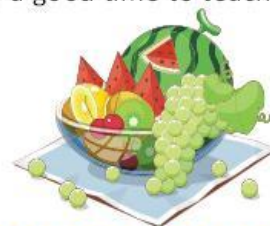
We are trying to take gentle steps to get the program started. Some ideas implemented to date include hanging posters of “Go! Slow! and Whoa!” foods in the cafeteria. “Go!” foods are those that contain much nutritional value. For example, fruits and vegetables are examples of “Go!” foods. “Slow!” foods are those in between foods which are okay to have sometimes, but definitely not on a regular basis. Finally, “Whoa!” foods are those which have very little or no nutritional value. These are the foods we are trying to teach the students to stay away from.

In P.E. class, the students are busy creating food costumes which may appear in the cafeteria from time to time so little ones can visualize food choices. Teachers have had training on how to integrate physical activity with other subjects. An indoor/outdoor *Wellness Walking Trail* is in the making, and the P.E classes and Boys & Girl’s Club are integrating some of the C.A.T.C.H. physical activities in their lessons.

Staying active with your child after school and hey! March is National Nutrition month, this is a good time to teach children the very basics about food labels, calories, sugar, carbohydrates, calcium, etc.

Again, allow your students to be advocates and teach you some of this very useful information to help the C.A.T.C.H. program blossom!

Please visit <http://www.mypyramid.gov> for more information concerning nutrition.



PTA Committee Vacancies 2011 / 2012 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 2011/2012 school year:

Book Fair, Kindergarten Orientation, School Pictures, Website, Playground Co-Chair, 5th Grade Activities, Newsletter, Family Activities, Welcome Social, Theater and several Carnival Sub-Committees.

This is the perfect opportunity to check out these committees and see if you would be interested in chairing one of them next year. You would shadow the current committee chair to learn the ins & outs of the committee. 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, Kim Fetrow or Laura Beth Taylor and we will be happy to put you in touch with the current committee chair.

Each committee is a vital and integral part of our PTA, without them our children would not have and be able to enjoy the wonderful programs we have here at Linden Hill. And we welcome all of you to come help out!