

Franklin Middle School
Home of the Falcons
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Chantilly, VA 20151

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www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS

[http://www.fcps.edu/
FranklinMS/](http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/)

November
2011
Volume 4, Issue 1

Message from Mrs. Eisenberg, Principal

Welcome to the second quarter of the 2011-2012 school year! Thank you very much for a terrific opening of school. Our students are well-settled into the routines of school and have done a tremendous job demonstrating respect towards their peers and the staff, conducting themselves as responsible citizens of our community, and keeping safety a focused priority as proud Franklin Falcons! Thank you for a wonderful and well attended Back-to-School Night in September.

During this year's Back-to-School Night, you attended your child's designated Falcon Time period that occurs at the end of the day. Falcon Time is a designated period designed to provide opportunities for each student to participate in literacy activities, character building and lessons about respect, enrichment, remediation, reflection, and other activities to support educational success. Our teaching teams work to optimize the time spent for each student's placement in Falcon Time activities that best suits their needs academically and developmentally as middle school students. Current research shows that students benefit from this time and this is our second year of implementation.

The school appreciates you, our parents, for your continued support of the work we do for your children, by your communication with the teachers and counselors, and the time you dedicate to volunteering in the school whenever you are able. As Friends of Franklin, you have supported the PTA's fund-raising efforts in providing a number of programs to enrich our school, providing funds for technology and beautification including our new signage on the front of our building and the continued work on our landscaping. Our landscaping is coordinated through our "Beautification Project" to enhance the outside of the school. Thank you to our committee of parents and our student volunteers who support these efforts. I also want to thank you for your support with our annual Magazine Drive, the profits for which go to fund student activities and instructional resources for our classrooms, all in support of our students having the best possible experience during their time at Franklin MS.

Please plan to attend a PTA meeting during the school year. Our PTA meets the second Tuesday of each month, at 9:30 am in the Library. Your voice in planning events and discussing issues that have an impact on our community is vital. Our PTA President is Mr. Peter Bissett. He and the PTA Executive Board have made it a priority to communicate with our parents, and I know they each welcome your communication and questions.

Of the many programs we provide outside of the classroom at Franklin, you will find the absolute best in our after-school program and the commitment of Chris Woodby, our After-School Program Specialist, He and his staff. have designed a program of activities and events that cater to the academic needs, health and wellness, and socio-emotional development and success of each student, which in turn supports the academic mission and enriches the lives of our students, guiding them to serve as productive citizens. Most recently, we highlighted this program during a national "Lights On" event that included a PTA sponsored Bingo Night delicious food, awesome prizes, a silent auction, and a fun time for all those in attendance. Encourage your child to participate in any of the many activities that are offered. You will find a full list of our after-school programs at <http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/AFTERSCHOOLACTIVITIES.html>.

Please continue to look for my weekly Keep in Touch e-mail messages, so that you are well-informed about all of the events here at Franklin Middle School. These are sent to your email address that you provide to us on your child's emergency information sheet each year. This is the best way to stay current and informed. And be sure to continue to check in to Blackboard using your Parent View account. This keeps you up to date with your child's classroom activities, expectations, and upcoming assignments. If you need assistance in enrolling as a Parent View member, just call us. Have a happy and healthy holiday season!

~Sharon Eisenberg



OCTOBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

7A Hilary Anderson

7B Komal Desai

7B Christopher Skangos

7C Raina Morack

8A Olivia Ryu (HyeMin Ryu)

8B Mitch Walton

8C Jealyn Montes Alarcon

8D Mark Schenkel

Inside this issue:

4Book Fair Submission of work by email or Digital drop-box	2
Energy Zone News	2
Impact Aid Survey	3
PE/Health News, School Health Room, After-school	3
Calendar of Events	4
Message from Ms Bowers/Interim/ Report Card/Testing Schedule, Kiss & Ride Alert	5
PBS & PTA	6

Franklin's Attendance Line

Open 24 hours

703.904.5151

Please spell child's last
name

2-Hour Early

Release

Wednesday,
November 23

Dismissal at 12:50pm for
Thanksgiving Holiday

November 24—25, 2011

FRANKLIN MS BOOK FAIR - COME ONE COME ALL!

