The International Festival Has Arrived!

What To Expect When the World Comes to Sterling’s Campus this Saturday

- The festival is Saturday, May 4th at Sterling Montessori School. It will run from 1 - 4 PM.
- When you arrive, please make sure to grab a raffle ticket! We have many lovely prizes for our winners and would hate for anyone to miss out. (You must be present to win).
- The festival and raffle tickets are completely free of charge. Any donations made on the day of the event will go towards helping us to continue promoting cultural programs for our students. There will be a donation box at the raffle table.
- There will be traditional vendors and student vendors. (Cash only)
- There will be a “Kelly’s Tacos” food truck.
- Performers, please remember to check in at the performers table.
- Any last minute volunteers can sign up to help out at the Raffle Ticket Table.
- Come prepared to enjoy, learn and eat delicious food!

See you on Saturday!
Who: Parents of Rising First Graders
When: Thursday, May 9th
   5:45 - 6:30 PM (Presentation)
   6:30 PM - 7:15 PM (Teacher Meet and Greet)

Please mark your calendar for an informative session about your child’s upcoming transition to the Lower Elementary level.

Liz Macaulay, Director of Lower and Upper Elementary, and Fay Masterson, Director of Children’s House, invite you to attend this session on Thursday, May 9 from 5:45-6:30 in Room D4. Please note that this event is for parents ONLY.

During this informational session, a video will be presented about the level your child will be entering next school year. The goal of this session is for you to gain a better understanding of how Lower Elementary differs from Children’s House due to the changing needs of your child as they move from one developmental phase to the next. Differences both philosophical and practical will be discussed. There will be school-specific information shared to help both you and your child prepare for this transition. We will also allow plenty of time for you to ask questions you may have. Following this session, from 6:30PM to 7:15PM, you will have a chance to meet the Lower Elementary Faculty and learn more about the Montessori Curriculum. We look forward to seeing you there!

Going Out on a High Note
April and May Are Busy Months in the Music Program!

Thanks to the PFA and United Arts Council, our general music classes had the opportunity to have a guest artist, Shana Tucker. She shared her beautiful jazz singing and cello playing with us, and then helped each class create their own song. We had a lot of fun with her!

All the performing arts students have been busy with preparing music for the Spring Concert, which was held on Thursday, May 2nd. It is always great to see how far they have progressed in the school year, and I hope you were able to see the performance. There will be one more opportunity to see many of them perform on Friday, June 7th at 12:15 on the Sports Court.

Sterling Band traveled to Carowinds for the Festival of Music on April 26. They worked hard to get their music ready, and they earned an Excellent rating! They played a piece by one of the judges, Larry Clark, and he came on stage after our performance to give them personal feedback to help keep their skills growing!

Advanced Band opened the Durham Bulls ball game on May 1st with the playing of the National Anthem. It was awesome to have other classes joining to give us support at this venue. Advanced Band will travel to Kings Dominion for their music festival on May 17th.

Advanced Band and Sterling Stars are performing at the International Festival on Saturday, May 4th on the Sports Court.

Many of our upper elementary music students will attend the North Carolina Symphony on Tuesday, May 14th, where we will be able to see a live performance of music we have been studying in class.

Thanks to everyone for continuing to support the music program here at Sterling!
Success—By the Book

A huge shout out to our Sterling Community (and special recognition for Ms. Dawn, Sterling’s Reading Specialist) for making this year’s Book Fair such an outstanding success! We earned a total of $7,779.49 in Scholastic Dollars to purchase books and educational materials for our classrooms as well as many wonderful titles for the upcoming Sterling Library! The Book Fair would not have happened without everyone pulling together to make it happen. Thank you all!
**Cheepers By the Dozen**
The Kids in C8 Are Hatching Something!

Thanks to the generous efforts of a classroom parent, Mr. Jason, the students in C8 have been caring for 12 lovely eggs since the end of March. The eggs, which arrived in an incubator from Wake County 4H, required a lot of patience and work from the students. In addition to flipping every egg four times a day, students were also responsible for checking the temperature and humidity of the incubator.

Two eggs began to slowly hatch on Monday, April 8th but they did not make their way out of their shell until that Tuesday morning. When the students returned from a field trip on Tuesday afternoon, more chicks had hatched. Before carpool that same day, students were fortunate enough to catch another chick emerging from its shell.

The students and teachers in C8 are thrilled to have had this experience and are enjoying the adorable chicks, some of which they have named Cookie, Oreo, Bob and Bob Junior. The students have been taking great care of the hatchlings, making sure they have enough food and water every day.

