



# Lago Vista Middle School Newsletter

October 18, 2011

Issue I

## Mark Your Calendar

- Oct. 19: Yearbook picture retakes
- Oct. 20: Pep rally (3:00)
- Oct. 20: Football (hm)
- Oct. 24-28: Book Fair
- Oct. 24-28: Red Ribbon Week
- Oct. 24: Volleyball (away-last game)
- Oct. 26 Public Bond Informational Mtg.—6pm, Viking Hall
- Oct. 27: Football (away)
- Nov. 3: Football (home—last game)
- Nov. 2, 3, 4: Early voting for bond election in the Lago area
- Nov. 4: 3-week grade check
- Nov. 15: EXPLORE test for all 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- Nov. 21-25: Thanksgiving break
- Dec. 9: UIL Academic Meet @ Academy
- Dec. 12: 6-week grade check
- Dec. 12–16: Semester exams
- Dec. 16: Last day of first semester
- Dec. 19-Jan. 4: Winter break
- Jan. 5: Students return!

[www.lagovistaisd.net](http://www.lagovistaisd.net)

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

By now, the school year is in full swing. We began the year with a Back to School Night on August 17, which gave us an opportunity to visit with our students for the first time. What a tremendous turnout of students and parents. Now, nine weeks later, it's hard to imagine our students as new! It's always amazing how quickly students adapt to a new school year, its challenges and the opportunities.

The past nine weeks have been exciting; great lessons have taken place in the classrooms and many students are participating in after school activities. We have some fabulous talent among our volleyball and football players. If you haven't had a chance to attend a LVMS volleyball or football game, you're missing some exciting action. We have a "Heroes and Villains" pep rally planned for October 20, as we cheer on our teams for their remaining games.

The cheerleaders are currently holding a coin drive for a LVMS Mascot costume. The PTO has graciously donated \$150 which defrays half the cost. Their goal is to raise approximately \$110 more. If each student brings a quarter, the goal can be reached in one day! That's an excellent price to be able to say YOU started the Mascot tradition at LVMS.

## Just a Few Reminders...

### Grades Online

LVISD introduced txConnect this year—a new service for checking grades and attendance. Each student has a unique portal ID to access the student information. Portal ID information letters were given to students on September 1. A second copy is included with this newsletter.

### Absent from school

Please notify the school of your child's absence by calling the school office at 267 8300, extension 3500 or email the school attendance clerk at [terri\\_harkins@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:terri_harkins@lagovista.txed.net).

### Car Riders

Please pick up students in front of the main building. Students are required to wait in front and are forbidden from crossing the parking lot. Additionally, drivers please follow all traffic laws.

### Arrival to School

Students are allowed to enter the building at 7:55am for their first period class. Students who arrive before 7:55am are required to wait in the cafeteria. With an approved pass, students are allowed to enter the

In an effort to communicate about important events and news directly to parents, I will be sending out group emails periodically. If you have not yet received an email from me, then that means I don't have your email address on my group list. If you would like to be included, please email me at [trisha\\_upchurch@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:trisha_upchurch@lagovista.txed.net) or Ms. Kunze at [sue\\_kunze@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:sue_kunze@lagovista.txed.net)

We are reminded daily that our purpose for coming to school each day is to provide the best education possible for our 336 students. We set high standards for ourselves and our students, and the decisions, including rules, assignments, and expectations are guided by that purpose. From the moment you walk into our front office, I hope you feel welcome and appreciated. If you have any concerns or questions about Lago Vista Middle School, please do not hesitate to call. The 2011-12 school year promises to be a great school year. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*Trisha Upchurch*

building for morning tutorials from 7:30 – 7:45 AM. Supervision is not provided for students who arrive to school before 7:30 AM and remain on campus after 4:00 PM unless prior arrangements have been made with the principal or designated staff member.

### Bullying

Bullying is not tolerated. Students who witness an incident of bullying or feel they are victims of bullying action, should report the incident to a staff member, such as a teacher, principal, or counselor. Reports can be made directly to a staff member or via the confidential "No Bullies Allowed" mailbox located in front of the main office.

### Cell Phones

Students are not allowed to use cell phones during the school day (8:00–3:30). Cell phones must be turned off during the school day and will be taken up for unauthorized use. A fee of \$15 will be charged the owner of the cell phone for its release. Additionally, the school staff does not assume responsibility for lost or stolen cell phones brought to school.



## Special Thank You!

Thank you, eighth grade parents, for providing us with lunch on Sept. 30. We very much appreciate your generosity and your support.