Book Fair Week will be December 5th through the 9th. It will be open during school hours: 7:50am to 2:50pm and extended hours on late bus days. Volunteers should contact Randa Baker dandrbaker2004@yahoo.com. Set up will take place the prior Friday after school.

The proceeds from last year's Book Fair went toward PTA and Library projects that benefited the entire school, such as the author Priscilla Cummings, visit to our school last October. Thank you for all you do to support reading at Franklin MS!

COOL CLASSICS BOOK CLUB

Encourage your student to join the **Cool Classics Book Club**. Every child should read a classic before they go to high school. The club meets bi-weekly in the library to read and discuss a classic book each month. Students may join at anytime.

The first book we picked to read is [Through the Looking Glass](#) by Lewis Carroll (Charles Dodgson): a remarkably delightful and complex nonsense story of which the children are enjoying. We kicked off our first selection with an English Tea in the library and an introduction to the game of chess. Next month we will read a new pick from the Classics shelves in the library. Come and join us or send your child!



Remember to sign-up for your Blackboard Parent View Account <http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/>

SUBMISSION OF WORK VIA EMAIL OR THE DIGITAL DROP BOX ON TEACHERS' FCPS 24/7 BLACKBOARD SITES:

We encourage students to work from home, but request that MAC users save their work in the rich text format. To save work from MAC (or other OS) word processing applications, you will need to select .rtf (or rich text format) to ensure Windows compatibility.

1. Go to File
2. Save As
3. From this Save As option, select the extension rtf from the Save as Type option (sample.rtf)
4. Save and Close

News from the FCPS Energy Zone

HEALTHY SNACKING TIPS

Source: Energy Zone

The rise in overweight children means that parents need to take an active role in providing healthy snacks for their children.

Keep snacks small.

Don't eat snacks straight out of the package.

Snack only when hungry, not bored.

Limit sweet snacks such as brownies, cookies, and candy because they are often loaded with calories and sugar.

Offer fruits and vegetables.

Offer low fat cheese with whole grain crackers or pretzels.

Quench thirst with water, fruit juices or low fat milk, not soft drinks.

Read food labels carefully – if first ingredient is sugar **AVOID IT**.

Use http://www.fcps.edu/fs/food/food_at_school healthy snack calculator to evaluate your snacks at home.

Healthy Tips for the Holidays

- Start the day with breakfast.
- Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables.
- Eat lighter meals at night.
- Limit portion sizes of favorite holiday foods, especially desserts.
- Eliminate night-stress-related gorging, especially in front of the TV.
- Go to bed feeling light, not "full".
- Enjoy your feast, family, and friends.
- Remember to exercise 60 minutes per day.



IMPACT AID SURVEY

Impact Aid is a federal grant program that was designed to lessen the impact of federal activity on the operating budgets of local school systems. FCPS receives approximately \$3,500,000 annually from this grant program. These funds become a part of the school system's general operating budget and are critical to sustaining the high quality of education that FCPS provides for your children.



The annual Impact Aid Survey forms came home with your child on November 1, 2011. The Student-Parent Survey is used to support our request for Impact Aid funds. For each school-aged student in your household, please complete sections 2 through 6 of the survey. Sign, date, and return the completed survey (via fax, mail, or backpack) to your child's school by November 2, 2011. The survey is available online at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/impact.htm>.

Thanks for a successful Magazine Drive!

Many thanks to our students, parents, and community for their support of the Franklin MS 2011 Magazine Drive! All monies raised fund instructional resources and student activities. You can continue to support FMS by ordering magazines throughout the school year. Go to www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/NewsandEvents to link to the QSP Readers Digest website. We truly appreciate the support of the community with our annual school-wide fundraising activity!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEWS



The Physical Education Department will begin the full schedule of indoor activities later in November. Seventh grade will be learning skills in basketball, juggling, and modified volleyball units. The Eighth grade will be learning skills in volleyball, modified tennis (pickleball), and fitness training and testing.

The students are currently rotating through Health, learning more about 1) Skills for Health and Wellness, 2) Injury Violence and Prevention, and 3) Drug use Prevention: Alcohol, Tobacco, and other drugs.

In January, the students will be receiving one week of the Human Growth and Development unit. There will be a parent preview night in December for each grade level. Dates and times will be posted on Franklin's website and in Keep in Touch messages for the preview nights as it comes closer.

Franklin MS' Mission Statement

The Franklin Middle School community provides students a rigorous instructional program in a safe and nurturing environment. The curriculum and climate challenge and support each student to strengthen foundational knowledge and higher level thinking, awaken curiosity and creativity, apply problem-solving strategies, develop self-advocacy and communication skills, and become community-minded, life-long learners.

Please check out
Franklin's After-School Program
calendar and information about
programs and activities:

<http://www.fcps.edu/FranklinMS/activityinfo.htm>

If you have questions, please contact
Chris Woodby, After-School Program
Specialist, at 703-904-5183

HEALTH ROOM NEWS

If you received a referral letter regarding your child's difficulty with vision or hearing following our annual screening, please return the form to advise us of the follow-up action, and your physician's findings and recommendations. These completed reports are required for Cumulative Health Record. To document that appropriate follow-up was completed for any vision or hearing problem that may affect your child's education. If you need assistance in obtaining care, please contact Vivian Wisda, your School Public Health Nurse at 703-481-4242.

If you have any questions about the referral, please call Kathy Palumbo, School Health Aide at 703-904-5100. Remember, parents must bring any medications to the school health room for their student. Students may not transport medicine to or from school. **Students should not return to school until they are fever free for 24 hours.**

Calendar of Events

November 2011

- 1 Impact Aid Survey forms sent home
- 2 Impact Aid Survey forms returned to school
- 10 School Picture Make-Up Day
- 17 Thanksgiving Lunch served to students
- 23 2 hr. Early Release, Thanksgiving Holiday, 12:50pm
- 24-25 Thanksgiving Holidays

December 2011

- 1 Orchestra Winter Concert, 7:00-9:00 pm, Gym
- 5 -8 Finance Park Civics Field Trips
- 7 Winter Band Concert, 7:00-9:00 pm, Gym
- 8 Winter Chorus Concert, 7:00-9:00 pm, Gym
- 5-9 PTA Book Fair Week
- 13 PTA Meeting, 9:30am, Library
- 15 2 Hr. Early Release, Staff Development 12:50pm
- 19 Geography Bee, 12:44pm, Theater
- 21 Drama Field Trip (Kennedy Center)
- 23-31 Winter Break—Student Holidays

January 2012

- 3 Return from Winter Break
- 10 PTA Meeting, 9:30 am, Library
- 16 Martin Luther King, JR Day, School Holiday
- 30-31 Teacher Workdays—Student Holidays

**GUIDANCE CALENDAR
2011-2012
INTERIM AND REPORT CARD SCHEDULE**



1ST Qtr. INTERIMS

Due to guidance from teachers	October 6	8:00 A.M.	Thursday
Interims given to students	October 11	7 th Period	Tuesday
Teachers email progress reports	October 11		

1ST Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Grades due to guidance from teachers	November 9	8:00 A.M.	Wednesday
Verification sheets due to guidance	November 10	8:00 A.M.	Thursday
Report cards given to students	November 14	7 th Period	Monday
Teachers email progress reports	November 14		

2ND Qtr. INTERIMS

Due to guidance from teachers	December 7	8:00 A.M.	Wednesday
Interims given to students	December 12	7 th Period	Monday
Teachers email progress reports	December 12		

2ND Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Grades due to guidance from teachers	February 1	8:00 A.M.	Wednesday
Verification sheets due to guidance	February 2	8:00 A.M.	Thursday
Report cards given to students	February 7	7 th Period	Tuesday
Teachers email progress reports	February 7		

3RD Qtr. INTERIMS

Due to guidance from teachers	March 5	8:00 A.M.	Monday
Interims given to students	March 8	7 th Period	Thursday
Teachers email progress reports	March 8		

3RD Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Grades due to guidance from teachers	April 11	8:00 A.M.	Wednesday
Verification sheets due to guidance	April 12	8:00 A.M.	Thursday
Report cards given to students	April 16	7 th Period	Monday
Teachers email progress reports	April 16		

4TH Qtr. INTERIMS

Due to guidance from teachers	May 10	8:00 A.M.	Thursday
Interims given to students	May 14	7 th Period	Monday
Teachers email progress reports	May 14		

