



Gator Chronicle

Vol. 18

November 2023

Kelli Oertling, Principal

Sandra McCullough & Holly Thompson, Assistant Principals

Happy Holidays!

Principal's Message:

It is hard to believe that December has arrived! As I reflect on the first semester of school, many great things are happening at Lakewood, and we are going for the gold! Our faculty and staff are committed to meeting the needs of our students, and we work hard to make Lakewood Elementary a place where we ensure "Success and Nothing Less for *all*."

Our students have already reached our incentive twice! We are continuing to focus on our Gators' Golden Rules and are working towards the next incentive - a pj day. Please ask your child about how they are working together to be successful.

As you are trying to think of gifts for your child, don't forget about books. Everyday parents ask what they can do to help their child improve in school. The answer is to read! Research has shown that a great way to improve academic performance is to read for 20 minutes a day. It doesn't matter what they are reading. Ask your child what books they like, and they will tell you.

We would like to wish all of you a fun-filled holiday season. We look forward to celebrating with you all at our Band and Choir Christmas Concert on Tuesday, December 19 at the Lafon Performing Arts Center and for our classroom Christmas celebrations on Thursday, December 21. We will be sending home information regarding the classroom celebrations soon.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. We appreciate your continued support and commitment to helping our students succeed.

Happy holidays, and happy reading!

Success Has No Finish Line



Kelli Oertling,
LWE Principal

Don't forget to
follow us on Twitter
[@Lakewood_Gators](https://twitter.com/Lakewood_Gators)

Parent Teacher Organization

PTO is exploring ways to achieve more at Lakewood Elementary!

Happy Holidays from LWE PTO!

LWE PTO would like to wish everyone happy holiday season. We hope everyone had a restful break for Thanksgiving! Christmas will be here soon and the PTO is gearing up to spoil our faculty, staff, and students with some holiday cheer! We are so thankful for our Gator families that continuously support us so that we can plan these special surprises!



With the kids being home for Thanksgiving and soon for Christmas, PLEASE remember to scan those box tops. Box Tops are a huge help for our school. There is a free app that makes it super easy to scan and make money for our school. You can see the impact you make immediately after you scan. Some products may still have box tops clippings on the package, and we still accept those as well.

If you ever have any questions for us, we can be reached at lakewoodpto@yahoo.com or on our Facebook page at Lakewood Elementary PTO, Luling, LA. As always, thank you for your continued support in helping to make this year successful for all LWE students, faculty and staff. We could not do what we do without parents and guardians like you!

School Bus Spotlight

This month we are highlighting Bus 476 and the students who are **going for gold** this year by following bus expectations and showing good character.



Bus 476 - Driver- Roy Boyd
Students- Isabella Sperandeo
and Lincoln Kroll

“Quality Learning for All Students”

Digital Wellness:

Help Kids Balance Their Media Lives

From phones and tablets to streaming movies and YouTube, tech and media are everywhere. Kids love easy access to shows, games, and information. Parents and caregivers love that kids can learn on the go (and stay busy when dinner's cooking). But it's easy to overdo it when the phone never stops pinging and the next episode plays automatically. Families can keep media and tech use in check by following a few simple practices.

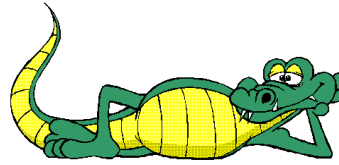
- 1. Create screen-free times and zones.**
Help kids take breaks from tech by limiting screen time in bedrooms, during study time, or at the dinner table.
- 2. Try parental controls.**
Set content limits that make sense for your family. Alongside conversations about healthy media habits, use features such as content filtering, privacy settings, and time limits offered by the apps and platforms your family uses to help manage access and exposure to media.
- 3. Establish clear family rules.**
Decide together what kind of media and tech is OK -- and when it's OK to use it. A family media plan can help get everyone on the same page.
- 4. Watch and play together.**
Choose quality, age-appropriate media to enjoy with your kids.
- 5. Help kids identify healthy behaviors.**
Practice talking about feelings -- both physical and emotional -- during screen and non-screen activities.

