



Lance Lightning Newsletter

October 2009



Off to a great start!

The 2009-10 school year is off to a great start. The students are settling into their classes, making new friends, and adjusting to their new teachers and classes. I want to thank each and every family for their patience as we worked through the start of the school year together. We are trying to increase the electronic newsletter reading from the last few years. **Please check our website at <http://lance.kusd.edu/> for detailed information about your child's house and teachers.** We will continually add and update materials throughout the school year.

Thank you,
Mr. Dahlk

Parent Teacher Conferences

Tuesday, October 6th from 5-8pm.

Thursday, October 8th from 4:30-6:30pm.

You will receive a map of where your child's teacher will be located for conferences. We hope to see you all here to discuss the success of your child this year.

PTO

The next PTO will be meeting on Tuesday, October 20th at 7:00pm in the Lance Library.

Please come and join us!

CHAT-N-CHEW: **Internet Safety** October 13th

6:00-6:30 Dinner
6:30-7:30 Program

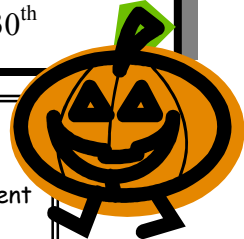
Licensed daycare is provided. Come and join us to learn more about how you can help us protect our students and learn about internet safety.

1/2 day - Wednesday, October 14th
(students released at 11:57am)

NO SCHOOL
October 29th and 30th

Student Drop-Off

If you drive and drop your child off in the morning, please be sure to **pull all the forward** to the designated "Student Drop-Off Area" **BEFORE** your child gets out of the car. It may seem like it will only take a few seconds, but this backs up traffic. Also, we do not want students walking near or towards traffic. They should exit the car and cross where the designated drop-off area is at to avoid walking in-between parked cars. They do **not** have to be dropped off directly in front of their grade-level door.



Appointments

Make all appointments before or after school. Any student leaving during the school day for an appointment must have a written note from a parent/guardian that clearly states the correct date, parent/guardian signature, and reason for leaving. This note must be turned into the office before school starts and a "Permit to Leave the Building" will be issued. The student will then present the permit to their teacher at the beginning of class so classes will not be interrupted. Sending a note will enable the student to sign himself out and be picked up at the front door - parents need not come into the office.



Visit us at: <http://lance.kusd.edu>



Picture re-take day is
Wednesday,
October 14th

DEAN OF STUDENTS

During the first week of school, each grade level was invited to the auditorium and Mr. Chike, Dean of Students, covered behavior expectations for the 2009-10 school year. The following is a list of the expectations covered:

1. Students are not to disrupt the learning and teaching process in the classroom.
2. Students are expected to follow the KUSD dress code, wear lanyard and ID in school at all times, and carry assignment notebook during school day.
3. Students are not to bully other students: includes put-downs, threats, intimidation, or hitting/kicking.
4. School rules apply when outside on school grounds and when riding on school or city bus. No skateboards allowed and students must walk bike on school grounds.
5. In the hallways during passing time, students are to walk on right side of hall, talk quietly, and keep hands and feet to themselves.
6. Students are expected to arrive to school on time (Doors open 8:27am/Classes begin 8:35am) and arrive to each class period on time.
7. Regarding lockers: students are to use school-issued locks only, never share lockers or locker combinations, and avoid putting anything in locker that is not school related.
8. Cell phones and electronic devices should not be seen or heard on school grounds. Backpacks, book bags, and large purses or bags are to be kept in locker.
9. Students are not to bring tobacco, drugs, paraphernalia, or weapons of any kind to school.
10. Students are not to represent any type of gang affiliations (via, clothing, drawings, or flashing gang signs).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All Physical Education and Health students need to be prepared for all classes. In Physical Education, they need to be completely dressed with appropriate gym clothes that were both outlined on the first day of school and the course syllabus that was given to each student. Each student was told to give their parents the syllabus and discuss the topics together. In Health class, each student must have all the appropriate material to the class (notebook, pen/pencil, & folder), and must be on time. We meet as a Health class every Monday.

In Physical Education, we are currently in the tag-football unit. A written study guide will be provided to help reinforce what was taught to the students during the unit. Other units for the first quarter include speedball (7th & 8th grade), soccer (6th grade), and basketball (all grades). Written tests will follow all units in class.

In Health class, we are working on our fitness journals that go along with both health and physical education programs. The students have already recorded a "baseline" of information during the first week of school (sit-reach test, push up / sit up tests, and the mile run/walk). We will be working with those numbers to accomplish goals for our fitness journals.

PTO NEWS

A big thank you to all who are sending in their receipts and box tops for our PTO! Our organization uses these funds to support the science fair, alumni scholarships and many other ways that help the staff and students at Lance. So, please continue to take a moment to collect these items and send them into the office. Or, support our Scrip and Market Day fundraisers. With your support, everyone wins!

