Principal Lynn Main
May 6, 2014

It is time to get your calendars out as we race and I mean race to the end of this school year. When people talk about how busy they are during the winter holiday season I know they have never taught in a school. Thanksgiving to New Year's might seem like a challenge but May and June in an elementary school are pretty close to crazy.

The annual Spring Fair was last Saturday and a huge thank you to all the volunteers who made it possible. I think almost as many alumni families attended this year as current ones. It is great to see all the Lafayette children having so much fun but it is really rewarding to catch up on past students and hear about their successes.

If you made me name my favorite event at Lafayette, it would be Arts Night. Twelve years ago, I talked to Laurie McLaughlin about an event my children had participated in when they were in high school. Each year there was an all school Festival of the Arts. Students in the art, music and drama programs spread all over the school performing in small ensembles, doing one act plays or monologues and having their visual arts projects displayed in galleries. Great idea was the response and so Arts Night at Lafayette was created. This week on May 8th we will have our first Arts Night of the year. Parents of PK, K and first grade students are invited that evening to tour the school to see what their children have learned in the arts. Ms. Perll and Ms. McLaughlin have spent hours selecting, matting and hanging a piece of art for each student. While your first task may be to locate the work of your child, be sure to take the time to look at the other work that is on display. I'm sure you will be astounded by the scope and sequence of the work our youngest students do each year in the arts. The older students will have their Arts Night two weeks later on May 22.

At the end of the month we celebrate movement and physical fitness when we take to the fields in the park and have Field Day. Again we need to split up the school and use two days. Pencil in May 28 for PK and K Field Day. All older students will run and jump on May 30.

And that is just the all school events. We have the Suitcase Fair, the Science Fair and DC Theater Café to look forward to. Field trips all over the place. End of year class parties and picnics. The overnight trip to Gettysburg. PK Graduation on June 13 in the morning followed by the fifth grade awards assembly in the afternoon. The fifth grade promotion ceremony on June 18 with the last day of

school the 20th. Please read each and every email and flyers teachers send home in the next few weeks. We are also doing our best to keep the sign in front of the school up to date with new events listed each Monday.

I know it's a lot and at times it can seem overwhelming. Requests for volunteers, party helpers and Field Day station managers are coming almost every day. The Spring Fair was an all hands on deck event. So are some of these other big days in your children's lives. But believe it or not the end is closer than you realize. Summer vacation is right around the corner and for a little while Lafayette will stop knocking at your door. Unless you don't remember to return your registration forms for next fall. Then we will keep bothering you. So come on up to school and get that little job done. Your summer will be so much more enjoyable and so will ours knowing we will have a full school next fall.