Laning Avenue News
June 2013 Issue

-From the Principal's Desk-

Dear Parents,

It is difficult to believe that June has arrived and the end of the school year is upon us. As I reflect on this past year at Laning, I am pleased with the progress that our children have made. They have flourished both socially and academically.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Laning School staff for another terrific year. Their professionalism, enthusiasm, and dedication to children are unparalleled.

Hats off also to all Laning students. Their work ethic, day in and day out, in the classroom has been quite impressive. They have worked diligently to become better students and better citizens as well. If this attitude continues, there are no limits to what they can accomplish in life.

Finally, I would like to thank Laning parents for their support of the teachers, school, and overall program. The partnership we enjoy results in many positive experiences for our children. All of us associated with Laning School realize that many of the programs in place for the children are the direct result of parental support. Thank you, specifically, to all of the parents who served this past year on any of the SCA committees. Time is so valuable and these people have given so unselfishly to Laning School. No matter what position you serve, a huge thank you to you all from me.

I wish all Laning families the best of everything both in and out of school in the future.

Sincerely,

Frank Albano
Principal

A Message from
Laning Avenue SCA Co-Presidents

Dear Laning Families,

As we enter our final weeks of the school year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every Laning family for their support over the past nine months. We've shared many triumphs and difficult moments but through the love and support of our Laning community, we have been able to band together and reach out to those in need. This is what makes Laning Avenue School the remarkable place that it is. It's not just a school, but a family!

Thank you's go out to

- The 4th grade Farewell Committee for all their hard work as their activities come to a close. We look forward to seeing the yearbooks, hope the kids enjoy their pool party, and wish everyone a successful graduation event! Also, we hope all families have had the opportunity to see the Class of 2013 legacy gift, a customized entry mat, which is now at the 2nd grade entrance to the building. Thank you to the Legacy Gift committee for working to bring this addition to the school.
- Niki Valera, Suzanne Welsh, Dana DeMars, Sarah Latson, Melissa Colluci, Cheryl Mizia, and Danielle Manganello for a well-run and terrifically received Grandparents/Special Persons Day. Thank you for the pictures we got to take home and for making the day fun and memorable.
- Lisa Freedman for volunteering to be the Vice President of the Conference of SCAs for 2013-14. The organization will truly benefit from your experience.
- The 2013-14 Board Nomination Committee and the work they did: Lisa Freedman, Dana DeMars, Jen Vogel, Carine Zemokhol, Kerri Egan and Tara Imbriano.
- Cindy Kramer for the wonderful graduation-themed bulletin board that was ready in time for Grandparents Day. Our kids look great and our parents will be very proud.
- Lisa Freedman, the Verona Juniors and all those who helped make the May Teacher Appreciation Week something special.
- Pat Chesney, Dana DeMars and the entire Laning Cares Committee for the amazing gift card drive for Luca Maglifiore's family. The generosity was overwhelming, at the same time, no surprise – our Laning families have wonderful hearts and a wonderful spirit of giving.
- Dana DeMars, Susan Nogales and the Committee for the Adult Social at the Verona Inn. It had been 3 years since the last social and we were so glad to have it return, and turn out to be a fun night for all who were there.
- Kyle Burns & Joanna Breitenbach for keeping the Library in order.
- Sarah Latson & Venus So for keeping the monthly newsletter and the website up-to-date.
- Jen Vogel and her team for another successful year of hot lunches and for always finding ways to improve Hot Lunch.
- Lisa Freedman and Tracy Bermeo for the final Kindergarten Workshop.
- Suzanne Welsh and Damaris Dolan for a wonderful and informative "Bash the Trash" assembly. It was great to learn the science of turning trash into musical instruments.
- Mrs. Varulo for a groovy "Peace, Love and Art" Show. It was wonderful to see all the beautiful pieces our kids have worked on all year. You raise the bar every time.

- The Laning teachers and all of the students who participated in the Restore the Shore Read-a-Thon in May. Your efforts helped raise $500, which the Laning SCA donated to the TRRS Hurricane Relief Fund in Toms River. Thank you to the parents for helping the kids keep track and encouraging them to participate. Every little bit is making a difference and we are proud to say our Laning kids helped, too!

