

02.25.18

Hello Parents and Guardians of Herndon Magnet School Students, this is Tom Thomas, Principal of Herndon Magnet School, with Herndon Highlights for the week of February 26th.

The middle school girls and boys basketball teams will play at home on Monday, February 26th against North Caddo Middle School. The girls play at 5:00 PM and the boys play immediately following the girls' game. The 5th grade boys' team will play at PCA on Thursday, March 1st at 5:00 PM.

The Tooth Fairy will visit grades K-2 Tuesday, February 27th at 9:25 AM.

The PTSA Spring Fundraiser ends Friday, March 2nd. Please return envelopes and money to your child's homeroom teacher.

The 4th grade will travel to Medieval Times on Thursday, March 1st.

On Thursday, March 1st at 8:30 AM, 8th graders will have the opportunity to visit with 8 to 9 different high schools from Caddo Parish to see what makes each unique and to receive advice on how to transition from middle school to high school successfully.

The PTSA will be hosting Pizza by the Slice on Friday, March 2nd.

You may purchase a yearbook at school or online at Jostens.com for \$55.00. The last day to purchase a yearbook is Wednesday, February 28th. There may or may not be additional copies this year to purchase in May.

Middle school students need to return their clean PE uniforms tomorrow, February 26th. They may put them in their gym lockers before school.

On Thursday, February 22nd, a letter was sent home with all 3rd through 8th grade students. This letter explained how parents can help their students practice and prepare for LEAP 2025 tests at home. You will find portions of the letter at the bottom of the transcript of this call. Thanks for your help and support at home.

A transcript of this call can be found at www.herndonmagnetschool.com. Thank you and have a wonderful evening! ID #: 208834

Our teachers and students have not only been working diligently to master the LSS, but also to prepare to take their tests. The tests are very different from the CAT or GEE that you may remember taking. Not only are the tests computer based for students in grades 5 – 8, but even the paper-based tests for students in grades 3 and 4 require much more than bubbling in an answer. One way that you can help us help your child is to practice the "Online Training Tools" with them at home.

Students need practice using the technology and knowing the layout of the test on the computer. Technology enhanced items include drag and drop, hot spots, and matching interaction. The math tests include typing in the equation editor. All of the tests require typing of short answers, paragraphs, and essays. Additionally, students need practice enlarging pictures, maps, and graphs, ensuring they scroll down to see the entire document, moving between questions, using the review screen at the end of the test to ensure all questions have been answered, and knowing how to use all available tools as needed/required.

Parents can greatly improve their child's knowledge of and usage of these items by having them practice and show you how it works at home. Over the next couple of weeks, please take some time on several different occasions to go to <https://wbte.drcedirect.com/LA/portals/la> with your child. Click on "Online Tools Training" under the LEAP 2025 Grades 3 – 8 blue button. You will then get a menu of items for ELA, math, science, and social studies. Each test has several practice questions and items for your child to practice. Students have been exposed to these in their classrooms, but being very familiar with the testing platform will help put students at ease when testing rolls around. Ask them to show you how to use the different tools; look around and click on every available item so that you can see for yourself what the LEAP 2025 will be like for your child.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the test coordinator via email at jdepriest@caddoschools.org or by calling (318) 221-7676. Thank you for your continued support of your child's education and Herndon Magnet School.