



**Month at a Glance:**

**Wed., March 1, 2017**  
**PTO Dairy Queen  
Fundraiser**  
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
E. Venice Avenue

**Thur., March 2, 2017**  
**Snow Cone  
Thursday**  
Bring \$1.00 to  
Participate

**Track Meet**  
**Brookside & Heron  
Creek @ LNS**  
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM  
Track

**Fri., March 4, 2017**  
**Fun Friday  
Pajama Day!**

**Mon., March 6, 2017**  
**School Choice Tour**  
9:00AM - 10:00AM  
Media Center

**March 6-10, 2017**  
**Smencil  
Sale**

**Tues., March 7, 2017**  
**Terrific Tuesday -  
Lollipop-a-winza!!**  
Lunchtime  
Cafeteria

**School Choice Tour**  
12:00Noon - 1:00PM



**In This Issue:**

Advance to the articles by clicking on the following links.

**Month at a Glance**

**In This Issue**

**New Articles:**

- [March Breakfast/Lunch Menus](#)
- [Beans vs. Rice](#)
- [School Choice](#)
- [Snow Cone Day](#)
- [Flip Flop or Slipper Day](#)
- [PTO News](#)
  - [Run-A-Thon Success](#)
  - [Terrific Tuesday](#)
  - [Wawa Award](#)
- [Elementary School News](#)
  - [3rd Quarter AR Party](#)
  - [Elks Lodge Bike Award Donation](#)
  - [FSA Prep](#)
  - [Kindergarten Roundup](#)
- [Middle School News](#)
  - [Vaccinations](#)
  - [LNS Band News](#)

**Partner News:**

*Articles in this section are listed at the request of the partner*

- [Dairy Queen Family Night](#)
- [Chick-Fil-A Fundraiser](#)

**Repeat or Updated Articles:**

Media Center

Thur., March 9, 2017  
3rd Quarter AR  
Reward Party

Track Meet  
LNS at Macintosh

McDonald's  
LNS Family Day  
Fundraiser  
ALL DAY  
McDonald's on Laurel  
Rd. by our school

Fri., March 10, 2017  
Relay for Life  
Fundraiser: Flip-  
Flop or Slipper Day  
\$1 Donation

Sun., March 12, 2017  
Daylight Savings  
Begins  
**Change clocks  
forward 1 hour**

Mon., March 13 to  
Fri. March 17, 2017



**NO SCHOOL**

Thur., March 23,  
2017  
Track Meet  
LNS hosts Brookside,  
Heron Creek

Chick-Fil-A Spirit  
Day  
4:00PM - 8:00PM  
Westfield Mall Food  
Court

- [New School Calendar](#)
- [Report Cards](#)
- [Reminder for PTO](#)
- [New Way to Earn Box Tops](#)

[Ongoing Fundraising Campaigns](#)

[Business Partners](#)

**New Articles:**



[March Breakfast/Lunch Menus](#)

The March monthly school breakfast and lunch menus for elementary school students and school lunch menu for middle school students are [available at this link](#).

[Back to Top](#)



Fri., March 24, 2017

**NO SCHOOL**

March 28 & 29, 2017

**FSA Reading Test**

Wed., March 29,

2017

**End of 3rd**

**quarter**



### **Beans vs Rice**

I bet you thought that the football season was over. Not just yet! It's not over till you hear who won the last game. The last game at LNS was the game between Beans vs Rice. Between February 6th and February 20th, elementary students and middle school students competed in an intense battle to see which group would collect more food for the All Faith's Food Bank. The elementary students collected beans and the middle school students collected rice. The season of giving is not over but this football game is and the winner was....

### **Rice (THE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS)!!!**

Really the winner is every person that will be helped due to the efforts of the outstanding elementary and middle school students here at Laurel Nokomis School.

[Back to Top](#)



### **School Choice Application Period Still Open and Tours Scheduled in March**

Florida's school choice program allows parents to choose the best educational setting-public or private-for their child. School choice application forms are currently available at all public schools and at selected daycare facilities, or by contacting the Office of School Choice at, {991} 417-9000, ext. 32255.

Laurel Nokomis School will host its **final School Choice tours at 9:00AM on March 6th and at noon on March 7th**. Due to the high demand for school tours, tours will only be scheduled during these days and times to minimize disruption during instructional hours. Please contact the front office if you have any questions.