Advance thank you's go to

- Joanna Breitenbach for Hats ON for Progeria on June 7.
- Suzanne Welsh, Nicole Kobernick and the Family Fun Committee for the Family Fun Carnival on June 11. Please be sure to get your tickets in advance and sign up to help if you can.
- Ed Filippazzo and Erik Spong for Jackals Night on June 13. Special group pricing is available but only if you order your tickets in advance.
- Tara Imbriano & Marlo Spina for finishing up a successful school year of SCRIP fundraising, and for continuing to offer it over the summer. Please contact these chairs if you would like grocery store SCRIP in July and August. Tara & Marlo, your dedication is truly appreciated!

2013-2014: There is still time to get involved! We are still looking for volunteers to help with the committees listed below.

Hot Lunch: The SCA provides hot lunch on Thursdays catered by an outside vendor. Volunteers are needed to assist with set up, clean up, distribution of food and drinks, and are scheduled on a once a month rotating schedule.

Family Fun: This committee coordinates activities for Laning Families. This includes events such as Bingo Night, Movie Night, Dances and an end of year event (i.e. small carnival).

Fourth Grade Farewell: This requires a team of Fourth Grade parents to organize the year end ceremony, a fourth grade farewell party, a graduation party, one legacy gift to Laning, a memory book, a t-shirt and, a district-wide Pool Party, as well as fundraising efforts to help support all activities related to events.

Property and Grounds: This committee does not require much time during the school year. All time given to this committee would be on a given weekend coordinated by the committee chair. Responsibilities include property spruce up prior to the beginning of school and at times deemed necessary throughout the year, including fall plantings. Will also work with Environmental Committee to coordinate Earth Day activities.

Tricky Tray: Parent volunteers are needed to help solicit basket items, create baskets of solicited and donated items, ticket sales, facility set up, night-of sales, basket distribution, and other responsibilities as needs develop. Tricky Tray will be chaired by SCA Executive Board. This is our biggest fundraiser and helps fund the many programs that our children enjoy at Laning Ave. School. We hope we can count on your support.

If you have any questions about any of the committees and would like to volunteer your time, please contact Joanna Breitenbach at joanna.breitenbach@gmail.com

Make sure not to miss out on our remaining events for the school year.

6/7: Hats ON for Progeria Day (information)
6/11: End of Year Carnival
6/12: 3rd Grade Battle of the Books Final @ FN Brown
6/13: Mr. Albano Pizza Hot Lunch
6/13: Jackals Night
6/14: Red, White & Blue Day, Flag Day celebration
6/14: 4th Grade District Wide Pool Party
6/17: Kindergarten Field Trip: Turtle Back Zoo
6/18: 12:30 Dismissal
6/18: Pre-K End of Year Program
6/18: Bagel Mania (rescheduled from May 24, for those who pre-ordered)
6/19: 12:30 Dismissal
6/19: 4th Grade Farewell Ceremony
6/19: Rain Date, Fourth Grade District Wide Pool Party
6/20: 12:30 Dismissal
6/20: Kindergarten End of Year Program, 8:45 a.m.
6/20: Thank You Lunch for Teachers, in building
6/21: 12:30 Dismissal
6/21: Class Parties
6/21: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Have a wonderful summer!

Lisa Hudson, thehudsons18@yahoo.com
Joanna Breitenbach, joanna.breitenbach@gmail.com

A special thank you from Lisa Hudson
It seems impossible to summarize in a few paragraphs a time full of challenges, turning points and rewarding moments. But allow me to try:

This year's highlights include focused determination from the fundraising and the events and program committees to do more with less. The work and dedication of these committees was truly remarkable. This year, thanks to your special efforts you've ensured the SCA's future.

In addition to all of the programs and events you ran for our students, staff and community, your efforts translated into funding for several important capital improvements this year, including four new SmartBoards – something that will benefit all Laning students for many years to come. We all should be proud.

I also want to salute our behind the scenes helpers, including Class Parents, Library Helpers, Hot Lunch Helpers, Recess Enrichment Helpers, Website Coordinator, and Newsletter Editor, to name a few. Thank you for all that you do, too.

