

# El Nido del Águila

"THE EAGLE'S NEST" | THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF PITTSBURGH LIBERTY K-5

November 2020

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## LEAF CALENDAR

Wed. Nov. 18th, 6pm-7:30pm, PTO/PSCC Meeting: Join us online at <https://tinyurl.com/LibertyPSCC>. (For more info: [president@pghleaf.org](mailto:president@pghleaf.org).)


Tues., Nov. 17th from 11a-8p Choolaah fundraiser: Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support our kids. Come in to the 6114 Centre Avenue Pittsburgh location. For supporters ordering in-store, tell them you're with Liberty at checkout. OR you can order online at [choolaah.com](http://choolaah.com) and use the promo code LIBERTY at checkout. (Catering orders and orders through 3rd party delivery partners like UberEats will NOT be counted towards the fundraiser.)

Dec. 15th, 4-8PM, Chipotle Fundraiser (4800 Baum Blvd location): Tell the cashier you're supporting LEAF/Pittsburgh Liberty K-5 to make sure the 33% of the proceeds will go to our cause. OR you can order online for pickup! Use code ANCADNH before checkout in the "promo" field. Orders placed on [Chipotle.com](http://Chipotle.com) or through the Chipotle app for pickup using this unique code will be counted towards the fundraiser.

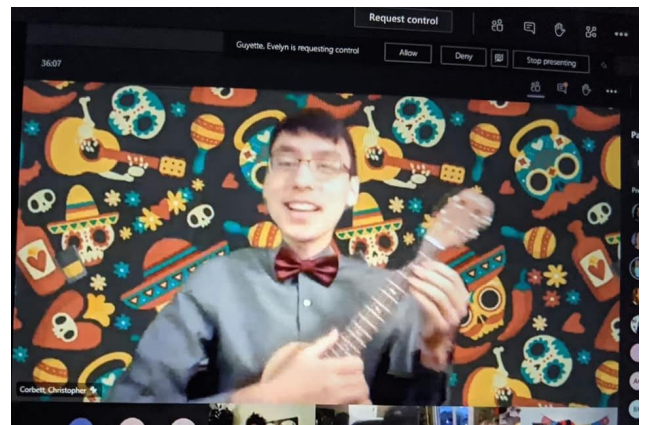
## 👁️ ¡VIVA LA TRADICIÓN!

¡Feliz Día de los Muertos! Many thanks to all who joined us for our virtual celebration on Friday. It was an evening of music, dancing, games, and family fun! Muchas gracias to our mighty Muertos party planning committee.



Since this year we could not do our annual Liberty tradition--a potluck supper, auction, and giant school-wide ofrenda--instead we met online for games, prizes, and a video slideshow of our students' creations. You can view the video here: 

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1824566557693593>



And more fun screenshots from the party here: 

<https://www.facebook.com/LibertyPPS/posts/1208682936167573>


About 10 teachers and 40 families logged on for the event. We started with an overview of the Día de los Muertos, courtesy Ms. Kistler and Ms. Pinizzotto. We then had a musical performance by Mr. Corbett and a freeze dance party with Ms. Fuerst. We then played a couple rounds of Muertos-themed BINGO, followed by a trivia game led by Ms. Pinizzotto.

Congratulations to our winners! Prizes for the event will be distributed in a few weeks. Stay tuned!

 BINGO GAME #1 WINNERS

Brennan Frazier  
Alana/Carla Fernandez-Reynolds  
Alayna Brock  
Zya Pittman

 BINGO GAME #2 WINNERS

We had a little malfunction , so it was essentially a draw! Thus every child who attended the event will get a prize.

 TRIVIA GAME WINNERS:

Q1: Eve Guyette  
Q2: Cameron Edwards  
Q3: Lexie Shaffer  
Q4: Willa Hensley  
Q5: Zya Pittman  
Q6: Amari Ruffus  
Q7: Alayna Brock  
Q8: Brooklyn Potter  
Q9: Darrah Seidel  
Q10: Marlowe Starr  
Q11: Kennedi Harrison  
Q12: Sebastian Mihalko-Barnes  
Q13: Lena Vitone  
Q14: Justus Pollard  
Q15: Aliana Mason  
Q16: Kaitlyn Pago  
Q17: Monae McIntosh

## **HIGH-FLYING ARTISTS**

In September, Pittsburgh International Airport (aka PIT) launched its first-ever call for original art from local children and youth ages 6-18.

