

NOVEMBER 17, 2023



# LYNX IN THE LOOP

Kindness

Matters!



## IMPORTANT DATES

- November 18th
  - LMS Lego Robotics Qualifiers
  - LMS Basketball @ Pinkerton Preseason
- November 18-21st-
  - Make a Difference Food Drive
- November 20th-
  - Student Council/C3PO- 2:15-3:30pm
- November 22-26th
  - No School- Thanksgiving Break
- November 27-December 8th
  - LMS Giving Tree Donations
- Save the Date-
  - December 11th- Celebrate the Season Gingerbread House Challenge!



## Principal's Message

The sea of orange ran through our entire building today with the "Orange you glad to be kind" spirit day. It was exciting to see the work of our Student Council, C3PO, and Robotics Team come together. The cereal box challenge went off this afternoon without a hitch, and the teams will be putting a video together soon. We are going to be "challenging" other schools in our area to take the #kindnessmatters challenge. The kids are hoping the positivity carries on beyond Litchfield. We will be publishing the final video just after Thanksgiving.

We wish both our Basketball Team and our Robotics Team good luck as they compete tomorrow. If you are looking to cheer them on, check out the schedule, and come help represent the best middle school with the best cheering squad around!

With the Thanksgiving holiday approaching, we continue to work to collect canned foods to add to our Cereal Boxes to donate as part of the district-wide Make-a-Difference Food drive! Thank you for any donations you are able to make.

Have a wonderful weekend, and don't forget to thaw your turkeys!

All the BEST,  
Jen Grantham and Martha Thayer

Mrs. Chambers has posted some great information on her "Nurses" page on our LMS Website.

She plans on starting **vision and hearing screenings** with our **5th grade students** the week of November 17-21st.

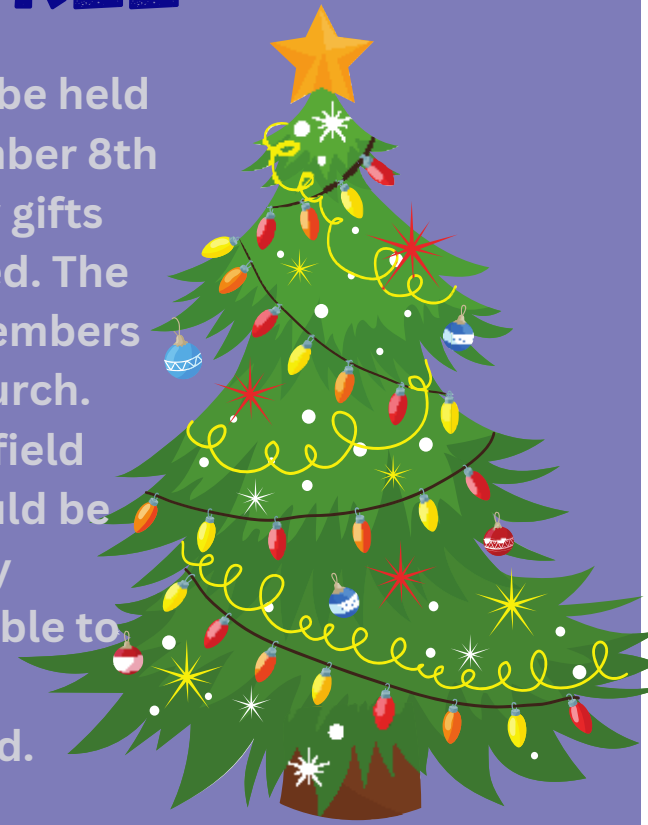
Please be sure to keep your student home when they are sick and be sure to call into the main office to let our staff know of an absence! Feel free to use our updated [Health Screening- 8/28/23](#).

Thank you for your cooperation!



# LMS GIVING TREE

This year, the LMS Giving Tree fundraiser will be held from Monday, November 27th through December 8th. Any money raised is used to purchase holiday gifts for Litchfield area children who may be in need. The holiday gifts purchased and distributed by members of the Litchfield Community Presbyterian Church. In the past, the students and families of Litchfield have been very generous. Any donations should be turned into your child's homeroom teacher by November 24th. Checks should be made payable to the Litchfield Middle School. Every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated.