This year, Board Members were asked to take on more responsibility than has been asked in the past, but they embraced the challenges and, in my humble opinion, made the internal workings stronger. A million thanks to Joanna Breitenbach, Lisa Freedman, Dana DeMars, Peggy Kenrick and Pat Chesney.

My congratulations go out to the incoming Board members, Anthony Gardner and Susan Nogales. You join an amazing team and I know you'll do us proud.

Speaking of focused efforts, priceless contributions, and people who are worthy of a million thanks, there is the teaching, administrative and custodial staff at Laning. Thank you for your support. I will miss talking to you almost every day, Mrs. Buro and Mr. Jackson. Thank you for all of your help with questions, behind the scenes management, and support.

Mr. Albano, it is still impossible to believe this is the last year we get to express our gratitude to you as Laning's Principal. You have meant the world to our students and to us. Thank you.

The Laning SCA has a large, dedicated volunteer base that would make any leader proud. The parent contributions of time and effort are extraordinary. The organization shines in so many ways. I know you will continue to shine because of your care and commitment. It has been my honor to serve as your Co-President, and I thank you for that experience.

A special thank you from Joanna Breitenbach

Joanna would like to thank: The entire Laning faculty and staff for their constant support, with a special thank you to Mrs. Buro. You are always there to answer questions and provide assistance with anything and everything that the SCA needs. We really could not do our jobs without you. Mr. Albano, what can I say? You have made my job as SCA Co-President this year easy and enjoyable. I will miss our monthly meetings and hearing you greet me with, "Mrs. Beeee!"
To the 2012-2013 Executive Board members: Lisa Freedman, Dana DeMars, Pat Chesney, and Peggy Kenrick. We faced some difficult challenges this year and shared some wonderful accomplishments. I truly appreciate all the work and time you all have dedicated to the SCA and the Laning community, and I look forward to our continuing partnership next year. Lisa Hudson, my Co-President, thank you for your guidance and support. You have made this year an easy transition for me. We have shared blood, sweat and, yes, sometimes tears, but in the end it was all worth it. It is with great anticipation and excitement that I welcome our two new Board members: Anthony Gardner and Susan Nogales! You will make excellent additions to our little group. I look forward to working with you both! Here's to a fantastic 2013-2014!

-Laning SCA Announcements-

Family Fun Committee

Don't miss the Laning Family Fun Carnival on **Tuesday, June 11, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** (Please note date change!) Tickets are $5 per person; children under 3 are free. Please purchase tickets as soon as possible. Ticket price includes all inflatable attractions, carnival games, cotton candy machine, tattoo station and DJ. Food, drinks and ice cream are all available for purchase.

We also need volunteers to work 1/2 hour shifts. If you can help us out that night, please email Nicole Kobernick at nkobernick@aol.com or Suzanne Welsh at bscwelsh@msn.com. We're looking forward to a great night!!

Fourth Grade Farewell Committee

Thank you to our phenomenal committee for all of your help throughout the year, especially to our Bagel Mania Coordinator Sue Valentine, Yearbook Chairs Malisa Tortoriello & Shari Meehan and Legacy Gift Chair Suzanne Welsh for all of your long hours and hard work. The Class of 2013 will be seen wandering the halls of Laning sporting their t-shirts and carrying a yearbook for the last time on June 21. It has been our pleasure to ensure that the Fourth Grade Class has had a memorable year!

Supermarket SCRIP Gift Card Program

If you would like to purchase gift cards over the summer, please contact Marlo Spina, marspin68@yahoo.com / 973-857-4409 or Tara Imbriano, taraimbriano@gmail.com / 973-239-2396.

***As always, participation is optional.

Environmental Committee

Keep Your Summer Green!

Summer is a perfect time to enjoy our Earth! Whenever possible, take your summer activities outdoors. Engage in sports, games, reading, gardening, arts and crafts, and cooking outside. Try to explore as many sites as you can on foot or bike. Remember to reduce your carbon footprint by recycling, reusing, and reducing…every little bit helps!