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, parents/guardians residing in Florida can apply to have their grade K-12 students attend a public school in any school district within the state through Controlled Open Enrollment (COE), also called "Regular School Choice." Parents/guardians interested in COE for other Florida districts are responsible for directly contacting the districts of interest to learn more about their

policies, timelines and application procedures. Transportation is not provided for students receiving a school choice assignment through COE. Parents/guardians are responsible for transporting their child to and from school.

Parents who would like their children to attend a Sarasota County public school in 2016-17 other than their districted school are invited to submit a school choice application from Monday, Feb. 13th, **through Monday, March. 20, 2017**. [More information about the application process will be available after February 7, 2017 at this link](#). A list of Open/Closed Schools will also be made available at that same link.

[Back to Top](#)

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### **Snow Cone Thursday**

Don't forget to have your child bring a \$1 Donation to purchase a snow cone on March 2nd for Snow Cone Thursday. They get to join in on the fun and get an icy treat during recess. Parents please send additional money to your child's teacher if you want to adopt some of the kids for a treat.

[Back to Top](#)

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### **Flip-Flop or Slipper Day**

Friday, March 10th is the Relay for Life Flip-Flop or Slipper Day Fundraiser. For a \$1 donation students get to wear flip-flops or slippers to school. They will need to give the money to their teacher and bring gym shoes for PE and/or recess. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

[Back to Top](#)

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### **The Run-a-thon was a Huge Success!!!**

The LNS's 33rd Annual "Run With The Force" Run-A-Thon held on Friday, February 17, 2017 was a huge success. The event was originally budgeted to earn \$7,500. Instead the event generated \$14,921 for the school. Congratulations to the PTO Run-a-thon Committee for all of their hard work. In addition, additional congratulations and a thank you goes out to these winners and all the students, parents, staff and business partners that helped to make this event a success:

- Mrs Lowe's 4th Grade Class for raising the most money. They will win an ice cream party.
- Mrs. Lay's 1st Grade Class for the class with the most participation. They will win a popcorn party.
- The kindergarten and 1st grade boy and girl students who runs the most laps get to have a cartoon party for their class:
  - Girl: K - R. Cambell - Fourman
  - Boy: K - N. Nguyen - Carter
  - Girl: 1st - E. Carey - Hartle
  - Boy: 1st - L. Butler and C. Perz - M. Lay
- The 2nd to 5th grade boy and girls who run the most laps wins a Wii Party with three friends:
  - 2nd Grade Girls
    - L. Carter (13 Laps) - Wollaston
    - A. Reneick (13 Laps) - Lasorso
    - A. Dinofa (13 Laps) - Laliberte
  - 2nd Grade Boys
    - J. St. Pierre (15 Laps) - Novak
    - S. Testa (15 Laps) - Tweed
  - 3rd Grade Girls
    - H. Rachal (13 Laps) - Rapp
  - 3rd Grade Boys
    - C. Asharri (12 Laps) - Porvaznik
    - P. Gomez (12 Laps) - Porvaznik
  - 4th Grade Girls
    - K. Balon (16 Laps) - Chin Yee
  - 4th Grade Boy
    - J. Wright (17 Laps) - Pettibone
  - 5th Grade Girl
    - S. Tejjelo (12 Laps) - Schenke
  - 5th Grade Boy
    - J. Esposito (15 Laps) - Alcala
- The students per grade who raised the most money for the school get to "Rule the School" by shadowing or being a faculty member for the day and then



attending a special lunch!

- K: G LeDuc, B. Kile, L. Creel, Z. Gillespie, K. Kommuck and R. Gampbell.
- 1st: E. Otchet
- 2nd: M. Otchet
- 3rd: D. Mckinney
- 4th: M. Albright Sligal
- 5th: T. Burgess
- The student that raised the most money overall is M. Albright Sligal. She won an iPad Mini!

[Back to Top](#)



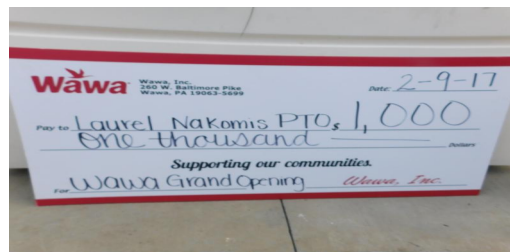
### **Terrific Tuesday: LOLLIPOP-A-WINZA**

Your kids won't want to miss the "all new" Lollipop-a-winza Terrific Tuesday Fundraiser sponsored by the LNS PTO on March 7th. What is it?

