

Dolphin Dispatch

Lake Garda PTA Monthly Newsletter

Happy Holidays!

December is here and your PTA wants to make your shopping easier than ever. See all the opportunities below:

Kids can shop during school at the Holiday Shop: The **Lil' Shopper's Shoppe** is coming to Lake Garda Monday, December 10, Tuesday, 11 and Thursday, 13. Calling all volunteers, we need people to help set up. Please sign up here to help: [Lil' Shopper's Shoppe](#) Thank you to all that volunteered already!

Lake Garda PTA is enrolled at **Amazon Smile**. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>, choose/enter Garda Elementary School PTA as your favorite charity, Amazon Smile will remember your selection every time and donate 0.5% of your eligible purchase to LGS PTA.

Scrip Gift Card Program is a great way to get a jump start on holiday shopping. Every time you shop at scrip, LG PTA will benefit. Go to shopwithscrip.com and enter the enrollment code: **LD5254FA3L464** Send payment by check through the school with your child. Orders received on Friday will be delivered to you by Friday the following week.

Shutterfly & Tiny Prints: For each purchase you make from either one of these brands, 13% will be donated to our organization. This is great opportunity to support our school, if you are planning on doing your Holiday cards, here is how you can support us:

1. Go to our Storefront URL here – LGPTA.ShutterflyStorefront.com
2. Click through to Shutterfly.com or Shutterfly.com/Tinyprints and start shopping

Lake Garda 10th Annual Toy Drive: What an amazing community we have. Lake Garda is helping collect toys for local families, help make this possible, Bring an unwrapped toy to LGS main office by December 20th.

FACEBOOK

Like us on facebook to stay up to date on news and events

Lake Garda PTA

WEEKLY PTA EMAIL

Look for a weekly email every Monday for important announcements.

PTA MEETINGS

Join us for idea sharing, committee updates and conversation.

JANUARY - TBD



Class Updates Pages 3-5

Catch up on the latest happenings in your child's classes



Our Community Pages 7

Learn about events and activities in and around town



Save These Dates Page 2

Mark your calendars for these important events coming soon

IMPORTANT DATES IN DECEMBER

- 12/7** **PILN, 9:30 am**
- 12/7** **Picture Retake Day**
- 12/10** **BOE Meeting 7pm Learning Center**
- 12/10** **Holiday Shoppe**
- 12/11** **Holiday Shoppe**
- 12/13** **Holiday Shoppe**
- 12/11** **PILN 9:30am**
- 12/14** **PILN 9:30am**
- 12/21** **PILN 2:15 pm**
- 12/24** **Enjoy your holiday break**

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Our Reading and Writing Workshops are going strong. We are using reading super powers (like pointer power, snap word power, and reread power) to read our books. We have learned many sight words and all of our consonant sounds which help us with our reading. In writing, we are making our work easier for our readers to read by adding things like spaces and periods. We're really stretching out words to write down as many sounds as we can.

The kindergarten team would like to wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season!



SECOND GRADE NEWS

Happy Holidays from the Second Grades! The past few weeks have been full of excitement and new endeavors in our learning. All of the second grades have begun work on our first science unit of the year. We are learning about how animals change the land with a focus on the incredible beaver! Beavers are nature's engineers! Ask your second grader all about it! They are learning so much.

This science learning comes at a great time in our school year because the second grades are also focusing on non-fiction writing and non-fiction reading. Your second grade mathematician has been busy using principles of place value as they tackle double digit addition and subtraction problems. It is always impressive to see the various strategies students use – these kids are amazing!

On another note, with the cold weather upon us now, please remember to send your child to school with warm outerwear for our outdoor recess days! We go outside on most days and it's no fun to be chilly as we're trying to have fun. Happy holidays to all!

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

As the holiday season approaches, fourth grade remains as busy as ever!

Reading Workshop has us moving from the familiar story structure of the fiction genre and moving into the specific structures of expository reading: chronological, problem/solution, cause and effect, and compare/contrast. Identifying and using these structures as frameworks, your students will develop the tools to sort through informational texts, identifying main ideas and the important details that support them.

We've got a lot of opinions in fourth grade, and Writing Workshop has provided us with the opportunity to share them! Be sure to ask your child what they're feeling strongly about!

Math sees us concluding our multiplication unit and setting our sights on fractions and decimals. We'll be comparing fractions with like and unlike denominators and locating them on a number line. Additionally, we'll be adding and subtracting fractions with like and unlike denominators, identifying equivalent fractions and decimals, and comparing decimal numbers.

Each of you, please accept our warmest and best wishes for all of the joys the season has to offer!

READING NEWS

During this very busy time of year, Lake Garda's reading department hopes you will be able to find time to enjoy a few winter-themed books!

[How Do Dinosaurs Say Happy Chanukah?](#) and [How Do Dinosaurs Say Merry Christmas?](#) by **Jane Yolen**: Jane Yolen and Mark Teague work their magic again in these delightful dinosaur holiday books. Adults will appreciate the perfect rhythm and rhyme of the text while children will giggle over the colorful illustrations of dinosaurs misbehaving.

