

Cougar Tracks



L.A. AINGER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Message from the Principal

Dear L.A. Ainger Cougar Parents and Guardians,

This year feels like it has flown by, we are now in the final quarter of the school year. There is so much to be proud of that our students have achieved this year. Our student data has shown increases in almost all of our areas this year in all grade levels. We have had students excel in many different competitions this year: math, writing, band, science fair, and athletics just to name a few. In December our PTO held their annual golf tournament fielding 19 teams and raising over \$10,000. None of this would have been possible without the support of you, our families, the community, and our wonderful and dedicated staff here at L.A. Ainger Middle School. As we approach the end of the school year, this is the time your child should be focusing on a strong finish and you can help. Please reinforce positive and successful school habits, review your student's progress, attendance, test schedules, and help your child stay focused. Your attention and involvement in this effort will reinforce the importance you place on your child's education.

As we move into the final part of the school year, our spring sports include wrestling and track, as well as all of our end of the year activities including band concerts, award ceremonies, grade level trips, and club activities. Please check our website for times and dates. We will also send out updates on our Remind App through text message. We look forward to having a positive and productive final quarter of the school year.

Again, we look forward to working with you. If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to call or stop by anytime. Your child's success and positive experience at L.A. Ainger is our number one priority.

Sincerely,
Jeff Harvey
Principal



245 Cougar Way
Rotonda West, FL 33947

Phone:
941-697-5800

Office Hours:
8:00a.m. to 4:15p.m.

Principal:
Jeff Harvey

Assistant Principal:
Daryl Konrardy

Dean of Students:
Bruce Fourman

Guidance Counselor:
Kelly Gilbert A-K
Jodi Booher L-Z

ESE Liason:
Gayle Horan

School Resource Officer:
Officer Jones





L.A. Ainger uses the Remind App to communicate with the stakeholders in our community by sending text messages to their phones. To subscribe to any of the classes, simple text the “@ code” listed below to the number **81010**.

“L.A. Ainger Middle School Families” text: @dhc693

“L.A. Ainger Middle School Extracurricular” text: @d337hch

“L.A. Ainger Middle School Charlotte Buses” text: @g33g3g

“L.A. Ainger Middle School Sarasota Buses” text: @kk43ga

You may un-subscribe from any of the classes listed above at any time.

VFW Essay Contest Winners

Patriot’s Pen is an annual essay contest sponsored by the national VFW. Our local VFW Post #10476 chooses three winners who are then eligible for consideration in the national contest.



Pictured above are 1st Place Winner: Marina Troshuk, 2nd Place Winner: Madeline Dufur, 3rd Place Winner: Evelyn Miley along with Principal Jeff Harvey and AG History teacher Mrs. Sue James.

Students of the Month January



6th Grade - Vincenzo Vega, Kai Christian, Dylan Smith
7th Grade - Cadence Zalopany, Sean Blaney, Brandon VanBuren, Cadiana Holmes
8th Grade - Julia Lehman, Max Ackerman, Sierra Andreano

3D Printing Club News

A HUGE THANK YOU to the 3D Printing Club assistants who participated in the Open House/Registration Night for rising area 5th grade students. (**James Chatham, Matthew Neumeyer, Beau Charbonneau, Amber Charbonneau, Alex Mullins and Lauren Dukes**). We had two groups of students helping to explain our club to incoming 5th graders and their parents. In the cafeteria, one group showcased many of our 3D Printing Club creations while the other group ran the 3D printers in the 3D printing lab located in B8. Students emphasized that students do not have to be in the 3D Printing Club to create pieces. Students can create pieces in Tinkercad (an online free 3D design program) and obtain access to our Club’s Google Classroom account. Students can then send in their .stl file to be printed. All they have to do is ask Ms. Johnstone for the code and create away!

We have finally installed our dual printer head and we are still experimenting with our dissolvable material. Thus far, we have printed a moving gear piece. We are still working on successfully printing geometrical shapes and can’t wait to share them with our readers!



3D Printed Gear

REMEMBER!

