



LISHA KILL LIAISON

November 2011

www.southcolonieschools.org

68 Waterman Avenue, Albany, NY 12205 (518) 456-2306

Dates to Remember:

- Nov 2 PTA Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 8 Gr. 5/6 Parent Conferences
- Nov 10 Go Home Early Drill
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day/No School
- Nov 15 Board of Education 7 p.m.
- Nov 16 Gr. 5/6 Parent Conferences
- Nov 16 Vendor Fun Fair 6:30-8 p.m.
- Nov 24 & 25 Thanksgiving Recess
- Nov 28 PTA Council Meeting 7 p.m.
- Nov 29-Dec 1 Book Fair
- Dec 1 Grade 7/8 Concert 7 p.m.
- Dec 2 Gr. 7/8 Dress-Up Dance 7 p.m.
- Dec 6 Board of Education 7 p.m.
- Dec 14 Grade 5 Concert 7 p.m.
- Dec 15 Grade 6 concert 7 p.m.
- Dec 26-Jan 2 Holiday Recess
- Jan 3 Classes Resume
- Jan 4 PTA Meeting 6:30 p.m.

PTA OFFICERS 2011-2012

President: Maura Pickett

372-4874

Vice President: Emily Lawyer

452-5575

Vice President: Mara Stephan

372-0892

Treasurer: Christina Paddon

728-2299

Recording Secretary: Janice Comley

783-1619

Corresponding Secretary: Brenda Bach

A Message from the PTA President

As I write this, we are ending our Entertainment Book Fundraiser and I want to THANK ALL OF YOU for your support! We did an awesome job, thank you! I would especially like to thank Mrs. Tracy Gentile, the teachers and Principals for all their help during the sale. Congratulations to our top selling classes who received a pizza party during their lunch:



Grade 5 – Mrs. Griffith

Grade 6 – Mrs. Scalzo

Grade 7 – Mr. Meurs

Grade 8 - Mrs. Lafex



Also, congratulations to all students who earned cash in the Cash Cube including our top Cash Cube winner, Nicole Mann, for her great eye with catching those flying bills as she won \$39!

The PTA is busy planning fun events for the students:

- Pizza Mare' Night – Nov. 7
- Gr. 7/8 Dress-Up Dance – Dec. 2*
- Book Fair – Nov. 29-Dec 1

*Please remember that our events end at 9 p.m. and we ask that you be on time to pick up your child.



Our 2nd Community Vendor Fun Fair is just around the corner. Please stop by and consider starting your holiday shopping while the students enjoy fun activities in the gym. You might even win one of a dozen raffle prizes we are offering this year. Mark your calendars for November 16, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.



I hope to see you all at our **PTA Meeting on November 2nd, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (1 hour maximum)** to check out the plans and meet new friends, administrators and teachers. Mark your calendars; we look forward to seeing you there!



Clear Skies,

Maura Pickett

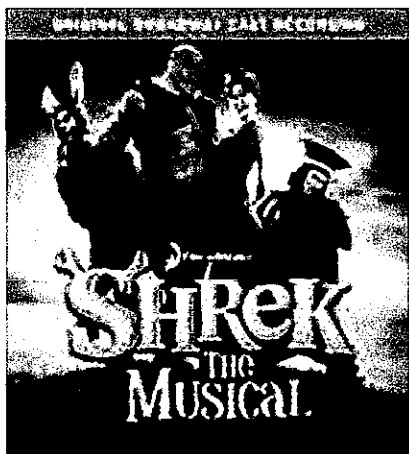
Lisha Kill PTA President

You can win three (3) tickets to see Shrek at Proctors Theatre!

This full-scale Broadway production is sure to entertain both adults and children.

(Our discounted cost for the tickets was \$210.00)

Your price to buy a chance is only \$1.00!



The Lisha Kill Student Council is sponsoring a raffle for three Orchestra Center Right tickets to *Shrek the Musical* at Proctors Theatre on Saturday, January 28, at 2:00 p.m.

The drawing will be held during the 5th grade concert on December 14.

The winner will be notified on December 15.

Tickets can be purchased in the main office @ Lisha Kill. Call or stop in.



28th Annual FALL CRAFT FAIR

Saturday November 19, 2011

9:00am-4:00pm in the

Colonie Central High School *Multi-Use Gym (MUG)*

ENJOY HOLIDAY SHOPPING AMONG 75+ CRAFTERS

FREE ADMISSION, FOOD AND BEVERAGES, PRIZE RAFFLES, BAKE SALE (for your sweet tooth)



Get Down to Earth in Science Class!

