

## The Leopard's Tale

Lime Kiln Middle School  
11650 Scaggsville Road  
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February 23, 2018

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LKMS Families,

As we as a school, school system and nation grapple with the aftermath of the most recent tragedy in Parkland, Florida, we want to take a moment to remind each of you how very appreciative we are of the loving care and guidance you give your children each day to help them feel heard, valued, nurtured and safe. Please know that the staff of LKMS works tirelessly to this end each day as well.

As you discuss these difficult topics with your children, we wanted to provide you with some resources from the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) that you may find helpful. Attached to this week's Leopards Tale, please find several documents which have age-specific guidance for parents.

In addition, here are some quick reminders from NASP:

1. Reassure children that they are safe.
2. Make time to talk.
3. Keep your explanations developmentally appropriate.
4. Review safety procedures.
5. Observe children's emotional state.
6. Limit television and social media coverage of these events.
7. Maintain a normal routine.

As always, if you have any specific concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher, school counselor or any member of the administrative team.

Finally, I encourage you to consider attending the Superintendent's Safety and Mental Health Forum on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7:00 pm at River Hill High School. Find out more at <http://www.hcpss.org/news-posts/2018/02/school-safety-and-mental-health-community-forum-february-27-2018-resources-available-online/>.

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

February 27 – Superintendent’s Safety and Mental Health Community Forum @ RHHS 7:00 pm

March 7 – Interims – Marking Period 3

March 8 – “Innocence Stolen” Presentation (see below for details)

March 30 – April 3 – Spring Break

June 13 – Grade 8 Promotion Ceremony (afternoon) and Dance (evening) – more details to come!

## **“LIME LIGHTERS” – STUDENTS OF THE WEEK:**

Congratulations to the following students who demonstrated their ability to “ROAR” this week by being responsible, respectful, and academically focused:

Summer Richmond

Jane Shin

Rayaan Chaudhry

Zach Zinderman

Caroline Rosenberry

Aleeza Khan

Aidan Loehr

Heidi Herschbach

Brighty Sebastian

## **“INNOCENCE STOLEN: PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN”**

Presented by Vincent DeVivo from the U.S. Attorney’s Office, on March 8, 2018, 6:30–8:00 PM at Lime Kiln Middle School. "Innocence Stolen: Protecting Our Children Online" reviews the array of threats teenagers face when they go online. This multimedia presentation is designed to equip and empower parents and guardians to address the teachable moments that occur when accessing the Internet. The presentation speaks directly to adults. We offer the opportunity for you to bring your teenager in order to promote conversations within families about the dangers online; however, please be advised of the mature content of the presentation. Discussion topics will include social networking, cyber bullying, sexting, and Internet predators. Due to the mature content of this presentation, students who choose to attend the presentation **MUST** be accompanied by their parent or guardian. Register early to reserve your spot as space is limited.

<http://bit.ly/2nbZEbo>.

## **VERY IMPORTANT - PARENT DROP-OFF/PICKUP:**

When dropping off or picking up your student, please remember to use the lower parking level of our school. **The upper level (both the main bus loop and the smaller loop) must remain clear for our school buses to enter beginning at 2:45pm.** Thank you for your help!

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR CHANGES FOR 2017/18 - A DAY/B DAY SCHEDULE:**

Due to the fact that we have missed 4 B days and had an additional shortened B day for unscheduled early dismissal as of February 7, 2018, and in preparation for all possible inclement weather make-up days, we have made some adjustments and updates to the A Day/B Day calendar for the remainder of this school year:

- Tuesday, February 20 will be changed from an A Day to a B Day.
- If Wednesday, April 4 is used as an inclement weather make-up day, it will be a B Day.
- If Thursday, April 5 is used as an inclement weather make-up day, it will be an A Day.
- If Friday, April 6 is used as an inclement weather make-up day, it will be a B Day.
- If Friday, May 18 is used as an inclement weather make-up day, it will be a B Day.
- If Friday, June 15 is used as an inclement weather make-up day, it will be a B Day.

Attached is an updated A/B calendar, reflecting the changes in **RED**.

## **“FIGHT THE FLU” - Preventing Flu, Flu-like illness and GI Virus illnesses:**

As you know, our region is experiencing one of the worst flu seasons in many years. Here are some recommendations from the Health Department to help prevent the spread of illness:

- Avoid close contact with infected persons. Children who are unwell should stay at home.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially before and after eating, after using the bathroom, after episodes of vomiting or diarrhea, whenever visibly soiled.
- If soap and water is unavailable, hand sanitizers may be used. Rub sanitizer over all hand surfaces until the sanitizer has dried, then wash with soap and water when possible.
- Teach proper cough hygiene. Transmission is possible through close contact with an infected person.
- Avoid putting fingers in the nose, mouth or rubbing the eyes. Transmission through mucus membranes after touching contaminated objects is possible.
- Students should not return to school until they have been symptom free for 24 hours. Do not send a child back to school until they have been fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication. Students with a confirmed lab diagnosis of norovirus should not return to school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours.

