

## LAMPLIGHTER TERMS

### **6 Day Rotation/Color Day**

Classroom schedules are based on numbers one to six instead of Monday through Friday. Each day of the six-day rotation has a color designation, which is easier for Pre-K students to remember.

### **All School Program**

In December before winter break, all Lamplighter students participate in the All School Program. The program is a culmination of learning activities demonstrated in an imaginative performance. Everyone participates by singing new songs created around the central theme. Participants are divided into one of three performance groups and parents will be informed which performance their child(ren) will be in before the event. Teachers will also communicate about costume requirements, but it will be something parents either have at home or is very simple to find. Parents are encouraged to bring video cameras; flash photography is not permitted.

### **Annual Fund**

The Annual Fund is the school's top fundraising priority. It provides the financial resources for teachers to create meaningful learning experiences for our children in a quality environment. Every dollar of this essential fund directly supports the dreams first outlined by Lamplighter founders Natalie Murray and Sandy Swain 61 years ago: To light the lamp of a child's imagination...Lamplighter's commitment to that dream formed the mission that serves our children today. Annual Fund dollars raised during the school year cover the gap between tuition and the actual cost of educating a Lamplighter student. Unlike tuition, contributions to the Annual Fund are fully tax deductible.

### **Auction**

The Auction is hosted by the Lamplighter Parents Association (LPA) as the association's primary fundraising effort benefiting the school. The event is held in February.

## **Austin Trip**

Lamplighter fourth grade seniors participate in an annual two-day trip to Austin, Texas. This trip is an opportunity for fourth graders to see and explore some of the most historically significant sites in Texas.

## **Before School Extended Day**

The Before School Extended Day program is open to all students, except Pre-K PM, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:55 a.m. each school day.

## **Camp Lamplighter**

Lamplighter's Lower School summer program, Camp Lamplighter, offers week-long sessions during the month of June. It is an exciting opportunity for social, physical, and academic growth. It's also a time to see old friends and make new ones.

## **Carnival**

Since 1969, Lamplighter's Carnival has been a fun-filled event for current families, grandparents, and alumni. The afternoon will be filled with games, attractions, food, dancing, and a bake sale. The event, held each Fall, is organized by the LPA and staffed by parent volunteers.

## **Conferences**

Conferences provide a meaningful one-on-one opportunity for parents and teachers to review a student's progress through Developmental Records - a detailed account of a student's academic and social expectations for each grade level. There are four scheduled conferences in a school year. The first occurs before school starts and is called "Intake Conference." Parents will schedule all conferences via an online system for conferences called PTC Wizard. Access PTC Wizard at <http://lamplighter.ptcwizard.com>. Childcare arrangements should be made for students and siblings. (A parent recommendation: Adventure Kids Playcare at 5915 Forest Ln., # 330 Dallas, TX 75230. "Lots of classmates play here during conferences.")

### **Dolores Evans Speaker Series**

Twice each year, the Dolores Evans Speaker Series brings nationally renowned speakers to The Lamplighter School for the benefit of area parents and educators.

### **Donuts with Dad, Popsicles with Pop, and Muffins with Mom**

These events give dads, moms, or family friends a dedicated time to visit campus and have fun with their students. They are held on the playground before school starts (7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.) for full day programs or before school ends (2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.) for the Pre-K-K PM program.

### **eNews and eReminders**

eNews is the electronic newsletter from the school and is sent by email to the Lamplighter community. It contains information regarding current events and activities along with letters from the Head of School, the Assistant Head for Academics, and the Director of Early Childhood. eNews newsletters are sent from the school's Communication Office twice a month. eReminders are short communications from the school reminding the community about events for the current week or upcoming week and are sent out the opposite weeks of the eNews.

### **Fourth Grade Luncheon**

An annual gathering of fourth grade students, their parents and their teachers, the Fourth Grade Luncheon is an opportunity for attendees to reminisce and is also the school's way of celebrating the students' achievements.

### **Friday Lunch and Wholesome Foods**

Friday Lunch is an LPA fundraiser for the school. It is a treat for students and their lunch packing parents. Meals are provided through local vendors with healthy options from which students may select. Most full day Lamplighter students participate in the Friday Lunch program. Parents can purchase a year's worth of Friday lunches via the online store at [www.shoplamplighter.com](http://www.shoplamplighter.com). Options are available for students with food allergies.

Wholesome Foods is a new program that will begin in the Fall of 2014. Lamplighter families can purchase lunch online for their children Monday through Thursday. This is not a fundraiser, but rather a service that families have requested and Lamplighter is now able to provide.