The teachers and students of C8 would like to express their gratitude to Mr. Jason and the entire Olson family for helping to provide such a marvelous experience for everyone here at Sterling.

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**End Of Grade Testing**

This year, end of grade testing will start Friday, May 31. This is the Friday after Memorial Day. That first day of testing will be the Online Science EOG for 5th and 8th graders only. Testing for all students in grades 3-8 will start on Monday, June 3 and finish on Tuesday, June 4th. Even grades will take the math EOG on Monday and the ELA EOG on Tuesday. Odd grades will start with the EOG ELA on Monday and take math on Tuesday. Make-up EOGs will be on June 5, 6, and 7.

More information about testing and the schedule will be sent home towards the end of May. **Please know that because this year the Math EOG is brand new, the scores won't be returned immediately, schools will not receive them until August or later.** The rest of the EOG results will be mailed home in June. Please be sure we have your correct address on hand so that you receive the results in a timely manner. If you have any questions about testing this year, please contact Carrie Smith.

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**Goose Egg**

Another bird egg was discovered on Sterling’s campus! A goose egg, which was located in the mulch near the main playground, was spotted by the students in D18. This goose egg was the fourth egg found by students on our campus this year. In an effort to protect the egg, the students used a raised plant bed frame and orange cone to keep people walking by from accidentally stepping on it. Despite their best efforts, however, the egg did not survive.
June 17-21  Mr. David and Mr. Michael
**The Great Outdoors** - Join Mr. Michael and Mr. David for a week full of nature, outdoor games and crafts related to the great outdoors. We will learn how to set up tents, build bird houses, launch rockets, archery and work in the garden here at school.

June 24-28  Ms. Olga and Ms. Rashmi
**Elementary Exploratory Spanish** - Each day of this week, we will cover a different theme in Espanol! We will learn vocabulary and conversational Spanish as we explore topics such as helpers of the community, Animals and animal habitats, forms of transportation, nature, and family. Each day will be paired with a craft relating to the theme.

July 1-3.5  Ms. Sue and Ms. Rashmi
**At the Beach** - This camp will involve water play, outdoor games, indoor games and crafts. Campers will enjoy activities such as making home made ice cream, tie-dying t-shirts, engaging in water balloon competitions, and constructing beach and Fourth of July crafts.

July 8-12  Mr. David and Mr. Michael
**The Great outdoors** - Join Mr. Michael and Mr. David for a week full of nature, outdoor games and crafts related to the great outdoors. We will learn how to set up tents, build bird houses, launch rockets, archery and work in the garden here at school.

July 15-19  Ms. Ayomi and Ms. Rashmi
**Paper crafts and Origami** - Students will learn and practice a variety of techniques in origami and other paper crafts. Our many crafts will include origami, 3D paper sculptures, masks and greeting cards.

July 22-26  Ms. Vaish and Ms. Maria
**Exploring the different continents** - Improve your knowledge of the 7 continents of the world along with interesting facts about each one. We will explore the different countries that make up the continents. We learn about the landmarks, cities, animals and people that inhabit each continent. We will be making fun crafts to go along with each continent lesson.

July 29-Aug 2  Ms. Sue and Ms. Maria
**Cultures of the world** - We will be exploring crafts, games, dance, and activities in countries far and wide. Campers will create a Japanese koinobori kite, play the Kenyan shishima game, and felt wool as they do in Peru. Children may also be making and/or sampling simple vegetarian and nut-free snacks representative of some of the countries.

Aug 5-Aug 9  Ms. Olga and Ms. Maria
**Elementary exploratory Spanish** - Each day of this week, we will cover a different theme in Espanol! We will learn vocabulary and conversational Spanish as we explore topics such as helpers of the community, Animals and animal habitats, forms of transportation, nature, and family. Each day will be paired with a craft relating to the theme.
One more big event on the horizon and one last PFA meeting in May! Come join us.

We had our monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 24, 2019. Our meetings are the 4th Wednesday of each month at 3:50PM in D2. Next meeting is May 22, 2019. As always, childcare is provided by our Middle School student volunteers. Learn about and be a part of the many wonderful things the PFA does for Sterling and our kids! If you’d like to participate in one of our wonderful committees, please visit the Volunteering/Committees page of our website: http://www.smpfa.org/volunteering-committees/

The International Festival will be back for its 6th year on Saturday, May 4th from 1-4pm on the SMACS Sports Court. If you’d like to volunteer or participate, please reach out to Ukeme Ndon at smacsif1819@gmail.com. The website for the International Festival has launched. For latest news, donations, and details: http://www.sterlingintlfest.org/

The PFA is looking for replacements for our 4 officer positions: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. We also are looking for new chairs to lead these important committees - Cultural Arts (preferably a teacher at Sterling), International Festival, Website (updates), and Social Media (Facebook page and Twitter updates). If you are interested or know someone who may be, please contact the PFA at smpfa1@gmail.com. Please make sure to attend the May 22nd meeting to vote and hear about opportunities for volunteering with the PFA next year.