Mrs. Heller

In Mrs. Heller's Earth Science classes we reviewed our calculation and graphing skills, as well as our knowledge of density. We are now learning about latitude/longitude and map-making! We will use these skills to make maps of an island for our topography project. We are all looking forward to our astronomy unit where we will be STELLAR students! We are sure to make a BIG BANG!

IMPORTANT!!!! Please be sure to try www.engage.com! We are now using it to keep track of grades and see calendars of events from the comfort of home! Check with your child about their access code or user information and get connected! You can also message me from the site with any questions or concerns you might have.

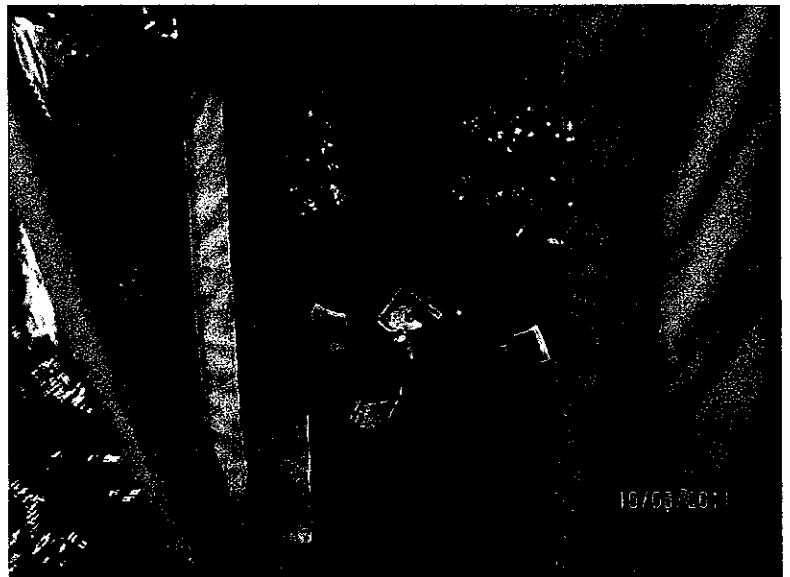


Español 8

Señorita Gaffney

¡Hola! We have been very busy in Spanish class!! We are finishing our first vocabulary list and story. Ask your child what happened in "Una Cita Importante". We have started our Spanish novel, ask your child what they've learned about Chile so far from Casi se muere. Remember your child always has vocabulary they can study, or quia activities they can practice. My quia site is www.quia.com/pages/srtagaffney.html. And you can always get updated vocabulary lists and homework assignments at:

<http://sites.southcolonie.k12.ny.us/srtagaffney>.



CAMP-2020

Team OpeRAIDERS would like to ensure a successful school year for all of our students. Here are a few reminders for families:

- ✓ Encourage your child to use his/her agenda DAILY to record assignments and activities.
- ✓ Check your child's agenda regularly.
- ✓ Check your child's "take home" folder daily for notices and reminders. This folder can also be used to send notes, payments, etc., back to school.
- ✓ Help your child organize/clean out his/her backpack and class binders and folders. Recycle!
- ✓ Utilize the Homework Hotline. It is updated daily and lists your child's homework assignments for all team classes. You can access it through the district's website at:
www.southcolonieschools.org
- ✓ Contact your child's teacher or Guidance Counselor as soon as possible with any issues or concerns.

Team OpeRAIDERS
Ms. LaFex—ELA
Mrs. Frank—Math
Mr. Meurs—Social Studies
Mr. McKee—Science
Mrs. Campbell—Spanish
Mrs. Hanley—Resource
Mrs. Soltis—Guidance Counselor



Treat the Family to Dinner with
Pizza Mare' on Monday, November 7!
50% of the proceeds benefit the LK PTA



Eat In or Take Out 869-2085
www.pizzamare.net

*It's not too late to join the
Lisha Kill PTA.
Membership is only \$5. Dues
go directly to fund all of the
wonderful activities that
Lisha Kill students enjoy!
Checks can be made payable
to Lisha Kill PTA, Attention
Maura Picket, PTA*





Mr. Sitterly, Mrs. Bourgeois, Mr. Rouleau, Ms Futia
 Mr. Obermayer, Mr. Scalzo, Mrs. DonVito,
 Mr. Mensching, Mrs. Copeland
 and Mr. Carpentieri

The Legends are getting to know each other: teachers getting to know students and students getting to know teachers! WE are planning a Hot Air Balloon Launch followed by a grade level team building activity. Hopefully it will be a great way to experience the fun side of school! WE will also be having a Penny War to help defray the costs of Team activities. The students seem to be enjoying their new found independence as 7th graders! They also are beginning to realize the **responsibilities** that come with this independence: working out of a locker, getting to class on time with the correct materials, remembering their assignment notebook every day, doing their homework, and studying for tests. As teachers and parents, we need to support them during this transition period. Teachers will remind them to write in and use their assignment notebooks and parents can periodically check their child's assignment notebook. **Please look for the monthly calendar at the beginning of every month and put it on your refrigerators!!!** Most of all please be supportive and involved in their daily lives by making attendance and academics a priority; by helping them stay organized; by encouraging reasonable bedtimes; and by making medical and other appointments during non-school hours whenever possible. We are sure that the year is going to be GREAT!

