





Linden Elementary School

## Monthly Winner - Linden Leading Leopard

After each weekly drawing, all PAWs are emptied into our school-wide bin. Once a month, one PAW from the bin is randomly drawn to determine the monthly winner of our Linden Leading Leopard t-shirt. The t-shirt was designed by fifth and sixth grade students last spring. Only ten students throughout the school year are chosen as winners of this special prize.



April's Linden Leading Leopard was Elijah Zola in Miss Corrigan's Kindergarten class. Elijah earned his winning PAW for displaying Core 4 values through responsibility. Elijah upholds the Core 4 on a daily basis by working hard, following directions, and always giving his best effort. Way to go, Elijah!

## **Encourage Solutions**

It is easy to feel frustrated when we see our children feeling frustrated. Rather than solve problems *for* them, encourage them to problem solve independently. Try a neutral and encouraging approach. "I appreciate how hard you are working to fix this. It seems like you may want to consider a new approach." If you do find that your assistance is necessary, work together to problem solve. Help them engage in the process to build their skills for the future.

## Practicing Grit and Perseverance

With the school year winding down, we encourage families to discuss grit and perseverance with students. While the end is in sight, there are still important challenges to tackle before crossing the finish line!



Perseverance is an essential lifelong skill that helps us navigate challenges and setbacks. A child's capacity for perseverance plays a key role in their future success, enabling them to achieve goals and overcome obstacles with resilience.

**Set small goals.** Set small attainable goals to build stamina. This allows your child to meet small goals and build toward bigger goals.

**Normalize mistakes.** Teach your child to embrace failure as a learning opportunity. Mistakes help us understand what skills we need to work on.

**Figure out feelings together**. It's natural for your child to feel frustrated or discouraged when working toward a goal. Sometimes, despite their best efforts, success may seem out of reach. Acknowledge those feelings, then help them identify strategies to work through their feelings.

**Cheer on as your child follows their passions and interests**. Passion fuels perseverance. Supporting a child's pursuit of something they genuinely care about increases their motivation to persevere through challenges.

**Encourage your child to get support** — and support others. When children experience support, they learn the value of uplifting others, creating a cycle of resilience and motivation within families and friendships.

Perseverance is built through experience, encouragement, and a positive mindset. Parents can support their children by fostering a growth-oriented environment where setbacks are seen as stepping stones to success.

This article was adapted from the following links: <u>https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/5-ways-to-practice-perseverance-as-a-family</u> <u>https://childmind.org/article/how-to-help-kids-learn-to-fail/</u>