



## March 2017 PTO Newsletter

### VIP Day at Lower Campus

This special event is for kindergarten and first grade VIPs! It will be held on Friday, March 17, 2:30-4:00 p.m. VIPs can be grandparents, aunts or uncles, family friends, parents or any other important adult in a student's life. VIP Day is held in conjunction with the spring book fair, so VIPs can stop in and take advantage of the great book selection. Special activities are planned along with light refreshments.

### Conference Potlucks for Staff

Let's show our appreciation for the LNFI Staff! Conference Potlucks will be held for LNFI staff on Tuesday, March 21, and Thursday, March 23, at 11:30 a.m. at both campuses. The Conference Potlucks are provided by LNFI families for the staff to keep them well fed and energized during the long conference days! This spring, the theme is Soup & Salad. We need food donation items, as well as volunteers for setup/cleanup. To sign up to bring a dish or volunteer, go to [www.lnfi-pto.org/volunteer](http://www.lnfi-pto.org/volunteer) and scroll down to the conference potluck signups or send an email to [lynzmichon@gmail.com](mailto:lynzmichon@gmail.com).

### Scholastic Book Fairs - Both Campuses

The Scholastic Book Fairs will be open during VIP Day and during conferences, as well as during one day at each campus for student shopping. (See sidebar for specific times.) The book fair is completely run by volunteers and couldn't be held without them! Shifts are one hour. Set-up help is also needed on Friday, March 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Packing up help is needed on Monday, March 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All volunteers will receive a \$5 Scholastic credit (must be used during the book fair) for each hour they work. Donations of used books are also needed for the Lower Campus sale. To volunteer, go to [www.lnfi-pto.org/volunteer](http://www.lnfi-pto.org/volunteer) and scroll down to the book fair signups. Send any questions to [becky.erickson@lnfi-pto.org](mailto:becky.erickson@lnfi-pto.org).

### Intern Host Families Needed for 2017-2018

The **March 31 deadline** to find new host families is quickly approaching! Please consider opening your home to an LNFI intern for one semester in 2017-18. It's a wonderful opportunity to have a cultural exchange experience without leaving your home. The number of interns the PTO can bring to LNFI depends on how many host families apply by the deadline and on funds raised this year.

**We are aiming for 10 interns again next year! 10 interns require 24 host families** (10 families per semester plus four back-up host families). So far, **six families have signed up**, so we have a long way to go! New families and those who have hosted before are welcome to host. Sign up to host in the fall or spring or to be a back-up host family.

- Host families provide a private bedroom (not bathroom), food, and transportation to/from school (school bus OK).
- Two host families are needed per intern – families only commit to host for one semester.

Please visit the Intern Section of [www.lnfi-pto.org](http://www.lnfi-pto.org) for more information or to fill out an application (previous host families don't need to fill out a new application). Questions about hosting can be directed to Tracie Bernard at [tracie.bernard@lnfi-pto.org](mailto:tracie.bernard@lnfi-pto.org).

### UPCOMING DATES

#### March PTO Meeting

Thursday, March 9, 6 p.m.  
Lower Campus Library

#### VIP Day at Lower Campus

Friday, March 17, 2:30-4:00 p.m.

#### Spring Scholastic Book Fair

(open during conferences)

Friday, March 17, 2:30-4:30 p.m. – Lower Campus only  
Monday, March 20, student daytime shopping - Upper Campus  
Tuesday, March 21, 4:00-7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, March 23, student daytime shopping – Lower Campus  
Thursday, March 23, 4:00-7:00 p.m.  
Friday, March 24, 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

#### Conference Potlucks for Staff

(food provided by families)

Tuesday, March 21, 11:30 a.m.  
Thursday, March 23, 11:30 a.m.

