

September 2016

Freeman Elementary

SCHOOL MOTTO: "I Can, I Will, I Do!"

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WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL FREEMAN FALCONS!!

Parents,

Last year, I shared details regarding changes Freeman was going to undergo over the summer and boy these past few months have not been disappointing. We have seen construction crews, painters, maintenance, and general craftsmen working hard to make Freeman safe, secure, and beautiful. Here is the list of improvements we have made this year with a short list of those changes still to come:

- Interior security cameras installed in entrances, hallways, cafeteria, and library.
- Safe & secure entrance with added programmable exterior and interior locks
- New windows in classrooms and in gymnasium
- Main color of our school "RED" added to walls
- New display cases hung in hallway between library and gym
- New drinking fountains
- New tree additions to our K-1 reading area
- New computers in technology lab
- New Science and Research lab
- New Tubano drum package – Music department
- New stands and stand carts – Music department

STILL TO COME☺

- PreK and K-5 playground equipment - playground
- Rock climbing wall & stair steppers - gym'
- Bluetooth sound system – gym

This year started with a heightened level of excitement from staff and students. I am so excited about the school and culture of learning that is being created and supported here at Freeman. Our motto, "I Can, I Will, I Do!" only means... We **CAN** accomplish great things...We **WILL** accomplish those great things together...and, We **DO** great things at Freeman!

I look forward to your feedback!

~ Dr. Donna Ferguson
Freeman Elementary Principal



September Events

- Sept 1-2 Dental Screening
- Sept 2 Falcon Friday –wear **RED** shirts
- Sept 5 NO SCHOOL
- Sept 6-9 Hearing & Vision Checks
- Sept 9 Falcon Friday –wear **RED** shirts
- Sept 12 Get Movin' Monday
- Sept 13 Hearing & Vision Checks
- Sept 13 PTA – Sonic Night 5-8 pm
- Sept 13 PTA – Watch D.O.G.S. 6-7:30 pm
- Sept 15-16 Hearing & Vision Checks
- Sept 16 Falcon Friday –wear **RED** shirts
- Sept 19 Fall Individual PICTURES
- Sept 23 NO SCHOOL
- Sept 27 Gallup Student Survey
- Sept 27 Site Council 4-5 pm
- Sept 27 PTA Meeting 6:30 pm in Cafeteria
- Sept 30 Falcon Friday –wear **RED** shirts
- Sept 30 PRIDE Assembly @ 3:15 pm



A good night's sleep
makes for happy students!

At what time should your child go to bed?

Age	Wake-up time						
	6:00 AM	6:15 AM	6:30 AM	6:45 AM	7:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 AM
	Sleeping time						
5	6:45 PM	7:00 PM	7:15 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM
6	7:00 PM	7:15 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM
7	7:15 PM	7:15 PM	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM
8	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM
9	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM
10	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM	9:30 PM
11	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM	9:30 PM	9:45 PM
12	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM	9:30 PM	9:45 PM

TECH NEWS



New computers, new paint, new tables, new teacher. I am a retired Library Media /Site Technology Specialist from the Wichita Public Schools. At my last school, I had a lab with 24 computers in my library where I taught technology themed lessons to my students. I am happy and delighted to be your child's new technology teacher. We will start the year out learning the ins and outs of Windows 10 and basic computer skills. I will also be an extension of the classroom when rooms begin working on projects. The upgrades made to the technology classroom over this past summer will help foster a great learning environment for your children. If you have any questions feel free to email me at njohnson@usd261.com.

Place your home computer in a location that you can monitor what your children are accessing.

<http://www.symbaloo.com/mix/freemancomputerlab> is the Freeman Computer Lab homepage which contains age appropriate links.

Symbaloo

www.symbaloo.com

Symbaloo (Symbaloo.com) is awesome! All my favorites are together and synced on all devices. Love the new design!



**~ Mrs. Johnson
Freeman Technology Teacher**

Preschool News

Mrs. Wright & Mrs. Shipman



**We are excited to have
Pre-K School starting on
Thursday, September 1st!**

Pre-kindergarten families,

We are looking forward to working with you and your children this year. Our days and weeks will be filled with many exciting experiences and opportunities to learn and grow. We are excited to have new classrooms this year that will allow us to enhance your child's learning experiences. The structure of our daily activities is carefully planned to encourage independence, self-confidence and group cooperation through large group, small group and one-on-one participation in a variety of hands-on, interactive experiences. Throughout the year we will be working on reading readiness skills, mathematics, fine and gross motor skills, writing and social emotional skills. We are so excited you will be a part of our school family this year!



Music News

~ Mr. Rust

It's hard to believe the new school year is here and we're off to a great start! 2016-2017 will be an exciting music year for our students, with many performances and activities planned throughout the year. The following is a list of some of those upcoming events:

2016-2017 MUSIC CONCERT SCHEDULE



**** ALL CONCERTS are in the Freeman Gym:
December 6th @ 6:30 pm (Grades 2-3)
March 7th @ 6:30 pm (Grades 4-5)
April 25th @ 6:30 pm (Grades K-1)**

In addition to the performances listed above, we will likely be adding a couple of 5th grade performances so be on the lookout for details on those and we will share them as soon as we have them!

4th Grade Recorders

Around the middle of September, we will be placing an order for recorders for 4th grade students. The cost will be \$6 and will include the instrument, neck strap and protective bag. A note will be going home in students Tuesday folders regarding this the first week in September.