Here are ways to help our PTO:

- *Super Valu* - When you are checking out, simply have your receipt stamped and turn it into a box in the office at Lance. A percentage of sales on those receipts are profit for our organization.
- *Pick 'n Save* - Please go the service desk and let them know that you would like Lance Middle School to be your school in the We Care program. Our code is #451690. A percentage of your receipt will automatically be donated to our Lance PTO. It only takes a minute to do this.
- *Market Day* - Order your favorite products each month and the profits come to the PTO. Enjoy delicious food and help our organization! Go to www.marketday.com to order.
- *Box Tops for Education* - Just cut out those box tops found on a variety of items. Bring them to the office and our PTO makes a percentage of profit from them.
- *Scrip* - Just go to the website, www.simplifiedscrip.com and sign up to purchase scrip that can be used at hundreds of local stores. Make it easy this holiday season, and let scrip do the shopping for you!
- *Target* - Don't forget...if you have a Target card, a percentage of your spending goes directly to our school. Shop Target and shop smart!

Thanks for doing these "little things" that can make a big difference to our PTO.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council officers and members have been busy planning and preparing for our upcoming SOCIAL that will be held on **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm**. We will need our members to sign up for a session to work at the social.

We will also need many extra PARENT VOLUNTEERS since we are having a carnival theme. Student Council is also offering concessions for sale at the football games. We still need volunteers, both parents and students. The first of these games will be held on Wednesday, October 7. Please contact Deb Shuppert (Wilhelm) if you are able to volunteer for either of these events.

Student Council Advisors
Mrs. Shuppert and Mrs. Flox

ADVENTURE HOUSE

Math- Mrs. Gosse

Pre-Algebra Students:

We are approaching the end of Chapter Two: Solving Equations. Students need to keep practicing simplifying expressions and equations.

The students will take a test on Chapter two on Thursday, October 1st. Our objective for this quarter is to fully understand the first three chapters of the Pre-Algebra book. Chapter Three is on Multi-step Equations. A progress report comes out in paper form the day before a test and the day after the test. This way they can take a look at what they still owe me for the chapter and also their grade after the chapter is over. There is a Quarter test at the end of the quarter.

The students will practice their addition of integers skill while playing golf with over and under par. This is a graded assignment. They will also have a chance to go-cart and play a few games while we are there. (Non-graded part.)

It is a pleasure to have your children in Pre-Algebra. Remember they can see me any morning starting as early as 7:30 or during advisory time at the end of the day. Also, they can e-mail me with questions at night, use Homework Help on-line (classzone.com), do odd questions to check to see if they know how to do a section--answers are in the back of the book for the odd.

Please check new.schoolnotes.com for weekly assignments and Zangle Parent Connect for the quarters work. E-mail me with any concerns. Thanks, see you at conferences.

Holt Math Students:

In the next few days we are finishing chapter one. This quarter we will go as far as Chapter Two and part of Chapter Three (Integers and Rational Numbers and Applying Rational Numbers). A progress report comes out the day before a test and the day after a test. This way you can check your child's progress whether or not you have Zangle Parent Connect. Speaking of Zangle, please stop by our office and get your password so that you can use it if you have internet access. new.schoolnotes.com has the weeks assignments listed and Zangle will show their progress. Remember I am at school by 7:30 every morning. Your child can stop by and get extra help. Your child can also see me during advisory and don't forget they have access to their textbook on-line. The on-line books come with extra practice and manipulatives to help them practice good foundations of skills they will need to know by 8th grade when they take Pre-Algebra.

We will be taking a trip in October around the second week. Watch for a permission slip. We will be going to Action Territory to play miniature golf (this is a graded assignment). While playing golf they will work on their addition of integer skills while using over and under par. They non-graded portion will be go-cart rides and indoor games. Thanks, see you at conferences.

English – Mrs. Jones

Mrs. Jones' classes have been working on the Elements of Literature, focusing on stories that contain suspense, foreshadowing, and climax.

Social Studies – Mrs. Valeri

We are using a new Social Studies series this year. This book has an interactive online edition that your child will be able to access on the internet at home. Holt publishes all of your child's books and it is now possible to access all of your child's books at the same site using the same password for all four subjects. Simply go to my.hrw.com and log in using your child's username and password, then click on the book you want to see. (see attached sheet) You should see all the books displayed for Science, Math, English and Social Studies. I will have a classroom set of books to use in school only. This means that your child **will not be bringing home a hard copy of the Social Studies textbook**. However, if your child does not have internet access, he/she may check out a textbook as needed.

We have started the year with a brief review of World Geography. We are currently studying about history and archaeology, using primary and secondary sources. In the month of October we will be studying Mesopotamia, and Ancient Egypt, followed by Ancient Greece and Rome. I hope your child will enjoy the journey through history with me. I have many hands on activities to get them actively involved. My hope is that they will learn from the Past, live in the Present, and plan for the Future. May this journey take them around the world and much more! I am looking forward to a great year!