Guidance News with Mr. Carpentieri

INTERIM & END OF THE QUARTER DATES FOR GRADES

Marking Period	1	2	3	4
Interim Dates	Thursday Oct 6	Friday December 9	Friday March 2	Friday May 11
End of Quarter Dates	Friday November 4	Friday January 20	Friday April 5	Friday June 8

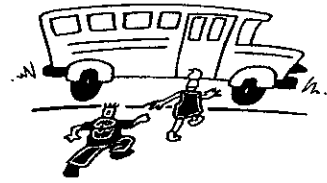
*Interim reports/report cards will be mailed out approximately 2 weeks after the end of each marking period.

PARENT CONFERENCES



Just a reminder: Parent conferences are scheduled on an as-needed basis for 7th graders. Please contact the Guidance Office for assistance in arranging a meeting.

7TH GRADE FIELD TRIP



There will be one field trip this year. The date and place are yet to be determined. Please be on the lookout for future information.

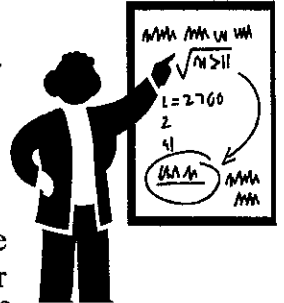
TEAM TEE-SHIRTS



Team Legends tee-shirts are in the ordering process. Every student on the team will receive a tee-shirt for various team day activities throughout the year. Thank you for your prompt payment, which allows us to obtain the shirts earlier in the year.

MATH WORLD

Mr. Sitterly: Math 7: Please make sure your child is doing their homework on a daily basis. Homework is given every Monday – Thursday nights. You can check to see what the homework is every day by going to the South Colonie Web page. Also, please make sure you have the monthly calendar each month so you know when all math quizzes and tests are. Your child will be given 2 copies of this calendar at the beginning of each month. One is for them and the other copy is for you. This is a very important document and if you have not received one then be sure to ask them for one or get another one from one of their teachers in school. We have just finished our unit on integer operations and order of operations with exponents. Next we will be starting our unit on algebra. This will be a very challenging unit, but a very important one for all 7th graders to understand. We will use the concepts in this unit in several of the other units we study this year. I am after school from 3-4 pm the day before all tests.



Mrs. Bourgeois: Pre-Math1: We have just finished our first two units. Students have been working on rational number operations. The students are doing great so far. Next we will be getting into advanced algebra. Please keep an eye on your child's progress and let me know if you have any concerns. I will be doing the same thing on my end as well. I will continue to challenge the students on a daily basis.



Columbus

THE HISTORY CORNER: Mr. Obermayer

Hello parents/guardians of Team Legends. We are off to a fun and exciting school year. We began our studies by cooking up a batch of social studies and currently we are discussing the exploration and discovery of America. Did Columbus discover America? Soon we will examine life in the original thirteen colonies. Just a reminder to look for the weekly schedules and that current event articles are due on Friday. I am looking forward to a great year!

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS: Mr. Rouleau

I would like to thank all of the parents who attended open house. It was great to see that so many parents understand the importance of education. So far this quarter in English class, we have successfully set up our Writers' Notebooks.

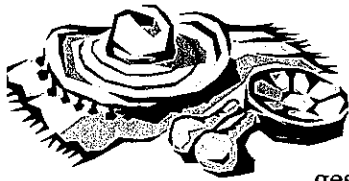


During this time, students have participated in several writing activities that will aid them in the continuous process of developing a great Writer's Notebook.

This year, there will be a large focus on grammar. Students will be quizzed on newly learned abilities in several forms, including the application of skills in their own writing and the identification of mistakes in paragraph form, which will be closely aligned with the paragraph in the Seventh Grade New York State Assessment.

Currently, we are transitioning from our first writing unit, to our first reading unit. During this unit, we will be reading Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick. Students will be participating in both cooperative learning and individual activities. The major focus for this book will be learning and applying the different reading strategies that we cover in class. All students will be held accountable for reading through the assessment of oral and written responses.

Bienvenidos a la clase de Español 7



It has been a very busy first quarter. We have gotten to know each other with our ¿Cómo soy yo? (How am I?) activity, the students described themselves. The students have also enjoyed acting in the stories like 'Las Chicas Antipáticas' and 'El Cuento del Superperro.' They used props and TPR (Total Physical Response) gestures. They have re-told these stories using pictures. The students have also been hard at work on their Spanish explorers' project. The students researched an explorer in the library and then created postcard.

¡Adios!

La Srta. Fátia

SCIENCE: Mrs. Copeland

The 7th grade science students have started the year off with a bang! They can use triple beam balances, graduated cylinders and metric rulers when making quantitative measurements. Be careful the next time you make an 'observation' that is REALLY an 'inference' as your students will know the difference! The study of density is next. I already can tell our students are definitely not dense!!! The 'Science of a Haunted House' will take place on October 31st and hopefully be a day to remember. The Haunted House will be the perfect introduction into our unit of Chemistry.

In November your students will begin working on their 'Element' Wordle presentations that they will share with you in the near future. We will finish the first half of the year with a study of acids and bases. Help your students keep up the good work by checking their assignment notebooks and the monthly calendar. Please feel free to call me with any questions at 456-2306 or contact me on-line at Stephanie.Copeland@SouthColonie.k12.ny.us

Be sure to check out the 7th grade Science Quia web page at www.quia.com/pages/mrsphyssci.html.



Homework Hotline

Team Legends daily homework is posted on the web. You get can to the site by going to www.southcolonieschools.org and clicking on 'Lisha Kill Middle School' and then clicking on 'Homework Hotline.' You then choose the date of the homework that you are looking for. Remember we are Team Legends! The monthly calendar is posted on the 1st of every month. You can always bring it up!

Lisha Kill School Store News

The Lisha Kill School Store will be open each morning before homeroom. We sell many supplies that your child might need throughout the school year at reasonable prices. In addition to school supplies, music supplies from John Keal Music, and items from the Lisha Kill PTA are also on sale. See the Lisha Kill website for a complete list of items.

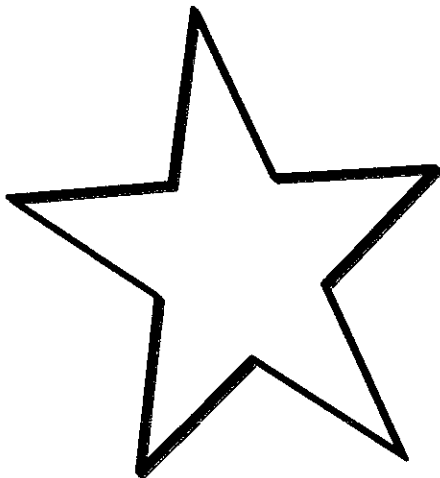
COLONIE SCHOOL BUCK:

While shopping at Colonie Center, please be sure to stop by the Customer Service desk on the first floor to have your receipts stamped and applied to Lisha Kill. If you do not want to do it yourself, please feel free to send them into school Attn: PTA/Mara Stephan and we will have them validated and then returned to you.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION:

Please remember to clip your boxtops and send them into school. They can be deposited into the marked box in the Main Lobby. Every boxtop helps Lisha earn money for school equipment.

LISHA KILL PRIDE



YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE NOW!

September 27, 2011

Dear Student/Parent/Guardian:

Lisha Kill Yearbook 2011-2012 is beginning our annual yearbook presale!

Our Yearbook Book Club is already busy taking photos for this year's FULL COLOR yearbook. It will include photos of all students, activities, sports and events that make our school year special.

Presales end December 1, 2011. The number of yearbooks ordered will be based on the presale. The only way to guarantee that your child will get a copy of the yearbook in June is to participate in the presale. **We will only order yearbooks for students who reserve them during the presale.**

The presale price of the yearbook is \$30.00

Price of the book will increase to \$35.00 after December 1, 2011- so order early!

There are two options for buying your book.

~ Pay on-line with a credit card at *balfour.com*.

Select Yearbooks & K-12 School. Enter Lisha Kill. Follow the prompts to order.

Your total when checking out will be \$30.

~OR~

~Send a check directly to school with the completed form below.

If paying by check: Orders may be dropped off in Mrs. Grab's room (125) or you can put orders in Mrs. Grab's mailbox. The presale will continue through December 1, 2011 Students may pay by cash or a **check made payable to: Lisha Kill Middle School.** Please keep receipt as proof of order.

.....(cut here).....