Liberty's own Nathaniel W. and London W. were named the winners for their age groups! Congratulations, Nate and London!

Students were asked to submit original artwork in response of the theme "Nobody Owns the Sky," the title of a children's book about Bessie Coleman, who became the first African-American licensed aviator in 1921.

The submissions were judged by members of the Art in the Airport Advisory Committee and staff at Pittsburgh International Airport. The winning artworks are now displayed throughout the airport and on its website, [FlyPittsburgh.com](http://FlyPittsburgh.com) and the students will go through a virtual "masterclass" with Pittsburgh artist Cheryl Capezzuti.

## **CLASSROOM ROUNDUP**

Here's a sampling of what students in some of our classes are focusing on now:

### SPANISH WITH MS. KISTLER

Liberty students learn Spanish from K to 5. Mrs. Kistler is the Spanish teacher for grades 3 through 5. Currently, the students are focusing on greetings. They are learning how to say them as well as how to respond. How are You during the various times in the day, and the different goodbye sayings for formal and informal settings. The days of the week and the months of the year are also a focus. Students are learning how to ask and respond to when their birthday is. Conversation is very important for the upper grades. In the upcoming weeks, they will learn about the seasons and the weather.

### KINDERGARTEN

This year, there are four Kindergarten teachers. They are: Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Gehring, Ms. Dennison, and Mrs. Horne. Since this is the student's first time at Liberty, and all online, I thought it would be helpful to update the parents on what they are learning. Students need to read, write, and spell their first and last names. They also need to be able to read, write, and spell each of their sight words.

The sight words are: I am the little a to have is we like my can me he for play with she see look and they you of are that do this one here five go was from two yellow where blue green three come has what four said.

Letters and sounds: Students need to recognize, write, and say the sound for each of the letters by December.

Rhyme: Students need to say a word that rhymes with a given word and say 2 or more words that rhyme.

Count: Students need to count by 1's, 5's, and 10's to 100, by 2's to 50, backwards by 1's from 20 to 0.

Number Recognition: Read, write, and represent numbers from 0 to 50 by January, and numbers 51 to 100 by March.

Number families to 10: Students need to show all of the number combinations for numbers 0 to 10. Example: 5: 0 and 5, 4 and 1, 2 and 3, 3 and 2, 1 and 4, 5 and 0.

## **MS. CASH RECOGNIZED IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 8 NEWSLETTER**

The following is reprinted from:

<https://us19.campaign-archive.com/?u=7d60598fada11b8b86c8ad8c6&id=f80fa6268f>

Dannielle Cash is a paraprofessional at Pittsburgh Liberty K-5 in Shadyside and has worked at Liberty for 15 years. She has a 22-year-old daughter, Torrieonna Cash, that just graduated from Coastal Carolina University, and a Yorkie named NikiDaej. Dannielle started working with kids when she was 14 years old as a coach for the Homewood Brushton Stingers Little League Cheerleading Team. Not only does she work at Pittsburgh Liberty but she also tutors children from different communities and school districts on her off hours, sometimes working at Pittsburgh Liberty during the day and tutoring children until 10 p.m. During normal times, she would tutor the kids at the Carnegie Library. However, with COVID, she has shifted to tutoring kids at her home, at the kids' homes, or even over the phone. Dannielle enjoys giving back to the community and is truly dedicated to making sure these kids get through this crazy time.

At Liberty, Dannielle works in the Autistic Support Classroom, but works to ensure that all children at Liberty have what they need to succeed. "During COVID, not only has she supported her students by delivering them snacks, activities, and supplies; she has also prepared and distributed individual supplies to go out to all 383 students," said Principal Louann Zwierynski. "In addition, she took on distributing iPads and

computers to students that did not have one. She even helped prepare supplies for our staff. She has done all of this without anyone ever asking her to do it."

Dannielle believes that there's no break until all of the materials are ready to go for the kids to be able to continue learning at home. "There's so much learning to be done, with the kids being off since March," says Ms. Cash, "and this is life now, but the kids seem to be OK with it. Sometimes class is great, and sometimes it's a bit messy." She mentions that the parents seem overwhelmed with the technology, but even if their internet isn't always working, Dannielle made sure the kids are still able to complete work. She mentions that she is blessed to be able to get up every day and walk around the school, and truly has gone above and beyond for the children of Pittsburgh Liberty School and her surrounding communities.

