

# Liberty Corner PTO

## December 2010



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



## A Message from the PTO Co-Presidents -- Jeanne Starr and Laurie Dobson

*"As we struggle with shopping lists, invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation and people to whom we are worth the same."* – Donald E. Westlake

In December, time management takes on a whole new meaning! A very special thank you goes out to our board, chairpersons and volunteers for their continued efforts during this crazy, yet magical time of year. The children and staff of LCS really do benefit from your hard work and support.

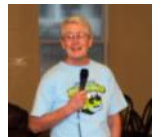
On December 1, the LCS PTO hosted two special meetings with some of the members of the Board of Education. The purpose of the meetings was to hear from and speak to the members of the board in an informal Q&A format about next year's budget. Part-time kindergarten and an eight period high school schedule, the first two cuts made from the 2011-2012 budget, were the "hot" topics. A little-known entity called the Bernards Township Education Foundation (BTEF) was discussed in the meetings. The organization hopes to seize upon the community's renewed interest in getting involved and raising money for our schools. In the coming months, the BTEF will be reaching out to the local community looking for additional volunteers to help solicit donations for the Foundation which would be used to fund targeted, high priority BOE projects for our district. If you have been wondering how you can help make a difference, please see the BTEF's website at [www.btef.org](http://www.btef.org).



More information will also be forth coming about a letter writing campaign to our local government representatives about the financial difficulties our school system must endure. While the PTO will continue to keep you informed on the budget process, it is in your best interest to make your opinion heard by attending the biweekly BOE meetings. A big thank you to Susan Carlsson, Robin McKeon, Bev Cwerner, Audrey Cohen Sherwyn and Elaine Kusel for taking time out of their busy schedules to further explain the budget cuts.

The New Year brings new events to LCS, starting with Family Game Night on January 21st. The Game Night committee can still use some volunteers to make this a fun filled evening for the entire family. Please contact Fiona Guinta at [fionaguinta@yahoo.com](mailto:fionaguinta@yahoo.com) or Sreevalli Chivukula at [s\\_v\\_66@yahoo.com](mailto:s_v_66@yahoo.com) if you are interested in helping.

After several years of service at Liberty Corner School, Ann Smith, our beloved crossing guard, has announced her retirement at the end of this calendar year. Ann has been dedicated and diligent about keeping all of the LCS extended community safe and „in a straight line." We will miss Ann dearly.



Be sure to slow down and make the most of the holidays with your family and friends. Wishing you a relaxing and joyous Holiday Season!

### PTO Board 2010-2011

**Co-Presidents:** Laurie Dobson ([lbobson@msn.com](mailto:lbobson@msn.com)) and Jeanne Starr ([eagerstarr@aol.com](mailto:eagerstarr@aol.com))

**Co-1st Vice Presidents (Programming and Scheduling):** Zaida Harrison ([zaidaharrison@optonline.net](mailto:zaidaharrison@optonline.net)) and Bernadette Taylor ([bernietaylor@optonline.net](mailto:bernietaylor@optonline.net))

**Co-2nd Vice Presidents (Fundraising):** Barbara Sileo ([sileo4@hotmail.com](mailto:sileo4@hotmail.com)) and Linda Picardo ([linnyp@optonline.net](mailto:linnyp@optonline.net))

**Treasurer:** Bridget Jaeger ([BridgetJ@JaegerLumber.com](mailto:BridgetJ@JaegerLumber.com))

**Assistant Treasurer:** Maggie Gould ([mjscala@hotmail.com](mailto:mjscala@hotmail.com))

**Secretary:** Larissa Milligan ([larissa\\_milligan@hotmail.com](mailto:larissa_milligan@hotmail.com))

**Communications Officer** Heather Whyte-Kattas ([heather.whyte-kattas@lexisnexis.com](mailto:heather.whyte-kattas@lexisnexis.com))

For more information go to [www.LibertyCornerPTO.org](http://www.LibertyCornerPTO.org)

# From the Principal's Desk ~~ Dr. Pecoraro

Everyone at LCS continues to fill buckets! We are thrilled with the success of our most recent Character Education theme, "Bucket Fillers." The children and staff are sharing the common language of our theme as they discuss the moral motivation of characters encountered in literature and engage in discussions about character development during class meetings. Teachers are using prompts to promote conversations about "doing the right thing" and making good choices. We notice fewer issues occurring during lunch/recess and bus behaviors have also improved. Thank you for your support at home as we strive to encourage our students and your children to become compassionate, caring individuals who can think about others by saying and doing things that "fill the buckets" of others.



