

Weekly Letter from Mrs. Chapman
August 15, 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back Track 3! We hope you have a super track out, Track 2! We are busy at Leesville Elementary. A group of teachers attended their first workshop on Positive Behavior Support and will share with the rest of the staff for us to become a PBS school where the accent is on the positive behaviors of children. Our Early Release Day was productive as our staff learned more strategies to challenge our higher level students. Ms. Mary Dishman led this workshop.

A sneak peek into several classes leads us to the Academically Gifted room where students are studying "Menu Math". Vocabulary was integrated in this lesson as well as different types of dining and finally how much to tip. This lesson was full of life skills and excellent math skills. In one classroom, the students were writing on imaginary boards in the air ensuring that their letter formation was perfect. In another class, there was simple addition with one student adding double digits in first grade!

Ident a Kid will be here on Wednesday at 12:00 for Track 4 and other make ups. Be sure to send in your \$8.00 for the Ident-a-Kid ID card.

Some noteworthy news:

1. GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS (From Schary Way)

I want to THANK everyone for another GREAT YEAR with Box Tops. The school year total for last year was \$1,713.27! I have moved on to the middle school and Linda Carrigan is your new coordinator with Box Tops. Remember this is **FREE MONEY** for our children. Please continue to clip and turn in Box Tops to the school. Box Tops are EASY to turn into the school...you can take them to the classroom or put them in a drop box in the main office or the teachers lounge.

The first submission for this school year is the end of October.

I wish everyone a GREAT YEAR and please WELCOME Linda Carrigan, to BOX TOPS.

2. CUBS CLOSET

In response to a recent LES staff survey asking how the PTA can help, many of the staff asked the PTA to help our children in need. The PTA came up with the idea of a "Cub's Closet". Thanks to Mrs. Chapman who has graciously allowed us to use an empty track-out cabinet, the LES PTA will coordinate a "closet" filled with school supplies and clothing. These items will be available for staff to distribute to students based on their individual need. We have asked the staff for specifics and a list is included below. If you would like to donate, there is a box located in the front lobby for collection of these items, which will be sorted and stored in the "Cub's Closet". We appreciate your donations of the following items:

Clothes (new or gently used) – all sizes for elementary-aged children

Shirts, shorts, pants, belts, shoes, jackets/coats

New clothing – underwear (boys and girls), socks, shoelaces

New school supplies – backpacks (no wheels), notebooks, pencils, folders, notebook paper

This is a great time of year to find bargains! Any donations are appreciated and will go to help our students. If you have any questions, contact:

Diane Michaud dianemichaud@earthlink.net or Julie Bowyer thebowyers@earthlink.net

3. LEESVILLE OUT TO EAT NIGHT-MONDAY AUGUST 25, 2008!

To celebrate the kick off of a new year, Backyard Burger and Goodberry's will host our first Out To Eat night immediately after school until 8:30 pm. OTE nights are a way for families to enjoy dinner with other LES families and the PTA receives a percentage of the total receipts. OTE nights are scheduled monthly and you are encouraged to attend with any additional family or friends you want to invite. All funds earned at an OTE night benefit our staff and students directly and all you have to do is come out to eat!

4. CHESS CLUB

Chess club will begin play on Friday, Aug. 15 from 4 – 4:45pm. The club will meet in the media center on the first and third Fridays of each month. No experience is necessary. Right now we will only meet while Track 4 is in unless we have a parent volunteer to assist while Track 4 is tracked out.

Parents/guardians will need to pick up players no later than 4:45pm.

5. PRESERVING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

In order to preserve instructional time, we are asking that students not be checked out between 3:15 and 3:45. If an early release is unavoidable, please send a note to the teacher and she/he will send your child to the office to wait for you. Some of the most vital information that the teacher needs to share with your child is given at that time. If your child is late to school in the morning, please walk them in to the office and sign them in. This is a safer practice than just dropping them off outside. Thank you for adhering to the above requests. We want what is best for your child.

6. CITIPASS FUNDRAISER

The Citipass Fundraiser for **Tracks 1 & 2** is coming to a close. **All books and orders should have been turned in today but if you did not do so please make every effort to do this on Monday.** If you have not taken the time to look at this book, I urge you to take a glance. It is a great way to save money on dining, entertainment and many other activities as well as raise money for the LES PTA.

If you would like to purchase the Citipass Book that your child brought home, simply return a check to your child's teacher for \$20 (payable to LES PTA) on Monday in the envelope in which the book was delivered. If you would like to purchase additional books, simply fill out the appropriate information on the order envelope and enclose payment for each book ordered. If you do not want to purchase the book, please return it in the envelope to your child's teacher.

Tracks 3 & 4 will be receiving their books and information on Monday **August 18th**. Every child that sells at least one book will receive a prize.

If you have questions concerning the Citipass Book sale, please contact Pam Hixson pchixson@bellsouth.net or Susan Gialenios at sgialenios@nc.rr.com.

We wish you a happy weekend.

Cecelia Chapman
Principal