## Obrigado!

### Upcoming Bond Election

The LVISD School Board has called for a bond election in November to build a new high school on the 101 acres off of Lohman Ford. An information packet regarding the proposition is enclosed with this newsletter. **Early voting is available in the Lago Vista area Nov. 2, 3, & 4.**

A public informational meeting concerning the upcoming bond election will be held on **Wednesday, October 26th, at 6:00pm in Viking Hall.**

### LVMS Yearbook

Yearbooks are on sale now! Be an early bird and purchase your copy of the LVMS yearbook before Thanksgiving break for only \$30. After that, the cost will be \$35. Order forms are available in the front office or students can stop by Ms. Luce Wright's classroom (room 208).

## Vikings Making Headlines!

Over the summer, several LVMS students won an essay contest called "Let Freedom Ring." Congratulations to essay winners, **Ryan Coleman, River Wylie, Nick Luckie, Stephanie Knab** and teacher, **Patricia Whitton.**

Lago Vista Middle School seventh grade students have qualified to participate in the **Duke Talent Search** based on TAKS performance scores at the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or above. These students were invited to take a college entrance exam, either the SAT or the ACT. By participating in this testing opportunity, students and their families gain a better understanding of where the student stands in relation to his/her peers and what level of educational challenge is appropriate. Students who are successful are invited to attend recognition ceremonies and/or summer studies programs held on various college campuses. These high achieving students are:

Zachary Aubin	Emily Hahn	Ava Ortiz
Daniel Babyak	Lindsay Hickson	Meliton Rios
Tres Bender	Ryan Hill	Colton Roach
Daniel Carter	Chloe Hoyles	Katlyn Robicheaux
Jason Cheatham	Madelyn Jackson	Caitlin Ross
Alaina DiGann	Sarah Jarrar	Shelby Schwartz
Rebecca Elder	Autumn Jarrett	RJ Simmons
Connor Gauthier	Rileigh Jones	Kelly Statham
Arysun Grassick	Jeremy Lentz	Hannah Zurovetz.
Tyler Gray	Madison Lopez	
Sydney Gomez	Sarah Malone	

The 2011-2012 **Student Council** year is in full swing. 6th grade representatives are **Nate Elder, Oury Goodwin, Jessie Hassler, Sofia Heggem, Thira Heggem, Jasem Jarrar, Abby Nichols, and Cameron Tuggle.**

7th grade members are **Cierra Abbott, Taylor Blanco, Tommy Covington, Chloe Hoyles, Joey Palmer, and Quentin Reeb.** 8th grade representatives are **Chandler Burkett, Robert D'Lorm, Bailey Haire, Tarrah Hill, Lily Jameson, Fayanna Mitchell, Savannah Sullivan, and Rachel Van Pelt.**

Upcoming events include Red Ribbon Week from October 24-28. This year's spirit days for Red Ribbon Week are: Monday - Pajama Day, Tuesday - Nerd Power, Wednesday - Crazy Hat/Hair, Thursday - School Spirit, and Friday - 80s Theme. We look forward to having fun as we show our commitment to staying drug free.

There are many art students whose work is currently published on the LVMS Art Website. You can find some wonderfully drawn texture hands, creatures, and well-planned and colored warm and cool designs. Art students are currently working on incredible texture scenes to highlight what they've learned about shading and texture over the past few weeks.

Art II will soon begin gathering materials to create Gingerbread Houses. If you happen to be swamped with unwanted Halloween candy at your house, please send it to the Art room. We'll make great use of it for decorating our houses.

## National Junior Honor Society News

I would like to congratulate our newly- elected Executive Council for the 2011-2012 school year:

**President, Bailey Haire; Vice-President, Faith Dreibrodt; Secretary, Lily Jameson; Treasurer, Robert D'Lorm; and Historian, Michelle Chan.**

Members have been busy with service projects such as campus clean-up, collecting donations for the victims of the recent wildfires, serving baked goods to our local firefighters for National Fire Prevention Month, and helping with child care for the LVISD Fall Parenting Workshops.

We are also collecting *Box Tops for Education*! Please cut Box Tops from products you are probably already using and send to the LVMS front office. Check their web site for a complete list of products: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).



***BOX TOPS EQUAL CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL!!***

## Parenting Workshops

Selected parenting sessions from the *Love & Logic Institute* are being facilitated by LVES and LVMS Counselors once a month this fall. "Parenting with Love and Logic" is a well-known parenting program that has been around for more than 30 years and features simple techniques to help parents have less stress and more fun while raising responsible children.

The first session was held in October with a great response and showing from parents. The remaining two sessions will be held at the Lago Vista Elementary School campus and will take place on **November 1 and December 6, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** You can still attend these sessions, even if you were un able to attend the first session in October. Please call 267-8300, Ext. 3500 to register.