Please remind students to wear tennis shoes on Physical Education days.



Lakewood's Mission

The mission of Lakewood Elementary School is to ensure success and nothing less for all.



Lakewood's Vision

Lakewood Elementary School empowers all students to develop skills necessary to grow academically, socially, and emotionally in order to achieve success in our constantly changing world.

Lakewood's Daily Expectations

- 1. Be Responsible**
- 2. Be Respectful**
- 3. Be Safe**

Curious Scientists



Ms. Ducre's student scientists are huddled together to weigh the results from their Leaf-Cutter Ant Station Module 2- Survival.

Uniform/Sweatshirt Donations

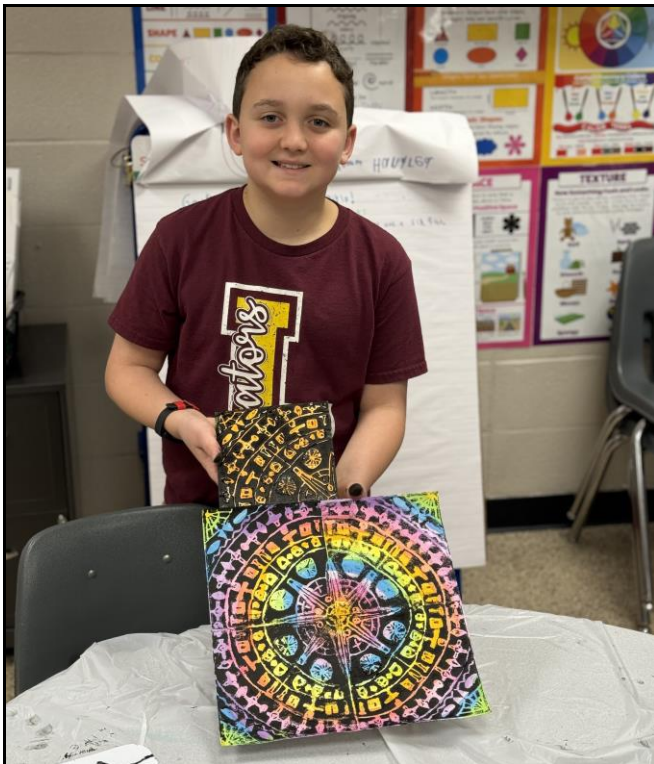
If you have any gently used uniforms that your child outgrew and you are no longer using, please consider donating them to our school. As the weather gets colder, our need for LWE sweatshirts or plain maroon sweatshirts will especially increase.

“Quality Learning for All Students”

Artistic Radial Symmetry



5th grade art students learned about radial symmetry. They created a 1/4 stamp design on paper then transferred it to foam board. They rolled ink on their foam board and printed it 4 times to make their radial symmetry design. Pictured above: Sydni Montet Pictured below: Aaron D'Amico



Beta Races for a Cure



Beta Members serving their community by participating in the "Susan G. Komen: Race for a Cure" cancer walk/run.



Beta leaders, Kayleigh Nugent and Kayley Yates pose with Beta sponsor, Ms. Ducre, after community service.



Beta Scholars, Reese Gaubert and Olivia Kremer, pose after completing the Susan G. Komen Race For a Cure in New Orleans.

"Quality Learning for All Students"

Tech Tips

- Regularly shut down and plug in technology to ensure your device is up to date and fully charged!
- Search a web page or document using control + F to find the specific phrase you need.
- To find keyboard shortcuts in your Chromebook:
 - At the bottom right, select the time.
 - Select Settings.
 - Scroll, then select Keyboard.
 - Select View keyboard shortcuts.



Math Competition



Congratulations to our LWE gifted students!! They all performed well and many placed in the district math contest against their peers.

