

# Cougar Tracks



**L.A. AINGER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

## Message from the Principal

Dear L.A. Ainger Families,

We hope you are doing well and staying safe. We are excited to announce that L.A. Ainger's PTO will be holding its annual Cougar Color Run in February. This event is a fun way for our students to get active while raising money for our school.

In addition to the Cougar Color Run, we are also kicking off our track and field season. This is an opportunity for students to participate in various track and field events and showcase their athletic abilities. We are looking forward to seeing our students compete and have fun in this exciting sport.

We are also excited to introduce soccer to our students this year. This is a great opportunity for students to try something new and learn new skills. Our coaches are dedicated to helping our students develop their abilities and build teamwork skills.

At L.A. Ainger, we strive to offer our students a wide range of extracurricular activities and opportunities for personal growth. We are proud to have a supportive and engaged community of parents who help us make these experiences possible.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing all the wonderful things our students will accomplish this year at L.A. Ainger.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us anytime. Your student's success is our priority here at L.A. Ainger.

Sincerely,

Mr. Fourman, *Principal*

One Team, One Vision: Ainger

245 Cougar Way  
Rotonda West, FL 33947

**Phone:**  
941-697-5800

**Office Hours:**  
8:00a.m. to 4:15p.m.

**Principal:**  
Bruce Fourman

**Assistant Principals:**  
Nicole Davel  
Matina Pulliam

**Guidance Counselors:**  
Kelly Gilbert  
Kevin Skavhaug

**School Resource Officer:**  
Officer Tameris

**ESE Liason:**  
Lucinda Kelley





## Student Council

Exciting news! The Student Council is thrilled to bring back our Monthly Socials on February 7th, March 6th, and April 3rd from 4:15 to 5:15 PM in the school gym. For just \$3.00, students can stay after school and engage in various activities like basketball, volleyball, Gaga Ball, football, and enjoy music with friends. Concessions will be available for purchase. It's the perfect opportunity to unwind, have fun, and connect with friends. Don't miss out on these memorable evenings – mark your calendars, and we hope to see you there!

### 'Cougar Tracks'

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1445 Education Way  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1052



## Semester 2 Discipline/Academic Refresher

- No Cell Phone/Electronic Device Use. ANY (including Smart Watches) must be placed in backpacks. Parents will have to pick up any confiscated electronic devices.
- Dress Code -updated to include ID's at all times! No ID 3 times will result in a dress code referral.
- Attendance: If a student is tardy 15 times and/or absent 9 times in a semester, they will NOT be permitted to attend any school socials, sporting events or field trips.
- Sign in and out procedures for bathroom use including the 10- minute rule for restroom use (emergencies excluded).
- Academics- Please continue to check your child's grades in Focus. Students who fail any Semester 2 class will be required to attend summer school.
- Free tutoring after school Monday-Thursday from 4:15-5:15. Students must bring work to tutoring.
- Credit Recovery- Students with credit recovery from semester 1 will receive information and a letter will be sent home. Students can work on credit recovery in the library Monday-Thursday from 4:15-5:15pm. Students that do not complete their credits take the chance of not being promoted to the next grade level.

## Yearbook News

- We still have 2022- 2023 yearbooks for purchase. If you would like to purchase last year's yearbook, send the \$35.00 by cash or check made payable to LA Ainger Middle School to room D5.
- 2023-2024 yearbooks are on sale ONLINE only at [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com) for \$35.00. You may also purchase personal ads for your child. If you are a business owner, you may also purchase business ads.
- If you would like to add pictures to the yearbook, download the app: yearbook snap. Our school access code: Cougar. Upload your photos to the appropriate photo category. If you are unable to do this, please email photos to [jennifer.harris@yourcharlotteschools.net](mailto:jennifer.harris@yourcharlotteschools.net).



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## L. A. Ainger Science Fair News

After months of challenging work, 15 eighth grade students presented their projects at the school's annual science fair held on Nov. 29th. Science fair coordinator and teacher Mrs. Debra Sullivan released the winners Nov. 30th.

At the fair, students presented their topic to volunteer judges from the community. Students were asked to explain their procedures and findings while showing their knowledge of the scientific method. Afterwards students answered questions from each judge. The following students were the leading winners.