Please check your child's progress on Zangle. If you have any questions or concerns please e-mail me at nvaleri@kUSD.edu

Science – Mr. Cetera

It has been a wonderful start to another promising school year here at Lance. Our science classes here have been introduced to the newer *Holt Science & Technology* materials that we began utilizing last year, whereas on-line passwords have been issued for students to access the Holt website to further their learning experiences and opportunities. Moreover, we will soon be embarking into the educational arena of hands-on-science when we begin our first laboratory experiments of the school year. However, before any laboratory experiments can take place, all students must return their Science Safety Contracts that were discussed and distributed the first day of school and there is still a few students that are missing the science safety contract, so please check Zangle Parent Connect to verify that your child has submitted their science safety contract.

Currently in science class we are focusing our attention on the World of Physical Science including scientific models, scientific method, scientific tools with measurements in the SI units, and graphing skills. Once we complete our introductory to the World of Physical Science unit, we will then be moving into realm of Environmental Science.

CRYSTAL HOUSE

M.S. Bilotti mbilotti@kUSD.edu

J. Skurski jskurski@kUSD.edu

L. Carlson lcarslon@kUSD.edu

Social Studies News:

We have just completed Chapter 1, The Beginnings of Human Society. Students practiced applying their knowledge about the Five Themes of Geography and learned to connect the geography of a place and its history. We have also learned to read timelines and practiced by making our own personal timeline of our lives from birth to the present.

We have also been working on learning how to read and discuss the material from the textbook and then summarize the information to help students prepare for the exam. This is a new skill for most students, but it should help them better prepare for their test as well as other subjects. Students will be taking a test on Chapter 1 on Thursday September 24, 2009.

*****Students need a spiral notebook, a pencil, and a red pen daily *****

Science News:

We spent the first part of the school year talking about Science Safety in the classroom. Students were given a Safety Contract to take home and review with their parents/guardians and bring back to school with the student and parent/guardian signature. Students also drew illustrations to depict Science Safety Rules. Students then took a Science Safety Test to assess their knowledge of safe practices in the science lab. We have also started to learn about the environment with the use of our online textbooks titled Environmental Science. Don't forget this book is on-line and your child has been given a logon-id and the pin number to access the book and worksheets. All science books can be found at <http://go.hrw.com> Check Zangle for homework, tests, projects and quizzes. Again, we are working on learning how to summarize, take notes and in general be prepared for an exam. This seems to be helping students understand the material much better.

*****Students need a spiral notebook, a pencil, and a red pen daily *****

Math News:

We are off to a great start. Thank you for making sure that your child has all of his/her materials for Math. Students need a spiral notebook, a pencil, loose-leaf paper, and a red pen daily.

Need to know the assignment? Please check out [new schoolnotes.com](http://schoolnotes.com) to find your child's assignment. I update the website Any student needing extra help with Math may attend MASH on Tuesday mornings at 7:45 in Room 216. This is for extra help or to complete absence work.

English. It was a pleasure to meet so many parents at the Open House. Ask your child about the opportunity he/she has to participate in English Fest by reading the following six books: *Red Kayak* by Pricilla Cummings, *The Shadow Thieves* by Anne Ursu, *Peak* by Roland Smith, *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass, *Wednesday Wars* Gary D. Schmidt, and *Life As We Knew It* by Susan Beth Pfeiffer.

Parent Connect on Zangle and Schoolnotes.com are helpful tools to track your child's progress.

Click on schoolnotes.com for a complete list of assignments. Please check your child's grade and missing work on Zangle. Students are in need of school supplies for third quarter. Please encourage your child to complete and turn in assignments on time.

TITANIUM HOUSE

Dear parents,

The Titanium House teachers would like to welcome you to our House this year. We have already begun to explore many topics in each content area as we are almost at the midterm point.

Mr. Banaszynski has put together an email list for all parents in the House and so you are reminded to contact him if you have not had a chance yet to add yours. Such information is vital for good communication to occur.

We are actively planning for the Washington DC trip for all eighth graders, which will take place on May 6-8, 2010. This week we held a special assembly for the students so that they are aware of the fundraising events that have been chosen. We are very excited to offer this once in a lifetime chance to see our Country's Capitol.

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for the evenings of Tuesday, October 6 and Thursday, October 8. We look forward to meeting with all of you!

TITANIUM HOUSE TEACHERS

Mr. Banaszynski - Social Studies

Mrs. Keckler- Algebra/Pre-Algebra

Mrs. Peura- English

Mrs. Flox- Science

SYNERGY HOUSE

Open House was a huge success. Thank you to all the families that were able to come in and meet us. We look forward to seeing you all again at parent teacher conferences on October 6 and 8th.

Please use these tools to help with the transition to middle school for both you and your child.

