



Leopard's Tale

Volume VIII, Number II

February 2023

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

What's Inside...

- Superintendent's Letter.....2
- Guidance News.....2
- Hygiene Backpack.....2
- News from the Nurse.....3
- Spectrum Internet Assist3
- Share and Shine.....3
- CROP.....3
- Gingerbread Houses.....4
- 5th Grade Nutcrackers.....4
- Youth Softball/Baseball
Registration.....5
- Deck the Halls.....6-7
- Share and Shine Awards.....8
- Gnome on the Roam.....8
- World Travelers.....9
- Calendar of Events.....9
- Trap Team Meeting.....9
- Class of 2023 Fundraiser....9
- Santa at the Gazebo.....10
- February Menu.....11
- Colorguard Show.....12
- Zumba Fitness.....12
- Parent Teacher
Conferences.....12
- Pre-K and Kindergarten
Registration.....12
- Class of 2025 Fundraiser..12

Holiday Spirit Week at LCS

For the last four days of school before holiday break the faculty, staff, and students turned LCS into a festive holiday wonderland! Classes decorated the walls and hallways, festive holiday music was blasted throughout the dining hall, the Seniors made Ugly Christmas Sweaters with Mrs. Gifford, and Student Council sponsored a holiday themed Spirit Week! We are thrilled with the incredible amount of participation from so many of our faculty, staff, and students!



The dress up festivities included Holiday Character Day, Fabulous Festive Holiday Apparel Day (aka Ugly Sweater Day), Winter Wonderland Day, and Holiday PJ Day.



LCS Faculty & Staff were able to enjoy a special holiday gathering after school before the holiday break. Thank you to Mr. Dorritie, Mr. Mushtare, and Mrs. Gifford for all the wonderful snacks! Great fun was had by all and no one went away hungry.

From the Superintendent

As we enter the month of February, to this point, we have been blessed with a fairly mild winter. We have been fortunate to only have used one snow day so far! I hope that you get a chance to take advantage of the favorable weather conditions and enjoy one of our events at LCS. Please note:

- * Parents of elementary students should look for information to come home about celebrating the 100th day of school.
- * Report Cards for all grades will be sent home on January 30.
- * We are hosting the Area All-County Music Festival on Saturday, February 4. Please take the opportunity to see some of the talented musicians and vocalists from our school and other schools around the area.
- * Check out the activity schedule and come to a Basketball game. All of our teams will appreciate your support.
- * There will be a half day of school for all students on February 8. Parent/Teacher conferences for all grade levels will be held that afternoon. Be sure to schedule an appointment.
- * Looking ahead to March, our annual Contrast of Colors is scheduled to be held on Saturday, March 11.

Of course, February is also the time when schools begin to learn about the Governor's plans for our state and our educational system. As of this writing, schools are waiting for Governor Hochul to present her Executive Budget, which will outline state aid for schools. We hope that the Governor's budget will address fiscal disparities between urban and rural school districts and that rural schools receive the increase in aid that we feel we need to maintain the programming that we provide for students. When our state aid runs are released we will be able to move forward with our budget planning process for 2023-2024.

Please note that we have installed a new security system at the front and side doors. During school hours all visitors are required to go to the front door by the Main Office and be buzzed in before they can enter the building.

As always I thank you for your support and your continued involvement with our school and our community.

Sincerely,
Bill Dorritie
William F. Dorritie,
Superintendent

February 2023 School Counseling News for Newsletter

INFO FOR JUNIORS & PLANNING FOR COLLEGE

Here is a "to do" list to keep you organized for the next few months:

- Make a file to manage your college search, testing and application data.
- Visit college websites and request materials.
- Explore colleges via online searches like www.niche.com, www.chegg.com, www.suny.edu/attend/find-a-suny-program/undergraduate/ or www.princetonreview.com.
- Find out about college-prep summer programs or enrichment programs. Check www.summeroncampus.com.
- Develop a list of 10 to 15 colleges that attract you and that you may wish to visit—then VISIT (in person or virtually)!
- Sign up to attend "Junior Visit Days" offered by many colleges in the spring and summer. Many are during vacations. Hopefully, colleges will still be offering these in person.
- Create a resume of extracurricular activities, athletics and other honors and experiences you have received or participated in while in high school. This info is crucial to a quality transcript.