1st place - Bentley Cranford, Jackson Degenhart, Rhett Fahrig, and Easton Smith
 2nd place - Andrew Champagne and Lincoln Kroll
 3rd place - Brennan Granier

Golden Gators



Congratulations to the Golden Gators for October!

Front: Haley Aucoin, Cole Babin, Sydni Montet, Finn Troxler, Paige Cummings, Erick Figueroa Lopez, Lillian Dufrene




Middle: Arlie Matherne, Reece Shillington, Phett Pizzolato, Ella Bruce, Lionel Howard, Violet McStay, Ramsey Baudouin, Tatum George, Sky Eskridge

Back: Lila Danford, Sophia Garcia, Brilee McLeod, Cassady Kimmel, Ramsey Dampier, De'Lanie Cannon, Kyleigh Nugent, LeeAnn Bourgeois, Alice Callero, Bentley Cranford

Not Pictured: Maddox Verges

“Quality Learning for All Students”

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 	27 Gatorettes 3-4 pm	28 Holiday Pictures/ Robotics 3:15-4:15 pm	29	30 Golden Gators Celebration/ Gatorettes 3-4 pm /Running Club 3:10 pm-4:10 pm/ Robotics 3:15-4:15 pm	1	2
3	4 Gatorettes 3-4 pm	5 Robotics 3:15-4:15 pm/ 4-H & Cloverbuds 3-4pm	6 Beta Meeting 3-3:50 pm/ Rotary Club Christmas Tree Lighting	7 Gatorettes 3-4 pm /Running Club 3:10 pm-4:10 pm/ Robotics 3:15-4:15 pm	8 DARE Graduation 8:30 am	9 HHS Robotics Competition/ ETTC Spring Musical Auditions
10	11 Science & S.S. Fair / Gatorettes 3-4 pm	12 Robotics 3:15-4:15 pm	13	14 Gatorettes 3-4 pm /Running Club 3:10 pm-4:10 pm/ Robotics 3:15-4:15 pm	15 3 rd Grade Artsperience- The Nutcracker	16
17	18 Gatorettes 3-4 pm	19 Robotics 3:15-4:15 pm/ LWE Christmas Concert @LPAC 6:00 pm	20	21 Classroom Christmas Parties 10:15-11:15 am/ Early Dismissal 11:55 am / 2 nd 9 weeks ends	22 No School Christmas/ New Year's Break	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
 Christmas/New Year's Break- No School Return to school on January 8 						

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

January 8: 3rd 9 weeks begins
January 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30: Robotics 3-4 pm
January 10: Beta Meeting 3-3:50 pm
January 11, 18, 22, 25, 29: Gatorettes 3-4 pm
January 11, 18, 25: Running Club 3:10-4:10 pm
January 12: Report Cards go home
January 15: MLK Holiday- **NO SCHOOL**
January 16: 4-H & Cloverbuds meeting 3-4 pm
January 17: Internet Safety Parent Night 6 pm
January 18: Talented Art Workshop Field Trip
January 19: Early Dismissal 11:55 am
January 20: Parish Honor Band Elementary Auditions 8 am- 12 pm @ RJV
January 27: Running Club: Laketown Distance Festival 8-10 am
January 29: YALL Fest: Regional Art Festival 8 am-3 pm @ LPAC
January 30: Golden Gators Celebration 7:50 am / Parish Honor Band Rehearsal 6-8 pm @ LPAC

Homework Assistance Offered Through State Library of Louisiana

The State Library of Louisiana offers FREE homework assistance services to parents and students at <http://www.homeworkla.org>.

Homework Louisiana offers free online tutoring and academic resources from Tutor.com for Louisiana residents from kindergarten students through adult learners. Get help in math, science, social studies or English from a live tutor. The one-to-one tutoring hours are now 2 pm to Midnight, 7 Days a Week! Students may now access this service from any internet-connected computer or mobile device during these hours.

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Chronicle