



# PROTSMAN OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

PROTSMAN PUBLIC RELATIONS

LC<sup>HS</sup> Public Relations Interns contributed to this newsletter. Send any ideas or questions to Sarah Verpooten at [SVerpoot@lcschools.com](mailto:SVerpoot@lcschools.com)



Ms. Kathy Sapyta  
Principal

Dear Protsman Families,

October is a very busy time at Protsman Elementary. During the month of October we will be celebrating One District/One Book! This is such a wonderful event both at school and at home. It truly gives families an opportunity to carve out some family time while reading a great book.

Our Title I Parent Night will be Thursday, October 11, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in our LGI room. Our Protsman reading specialists will be giving tips and strategies to assist in helping your children at home. Mrs. Vossos and Mrs. DeVries will also be here that evening to speak with parents and give tips and strategies for our students participating in our English Language Learners program. Watch for a note to come home with details.

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## Story time with Ms. Sapyta

by: Ms. Kathy Sapyta, Principal

It is extremely important that we relay the message of kindness to our students both at school and at home. I have been busy going into all the kindergarten and first grade classrooms reading one of my favorite books, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* by Carol McCloud.

The story teaches children the importance of loving and caring for others, and that when you do show these traits you are filling someone else's bucket as well as your own.

I modeled some examples of what it means to be a bucket filler at school. The teachers are doing a wonderful job of extending these traits in their classrooms and throughout the building.

So, if your child comes home saying he/she filled a bucket today you know they are practicing the traits of kindness, love and caring for others.



## Celebrating with Chicka Chicka Boom Boom



"Chicka Chicka Boom Boom Day is a celebration we have after we go through the 26 letters in the alphabet.

From the beginning of the school year, every day we have studied a letter. Chicka Chicka Boom Boom Day is like our culmination day to celebrate the alphabet.

Today [everything they did] centered around the alphabet. We made a craft of the Chicka Chicka Boom Boom tree and they had their alphabet stickers with their name on the tree. They did some alphabet bingo and alphabet bowling. They used letter beads to make an alphabet bracelet. It is super hands on.

[The kids] get excited about alphabet games. They love all the activities really. They love that we make it a celebration. Right off the bat they are excited to be here, they love dressing up. They love [seeing] us dress up. They love that they have some parents helping some small group activities. They really love the whole day.

Kindergarten is fun and we try to keep the fun alive. Keep the fun in learning especially at this age. That is our goal and we try our best to try to make it happen," Ms. Kristen Talaber, Kindergarten, said.



## Welcome Back Ms. Dillard!



*Contd. from page one*

Our first grading period ends on Monday, October 15. Time is flying by!

Then on Tuesday, October 16, we will host the Math Night for Protsman, Peifer, and Homan Schools. The Math Night will be from 6:00pm-7:00pm. Students are welcome to attend along with their parents. We will have math activities for the students and information for parents. Watch for a note to come home with details.

On Wednesday, October 17, we will have our HSA meeting at 3:00 in our school library. Dr. L. Veracco, Superintendent will be our guest speaker for the meeting. We hope everyone is able to join us for the meeting.

Just a reminder that our Fall Break is on Thursday, October 25 and Friday, October 26. It will be a time when everyone can take some time to spend with family

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*by: Danica Mileusnic, Senior at LCHS*

Ms. Melissa Dillard, first grade, returns to Protsman after a six week break post renal cell carcinoma surgery. Ms. MaryProwse, a veteran teacher from Merrillville School Corporation, stood in for Dillard during this period of time.

"I had to have several scans to make sure that it was the only place the cancer was located. It was a blessing that it was even found because I had no symptoms except for being lethargic which is normal when you're a teacher," Dillard said.

Dillard opted to have a partial robotic nephrectomy, a robotic kidney surgery, instead of removing her entire kidney. Her cancer was contained, but the doctors are still monitoring a few close spots.