Students pay purchase tickets from their teacher before lunchtime. They bring their tickets to the cafeteria for a chance to choose one "Original Gourmet Lollipop" for each ticket. If they choose a lucky lollipop, they win big prizes. Over 50 prizes will be offered. Big winners get a chance to play "Plinko" and win a Lollipop-a-winza super prize from the LNS PTO! All funds raised support Laurel Nokomis School.

"Original Gourmet Lollipops" maintain the title of "WORLD'S BEST" lollipop. They are the largest 1.1 oz gourmet pops sold with 24 bold tastes and bright colors such as Strawberry-Banana, Pink Lemonade, Orange Creamsicle, Watermelon, Blue Raspberry and many more!

[Back to Top](#)



### **LNS PTO Receives Check from Wawa**

The Laurel Nokomis PTO moms got an opportunity to use their "hoggie-making" skills at the grand opening of the new Wawa on Jacaranda by the expressway. They competed in a hogie making contest between the LNS PTO, the local fire station and the South East Scleroderma Foundation. The firemen won the competition and a trophy. However, Wawa also awarded \$1000 checks to all three participating organizations. The donation to the PTO will be used to benefit Laurel Nokomis School.

[Back to Top](#)

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### **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS**



### **3rd Quarter AR Reward Party**

The Buccaneers will be coming to LNS on March 9th for our Accelerated Reader (AR) Reward Party! Since this is before the end of 3rd quarter, students who have 90% of their 3rd quarter AR goal (with an average of 80% or higher) will be eligible to attend. The students will be going to 5 different stations doing Play60 drills with some of the Tampa Bay Buccaneer players. One of the stations is where they will be touring the locker room/bus. Its not to late to qualify to participate. Tell your kids to read, read,



**That's not all.....**

Did you know that there is also a third quarter Accelerated Reader Bicycle Drawing? The Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge 1854 has graciously donated a total of fifteen bicycles of various sizes and styles to our school. Laurel Nokomis School would like to give a tremendous thank you to the Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge 1854. Each kindergarten through Fifth Grade student that meets or exceeds their Accelerated Reader Goal for the third quarter will be entered into a bicycle drawing. If your student's name is drawn, your family will be notified and you may choose your bicycle at a predetermined date and time in the Media Center. It is important to remember that if your student's name is drawn, you are required to pick up your bicycle in person. Parents please take this opportunity to discuss your student's Accelerated Reader Goals and encourage them to spend time at home reading! "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr. Seuss, "I Can Read with My Eyes Shut!"

[Back to Top](#)



**Preparing for the FSA**

The Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) Testing is underway!!! On March 28 and March 29, 3rd Graders will be taking the FSA English Language Arts Assessment Test.

Here are some tips for preparing your child for the FSA put together by the guidance office at one of the Sarasota School District Elementary Schools:

1. Encourage your child to do his/her best!
2. Prevent Test Anxiety Some people feel anxious or worry about tests. Some forms of test anxiety include feeling nervous, upset stomach, not being able to concentrate, negative thoughts and having difficulty remembering facts. Some strategies for dealing with test anxiety are listed below.
3. Think positively! Researchers have found that when students believe they will do well, their scores go up. If you start to have negative or bad thoughts about yourself, think about something positive, like the times when you have done well at a hard task. Or, reframe the thought into a positive thought, I know this is hard but I can do it or all that is important is that I do my best.
4. Practice relaxation techniques before the test Belly Breathing ... Breathe in as



much air as possible through your nose holding the tip of your tongue on the roof of your mouth until your lungs are full while holding your breath (3-5 seconds), lower your tongue and exhale slowly through your mouth. Repeat several times. Mindfulness exercise... Close your eyes, think about relaxing your toes, then your feet, then your ankles and work your way slowly up to the top of your head. Listen to your breathing as you slowly and deliberately in- hale an exhale. Listen to the sounds around you.

5. Pacing and Timing Techniques - Good test takers learn to manage their time well.
  - o Don't waste time. Skip questions that you are unsure of, go back to them at the end of the test.
  - o Read the directions, questions and answers carefully. Keep track of time.
6. Take care of the basics:
  - o Eat a balanced breakfast.
  - o See that your child gets the recommended amount of sleep; for elementary aged students (10- 11) hours per night.