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Drug Free Charlotte County News

E-Cigs and Vaping, a Dangerous and Addicting Trend

Have you been hearing a lot about vaping lately? That's because it is a trend on the rise in our country. It's not your typical trend of a new clothing brand or style of tennis shoe, it's a trend that leads to health dangers and addiction. If you remember when e-cigs first came on the scene you remember how they were marketed to help people quit smoking. So, let's first take a look at that.

Smoking is a hard habit to kick, and that is due to that tricky chemical called Nicotine. The idea that replacing one delivery method of Nicotine to the body with a different delivery method of Nicotine to the body is not really proving to be a great method to quit smoking. Unfortunately, Nicotine is the chemical that makes quitting so hard, because once your body is addicted and dependent on Nicotine you suffer from withdraw symptoms when you no longer take in that chemical. If you use e-cigs or vape pens to quit smoking, what will you use to quit e-cigs or vape pens?

This new dangerous and addicting trend is especially concerning for our kids. Much like big tobacco markets to kids through candy flavors and brightly colored packaging e-cigs and vapes



are following suit. It sounds harmless to them considering the original marketing tactic to "help people quit smoking", it looks interesting with the candy flavors and bright packaging...not to mention all the YouTube videos showing vape tricks, and it is even made to smell like scents kids are attracted to (like fruity pebbles), and it is very easy to get, as cheap as .99 for a kit.

This all means that as parents, community members, teachers, medical professionals, law enforcement, etc. we

all need to come together to teach kids the facts about e-cigs and vaping. First, Nicotine is a drug that is addictive. Nicotine is not relaxing, contrary to what they may have heard, it actually increases heart rate and blood pressure. It can even change insulin levels in the body and lead to heart disease. Second, nicotine is not the only chemical in e-cigs and vapes.... even the ones that claim to not have any Nicotine include other chemicals in the liquid and there is not yet research that shows the short- and long-term health risks of ingesting those chemicals. Other chemicals known to be in e-cigs and vape pens like formaldehyde and heavy metals we already know can cause cancer, or like diacetyl which when inhaled can cause a serious lung disease called popcorn lung. Also, vapes can explode. There have been many instances we have heard of people being seriously injured because of vaping explosions. It is up to all of us to educate our community so that our teens can make healthy and informed decisions.

For more information and resources, please visit us online at www.drugfreecharlottecounty.org or find us on Facebook (Drug Free Charlotte County), Twitter (@DFCCTweets), or Instagram (drugfreecharlottecounty).

Bell Schedule

Announcements..	9:20 – 9:25
1st	9:25 – 10:11
2nd	10:15 – 11:01
3rd	11:05 – 11:51
A Lunch	11:51 – 12:21
B Lunch	12:22 – 12:52
C Lunch	12:53 – 1:23
5th	1:27 – 2:13
6th	2:17 – 3:03
7th	3:07 – 3:55

Upcoming PTO Sponsored Events

- Meetings 3/25 & 4/29 (Elections)
- Socials* 3/13 & 4/17
- Spring Dance* 5/3
- Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week* 5/6
- End of Year Field Trips* TBA

*Indicates Volunteers are needed.

Stay Informed

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/LAAPT0

REMIND APP/TEXTS : Text TO: 81010

Message: @aingerp

E-Mail: AingerPTO@gmail.com

School Website: edline.net/pages/L_A_Ainger_Middle_School_Parents_PTO

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Parents and students can use the Bully Button on the L.A. Ainger Middle School website homepage or the Charlotte County Public School website to report suspected bullying.

American Heart Association Fundraiser

Hats off to these ladies and their hard work on fundraising for the American Heart Association: Adriana DeAquino, Mexi Font, Cassandra Heeg, Jayda Lanham, Anjanise Scholtz, and Hannah Retherford. They were treated to a picnic Wednesday, February 27th during their lunch! All female students in physical education participated in the Warrior Challenge; they completed a timed obstacle course successfully. We thank Subway Mike for his donations to Ainger for this event and for all school year long! Please help support his subway across from the Lemon Bay Golf Course.

THANK YOU!

