



# Loranger Memorial School

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May 7, 2021

Good Morning Loranger Families,

This week concludes Teacher Appreciation Week, and what a great week it was. Our teachers and staff have gone above and beyond this year to deliver instruction and keep our students safe during the pandemic. It has not been easy, but with the efforts of this tremendous staff we have maintained in person learning all year. Much appreciation to our staff and teachers for their hard work and dedication!

Just a few notes for you this week.

## **Outdoor Learning**

With the changing of the weather, our teachers will be utilizing outdoor spaces more frequently. With that increase of outdoor use we want to be cognizant of our summer bugs, particularly ticks. It may be a good idea to have students perform a tick check when they arrive home in the afternoon, especially if they have done a considerable amount of outdoor learning. We will also be doing our part here to check for ticks prior to entering our building.

## **Kindness Challenge Alert from Mrs. Milligan, LMS School Counselor**

Did you know about our kindness challenge at LMS? Every morning, we announce acts of kindness that students and staff have done. If someone sees a member of our community doing something kind, such as holding the door for someone without being asked, complimenting someone, helping someone with their work or making them feel better if they are upset, they send an email to Ms. Milligan describing the kindness and it is announced during morning announcements. They also have a slide made on our school tv screens with a picture of them and a description of their kindness. This is being done to encourage acts of kindness in our school. This program was started in February and we have already had over 150 recognitions. We are also recognized as a Certified Kindness School - look for the flyer on our front door which celebrates this!

## **Spring Sports Updated Guidelines 4/28/21**

Based on the recent announcement regarding the wearing of face masks at outdoor events, the following guidelines will be in place for those events at LMS in collaboration with our guidelines at OOBHS for events overseen by the Maine Principals' Association. Please know that these recommendations fully align with the Maine Community Sport Guidelines that have been updated. Masks are not required for outdoor practices and competitions. Masks are recommended when 6 feet of physical distance is hard to maintain (e.g., athletes on the bench). They are also required when individuals go inside (e.g., to locker rooms, rest rooms, or on a bus).

Spectators are not required to wear a mask at outside events if they are able to maintain 6 feet of distancing.

Please note that we need you to sit/congregate only with those in your household or masks are required. Our facilities are large enough where all can socially distance without masks if rules are followed. Also note that away venues may require masks at all times and may not allow spectators. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### **NWEA Assessments**

The Maine DOE has finalized an agreement with the NorthWest Evaluation Association, also known as NWEA, to be used as the State assessment for the next few years. This is an assessment that we at Loranger already use. We will be offering the spring administration of NWEA over the next month of school. Each grade level team of teachers will set aside time to assess students. The NWEA is an adaptive online assessment that creates a personalized experience for each student. While administering this Assessment is now mandated by the DOE, it is also a great tool to measure student progress and growth. It helps assist teachers in identifying students who may be at risk for not reaching grade-level benchmarks so interventions can be provided early and often. The NWEA also can help identify students who are surpassing grade-level benchmarks so enrichment opportunities can be provided to further the learning that is already occurring. This is a very useful tool for helping us to ensure that all students get the specific learning support they need so all students can be successful. The DOE also requires us to assess students in grades 5 and 8 in science. Our grade 5 and 8 teams are working out the details for that assessment as we get more information from the DOE. If you have any questions please reach out to myself or your child's classroom teacher.

### **Rental Assistance**

The government has released rental assistance funds for families impacted by the economic downturn due to the pandemic. For more information please click this link:

<https://yccac.org/covid-19-rent-relief-program/>

### **Morning Arrival**

We are starting to see an increase in students arriving prior to our opening door time. As a reminder, our doors open for students in grades 3-8 at 7:45, and for grades 6-8 at 8:15. More students in grades 6-8 are arriving prior to that 8:15 arrival time, and we want to make sure that everyone is staying safe, not just from this pandemic, but also as those students may be unsupervised during that time. As often as possible, please be sure that grades 6-8 students are not dropped off until after 8:15. We have an adult who will be on the back side of our building next to the ball field at 8:00 if earlier arrival is unpreventable. As a reminder, our arrival times this year have been established so that we can provide adequate coverage without grouping students outside of their designated cohorts. Your understanding, flexibility, and assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

### **School Nutrition Program**

Breakfast and lunches are available daily at school and are free to all students throughout the entire school year. We ask that you still complete a Free and Reduced Application. These applications help us to receive funding and programming that helps all students district-wide. In addition, if you qualify, you can get Spectrum internet for only \$14.95/month! Applications are available at the front office and on our website at: <http://rsu23.schoollunchapp.com>. School breakfast and lunch menus are also posted on the RSU 23 Website on the [Food & Nutrition Page](#). Please feel free

to contact Caroline Trinder, Food & Nutrition Services Director, with any questions at [ctrinder@rsu23.org](mailto:ctrinder@rsu23.org) or 934-4461 ext. 1239. We are looking forward to serving healthy and tasty meals all year!

**Free Breakfasts and Lunches are also provided every Wednesday behind Loranger Memorial School between 10:15-10:45am, no need to RSVP, just show up!**

A reminder of a few upcoming dates:

- Monday, May 31st No school - Memorial Day
- Thursday, June 10 - Grade 8 Promotion
- Friday, June 11 - Last day of school

Happy Mother's Day to all of our LMS moms!

Enjoy the weekend,

Matt Foster