- Zoe Hendricks - 1st place
- Violet Izzo - 2nd place
- Lainey Belger - 3rd place
- Wyatt Roesler - 4th place

Zoe Hendricks and Lainey Belger have decided to go through the rigor of the Thomas Alva Edison Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair to be held in February

## Tutoring



Starting January 17th

Location: Library

When: Monday-Thursday

Time: 4:15-5:15pm

Subjects: All

Students : you must bring work and be picked up on time or you will not be allowed to attend future tutoring sessions.

Credit Recovery students are welcome to attend too.

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# PTO News

Happy 2024! We hope that the New Year is off to a great start for everyone! The PTO is busy planning many of our upcoming school events including the Cougar Color Run, 6th and 7th grade field days, Teacher Appreciation week, and the 8th grade field trip and spring dance!

We are looking for new Chairs to organize and run our biggest fundraiser, the Golf Tournament, next year! We raised just under \$10,000 this year, and every bit of this money is going to fund events and support the staff and students at Ainger! It is vital that we continue this fundraiser for the benefit of students in the future – if you have any interest, please reach out! We are so appreciative of all of our volunteers that keep the PTO up and running!

We hope to see you at our upcoming PTO meetings in the Media Center this spring! If you haven't attended, please consider joining in! And if you've been coming, please come again!

## Cougar Color Run

- Register now at:  
<https://2024AingerColorRun.eventbrite.com>
- When: Friday, February 9th from 5pm to 7pm
- Where: Ainger Track
- How Much: \$10 per participant. Includes Race Participation, Kona Ice, Meal Ticket (pizza, chips, water), Race Bib, Sunglasses, Plain white shirt (while supplies last)

This Fun Run is open to students and their families. A course will be set-up around campus and colored powder tossed to cover our runners...or walkers!

For more information, please email Julie Lowder at [aingerpto@gmail.com](mailto:aingerpto@gmail.com). Event Information is also on the PTO Facebook page and the school website.

Calling all VOLUNTEERS! We will be sending signup information by email, REMIND and posting on Facebook for anyone who would like to help make the Color Run a big success!

## Box Tops for Education

Download the Box Tops For Education App OR Send in your Box Tops for Education! Students can drop off Box Tops in the office or give to one of their teachers.

## Save the Date!

- PTO Meeting – February 5th at 6:00pm, Media Center
- **Cougar Color Run – Feb. 9th – 5-7pm VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- PTO Meeting – March 11th at 6:00pm, Media Center
- PTO Meeting – April 8th at 6:00pm, Media Center
- **8th Grade Field Trip – North Port Aquatics – April 19th from 6pm to 9pm**
- **Teacher Appreciation Week at Ainger – April 22-26th**
- **End of the Year Field Days for 6th and 7th – TBA**
- **8th Grade ONLY DANCE – May 10th – more info to come**
- PTO Meeting – May 13th at 6:00pm, Media Center

## Stay Informed!

- **FACEBOOK** – Follow us on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/LAAPTO/](http://www.facebook.com/LAAPTO/)
- **REMIND** – to receive messages from PTO:  
Text to: 81010  
Message: @laaingerp
- **Email Us** – [aingerpto@gmail.com](mailto:aingerpto@gmail.com) with questions or suggestions
- **SCHOOL WEBSITE:**  
<https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/lam>

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Get ready for an exciting season of athleticism at L.A. Ainger Middle School! Our Track and Field program is set to kick off on January 29th and will run until February 10th. The culmination of our efforts will be on Saturday, February 10th, when Ainger Track competes against other Charlotte County middle schools at Charlotte High School, starting at 9 AM. Athletes will have the opportunity to showcase their skills in events such as the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1600m, 4x100m Relay, and Long Jump. It's important to note that all participating athletes must have an up-to-date physical on file. Let's come together to support our talented athletes and make this track season one to remember!

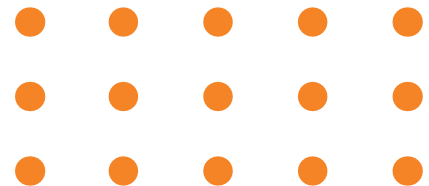


We're thrilled to announce the launch of a new and competitive soccer program at L.A. Ainger Middle School! This year, we're introducing a mini-season that will run from February 12th to March 1st. Our enthusiastic students will have the opportunity to showcase their soccer skills as they compete against other Charlotte County middle schools in a round-robin style tournament. The pinnacle of the season will take place on Saturday, March 1st, at 9 AM at Centennial Park. To ensure everyone's safety and eligibility, all participating athletes must have a current physical on file. Join us in supporting our budding soccer stars as they embark on this exciting journey of athleticism and teamwork!



