

December 2020

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Hello Varsity Lakes Families,

Over the last month, our teachers and scholars have been working hard teaching and learning. We have over 30 students who have earned certifications in our Microsoft programs course. Eight of those students have earned a Microsoft Bundle that includes- Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. This is the most certifications currents earned by all Lee County Middle Schools.

Students have been scientists preparing for the Virtual Science Fair that is coming up this month. Our top winners will have the opportunity to participate in the Lee County Science Fair. I anticipate that fair also being virtual, but I know our students will do well!

I am also proud to acknowledge our SuperBOLT scholars who have displayed positive behaviors and have been model students for the month of November. There is a special shout-out to our Boys and Girls Cross Country team who recently competed and represented Varsity Lakes in State and County meets.

We will be offering an ESOL Night to families to provide information and support to parents of English Language Learners. This event will be virtual on December 14 at 6PM. We look forward to seeing you then!

Lastly, please help me welcome our new Assistant Principal, Virginia Ramos. Ms. Ramos is transferring to us from Dunbar Middle School. She was previously at Ida Baker High School. She will oversee students in Grade 7, Mr. Hendrick Grade 6, and Ms. Thompson Grade 8.

As we head into the holiday season I hope that everyone is able to find the time to relax, refresh, and enjoy the break. School will be resuming on Tuesday, January 5. Be safe and see you in January!

Sincerely,

Carol Woelke

Principal

The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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The School Board of Lee County, Florida, prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, marital status, religion, or sexual orientation.

December 3: Picture Day Make-Up

December 14: ESOL Night

December 21-January 3: No School- Winter Break

January 4: Hurricane Make-up
Day

January 18: MLK Day - No School

January 25: SAC Meeting

January 29: Early Dismissal and End of Quarter 2



Science Fair Information

Science fair judging will be December 10th. Information will be coming home to your students from their teachers. All students are welcomed to participate.



ESOL Night

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is a program that provides targeted instruction to students with limited or developing language proficiency. Varsity Lakes Middle School will be holding an ESOL Night to support students and families that are speakers of other languages. The event will take place on December 14, 2020 from 6:00-7:00 on Zoom. Further information will be shared through Parent Messenger.

(ESOL) es un programa que brinda instrucción dirigida a estudiantes con competencia lingüística limitada o en desarrollo. Nuestros servicios incluyen ayuda con las tareas escolares, educación para adultos / clases de inglés, traducción y comunicación assistencia. Se compartirá más información a través de Parent Messenger.

14 de diciembre de 2020 Noche de ESOL de 6:00 pm a 7:00 pm





FORTIFYFL FLORIDA

FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. Awareness is an important part of preventing threats in Florida. FortifyFL allows students, parents, and teachers to feel secure reporting possible crimes, threats or unsafe situations anonymously through an easy to use app. FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



I-Ready Testing

The rich data from *i-Ready Assessment* empowers teachers with a deeper knowledge of their students' needs. Based on industry leading research into assessment design and backed by extensive <u>validity evidence</u>, sophisticated data is transformed into meaningful, actionable insights that make differentiating instruction a reality for teachers. A suite of intuitive reports provide a common language through which both teachers and administrators can work toward the shared goal of student achievement. The *i-Ready Assessment* suite:

- Pinpoints students' strengths and knowledge gaps at the sub-skill level
- Delivers individualized learning paths in i-Ready Personalized Instruction
- Saves time by automatically grouping students and offering targeted instructional recommendations
- Helps educators spot trends across student groups

Parent Reports:

This report tells you the score your child received on the diagnostic test. It also tells you if the score is approaching grade level, on grade level, or above grade level.

- It also describes each "domain," or area of learning, that the student was tested in, along with the placement level in each domain.
- After each diagnostic test, the Parent Report is updated. You can compare the scores from test to test.
- If you have any questions about the Parent Report, please contact your child's teacher



STUDENT BOLT HIGHLIGHTS

We would like to congratulate the following students for their completion of a variety of Microsoft Operating Systems.

Alana Altman	Jace DuBose	Maya Johnston
Graciela Andres-Francisco	Zion Fuller	Luke Ketchersid
Celeste Bowler	Kayla Garcia	Miguel Lara
Briana Castello	Joshua Hummel	Cameron Mele
Riley Davis	Marcus Jara	Brianna McCray
Julia Morgan	Alexa Murphy	Danny Nguyen
Madelyn Peterman	Eliana Sanchez	Yasmin Silva
Jayden Williams	Cassidy Wood	Melanie Ortiz



Students obtaining Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Bundle Certification which requires completion of three out of six Microsoft Programs (Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Sharepoint, and Word).