[Back to Top](#)



[Save the Date](#)

5 year olds are ready for Kindergarten and you can register them now for the 2017-2018 school year. If you have or know a child who will be 5 (five) years old on or before September 1, please attend our Kindergarten Round-Up on Thursday, April 27 6:00-7:30PM in the Cafeteria. You will get to meet the teachers and receive information about:

Kindergarten Readiness  Curriculum  Registration  Parent Involvement  Transportation  Immunizations  Lunch Program  Before and After School Program.

[Back to Top](#)

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## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



### Middle School Health Requirements

I know that during Spring Break the last thing your middle schooler will want to do is to

take vaccination shots. However, that really is a good time to do it. Especially if your student is currently in 6th grade. There are a number of shot that they will need to have before they start 7th grade. Please see the attached flyer about [school health requirements for 2017-2018](#).

[Back to Top](#)



### [Band Updates](#)

Several LNS students in Band participated in FBA Solo and Ensemble MPA last month at Booker HS, and our LNS students had wonderful performance experiences!

Each student prepared a solo or small ensemble and performed for a music educator and received comments on their performance to help them continue and grow. Our students did very well, and each student that participated in the event earned the highest ratings of Superior and Excellent. This event is not considered a competition with 1st, 2nd, etc place, but one each student has within themselves. There is a sheet that the music educator fills out with a rubric and the student performance is rated among the criteria in different categories. A Superior rating is earned by displaying a high level of musicianship with the rubric and mostly averaging out to be an "A" grade. Each student will receive a medal for earning one of the highest two ratings of Superior and Excellent. Congratulations to all of our students that participated in Solo and Ensemble!

We also had our LNS Jazz Band participate in Jazz Music Performance Assessment last week. They had a great performance on stage, and they earned a Superior rating for their performance. Each student will receive a medal for earning a Superior rating. Congratulations to all of our Jazz Band students!

Our students in 4th and 5th period band classes are preparing for our Concert Music Performance Assessment in April, with a similar process to the jazz band music performance assessment. We prepare 3 pieces of music for a panel of music educators, and they use a rubric to give comments and feedback to help the students with their concert band music. We also sight-read two pieces of music that we have never seen before. More info for Concert MPA sent out very soon.

Lots of great things for our music students! As always, thank you for your support of our students.

[Back to Top](#)

[Partner News:](#)



### **February 1st Dairy Queen Family Night**

"Dairy Queen Family Night" is coming up on Wednesday, March 1st from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. When you visit the Dairy Queen at 1465 E. Venice Ave, Venice, FL on DQ Family Night you are helping LNS. 10% of all food sold at this time will be donated to LNS. This fundraiser will continue on the first Wednesday of each month throughout the school year. See you at DQ!!!!

[Back to Top](#)

---



### **Chick-Fil-A Fundraiser is Going to be Hot!!!**

There will be a Family Night Fundraiser for LNS at Chick-fil-A at Westfield Mall on Thursday, March 23rd from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. When you purchase food on Chick-fil-A Family Night you are helping LNS because a percentage of all food sold during the event will be donated to LNS. This fundraiser will continue on the last Thursday of each month throughout the school year.

[Back to Top](#)

**Repeat/Updated Articles:**



## SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS: New School Calendar

An 11-member district committee of school and district administrators, teachers, support staff and parents developed the proposed school year calendars for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years. The School Board approved the draft calendars to be advertised to the public at its meeting on Oct. 18 and the public was invited to comment on the proposed calendars until Friday, Nov. 11, 2016.

After the comment period the committee considered any suggested changes and submitted the final proposed calendar to the School Board of Sarasota County for approval. During the regular School Board meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2016, the School Board voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the proposed calendars for school years 2017-18 and 2018-19. The link below goes to the draft calendars as recommended by the committee; those calendars are now official.

See the proposed calendars for 2017-18 and 2018-19 at this [link](#).

**The committee recommended that school in Sarasota County start Monday, Aug. 14, 2017, and end Thursday, May 24, 2018. The following school year, the start day would be Monday, Aug. 13, 2018, and the last day of school would be Friday, May 24, 2019.** In both years, the earlier start date would mean that first semesters and related exams at high schools will be completed before the winter break. The schedule for both years also would end the school year before the Memorial Day weekend.

