

The Charger Wire

Leman Middle School's Monthly Newsletter

Para leer estas noticias en español, haga clic arriba del título donde dice "En español." En los celulares, haga clic en las tres líneas por arriba y escoge "En español."

Notes from Administration

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Can you believe we're already heading into February? Spring is just around the corner, and things are buzzing here at LMS! Our spring sports teams are hard at work, our musical cast and crew are rehearsing their lines and songs, and there's plenty of exciting learning taking place in our classrooms. It's definitely an exciting time to be a Leman Charger!

As we look ahead to the spring, we're also focused on planning for next school year. Our eighth graders are gearing up for their transition to high school, and our sixth-grade team is preparing to welcome a new group of students into the LMS family. It's a busy time, but one that's full of opportunities to grow and prepare for the future.

As part of our planning, we'll be asking for your feedback through the 5Essentials Survey. This survey is a great way for you and your child to share your thoughts about how we're doing at LMS and where we can improve. Students will have the chance to complete the survey during their advisory class in March. Your input is incredibly important to us—it helps shape our decisions and ensures we're creating the best possible environment for our students. Information about completing the survey will be shared in the coming weeks.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us. We truly value your feedback and look forward to using it to continue making LMS a place where everyone can thrive.

Sincerely,
Maggie Lay
Principal, Leman Middle School



Important Dates

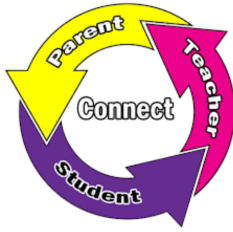
- **Monday, 2/10:** SHAW (Student Health And Wellness) program 2nd period
- **Monday, 2/17:** No School - President's Day
- **Friday, 2/21:** Ballet Folklorico Showcase 5:30pm-7:30pm
- **Thursday, 2/27:** No School - School Improvement Day
- **Friday, 2/28:** No School - Countywide Institute Day



Wear it Wednesday!

- 2/5:** Culture Day - Wear your culture with pride!
- 2/12:** Valentine's Day - Wear pink, red, purple and/or hearts
- 2/19:** Camouflage Day - Where is everyone? Wear green, brown and/or black
- 2/26:** Grade Level Showdown: 6th - Wear Black, 7th- Wear Blue and 8th grade - Wear Grey

Keep up to date on your child's academic progress and Leman announcements and information.



Home Access Center Help

If you need help with the Home Access Center, fill out a Help Request here: <https://bit.ly/HACHelp>



ParentSquare

Parent Square

Watch this short video to learn about ParentSquare and join if you have not already!

<https://vimeo.com/362598038>

Home Access Center

Checking Your Child's Grades Weekly

The Home Access Center has a lot of helpful information for families, but is most often used to check on your child's progress in school. The Home Access Center is linked on the District 33 website, as well as the Leman website.

When you log into the Home Access Center, you will see a row of buttons at the top of the page.

To see their **daily progress**, click on the "Classes." button. You can see how your student is doing on their daily classwork. The assignments under the Classes tab are updated frequently. We recommend reviewing your child's grades once a week to see their progress.

If you ever have questions about how your child is doing, please reach out to their teacher via email or Parent Square. We would love to hear from you!



First Place Winner, Alan V. and Ms. Lay



Second Place Winner, David R. and Ms. Lay

LMS Spelling Bee

On Friday, January 24th, LMS hosted their annual spelling bee.

There were over 40 student participants and the event was a fun way to display their spelling abilities.

The winners were awarded a special certificate presented by our very own Spelling Bee, Ms. Lay!

Congratulations to Alan V. and David R. on their 1st and 2nd place wins!

They will represent LMS at the DuPage County Spelling Bee



7th Grade Learning About the Oregon Trail!

Ms. Epich's 7th grade social studies classes are learning about the Oregon Trail. Ms. Epich's classes participated in an activity where they created covered wagons for their "trip" into the past. Students were also tasked with making the difficult decisions about what supplies and how much to take on their journey. This lesson was about making history come alive and adding team collaboration to the problem solving aspect. Enjoy the pics of their wagons!



Chargers in Action

Check out what the students at Leman have been up to!



Updates From the ELA Classes at LMS!

