

FOREST PINES DRIVE ELEMENTARY

Standing tall for tomorrow's future!

11455 Forest Pines Drive, Raleigh, NC 27614

Office: 919-562-6262

Fax: 919-562-6260

forestpineses.weebly.com

Principal: Dr. Patrick Grant

Assistant Principal: Ms. Holly Shaw

PTA President: Ms. Lauri Moore

SLY NEWSLETTER MONTHLY



Monthly Newsletter – February 2013

CALENDAR OF EVENTS February

- 2/4 – 2/8: Jump Rope for Heart
2/4: FPDE - Kindergarten / New Student Tour @ 10:00 AM
2/6 – 2/8: Field Trip: Kindergarten – NC Museum of Natural Science
2/8: Field Trip: 4th Grade - Science Fun for Everyone
2/8: PTA: Mother / Son Dance @ 5:45 & Father / Daughter Dance @ 7:15 - Mardi Gras Masquerade
2/11: District 3 BAC Meeting @ Durant Road Middle School
2/12: Field Trip: 1st Grade - Wakefield High School Play
2/14: Bus Driver Appreciation Day
2/15: Early Release - Staff Lunch: FPDE-PTA
2/18: Teacher Workday – Student Holiday
2/20: FPDE - Kindergarten / New Student Tour @ 3:00 PM
2/21: International Night from 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Family Spirit Night
2/22: Interims for Quarter 3

Common Core Curriculum Corner

Writing:

The new writing standards of the Common Core are placing new challenges on writers of all ages. Perhaps one of the biggest shifts in writing is a decreased emphasis on narrative writing (a story about characters or something that has happened to you), to an increase in informational and opinion writing. We are also asking students to be more precise with their word choices, support their ideas clearly, and there are more clearly defined grammar expectations. Look for new revised rubrics attached to your child's writing work as it comes home.

A great activity to help support you child at home is having them develop contracts or arguments in written form. At first this can be done together, and then students can transition to creating these written contracts/arguments independently. Does your child want a new pet, a trip to their favorite restaurant, to have friends sleep over? Have your child write the reasons they should be allowed to do this. Can they address any reservations you may have? What promises can your child make to reassure your objections? How can they earn the privilege? You may be really surprised at what your son or daughter can come up with!

Counselor Corner

The character trait for the month of February is Integrity. Integrity is having the inner strength to be truthful, trustworthy, and honest in all things. It is acting justly and honorably.

"A half-truth is a whole lie."

~ Author unknown

"Truth is the most valuable thing we have."

~ Mark Twain

"Honesty is your truest friend no matter what the circumstance."

~ Abraham Lincoln

"Honesty is the best policy."

~ George Washington

Don't forget to support Jump Rope for Heart this month. Also, start saving your change for Pennies for Patients/Pasta which will take place for two weeks in March.

Talent Show and New Sound System

The 5th Grade individual talent show last month was great. Our student's courage, self-discipline, and talent were on display in an excellent manner. Thank you to Ms. Eubanks, Ms. Elliott, and Mr. LeRoy for your contributions to the production. The new sound system was awesome thanks mostly to the PTA's contribution.

New Leveled Book Room

A big thank you to Ms. Moore (our PTA president), Ms. Shaw and others for putting a lot of resources and time in creating and organizing our fabulous new leveled book room in the media center.

EOG Testing Window

It is not too early to begin preparing and thinking about End of Grade testing (EOG). The EOG testing window for Forest Pines Elementary (Wake County – Traditional Calendar Schools) is May 20 – June 6 and the NCEXTEND2 window is May 8 – June 6. Tentatively, we plan to administer the EOG specifically on May 21 – 23 and NCEXTEND2 on May 14 – 16. Please keep these dates in mind when making appointments and/or making travel plans.

FPDE – School Improvement Plan

Parents, please join us for our School Improvement Plan quarterly review meeting on Monday, February 25 from 5:00 – 6:00 PM in the media center. We will be reviewing our progress regarding our school goals.

Below are the 2012-13 SIP goals for FPDE:

Reading: By June 2014, 80% of students in 3-5 will show proficiency and students will increase meeting their growth target by 4% annually as measured by the Reading EOG.

Math: By June 2014, 88% of students in 3-5 will show proficiency and students will increase meeting their growth target by 2% annually as measured by the Math EOG.

Student Climate: By June 2014, 80% of Forest Pines students will display PBIS expectations, behaviors and character traits which encourage an atmosphere of mutual respect between the student body and staff as measured by SWIS data and student initiated referrals.

Staff Climate: By June 2014, 80% of teachers will agree staff development is differentiated to meet the individual needs of all staff members as measured by staff development survey and Teacher Working Conditions Survey data.

Technology Corner

Does your child have a wild imagination that allows them to tell detailed stories? Does that same child complain that handwriting is hard, takes too long, or hurts their hand? If you have access to a computer, your child could type their stories using that vivid imagination. If you have Microsoft Office, your child could use Word to let their imagination run and write stories, letters, songs, or poems. If you do not have Word, but you have Microsoft Windows, your child could use the Notepad application located in the Accessories folder. If you own a Mac, then your child could use the TextEdit program found in the Applications. Happy typing!