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

The guidance office has a variety of information on financial aid and scholarships. Parents and students are encouraged to visit and utilize these helpful resources. Check out these websites for scholarship and financial aid information:

- www.hesc.ny.gov
- www.studentaid.ed.gov
- www.finaid.org
- www.collegecost.ed.gov/scorecard
- www.suny.edu/smarttrack/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships
- www.studentscholarships.org
- www.goodcall.com/scholarships

LCS Hygiene Backpack

LCS is happy to announce that our LCS Hygiene Backpack Program will continue. This will be the third year that we are able to assist with hygiene products for your family. If you are interested in participating, please complete the form below and have your child return it to his/her teacher. This program is 100% confidential and you may sign up at any time. If you have more than one child in the school, please only list one child's name on the student name line below. We will ensure that there are enough supplies for the entire family.

THE HYGIENE BACKPACK WILL CONTAIN:

Shampoo, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, and at times other toiletries. The backpack will be sent home with your child once a month, usually the first Monday of the month. We ask that your child return the backpack to one of the backpack boxes located in the main office or the entrance by Ms. Shean's desk.

HYGIENE BACKPACK

Student's name: _____

Grade: _____

Number of people in family: _____

News from the Nurse

DEVELOPING HEALTHY HABITS AS A FAMILY

The best place for children to learn about living a healthy lifestyle is at home. The lessons learned can be reinforced at school, but will have the most impact when practiced daily at home.

- Families can encourage children to be more active by having them participate in family activities as well as sports. Along with physical activity, there are other important health-related lessons to teach your children—and to reflect in your own life!
- Consider making the following actions part of your family's healthy lifestyle.
 - Cut back on TV, computer, and video game time. Less time spent on these activities leaves more time for movement!
 - Take a family walk or bike ride.
 - Play with your children. It will be healthy for all of you, both physically and emotionally.
 - Make homework a priority. Provide a quiet time and place for doing homework. Talk to your child's teacher to make sure your child is keeping up with classroom work
 - Plan to eat a balanced, healthy dinner together as a family. If schedules don't allow for dinner together every night, make a goal to have at least two dinners together every week.
 - Make sure you and your children get enough sleep. Choose a reasonable bedtime that allows for 9 to 12 hours of sleep each night for a school-aged child. (Teenagers may need even more sleep than a young child!)

Our health is an important factor in our quality of life. Children who are healthy learn better, have more positive interactions, and have a better chance for success in life. As a parent, you have a lot of power to provide your children with the basic knowledge and practices they need for the rest of their lives.

Spectrum
SPECTRUM INTERNET® ASSIST

Spectrum Internet for Low Income Households

Get affordable Internet with Spectrum Internet Assist. Learn how your household could qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program that would give you Internet at NO COST.

QUALIFICATIONS

A member of your household must be a recipient of one of these assistance programs:

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the NSLP
- Supplemental Security Income (for applications age 65+ only)

If you have child that receives free or reduced lunch at school, you may qualify for this program from Spectrum. Please contact Beth (VanDeusen) West in the Cafeteria if you need a letter from the school to help you apply.

Go to www.spectrum.com/cp/broadband-get-qualified to see if you qualify

News From Share and Shine

The character focus for the K-6 classes for February is Compassion. Compassion is treating others as you want to be treated, being sensitive to other people's feelings, and encouraging others to be their best. Throughout the month and the rest of the school year, teachers in K-6 will be teaching students the importance of showing compassion.

On February 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the MPR, we will be holding a Share and Shine assembly. At this assembly, awards will be handed out to students and classes who display this character trait on a regular basis within the school building. You will receive a notice if your child will be receiving an award. We hope you can join us!

CROP News

CROP students and staff would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to the Laurens Mirabito Gas Station and all the people that donated cookies to our CROP Program. All the students were excited for these cookies and enjoyed eating them.

Currently, we have four families signed up for the Catch Me Cooking classes. They are having a great time making and learning about food. Catch Me Cooking is a program by Cornell Cooperative Extension that teaches families hands-on culinary and nutrition.



GIRLS ON THE RUN—COACH NEEDED

About us: Girls on the Run (GOTR) is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to creating a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams. We inspire girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. Girls on the Run is for 3rd to 5th grade girls, and our Heart & Sole program is for girls in grades 6th through 8th. If you are interested in being a coach please contact me at 607-432-0958 or email jdeboer@laurencs.org.

