



# LAKE ANN ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our school newsletter! The intention of this newsletter is to keep families informed on the happenings within our school and to grow our community through productive communication and transparency.  
Happy reading!

## Responsibility Centered Discipline (RCD): supporting students in behavior ownership

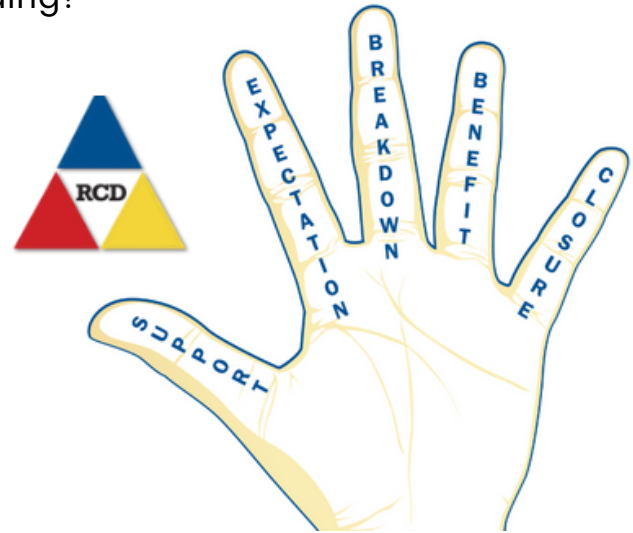
Students come to school to learn a variety of skills and behaviors that will hopefully lend nicely to their current state and also to their future capabilities as they grow and learn to be productive citizens. With this, will inevitably also come set backs and opportunities to learn and grow even more and to take responsibility for themselves as well.

This is where our new District and building initiative Responsibility Centered Discipline (RCD) is helping to shape student agency within Benzie.

Traditionally speaking, the adult does a lot of what founder Larry Thompson calls the "heavy lifting" when it comes to traditional student discipline. The adult hears of the offense, the adult investigates, the adult comes up with a consequence. What was missing in this model is the opportunity for student learning, the opportunity for restorative measures, and the opportunity for the student to create a plan for themselves to hopefully keep them from making the same mistake again.

June 2023, and again at the beginning of our 23-24 school year, RCD founder Larry Thompson came to Benzie School District to train staff in this responsibility approach.

A large part of this approach is using the 'give em' five conversation". This portion runs on a checklist of necessary components for a successful conversation between staff and students such as: keep it private, model & encourage good listening, keep safety in mind, maintain a non-threatening



The Responsibility Centered Discipline, "Give em' Five"  
Guided Conversation Checklist

position and tone, being aware of your voice, posture and words, stay out of power struggles, praise and encourage as behavior improves, restart the conversation if needed, provide space and time if needed.

These conversations use the hand pictured above to help guide the conversation between staff and students. The elements of these conversations consist of providing coaching and conversation around: Support ("I am here to help you be successful"), Expectation (what Foundation or expectation was broken?), Breakdown (what action prevented the Expectation from being followed?), Benefit (why is it in the student's best interest to follow this Expectation?) and Closure (is the student able to create, accept their plan, and move on?).

RCD is a Tier 1 behavior support measure we will continue to use and perfect throughout this school year and beyond to help best support our students' learning and growth!

**Your Lake Ann Principal and Partner in Education,  
Rachel Anderson**

## Lake Ann Elementary's 'Coin Challenge' Begins March 18th!

Grades K-5 have the opportunity to participate in the Coin Challenge taking place the week before spring break from 8:45am -9:05am! Each classroom will have a jar to deposit coins into. Pennies and dollars are "positive points", while all silver coins are "negative points". Silver coins can be placed in other classrooms to lower their total points (while still increasing their overall money earned). The class with the most points at the end of the week will win free popcorn for the rest of the year!



## Michigan State University Extension Nutrition Program at LA!



"Michigan State University Extension is here to support all the ways we can all live healthier lives and build healthier communities, by bringing the vast knowledge and resources of MSU directly to individuals, communities, and schools! Here, second graders learn about grains and how they support healthy bodies!



## Become a Volunteer at Lake Ann Elementary!

Please visit our sign up document or call the office to volunteer during our lunch and recess (12:00-2:00). A digital version of this sign up link is on our District Facebook Page.

text[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UhurmqT\\_-WFOaf\\_W9nzcujGPm7V4XQ82WGCyuT0oDI/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UhurmqT_-WFOaf_W9nzcujGPm7V4XQ82WGCyuT0oDI/edit)

## Monthly Classroom Lessons with Deputy Maul and Therapy Dog, Briggs

### March Lesson Topics:

K-2: Why do we have rules?