### **FunCamp**

FunCamp is Lamplighter's Early Childhood summer camp. There are two sessions offered, each for two weeks from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. during June. Each session consists of projects and activities related to a theme.

### **Game Visits**

Parents of Pre-K and Kindergarten students are invited to spend 30 minutes with their child in his or her classroom to play math and language arts games together. Parents should be prepared to sit in the Pre-K sized chairs and experience this fun one-on-one time in their child's classroom. As the classrooms tend to become very crowded, parents are discouraged from bringing younger siblings.

### **GAP**

GAP is the Grandparent Activity Program. Grandparents are invited to come and spend time with their grandchildren, reading in their classrooms, and volunteering at the Carnival. They can also volunteer in the Media Center or provide baked goods for the Carnival. If a grandparent is interested in volunteering at Lamplighter, they should contact Cindy Connolly, Parent Relations Coordinator at [cconnolly@thelamplighterschool.org](mailto:cconnolly@thelamplighterschool.org).

### **Grandest Friends' Day**

Held every Spring, Grandest Friends' Day is an opportunity for children to bring a grandparent or another family member or a special adult friend to Lamplighter to spend the day in his/her classroom. The day is spent enjoying fun activities together. Parents should check with the Advancement Office to ensure an invitation will be sent to their child's grandparent(s) or special guest.

## **Green Team**

Formed in 2008, the members of the Green Team consist of faculty representatives from each grade level, a Lamplighter Layers' officer, two parent volunteers, and staff representatives. The mission of the team is to raise awareness of our present consumption, educate our community about growing environmental challenges facing our Earth, and inspire all members to take action to reduce our collective individual carbon footprints. The school is committed to the 3 R's – reducing consumption, reusing what we can, and recycling as much as we can.

## **Halloween Parade and Picnic**

A colorful parade of Halloween characters is an eagerly anticipated event for Lamplighter students. Children wear or bring costumes to school and change into them shortly before the Halloween Hootenanny. After the Hootenanny, parents, siblings, and grandparents line the campus Ring Road to share and record the festive parade.

## **Hootenanny**

Hootenannies are one of Lamplighter's oldest traditions. Once a month, the entire school comes together in the Auditorium to sing favorite Lamplighter songs.

- Parents of children in each grade level are invited to attend one assigned Hootenanny per child (see school calendar for dates).
- Hootenannies start on time and last 20 minutes.
- Doors open 15 minutes before every Hootenanny begins. There is space for every parent to see, hear, and photograph their favorite Hootenanny singer.

## **Intake Conferences**

Intake Conferences occur in August before the school year begins. It is a scheduled time to meet specific teachers and ask questions or share concerns.

## **International Night**

International Night is an LPA sponsored event held every Spring that allows families to "tour" the world, sample food, participate in craft projects, and enjoy live entertainment.

### **Lamplighter Layers**

Lamplighter Layers is a chicken-raising and egg-selling corporation operated by fourth grade students. As part of the entrepreneurial program, students elect officers and serve each week as crew members responsible for the care of the chickens and the selling of eggs at carpool.

### **The Lamplighter Singers**

Lamplighter's music teacher leads a group of third and fourth graders who wish to sing songs after school one afternoon each week for a few months during the school year. The Lamplighter Singers perform for Hootenannies and special events.

### **Lamplighter Parents' Association (LPA)**

The LPA plans, executes, and funds numerous activities and services throughout the year that benefit the Lamplighter students and community.

### **LampPost**

The LampPost is a magazine that highlights activities and events in the classroom and around campus for trustees, parents, grandparents, and alumni. The LampPost is mailed twice a year.

### **Last "Hug 'Em In"**

During carpool, the day after graduating, parents drop off fourth graders on their final day of school. Students enter the building through a line of faculty and staff members who hug them in one last time.

### **Media Center Open House**

The Media Center Open House is a school fundraiser that specifically supports the Media Center. The event occurs in late Fall and the Lamplighter community is invited to come and purchase selected books for the Media Center in honor of their child's teacher or Lamplighter staff member. Children have the opportunity to handwrite book plates to be placed on the inside cover of the donated book. The books are presented to the honorees before being placed on the Media Center bookshelves.

## **New Families**

Anyone with a child beginning their first year at Lamplighter is considered a new family. If a child is starting his or her first year and has older siblings at the school, they are still considered a new family. The New Family events are a great time for the children and parents to meet their new friends.

## **Night Light**

Night Light is the Lamplighter sponsored after-school program which is offered during the Fall and Spring, Monday through Thursday, from 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Parents may register their children for classes in drama, dance, world languages, arts, literary magazine, STEM, robotics, Legos, story times, and games.

