

LS WEEKLY BULLETIN

Weekly Bulletin 25 | March 10, 2017 | Elizabeth Gale

Important Dates

- **March 14th-15th:** Student-Led Conferences
- **March 17th:** PAFA sponsored Teacher Appreciation Day and Mid-Semester Reports sent home to parents via email
- **March 24th:** Lower School Assembly featuring 5P and “Silly Clothes” Spirit Day
- **April 1st-9th:** Spring Break
- **April 11th:** LS Principal’s Coffee Morning at 9:00am in room 310 on the Grade 5 PYP Exhibition. PAFA General Meeting
- **April 14th:** Lower School Assembly featuring 2M and “Crazy Hair” Spirit Day



Congratulations to 3J on a fantastic assembly performance! During the assembly, students in 3J shared information related to their current unit of inquiry on Persuasion. Audience members were able to view persuasive videos by 3J students. 3J used the assembly as an opportunity to convince audience members to read their favorite books. This assembly coincided perfectly with the Lower School Book Character Spirit Day! Super job 3J!

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to welcome you to **Student-Led Conferences** next Tuesday, March 14th and Wednesday, March 15th. Students across grade levels and subject areas have been enthusiastically preparing to share their learning journey with you next week. It is important to remember that Student-led Conferences are a celebration of learning and this is truly your child’s opportunity to shine! Please provide your child with positive feedback surrounding their progress and encourage them to share with you the ways in which they feel you can support them with achieving their learning goals. Thank you for your support in helping make Student-led Conferences a very

special event for your child.

As the weather changes, we’ve noticed a slight increase student **absences due to “common cold”** symptoms. Please remember that according to school policy, students who have a fever are not permitted back to school until 24 hours after the fever breaks; students who vomit are not permitted back to school until 24 hours past the last vomit. We ask that parents adhere to these parameters to help keep all students at school healthy. Throughout the school we have increased cleaning protocols to ensure that all student spaces are sanitized multiple times each day.

If your child will be participating in a play-date with a friend after school, please remember that it is

essential that you contact the front office or your child’s teacher if they will not be taking their regular bus home. **Students will not be allowed to go home with a friend or miss their assigned after school activity unless the front office has received a phone call or email from parents.** We ask that parents contact the front office by 2:00pm at the latest if their child will not be taking their regular bus home.

Wishing all families, a fantastic weekend!

Liz Gale
Lower School
Principal



Snapshots of Learning in the Lower School

To further their understanding of their current unit of inquiry on Matter and Materials, grade 2 students took a trip to the Upper School Science Lab where they participated in a fantastic lesson led by Mr. Dobson. Students worked in groups to explore how water can change from one state to another based upon the temperature.

During their inquiry the second grade scientists generated a hypothesis, prepared materials, made observations, collected data, analyzed the results and shared their findings.



Kindergarten students have been exploring their sense of taste to support their current inquiry into *Who We Are, "Surprising Senses."*

Raising "Successful" Children



All parents want their child to succeed in school and in life; however, as student-led conferences approach it is important to remember that your definition of success may not be what your child believes success to be. In today's competitive world, children are constantly being evaluated on

Reminder: There will not be any After School Activities (ASAs) next week due to Student-led Conferences. Students will take the 3:00pm bus home Monday – Friday (March 13-17). ASA's will resume on March 20th.

Preparations for the **Grade 5 PYP Exhibition** have begun, as grade 5 students have recently identified real world issues they are interested in researching and taking action on. Students have worked in groups to craft strong questions that will guide their inquiry. More information on the PYP Exhibition will be shared in an upcoming Lower School Bulletin, as well as during the **Principal's Coffee Morning on Tuesday, April 11th**. Parents of children in Grade 5 are highly encouraged to attend to understand the ways in which these students can be supported in the weeks leading up to the Exhibition.



their performance whether it is at school or through the extracurricular activities in which they participate. Providing opportunities for children to develop self-confidence and their ability to be successful is essential if you want success to occur. Ongoing encouragement from parents, teachers and other influential adults is important as children take on new activities and learn new skills.

Although, it is common for some children to quickly give up when they are faced with a challenge, a parent can help the child by encouraging them to try new things and praise them for when they exhibit characteristics such as commitment and persistence towards a new or difficult task. Most importantly, love your child unconditionally and do not link the love of the child to their ability and the level at which they perform.



Below are some tips to help you raise a successful child.

1. Encourage your child to pursue his/her own dreams - not your dreams.

- Remember there's a difference between programming our children to do what we love versus loving what our children do.

2. Provide opportunities for your child to explore many activities.

- Exposing your child to a variety of activities will allow them to try many things before determining what they are good at and enjoy doing. Children who enjoy what they are doing are much more likely to be happy and continue with the activity.

3. Help your child create a positive and encouraging peer group outside of school.

- Children are highly influenced by their peer groups. Ensuring that your child has honest, open-minded and caring friends will certainly help build their self-esteem and confidence.

4. Have Balance

- If your child excels in a particular sport, academic subject or musical instrument, encourage the development of their talent. However, it is important that your child spends time playing and just being a kid. Overscheduling your child with multiple activities every day of the week can have negative results on their ability to self-direct and their enjoyment of the activities.