6th Grade Update

Sixth grade ELA students are currently very excited to wrap up the Argument Lab Unit and move on to the Genre Lab. In the Genre Lab, students will be reading *The First Rule of Punk* by Celia C. Perez. Through the novel study, students will focus on comparing the theme to other texts, as well as analyzing character change while building oracy (the ability to express thoughts verbally). Additionally, students will continue to utilize IXL to focus on their reading skills and reading goals. Students have written their own IXL goals and are excited to share their accomplishments with the class. Be sure to ask your student about their IXL levels at home! Students will practice applying these skills before the IAR (Illinois Assessment for Readiness) assessment in March. We are also thrilled to start the Cougar's Reading Club the week of February 3rd. Please be on the lookout for the parent letter regarding the Reading Club that will be going home. Each week, students must log 200 minutes of reading along with a parent signature. These logs will earn them a field trip to a Cougar's game at the end of May. Please continue to communicate questions and celebrations with your student's teacher.

7th Grade Update

In 7th grade ELA,

We have grown in the MAP Reading test! In the fall, 36% students scored at or above grade level. For the winter test, 40.5% scored at or above grade level!

In our classes, we are wrapping up our Environmental Argument Unit, and will start our Genre Lab: African American Literature the first week of February. Check out our unit poster for more information!

As always, contact your child's ELA teacher if you have any questions :)

Unit 3 GENRE LAB
FIRE ROCK **AFRICAN AMERICAN** **LITERATURE**

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- HOW CAN EMPATHY IMPROVE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES?
- WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIES AND CULTURES BASED ON STORY ELEMENTS AND HISTORICAL TEXTS?
- HOW CAN THE PAST INFORM THE PRESENT? WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THOSE CONNECTIONS?

Focus Skills

- Annotate and analyze literature
- Use context to determine and interpret unknown words
- Identify language used rhetorically and their significance
- Write about stories through different lenses and genres
- Compare and contrast fiction and non-fiction
- Collaborate with peers through meaningful discussions about historical time periods and what we can learn from them

BY THE END OF THE UNIT I WILL:

- WRITE A NARRATIVE THAT BASED ON A SPECIFIC EVENT IN US HISTORY
- EXPLAIN THE REASONS OF HOW AND WHY WE ARE USED IN A TEXT, INCLUDING PURPOSES AND CHARACTERISTICS
- ANALYZE THE IMPACT OF HISTORIES AND OTHER HISTORICAL OF GENRES (LIFE)
- WRITE A STORY OR NEWS STORY OR PROSE (LIFE, SCIENCE), EMERGENCY TO US HISTORY
- COMPARE AND CONTRAST A HISTORICAL PORTRAIT OF A TIME, PLACE, OR CHARACTER AND A HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE ONE PERSON AS A FORM OF UNDERSTANDING NEW HISTORIES OF LITERATURE OR NEWS STORIES
- READ THE NEWS FROM THE BOOK OR JOURNAL, UNDERSTAND AND CHOOSE HIS OWN INDEPENDENT BOOK FROM THE AFRICAN AMERICAN TO DATE.

8th Grade Update





In 8th grade, English Language Arts students have progressed excellently in their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills, focusing on oracy in argumentative debates and the persuasive writing process.

Currently, we are focusing on completing the writing process for crafting a final draft of the student's Argumentative Persuasive Essays, where students independently researched a contemporary issue of their choice and participated in the writing process of pre-writing, drafting, editing, peer-revising before submitting their final draft. We are excited to begin our Genre Lab Unit, focusing on the anchor text, *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, and Hispanic Literature and cultural representations.

In addition to classwork, students use IXL as a personalized learning tool to craft academic goals and hold conferences in small groups focusing on personal NWEA MAP goals and areas of growth. Additionally, IXL includes an IAR prep component where students will receive a study guide to prep for the assessment in March.

Homework is assigned weekly and focuses on skills introduced in class, so remind your child of their assignments. It has been a pleasure watching our students learn and grow together!

The Lemman Values are a common set of terms that we use to promote expected behaviors and habits for all those who are a part of our school community. These values will be reviewed with students prior to class each day. They are a good reminder of what is expected during participation in class and while interacting with others in the school. Please discuss and review these with your child and have them explain why they are important to keep all students safe and learning!

Leman School Values			
	Looks Like... 	Sounds Like... 	Feels Like... 
Respect for Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking positively about ourselves and others Accepting directions and instructions by taking ownership and assuming good intentions Caring for our school building Being mindful of others' physical space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using polite words Speaking with positive intention and tone Using appropriate CHAMPS voice level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety Valued Accepted Belonging
Readiness to Learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being on time Maximizing time Being prepared with materials Being focused and engaged PIES (Equal Participation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using appropriate CHAMPS voice level Engaged discussion PIES (Simultaneous Interaction) Friendly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accomplishment Safe Hungry to learn
Orderly Transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing and respecting physical space Walking on the right side of the hallway Being in your expected area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate CHAMPS voice level School appropriate conversations Friendly Positive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calm Safe Routine Respectful
Positive Interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respecting verbal and nonverbal interactions Complimenting others Demonstrating patience with others Smiling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kind words being exchanged "Please and thank you" Positive forms of communication Greeting others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warm and fuzzy Appreciated Valued Pride and joy Part of the team
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Giving and accepting feedback Actively participating Meeting deadlines Being on time Seeking help when needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "I will try better next time" "How can I improve?" School appropriate conversations Holding each other accountable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ownership Self-Respect You are listened to and heard