1. Student planner
2. Wednesday folder
3. e-mail address

We are off to a great start and establishing classroom routines and expectations. In English students are learning non-fiction reading strategies and summarizing skills. In science we have finished chapter 2 section 1 on branches of earth science and will begin discussing the Scientific Method. We went to the computer lab and students have access to their Science book on-line. The website is www.thinkcentral.com. In Math we are reviewing long division and multiplication and learned order of operations and will be finishing up chapter 1 soon. In Social Studies, we are focusing on our first theme of geography, "Location". Students will be learning about maps, coordinates, hemispheres, equator and Prime Meridian, longitude and latitude, and locating the seven continents and 4 major oceans. As a house we are preparing the students for the upcoming WKCE test next month.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

The Synergy House:

Beth Koslucher	bkosluch@kUSD.edu	(Math)
Julie Krautkramer	jkrautkr@kUSD.edu	(English)
Jeana Lesnik	jlesnik@kUSD.edu	(Social Studies)
Amy Miceli	amiceli@kUSD.edu	(Science)

VOYAGER HOUSE

Language Arts: We are off to a quick start in Language Arts in the Voyager House! Students have been busy practicing their summarizing skills as we read each day during our silent reading time. They also have been working on expanding their vocabulary through our Word of the Day warm-ups. As the quarter continues, we will explore non-fiction reading strategies as we examine the theme "What Really Happened?" We will also finish working on expanding, rearranging, and combining sentences as we develop our paragraph writing skills.

Please encourage your child to study each night for our weekly spelling and vocabulary quizzes. As a reminder, each student must complete three book reports each quarter so keep reading at home.

Math: We began the school year reviewing multiplication and division of whole numbers, and are currently working on chapter 1: Whole Numbers and Patterns. We have compared and ordered whole numbers, estimated with whole numbers, worked with exponents and learned how to solve problems using order of operations.

Students were introduced to the Holt online website, where they can access their math book from any computer with Internet access. I wrote each students username in the pass section of their assignment notebook and their password is their student ID number. I encourage all students to use this valuable resource!!

Congratulations to Mary-Kate H. She was recently named math student of the week!!

Science: We are off to a fantastic start! The students are adjusting well to the A/B schedule. The first unit this year focuses on learning the scientific method and other general science tools and safety that will be needed for all future units of study this school year. This first unit allows the students to ease into 6th grade reviewing some previous knowledge while also learning some new material. The textbooks will be handed out within the next two weeks. Please make sure these books are covered with a book cover at all times. They are brand new.

Mrs. Kearby's science classroom needs your help. We are still in need of some supplies for this school year. This month I am asking for Elmer's glue in bottles. We glue our notes into our interactive science journals and this takes a lot of glue throughout the year and the student's have found that my bottles are not in the best shape. If you can help our science class by sending a bottle of glue it would be greatly appreciated!

Social Studies: Looking at the world through the eyes of a geographer is the goal for 6th grade. We are just beginning our journey through the 5 Themes of Geography with the theme of Location. Students are getting acquainted with relative and absolute location while having fun interacting with their peers with different games that allows them to give and receive directions. It is very important that all students have their own set of colored pencils. Map work is a critical part of a geographer's life and colored pencils are required for our map work. I encourage students to carry pencil bags/boxes so that they have their colored pencils with them everyday to help keep organized.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER EDUCATION

The 6th and 7th grade are working on their module assignments three days out of the week. On Thursdays and Fridays we are working cooking lessons.

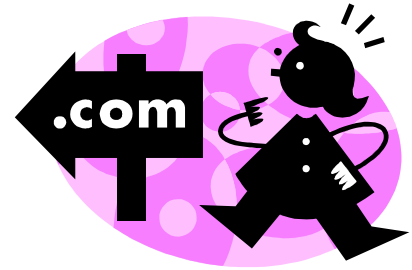
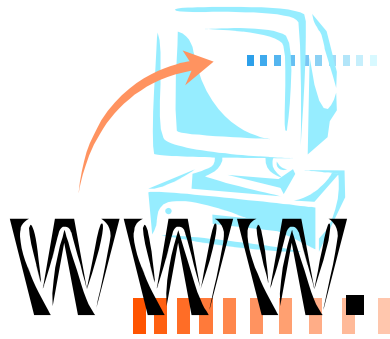
The 6th grade made bubble buns, orange Julius, cinnamon toast and play dough. We are working on safety in the kitchen and being organized and clean!

The 7th grade made pizzas and cookies. The classes are working on how to properly measure foods and organization in the kitchen!

The 8th grade classes are studying nutrition. We have been examining the foods that are served in the fast food establishments and what the nutrient and calorie content is of these foods. Along with this we have looked at various nutrients and minerals and how our body uses them.