[Back to Top](#)

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**Report Cards**



Have you seen your child's grades yet? The 2nd quarter grades are currently available on the ESD Parent/Student Portal. You can access the portal at:

<https://parentportal.sarasotacountyschools.net/>

To access report cards on the Parent Portal:

- \* Sign-in to the Student + Parent Portal
- \* If you have more than one student, select a student under "My Students"
- \* Use the menu on the left side to select "Report Card"
- \* Click on "Download Official Report Card"
- \* View and / or print Report Card

[This is a description of how you can access report cards on the Parent Portal.](#) The Sarasota School District Parent's ESD Parent/Student Portal can also email you a report of all your children's grades and attendance each week if you set your preferences in the settings section to register for weekly reports. If you encounter any problems, please contact the school.

[Back to Top](#)

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### **REMINDE FOR PTO**

Sign up to Receive Remind Text Messages from the LNS PTO by texting @LnsPTO to 81010 to get Text Reminders Direct. These reliable messages about PTO sponsored events and important information can be received by text, app, email, or web - no smartphones are necessary. Remind is free to use for teachers, students, and parents. Standard text messaging rates may apply to text notifications, but there are no additional costs. If you can't get text you can sign up for emails by emailing LNSPTO@mail.remind.com or at this link: <https://www.remind.com/join/lnspto>

[Back to Top](#)

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### **New Way to Earn Box Tops**

Did you know that there is a way to earn Box Tops online. Just download the app, scroll through bonus offers from your favorite products or retailers, select, scan and

earn! With just your smartphone and your receipt, you can start earning even more cash for the school.

1. FIND OFFERS ON THE LIST
2. BUY PRODUCTS AT ANY STORE Pick the offers you like, and purchase them at any store. Just make sure the receipt clearly says what you purchased.
3. SCAN YOUR RECEIPT Use the app to take a clear, readable photo of your receipt. To validate your purchase, you must scan in a clear photos of the entire receipt from top to bottom.
4. EARN BONUS BOX TOPS FOR YOUR SCHOOL! When your receipt is processed, the information on the My Activity page of the App will reflect the amount earned for the school.

SO... WHAT NOW? GET THE APP! Go to the app store now and search for Box Tops App.



[Back to Top](#)

### Ongoing Fundraising Campaigns:

Are you supporting LNS through these NO additional cost fundraisers? PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL and Share this information with Family and Friends!



#### Box Tops

Collect everyday labels from groceries to earn points and funds for our school PTO. Labels should be submitted to your child's homeroom teacher.



#### Amazon

Help support LNS by going to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://Smile.Amazon.com) and designating Laurel Nokomis PTO as your charitable organization. After that the Amazon Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to LNS on Amazon shopping done through the AmazonSmile portal. It costs you nothing and your Amazon shopping experience will be the same (wish lists and preferences carryover to the portal).

**TAKE CHARGE  
OF EDUCATION®**

Reward your school!™



The REDcard®

#### Target Take Charge of Education Program ENDED

Target use to donate 1% of ALL purchases made with Target REDcard purchases. to Laurel Nokomis if you designated LNS as your school of choice. However, the **Take Charge of Education ended on 05/14/2016. Thank you for all of your purchases for LNS in the past!!!**

## Business Partners:

We are in the process of securing business partners for the 2016-2017 school year. If you are interested or know a business or someone that would like to be a LNS Business Partner please contact Kim Sullivan at 941-441-7451 or via email at [ksullivan821@comcast.net](mailto:ksullivan821@comcast.net).

[Back to Top](#)

Laurel Nokomis School  
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Nokomis, FL 34275  
(941) 486-2171

Visit our website at  
<http://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/laurelnokomis/>  
for more information about what's happening at the school.



The Sarasota County School District Web contains a lot of important information. Please visit the Laurel Nokomis web site for a list of important links on the Sarasota School District web site.

### **Did you miss the last Laurel Nokomis e-Newsletter?**

The newsletters are posted on the LNS web site in the third column on the bottom. If you or someone you know would like to receive the Newsletter, you may sign up for future newsletters by completing the attached form.

Forward to a Friend

All comments, suggestions or requests to submit information to this newsletter should be emailed to

[laurelnokomisnews@gmail.com](mailto:laurelnokomisnews@gmail.com)

Mr. Ray Wilson  
LNS Principal

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