

Farmington River Elementary





We welcome your comments and ideas! Get in touch at pta@frrsd.org

www More online at frrsd.org

October 2015

The year is off to a great start — we've had two productive PTA meetings so far, and we're full swing into our various fall efforts.

Our Square One Art fundraiser is here! You should have received your child's personalized catalog by now, filled with all kinds of products that will bear his or her art — including stationery, accessories, mugs, plates, pot holders, water bottles, pillows, ornaments and more! Order by Friday, October 30 and we should receive all products three weeks later, by November 18. This is a great way to get started on your holiday shopping while also giving something very special, with your child's unique art!

Both this week and next, Flying Deer Nature Center is in the house to provide an Adventure in Nature Discovery!



Photo, courtesy Wendy Berman

Devin of Flying Deer Nature Center explains to students the concept of having a sit spot and what it means to be a naturalist, tracker, scout and survivalist.

Funded by our summer 2014 concert/ auction, classes will have an opportunity to learn about nature in grade-appropriate explorations, right here in our backyard!

We have been working to plan this effort since last year, spearheaded by Kenly Brozman who knows first-hand about the fantastic Flying Deer programs. Thank you, Kenly, for bringing them to our attention and for working so diligently to coordinate these great workshops ... we cannot wait to hear what the students think!

We have traditionally hosted a Scholastic Book Fair in the school library during November; however, this year we're putting a different spin on things. Next month, we will host an **Online Book Fair** through Children's Bookstore. It's the perfect opportunity to encourage reading with your children, while also earning money for the school (we will EARN 30% on all sales!). This also allows it to be a largerreaching effort, because any friends or family members who don't live nearby can also shop our **Online Book Fair** and help us earn money. We will be sending more information home in early November with details on how to shop PLUS we'll also be hosting a FREE Family Fun Night at school on Friday, November 20 with food, a fun family event and an opportunity to shop for your books online! Please be sure to save the date: Friday, Nov 20th!

Lastly, another reward program we forgot to mention earlier is the Stop & Shop card program! Each shopping trip using your Stop & Shop card earns CASH for our school. To enroll online, go to stopandshop.com/aplus/register-card/ or just stop by the S&S customer service desk.

Thank you in advance for your support, and we look forward to seeing you at our FREE Family Fun Event in November!

Best, Wendy

FALL EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming PTA Meetings

Nov 12 and Dec 3, 2015 Held Thursdays at 3:15pm, School Library

Child Care Available During PTA Meetings! We hope you'll join us! If you plan to attend PTA meetings, please send your child with a note stating they will be staying after school. Students are to meet Karen Yvon at the benches outside the gym.

Square One Art Fundraiser Orders must be placed by Friday, Oct 30 Our Official Fall Classroom Fundraiser!

Flying Deer Nature Workshops

Oct 19, 22 & 27 A great, hands-on, educational outdoors experience for Grades K-6!

> **Online Book Fair** 2 weeks: Nov 9–23 More details to follow!

Staff Dinner At Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 10

A great opportunity to support the efforts of our great teaching staff!

FREE Family Fun Night!

Save the Date: Friday, Nov 20 More details to follow!

> **Holiday Shop** Dec 9, 10, 11 More details to follow!

"When you know better, you **do better."** —*Maya Angelou*



JOIN IN OUR EXCITING FUNDRAISING EVENTS!



Get a jump on your holiday shopping! As you've probably seen already, our **Square One Art fundraiser** is in full swing! We **earn 40%** back on all purchases, applied to classroom accounts. **Please note: orders must be placed by Friday 10/30! Products will arrive about 3 weeks later, by 11/18, in plenty of time for the holidays!**



This November, we're taking our annual book fair online with **Children's Bookstore!** This is another way you can do some holiday shopping before the rush—and **30% of every book purchase comes back to OUR SCHOOL!** This will provide us with the ability to fund **more exciting programs and/or needed purchases for our students** this year. Stay tuned for more information and details about how to participate!



SEND IN YOUR BOX TOPS!

Affix them to a **Box Tops for Education** sheet or place them in an envelope or sturdy plastic zip bag. **Please be sure to include your child's name and grade**.



SEND IN YOUR LABELS FOR EDUCATION!

Send in your Campbell's Labels for Education! Submit them in an envelope or sturdy plastic zip bag. **Please be sure to include your child's name and grade**.



Photo, courtesy Wendy Berman

Students examine an animal skull and other items up-close with Josh from Flying Deer Nature Center.



- Volunteers needed to help organize and serve dinner to teachers and staff during Parent-Teacher Conferences, Tuesday, November 10.
- Karen Yvon is seeking parent Box Tops Coordinators for each classroom to assist with compiling and prepping Box Tops for submission.
- Mary Turo is seeking a partner for 2016 Winter Edition of Chill Out and Read Program to help assist with collecting order forms during the children's literacy initiative. Author Steve Swinburne will visit with Grades 3-6 to discuss process of nonfiction writing; he wishes to bring presigned books to sell (\$8 - \$15).

PLEASE EMAIL <u>pta@frrsd.org</u> if you're interested in helping with any of these efforts.

THANK YOU to Dana Pustinger (mom to Bradley, Pre-K) for volunteering to assist Kathy Couch with organizing Campbell's Labels for Education!



RECYCLE, DONATE OR FIND WANTED ITEMS FOR FREE

Our own Karen Yvon operates *K's Kloset* where she welcomes donations, works to fill people's wish lists (think winter clothing and boots!) and connects donors with those who are looking for larger items (think furniture) ... FOR FREE!

Her inventory is always changing—so email her at **kay239@gfluniverse.org** or call **413-848-2507** to **arrange a donation**, make a **request** or **schedule a pick-up**.