Mrs. Dana
FCE

Internet Safety



PRESENTED BY: OFFICER JEFF WAMBOLDT
Crime Prevention Officer

Lance Middle School Chat & Chew
Tuesday, October 13, 2009
6:00 p.m. Free Meal
6:30 p.m. Program
Free Childcare Provided
PROGRAM IS FOR PARENTS ONLY

If interested, please complete and return to your child's teacher by [Friday, October 9](#)

Name _____

Phone _____

Number attending meal: adults _____ children _____

Ages of children for childcare _____

Co-sponsored by Lance Middle School PTO and the Kenosha Parent Network, a project of the
Elementary and Secondary Education Act, administered by
Kenosha Unified School District No. 1

LEGACY HOUSE

Welcome to the Legacy House! The students have had a great start to the new year. Thank you for taking the time to review all of the letters and paperwork that came home at the beginning of the school year.

An important part of your child's success is keeping the lines of communication between school and home. We maintain a website where you can access information about homework and upcoming events on <http://new.schoolnotes.com/legacyhouse>. Also included on this site is a link to the online textbooks. Students were given their username and password and wrote this information in their assignment notebooks. Our classes took part in a computer lab orientation at which this time students logged in and explored the various aspects of the online math textbook. In addition to using the homework website to communicate with parents/guardians, please also look for Wednesday red or blue 'Take Home' folders which will include graded work and communication from the school. Please check with your child each week for this information.

In order to insure student success and for students to maintain good grades we may have having missing work time on Friday afternoons. Students that have all of their work turned in can enjoy some incentive time. Students with missing work will be given assistance in completing their missing assignments. This prevents students from falling behind in their studies and consequently earning low grades.

We appreciate all of your support and we look forward to working with you and your child this school year. If you would like to contact us, our e-mail addresses are: jlegrang@kUSD.edu and reschbac@kUSD.edu.

DREAM TEAM

The Dream Team is off to a super start for the 09/10 school year! Your child is currently working hard and learning about specific topics such as seasons, Wisconsin, and our weekly newspaper topics. They also work daily on Math and Language Arts skills, Literacy, Community Awareness and Domestic Skills. Your child enjoys a weekly library time and weekly life & recreational activities. We currently are planning for our monthly swimming and bowling field trips. As always, thank you for your support and please contact us at any time with any questions and/or concerns!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Burke and Mrs. Wienke
and The Dream Team Staff

SPANISH

A mother mouse and a baby mouse are walking along when all of a sudden a cat attacks them. The mother mouse goes, "BARK!" and the cat runs away.

"See?" says the mother mouse to her baby. "Now do you see why it's important to learn a foreign language?"

Welcome to an exciting year in the Spanish program and thank you for your comments on my class. It is very rewarding to hear that students are taking some of it home and attempting to teach vocabulary or songs to their siblings.

If you would like "special" homework or instructions for your children that already have an exposure on target language, please feel free to contact me about homework that will be sent home according with your child's speaking ability.

There is a lot happening at Senora Lepley's class right now, we are celebrating the National Hispanic Heritage Month with fun activities.

Kids are learning about food, music and traditions from different Spanish speaking countries. By the end of this month Senora Lepley will hold a celebration in her class with all the Spanish-speaking students that attend Lance.

PARENTS : If your child has Hispanic heritage and speak Spanish encourage him/her to see me.

6th Grade: Your child should be able to count, name colors, sing songs, and carry a small conversation using target language.

7th Grade: We are currently learning about Spain and other Spanish speaking countries. Your child should be able to count from 1 to 100 in Spanish. Ask your child to share with you.

8th Grade Semester: We are currently working on pasaporte sheet. Students are learning how to answer on a variety of situations.

8th Grade 101. I will have this class for a full year so just wait to see the results by the end of the school year. This class is very enthusiastic and eager to learn more about different Spanish speaking countries. Each student received a workbook that will be used throughout the year. Students received this workbook at no cost to parents.

Students will continue to use this workbook in high school if they decide to stay into the Spanish program.

Please feel free to e-mail me with any concerns or comments that you might have.

Feliz dia de la independencia Chile,Honduras,El Salvador,Costa Rica,Guatemala, Mexico y Nicaragua

Have a great day,

RENAISSANCE HOUSE

Dear Families of Renaissance Students

The year is off to a great start, and we have enjoyed getting to know your children as they begin their seventh grade experience. Many thanks to those who have attended open house, have sent a friendly email, or have stopped by to say, "Hi." An additional thank you is also due to those who have donated Kleenex and other supplies. As you can imagine, Kleenex becomes a precious commodity as the year progresses, and we are very grateful. At this time, we are already low on Kleenex due to the early cold bug that has swept through our hallways. If you have not donated already, please consider sending a box or two with your child. This would be most appreciated by all!

Instead of using Schoolnotes, we have been checking student's assignment notebooks at the very end of the day and are placing pertinent information on the "Class News" tabs of Zangle's parent connect. Students will have their assignment notebook filled out for each class period with a detailed listing of their homework. Please check this notebook at home, and let us know if it is not being filled out accurately or if you have questions about class activities.