3-5: Why do we have rules and laws?



## LAE's School Nurse: Rudy Strickland

Don't forget: LAE is very fortunate to have a School Nurse with us two days every week! Please reach out to Nurse Rudy Strickland if you have any questions regarding navigating your child's health while they are at school or at home. Nurse Rudy's work phone is answered weekdays from 8:00-4:30 and her phone number is 231-871-8884. Feel free to call her if you have any questions!

## Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found is reaching its limit in volume! Lost and Found items will be donated to a local charity over Spring Break! Please be sure you look for any missing items before 3/21. Thank you!

## Family SEL Resources for Social Emotional Growth Practice at Home!

Please remember, you have access to many wonderful resources to help your child learn and grow. This learning revolves around the CASEL 5: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making!



Log In: lakeann.family  
Password: movethisworld  
Website: SEL.Movethisworld.com



## LA's March Calendar of Events

3/1: Popcorn Day! .50 cents/bag

3/4: Read-A-Thon begins! Ask your teacher for a sign up form if you do not have one

3/6: Guest Meteorologist from Up North Live! visiting the K-1 classrooms

3/8: Popcorn Day! .50 cents/bag

3/12: Deputy Maul's Monthly Classroom Lesson

3/13: Lake Ann's Monthly PTO meeting: 4:30 in the library

3/15: Popcorn Day! .50 cents/bag

3/22: Monthly 'Caught You Being Great' SEL Assembly: 9:30-10:00 (honoree breakfast from 10:00-10:30)

3/25 - 4/1: Spring Break

4/2: Return to school from Spring Break

### Celebrating March Birthdays!

3/1: Maci A.  
3/3: Mr. Isaac  
3/6: Nicholas W.  
3/12: Kylee F.  
3/14: Dylan P.  
3/14: Dalton N.  
3/16: Ms. Thiel  
3/24: Bennett B.  
3/26: Liam H.  
3/28: Lincoln R.  
3/29: Sullivan M.



### Lake Ann's Winter Dance was a Huge Success!



Thank you so much to our awesome PTO and volunteers who helped to make our "Let's GLOW" Winter Dance a very fun night!

## February's 'Caught You Being Great' Monthly SEL Assembly Award Winners!



## National Children's Dental Health Month!



The wonderful Mr. Marshall, a Paraprofessional at LA, led lessons within all of our K-5 classrooms around proper dental hygiene for National Children's Dental Health Month. All students received a special shark tooth from Mr. Marshall and a toothbrush and toothpaste from the school!



Please continue to send your student with all of these items on a daily basis:

- Snow pants
- Winter coat
- Hat and gloves
- Winter boots
- Tennis shoes for Physical Education class



# Lake Ann PTO

## Upcoming Events

### March

1: Popcorn Friday  
4: Start of Read a Thon  
(through April 8th)  
8: Popcorn Friday  
13: PTO Meeting @ 4:30  
15: Popcorn Friday

### April

5: Popcorn Friday  
8: End of Read a thon  
8-12: Scholastic Bookfair  
10: PTO Meeting @ 4:30  
12: Marking Period Ends  
Staff Appreciation  
12: Popcorn Friday  
19: Popcorn Friday

### May

3: Popcorn Friday  
6-10: Teach Appreciation  
8: PTO Meeting @4:30  
10: Popcorn Friday  
17: Popcorn Friday  
31: LAST POPCORN  
FRIDAY  
TBD: Spring Carnival

### Happy March, Lake Ann!

We have a busy rest of the year with a lot of fun events and fundraisers planned. Here is what we have going for March and April as of now:

Read-a-thon kicks off on March 4th and runs until April 8th. Not only can you log your student's reading sessions all on their digital account, but you can also utilize the prize money you receive from donations on their online store. We receive 75% of the money pledged.

As of March 1st, we had already raised over \$1,300 which equates to just above \$1,000. Great work, everyone! We have a whole month to continue to earn support. The top seller will receive Scholastic Dollars to be used at our book fair the following week.

Scholastic Book Fair is April 8th-12th during school hours and we will need a bunch of volunteers. More information regarding this will be coming in the following weeks, but mark your calendars.

While we have quite a few fundraisers planned for the remainder of the year to "fill in the gap" so to speak, please know that all of the money raised will be responsibly spent to ensure we further all students' educational experiences and create a positive school atmosphere.

We appreciate all of our wonderful families and please reach out to us at any time.

Have a safe and wonderful spring break,  
Ashley Collier  
PTO President