





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 of these PAWs is randomly drawn to choose 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.

December's Linden Leading Leopard was Carter Terlecki in Mrs. Shinkunas's 2nd grade class. Carter earned his winning PAW for displaying Core 4 values through RESPECT. Carter upholds the Core 4 on a daily basis by being inclusive, caring, and polite. Way to go, Carter!

Core 4 Conversations

Linden Leopards are consistently reminded of the following school-wide expectations: respect, responsibility, cooperation, and citizenship. To reinforce these Core 4 values at home, take an opportunity this month to talk to your child about **respect**. What does respect look like in school? What does respect sound like in school? Are there different expectations around respectful behavior in school versus at home?

Acceptance and Inclusion

Treating staff and students with respect is a core value at Linden Elementary School. We ask students to follow these respectful expectations throughout the school day: use whole-body listening, use kind words and actions, and maintain personal space. Although we recognize that respect can often sound like "please" and "thank you", we want our Linden Leopards to know that respect is also reflected in our acceptance and inclusion of others.



Here are some suggestions to encourage acceptance and inclusion with your child:

Practice Compassion and Curiosity: You can teach your child about compassion by caring about how others feel and what they're going through. By asking questions and listening carefully, you show your child that every person has a story worth hearing.

Celebrate Similarities AND Differences: Encourage your child to find common ground while celebrating what makes each person special.

Model and Encourage Kind and Thoughtful Interactions: Help your child think about how their actions affect others. Before they speak or act, ask them to consider how it might make someone else feel. This simple step helps children in developing empathetic and respectful relationships.

This article was adapted from the following links: <u>https://childmind.org/article/teaching-kids-boundaries-empathy/</u> <u>https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/helping-your-child-navigate-social-situations-with-confidence-</u> <u>and-kindness</u>