## 2011 UIL Academic District Meet is December 9, 2011.

LVMS teams are excited and enthusiastically training for the 16 events! Thank you for your willingness to bring students in for 7:30 practices and/or pick up later for after school practices. Students will also be practicing and studying materials at home. We appreciate your support!

## Eighth Graders EXPLORE the future

All LVMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will be taking the **EXPLORE Assessment** next month. The content of the **EXPLORE** is closely tied to that of the achievement tests in the **ACT** which is broadly used for college entrance and placement decisions. The **EXPLORE** helps 8<sup>th</sup> graders build high school course plans that will prepare them for college and work and introduces them to career options that are relevant to them.

This assessment shows your son or daughter:

- areas needing extra help or additional courses
- suggestions for improving skills
- careers that match the student's interests

EXPLORE scores provide early indicators of whether students are on track for college.

Learn more about other ACT resources for students at: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

## Honor Roll for 1st Nine Weeks – 2011-2012

Lago Vista Middle School proudly recognizes students for academic achievement for the second nine weeks. Students on the All A Honor Roll received grade averages of 90 or above in all seven classes. The AB Honor Roll includes students who earned all A's and no more than two B's for their classes.

8th

**All A Honor Roll** - Madeline Ambrose, Matthew Babyak, Britney Berlin, Tia Culbreth, Dylan Gehrke, Dylan Gracy, Brooke Imirie, Laven Low, Jocelynn Mccaleb, Emily Moseley, Kelsey Mumford, Samuel Spangler, Connor Sullivan, Emily Wheeler

**A/B Honor Roll** - Dylan Abrams, Delana Arme, Jordan Aten, Sarah Brooks, Michael Carpeno, Terry Gearing, Mariah Hughes, Lauren Knight, Collin Kurio, Alexandra Lofton, Thomas Lopez-Hipolito, Laven Low, Levi Michael, Abigayle Pogue, Braxton Ridgeway, Sam Tiona, Brodie Willard

7th

**All A Honor Roll** - Berenice Alvarado, Jordan Bell, Nina Bortolussi, Andrew Callan, Cody Carrow, Jessica Collins, Ethan Crawford, John-Michael Didonato, Faith Dreibrodt, Peyton Fussee-Durham, Allison Goins, Bailey Haire, Lily Jameson, Kendall Kannmacher, Monica Lash, Ashley Seib, Kennedy Smith, Clay Stamper, Bryce Vogel, Jake Ward, Shaylan Wehner, Abi Wernsman, River Wylie

**A/B Honor Roll** - Blake Aldy, Sarah Arnold, Eva Beebe, Dallas Bradberry, Chandler Burkett, Jacob Carpeno, Anna-Michelle Chan, Cullen Coffey, Ryan Coleman, Darby Derrick, Robert D'lorm, Hailee Dossey, Chance Dubose, Gage Fox, Derek Haines, Brenna Hassin, Jacob Hernandez, Harley Huroskey, Stephanie Knab, Nicholas Luckie, Alicia Mendoza-Guajardo, Jailin Munoz, Benjamin Northcutt, Jordan Orbin, Leslie Orta, Savannah Powers, Peyton Price, Trey Simms, Tyson Smith, Jordan Smith, Shelton Stewart, Weston Stewart, Savannah Sullivan, Iris Tate-Looney, Madison Walden, Bradley Wiechman

6th

**All A Honor Roll** - Daniel Babyak, Madison Brown, Cassandra Carlton, Daniel Carter, Alex Deleon, Collin Docker, Arysun Grassick, Lindsay Hickson, Chloe Hoyles, Madelyn Jackson, Autumn Jarrett, Hugh Jennings, Luisa Lopez, Sarah Malone, Meliton Rios-Guebara, Colton Roach, Caitlin Ross, Jacob Runnels, Shelby Schwartz, Kelly Statham, Chase Whitelaw

**A/B Honor Roll** - Cierra Abbott, Zachary Aubin, Zachary Barnes, Tres Bender, Taylor Blanco, Jason Cheatham, Thomas Covington, Ashley D'Ambrose, Rebecca Elder, Yolanda Garcia, Sydney Gutierrez-Gomez, Emily Hahn, Sophia Harrington, Tyler Hovey, Coleton Hull, Addison Jones, Rileigh Jones, Daniel Kelso, Madison Lopez, Dayton Loyd, Jae Morquecho, Ava Ortiz, Emma Peer, Katlyn Robicheaux, Alondra Saavedra, Gary Simmons, Linzi Standiford, Russell Sweet, Ryen Young, Hannah Zurovetz