For the first portion of this 1st quarter, we have been working on many endeavors. In **English**, students will be starting the novel, Freak the Mighty, and have been focusing on descriptive writing. Early civilization studies and geography lessons have been the focus of Social Studies. During science we have been learning about ecology and will soon begin our first experiments.

In **Math**, the curriculum for Holt students consists working on all operations involving integers, and we will be revisiting solving equations involving integers. Pre-algebra students are working with equations from writing to solving them. We will end the quarter with inequalities.

Math in-class star incentive will take place soon. The students each started the quarter with a five-point star, and their goal is to have the center of the star remaining at the end of the month. Please ask your child if they have met this individual math classroom goal. Also, each class as a group has the opportunity to enjoy some POPCORN once they earn the seven letters in the word popcorn. A letter is colored in each day if all students have their work done. We're hoping this happens soon!

Please check to make sure your child has his/her math supplies daily. Math book with a cover, assignment notebook, pencils, red pens, red spiral, red folder, and a calculator should be brought to class daily.

Each class has been having assigned work a number of times a week, so students should have regular homework activities to work on every night. Also, colored notebooks, loose-leaf paper and writing materials are required during classroom time. Please help your child stay organized by ensuring that they have the following colored notebooks and folders for each class:

Social Studies – Green
Science – Blue
English – Black and Yellow
Math – Red

We are excited about how the year has started, and look forward to getting to know you and your child during the months ahead. Parent and teacher conferences will be held on the evenings of October 6th (5:00 – 8:00), and October 8th (4:30 – 6:30). During the interim you are always welcomed to contact us if the need should arise.

Sincerely,

The Renaissance House Teachers
Mrs. Beth, Mrs. Bornhuetter, Mr. Bradley, Mrs. Laack, and Mrs. Taske

YEARBOOKS

Yearbook's On Sale – LIMITED TIME OFFER

Purchase your yearbook early and save \$5 during September. Order forms are available in the main office. Payment must be made at the time of order to reserve your copy. Checks may be written out to Lance Middle School. Limited copies of the yearbook are ordered based on sales, so make sure you reserve a copy TODAY!

LIGHT HOUSE

Mrs. Weitzel: Math

Mrs. Weitzel's math classes have settled into a daily routine and are well on their way to a successful school year. I am pleased to report that most students are bringing all necessary supplies to class on a daily basis and tardies this year have been almost non-existent! Way to go students! Please continue to check Zangle for up-to-date grade reports and missing assignment lists. If you do not have a username and password, stop in the main office with a photo id to pick yours up.

In **Pre-Algebra**, we have just finished up chapter 1. In this chapter students learned about the fundamental tools of algebra, including variables, writing algebraic expressions, and solving one-step equations. We are now moving on to chapter 2, which is a review of rational numbers. I'd also like to remind students and parents that Holt Course 3 is on-line. Students were given their usernames and passwords so they may log on to www.thinkcentral.com to access their math materials.

In **Algebra**, students have finished chapter 1 and are now well into chapter 2, a review of rational numbers. We also continue to do WKCE warm-ups at the beginning of class daily as preparation for the test in November. The Algebra book and class materials can be found online at www.classzone.com. Students were given directions in class for setting up a student account on this website. If your son or daughter has not yet created an account please encourage them to do so.

I look forward to talking with you and your students at parent/teacher conferences on October 6th and 8th. Until then, feel free to email me anytime with questions or concerns at jweitzel@kUSD.edu.

Mrs. Carpenter: Math

Mrs. Carpenter's Pre-Algebra classes

Just a few reminders to parents and students:

*All math books should be covered by now. If your student's book is not covered, Mrs. Carpenter will be making phone calls home requesting that the book be covered.

*Pencil needs to be used in math class. Pencils can be purchased in class if a student does not have one.

*The Chapter 1 test will be given on Thursday, Sept. 24, and we will be starting Chapter 2 on Monday, Sept. 28.

*The most important concepts reviewed in Chapter 1 were integer computation and solving simple one-step equations. In Chapter 2 we will review fraction computation.

Ms. Harmon: Social Studies

In social studies, we have just completed Chapter 1. Most students are off to a wonderful start. Please remind your child that it is important to complete work on time. We will study the European Exploration of the Americas (1492-1700) over the next two to three weeks.

Mr. Walton : Science

Students will begin their preparations for their Science Fair Experiments next week. They will complete an initial sheet that specifies their problem, hypothesis, potential procedure and identification of variables. Parents and caretakers are encouraged to discuss ideas with students and I. This science emporium preparation sheet, signed by student and parent/guardian is due to me by Thursday October 8th.

I endeavor to provide parents and students' resources and information pertaining to future homework deadlines via e-mail. If you would like to be added to our contact list please send a blank e-mail message with your child's name on to subject line to twalton@kUSD.edu.

All Lighthouse students have made a terrific start to their 8th grade year at Lance Middle School. As we progress rapidly through the first quarter, I strongly encourage parents and caretakers to access 'Zangle Parent-Connect' on a regular basis to determine student progress in all subjects. The username and password is available from the school office and is the same for all siblings. Parent-connect can be found at the KUSD homepage or Lance Middle School homepage.