Leman Middle School Bolt Bucks

Student Name: _____

ID # _____ Grade: _____

Leman Values

Respect for Others

Readiness to Learn

Orderly Transition

Positive Interactions

Responsibility

Teacher Name: _____

#1

Students: redeem this ticket for a prize in the cafeteria! Thank you for living out our Leman Values!



6th grader Kailey Long



8th grader Angie Tinoco Martinez



7th grader Vianney Garcia

Leman Leaders

Each month the Leman Leaders program will focus on one of the five Leman values.

In January, the focus was on **Orderly Transitions**.

Each team at all grade levels will nominate two students who have displayed that value.

All of the nominees will be recognized and grade-level winners will be selected from these nominees each month.

The administration team is excited to highlight some of the students who are meeting and exceeding our expectations each month and help to make Leman a great place to learn!

Check out what our teachers had to say about January's Leman Leaders!

6th Grade- Kailey Long: Kailey is calm and orderly in the hallways and gets to class on time each day--she has never been tardy! She remains calm during in class transitions and displays patience and respect.

7th Grade - Vianney Garcia: Vianney always tries her best in class, she is always on time, even when she comes from orchestra, and arrives in class ready to learn. Her in-class transitions she is always on top of as well.

8th Grade - Angie Tinoco Martinez: Angie is the best role model for all students. She is respectful to peers and staff. She follows ALL Leman values including orderly transitions.

Updates From Explore Classes at LMS

2D Art Class Update:

The artists at Leman Middle School are diving into a variety of 2D media to express themselves, explore ideas and hone their creative thinking skills! Each week students focus on an essential question to guide them in their unit of study. Currently the students are building observational drawing skills, applying color theory to their work by using complementary colors to emphasize the focal point in their work, studying Surrealism and learning how to use one-point perspective to give depth to a two dimensional piece of art.

Creative Technology Class Update:

The students in Creative Technology have learned many different skills since the start of Trimester Two. We started the trimester making About Me websites using Google Sites. Every student submitted a design for the 2024-2025 yearbook cover using Canva. The students just finished their Scratch Unit where they created games and animations. The next unit will be focused on Graphic Design and students will learn color theory, typography, and how to create real-world projects as a graphic designer.

Surrealism is an art movement in which artists create images from their dreams and using their imaginations. Students enjoyed creating Surreal art where objects can float in the air, tiny objects become enormous, and animals can enjoy the cozy room that the students created.

Goal setting is important part of each student's artistic process. Before embarking on each piece of art, the students set a personal goal for themselves focusing on one of the five criteria on their summative assessment rubrics: Focus, creativity, composition and craftsmanship. Peer feedback is an essential part of growing as a practicing artist. Students give and receive feedback, and use this feedback to improve their work. Students reflecting on their work is an important skill not only in the art room but across content areas. Students write an artist statement upon completing their work to think about what they've learned, identify areas of growth, and reflect on whether their artwork effectively communicated what they intended for the piece.



Student Art Work from 2D Art Class

Art Class Update:

6th grade students in Discovering Art just finished up a vibrant unit on Color Theory. I am very impressed with students' ability to identify and apply color theory terms including primary, secondary, tertiary, analogous, and complementary. We are now studying the element of shape and creating 3D portraits featuring geometric and organic shapes inspired by the work of Pablo Picasso.

In 3D Art, some 8th graders are in the process of painting their ceramic coil bowls. Students did an excellent job learning and applying clay techniques and the metallic paint colors are bringing the project together beautifully. Other 8th grade classes are studying the life and work of Charles Mcgee and making 3D Paper Sculptures inspired by the patterns and designs he is famous for.

Art @ The Arc, one of our district wide art shows, will be occurring this April so keep an eye out for student invites!



Coach's Corner

Building Readers - Motivating Your Child to Read at Home

[Click here](#) for some great ways to make reading a habit!

Check out what's happening on our LMS Facebook page!



LMS Video Announcements

The LMS Announcements run every week.

Stay up-to-date with current events and the latest important reminders happening at the school.

[Click here to visit the LMS Announcements homepage.](#)

Thank you for reading! See you next month!



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