BAND/ORCHESTRA CONCERT SCHEDULE



**December 21 @ 8:45 am (Both-Freeman)
May 9th @ 7 pm (BAND only-Nelson)
May 10 @ 8:45 am (Both-Freeman)
May 11 @ 7 pm (ORCHESTRA only-Nelson)**

INTRODUCING OUR NEW TEACHERS



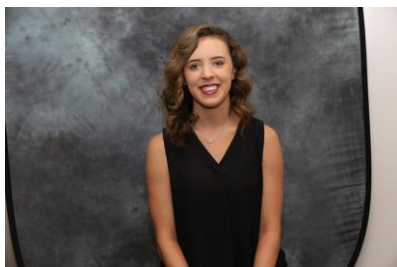
Natalie Johnson, Technology Teacher.

Mrs. Johnson has a diverse background in education. She comes to us from Wichita USD 259 with over 25 years of experience in education. Her most recent accomplishment was elementary library media specialist where technology was a big part of her classroom.



Kaitlin Zimmerman – 3rd Grade Teacher.

Mrs. Zimmerman comes to us from Wichita USD 259. She taught fifth grade for four years and was team leader in her building.



Hilary Cosgrove, 2nd Grade Teacher.

Ms. Cosgrove is a recent Kansas State graduate with elementary K-6 certification. She was on the KSU dance team and in addition to her full time teaching position at Freeman, she is also a dance instructor in Haysville during the evenings and weekends.

PLEASE HELP ME TO WELCOME OUR NEW TEACHERS!

HEALTH & WELLNESS Healthroom~ Nurse Warren



VISION AND HEARING SCREENINGS

We will be conducting vision and hearing screenings for the students at Freeman on September 6th through September 16th. If your child wears glasses, please be sure they have them. A note will be sent home at that time to indicate screening results. If a student does not pass the vision and/or hearing screening initially, they will be rescreened September 13th 15th or 16th. If your student fails the second screening, then parents/guardians will be informed of the results by mail. If you have any questions or prefer that your child not be screened, please do not hesitate to call the Health Room at Freeman at 554-2265. Thank you!

Wellness ~ Coach Kelley



We would like to welcome all students and parents to Freeman Elementary for the upcoming school year! We are excited to start a new year in our Physical Education Program and the enjoy the new changes in our bright and shiny gym!

Our goal is to encourage students and families to engage in more physical activities and to adopt health-enhancing activities for their lifetime. Physical activity is important for everyone and being physically active will help you learn better and give you more energy for other activities you would like to pursue in life.

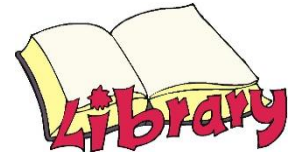
"The A, B, C's of Physical Education Responsibilities "

- A. Always respect others **and think safety all the time.**
- B. Be prepared for class with proper clothing attire and wear sports shoes with socks.
- C. Cooperate with others by promoting teamwork and good sportsmanship.

HAVE A SUPER YEAR!

Counselor - News

By Mr. McGee



A brand new school year has begun at Freeman and with it many new faces have arrived. The new students will be featured on our Freeman New Faces poster. The poster encourages returning students to reach out and welcome the new students in their class.



Classroom Guidance

The weekly classroom guidance sessions have begun for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Each class meets for 45 minutes per week. The month of August has been focused on giving the students a chance to get to know their classmates. We did a number of activities that let students discover new and interesting things about each other during the first two weeks.

In September, Kindergarten and first grade will begin to work on developing their listening skills through the use of the story Listen and Learn by Cheri J. Meiners. The story provides students a variety of ways to show off their listening skills. This includes looking at the speaker, thinking about what they hear, and how to ask questions.

Second through fifth grade students will cover P.R.I.D.E. They will learn over the next few weeks what Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Discipline and Excellence are and the ways they can show each one not only in school, but outside of it as well.



Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS)

Students and staff reviewed our PRIDE expectations in August through the use of PBIS stations throughout the school. Students should come to school every day and be prepared to show their Freeman P.R.I.D.E.

- Preparation
- Respect
- Integrity
- Discipline
- Excellence

Counselor Tips of the Month

- Set a Routine. Routines help children know what to expect and when. When they know when an event or activity is upcoming it causes them less stress.
- Sleep is crucial for a child's growth and development. A child's brain needs at least 10 hours of sleep every night in order to be recharged and ready to learn the next day.
- Support positive study habits. Have a specific area in the house where your child can do homework each evening.

HERE'S TO A GREAT YEAR!



Library News – By Mrs. Davis

September Library Update

Welcome back! The books missed all of you and we did, too! The library is ready for our Falcons. There's a few new things in the library. Miss Whitley is now in the library full-time! She's doing great and we are so fortunate to have her.

The guinea pigs are back and there are a couple new fish in the aquarium. It's been a rocky start for the guinea pigs and the fish, but hopefully things will level out soon.

Night at the Library will be back for the first semester. We are looking forward to having the Campus IB students plan and present our special evenings at the library. Watch for upcoming dates.

Some of the new things in the library are that we are also highlighting authors and illustrators in our library on their birthday month. Look for the signs on top of our short shelves and check out some of these wonderful books by our birthday month authors and illustrators. We will also always have a theme grouping of books for you to enjoy.

We're so glad you are back and look forward to finding that book that you remember forever in our library. Happy reading, Falcons!