Our chorus, band and strings students, along with their instructors, are working extremely hard in preparation for the upcoming January concerts. The band and chorus will perform on Tuesday, January 4 at 7 p.m. at the Ridge High School Performing Arts Center (PAC) and the strings students will have their concert on Tuesday, January 25 at 7 p.m. at the same location. These concerts are always wonderful so be sure to put the dates on your calendar.



Please note that Kindergarten registration is a month earlier this year due to the Board of Education's action at their November 22 meeting. Kindergarten will be reduced from a full day to a part time day. Logistics are being worked on by administration, but we wanted parents to be apprised of the plan to reduce the Kindergarten day so they can plan accordingly.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, hard to believe it is here already. Take time to enjoy family and friends. Here's to a happy and healthy New Year!

## LCS TOY DRIVE COLLECTION

During the month of December, LCS students and their families helped needy families in Appalachia by bringing in newly wrapped toys for our annual Appalachia Toy Drive. With the help of our Fifth Grade Student Council, we collected approximately 35 bags of toys!! Way to go!!

Once collected, Student Council members along with Mr. Oliver, Mr. Rauschenberger and Ms. Skiba loaded the bags of toys onto a large school bus. Then we headed to Delbarton School to drop off the toys. From Delbarton School, toys were then loaded onto large tractor trailer trucks and driven down to Appalachia.

A big thank you to all LCS families for bringing in toys!

## Thank You!

*Pancakes for Supper Event* — **Cathy Cheo-Isaacs** and **Rob Simon** for putting together such a successful Pancakes for Supper Event. The children and parents certainly enjoyed themselves, especially decorating all those wonderful cupcakes. Our children's artwork was so wonderfully displayed in the cafeteria, it made the event even more special.

*Message Board* — Susan Kelson for updating our message board on a weekly basis and keeping our LCS community so well informed.

*Newsletter* — Terri Laird and Renuka Sathe for all of their hard work editing and creating the monthly PTO Newsletter.

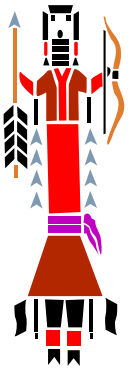


## Your PTO at Work

Look what PTO volunteers and donations have accomplished in the last month:

**Second Grade** — The students received ant farms for their Insect Museums. They also enjoyed a visit from the Morris Museum curator during which they learned about American Indians and their culture. The curator brought many artifacts from a variety of tribes into the classrooms to enhance the children's learning experience.

**Fourth Grade** — The presenters from Lenape Lifeways Educational Programs visited the students. The hour-plus program detailed traditional Lenape Indian life in the Eastern Woodlands by focusing on everyday village activities and the roles of men, women and children in the family and community.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

### Kindergarten Registration Date Change

Please note that Kindergarten Registration will now be held on January 6th from 2-6 p.m. instead of February 3rd from 2-6 p.m.

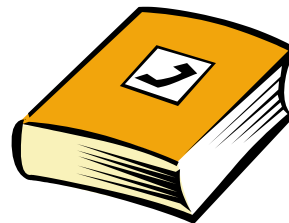
## Directory Corrections

Please make the following changes to your 2010-2011 Liberty Corner School Directory:

BOWEN, SHANNON (2 – Finazzo)  
463-9858  
Rayman/Cristina  
9 Baldwin Court  
cristinabowen@yahoo.com

LANPHEAR, AUSTIN (3 – Len)  
340-4558  
Dan/Anne  
4 Tuxford Terrace

O'DONNELL, BENJAMIN (K – Brouillard)  
edjo96@verizon.net

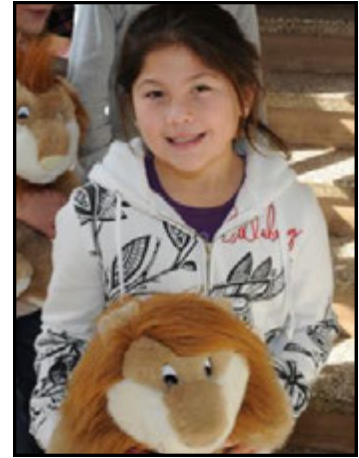


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If you have corrections, please fill out a directory correction form at [www.libertycornerpto.org](http://www.libertycornerpto.org)



