

# LCA FLIGHT CLUB BIG DAY BIRD-A-THON



PRESENTED BY



*Bird together. Explore Together. Learn Together.  
Support an Amazing Cause.*

**APRIL 24 – MAY 17, 2026**

## WHAT IT IS

*The LCA Big Day Bird-a-Thon is a Flight Club-inspired fundraiser that turns East Texas's incredible spring migration into meaningful support for Lake Creek Academy. During the event window, students may go birdwatching ("bird") as many times as they like. Their single best day for total species seen becomes their official Big Day.*

### HOW IT WORKS

- Students gather pledges from parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, neighbors, and community sponsors.
- Supporters may pledge per species or choose a flat gift.
- Students bird during the event window (4/24 – 5/17/2026) and keep track of species observed (we suggest downloading the eBird app).
- Only the highest single-day species total counts.

### PLEDGE EXAMPLE

**\$1.50 per species x 22 species = \$33.00**  
Multiple pledges can add up!

### FAMILY BIRDING, GEAR & SUPPORT

We hope families will spend meaningful time in nature together – birding close to home or visiting favorite local hotspots. Student families may check out high-quality binoculars when available, including amazing optics equipment donated by Vortex Optics.

When available, Mr. Mike will join students and families to help find birds, identify species, and share what makes birding and ornithology so rewarding. In 2025, he set a new Montgomery County Big Year record with 233 species seen throughout the year.

The goal is simple: help families enjoy local nature, grow as observers, take part in citizen science and experience the spirit of Flight Club beyond campus.



# LOGISTICS

## EVENT WINDOW

**April 24 – May 17, 2026**

## QUICK RULES SNAPSHOT

- Bird as many times as you like during the event window.
- Count each species once on your best day.
- Families may bird together, and adult help is welcome – especially for younger students. Each student keeps an individual checklist.
- Bird species can be identified by sight or call (sound), if you are certain of the I.D. based on the call.

## GREAT LOCAL BIRDING SPOTS

Northshore Park, Southshore Park, Lakeside Park, Kuykendahl Detention Pond, Shenandoah Retention Pond, W.G. Jones State Forest, Lake Creek Preserve, Mitchell Nature Preserve, Lake Conroe and Bird Island, Unity Park, Bear Branch Park and MANY MORE!

Click “Explore” on the eBird app to check out tons of local hotspots!

## WHY WE THINK YOU WILL LOVE IT

- Family time outdoors
- Real observation and science skills
- A fundraiser tied to genuine learning

## FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT

- Student opportunities
- Flight Club and outdoor learning
- Birding equipment and enrichment
- The innovative programs and atmosphere that make LCA special.

## BEFORE / AFTER SCHOOL BIRDING

Mr. Mike will try to arrange a few times to lead groups on 1.5 hours birding trips in the local area, most likely at W.G. Jones State Forest, Kuykendahl Detention Pond, Lakeside Park, Shenandoah Retention Pond (behind Dave & Busters), or here on the grounds of LCA. Watch your email for times/planned walks.

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## **Every Species Counts!**

**Gather pledges, choose your best birding day, and help the Fund for Learning support Lake Creek Academy!**

### STUDENT INFORMATION

Student:

Grade:

### OFFICIAL BIG DAY RESULT

Best Day Date:

Official Species Total:

Location/s:

*Count each species once on the student's best single day.*

#### PLEDGE EXAMPLE

\$1.50 per species x 22 species = \$33.00

## PLEDGE TRACKER

| Sponsor Name | Phone / Email | Per Species | Flat Rate | Total Due | Paid?                    |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
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### RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

- Students please return this pledge sheet and any cash or check payments to Mr. Mike's office.
- **SPONSORS** (thank you!): You can pay via cash, check (payable to **Lake Creek Academy Fund for Learning**; please include student last name and LCA Big Day in the memo line), or using the QR code on the right to pay through our payment partner, Givebutter the #1 Free Fundraising Platform!
- Additional sponsor lines may be added on the back or on an attached sheet.



**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS, OUR AMAZING COMMUNITY, OUR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND TO VORTEX OPTICS!**

**HAPPY BIRDING AND GOOD LUCK!**