"I will have to have scans every 3 months and then every 6 months and then once a year. If I go 5 years without anything coming back that would be the best news in the world," Dillard said.

Dillard returned for her 14th year teaching working a half week before fully transitioning back into teaching.

"I'm excited to be back with my amazing and supportive co-workers but I am most excited to be back in my classroom with my first graders," Dillard said.

Outside of school, Dillard enjoys spending time with her husband, dogs and large extended family. She also enjoys creating and implementing a curriculum for Teachers pay Teachers.

"I just incorporated STEM into my classroom this year and am loving it. I have to change things up for the kids and myself to keep them fully engaged. My students have adapted well this week and I'm super happy [that] they are excited to have me," Dillard said.

## A circuit of circling energy

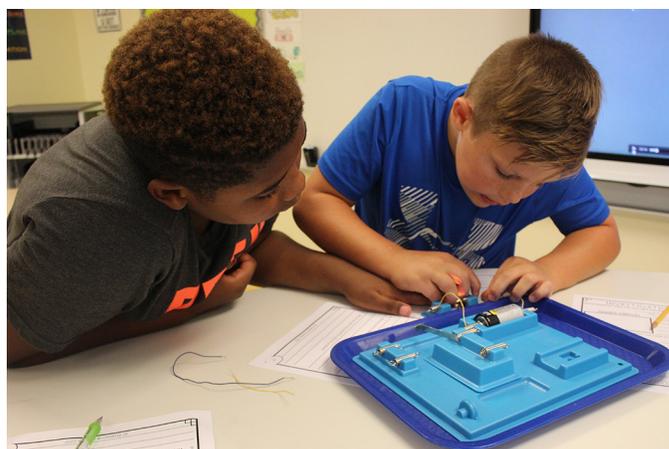
*by: Danica Mileusnic, Senior at LCHS*

On Friday, September 13, students in Mr. Cole Devries fourth grade class participated in a lab involving D-Cell batteries and wires.

"Today we used one D-Cell battery to get two small light bulbs to light up. We got the two light bulbs to light up at a medium, not high, or dim, Austin Moore (4) said.

The students connected a series of wires together to create a loop to connect the electricity together to light up the light bulbs.

"[My favorite part] was putting up the D-Cell battery and putting the wires in. One of the wires [when] I was holding the metal got hot and it almost burned me a little so it was kind of fun," Moore said.





## Walk-a-thon



*Contd. from page two*

and friends and reenergize heading into November.

With Protsman Pride, Mrs. Sapyta

### Now Hiring Substitutes

Effective as of mid-September LCSC is now hiring substitute teachers for all schools in the district. If you have a substitute license, the pay wage is \$75/day, an increase of \$5/day from last year's pay. If you are a licensed teacher the pay wage is \$83/day, an increase of \$7/day from last year's pay. If you are a retired Lake Central employee, the pay wage is \$86/day, an increase of \$10/day from last year's pay. If you have any questions, call the Lake Central School Corporation's office at (219) 865-8507 or refer to [lcsc.us](http://lcsc.us) for the official application.



On Friday, Sept. 28, Protsman hosted their Walk-a-thon event. There were two events held, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.



## One District One Book

*By: Gabriella Shumylo, Senior at LCHS*

This school year, students from every elementary school will be reading "Charlotte's Web." After finishing the book, students have the chance to go to the high school to see the performance of "Charlotte's Web," which is being put on by Lake Central Theater Company.

One Book, One District unites every elementary school, by having them all read the same book and see the same play.



## Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Out

*By: Gabriella Shumylo, Senior at LCHS*

On Friday, Oct. 12, students, staff and other community members are able to show their support for those community members who have fought their battle with cancer by wearing the breast cancer awareness shirt.

If you are interested in purchasing a Lake Central breast cancer shirt, be sure to place your order online by Oct. 5. If you buy a shirt, be sure to wear it on Friday, Oct. 12 to show your support for the Lake Central community and its fight to battle breast cancer.