# Grade 5 D.A.R.E. Program

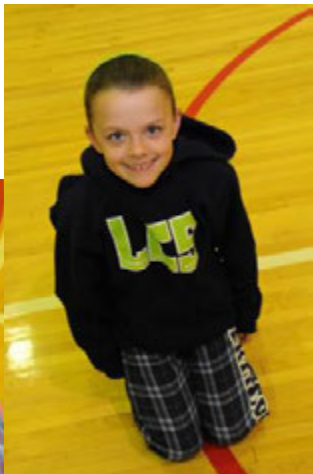
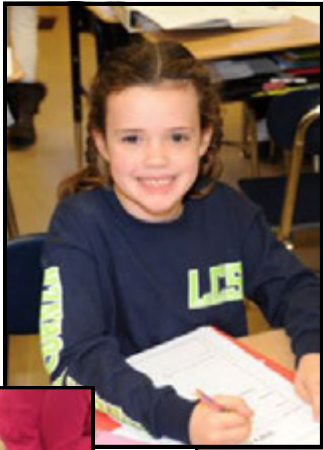


# Grade 5 D.A.R.E. Program





School Spirit Day





School Spirit Day



# Specials Report

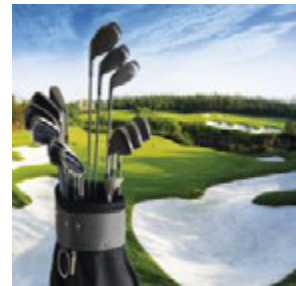
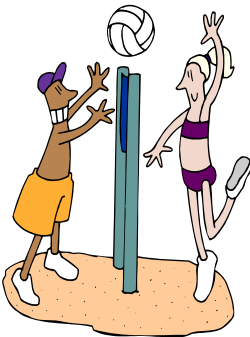
**Don't forget to check out the teachers' websites for more information.** Just go to [www.bernardsboe.com](http://www.bernardsboe.com) and select **Liberty Corner School ORD** in the left hand column. Then scroll down to the teacher's name and click on their Oncourse icon.

**PE** —The month of December is another exciting month in PE. The first two weeks K & 1 will be playing some fun fitness games that include spelling and cross word puzzles. Grades 2 & 3 will also join in on the fun, but more of an emphasis will be put on reinforcing the fitness concepts they are sweating through. The Fourth and Fifth graders will be playing lots of exciting games and activities which will help them to understand the cognitive concepts of health and fitness. Ask your children about games like "Run for Your Life" and those wonderful PE plates. These games will help students become experts in keeping their bodies healthy, as well as how to train themselves in specific sports and activities. Health and skill-related fitness components, the heart, blood, lungs and the FITT principle, will be among the major concepts which will be taught in a fun and active manner. Fourth and Fifth graders will receive several short quizzes this year to assess their knowledge in these areas. Don't forget to talk about fitness with your child.

December also ushers in beach and fantasy week. Yes, the weather is cold outside, but the gymnasium heats up in December. These activities are fan favorites and are sure to please any crowd. Children work on health and skill related fitness activities while having so much fun, they don't even know it. Remember fitness is fun!!!

Happy Holidays!!!

## Beach Week Coming Soon....



**Music** — In the music classroom, students will prepare for the Holiday Sing-Along, which will be held the day before winter break. Students are working hard on memorizing four songs, reviewing concert etiquette, vocal techniques and expression. Instruments will be used in many songs and there will be movements and dances as well!

In addition, students will learn about the famous Classical composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Students will listen, critique, conduct and play along with his music.

Lastly, students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade chorus will prepare for their concert on January 4th at 7pm at the Ridge High School Performing Arts Center. They are on their way to sounding wonderful!





# SAVE THE DATE

THE LCS PTO PRESENTS THE SPRING SOCIAL

*Parents Night Out*



AN EVENING OF

## DENIM & *Diamonds*

SATURDAY, MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2011  
7PM TO 11PM

*at*

FIDDLER'S ELBOW COUNTRY CLUB  
811 RATTLESNAKE BRIDGE ROAD, BEDMINSTER, NEW JERSEY

*More Details to Come*

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:  
LISA LATOURETTE [INTERIORSBYLISA@VERIZON.NET](mailto:INTERIORSBYLISA@VERIZON.NET)  
HEATHER KRAMER [HEATHERWK@YAHOO.COM](mailto:HEATHERWK@YAHOO.COM)