## **Opera**

The Senior Opera is one of the highlights of the last month of school. Since 1991, the Lamplighter seniors have written and performed original operas.

## **Observations**

Observations provide a unique opportunity for parents to see, hear, and understand their child's day at Lamplighter. The design of the facility permits groups of parents to observe students from the second level of the building without interrupting the classroom. Faculty members are also present in the observation area to guide you through the lesson being taught and can answer any general questions. Parents will be notified by mail as to when their child's observation will be held. Depending on the grade level, parents may have more than one opportunity to observe their child at school. Observations typically occur before conferences, therefore any questions or concerns parents might have after observing their child can be discussed at the conference. Parents are required to make childcare arrangements for younger siblings. See conferences.

## **PALS (Parents At Lamplighter School) Volunteers**

PALS are parents who volunteer to host and assist with PALS tours of the school for prospective Lamplighter Parents.

### **Pansy Planting**

Parents of Pre-K students are invited to spend a morning in the Pre-K garden with their student for annual pansy planting. No gardening tools or experience is necessary and the plants are provided by Lamplighter. After planting, parents are allowed time on the playground with their children.

### **Parent Lunches**

Kindergarten through fourth grade parents are invited to sign up once a semester to have lunch with their child in the classroom during teamtime.

### **Parent Perks**

A parent education series, Parent Perks, features educators, psychologists, and writers who speak to the Lamplighter community several times during the school year.

### **Playground Visits**

Every year parents are invited to join their Pre-K and Kindergarten student for recess on assigned days. Parents are encouraged to wear comfortable “play” clothes and shoes as children enjoy racing around the playground together. If parents are unable to attend, Lamplighter suggests they consider asking a family member or friend to come play with their child on their assigned day. Most children leave with their parents immediately following the visit.

### **School Pass**

School Pass is a software program that manages and automates dismissal of students. Carpool changes, absences, late arrivals, and early pick-ups are recorded online by parents. The login for School Pass can be found on the school’s website.

### **Senior Parade**

Fourth graders enjoy one last carpool the day after graduation. Parents decorate cars and parade around with the new graduates who are cheered on by current students, faculty, and staff lining the Ring Road.

### **Shop Lamplighter**

Shop Lamplighter is an online store with three departments. The Shop includes payment for LPA Dues, purchase of additional Family Directories, and Friday Lunch. It also contains the Spirit Store and Carnival Store. Visit [www.shoplamplighter.com](http://www.shoplamplighter.com).

### **Spirit Award Luncheon**

In 2003, The Lamplighter Spirit Award was established during the School's 50th anniversary to recognize individuals who embody the spirit of Lamplighter. The award is presented at a luncheon every Winter at the school.

### **Spirit Day**

Every Friday is Spirit Day. Lamplighter students, teachers, and staff wear Lamplighter shirts on Spirit Day and on field trips. Parents are encouraged to purchase at least one Lamplighter spirit shirt for their child.

### **Spirit Store**

The Spirit Store is the place to purchase Lamplighter spirit wear. Parents may place orders online at [www.shoplamplighter.com](http://www.shoplamplighter.com) beginning in August and orders will be ready for pick up at Intake Conferences. Parents can also order items online throughout the year or visit the Spirit Barn at Lamplighter events.

### **Sports Teams**

While Lamplighter does not organize or sponsor sports teams, parents can organize and coach teams. Interested parents should contact their Grade Level Coordinators or the Town North YMCA if they are looking to join a team.

### **Square Dancing**

Square dancing is Lamplighter's oldest and most favorite traditions! The Kindergarten students learn to swing their partners and square dance throughout the year. In the Spring, the cowboys and cowgirls perform their dances for parents and grandparents.

### **Teamtime**

Students enjoy a 30-minute lunch and a 30-minute recess in the middle of the day, referred to as teamtime.

### **Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day at Lamplighter is an inclusive celebration. Parents should send enough Valentine cards or treats for their child's entire class or grade. Parents are encouraged to include their child's name on Valentines, but should not include a recipient's name. This way, students will be able to easily place one in each child's Valentine bag.

### **YMCA After-School Program**

The YMCA After-School Program is open to Pre-K PM children and students in All Day Pre-K 4 through fourth grade. Provided by the YMCA, this program runs from 3:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each school day on Lamplighter's campus.



## Lamplighter Spirit

Lamplighter Spirit, glows with love and light,  
Burning forever in children's faces bright.  
Learning and growing, hearts aflame with joy,  
Lamplighter Spirit in every girl and boy.