



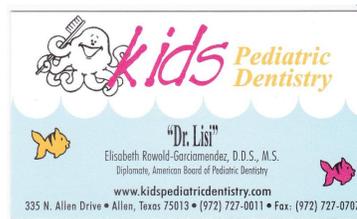
The Paw Print

Volume 5, Issue 8

May 2016

Message from Technological Chair:

LPPTA will be switching over to a new communication system, **PT Avenue**, during the summer. Please look for play dates, and other event communication from this service. We will be phasing out Meetup this summer. Please contact [Lisa Sullivan](#) with questions!



The Lovejoy Preschool PTA (LPPTA) is an organization for parents with infant, preschool and kindergarten children in the Lovejoy Independent School District. The LPPTA will encourage and enhance the intellectual, social and emotional development of these children by providing parent education, social opportunities and fundraising support for the Lovejoy Independent School District.

President's Note

Oh how the time does fly by when you are having fun.

As we finish off the 2015-2016 school year I am amazed at all the accomplishments, the friends made, programs held, children and parents served in one way or another. I am so proud of what we have done as a Preschool PTA, and as a Lovejoy family.

I must say a farewell to all the families "graduating" from the preschool PTA - moving onto Elementary School. I know you are shocked that your "baby" is really old enough to go to school and amazed at how quickly these early years have flown by. Please know it does not have to end.... I hope I have been an example of how you are never too old for the preschool PTA. This year has been a blessing in my life and has brought friendship that never would have developed had I not come back for a second time. Special thanks to all who have served on the Preschool PTA board and who are moving on. I hope you will continue to participate in your school's PTA and look forward to serving with you again.

A year in review

It would be a challenge to list everything that we have accomplished for the 2015-2016 year but the PTA board wanted to share the highlights. We appreciate all the support that our members provide which allows these activities to occur.

- General Member meeting lunches and fabulous presentation
 - Lovejoy ISD- Lovejoy 101
 - Mary Flo Ridely - Sooner Than You Think
 - Cynthia Garrison- Sibling Rivalry
 - Cynthia Garrison - Teaching Responsibility
 - Kathleen Fischer - Setting a Pace We Can Keep
 - Lovejoy ISD- Kinder Ready
- Back to School Family Fun Play Date at Metroplex Gymnastics
- Welcome Back Coffee
- Moms Night Out
- Lunch Bunch
- Member organized play dates
- Kids holiday party - Santa photos
- Spring Family Fun Play Date at Lucas Park
- Produced an amazing directory featuring local area sponsors and member contact information.
- 87 paid PTA members and recognized two Lifetime Members, Lisa Sullivan and Rusty Nichols
- Most amazing monthly newsletter!
- Denim and Diamond Corn Hole Project- raised \$400 for The Foundation for Lovejoy Schools
- Organized Kinder kick off parties for three elementary schools.

- Our fabulous sponsors gave over \$1500 to sponsor our organization.
- Over \$700 raised during our fall fundraiser vendor fair which featured 10 vendors.
- The Birthday Party Project
 - Biggest Birthday party- we supported an entire party held at the Samaritan Inn in McKinney. In addition to volunteering our time, we raised over \$500 of support in the form of donations, birthday gifts, cupcakes, party favors and party decor. Best of all we had too many volunteers. We had to turn volunteers away since the facility was not big enough.

Cheraina Dunn
2016-17 President

Wanna Get Involved in the LPPTA?

Want to get involved with the LPPTA but can't commit to the entire year? No problem! Please consider helping us with just one event, like our Fall Fundraiser. We are in the process of creating several different committees, which are project specific and are for a short time period. Please contact [Stephanie Merrifield](#) if you would like to learn more. And, thank you to our members Casey Jones, Melissa Fritzsche, and Mika Thomas for their willingness to help! If you are interested in meeting new Lovejoy members, this is a great way to do it and help out in the community.



Round Table Discussion: Summer Activities & Survival Tips

When: May 12, 2016

Where: Creekwood Methodist Church

Time: 11:30-1:30pm

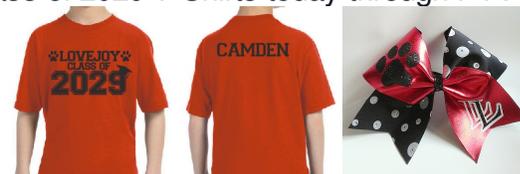
Please join us for our last general meeting of the school year for a networking lunch and round table discussion. Bring your favorite ideas to keep kids busy in the summer and any activities your family loves to do while school is out.

Little Leopards Spirit Wear Now Available!!!