DAR Essay Contest Winner

Hickory Bluff Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Contest Winner

The Hickory Bluff Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) sponsors an annual American History Essay Contest for the students of the Charlotte County Public Schools in Port Charlotte and Englewood. Students in grades five through eight are encouraged to participate. The topic for the 2018 2019 DAR Essay Contest was 'The Women's Suffrage Campaign'.

Essays were judged for historical accuracy, adherence to topic, organization of materials, interest, originality, spelling, grammar punctuation, and neatness. This year, Luke Woithe, 8th grade student at L.A. Ainger Middle School, won 1st place in the essay contest. The DAR recognized Luke at an awards presentation on January 31, 2019, at L.A. Ainger Middle School, where he received a certificate, medal and a check from the Hickory Bluff Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.



Pictured from left to right: Mr. Jeff Harvey, Principal, Mrs. Sue Smith, DAR, Mrs. Rene Bishop, DAR, Luke Woithe, Winner of the DAR Essay Contest, Mrs. Sharon Goding, DAR, Mrs. Cindy Galeone, U.S. History Teacher, and Mrs. Woithe.

G1 Crew

Students completed a three-week unit on horticulture classifying growing zones and hardiness variables. Students worked in groups and created the zones they were studying with clay and items from the environment. Students identified careers in horticulture and the requirements for particular jobs. Our affiliation with University of Florida is enhancing our knowledge of perennial planting, and how to handle common garden pests in an organic manner.

The Moose Lodge of Englewood gave our garden grant funds, to keep planting and learning maximized. Our classroom garden is flourishing with vegetables, broccoli, cauliflower, several types of tomatoes, carrots, string beans, lavender, blackberries, and a variety of herbs.



Kathy Damewood, P.A., Broker Associate

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Ainger Assessment Calendar

Tuesday, April 2	Wednesday, May 1	Thursday, May 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th Grade Writing • 7th Grade Writing • 8th Grade Writing • Make-ups until April 12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th Grade ELA Session 1 • 7th Grade Math Session 1 • 8th Grade Math Session 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th Grade ELA Session 2 • 7th Grade Math Session 2 • 8th Grade Math Session 2
Tuesday, May 7	Wednesday, May 8	Thursday, May 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th Grade Math Session 1 • 7th Grade ELA Session 1 • 8th Grade ELA Session 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th Grade Math Session 2 • 7th Grade ELA Session 2 • 8th Grade ELA Session 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th Grade Science • 7th Grade Civics Review • 6th Grade Make-ups 5/9-5/14
Tuesday, May 14	Wednesday, May 15	Thursday, May 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th Grade Make-ups Due • 7th Grade Civics (some 8th Graders) • 8th Grade Algebra and Geometry Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7th/8th Grade Algebra Session 1 • 8th Grade Geometry Session 1 • 7th and 8th Grade Make-ups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7th/8th Grade Algebra Session 2 • 8th Grade Geometry Session 2 • 7th/8th Grade Make-ups
L.A. Ainger Tentative Testing Schedule Spring 2019		

Intramurals

Softball, Cross Country, & Basketball

Free afterschool program offered to all L. A. Ainger students. Students are expected to report to the outside bleachers at 4:10 to sign in and start participating for softball and cross country/track. Please pick students up at 5:30 on the track. Basketball will meet in the gymnasium at 8 am on Friday's only. Please obtain a permission slip from the front office or from Coach Lanham. It must be on file before participating in any of the activities.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3/11 Run Club	3/12 Softball	3/13 Run Club	3/14 Softball	No School
3/25 Run Club	3/26 Softball	3/27 Run Club	3/28 Softball	3/29 Basketball 8 Am
4/1 Run Club	4/2 Softball	4/3 Run Club	4/4 Run Club	4/5 Basketball 8 Am
				4/12 Basketball 8 Am

Sports

Wrestling

Wrestling starts soon! If interested, contact Mike Schyck at LBHS and be sure to have a physical on file at L.A. Ainger to compete.

Track and Field

Calling all runners: yes, 6th graders can compete too! Track season is quickly approaching; get prepared by having a completed physical form in the front office. Forms can be found online on the county website or in the front office. Our first Ainger practice will be Monday, May 6th from 4-5:30. Practices will continue throughout the two week season. The track meet is at Charlotte High School, Saturday, May 18th at 9am.

