

# Leo's Family Newsletter

Friday, September 13th 2019



## Upcoming Events

- Wednesday September 18th at 9am**  
School Photos for our Class
- Thursday, September 26th, 6:00pm-7:45pm**  
Back to School Night
- Monday, September 30th**  
Last day to donate to Donors Choose Project
- Tuesday, October 1st**  
First Off Campus/With Chaperones Field Study (Hoyt Arboretum!)
- Wednesday, October 9th**  
Indigenous People's Day (still school)
- Friday, October 11th**  
NO SCHOOL- Statewide Inservice

## Connect to Your Kid

*What is your reading goal for first quarter?  
(we made these in class)*

*Describe what you saw/noticed at Lone Fir during field study?*

## Announcements

- I created a Donors' Choose Project that will put technology into our classroom learning! We are aspiring to create a tablet station that we can use for literacy, math, and science stations. Please **check out our class website below to find the link to the project on the homepage**. Thank you for your support and for sharing this project within your networks!
- Here is our classroom website: <https://leoslearners.weebly.com/>
- Every day, please make sure your student brings:
  - Their home folder (even if empty)
  - A backpack
  - A lunch (unless hot lunch), snacks, and water bottle (optional)
  - Shoes that they can play in
- Fall sick is already going around, can you believe it?! Thanks for helping with sleep hygiene (8-10 hours) and for keeping kids home if they really aren't feeling well and are contagious.

# Announcements Cont'd

- One way students can access books is through Scholastic Book Order Forms! I'm not usually a big fan of capitalism-y stuff, but the wonderful thing about using Scholastic is that you can often find books for significantly cheaper than in stores. How handy! Our class code is **TVTYG**. If you place online orders using our code, we can earn points as a class that I can use to add to our classroom library and supplies. This year, scholastic has electronic book orders (coolio) that saves paper and makes ordering online even easier. Our first DUE DATE will be September 30th, so I will submit all orders on October 1st. [Here is a link](#) to the first online flyer. I will also send home paper flyers about quarterly, including this week.
- Happy Friday the 13th. In honor of all of the lore that goes with today, here is a picture of my two cats, Moonie and Lisbeth. Black cats are found at the pound more often because people believe they are unlucky and/or bad. A lot of this thinking comes from hundreds of years of associating witches and/or powerful women with black cats, and therefore considering this bad. It is interesting how much patriarchy lives in systems, including those about our fur babies. I love my black cats! Women of color, especially, have been at the middle of being associated with bad/evil when they are powerful and/or transgress gender and racial norms.
- Can you help out by volunteering to chaperone during field studies?! Wonderful! Here is information needed before you can join us: Please sign up to help out by first make sure you have an active background check on file with PPS. To check the status of your background check, [please visit this page](#). If you don't have a background check on file (or if your background check has expired), please submit a new request. Doing so takes on a couple of minutes, and **the check is good for a three-year period**.



## Field Study News

Our first chaperone involved Field Study is to Hoyt Arboretum and takes place on **Tuesday, October 1st**. ***Please email me asap*** if you can help chaperone this trip, from 9:15am to 1pm ish. ***Please send \$5 in cash or check (made out to SES) in with your student.*** I will be collecting the money (not the office/online). Sending a dollar or two more helps fund the trip for all students : D



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# What We're Learning

**Math:** Early in the week, students completed the district wide MAPS math assessment. This helps us see growth over 3rd through 8th grades, across grade levels and with different teachers. Know that I do not use lengthy online assessments for my own math units, but rather doable meaningful written math tasks as pre- and post-assessments for each unit. I am both a data nerd and a teacher who values meaningful, student centered learning. Students also started learning about some of the math game options we have. Part of this is using [Freckle Math](#), an online math resource for students. It's really fun and kids love it. Our class code log in is **soelle**, and usernames are first and last names.

**Writing:** We completed our beginning of year writing pre-assessment, which we will use to compare to end of year to see writing growth. Students have also been working on using descriptive words to write a poem about their favorite part of themselves.

**Reading:** We continue to practice and learn routines for reader's workshop. This year, students log every book that they read, so that we can track patterns and themes over time.

**Science/Social Studies:** We took our first spontaneous walking field study thanks to the amazing weather on Thursday. Students dove into their new field study journals. We will capture field study notes throughout the year and become naturalists. Lone Fir Cemetery provided us with over one hundred species of trees and a peaceful setting.

**Social/class:** This week, we are working on how to respond to individual missteps as a community so that we feel like a team. We are working towards half and full day field study potential.

**Volunteer Ask:** Can you help in our art classroom so that we can enjoy learning art and feel in community? Please email me!

Art Times

Wednesdays 2:15 to 3:00pm

Fridays 1:05 to 2:00pm

I notice that having parents helping out during this time helps keep the classroom calm and learning enjoyable for all. : D

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