Introducing exclusive t-shirts for your future Kindergartners!

- You can even personalize them.
- Fun idea for first day of school pictures.
- Show your school pride!

You can order Lovejoy Class of 2029 T-Shirts today through PT Avenue. (Link below)



**T-Shirts for future graduating classes also available.
If you have any questions, please send us a message!

Upcoming Events

May 7: Lovejoy Country Run [Click here](#) to sign up!

May 12: General Member Meeting - Round Table Summer Around Town

May 19: Board and Brush: Mom's Night Out @ 7pm

May 20: Foundation for Lovejoy Schools Night at the Frisco RoughRiders vs San Antonio Game.
[Click here](#) to buy tickets!

June 25: Market Street Allen USA Celebration @ Celebration Park, 4pm

July 2: Bluegrass on Ballard Festival in Wylie. [Click here](#) for more information.

August 16: Puster 2016 Kindergarten Party @ 3pm

Please visit our group at [meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) for more info and to RSVP to monthly events



5 Tricks to Ease the Shift to Summer

It's almost summertime! You're favorite time? Maybe not- the structure and predictability of school is out the door. Whether you are staying home with your children for the summer or getting them involved in summer programming, things are going to change. Young children often prefer what is familiar, predictable, and stable and may feel disoriented in the face of this time of transition.

Here are 5 helpful tricks for surviving the shift into summer:

Stick to your schedule. It may be tempting to let your children stay up later and sleep in, but research suggests that going to bed and rising at the same time each day produces more restful sleep and higher IQ's! And good news for you, with restful sleep, children are more able to effectively self-regulate their emotions and behavior.

Honor your child's independence by providing choices. One of the reasons young children struggle with transitioning is that they feel a loss of control and can become overwhelmed. Sometimes the most effective way to help them regulate is to provide them with age-appropriate choices. For example, allow him to choose what shirt to wear that day or whether she would like to go to horse camp or art camp. By providing your children choices, they may feel empowered and more in control of their world in the midst of the drastic switch to summer.

Identify and reflect your child's feelings. This time of year can be stressful, exciting, and confusing for kids. Those feelings they experience are okay and normal! Sometimes it is helpful to acknowledge their experience because it lets them know that you are in-tune with them and strengthens your relationship with them. They realize they are not alone and that YOU understand.

Find new friends. It's no secret that most kids' favorite part of school is the friends they have there. They may be disappointed at the prospect of not seeing their friends every day. If your kids' friends are staying around for the summer, make an effort to connect with their parents to set up play dates and outings together. In the event that their friends are gone all summer, make an effort to make new friends!

Take time to play! Although summer time can be busy, it is important to take the time to play with your children! This playtime will build your relationship, facilitating feelings of safety, trust, and connection between you and your child.

Authors: Brittany Stevens, M.S. and Brandy Schumann, PHD of Therapy on the Square.

If you would like more information on this topic or if you have suggestions for future newsletter topics please contact us at info@tots.pro.



Membership

Welcome to the Lovejoy Preschool PTA! Thank you to everyone for turning in your membership application and dues!

***If you have not yet received your LPPTA directory and would like one, please contact [Lisa Sullivan](#)!

The 2015-2016 membership application is available on our Meetup site.

Please [click here](#) to view the application. Both new and returning members need to fill out the application. Submittal of the application and dues are required for membership.

Application and dues can be turned in at general meetings, be sent in the mail, or dues can be paid via PayPal on our MeetUp site. Please see the application for details. If you have any membership questions please contact [Lisa Sullivan](#)!

Hospitality News

Do you know of an LPPTA member in a time of need due to the arrival of a new baby, illness or loss of a family member? If you know someone in need of a little sunshine, please contact our hospitality chair, [Jana Wammack](#) so we can be of assistance during those times. (We are happy to help; no thank you required!)



President: Cheraina Dunn
1st Vice President: Stephanie Merrifield
Treasurer: Tracy Cummins
Secretary: Leslie Tucker
Membership: Lisa Sullivan
Ways and Means: Linda Lange
Programs: Mary Jo Ciatto
Council Rep: Myka Kuzenski
Publicity: Lorraine Muns
Hospitality: Jana Wammack
Newsletter: Rachel Butler
Technology: Lisa Sullivan
Community Outreach: Erin Woods
Principal/Lovejoy ISD Liason: Tonya Vining

And Committee members...
Fundraising Events: Alyssa Boyd
VP Committee: Liz Goertz

Interested in helping on a committee? Please contact [Stephanie Merrifield](#).



STAY CONNECTED:

