

Mustang Message

Franconia Elementary School

June 1, 2011



What a day, what a day! These kindergarten students got an opportunity to celebrate a successful school year with hotdogs and fun water games on a beautiful spring day!

From the Reading Teacher

Summer vacation is almost here, and Franconia staff encourages students to read and write during summer break. Summer is a great time to explore and discover new books and old favorites, as well as keep a writer's notebook or journal.

Research shows that children who continue to read over the summer months are better able to maintain their reading abilities when school starts, again. Encourage your child to keep a book log – a list of all of the books, magazines, or comics that he/she reads this summer. You may be surprised at how the list grows! Most importantly, talk to your child about what he/she is reading. Asking questions—What was your favorite part? Why? What did that story make you think of? What was the story about?—will stimulate conversations about the text. Students who started a writer's notebook in school can continue to add to it from all of their summer experiences. A writer's notebook is a place where students can write anything – poems (original or copied), significant events, or everyday observations, for example. It is a place to experiment with written language.

Reading, and being read to, along with daily or weekly writing, is especially important over the summer so that newly-formed skills and interests are maintained. The more your child reads and writes, the more likely he/she will be ready for new learning in September.

Jen Moran, Reading Teacher

Revised SCA Election Dates

June 3—Candidates announced

June 6—Election speech drafts due to Ms. Brown by 1:30 p.m.

June 7—Election speeches read on Morning News

June 8-9—Campaigning

June 10—Election results announced

June 13—SCA officers Inducted on Morning News

For Your Information

Appropriate attire for school

As the weather changes, students pull out their summer gear to be comfortable in the warm weather. As you are helping your child pick out the perfect outfit for school on warm days, please keep in mind the proper school attire policy. We do not permit:

- Clothing with improper language or images.
- Sagging or low-cut pants, low-cut necklines, tube tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, backless blouses or blouses with only ties in the back, and clothing constructed of see-through materials.
- Head coverings, such as hats, caps, scarves or bandannas, unless required for religious or medical reasons.
- "Wheeled" shoes—Tennis shoes or shoes with rubber soles are necessary for physical education classes and active recess play.

We discourage flip-flop sandals for school wear as they can slide off and cause accidents on the playground. Please make sure your child's shorts are long enough for school. A good rule-of-thumb is that they should end about where their fingers end when standing up straight with their arms at their sides.

While it is warm outside, the air conditioning can still be cold. Have your children bring a sweater or sweatshirt to school so they are prepared if it gets chilly.

Inquiry information regarding Health Room policy

We have had several inquiries regarding the school policy for handling lice. All FCPS schools work in conjunction with the Fairfax County Health Department to set guidelines for responding when a case of lice is discovered at school. When live lice are found on a student, a parent is immediately notified to pick-up the student, and information is provided to that parent regarding effective treatment. The school will notify a classroom when multiple cases are identified in one particular room. If you have any additional questions, please contact the school health room aide, Debbie Quinn at 703-822-2210.