



“I CAN, I WILL, I DO!”

FREEMAN ELEMENTARY

November, 2016

Principal's Note

We have had a great start to school. Students are doing a superb job getting into classroom routines and following building-wide expectations. Our building-wide expectation is called P.R.I.D.E. P.R.I.D.E. means Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Excellence. Students are taught these appropriate behaviors for our classrooms, hallways, gym, cafeteria, and playground. As a result of our students making good choices, the students are given a fun day each month.



FALCON DAY

The last Falcon Fun Day was October 26th from 2:30-3:15 pm. We give all students who have not received an Office Discipline Referral (ODR) for the month an opportunity to participate in one activity. One of those activities, for example, is a visit to the science lab where Mrs. Fussell does some type of science exploration! Other choices may include soccer, basketball, board games, art, technology, reading, playground, Makerspaces, etc. We are so proud that our students are making good choices throughout the month. Staff and students really look forward to celebrating their success on Falcon Fun Days. **Way to go Falcons!**

Parents, I want to say thank you for allowing me the opportunity to work with your child. I am truly blessed every day to come to work and be with happy and excited students who yearn for knowledge. I enjoy their enthusiasm and hugs every morning!

~ Dr. Donna Ferguson



At dismissal, it is important that you do NOT park in the “Fire Lane”. In the event of a real emergency, we would not be able to get those vehicles to our front entrance. It is also unsafe for students to be running out and between parked cars.

Safety is my #1 concern, and I am fully aware of the overcrowded parking lot caused by the completion of the new transportation facility. I am working on a new dismissal procedure to address this issue; but in the meantime, please park your car in the lot and meet your child on the East side of our building. Thank you for your support and patience!

November Calendar



- November 4** Mad Science Assembly
- November 7** Get Movin' Monday
- November 8** Sonic Night @ 5-8 pm
- November 11** NO SCHOOL
- November 15** Night at the Library @ 6-7:30 pm
- November 16** Fire Safety Show
- November 17** Pastries with Parents @ 7:30-8:00 am
- November 21** BOE Meeting @ 7 pm
- November 22** Falcon Fun Day
PRIDE Assembly @ 3:15 pm
- November 23-24** NO SCHOOL
- November 29** Site Council @ 4:00 pm

Counselor Chronicles

In the month of October, Kindergarten and First Grade students learned about getting along with others through the story “Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns That We All Get Along” by Howard Binkow. We practiced taking turns through a variety of art activities which they had to do a shared art project and present it in front of the classroom. We then began a lesson on the perils of interrupting others and how we should wait our turn patiently through the story of “My Mouth is a Volcano” by Julia Cook.

In Second Grade we continued our talk on PRIDE by moving on to the topic of Discipline. Discipline is the ability to control oneself and their actions. We talked about many real world examples that did and did not show discipline. To explore Discipline further, we read the story “But It’s Not My Fault” by Julia Cook in order to learn that it is better to take responsibility for our actions and learn from them, than to blame others.

In Third Grade we wrapped up our PRIDE unit by talking about Excellence with the story “I Can Do It” by Judy Lehman. We learned through the story that by trying hard, never giving up and having confidence in ourselves that we can achieve almost anything we put our mind to.

Fourth Grade continued their Respect unit by beginning their yearlong affirmation project. Each week students will be able to write positive affirmations to each other in order to support each other. Fourth graders also began acting out the play “The Big Switcheroo”. It is a play about showing respect to elders and helping out when their family is in need.

Fifth Grade continued on their PRIDE curriculum by learning about preparation, planning and prioritizing through the story “Planning Isn’t My Priority and Making Priorities Isn’t in My Plans!” by Julia Cook. The story talks about the importance of planning and prioritizing in order to be able to reach short and long-term goals.

We wrapped up the month of October with our annual drug prevention lessons in honor of Red Ribbon week. They learned about the perils of drug use and the effects of drugs on an individual’s health.

BIONIC

In October the BIONIC team was busy helping Coach Kelley and Mr. Rust prepare and run the Relay For Life event. BIONIC members created posters, completed exercises, helped hand out water and guided the younger students around the track throughout the event.

Next month the BIONIC team will be helping to prepare for the fifth annual Freeman Food Drive in partnership with Haysville Community Outreach.



Tip of the Month:

Being in school every day means your child won’t miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If your student asks to stay home “just because” remind them of what they will miss, such as reading, math or technology class. Explain that they can be absent only if he’s sick or if there’s a family emergency.

~ Mr. McGee
Counselor

Library News

The Library just hosted our first Night at the Library. It was a ton of fun and we had so many wonderful friends come enjoy a little Halloween books, games, crafts and fun. If you haven’t had a chance to enjoy a Night at the Library, don’t miss our next one on **November 15th for Thanksgiving in the Library**. Each Night at the Library is a come and go event from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. It is hosted by the Library with all preparation, planning, and workers being done by our Campus International Baccalaureate students. This wonderful family event is something we hope you and your family will come and enjoy together. It’s a perfect time to enjoy books and fun at a Night at the Library. See you there!

