

# Lutie Lewis Coates Elementary School



## Parent Newsletter

February 7, 2019

### Principal's Message

Families,

February is here and with it comes the start of the third quarter of school! We're looking forward to an amazing second half of the year. Please take note of the following:

**Progress Reports** ("report cards") will come home in Thursday Folders on Feb. 7. Please look for them. Parents should sign and return the envelope that comes with progress reports. Please contact your teacher if you have any questions.

The principals have been working with teachers to hold short **assemblies** for all grade levels to revisit school rules, promote great character, and ensure that we continue to have a great year. These quarterly assemblies are a normal part of the Coates experience, and they help the whole school stay focused on doing the right thing. Expect your child to talk about their assemblies in the coming weeks.

I also hope that your child will be talking about their **teacher-student conferences**. We began this week, and we're inspired by how great Coates kids are at self-reflection (giving honest appraisals of what they need to work on). These annual conferences were intended to help students earn success in school, but we hope that they promote life skills like goal-setting as well. Our teachers also want to send a message that each child is important, and I think our kids see that!

Mark your calendars for Friday, **February 15**. PTA is hosting family night out event at our local Chuck E. Cheese. A percentage of the money made that night will come back to our school. Please come by!

A huge congratulations to our crossing guard, Mr. Joe McDonald. He has been named the **2018 Virginia Most Outstanding Crossing Guard** by the VA Dept. of Transportation. Check out his story at <https://www.fcps.edu/news/coates-elementary-school-crossing-guard-named-2018-virginia-most-outstanding-crossing-guard>. Next week is Crossing Guard Appreciation Week, so be sure to congratulate and thank Mr. McDonald as you walk or drive by him.

Finally, I'd like to give a personal thanks to you for your kind words and support of me as a nominee for FCPS's Outstanding Principal Award. Last week, Region 5 Assistant Superintendent Becky Baenig made a surprise visit to Coates to announce that I had won the award for region 5 (FCPS, a large school system, is broken into five regions). I'm humbled by this honor. As I have said to our staff members before, I'm just lucky to be the leader of Coates. All of the caring and skilled work of our staff, parents and students gets reflected back on me. So...I'm the beneficiary of everyone else's accomplishments. In other words, this recognition for me is really about you. Thanks for making me look good!

As always, thanks for all you do for your kids and for working so positively with our teachers!

Jesse Kraft, Proud Principal



### Contact Coates:

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**Girls on the Run** is coming back to Coates Elementary! GOTR is a physical activity based positive youth development program for girls in grades 3 to 5. The program teaches life skills through dynamic interactive lessons and running

games. The goal of the program is to unleash confidence through accomplishment, while establishing a lifetime appreciation of health and fitness.

Starting the week of March 4th, the team will meet every Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:45 to 8:50 AM. The program culminates in a celebratory 5k at the end of the season on the weekend of May 18th and 19th! The standard program fee is \$175 and includes 20 lessons/practices, a t-shirt, water bottle, entry into the 5k, a 5k medal, and more. Financial assistance is available for anyone who needs it. The fee for students who receive reduced lunch is \$75 and the fee for students who receive free lunch is \$22 for the season. Registration is now open [www.gotrnova.org](http://www.gotrnova.org). Students who need assistance with registration or who have any question should contact Mrs. Herring, sixth grade teacher. The last day to register is February 25th"

SPANISH TRANSLATION: ¡"Girls on the Run viene a Coates Elementary! GOTR es un programa de desarrollo juvenil positivo basado en actividades físicas para chicas en grados 3rd-5th. El programa enseña habilidades de vida a través de lecciones interactivas dinámicas y juegos de correr. El objetivo del programa es soltar confianza a través de logro, mientras se establece una vida agradecimiento de salud y aptitud. Comienzo la semana de 4 de marzo, el equipo encontrará cada martes e jueves de 7:45 a 8:50 AM. ¡El programa culmina en una 5K de celebración al fin de la temporada en el fin de semana del 18 y 19 de mayo! La tarifa estándar del programa es \$175 y incluye 20 lecciones/prácticas, una camiseta, una botella de agua, entrada en la 5K, una medalla de 5K, y más. Asistencia financiera es disponible para personas que lo necesitan, con el menor costo de registro del programa de \$22 para la temporada (estudiantes con almuerzo gratis) e \$75 (estudiantes con almuerzo reducido). La inscripción ya está abierta a [www.gotrnova.org](http://www.gotrnova.org). Los estudiantes que necesitan asistencia con la inscripción o que tengan alguna pregunta deben comunicarse con la Sra. Herring, maestra de sexto grado. El último día para inscribirse es el 25 de febrero.

## Mark Your Calendar

**Feb.15—Spirit Night Chuck E Cheese 3-9pm**

**Feb.18—President's Day (No School)**

**March 11– 3 hour early dismissal (1pm)**

**March 22– PTA Movie Night 6:30**

**April 5– Student Holiday / Kindergarten Orientation**

**April 6—Coates 10th Anniversary Celebration**

**April 15-19 -Spring Break**

## PTA News

Coates Family,

**Chuck E. Cheese Night** - Mark your calendars for next Friday, February 15th for our next spirit night at Chuck E. Cheese! Our event will run from 3PM to 9PM. Please remember to tell them you are from Coates whenever you purchase food, merchandise or game cards. See you there!

**Spread Love...Not Germs** - Our teachers love sweet treats, but they'll be just as excited if you send them a can of Lysol, hand sanitizer, tissues or cleaning wipes. Please join our PTA as we help spread love and not our germs! Anything will be appreciated as we help them restock supplies for the remainder of our school year.

**Box Tops** - Please remember to save your Box Tops! Our last chance for earnings will be at the end of March. A prize will be awarded to the top class in each grade!



Thanks for your support!

**Ms. Tisha Bowman**

**Coates PTA President 2018-2019**

Coates Elementary School

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## Character at Coates

Let's celebrate **KINDNESS**! Please support our promotion of kindness week by dressing students according to the schedule:

Tues., 2/19—pajamas (don't rest until we've done our best)

Wed, 2/20—super hero clothing or colors (kindness is a super power)

Thurs., 2/21—specific colors (brighten someone's day! See flyer for your grade level's colors)

Fri., 2/22—pink out!

**In related news, here's the character strengths we're studying this month through our Positivity Project:**

Social Intelligence, Love & Enthusiasm

Watch Coates Facebook for continued promotion of great character strengths!