Take to the Trails Check out the following sites for hiking and biking.
www.njhiking.com/nj-hikes/
www.trails.com
www.traillink.com/stateactivity/nj-bike-trails.aspxwww.njbikemap.com/
www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/recreation/hiking/index.htm
www.essex-countynj.org/p/index.php?section=env/o
www.morrisparks.net/aspparks/patpathmain.asp

Cultivate a Garden Plant a flower and/or vegetable garden in your own yard. Involve your children in the process and enjoy watching your garden grow. You can also volunteer your services at a local park or community garden.
www.essex-countynj.org/p/index.php

Compost Reduce your waste going to the already overflowing landfills. Recycle waste materials like household fruit and vegetable scraps, grass clippings, leaves, and shredded newsprint to create useful soil-nourishing compost. You can start a compost pile in an outdoor bin or invest in a ready-made enclosed container on the market.
www.veronaec.org/greennews
www2.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home
www.howtocompost.org/

Saluting Our Graduating Families

We wanted to take a moment to salute the parents who will be "graduating" from Laning, along with their 4th grade students, and to whom we send our best wishes as they leave our Laning parent family. Collectively, they include current and past Class Parents, as well as current and past volunteer Helpers and Leaders, and Executive Board Members.

We thank you for the selfless contributions of your time, creativity and support for our programs, events and fundraisers over the years. And we thank you for all that you did for our students to make Laning the special place that it is.

The Laning SCA has purchased a new book for the Laning Library in honor of each of these families. A book plate has been placed on the inside cover of each of these books with the inscription:

This book has been added to the Laning Library
in honor of The (Last Name)Family.
The Laning SCA gratefully acknowledges your years
of support and service to Laning Avenue School.
June 19, 2013

Aloia	Davey	Kenny	Silva
Arias	DeVito	Monacelli	Silvia
Batson	DeVivo	Munjack	Valentine
Bucher	DiClemente	Naeris	Villani
Cole	Diskant	Niesmertelny	Welsh
Cole	Ferrera	Parekh	Zamloot
Coppola	Frasier	Reyes	
Cordero	Gagnon	Sarbaev	
Curry	Infusino	Selimi	

-What's Happening in Our Classrooms-

Elementary Special Needs – Mrs. Jessica Jaruczyk

In May we had lots going on. We created Mother's Day cards and prepared for the art show. Students read Ramona and Beezus in preparation for our class trip to see the play. We traveled to Montclair State University to see the play and students worked on appropriate behavior while out in the community. Students also brought in the warmer weather with a study on animals and studying butterflies. Students learned about the different stages from caterpillar to butterfly and took care of them as they grew. Students also prepared for Field Day by building up their endurance and practicing activities that they will be doing that day. Students used social stories to help them transition smoothly.

Kindergarten – Mrs. Kristy McCabe and Mrs. Kimberley Nochimson

May was a fun and busy month for the kindergartners! We began learning about Word Families and we learned how to read and spell many new words. We have been busy writers focusing on writing for an audience. We are working hard so that others can read and enjoy our stories.

The kindergarten mathematicians learned about geometry. We had fun making shapes out of other shapes and we learned about 3-D shapes too.

The kindergarten scientists learned about the Earth, sun, stars and moon. We talked about the differences between day and night and about the different phases of the moon. In social studies we learned all about Memorial Day and could not wait to go to the parade!

The Art Show and Grandparents Day were the highlights of our month. It was so special to be able to have our families come to school to share our artwork and spend time with us!

Field Day was a blast and we all had a great time participating in all of the fun events and we all practiced good sportsmanship!

It is very hard to believe we are in the homestretch of our kindergarten year! We are looking forward to our trip to The Turtle Back Zoo and our super special end of the year kindergarten performance!

Grade 1 – Miss Marilyn Varallo, Ms. Jenny Kirby, and Mrs. Nancy Apisa

Our caterpillars have arrived, and the children are excited to see the actual life cycle that they have been studying in the science books. Through observations, as well as through books, the computer, and art activities, the students are learning about metamorphosis and other animal life cycles.

Besides accessing many sites on the Internet, our children have been learning word processing skills in the computer lab. The students have done animal research, and have learned how to insert pictures in their work.

This month we went on a class field trip to Montclair State University to see "Ramona Quimby" performed on stage. Since the students were reading the series of the same name, the play was able to bring literature to life.