The fall Book Fair is also just around the corner. We will begin our online Book Fair on November 25th and the actual Book Fair will begin on December 5th through December 9th. We’re always looking for some volunteers to help make this year’s Book Fair bigger and better. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact the Library and we’ll share the different volunteer opportunities we’ve got. All profits are used to purchase new materials for Freeman Library. The last Book Fair’s profits were used to purchase some of our Makerspace items for our Full STEAM Ahead! Makerspaces. For each dollar spent, Freeman receives ½ of that back in merchandise from Scholastic. It is a wonderful way to continue to build our collection and expand for Makerspaces! Remember, if you’d like to volunteer, let us know, and we look forward to seeing you at the Book Fair. Thanks so much for your support.

~ Mrs. Davis
Library Media Specialist



MUSIC NOTES

This month I would like to spotlight some of the things we have been learning in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades.

Kindergarten is working on steady beat and rhythm patterns. We have been playing instruments (cabasas, drums, etc.) on a variety of short and long rhythms, and we recently started learning a Halloween song!



First Grade just finished a unit on the ballet "Peter and the Wolf". During the unit we learned about the 4 instrument families of the orchestra (the strings, percussion, brass and woodwinds). We learned how the clarinet, oboe, bassoon, french horn, flute and string family are used in the music to portray specific characters.

Second Grade just started a new Halloween song where we are learning about rests and their importance in the music. Right before that we learned a song about cowboys called "Lone Star Trail">

Next time I'll talk a little bit about 5th Grade and their progress in learning the first drum ensemble for World Music Drumming.

WALK AND STOP TRADITIONAL

Musical notation for the song "Walk and Stop". It consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff has the lyrics "Now you walk and you walk and you walk and you stop! Now, you" and the second staff has "walk and you walk and you walk and you stop!".

Now you walk and you walk and you walk and you stop! Now, you
walk and you walk and you walk and you stop!

Students with "bubbles," walking around the room, beat in their feet.
When I sing "stop," they freeze.
Then, I change the word "walk" to other locomotor movements:
gallop, skip, hop, jump, tip-toe, robot, crawl, etc.
and I change the tempo on different verses.

~ Mr. Rust
Music Teacher

TECHNOLOGY TIDBITS

In the last few weeks in technology class students have been working on many new exciting things. Kindergarteners have been learning about important computer parts. First and Second graders have been learning about safe search engines and ways to safely find answers to our research questions. Third, Fourth and Fifth graders have started keyboarding using typing.com. Students CAN work on keyboarding at home if they like. Intermediate students are also becoming familiar with our new operating system Windows 7 as well learning the many neat features of Office 2016. One of the questions I like to ask my students daily is "How can Technology help me to find answers to our questions efficiently?"

Natalie Johnson
Technology Teacher



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

How to Train for Best Fitness Results

If you have any thought about working out and want to exercise on a regular basis, it's worthwhile to have a plan developed and even seek out the advice of a coach or trainer. It's easy to start, but can become a challenge to keep up your workouts on a weekly basis. Below you'll find some tips to help you stay with that new workout program and produce results you're looking for!

1. Discuss training with an expert and set up a plan.
2. Train regularly and vary your workout.
3. Warm up before your start stretching to prevent injuries.
4. Balance your workout with cardio and strength training.
5. Don't over-train one group of muscles and neglect the other.
6. Focus on using good form when lifting weights.
7. Make sure you have the proper shoe and fit for your workout.
8. Keep a training log, it helps to see where you started.
9. Lift weights smart, consult your coach for safe techniques.
10. Remember: One day at a time, hard work pays off.

We want all of our Freeman students and parents to stay safe and healthy. Fitness workouts are a great way to spend some quality time with your family!

~ Coach Kelley



"The only bad workout is the one that didn't happen!"

SCHOOL STORE

This year Freeman Elementary School partnered with SchoolStore to raise funds to help purchase essential resources needed in our school and classrooms. Companies like Sears, Target, Kohls, Walmart, Office Depot plus over 300 more merchants all participate in SchoolStore.com. As part of the program, families and friends of Freeman students have the opportunity to purchase Caring for Classrooms gift cards. Thus far we have over \$200 donated back to the school.

We sincerely appreciate the support we have received through this program. All the proceeds are used for supplies and resources for the school and classrooms.

As the holidays approach, please continue to think about the SchoolStore.com to make your online purchases. This is a perfect way to bring it full circle for your child and for our school!

Have a wonderful Fall season!



Literacy First News...



What does retelling, summarizing, main idea, predicting, clarifying and questioning all have in common? These are essential comprehension skills that every child needs in order to understand the text that they read.

Teachers use a variety of tools to help your child comprehend such as graphic organizers, modeling ‘think-alouds’ while reading, activating their prior knowledge to help ‘hook’ your child to the text and asking higher-level thinking questions.

Some ways you can help your child comprehend the text or passages they are reading are to start with that emotional hook. Ask your child why they chose the book they picked out at the library or MIRP. What do they know about the topic or some key vocabulary words? Model a ‘think-aloud’ such as ‘I’m wondering why there is an empty lake on the front cover...’ Ask your child to identify some words that they might need clarified. Have them predict what will happen before they start the next chapter.

Showing an interest and engaging in your child’s reading will help cement those comprehension skills and instill a love for reading.

If you have any questions about Literacy First please feel free to contact your child’s teacher, myself or check out the official Literacy First website: www.literacyfirst.com.

Toni Haight
Learning Facilitator