Riley Davis Luke Ketchersid Julia Morgan Maya Johnston Miguel Lara Jayden Williams Cameron Mele Danny Nguyen



STUDENT ATHLETICS: CROSS COUNTRY

The 2020 Cross Country season has ended; however, Varsity Lakes was well represented through the entire season. Our students were dedicated and worked hard! The boys and girls team competed in the County Championship on November 17, 2020 at the Kelly Road Complex and they ran against 15 other schools.

Congratulations to the following students that went to the State Meet in Lakeland, FL. Varsity boys took 2nd place and while the Varsity girls did not place, they still represented our school extremely well. We would like to give a big shout out to:

Miguel Lara Troy Britton Jillian Harper Lucila Perez

NOVEMBER SuperBOLT

We would like to recognize and congratulate the following students for being named VLMS's SuperBOLT students. In order to be named a SuperBOLT students must receive a teacher nomination based on their positive contribution to the Varsity Lakes Middle School community. SuperBOLT's are students who display positive behavior, good citizenship, dedication to their scholastic endeavors and are ambitious about their future. Here are the students who were nominated for November's SuperBOLT from each grade, and what

October's SuperBOLTs

8th

Cali Yeomans

"She is always on time, willing (and self-motivated) to participate, and has completed every assignment thrown her way (even the optional extra credit). She's a ray of sunshine, and I feel honored to be her teacher."

Samuel Salamanca

"His humor, smile, and participation are reliable constants in his class. His effort is incredibly motivating to me, and I feel honored to be a part of his education."

Addison Flom

"Addison never stops trying. She goes above and beyond in all that she does and her effort and dedication to her work and herself deserve to be recognized."

Gibran Zarco

" Always tries hard, gets his work in, polite, is interested in learning."

7th

Kaylee Concepcion

"Always does more than I ask her in her assignments, with really high quality."

Mykel Anderson

"Mykel is always on time, turns in all his work, and is organized."

Sophia Camacho

"She does very well in my class. She's always here and always ready to learn."

Trevor Browning

"He is wonderful in class. He always turns in his assignments and help others whenever he can."

6th

Amira Peterson

"She is always pleasant, polite and sincere. She advocates for herself when necessary yet is never rude.

Failures do not stop her or set her back."

Mailah DaSilva

"She is so consistent and dedicated to her work."

Shando Pierre-Vil

"He is just simply an awesome student! He comes to school every day with a smile on his face and ready to learn. He is always helping out his peers and teachers without being asked to. He follows all directions and has the ABSOLUTE best manners that I have ever seen in a student. He is not only a great student, but a great person."

Zachary Wells

"Zachary is so happy and eager to learn. He pushes himself at all times to improve his work. Zachary is polite, nice, and kind to others."



CYBER SAFETY

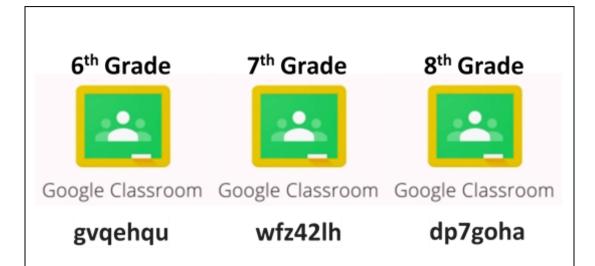
Cyber safety is critical and is a shared responsibility of students, parents, and school personnel. Furthermore, it helps to maintain a safe school in all settings and at all times, including school at home and school at a community- or faith based hub providing Wi-Fi services.

- Talk to your child about online safety, how he/she interacts online, and your expectations of his/her behavior.
- Monitor what your child posts online, his/her offline behavior, and his/her overall well-being.
- Review security and privacy notices on Websites that your child frequents.
- Encourage your child to report online threats to a teacher, a school counselor, or another trusted adult

Report any threats to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline by contacting it at https://report.cybertip.org/ or calling 1-800-843-5678.



Google Classroom



If you have not already done so, please take a moment and join the Google Classroom associated to the grade level your child is currently enrolled in. This will be a useful tool for parents to gain updated information on school events, policies and procedures as well as parent resources that are applicable to the grade.





If you would like to support VLMS in the form of a sponsorship or donation, please contact Mrs. Rogers to discuss the options we have for you!

Thank you!!!

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