## **LKMS - MEMORY BOOKS FOR 2017/18:**

LKMS Memory Books are now on sale. Prices start at \$25 and many upgrades are available. Orders are due by April 13, 2018. For ordering information and to download a sales flyer, please go to the LKMS website at [lkms.hcpss.org](http://lkms.hcpss.org).

## **LOST AND FOUND:**

Please have your student check the Lost and Found table located in our school cafeteria for any misplaced items. Several coats, gym uniforms, lunch boxes, etc. have been recovered during the past few weeks.

## **ATTENTION PARENTS OF 8th GRADE STUDENTS:**

### **Private School Applications**

Students applying to private schools who will need teacher recommendations and/or transcripts sent to the private school should submit this request to the Student Services office. We will collect all information and mail as one packet to the school. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Mongello in Student Services.

## **LKMS PTA DRAMA - "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST":**

Interested in theatre but not certain if performing is your thing? Join our technical theatre class where you will help design and paint the "Beauty and the Beast" set, learn stage management and props, run crew and costume crew, and work backstage for the performances. Go to: [dramalearningcenter.com](http://dramalearningcenter.com) to register or contact Eileen Densel at [eileendensel@gmail.com](mailto:eileendensel@gmail.com). Tech crew classes start on March 5.

## **ATHOLTON HIGH SCHOOL FALL ATHLETICS:**

Any incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade student who would like to tryout for a fall sport next year (2018-2019 school year), please note that tryouts begin on Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Students must attend all tryouts and practices will begin immediately after teams are selected. Please plan vacation time accordingly. For more information, contact Michael Senisi, Athletics and Activities Manager, at [Michael\\_Senisi@hcpss.org](mailto:Michael_Senisi@hcpss.org)

## **RIVER HILL HIGH SCHOOL - UPCOMING EVENTS:**

RIVER HILL HIGH SCHOOL'S THEATRE PRESENTS "PIPPIN": The upcoming production of "Pippin" will run from March 1-4, in River Hill High School's Auditorium. A Tony, Grammy and Oscar-winning Broadway musical, first produced in 1975 by legendary Bob Fosse, Pippin is the story of one young man's

journey to be extraordinary. Heir to the throne, the young prince Pippin is in search of the secret to true happiness and fulfillment.

Please refer to the attached flyer for additional information on this production or contact Theatre Director, Pam Land at [pland@hcpss.org](mailto:pland@hcpss.org) or 410-313-7120.

### **CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL - CAMP IMPROV:**

Camp Improv is a summer comedy camp for middle school students directed by Centennial High School's theatre teacher, Kathryn Carlsen. By focusing on teamwork and artistic collaboration, Students learn the joy of jumping in and finding the funny. For questions and more information, contact Kathryn Carlsen at [kcarlsen@hcpss.org](mailto:kcarlsen@hcpss.org) or visit the website, [www.campimprov.org](http://www.campimprov.org).

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### **RESERVOIR HIGH SCHOOL'S BOOSTERS:**

Come out to sports camp the week of July 16th at Reservoir High School with Lime Kiln teachers Phil Ranker (PE), Tom Dougherty (Math) and Erika Lupo (PE). The camp is open to rising 1st-9th graders and features many different sports and activities every day. If your child likes PE, they will love camp. Campers are split into age and ability groups to ensure that everyone has a great and productive time. For more information, please visit <http://rankerssportscamp.weebly.com> or email [phillip\\_ranker@hcpss.org](mailto:phillip_ranker@hcpss.org) for questions!

### **HOWARD COUNTY COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION'S SUMMER CAMPS:**

The Howard County Columbia Association is accepting registrations for Summer Camps. Please refer to the attached flier for registration information.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS AND PROGRAMS:**

The Community News and Programs webpage contains brief announcements of upcoming events and announcements from community and non-profit organizations. Please visit [Community News and Programs](http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/) (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for all announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

### **HCLS/HCPSS A+ STUDENT CARD:**

Howard County Library System and Howard County Public School System are launching a new fully functioning A+ STUDENT CARD. It allows easy access to HCLS eContent (including research databases) in the classroom, at home, or anywhere students need to do homework or research through [hcpss.me](http://hcpss.me). The A+

Student Card uses the student's active directory login. This A+ virtual student card gives the student all the same borrowing privileges as the physical card. Here is **a link to more information: [A+ Student Card](#)**.