—Jessica DeBoer, CROP Site Coordinator

Kindergarten Gingerbread Houses

The kindergarten classes made their gingerbread houses again this year. This has been a tradition for many years. Thank you to all the adults that were able to come in to help them build. Great fun was had by all!



5th Grade Nutcrackers

Once again Mrs. Mish made Pringles can Nutcrackers with Mr. Nelson's and Ms. Smith's 5th grade classes. This project has been happening for 19 years now. The kids always have a great time designing their own Nutcracker. Many of you in the community that had a child attend 5th grade at LCS may still have a Nutcracker stashed with your holiday decorations.



This is the AMAZING life-sized Nutcracker that Mrs. Mish made this year! He stood guard in our hallway during the last week of school before the holiday vacation. Great job Mrs. Mish!



*Laurens Youth League Sports Association
Baseball/Softball Registration*

*****Registration Fee is Non-Refundable***
Registration fee: \$25.00 for first child and \$20.00 for each additional child**

Player's Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____ Town _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Parent Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

Boy _____ Girl _____ Age player will be on July 31, 2023 _____ Grade _____ T-Shirt Size _____

Emergency Contact information is to be used in your absence and if we cannot reach you through our available information

Emergency Contact #1 _____ Phone _____

Emergency Contact #2 _____ Phone _____

Allergies _____

Other Medical Conditions we should be aware of _____

Medical Insurance _____ Choice of Hospital _____

Doctor's Name _____ Doctor's Phone _____

I, the undersigned, am the parent/legal guardian of the above named child. I grant permission for my child to participate in all the activities of the Laurens Youth Leagues. I will assume all risks and hazards incidental or in such participation in these activities. I also release the Laurens Youth League Association, its officers, the coaches, organizers, sponsors, supervisors, participants, and persons transporting my child to and from these fields in order to participate in the programs, from any claim arising out of an injury to my child or liability for any injury incurred by my child, whether the result of negligence or from other cause, except to the extent and in the amount covered by accident or liability insurance.

I also agree to return any equipment and special uniforms issued to my child in as good condition it was received, except for normal wear and tear. Any uniforms returned are to have been laundered.

I authorize the Laurens Youth League or its representatives to request or allow any emergency medical treatment recommended or deemed necessary by any qualified physician, emergency room staff or emergency squad personnel until such time as I am physically present.

I know of no reason(s), other than the information indicated on this form, why my child should not participate in the described activities of the Laurens Youth League, except as noted.

Parent/Legal Guardian Name (please print) _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian _____

What program is your child eligible for? _____

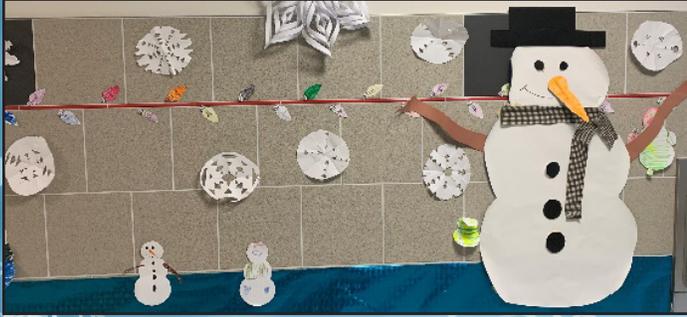
Tee ball (5 & 6 boys and girls) Minors Baseball (7 & 8 & 9) Majors Baseball (10 & 11 & 12) Minors Softball (7 & 8 & 9)

Majors Softball (10 & 11 & 12)

Team that your child played for last _____

Are you interested in helping out? Coaching _____ Assistant Coach _____ Fundraising _____