Litchfield School District is working to promote proper use of generative AI for staff, and eventually students, through curriculum, instruction, and professional development. We are examining how AI could be used to support, not replace, current practices. We are actively seeking feedback from the community and appreciate your time and insights. **This Google Form is designed to collect information about community use of AI.**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmPkcXmtXfA5\\_kIKDhNF6Q8XJ\\_NyACDPxxiPSLJGpqKkTeXg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmPkcXmtXfA5_kIKDhNF6Q8XJ_NyACDPxxiPSLJGpqKkTeXg/viewform)

is designed to collect information about community use of AI.

Generative Artificial Intelligence is artificial intelligence that can produce new, original content (images, text, and other media) based on a set of data and existing patterns. Examples of generative AI include, but are not limited to: ChatGPT, Bard, Canva, Google AutoDraw, Google Workspace, etc.





# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

## How to Talk to Your Middle School Student about Self-Harming Behaviors:

It is important for us as parents and educators to be aware of the signs and symptoms of self-harming behaviors. If you suspect that your child may be engaging in self-harm, it is crucial to approach the topic with care and sensitivity. Here are some guidelines to help you navigate this difficult conversation:

1. Choose the right time and place: Find a quiet and comfortable environment where you can have an uninterrupted conversation with your child.
  2. Be non-judgmental and supportive: Let your child know that you are there for them and that you want to understand their feelings.
  3. Listen actively: Give your child the opportunity to express themselves without interruption. Avoid blaming or criticizing.
  4. Seek professional help: If you suspect that your child is self-harming, it is important to reach out to a mental health professional who can provide guidance and support.
- If you feel as though you need additional support our team is here to help; **Kate Dichard**, School Counselor grades 5&8, **Emily MacDonald**, School Counselor grades 6&7, **Jocelyn Biedrzcki**, School Social Worker, **Greg Pantazis**, Mental Health Counselor



# PTO News!



**Thank you** to all the families who contributed supplies and food to make dinner possible for our Teachers during Parent/Teacher conferences.

## **Proctor Ski & Board Deals for Litchfield Middle School:**

Our local favorite, Proctor Ski & Board, is again kindly hosting a fundraiser for the LMS Community. They have great deals on gear, leases, and tune ups!

Any Student of Litchfield Schools will receive :

- 10% off 2024 gear
- \$10 off new and used leases
- \$10 off tune ups
- Any purchase over \$399 receives a FREE Buy One Get One midweek ticket to Pats Peak!

*5% of sales, online and in store, to Litchfield residents will go to LMS PTO.*

## **Poinsettia Sales:**

The LMS PTO is selling poinsettias this holiday season. To purchase poinsettia(s) please fill out the following google form <https://tinyurl.com/3rjmj239> by November 28th. A portion of all sales go to support LMS PTO activities.

Poinsettias can be picked up at the **'Celebrate the Season'** event on Monday, December 11th.

Questions about the Poinsettia sales? Email Peter Ames at [peter.ames01@gmail.com](mailto:peter.ames01@gmail.com)

Questions about the Celebrate the Season event? Email Shannon Cutter at [skcutter21@gmail.com](mailto:skcutter21@gmail.com).

## **Next PTO Meeting:**

Join us on Tuesday, December 05, 2023 at 6pm in the Library Learning Commons at LMS for our next meeting. A virtual option will be available and posted prior to the meeting. At this meeting we welcome new faces to participate in discussion and assist with upcoming programs.

## **Holiday Store:**

The LMS PTO is excited to have the Holiday Store open the week of December 18th. To be able to open the store we are seeking volunteers at the store. Sign up here to help sell at the store. <https://tinyurl.com/5b7jkew6>



# FOOD DRIVE CONTINUES

**We got a head start as a school with our cereal box collection. We will be collecting all non-perishable foods through 11/21 to add to our collection and in conjunction with GMS and CHS. We know the food pantry appreciates anything and everything unopened and non-expired.**

**Some items of note: canned/jarred protein (i.e. tuna, peanut butter, etc.), pasta, Mac and Cheese boxes are always a hit. Every little bit helps!**

**NOVEMBER 6-21**

**ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY!**