4TH Qtr. REPORT CARDS

Grades due to guidance from teachers	June 15	8:00 A.M.	Friday
Verification sheets due to guidance	June 15	3:00 P.M.	Friday
Final Export	June 18	3:00 P.M.	Monday
Teachers email progress reports	June 19		Tuesday
Final report cards mailed home	June 28		Thursday

From the desk of Patti Bowers

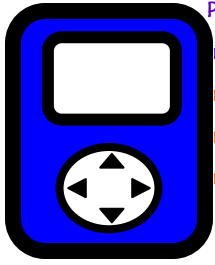
November 16 – Hispanic Informational Meetings with Danilda Bassols Topic – “What to do if your student is having a problem at school” Presentations at 8:15 A.M. and at 6:30 P.M. in the Franklin Library. Refreshments will be served.

November 28 – December 2 – School Counselors will be conducting Sexual Harassment and Bullying Prevention Lessons through science classrooms.

December 7 – Parent Coffee – all parents are welcome Topic –“ Internet Safety and Cyber bullying”
Come one and come all at 8:30 A.M. in the Franklin Library.

Kiss and Ride Alert!

All students who are driven to/from school should be dropped off at the Kiss and Ride lot only! Cars should not drive through the bus loop, which is the road directly in front of the school. Please do not drop-off students in the main parking lot and do not have them cross the bus loop road. Be aware that buses drive through during the morning and at afternoon dismissal and after-school dismissal. Kiss and Ride is one way. Cars should pull-up to the sidewalk to meet students. Please do not direct your students to meet you in the parking lot or to cross the parking lot to meet you on Lees Corner Road. Students' safety is most



Positive Behavior Support

ITUNE2 FMS because:

I CHOOSE Respect

I CAN be Responsible

I CARE about Safety

At Franklin MS, we believe in promoting high expectations and recognizing positive behaviors each day. We emphasize respect for self and others, responsible choices that facilitate learning and positive interactions and safe behaviors at all times. Students will understand clear expectations for behavior and will receive feedback when teachers or staff see respectful, responsible and safe behaviors in class, in the hallways, in the cafeteria and on the bus. Throughout the year, students who demonstrate respect, responsibility and safety will be recognized in a variety of ways including verbal acknowledgement, nomination as a student of the month as well as bi-monthly drawings of names of students who were given PBS cards.

At home, parents can talk about respect and responsibility and how to live out these words. You can also proudly recognize the respectful, responsible, and safe behavior choices your child makes. Ask your child if he or she has been recognized for positive behavior and please continue to encourage your child to choose respect, behave responsibly and make safe choices at school and at home. If you have any questions about Franklin's Positive Behavior Support program, please feel free to contact Asma Junco, Assistant Principal.

PTA

Thank You

A special thanks to all of the parents and teachers who joined the PTA and contributed to "Friends of Franklin". Your support will go a long way to benefit the students of Franklin.

Thank you to the entire PTA who has worked so hard to help get the Franklin PTA off to a strong start. Thank you: Amy Thomas, Angie Fontanilla, Anne Hanlon, Beth Bliss, Beth Robertson Jasmine Geddis, JoEllan Frasch, Kanwal Kaur, Mimi Tillett, Randa Baker, Robin Liddell, and Suzanne Brandt.

Franklin Spirit Dinner Nights: Come out, have dinner and a great time.

Sweet Frog: *Tuesday, Nov. 22nd (5:00 PM – 8:00 PM)*

Come out, have dinner, and support Franklin at Sweet Frog on Tuesday, Nov. 22nd. This is a perfect event to start the Thanksgiving Holiday. Present the flyer at the time of purchase and they will donate 20% to Franklin PTA. The kids love this place. Flyers will be distributed to your child. Address: 13061 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Chantilly. (Greenbriar Shopping Center)

Franklin Spirit Night at Buffalo Wing Factory & Pub - Chantilly

Buffalo Wing Factory Spirit Night, Monday December 5th at 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM and the second date is Wednesday January 11th 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Franklin PTA will receive 10% of the sales from anyone that says they are eating there for Franklin Middle School. Address: 13067 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy, Chantilly. (Greenbriar Shopping Center)

November PTA Meeting

Please join us at the next PTA meeting on November 15th at 9:30 am in Franklin's Library

All are welcome!

Peter Bisset

President of PTA