Deck the Halls 2022



Deck the Halls 2022

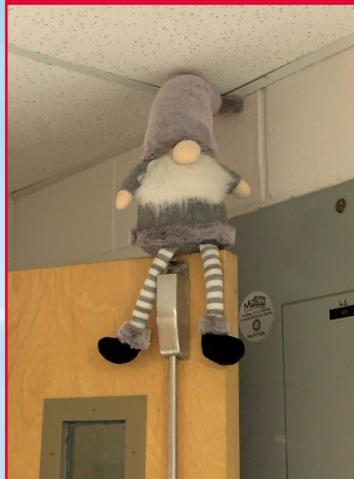
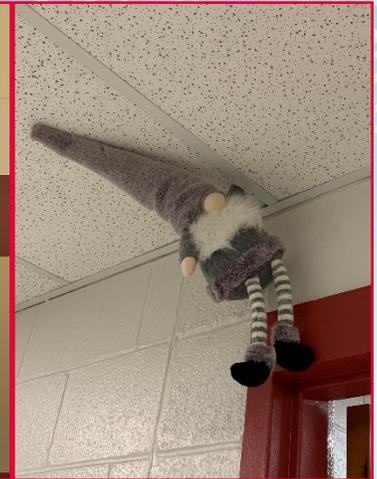


Share & Shine Award Winners for Fairness

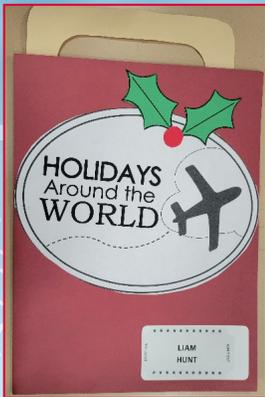


"Gnome on the Roam"

During the month of December our gnome friend was roaming the halls of LCS. Each day he was spotted in a different location. The kids had great fun trying to locate him and loved telling people where they found him. He made his final appearance on the stage at Share & Shine.



World Travelers!



What holidays are celebrated around the world during the month of December? How are they celebrated? This second-grade class knows! We hopped aboard Flight 229 with our luggage and passports. Once our seatbacks and tray tables were set we traveled to Mexico, Russia, Kenya, and Australia to learn about how they celebrate Christmas. Next, we headed to Israel to learn about Hannukah.

A guest speaker named Ms. Hallie Post visited us and shared her family traditions with us. Thank you so very much!

We returned to the United States to study Kwanzaa (and our ways to celebrate Christmas too). At the end of our unit, we brought our luggage home filled with souvenirs (a world map, postcards and passports containing fun facts about each celebration, and exit tickets that allowed us to depart the plane).

A special thank you to Community Bank in Oneonta for donating the folders that served as our luggage and to Ms. Amy Schlee (LCS Business Office) for coordinating this donation and our guest speaker. Where will we travel next?!?!
—Ms. Boyce, 2nd grade teacher



Calendar of Events

- 1 GMBB @ Franklin, 5:00 p.m.
GVBB @ Franklin, 6:15 p.m.
- 2 All-County Practice, 3:00 p.m.
BBB @ Sharon Springs, 5:30 p.m.
- 3 Trap Club Mtg., Rm 208,, 6:00 p.m.
GVB vs. Schenevus 6:00 p.m.
- 4 All-County Music Festival
Colorguard @ Vestal
- 5 Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Colorguard Adv., Rm 129A, 6:00 p.m.
- 7 GMBB/BMBB vs. Schenevus, 5:30 p.m.
Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
Village Mtg., Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 **Half Day of School P/T Conferences PreK-12**
POMP Mtg. via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 GMBB vs. Franklin, 5:00 p.m.
- 11 GMBB/BMBB vs. Edmeston, 10:00 a.m.
Tri-Valley Basketball Championships
Zumba, Café, 9:00 a.m.
- 12 Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Booster Club Mtg., Rm 115, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 15 BOE Meeting, Rm 115, 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Share & Shine, MPR, 2:00 p.m.
- 18 Colorguard @ Mohonasen
Zumba, Café, 9:00 a.m.
- 19 Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 **PRESIDENT'S DAY—NO SCHOOL**
- 21 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 21-24 **WINTER BREAK—NO SCHOOL**
- 25 Zumba, Café, 9:00 a.m.
- 26 Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Classes Resume
- 28 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.

Trap Team Meeting



There will be an informational meeting and registration for the Laurens Trap Team on February 3, 2023 at 6 p.m. in room 208. All students that are interested in participating in the spring league should attend with a parent. We will be discussing fundraising, the season schedule, and answering questions that new shooters have about the club.



Class of 2023 Fundraiser

The senior class will be selling Gertrude Hawk chocolates from February 1-15.

If you are interested in ordering, please contact a member of the class, Mrs. Lewis, or Ms. Sander for information or you may order online at

<https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com/>

Orders will be delivered before Easter.

