

Murray Lake Messenger

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November 18, 2016



From the Principal....

This week our Lowell Food Service held a "Loved Ones Lunch" for our students in kindergarten, first, and second grade. Loved ones had the opportunity to come and eat with their child. We had a great turn out. Thanks to all who attended. I'm sure there will be more opportunities like this in the future for all students at MLE. Thank you to the Lowell Food Service for arranging this great opportunity for our families.

As you are well aware, the cold and flu season is upon us. I want to assure you that we are doing all we can to keep our students healthy. I add to my morning announcements that students need to wash their hands frequently throughout the day. Teachers are having students use soap and/or hand sanitizer before having snacks and before going to lunch. Our custodians are wiping things down nightly. Our teachers have also been given cleaner that kills viruses to use in their classroom. Although we can't prevent all illnesses, I hope that our added precautions this fall will limit the number of illnesses we experience.

Murray Lake has a new spirit wear store! Today, your student(s) is going to bring home more information about this store. You can also check it out here: www.murraylakespiritwear.com.

You simply pick the apparel item out, select the logo you want on it, then they will ship it right to your house. This store will be open all year and will serve as a fundraiser for us. All proceeds will benefit MLE students! If you order online they are offering free shipping from now until December 5th.

No Shave November fun is still going strong! Please help Mr. Jacobus, Mr. Steele, Mr. Jablonski, Mr. Kohl, and even Mr. Noskey. They need to raise \$100 by the end of this month to earn the right to shave. All proceeds raised will go straight to Gilda's Club.

I hope all of you have a blessed Thanksgiving Day and break (after our Monday and half day Tuesday next week). I know I am looking forward to traveling out of state for good company and good eats! I hope you will share with your children how lucky we are to have all of the blessings (health, family, faith, food, shelter, etc.) that have been given to us, especially since many children in our world do not even know where their next meal will come from. I am also truly thankful for being a part of our Murray Lake family. We have outstanding teachers, students and parents!!! I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and a great Thanksgiving break. Go Red Arrows!!!

Molly Burnett, Principal



Brady Burnett, in Mrs. Byrne's class, and his grandpa, during Lunch with Loved Ones.

We value: Trustworthiness
Respect Responsibility
Fairness Caring Citizenship

Working together to: Achieve Academic Excellence
Build Self Esteem, and
Care for Others

Upcoming Events:

Monday, November 21

K to GR Public Museum, 9:00-1:45
PBIS Celebration, grades 4, 3, & 1
5th gr Thanksgiving Feast, 12:00

Tuesday, November 22

End of 1st Trimester
1/2 DAY OF SCHOOL—STUDENTS
DISMISSED AT 11:50 AM

Wed-Fri, Nov 23-25

NO SCHOOL, THANKSGIVING BREAK

Yearbook Cover Contest

All students are invited to submit a design for the cover of the 2015-16 Murray Lake Yearbook. Designs must be on 8-1/2x11 paper and cannot be computer generated. Entries are due by December 2.

- No Shave November -

As you know, the men of the building are participating in "No Shave November." They are not shaving the entire month and are trying to raise \$100 each to earn the right to shave on December 1. They still need your help! At this time, none of them have earned enough money to shave their beards. Their money jars are in the office! Please consider donating to their cause. All proceeds will go to the Gilda's Club. Thank you!



Father Daughter Dance

WHO: 2nd & 3rd gr Girls

WHEN: Wed, Dec 14, 2016

6:30-8:00 pm

WHERE: Grand Volute

RSVP by November 30. Please go to www.lowellschools.com to sign up. Put on by Lady Red Arrow Varsity Club.



*Lunch with
Loved Ones*



Information regarding student activities and community events can be found under **Extracurricular Activities** on the Murray Lake Elementary website at:

<http://www.lowellschools.com/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectiondetailid=17461&>

Volunteers of the Month

Congratulations to Brandi Bledsoe and Marc Zandstra, for earning Volunteer of the Month honors for October!

Mrs. Bledsoe and Mr. Zandstra do a great job running our school store. They volunteer their time two Fridays a month to open the store for our students to buy cool items! They also take time out of their busy schedules to place orders when supplies are running low. We appreciate all that they do to make the school store a fun place to visit for MLE students. We couldn't do it without them!

"The school store at MLE is open every other Friday during lunch time. The money earned benefits Family Links. We sell bits and baubles to the kids which gives us the opportunity to teach them about counting money and spending wisely. For example, a child may want something he doesn't have enough money for, so we explain that he doesn't have to spend his money on something he may not necessarily want. Instead we encourage them save their money so they can buy that special item later," stated Bledsoe.

"I like to take the time to be involved with the schools because I take great pleasure in getting to know the kids and I enjoy them getting to know me. It also allows me to see my kids and meet their friends. Of course meeting all the teachers is wonderful too," said Bledsoe

"We run the school store every other Friday, putting out a lot of fun and exciting things for students to come and buy during their lunch hour. The kids are so excited to see what they can buy, from little stuffed animals or pens, pencils and erasers, to slime or other squishy things. I really enjoy and have fun interacting with the students, as they come to spend their money. They are always excited about the fun things they can buy for a dollar or some change," added Zandstra.



Staff Members of the Month

Congratulations to the Murray Lake office staff, Julie Simmons, Alice Bush, and Cathy Noffke, for earning Staff Member of the Month honors for October!

"I couldn't just choose one because they all do so much for me and our school. I appreciate everything they do to help make MLE run so smoothly. I couldn't do my job without all three. Words can't express how much I appreciate all of them." - Molly Burnett, Principal

Miss Simmons and her son, Sam, a 10th grader, live on Murray Lake, and her older son, Jackson, lives in California now. This is her 13th year working for Lowell Area Schools. She worked at the high school for seven years before coming to Murray Lake. Miss Simmons grew up in Lowell and graduated from Michigan State University. She loves working at Murray Lake Elementary because, "The staff and students really care about each other. Coming to work every day is truly a pleasure and always a positive experience! How many people can say that? I feel very fortunate and very grateful."



Mrs. Bush and her husband, Tom, have lived in Lowell for 22 years. Their daughter, Mackenzie, is a sophomore at Grand Valley State University, and their son, Josh, is a junior at LHS. "I'm happy to be a part of the Murray Lake family and have such a great team of ladies to work with in the office. Interacting with the students and staff every day is the most rewarding part of my job. It's often quite busy and every day is different, but that's what makes it so much fun."

Mrs. Noffke has four children. Two girls are Lowell graduates. Her two sons, Ben and Ryan, attend LHS. "I have been volunteering/working at MLE for about 13 years, including being the



Proctor for MAP testing. "I feel so blessed to be part of such a great team here at MLE."