

Lempster Community School

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April 30, 2024

Dear Friends of the Lempster School,

We hope you had an enjoyable vacation. It seems as if the upcoming weather is going to be more like the end of April, rather than the end of February. Now, welcome to Black Fly season!

When we left for vacation, the PTO was tallying up the results of the **Penny Wars**. I am pleased to announce the two winners of the competition. The grade that collected the most money was **Grade 4**, and the grade that collected the most points was **Grade 3**. See the complete breakdown in the email in which you received this newsletter. This was a fun competition. It truly was anyone's war to win right up to the end of the activity. The money raised is earmarked for the PTO, which will use the funds to support programs at your Lempster Community School. Also, please note, the PTO meets the second Wednesday of the month at 5:15PM in the school's library.

Related to supporting the school, you'll want to sign up for our **annual book fair**! The fair dates are May 13th through the 17th. The book fair is always a huge attraction and often well-attended, ergo the invitation to sign up. <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/content/fairs/parents.html>. A great way to promote education for your child is to encourage reading. Especially reading for fun!

If you know of a youngster who will be of kindergarten age this fall, please let the family know we shall be conducting our kindergarten screening next Tuesday, May 7th. The purpose of the screening is to learn areas of academic strength and possible areas of needed support for the child. It also is a tremendous opportunity for new parents to get a feeling for what school is all about. There is an old saying: "***The best way to prepare for college is to prepare for kindergarten.***" We all know when students thrive in a kindergarten educational setting they tend to perform well throughout their education. We all have "skin in this game." Well-educated students usually become well-mannered citizens in society. Please help us spread the word regarding our kindergarten screening. An appointment can be set by calling the school at 603.863.1080, ext. 126.

And the very next day, Wednesday, May 8th, is **Spring Picture Day** at Lempster School. We are always amazed at how much the students have changed since the Fall. Our friends from Geskus Photography will be here early in the morning to capture each child's Spring photograph. You'll receive information on how to access your child's portraits, right after they are taken.

The holes in the road behind the school are another harbinger of spring around here. Rapidly warming temperatures move the crushed stone, which causes these craters. However, the administration is at a **bit of a dilemma about the road**. The holes no doubt play havoc on the suspension on cars, but on the other hand, they do tend to act as speed bumps. Our cameras have spotted a few cars speeding around the building in what we feel is too fast for the

circumstances. The school will be investing in a reminder speed limit sign for folks traveling around the building. As we have said so many times, keeping your children safe is our top priority.

I hope you have had a chance to practice some **number sense** with your child. Number sense, as the name implies, is the skill of recognizing reasonable amounts. We all understand that eight students raising both hands would be showing 80 fingers, not 800 fingers. This is number sense. Also, looking quickly, how many octothorpes are below?

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Without counting you would estimate about 20 or 25, but you would not guess 50 or 60, because you have number sense. Try this with your child. Estimation games are both fun and educational.

The **NHSAS testing** will begin shortly. This is essentially the school's report card. All students in grades three through eight will be taking the state assessments, which will give the NHED a report on how our children are performing. The best things we all can do to help the students prepare for the assessment are: to make sure the students get enough sleep, they eat a good breakfast, they are encouraged to read each question thoroughly, and we remind them to think about what the question is asking. There are always some tricky questions in the NHSAS, but when students take their time and read and reread the questions thoroughly, they will likely perform well.

The **Lempster School Board** will be meeting next Tuesday at 5:30PM in the school's library. You are always welcome to join us, and there is an agenda item for the public to address the Board.

Later this week Ms. Fritz's class will be offering their annual **Wax Museum**. This very popular activity will transform our students into "wax figures" that, upon the touch of the activation button, will recite the biography of the particular person whom they represent. The activity will take place on Friday, May 3rd between 1:45-2:45PM. Please contact us if you would like to visit the museum.

Have a pleasant week.

Jim Lewis

Jim Lewis
Superintendent

Fascinating fact to share with family and friends. About half of the bones in your body are in your hands and feet.

Answer to last newsletter's puzzler: Wisdom's vacation was 233 hours long! Congratulations to everyone who submitted a correct answer and earned a Wildcat Buck.

Puzzler: Wisdom was looking at his book of desert creatures. He saw that a Stink Beetle is about 3/4 of an inch long. However, he read that a rattlesnake is about 30 times longer than a Stink Beetle. Using this information, how long does Wisdom think a rattlesnake is?

**Our school strives to provide opportunities
for students to make the most of their abilities.**