LAAMS PTO News!

A special "Thank You" to all our donators, volunteers and participants for the Annual Golf Tournament. It was a huge success. We have had an incredible year. Our total fundraising to-date has brought in over \$20,000 for the students of LA Ainger this year. These funds have supported enrichment programs, scientific calculators in the classroom, field trips, class sets of novels, guest speakers, and new recycled plastic picnic tables for the new covered picnic area. The students and teachers have been most appreciative of our efforts!

Upcoming PTO Sponsored Events

- Meetings 3/25 & 4/29 (Elections)
 - Socials* 3/13 & 4/17
 - Spring Dance* 5/3
 - Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week* 5/6
 - End of Year Field Trips* TBA
- *Indicates Volunteers are needed.

Stay Informed

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/LAAPTO
 REMIND APP/TEXTS : Text TO: 81010
 Message: @aingerp
 E-Mail: AingerPTO@gmail.com
 School Website: [edline.net/pages/L_A_Ainger Middle School](http://edline.net/pages/L_A_Ainger_Middle_School) > Parents > PTO

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Charlotte County Fair Exhibit Winners

Congratulations to the following students for their winning entries at the Charlotte County Fair Exhibit:



1st Place: Chloe Olio, Grade 8
Old Woman (colored pencils)



1st Place: Wyatt Bush, Grade 6
Bon Appetite (junk art)



1st Place: Hannah Funke, Grade 7
Dog (Pencil)



2nd Place: Julia Lehman, Grade 8



2nd Place: Maya Lassiter, Grade 6



2nd Place: Cole Effenbein, Grade 6



3rd Place: Helena Mroz, Grade 8



3rd Place: Linda Shermer, Grade 8



3rd Place: Dalton Davenport, Grade 6

Englewood Art Center Youth Showcase

L.A. Ainger Middle School Participants

Max Ackerman, Grade 8 - *Chinese Fishing Boat*
 Brynn Atherholt, Grade 8 - *Woodpecker*
 Sara Bauer, Grade 8 - *Butterfinger Dog, Alaska*
 Wyatt Bush, Grade 6 - *Bon Appetit*
 Grace Callahan, Grade 6 - *4 Seasons Snow Globe*
 Yaniel Cruz, Grade 8 - *Flip Flop*
 Dalton Davenport, Grade 6 - *Abstract Bas-relief*
 Morgan Dukes, Grade 8 - *Dog*
 Cole Elfenbein, Grade 6 - *Scubadiver*
 Ella Extejt, Grade 8 - *Green Goddess*
 Mexi Font, Grade 6 - *Turtle Beach*
 Hannah Funke, Grade 7 - *What a Beauty*
 Valerie Hac, Grade 6 - *Hamster Eating*
 Madison Hanson, Grade 8 - *Pinball Machine, Rainbow Bee*

Maya Harris, Grade 6 - *Giant Egg and chick*
 Reilly Huber, Grade 8 - *Time Flies, Golden Ratio, Upsurge*
 Alyssa Jongsma, Grade 8 - *Northern Lights*
 Alyssa Jongsma, Grade 8 - *Paper Sculpture*
 Alyssa Jongsma, Grade 8 - *Aboriginal Bottle Project*
 Joseph Lamberto, Grade 8 - *Zentangle*
 Julia Lehman, Grade 8 - *If We Grow, We Grow Together*
 Julia Lehman, Grade 8 - *Eye*
 Roberto Leo, Grade 6 - *Elephant with Sunglasses*
 Zack Lose - *A Spring in My Step*
 Makayla Love, Grade 8 - *Fall Tree*
 Drew McAskill, Grade 6 - *Frog*
 Kaili Merced, Grade 6 - *Bejeweled Ladybug*
 Zoey Mills, Grade 8 - *Abstract Self Portrait*

