

The Purple Page



Lanier Middle School 2600 Woodhead St. Houston, TX 77098 (713) 942-1900 September 28, 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 3 & 4 School Pictures
Oct 4 Girls Lacrosse Kickoff Mtg - Cafeteria 6p
Oct 9 Boys Lacrosse Mtg Pin Oak MS 6:30p
Oct 11 Parent Teacher Fall Party 5-8p
Oct 12 & 13 Debate Tournament at Univ. of Houston
Oct 17 ReadStep Testing for Grade 8
Oct 24 Early Dismissal 1p

PTO NEWS

From the PTO President...

You don't want to miss the biggest social event of the year for Lanier parents, teachers, and staff! Our annual Parent-Teacher social is coming up soon: **Thursday, October 11, 2012, from 5 to 8pm at ADDiX.** Lanier teachers, staff, and parents look forward to this event every year, and the social is a great opportunity to mingle and meet others in a casual setting. Even if you can only attend a portion of the evening, we'd love to have you join us. Tickets are **\$30 each** or **2 for \$55** and include food and two drink tickets. You can also sponsor a teacher or staff member.

During the social we will be selling raffle tickets and holding a drawing to win an iPad, Kindle Fire, or Sony PlayStation 3. Raffle tickets are 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10, or 7 for \$20. All proceeds support Lanier students, teachers, and staff and enable the Lanier PTO to sustain its funding of the school's programs and technology needs.

To purchase event and raffle tickets or to sponsor a teacher or staff member, visit the Lanier Store at www.lanierpto.org.

We're also looking for volunteers to help with this terrific event. If you can volunteer or have further questions, please contact Anju Varadhachary at anju12@gmail.com or Laura Fertak at murphtak@comcast.net.

Hope to see you there!
Sheryl Moore
2012-13 Lanier PTO President
lanierptopres@gmail.com

HISD 2012 \$1.89B Bond Referendum

Houston voters will decide on November 6, 2012, whether to approve a bond referendum to modernize outdated high school buildings, build new schools to meet students' needs across the city, and upgrade technology in all HISD classrooms. The following is a link to the HISD website

that gives details of the proposal and a 4-minute video: www.houstonisd.org/2012bond. Email questions can be directed to bondinfo@houstonisd.org.

A group called Citizens for Better Schools (www.greatschoolshouston.com) has started fundraising in hopes to further awareness of the bond. They will have yard signs, bumper stickers, and other items that can be picked up at their office: 4617 Montrose Blvd., Suite C202, Houston, TX 77006. Also they will be hosting an Open House at the same location on Saturday, September 22nd, from 1:00-4:00pm.

Note that the property tax increase will not affect taxpayers 65 and older with a homestead exemption; those individual tax rates are frozen for as long as they maintain their homestead.

Purple Pup Parent Magnet Tour Guides Needed

We are in need of purple pup parent magnet tour guides! We will be having a tour guide training at Lanier on Thursday, October 25th at 8:45am in the Teacher's Lounge. We would really appreciate your help in recruiting Houston's best students to join us at Lanier. If you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions please contact Scott Wagner at SLWagner@earthlink.net.

LANIER LINES

Lanier School Tour Dates

Lanier will be holding tours for prospective students and families on the following dates:

Thursday, November 1, 8:45am
Magnet Week Tours, November 5-9, 1:00pm each day
Monday, November 5, 6:00pm
Thursday, November 15, 8:45am
Thursday, November 29, 8:45am
Thursday, December 6, 8:45am
Thursday, January, 10 8:45am

For questions about these tours, contact Aurora Terry, Lanier's IB/Magnet Coordinator, at aterry@houstonisd.org

ReadStep Testing

All 8th grade students will take the ReadStep exam on Wednesday, October 17th in the Lanier Cafeteria. ReadStep is the first step on the College Board's College Readiness Pathway — an integrated series of assessments that includes the PSAT/NMSQT and the SAT.

Say Cheese!

School pictures will be taken at Lanier next Wednesday, October 3rd and Thursday, October 4th during PE or Dance in the health room.

Texas Heart Institute is here at Lanier!

Parents, if you have not already signed up your student for a free MRI screening, you still have time! Contact Nurse Lawrence for information JLAWRENC@houstonisd.org

IB Parent Steering Committee

This year is a big year for Lanier's IB Middle Years Program. The IB Organization will be sending representatives to evaluate Lanier this spring. If you are interested in helping Lanier prepare for the visit please come to our first IB Parent Steering Committee meeting on Thursday, October 25th at 1:00pm in the Teacher's Lounge or contact Ms. Terry aterry@houstonisd.org.

Celebrate Freedom week at Lanier

Last week, all the History classes at Lanier enjoyed Celebrate Freedom week. In History classes throughout Lanier, students learned and engaged in activities that gave them a deeper understanding of our country's founding plan of government document, the Constitution. The Constitution enjoyed its 225th birthday on September 17, 2012. All grade levels learned its historical and social significance in relation to the freedoms we enjoy as a country today and the 8th graders will learn more about this important document as the year progresses.

IB CORNER

THEME OF THE WEEK: HUMAN INGENUITY

Why and how do we create? What are the consequences?
This area of interaction allows students to explore in multiple ways the processes and products of human creativity, and to consider their impact on society and the mind. www.ibo.org

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

All information contained in the Purple Page is correct as of 9pm, September 26, 2011, and has been printed with the approval of Linda Smith, Lanier Principal.

PURPLE PUP PRAISE

Keep those Letters Coming!

Cluster 8A Students recently wrote and sent letters to our troops stationed overseas, thanking them for the daily sacrifices they make to keep our country safe. The kids sent about 125 letters, using the organization, A Million Thanks. Way to go 8A!

Go Mathletes!

The following Mathletes will be travelling to San Antonio on Saturday, Oct. 6, to represent Lanier at the MathCOUNTS "Mathletes in Action" Competition: Jakin Cordova (7th), Matthew Fontenot (8th), Curtis Yao (8th), and

Aileen Zhang (8th). Students will work math problems on the actual AT&T Center court and then watch a Spurs game afterward!

Students interested in solving challenging math programs are encouraged to join **MathCOUNTS!** We will attend several local competitions throughout the year. Mathletes meet in Ms. Wu's room (room 248) on Fridays from 3:30-4:30pm.



Start Clipping those Box Tops!

We will be collecting Box Tops for Education again this year! 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. For a complete list of products as well as many other online offers go to www.boxtops4education.com.

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. This year there will be prizes for both the GSG classroom and the individual submitting the most Box Tops!

We did great last year, collecting nearly 9000 Box Tops and 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.

PURPLE PUP SPORTS BOX

FOOTBALL (8TH)

Oct 2 Lanier vs. Johnston at Butler Sr	5p
Oct 9 Lanier vs. Westbriar at ButlerSr	5p

Calling Girls Lacrosse!!

All girls interested in playing lacrosse we are getting an early start! Join us for the kickoff team meeting at 6pm on October 4th in Lanier's cafeteria. Learn more about how to participate in the fastest growing sport in Texas! No experience is necessary and we take 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from Lanier and surrounding schools that do not have their own team. If you have any questions please e-mail us at lanierlax@gmail.com or see Ms. Keenan in room 232.