The first graders have been immersed in the writing of poetry. This has allowed the children to see the world with fresh eyes. They have been having fun with words, and have been learning to use

their minds, hearts, and imaginations in unique ways. We are convinced the future Poet Laureate is in our midst.

Grade 2 – Ms. Sage Seaton and Mrs. Banta

May was a busy month for second graders. They kicked off the month working on a special surprise for their mothers for Mother's Day. Students wrote about their mother's favorite recipes and published them in a class cookbook, along with the actual recipes. Students were so excited to give their gifts to their mothers! In science news, second graders studied habitats and environments. They learned about food chains and food webs as well and learned so much when they researched different habitats such as tundra, desert, rainforest, ocean and grassland in computer class. Mrs. Giannuario created an excellent, informative website to help us with this project. In math, second graders studied different ways of measuring length in inches, feet, yards as well as the metric system. Students were also busy writing various reviews of toys, books and restaurants in writing workshop. They created their own Review Books that were shared with their special visitors on Grandparents Day. Students are excited to be in the final countdown of the school year!

Grade 3 – Mrs. Jaime Ricci and Mr. Brian Samples

May has turned out to be an exciting month for the third grade! Our month included NJASK. Everyone tried so very hard on those four days of testing. We are so proud of all of everyone for their efforts.

In Language Arts, we are continuing to read and complete activities associated with "The Cricket in Times Square". In addition, the books have been flying off the shelves as the students continue the Battle of the Books tournament. We are coming close to establishing the 3rd grade Laning champion!

In Writer's Workshop, the students have been creating amazing realistic fiction stories. They have worked very hard to create suspenseful and exciting pieces of writing. Our classes have enjoyed reading these stories as we celebrate to close the unit. Moving in to June, students will be creating pieces of non-fiction writing based on famous United States landmarks.

In Math, students are concluding their study of fractions. The children are able to compare fractions, find equivalent fractions, and place fractions on a number line. We will also touch on customary measurement to end out our school year.

In Social Studies, the third graders are diligently studying the United States, and have successfully been able to learn all of the state abbreviations and capitals. We are now working on labeling a map of the United States with the name of each state. In June, we will be studying landforms to round out the school year. In Science, students are currently studying electricity and magnetism.

The third graders worked very hard in the month of May and are looking forward to June as the school year comes to a close. To reward the third graders for their hard work throughout the year we will have Baseball Day and Themed Days in June to close the school year.

Grade 4 – Mrs. Kristine DePoe, Mrs. Kristina Ellenbogen, and Mrs. Pamela Solomon

May was filled with special events! First, the Art Show, which was spectacular as always! The students put a lot of effort into their projects and the results were outstanding! Next, the fourth grade band members wowed us with an amazing instrumental concert! Their performance was fabulous! Later in the month, the children were able to spend time with their grandparents or

special guests on Grandparents'/Special Guest Day. The students discovered some interesting facts about their grandparents or special guests as they enjoyed lunch together. Last, but certainly not least, the children continued their Battle of the Books tournament! The competition is fierce as all the teams are well-prepared. It will be interesting to see which team prevails!

Along with all the special events, we have continued to work hard academically as well. Mathematicians discovered the importance of fractions and continued to sharpen their problem solving skills. In science, students are learning about sound. Students are amazed to learn how sound travels. In Social Studies, students are diligently working to prepare for the New Jersey Museum. Working together students have created many wonderful projects to display in the museum. Independently, students have researched a famous person who influenced New Jersey's history. We are also enjoying our final read aloud novel of the year, Because of Winn Dixie. This page turner is opening our eyes to the importance of friendship.

Verona Pre-School Program
Full Day Preschool Teacher – Mrs. Grace Minervo-Buneo

What a wonderful month of activities and learning the full day preschool had this May!! We started the month with exploring insects and the life cycle of the butterfly. The children enjoyed watching our caterpillars grow and change over the time they were in our class. They can't wait to see those beautiful butterflies emerge from their chrysalises. What fun they had looking for bugs outside on our nature walks and creating beautiful art to display in our classroom.

To celebrate Mother's Day we read books about Mommies and talked about all the ways our moms take care of us. The preschoolers designed beautiful tote bags with their own hands…a truly special gift.