Magnets and car window / bumper stickers for sale - they are $5 each and available in the main office with Ms. Elaine - or order through our website: https://smpfa.org/web-store/. Please remember to include delivery instructions so that we can drop the magnets off with the right classroom and student.

Please remember to patronize our wonderful Eagle Rays throughout the year! These are Sterling family-owned businesses: HRD Air (http://www.hrdair.com/), attorneys Ortiz & Schick (http://www.oslawnc.com/), and Rush Cycle (https://www.rushcycle.com/morrisville/). To become an Eagle Ray and have your business advertised at Sterling, on the PFA website, Twitter, and in the yearbook, click here: http://www.smpfa.org/membership/.

Another way to give back to Sterling is to use smile.amazon.com when you order at Amazon - remember to link to SMPFA. Also be sure to link your Harris-Teeter VIC card: https://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education/#/app/cms Our VIC TIE (together in education) code is 1866. Reminder that you have to renew your VIC TIE at the beginning of each school year.

Please follow us on Twitter @SterlingPFA. Stay connected and up to date on our PFA events and happenings by visiting our website, www.smpfa.org. Thanks again to all of the volunteers and staff that make Sterling such an amazing community.

PFA Officers 2018/2019: Cathy Ritchey - President
Kimberly Symonds - Vice President;
Jennifer Jewett - Treasurer
Miguel Bordo – Secretary
March Minutes Highlights

- Motion to enter into a contract with Brightview Landscaping requiring further exploration to herbicidal alternatives to roundup and 2, 4-D passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to sell the IBM stock currently held passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to fill the vacancy of LHU Board Secretary with Ryan Hill passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the Attendance Policy, subject to edits discussed, passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the Cellphone Use Policy, subject to edits discussed, passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the Retention Policy, subject to grammatical corrections discussed, passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the Student Dress Code Policy passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the Administrator Contract Template passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the budget for Strategic Planning and LHU Board Retreat not to exceed $10,000 for the current fiscal year and not to exceed $15,000 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to fill the vacancy of Chair for the Organizational Committee with Ryan Hill passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the Executive Director’s contract as discussed in closed session passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve all issuing of administrator contracts for the 2019-2020 school year passed (5-0-0).
- Motion to approve the hiring of Rachel Gantz as Lead Teacher for classroom A8 passed (5-0-0).

Upcoming Committee Meetings:

- Governance Committee Meeting, May 1st, 4:00pm, Josie’s office
- Policy Committee Meeting, May 1st, 4:00pm, Josie’s office
- Strategic Planning Committee, May 3rd, 7:30am, Josie’s office
- Finance Committee, May 9th, 12:00pm, Josie’s office
- Technology Committee, May 10th, 8:00am, Josie’s office
- Strategic Planning Committee, May 15th, 4:15pm, Josie’s office
- Policy Committee, June 5th, 4:00pm, Josie’s office

Next LHU Board Meeting:
Wednesday, May 15th
6:30pm
Room D4
The LHU Board has created a public Google calendar to share all meeting dates, times, and agendas (when applicable) for regular LHU meetings, Committee meetings, and Special meetings with the Sterling community.

To view the calendar, visit the school’s website (www.sterlingmontessori.org). At the top of the screen, click on

**Our School>LHU Board>Meetings**

To subscribe to the calendar:

You can use the following Public URL to “subscribe” to the LHU Board Calendar from your own email software or phone:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/lhuf.org_j0u4acljuk3sni4t6obg7dacag%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics

- How to add someone else’s Google Calendar: https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37100
- How to add an internet calendar to outlook.com: https://support.office.com/en-us/article/import-or-subscribe-to-a-calendar-in-outlook-com-cff1429c-5af6-41ec-a5b4-74f2c278e98c
- How to subscribe to a calendar on iPhone: https://www.dummies.com/consumer-electronics/smartphones/iphone/how-subscribe-to-icalendar-ics-calendars-on-your-iphone

Please see documentation for your specific device or application for more information about subscribing to a public calendar URL.
LHU BOARD MEMBERS’ CONTACT INFORMATION

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Elisa Sumakeris, Advisory Member

Frank Brainard, Advisory Member