Get ready for an action-packed wrestling season at L.A. Ainger Middle School! Our wrestlers are gearing up for an exciting series of dual matches and a county tournament in April. The dual matches kick off on April 18th at Murdock Middle School at 5:30 PM. Mark your calendars for the thrilling home matches on April 25th against Port Charlotte MS and May 2nd against Punta Gorda MS, both starting at 5:30 PM. The pinnacle of our wrestling season will be the County Tournament on Saturday, May 4th, at 10 AM at Charlotte High School. Join us in the stands to cheer on our Ainger Cougars as they showcase their skills and determination on the wrestling mat. Let's make this wrestling season one to remember!

# Cougar Athletics



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# Cougar Athletics



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## Intramural Sports

Excitement is building at L.A. Ainger Middle School with the introduction of our new Archery program, which kicked off in January and is gearing up for state-level competition in March. To enhance your skills for the upcoming season, we're offering a range of after-school activities. Join our Track club, soccer club, or wrestling club to refine your abilities and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow athletes. Check our school website for details on meeting days and times. Whether you're aiming for the bullseye, mastering soccer techniques, or perfecting wrestling moves, there's something for everyone. Come join the fun and be part of the intramural athletics experience at L.A. Ainger MS!

## Marathon Kids End of the Semester 1 Update:

Marathon Kids has ignited a fitness revolution at L.A. Ainger Middle School, with 168 enthusiastic 6th grade participants embracing an active lifestyle. The weekly average of 3,777 active minutes showcases a remarkable commitment to physical well-being. The 79 total marathons achieved reflect not just distances covered but milestones surpassed, fostering a sense of accomplishment. Averaging 12.37 miles per student, the program has not only promoted exercise but also instilled a passion for endurance and perseverance. Remarkably, one student stands out, having clocked an impressive 43.25 miles, symbolizing the extraordinary impact Marathon Kids has on inspiring individuals to exceed their limits. The program has truly become a catalyst for student engagement, participation, and a lasting enthusiasm for a healthy lifestyle here at L.A. Ainger Middle School.



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## Regular School Calendar 2023-2024



JANUARY '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
1	2	3	4	5	90	102
8	9	10	11	12	95	107
15	16	17	18	19	99	111
22	23	24	25	26	104	116
29	30	31			107	119

1 New Year's Day/Pd Holiday  
2,3 Winter Break Continued  
4 HMU #3 Students/Teachers  
5 HMU #2 Students/Teachers  
8 Students/Teachers Return  
15 M.L.K. Day

APRIL '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
1	2	3	4	5	145	159
8	9	10	11	12	150	164
15	16	17	18	19	155	169
22	23	24	25	26	160	174
29	30				162	176

FEBRUARY '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
			1	2	109	121
5	6	7	8	9	114	126
12	13	14	15	16	118	130
19	20	21	22	23	122	134
26	27	28	29		126	138

5-9 Survey Window  
16 HMU #1 Students/Teachers  
19 Presidents' Day

MAY '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
		1	2	3	165	179
6	7	8	9	10	170	184
13	14	15	16	17	175	189
20	21	22	23	24	180	194
27	28	29	30	31	196	

24 Last day for Students/  
24 End of Qtr 4  
27 Memorial Day  
28 Teacher Work Day  
29 District PD Day #3  
29 Last Day for Teachers

MARCH '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
				1	127	139
4	5	6	7	8	132	144
11	12	13	14	15	136	149
18	19	20	21	22	136	149
25	26	27	28	29	140	154

14 End of Qtr 3  
15 Teacher Work Day  
18-22 Spring Break  
29 Good Friday/Pd Holiday

JUNE '24						
M	T	W	Th	F	SD	TD
3	4	5	6	7		
10	11	12	13	14		
17	18	19	20	21		
24	25	26	27	28		

Grading Period Dates	Everyone Off/Unpaid
Students Off/ Teachers Work	Everyone Off/ Paid Holiday

Board approved 12/13/2022

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