Santa at the Gazebo



FEBRUARY 2023

Laurens Central School

Breakfast K-3 \$1.95
 Breakfast 4-12 \$2.10
 Lunch K-3 \$2.20
 Lunch 4-12 \$2.45

Monday

6
 Pancakes w/Bacon
 Ultimate Chicken Bowl
 WW Roll
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

13
 Breakfast Biscuit Sandwich
 Pulled Pork Sandwich
 Tater Tots
 Carrots
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

20
NO SCHOOL
PRESIDENTS DAY

27
 Sausage Gravy & Biscuit
 Chicken Broccoli Alfredo Bake
 Garlic Bread
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Tuesday

7
 Assorted Muffins w/Yogurt
 Grilled Cheese
 Tomato Soup
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

14
 Breakfast Pizza
 Chicken Stir Fry
 Egg Roll
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

21

28
 Egg Hash Brown Bake
 Chicken Tenders
 Tater Tots
 Cauliflower
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Wednesday

1
 Breakfast Sandwich
 Chicken Parm Wrap
 Brussel Sprouts
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

8
Half Day for K-12
 Breakfast on a Stick
 Chicken Quesadillas
 Corn
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

15
 Pancakes w/Sausage
 Fish Nuggets
 French Fries/Peas
 WRAP DAY
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas

22

Thursday

2
 Scrambled Eggs w/ Home Fries
 Hamburger/Cheeseburger
 French Fries
 Green Beans
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

9
 Oatmeal w/Brown Sugar & Raisins
 Goulash
 Garlic Bread
 Green Beans
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

16
 Scrambled Eggs w/Cheese
 Stuffed Shells
 Garlic Bread
 Corn
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

23

Friday

3
 French Toast Sticks
 Assorted Pizza
 Spinach and Romaine Salad
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

10
 Breakfast Burrito
 Assorted Pizza
 Spinach and Romaine Salad
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

17
 Waffles
 Assorted Pizza Muffins
 Spinach and Romaine Salad
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

24

WINTER BREAK



Breakfast and Lunch must include 3 items and one MUST be a fruit and/or vegetable. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

MY SCHOOL I BUCKS
 PAY FOR MEALS ONLINE
 MySchoolBucks.com

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL
Laurens, New York 13796

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Cynthia Struckle, President
Thomas Francisco, Vice President
Gerard Murello
Margaret Wikoff
Peggy Bush

SUPERINTENDENT

William F. Dorritie

BUILDING PRINCIPAL

John Mushtare

EDITOR

Pam Weir

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 18
Norwich, NY
13815

DCMO BOCES Printing Service

Current Resident or

POSTAL PATRON
ECRWSS



**Contrast of Colors
Colorguard Show**

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023

@ 5:00 IN THE SCHOOL GYM

Doors open @ 4:30

Admission: \$8 adults, \$6 students/
seniors, Under 5 free

58" Smart TV Raffle ~ 50/50 Raffle

Lotto Board Raffle ~ Food



Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences for students in grades

Pre-K-12 will be held in the afternoon on

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

All students will be dismissed at 12:35 p.m.

Please call the Main Office to schedule your conference

607-432-2050, ext. 1220

Pre-Kindergarten

If you have a child that will be turning four years old on or before December 1, 2023, please contact Lindsey Gifford at 607-432-2050, ext. 2100 so that we may place your child on the Pre-Kindergarten list for the 2023-2024 school year.



Kindergarten

If you have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 1, 2023, please contact Lindsey Gifford at 607-432-2050, ext. 2100 so that we may place your child on the Kindergarten list for the 2023-2024 school year.



ZUMBA Fitness

with

Linda Reeves, Holly Deleski, and Tracy Bender

Licensed Instructors: Zumba/Toning

Tuesday Evenings 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday mornings 9:00 a.m.

at Laurens Central School

\$5.00 a class or get your coupon card (\$25 & \$50)

Any questions Call 607-433-4761 & 607-432-7521

Your first class is FREE!



Little Caesars
Fundraising

During the first half of February, the Class of 2025 will be selling pizzas and desserts through Little Caesars Pizza Fundraising. If anyone would like to order, please contact any sophomore or Christine Cox or Jennifer Mann. Thank you in advance for your support!