

# PTA News

## April 2015 Spotlight

Our Spotlight features Jana Bush, Title I paraprofessional



**Can you give me a bit of background about you:**

**Where do you live, do you have children/pets or live with someone you'd like to share with us?**

I live in Lee, Massachusetts with my husband, Todd and our two children, ages 11 and 13. Travis is my oldest son, and Owen is my youngest son. We have a pet cat named Cookie and we have 14 chickens.

**What was your job before coming to Farmington River?**

I used to work at Richmond Consolidated School as a fourth grade teacher and then was a stay-at-home mom, until my children reached school age. Once the boys were old enough for school is when I joined the team of professionals here at FRRSD.

**What are your hobbies, or what do you enjoy doing on your time off?**

I enjoy gardening, growing vegetables in my garden and cooking on my time off. I also love archery and I often shoot my bow with my boys and husband. Walking in the woods and hiking is something I also enjoy doing.

**What is your job at Farmington River, and what does it entail?**

I work mostly in the 5th and 6th grade as a Title One paraprofessional. I love math and reading, so I thoroughly my job. I like helping students to better understand

math and become better readers. I also can be seen in the cafeteria and on the playground, supervising the students here at school.

**Can you tell us how you feel about working at Farmington River, and what your goals are in your position?**

I feel great to be part of such a wonderful school community. The people here are great to work with, plus the students are fun to be with and make me smile and laugh on a daily basis. My goal is to help the students become lifelong learners and to never give up—even if they don't understand something the first time. *If at first you don't succeed, try it again.*

**What's your favorite part of the day?**

My favorite part of the day is doing math with my Title One math groups. I really enjoy helping the students I work with to better understand math concepts.

**What sort of message do you want to give to the children and parents at Farmington River?**

I would like to say thank you to all of the parents and children at FRRSD for giving me the opportunity to work in such a great school community. I am truly lucky to be part of such a caring and giving school system. I enjoy being able to interact with the students here, and hope that I make a difference in their lives—just the way they make a difference in my own.

*"Character, in the long run, is the decisive factor in the life of an individual and of nations alike."*

*—Theodore Roosevelt*

*"Nothing is impossible; the word itself says, 'I'm possible.'"*

*—Audrey Hepburn*



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*The email address for PTA officers is  
[PTA@frrsd.org](mailto:PTA@frrsd.org). We love your letters and ideas!*

## CASH CALENDAR FUNDRAISER 2015

*What an amazing effort!*

Gross sales were **\$12,940** and **exceeded** last year by \$900!

### Top Selling Students:

Connor Lewis, 1st Grade: \$1,250

Landon Havens, PreK: \$1,000

### Top Selling Classrooms:

1st Grade: \$3,180 in sales (25% of total—wow!)

*Staff: Ms. Phair and Ms. Beham*

## LION KING EXPERIENCE

We eagerly await the production that has us all singing *Hakuna Matata* on our way to work! We look forward to seeing everyone on **April 11th** at **7 pm** for the **Lion King Experience performance** and **Cast Party** to follow! Thank you to Mrs. C and Mrs. Canon, as well as students and parents who are working on this show with such diligence!

## GRUMBLING GRYPHONS TRAVELING THEATRE GROUP

Sponsored by the PTA and Otis OCC, the **Grumbling Gryphons** will be conducting an all-day workshop with our children on **April 29th**, with a show to end the day at 1:15 pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

## FARMINGTON STUDENTS ENJOYING GAGA PIT

A reminder that during last August, through the gracious generosity of both **Jon Berman** and the **Stanmeyer Family**, the PTA hosted a very successful **Silent Auction** benefit, raising **\$5,726** toward playground improvements for Farmington River! Students had overwhelmingly expressed their desire to acquire a **GaGa Pit**. Some serious fun being had!



*Photo courtesy of Jenna Gangell*



## SAVE THESE DATES!

### Next PTA Meeting

Thursday, April 9 at 3:15  
in the Farmington School Library

**Spring Break is less than 2 weeks away—but upon our return, the PTA will jump into a very busy beginning of May:**

### Staff Appreciation Week

May 4 - May 8

Please watch your email for opportunities to support our efforts to cater to and spoil the staff of Farmington River each day of *Staff Appreciation Week!*

### Screen Free Week

Monday, May 4

**BELOVED REC CENTER BINGO AND PIZZA DINNER**

Wednesday, May 6

**HIKE WITH MR. KELLER**

Friday, May 8

**BERKSHIRE SOUTH SWIM PARTY AND DINNER**

Tuesday, June 9

**GAIA ROOTS PERFORMANCE AND DINNER AT FARMINGTON RIVER SCHOOL**

## BOX TOPS CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Mrs. Costa's PreK class for collecting **\$114** in **Box Tops** over a 3-month period; the class was treated to a **PTA Pizza Party** last Friday. Ms. Phair's class and Mr. Keller's were runner-ups, having earned a **PTA Popcorn Party. \$424** was raised in total, over three months. Please keep saving! Collecting **Box Tops** is something *everyone* can do—they really do add up!