#### Family Service Fair – Lower Campus

DATE CHANGED TO:

Wednesday, April 19, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

#### LNFI Fun Run – Both Campuses

Thursday, May 11

#### Kermesse

Friday, June 2

#### No School Days

Friday, March 24  
Spring Break, April 3-7  
Friday, April 14  
Monday, May 29

#### Last Day of School

Friday, June 9

**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND  
AN INTERN HOST FAMILY'S  
TESTIMONIAL ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF  
HOSTING**

**Intern Host Family Testimonial** – This past fall, our family hosted our first intern - Roxane Chiquet from Rennes, France. We can't recommend hosting enough! We found it a terrific, cross-cultural experience. You'll learn a lot, and you'll laugh a lot, especially about foods, French words, English words, and multiple meanings. Kids have an opportunity to explore what they know and wow with their verbiage and crazy American culture. Roxane became a part of our family - we celebrated holidays and birthdays together; we traveled to outstate Minnesota together, we tackled puzzles and played games. And though she will eventually return to France, Roxane will always be part of our extended family. If you want to make the world a bit smaller, and have a ton of fun doing so, host an intern in 2017-18. You'll be glad you did! -Ray Kirsch and Sheri Heurd



**Max the Mascot** – M. Kakou's class won Max by having the most students attend the LNFI Sunray Lanes bowling afternoon! The next opportunity for a class to win Max by having the most students participate in an LNFI event will be at the Family Service Fair on April 19.

**LNFI Fun Run** – Thursday, May 11. LNFI will again have a fun run this year. A change from last year will be that the PTO and parent volunteers will plan and host the run (rather than Apex), so more of the money raised will directly benefit students. The run will take place at both campuses. If you have questions or would like to help with the planning, please send an email to [ray.kirsch@lnfi-pto.org](mailto:ray.kirsch@lnfi-pto.org).

**Doing Good Together Family Service Fair** – **DATE CHANGED to Wednesday, April 19, 6:00-7:30 p.m.** (Lower Campus gymnasium and cafeteria). This is a FREE Event! Join other LNFI families, interns, and staff and do good! We'll be setting up stations in the gym for families to rotate through and create hands-on projects (cards for hospital patients, pet toys for humane society animals, etc.), which will be donated to local non-profit organizations. Dinner will be available for \$5/person and will be provided by the fifth grade students going to France.

**Kermesse** – LNFI's first ever kermesse is planned for Friday, June 2, 2017 and will begin in the early afternoon with a talent show and continue with a bazaar/silent auction, games, and food. A kermesse in France is similar to a school carnival, usually organized at the end of the school year. It is a community-building fundraiser for the whole school, and it will replace the spring gala as well as the end-of-year picnic. The whole school will be involved, and we will need everyone's help to make it successful! More details to follow.

**PTO Meetings – Second Thursday of the Month.** PTO meetings are held the second Thursday of the month in the Lower Campus library at 6 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Childcare is provided in the gym for toilet-trained children.

**PTO Directory.** If you aren't in the directory (or don't know if you are), aren't receiving PTO or class liaison emails, never set up a password, or lost your password, send an email to [communications@lnfi-pto.org](mailto:communications@lnfi-pto.org). If you have previously provided your email address on a PTO form, but don't know if you have a password or don't remember it, you can go to the directory page at [www.lnfi-pto.org](http://www.lnfi-pto.org), fill in your email address, and click on the forgot your password button to be sent a link to create a new password. Please note that the PTO uses MailChimp to send PTO emails.

**Questions?** Send an email to [communications@lnfi-pto.org](mailto:communications@lnfi-pto.org), and we'll direct you to the right person to answer your questions!

**PTO Website and Facebook.** Volunteers try hard to keep the website, [www.lnfi-pto.org](http://www.lnfi-pto.org), up-to-date with information about upcoming events, the direct donation link, fundraising opportunities (like Box Tops and Labels for Education and Amazon and Shutterfly partnerships), backpack flyers, and the family directory. The PTO also has a Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/lnfipto](http://www.facebook.com/lnfipto) where we post information about upcoming events.

**Amazon.com and Shutterfly.com.** If you or others shop online at Amazon or Shutterfly, please use the links at the top right of [www.lnfi-pto.org](http://www.lnfi-pto.org) every time you shop (the links time out after 24 hours). The LNFI PTO earns money on all qualified purchases made via this link. Use Shutterfly to print photos or create cards, calendars, photo books, invitations, and more, and the LNFI PTO will earn a 13% commission! Once you follow the links, you can bookmark them on the computer!