During Sports week the children enjoyed learning all the moves that go along with sports like basketball, soccer and baseball. We ended the week by having a sports day outside with the whole preschool program. We had three stations where the children rotated and had an opportunity to play with and cheer on their peers. What fun!!!

To celebrate the spring season we did some planting of seeds around the outside of our building and made grass heads!

We ended the month exploring Nursery Rhymes. This is always a favorite of the preschoolers. Along with chanting the rhymes and creating pictures with the words to the rhymes they acted out the rhymes in circle time for each other. What an incredible month this has been.

As always the preschoolers just love greeting Mr. Albano each and every morning as he visits our class and look forward to it each day….they will certainly miss him….Thank you, Mr. Albano☺

Pre-School – Mrs. Pauline Jennis and Mrs. Maryann Bifulco

During the month of May the preschoolers had a ball learning and playing spring sports! We exercised to warm up our muscles, learned about safety and good sportsmanship while playing T-ball, soccer, basketball and golf. We tried fishing and rode bicycles too. Then we celebrated Mother's Day with special gifts and cards we made for our very special moms! We also explored the life cycle of butterflies and plants and how things grow and change. We planted seeds, learned how they grow and the parts of plants. We have also been watching our caterpillar larvae grow and change. Our beautiful butterflies should emerge soon! We are finishing up the month

reading, singing and learning classic children's nursery rhymes, folk and fairy tales. The p.m. classes continue to learn the letters and sounds of the alphabet, some sight words and handwriting. In June we will learn about all the different types of transportation. We will make special gifts and cards for our very special dads for Father's Day. We will learn all about summer and the change of another season. As the school year ends we will talk about all the things we learned about this year and how we have also grown and changed over the year.

June, July & August Birthdays

Maximo N.
Madeleine N.
Jake O.
Nicholas Z.
Charlotte K.
Michael M.
Grace V.
Olivia B.
Sienna G.
Sarah G.
Joseph R.
Ryan K.
Michael L.
Anders R.
Tyler C.
Heavenly L.
Finola G.
Connor B.
Danielle I.
Joseph M.
Keira D.
Gavin M.
Ryan T.
Alexandra D.
Paige H.
Abigail S.
Samantha B.
Noah B.
Hannah N.
Maura S.
Gabriel A.

Sebastien A.
Sarah K.
Alek B.
Michael D.
Samantha F.
Maya A.
RioMarie G.
Thomas M.
Mariam S.
Savannah S.
Joseph V.
Caitlin M.
Jordan F.
Julian A.
Jake F.
Megan M.
Erin S.
Matthew V.
Ethan W.
Aleena G.
Evan S.
Joshua W.
Maya F.
Christopher S.
Mark S.
Olivia F.
Mateo S.
Jacob V.
Ella M.
Adam M.
Ella M.

Sebastian S.
Caroline S.
Olivia G.
Mia C.
Colvin K.
Kyle M.
Shawn M.
Dylan F.
Christian K.
Kaleb S.
Griffin B.
Aidan C.
Lauren R.
Samantha G.
Anna S.
Christopher B.
Leila B.
James S.
Evan B.
Dennis L.
Anthony C.
Matteo D.
Nicholas L.
Daniel V.
Peter C.
Elyse C.
Brianna S.
Byron C.
Joshua S.

-Mark Your Calendars-

June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 SCA Meeting Laning Kids Help the Hungry	4 Laning Kids Help the Hungry	5 Laning Kids Help the Hungry	6 Laning Kids Help the Hungry	7 Hats ON for Progeria Day	8
9	10	11 Family Fun Carnival	12 Third Grade Battle of the Books Final	13 Jackals Night Mr. Albano Pizza Hot Lunch	14 Red, White & Blue Day/ Flag Day Fourth Grade District Wide Pool Party	15
16	17 Kindergarten Field Trip	18 ½ Day Pre-K End of Year Program Bagel Mania	19 ½ Day Fourth Grade Farewell Rain Date for Fourth Grade District Wide Pool Party	20 ½ Day Kindergarten End of Year Program Thank You Lunch for Teachers	21 ½ Day Class Parties Last Day of School	22