

# The Purple Page



Lanier Middle School 2600 Woodhead St. Houston, TX 77098 (713) 942-1900 December 21, 2012

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Dec 24 - Jan 7 Winter Break**  
**Jan 9 Gifted, Lifted & Challenged Event** 6p  
**Jan 10 Magnet Tour** 8:45a  
**Jan 11 Report Cards**  
**Jan 22, 23 Boys' Soccer Tryouts**  
**Mar 22 PTO Party with a Purpose**

## PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

Dear Lanier Families,

Where in the world did the Fall Semester go? It is hard to believe that we are heading home for the holidays already. The staff and students have worked so hard and I know that we all are ready for a much needed break.

The school will be closed Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> through January 6<sup>th</sup>. Students will return to school on **Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**.

I invite you to attend a coffee with me on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the cumulative scores required for high school graduation. I hosted this same coffee earlier in the month and it was very well received. We are presently scheduling other parent information sessions and will keep you posted.

The tragic school shooting in Newtown is still on the minds and hearts of all us. Teachers and students participated in a lock down drill at Lanier this week and it went very smoothly. The goal was to ensure that students and staff know where to go and what to do in case of an emergency. I have scheduled a meeting with Risk Management when we return from the holidays to discuss ways to address safety concerns here at Lanier due to the way our building was designed in 1926.

My wish for the Lanier Families is to enjoy family and friends during the next two weeks. Have fun and be safe and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Happy Holidays!

Ms. Linda Smith

## PTO NEWS

### From the PTO President...

We're just a few days away from the end of the calendar year, but it's not too late to help our school and be eligible for a 2012 tax deduction. Lanier Middle School PTO is a 501(c)(3) organization, and donations to the PTO are tax-

deductible if you itemize your deductions on Form 1040 Schedule A. Contributions must be received by the end of the year to be deductible in 2012. Visit [www.lanierpto.org](http://www.lanierpto.org) today and support our Commitment to Excellence (CTE) campaign. This is the Lanier PTO's primary fundraiser, and your contributions benefit programs such as new technology for classrooms, training for teachers and administrative staff, supplemental classroom curriculum, and much more.

And don't forget that many employers sponsor matching gift programs. If your company participates, you can request a matching gift form from your employer and send the completed and signed form with your CTE donation. Lanier PTO will send both the donor and the company receipts for tax purposes. If you have already made a CTE donation and did not turn in a matching gift form, you can still turn in the completed matching gift form to the PTO mailbox in Office B. Please reference the date and amount of your donation so the CTE committee can match your gift to the matching gift form.

Thank you for your continued support of our school! Have a wonderful and restful holiday break.

Sheryl Moore

2012-13 Lanier PTO President

[lanierptopres@gmail.com](mailto:lanierptopres@gmail.com)

## AUCTION PARTY

The 1<sup>st</sup> annual **Lanier MS PTO Party with a Purpose** is going to be held on **Friday, March 22, 2013**. We are hoping that this event will be a fun and successful fundraiser and we need your help. Please consider donating an item for our auction. We also need volunteers to help solicit donations, plan the party, and write the online auction catalogue.

## REMEMBER: LANIER PTO WEBSITE FEATURES AMAZON LINK !

With shopping season upon us, please remember to use the Amazon link on the Lanier PTO website when you shop. It's easy! Log in to [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org). The Amazon link is on the top right on the main page of the website. Lanier's PTO will receive a 4 – 8% rebate from Amazon purchases made through this link! Tell your friends and family to use our link when they do their holiday shopping, too!



**TIME TO BRING IN YOUR BOX TOPS**

So far this school year the Lanier students have collected over 3750 Box Tops for Education and have earned \$375 for the wonderful Lanier band! **Mr. Kirby's GSG class** collected the most Box Tops and will be receiving a Jeans Pass for their effort. We also had our first individual collection winner. **Gema Sustaita** turned in 260 Box Tops and was treated to a pizza lunch for her and four of her friends. Congratulations!

Thanks to everybody who brought in Box Tops. Continue to collect them over the holidays. Please clip them from any participating items. These include many products that you probably use every day, for example; Betty Crocker mixes, General Mills cereals, Pillsbury products, Avery paper, Hefty bags, Kleenex and many other products. Go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for a complete list of products as well as many other online offers. Put all collected Box Tops in an envelope or ziplock with the students name and GSG teacher on it and send them to their GSG classroom.

We did great last year, collecting nearly 9000 Box Tops and thus raising almost \$900 for instruments and other supplies needed for the wonderful Lanier band! This year we hope to beat this amount. Thanks for all your support. There will be another collection this spring with more prize winners!

at Bellaire High School. Doors open: 4:00 Testing: 4:30-5:30. Bring picture ID and #2 pencils. No reservations needed.

## IB CORNER

**Week 17 Balanced-** Students understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others. [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)

## LANIER LINES

### PARENT SPEAKER EVENT

The HISD Advanced Academics Department is sponsoring a Gifted and Talent Parent Speaker Night. **On Wednesday, January 9, 2013**, parents are invited to hear Michelle Himmelman, a consultant with Education Resource Group. Ms. Himmelman holds a Master's degree in gifted education and has worked with the Duke University Talent Identification Program. She has also been a Director for the Formative Learning Experience Gifted Education Program at Elon University in North Carolina.

**Topic: GIFTED, LIFTED, & CHALLENGED:** Teaching and Reaching Today's Gifted Students and their Families

**Date:** Wednesday, January 9, 2013

**Time:** 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

**Place:** HISD Board Auditorium

Hattie Mae White Education Support Center  
(4400 West 18th St. Houston, TX. 77092)

### LANIER SCHOOL TOUR DATES

Lanier will be holding tours for prospective students and families on Thursday, January 10, 8:45a. Questions? Contact Aurora Terry, Lanier's IB/Magnet Coordinator, at [aterry@houstonisd.org](mailto:aterry@houstonisd.org).

### MAGNET LANGUAGE APTITUDE TESTING

January 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> in the Multi-Purpose Room (1<sup>st</sup> floor)