[The Most Perfect Snowman](#) by **Chris Britt**: A lonely snowman believes he would be the most perfect snowman if only he had a hat, scarf, mittens, and carrot nose. In the end, he becomes the perfect snowman not through his possessions, but through his kindness and act of selfless giving.

[The Wish Tree](#) by **Kyo Maclear**: On their way to discover a Wish Tree, Charles and his friend Boggan help many animals prepare for winter. A touching book about giving, receiving, and believing.

[Bear Stays Up](#) by **Karma Wilson**: Bear's friends don't want him to sleep through Christmas so they keep him busy with preparations. The adorable illustrations of these sweet friends celebrating Christmas together will warm your heart.

[Over the River and Through the Woods: A Holiday Adventure](#) by **Linda Ashman**: This beautifully illustrated book written in rhyme tells the story of a loving and diverse family coming together for the holidays. I love the modern take on this classic song as families arrive at Grandma and Grandpa's by plane, train, car, hot air balloon, and finally, a sleigh.

[Bunny Slopes](#) by **Claudia Rueda**: Kids will love hitting the slopes with this cute bunny who needs the reader's help in order to ski. First, they shake the book to make some snow, and then they tilt it to create a hill. But don't tilt it too much, or you might run into problems!

[Latke, the Lucky Dog](#) by **Ellen Fischer**: Latke is adopted by a family on the first night of Hanukkah and decides "I am one lucky dog!" Unfortunately, he spends the next several days eating the sufganiyot, unwrapping presents, and chewing up a favorite dreidel, causing him to worry he might be taken back to the shelter.

[Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree](#) by **Robert Barry**: Mr. Willowby's Christmas tree is too big so his butler chops off the top and passes it on to the upstairs maid. This pattern of sharing continues until all sorts of people and animals have a tree just like Mr. Willowby.

MUSIC NEWS

I am excited to share with you some of the projects your children have been working on this fall. All of our musicians are practicing music room procedures and routines as they develop their music skills.

In kindergarten and first grade, our singers have learned about their speaking, singing, talking and whispering voices. We have been using our singing voices each day to sing with our friends. We move to the steady beat by marching, tip-toeing and sliding and echo rhythmic and tonal patterns connected to our singing repertoire. For Halloween, we softly sang spooky songs and for Thanksgiving, we are borrowing a familiar melody to sing about the Albuquerque Turkey.

In second grade, our student composers have created four and eight measure original rhythms in 4/4 and 3/4 time. We know how to sing our rhythms on syllables and count them in time.

Third grade performers are setting their process and procedures for learning recorder. We know that regular practice will help us to improve quickly and we've done a nice job with our method work learning to play G, A and B on our recorders.

We can't forget to mention our fourth grade choral concert coming up on Tuesday, December 4, 2018. Our Chorus 4 singers will perform with their middle and high school friends as part of the annual Region 10 Choral Festival on the Lewis S. Mills stage.

There are so many good things happening in the Lake Garda Music Room! Teaching and learning with your children each day continues to be my pleasure and I thank you for sharing them with me.

Warm wishes for all the best of the holidays.

SHOPPER REWARDS

PriceChopper for education has kicked off! Please enroll your rewards card to our school. Each time you shop at PriceChopper, our school earn points towards classroom materials. **Use our school code 27918 and sign up today at www.pricechopper.com/tools-schools**

Shoprite for Education has kicked off! Please enroll your Price Plus® Card to our school. Each time you shop at our local participating ShopRite, our school will earn points towards free classroom equipment! Cards must be re-enrolled annually. **Use our school code - 18456 and sign up today -www.shopriteforeducation.com**

BOX TOPS

The next collection will be in February, so please continue to keep clipping your tops and we will remind you in February when the collection is. Each Box Top submitted earns our school 10 cents. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help process them, please contact Keri Singh at epigirl105@yahoo.com

BURLINGTON PARKS & REC

- SKI AND SNOWBOARD PROGRAM FOR BURLINGTON STUDENTS @ SKI SUNDOWN
- ANNUAL HOLIDAY SING - DECEMBER 5TH AT 7PM ON THE TOWN GREEN
- HOLIDAY LIGHT COMPETITION - register by 12/10

For more information on any of these programs, please visit the Parks & Rec site at myburlingtonrec.com

BURLINGTON LIBRARY

COOKIE SALE - December 8th at 10am

THE GREAT BURLINGTON BAKING CLUB - Wednesday, Dec. 12th at 6pm

ADULT CRAFTERNOON - December 15th at 2pm

For more information on any of these programs, plus the full calendar of events, please visit, www.burlingtonctlibrary.org.

BURLINGTON LAND TRUST

Hiking isn't just for the warm weather months. Get outside and enjoy some of Burlington's great places to hike.

Full Moon Snowshoe Walk - Date TBD