Dannielle wants to remind the residents of District 8 that 15 minutes a day of reading really paves the way for everyday learning and living. Although learning from home is hard, take time, take deep breaths, and everything will be all right. It might not look like it now, but if we follow the procedures and guidelines, we can get over this hurdle. "The kids' success is everything," she reminds us.

Thank you Dannielle for being a shining light in our community! The children of Liberty are lucky to have you rooting them on and making sure they succeed during this pandemic.

## LECCION DE ESPAÑOL

### THE NUMBERS: LOS NUMEROS

0 cero 11 once  
1 uno 12 doce  
2 dos 13 trece  
3 tres 14 catorce  
4 cuatro 15 quince  
5 cinco 16 dieciseis  
6 seis 17 diecisiete  
7 siete 18 dieciocho  
8 ocho 19 diecinueve  
9 nueve 20 veinte  
10 diez

### THE COLORS: LOS COLORES

black: negro  
white: blanco  
green: verde  
blue: azul  
yellow: amarillo  
brown: cafe or marron  
orange: naranja or anaranjado  
purple: morado  
red: rojo  
pink: rosado or rosa  
gray: gris



## CRAFT: COFFEE FILTER LEAVES

November is a month for Fall, Thanksgiving, and a holiday that Liberty celebrates, The Day Of The Dead. For the monthly craft, we will make Coffee Filter Leaves. Many families have these on hand, any size will do. You will need: newspaper or something to cover the work surface, white coffee filters, markers, scissors, and a spray bottle with water, vinegar, or a combination of both. Spread out the newspaper on your work surface. Place the coffee filter on the surface, laying it flat. Draw a leaf in the middle of the filter. Use various Fall colors. Spray the leaf with the spray bottle. Do not saturate, but spray enough to allow the colors to mix and spread. Allow to dry. Watch as the colors blend together as the leaf dries. Cut out the leaf, once it is completely dry. Make a few, and hang them together.



## RECIPE: CORNUCOPIA

The recipe that I chose is a symbol of Thanksgiving, the cornucopia. For mini cornucopias, you will need waffle cones and fresh fruit of your choosing. ( Apples, grapes, and berries are great choices. You can even add cheese. ) Let your children pick their favorite fruits. Wash and cut the fruit. Add it all into the waffle cones. Enjoy.



## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PTO

Dear Liberty Families,

Happy November! It came in with the cold, and a little bit of snow (!) this week! As you have heard, we will remain on virtual learning through the end of this year, because the cases of COVID-19 are rising here and across the country. Stay safe - mask up, wash your hands, practice social distancing!

Stay connected with the Liberty community at a distance -

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PghLibertyPTO/>

Our website: <https://pghleaf.org>

With the success of the Dia de los Muertos celebration, we are looking forward to finding more ways to connect with each other outside the classroom. Have ideas on how to do this? Join us online at the next PTO/PSCC meeting Wednesday November 18th, 6pm-7:30pm or email [president@pghleaf.org](mailto:president@pghleaf.org) for more info.

Want Ads: Looking for a LEAF Secretary. The LEAF Secretary takes notes at our monthly meetings. That's it - that's all you need to do! That helps our LEAF team stay coordinated and on-task, so we can support our learners, teachers and families in the

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Liberty community. Raise your hand if you can be available on the 3rd Wednesday of the month each month - and thank you in advance for your help!

Stay safe!

Maria Guyette

president@pghleaf.org

(Pictured: LEAF masks—appreciation gifts for our amazing Liberty teachers!)



## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

Submissions are due on the 20th of each month of the school year. Send them to [president@pghleaf.org](mailto:president@pghleaf.org)

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*This newsletter is produced by the parent-teacher organization known as LEAF (Liberty Elementary Academic Fund), a nonprofit organization. LEAF's mission is to support the students, teachers and families at Pittsburgh Liberty K-5 through fundraising, volunteering, and community events.*

*Visit our site for more info: [www.pghleaf.org](http://www.pghleaf.org)*

*Email us: [president@pghleaf.org](mailto:president@pghleaf.org)*

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