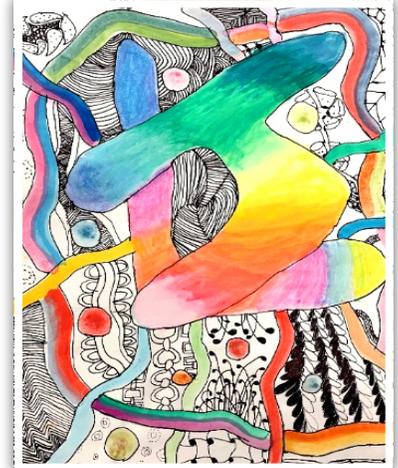
Helena Mroz, Grade 8 - *Masks We Wear*
 Ben Nicol, Grade 7 - *Fezz-Bot*
 Chloe Olio, Grade 8 - *Just Breathe, Old Woman, Old Man*
 Megan Perin, Grade 6 - *Giraffe*
 Anjanise Scholtz, Grade 6 - *Abstract Bas-relief*
 Jane Scott, Grade 6 - *Cityscape*
 Kevin Sherer, Grade 6 - *Dinosaur*
 Linda Shermer, Grade 8 - *Families*
 Paige Tooker, Grade 8 - *Special Delivery, Paper Sculpture, Broken Alarm Clock*
 Iris Tufano, Grade 8 - *Cityscape*
 Ayva Ward, Grade 8 - *Underground Dwelling*
 Marina Welch, Grade 6 - *Still Life*
 Chaylen Zalopany, Grade 6 - *Pinball Machine*



Chloe Olio



Paige Tooker



Joseph Lamberto



Student Council 2019

Student council has had another successful February 2019! They put on another amazing social where students played games, sports, had food and ice cream, and even painted rocks & created valentines' cards for their friends. We are having another social on April 17th, and our end of school dance Friday, May 3rd. Tickets are \$8.00 and will be sold in the cafeteria Monday through Thursday, April 29th-May 2nd. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$10.00. It has been an exceptional year and many students have shocked us with their leadership abilities.

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A few spots are left!



We need you!

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- Monday through Friday from 8:45am-9:15am in B5
- Monday: 8:00-8:30 in J5; 4:00-4:30pm in D9
- Tuesday: 8:00-8:30 in J5; 4:00-4:30pm in D10
- Thursday: 4:00-4:30 in D10

Mrs. Morella's 7th Grade Parent Night

There is a 7th grade parent night for math twice a month from 5:00-5:45pm in room B5 with Mrs. Morella. If attending, please park in the bus loop parking lot and enter through the side gates. The dates are:

- April 2nd and 16th
- May 5th

Math Counts Competition with Mrs. Costello

L.A. Ainger took 17 students to the annual regional Math Counts Competition in Fort Myers on February 9th. Students took individual tests, a four person team test and then a head to head oral speed competition. Our student team ranked 11th out of 20 teams and performed well individually. Mostly, our team was incredibly impressed with the abilities of some of the middle schoolers in the region. The Engineering Society sponsors this program nationwide and helps students excel at math, but mostly it helps them love seeing the connections that mathematics makes evident.

Algebra 1 Bootcamp with Mrs. Kunder and Mrs. Costello

Our Algebra 1 students here at Ainger got to attend an optional boot camp session on Saturday, February 23rd. Students are gearing up to take their first end of course high school exam (as middle schoolers!) and ample study time is necessary for success. Students enjoyed breakfast courtesy of our student council and got to spend time studying for their exam.

Math News

Step up Day with Mrs. Abreu

Mrs. Abreu's class demonstrated wonderful Cougar TRACKS qualities while being host during step up day for current 5th graders. The 5th grade classes cycled through quickly, however the 6th graders were able to give them a brief sample of what is expected in math class. The students were greeted with a "Warm Up," where the 6th graders explained how to plot points on a coordinate plane. The 6th graders were able to model for the upcoming class where to find review materials in their notes and where information was located around the room, such as on the Word Wall. The students ended by taking one turn playing a review Coordinate Plane game. Many 5th graders were familiar with the Coordinate Plane. One student told us, "I've only used positive x coordinates, and positive y coordinates." A 6th grader proudly responded with, "Those are coordinates that fall only within quadrant I, but in 6th grade math you will learn all 4 quadrants." This was a fantastic opportunity for 6th grade students to show off their leadership skills to prospect students.