Finally, please feel free to contact me at the above e-mail address if you have any questions. I am happy to help. I look forward to meeting with you at Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 6th and 8th.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Business:

We have finished units on Desktop Publishing and ran our first Virtual Business Retailing. We discussed various business terms and what is needed to run a business. Students did various lessons on pricing, purchasing, merchandising, staffing, finance, promotions, and security. Security and merchandising were there favorites. Please ask your student what they learned from the program. They tried different options and many businesses closed, but then we tried again. The end of the week we ran a multi-player competition. Each team named their virtual store and ran it by using strategies they had learned. We did have a few businesses survive and one business made a profit of over \$609,000. We are starting our economics unit and creating a checking account. We talked about saving money, natural and man-made resources, and goods/services.

Keyboarding/Intro to Computers:

We finished our unit on keyboarding. We have covered the entire alphabet and are working on speed and accuracy by practicing timings in class. Please have your student practice as much as possible at home. There are many websites available that work on speed and accuracy. Our new unit will be Microsoft Word. We are working on getting around in Windows, Word and learning about file management. Students started typing their first letter using proper format. We will also be creating flyers and tables over the next few weeks.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

TO THE FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE LANCE MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

We are happy that many students have chosen to be part of our Lance music department. Here is some information the music teachers would like to remind you of.

IMPORTANT MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES:

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, FUNDRAISER PICKUP

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 7:30 P.M. CHOIR CONCERT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, KUSD JAZZ FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, AUDITIONS FOR THE ALL SCHOOL MUSICAL

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, AUDITIONS FOR THE ALL SCHOOL MUSICAL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, BAND CONCERT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, ORCHESTRA CONCERT

UNIFORMS

Our band, choir and orchestra have uniforms. Most of you have sent order forms and checks for the shirts the sixth and seventh graders will be wearing. If you have any questions about uniforms, please call 359-2251

FUND RAISER

The Fund raiser was held to defray the costs of the music department.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!!

French

FRENCH

Bonjour de Monsieur Frieman! M. Frieman is excited to be back at Lance this year teaching French and Theatre Arts.

6th Grade: We have begun speaking French! So far your child should be able to say the alphabet, how they are doing, their age, their birthday and where they are from. This class goes by very quickly, but you will be surprised at how quickly they learn another language!

7th and 8th Grade: We have reviewed the alphabet, numbers and basic conversation and beginning to look at new material. As the course continues new material will build upon the solid foundations that we have been reviewing.

Québec Trip Update: We are currently in the process of creating a trip that will best suit our needs. We are looking at two tour companies and have found a trip that will be around \$1,200 for a 4 day trip. A letter will be sent home when the trip has been approved.

THEATER ARTS

THEATRE ARTS

7th and 8th Grade: Both classes have worked on improvisation, pantomime and monologues. We will continue this quarter with scenes and theatre design.

Theatre Arts Trip: We are currently looking into taking a trip to Chicago to see the Pre-Broadway Premiere of the new The Addams Family musical. A letter will be sent home when the trip has been approved.

Winter Musical: For our winter musical, we will be doing Annie, Jr. Auditions will be held November 20th and 23rd. With Performances the last full weekend in January 2010.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

We have nearly completed our first module in 6th, 7th and 8th grade. Students are exploring all of the areas of technology and transferring the information they are learning into hands-on projects. Starting next week, 6th and 7th graders will begin their second module. 8th grade will begin their first class project that involves designing and developing a vehicle that will run on the power of a single mousetrap. Students will be given a set amount of supplies and are welcome and encouraged to bring supplies from home. Parents, if you have any old cd's that are collecting dust, we would love to take them off of your hands to be used for the wheels of our vehicles.

Thank you,
Tech Ed Department.
Kevin Williams

POWER HOUSE

English News from Mrs. Schripsema

English classes are off to a good start. We have read "The Tell-Tale Heart" and learned about the author who wrote this first horror story. Students have signed out books for daily silent reading, many students choosing the classics that honors students must read for credit this year. Students have explored etymology, the history and origin of words. They realize that learning certain Greek and Latin word roots, especially those representing numbers, will greatly increase their vocabulary. The next large assignment will be writing a persuasive essay.

Science News From Mrs. Owens

During 1st quarter students will be studying life science. The lessons we will be learning are the building blocks for biology next year.

Topics we will be studying include: cells, tissues, organs, systems, heredity, evolution, and history of life on earth.

Important dates to remember are...

On October 16th, the first quarter project is due.

On October 23rd, first quarter extra credit is due.

Social Studies News from Mr. Krey

If you have any questions regarding Social Studies and the concepts being taught, please ask your child. If you have any questions, e-mail ckrey@kUSD.edu.

Pre-Algebra News from Ms. Ridolfi

Quarter 1 will be filled with variables, equations, coordinate planes, and solving story problems. Assignments are given every day except Friday. Students are welcome to after school help Thursdays from 3:55-4:45 in Room 111. Please check assignments on Schoolnotes.com as well as Zangle.

Algebra News from Ms. Ridolfi

Quarter 1 will be filled with expressions and equations, real numbers, proportions, and solving story problems.

Assignments are given every day except Friday. Students are welcome to after school help Thursdays from 3:55-4:45 in Room 111. Please check assignments on

THE DEAN'S LIST...

HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

- provide school supplies and a lighted place to study and complete homework at home with no distractions
- help your child set academic goals
- when your student misses school, make sure he/she completes missing assignments
- insist on daily attendance
- attend parent/teacher conferences
- ask to see weekly progress reports
- help your child with time management
- ask to see student's assignment notebook; check for missing assignments or notes from the teacher
- make homework your child's responsibility
- reward positive behavior and good grades

Dean of Students: Mrs. Karen Lovelace

EXTREME TEAM

Thank you Extreme Team parents and students for a great beginning to the 2009-2010 school year! Please continue to be checking Wednesday folders and returning them by the following Friday.

In Social Studies, we are working on the Five Themes of Geography. We will be spending the next couple of weeks learning about the theme of Location.

In Science, we are moving through the Scientific Method and the six steps of the process.

In English, we are working on Sentences and Sentence Structure. We will be focusing on the Parts of Speech and how they fit together to create fantastic sentences!

In Math, we are working on the Order of Operations, Estimation, and the Commutative, Associative, and Distributive properties.

Zangle news..... Please remember that grades are updated weekly. It is best to review your student's grades after school hours. If your child is absent please give teachers a week to update those assignments. All absent scores are reported as 0 until the assignment is turned in and recorded. This is a default message assigned by the program. Missing work will be corrected and recorded as soon as possible, but may take up to a week to be updated in Zangle. Grade sheets found in Wednesday folders are printed on Monday of each week and may not be as updated as the Zangle site.

ART DEPARTMENT

Welcome back from the art room! We are off to a great start this year and hope that as you visit our school you get a chance to look at some of the work up on display. The sixth graders just finished creating their own original restaurant menus and food made of clay. The seventh graders came together to study the work of Andy Warhol and create their own pop art posters, which can be viewed throughout the school. The eighth grade two-dimensional class is currently working on music themed artwork to gear up for our very first art show of the year.

On November 19th the choir will be having its very first concert for the school year and some of our art students will have work on display throughout the commons and elective halls. I hope you get the chance to listen to some talented young musicians and view the work of our creative artists here at Lance.

As always I'm always accepting donations. Things I am currently in need of are cd's, vinyl records, cassette tapes and cardboard juice containers with the cap (such as minute maid, Tropicana, etc.) If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Thank you,
Ms. Frohne
kfrohne@kUSD.edu

LIBRARY NEWS

The Lance Library Media Learning Center, LLMLC, is the reading and information energy source for Lance Lightning, and we're steadily growing to better serve the entire Lance Learning Community. Our physical collection includes and evolving assortment of over 17,000 books and periodicals that support your student's classes and recreational reading needs, and we offer much more than that! Students are learning the skills they will use in high school, college, and public libraries. They learn how libraries organize different types of materials; how books are catalogued and shelved; how to use an online catalog; how to do research; and how to find books that match their reading abilities and interests. Additionally there are computer labs in the library media learning center where students learn how to access and use online databases to find the best, most current digital information they need for their academic and personal interests. We work with your students' teachers to coordinate their academic lessons with the best 21st century information and technology practices thereby expanding students' learning beyond textbooks and equipping them for their futures in this digital age. At the same time, students learn how to evaluate the information they find while learning how to use the Internet legally, ethically, and safely. Ask your student about the library's most important rule: DISTURB! The LLMLC also sponsors two student clubs: the I4A Corps, and the Critics' Circle. Look for our expanding webpage as the year progresses- just go to the Lance Middle School webpage and choose "Library." If you ever have any questions, suggestions, comments, or just want to stop in for a visit, you know where to find us! You may also call: 359-2250 or email: dives@kUSD.edu.

More later,
Donna Ives-Kimpel

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 requires all school districts to publish a yearly School Performance Report Card, reflecting student achievement and adequate yearly progress toward meeting annual measurable objectives. The 2007-08 report will be available on the KUSD website in February 2009. Parents may also request a paper copy of this report. If you would like a paper copy, please contact the Lance Main Office.

The Kenosha Unified School District No. 1 is an Equal Opportunity Educator/Employer with established policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability or handicap, sexual orientation, or political affiliation in any educational program, activity, or employment in the District. The Superintendent of Schools/designee (653-6320) addresses questions regarding student discrimination, and the Executive Director of Human Resources (262-653-6333) answers questions concerning staff discrimination.