Please enclose this **2011-2012 YEARBOOK ORDER FORM** with orders placed at school

Student Name _____

Student Section _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Number of Yearbooks ordered _____ Date _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Check number _____ (if applicable)



NOVEMBER 2011 - LKMS

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
 Day 6	1 Day 6	2 PTA Meeting 6:30 p.m. Day 1	3 Day 2	4 End of 1 st quarter Day 3
7 Day 4	8 No School For Grades 5/6 <u>Only</u> (Parent Conf. Day) *Grades 7/8 Attend* Election Day Day 5	9 Student Council Food Drive Begins  Day 6	10 Student Go Home Early Drill Day 1	11  Veterans' Day NO SCHOOL
14 Day 2	15  Picture Retakes Day 3	16 No School For Grades 5/6 <u>Only</u> (Parent Conf. Day) *Grades 7/8 Attend* Community Vendor Fun Fair 6:30 p.m. <i>Report Cards Mailed Home</i> Day 4	17 Day 5	18 Student Council Food Drive Ends Day 6
21 Day 1	22 Day 2	23 Crazy Sock Day  Day 3	24 Happy Thanksgiving!  NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL
28 Day 4	29 Scholastic Book Fair  Day 5	30 Scholastic Book Fair Day 6		



LISHA KILL MIDDLE SCHOOL NOVEMBER 2011



NO SCHOOL: Fri., Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day
Thurs., Nov. 24 thru Fri., Nov. 25 - Thanksgiving recess



FREE IMMUNIZATIONS: The Albany County Department of Health is offering free immunizations for children living in Albany County who do not have health insurance or who are underinsured. Call 447-4589 to make an appointment.

5/6 PARENT CONFERENCES AND REPORT CARD DATES: The parent conference and report card dates for the month of November are as follows:

- 5/6 Parent Conference (ALL DAY 5/6 ONLY - NO SCHOOL) - Tues., Nov. 8 and Wed., Nov. 16
- 1st quarter ends - Fri., Nov. 4
- Report Cards Mailed Home - Wed., Nov. 16



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: The Lisha Kill PTA will host the Scholastic Book Fair on Tues., Nov. 29 thru Thurs., Dec. 1 in the library. For a preview of available book titles, go to: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/lishakill> You may also volunteer to work at the book fair for a two hour shift from this web site.



STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS:

- Food drive - Nov. 9-18 (non-perishable items – canned goods, cereal, etc.) to help those in need in our community.
- Crazy Sock Day – Wed., Nov. 23 (wear your crazy socks!)



POLLING PLACE: Lisha Kill Middle School will serve as a Town of Colonie Polling place for District 17 on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 1, 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. (in auditorium foyer.)



P.T.A. MEETING: Lisha Kill's P.T.A. will meet Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 6:30.

PICTURE RETAKES: Picture retakes will be on Tues., Nov. 15 during lunch periods.



COMMUNITY VENDOR FUN FAIR: The Community Vendor Fun Fair will be held on Wed., Nov. 16 @ 6:30 p.m. Start your holiday shopping while the students enjoy fun activities in the gym.



GO HOME DRILL: On Thursday, Nov. 10, the South Colonie School District will send students home a few minutes early to test its Emergency Management Plan. The "Go Home Early Drill" is required once a year by the New York State Education Department. **Your child may arrive home approximately fifteen minutes earlier than usual.**

WINTER SPORTS TRYOUTS: Begin on Nov. 7. All students **must be cleared through the health office** before they can try out for a winter sport. Any questions, please call Mary Downey, R.N., Lisha Kill school nurse.

TELEPHONE CALLS: PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILD TO **LEAVE A MESSAGE IF HE/SHE CALLS YOU FROM THE SCHOOL.** If you receive a missed call from Lisha Kill with no message on your telephone, please do not call the number back. Telephones are in every room in the building (the callback number goes to the main office) and the main office has no idea who called you. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!



DRESS CODE REMINDER: South Colonie Middle School Code of Conduct outlines the high expectations for students in our school.
ACADEMIC STANDARDS: The passing grade for **ALL STUDENTS, GRADES 5-8**, in all subjects, is 70. Students **MUST** pass **ALL** subjects to make honor roll/high honor roll. Students must pass all subjects to be promoted to the next grade. ALSO, 8th grade students **MUST Pass ALL** classes to participate in June's Graduation Ceremony.
REQUESTS FOR PROGRAM/COURSE CHANGES: Will not be accepted beyond the first two weeks of school unless there are extenuating circumstances. With any request for program/course changes, the Administration will make the **FINAL** decision.
SCHOOL LUNCH MENU: The school lunch menu can be accessed at www.southcolonieschools.org