

Florenceville Middle School

May 2016 Newsletter



School Vision - "All students will be given the opportunity and support to become responsible citizens."

School Mission - "The mission of FMS is to develop students who are intellectually, technologically, physically and socially ready for their place in the 21st century world."

May Flowers. . . are on the way! ☺

Provincial Policy establishes what information schools may and may not share with families on the behalf of other organizations. FMS will be working to be compliant with this policy and this will represent a significant change in the nature and volume of information you will be receiving by School Connects and in hand. This policy allows us to establish a **Community Bulletin Board** within the school on which we can post flyers and information regarding community events. This policy prevents us from **mass mail-outs** of flyers, registration forms or other forms of advertisement by paper, by phone calls or through emails.

We will be making it a priority to set-up the Community Bulletin Board in the very near future. Then we will be working with students to help them develop a pattern of regularly checking the bulletin board to find out about recreation events, summer camps, and other extra-curricular activities provided by organizations other than the school. For students and families who are accustomed to finding out about registration information and deadlines through the schools, this will mean a change in how you access the information. We thank you for your understanding that we are not permitted to provide this information directly through our communication systems and invite you to develop new habits within your family to access this information. Middle school students can handle this responsibility if we hand it over to them, so we will help support the change over with them in the remaining months of this school year.

The annual **UNB Math Competition** takes place on Friday, May 13. We are sending a Team of 7 Grade 7 and 8 students with Ms Daneluk to the Fredericton campus that day to participate and represent FMS. We are also sending four Grade 6 students to the **Regional Heritage Fair** at UNB on May 11th. Best wishes to all our students as they take advantage of these great opportunities and represent our FALCONS with pride!

Once again this year, "**Go Girl**" events have been scheduled to expose Grade 8 female students to some of the recreational activities available to them within their home regions. Our event will take place at the Civic Centre on Wednesday, May 11th and all our Grade 8 girls will take part with girls from BMS and CCS. Comfortable clothing including sneakers and a bag lunch will be required by all Grade 8 girls that day!

The Provincial Assessment at Grade 6 will be administered between May 30 and June 3. It is a measure of student performance in *reading, mathematics and scientific literacy*. All grade 6 students participate in this assessment. This assessment is not designed to measure individual student results; rather, the data is used at the District and Provincial levels as a systems measure and for use in District and Provincial Improvement Plans.

Our **Book Fair** is here!! It will be open for students to view and purchase books between May 3 – 5. **Students may buy tomorrow** if they did not do so today. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this great opportunity to explore new books. Many thanks for all your support! This is a fundraiser used to purchase new books for our library that all FMS students may enjoy!!!

Moving Up Day is Thursday, May 26th. This is the day that FMS hosts our future grade 6 students from our feeder schools. They will spend two hours that morning with our Trailblazer teachers learning about what coming to FMS to be a FALCON will be like. During that time, our Grade 8 students will go to Carleton North to learn about and tour their future school. Our current Grade 6 and 7 students will be engaged in multiple learning activities at that time.



The FMS Book Talk Initiative is underway! Has your child ask you to be their reading partner? If not, have they told you whom they've asked? All students are to tell their English teacher by **tomorrow** whom they've selected. The book is to be chosen by **May 13th**. Reading and chatting about the book occurs between May 13th and June 16th. Books are to be returned June 17th. **Dropping in to the Book Fair could be a great book selection strategy!** Thanks for supporting both initiatives!!!!

May 2016

3rd to 5th: FMS Book Fair

5th : All students tell their ELA teacher whom they've chosen as an adult reading buddy

6th: Provincial Council Day – No school for students

11th: Go Girls for Grade 8 Girls

13th: UNB Math Competition

13th: Start your reading for your book talk

16th: Local Branch Meeting Day – No school for students

23rd: Victoria Day – No school

24th: PSSC Meeting

26th : Moving Up Day

28th: FMS is the site of the Relay for Life

June 2016

1st: FMS newsletter

2nd: Farewell Party

4th: Gathering of the Scots (Rugby in Perth-Andover)

9th – 11th: Grade 8 Trip to Quebec City

17th: Return your Book Talk book

21st: CPR sessions for Grade 8 students (in class)

23rd: FMS Year End Activities – local and on-site

24th: last day of classes

The Grade 8 Farewell Party is coming up and Grade 8 students will soon be invited to participate in planning a theme and decorations for this celebration. The message already shared with students and with Grade 8 parents is an important one: This event is meant to be inclusive for all students, allowing all to feel comfortable and welcome regardless of dress and financial situation. **It is not a mini prom.** No one is expected to purchase a special outfit for this event. It is an informal party where many dance while others play in the gym or just hang out together. Grade 8 students may invite a 'sign-in' guest from Grade 7 or 8 from FMS or another school and permission slips for these sign-ins will be made available the week prior to the celebration. Sign-in guests must be in good standing at their present school.

The **Student Fee for 2016-2017** will remain at \$55.00. Current Grade 6 and 7 students can pay the fee for next year anytime from now to June 23; it can be dropped off at the office. It works best for us to have the fee in advance to improve our buying power during June and August when most school supplies are on sale. Receipts will be issued when payment is made.

All Hilroy scribblers, binders, duotangs, and paper needed for all subjects are provided. Pens, pencils, erasers, a lock (rental), and planner are also provided to each student. Class sets of scissors, rulers, glue, coloured pencils, markers, highlighters, and calculators are available for students to use in classrooms as well as facial tissues, bandaids and disinfectant wipes. This fee also includes school-wide performances (drama, music, inspirational presentations), a paid DJ for dances, one trifold presentation board and one or two sheets of bristol board for projects, and many of the consumables for exploratory subjects. The fee helps defray costs associated with our school-wide presentation days (Heritage Fair, Probability Fair and Science Fair) as well as beginning and end of year celebrations.

Parents are asked to supply a book bag, a lunch container and clean sneakers for Phys Ed classes.

This month's Health Note: Limiting Screen Time

Today, many children have some sort of device that has a screen they can look at; a television, a tablet, or a cellphone. Studies are now showing that children spend almost 7.5 hours a day looking at screens- that's a complete work day. Guidelines suggest that children ages 5-17 should limit their screen time to only 2 hours a day . Some children are spending more than 5 hours above the recommended time, looking at screens. Children learn best when they are actively involved. Activity and play are valuable in the development of a child's brain.

By engaging with your child and getting them active, you help them develop creativity, problem solving, and many other important skills. So why not get away from the screens for a while, and try something fun!

Here are some activities to do with your child instead of spending time in front of a screen:

- Play outside
- Paint or draw pictures
- Play cards or board games
- Cook with your children- pick a favorite recipe and help them make it

There are lots of fun and exciting activities to do instead of sitting in front of a screen. Try it and see how much fun you can have!

For more information, you can visit these websites:

- http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/limiting_screen_time_at_home
- <http://www.participation.com>
- <http://www.screenfree.org/>

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References:

Participation. (2013). Learn the Facts.
Jones, R. (2015). How to use technology to limit kids' screen time.