

PTA News

December 2014 Spotlight



**Our December Spotlight features Jane Gleason,
Business Manager at Farmington River**

**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 Otis with my husband and our black lab, Molly. I have three grown children and six grandchildren. Two of my children and their families live in Massachusetts, and one lives in Houston, Texas (way too far away!).

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

Before moving to the Berkshires, I owned and operated a secretarial service that provided bookkeeping and word processing services to several local businesses and individuals. I also worked for a court reporting service and a property management company.

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

I'm an avid reader and enjoy watching movies, listening to music, and spending time with my family and friends. I love gardening and cooking, as well.

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

I am responsible for the financial operations of the school. I work with the administration and school committee to establish and manage the school's budget. I make sure all the bills get paid, and that our staff and students have the materials and training needed to provide the best education we can.

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

I love working at Farmington River. This year marks my 23rd year working here—it sure doesn't seem that long! I have been lucky to work with many talented and dedicated staff members. Some of the students who were in elementary school when I started here are now parents of children in FRRES! It has been very special to watch those students grow into young adults. My goal is to continue to do my best to balance the needs of the District with the economic conditions facing our respective communities.

What's your favorite part of the day?

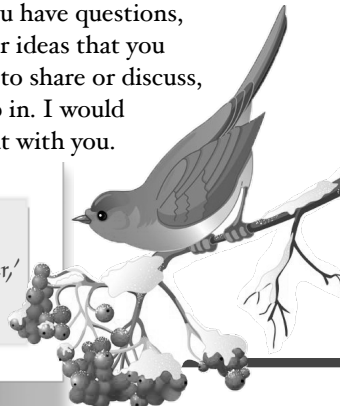
I enjoy the morning, when everyone is arriving. I enjoy watching the preschoolers on their playground from the office window. During *Read Across America*, I have often been asked to read to a class ... and that is a very special treat for me.

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

To our children, I would tell them to always believe in yourself, be kind to one another and to never stop learning new things. To parents—my door is always open. If you have questions, concerns or ideas that you would like to share or discuss, please stop in. I would love to chat with you.

I heard a bird sing in the dark of December,
A magical thing—and sweet to remember;
'We are nearer to Spring than we were in September,'
I heard a bird sing in the dark of December.

—Oliver Herford



PTA Officers 2014-15
Sherry DeCelle, *President*
Kenly Brozman, *Vice President*
Ilona Packie, *Treasurer*
Kathy Adams, *Secretary*

Room Parents 2014-15

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*The email address for PTA officers is
PTA@frresd.org. We love your letters and ideas!*



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR RESULTS

Thank you to the parents, students, staff and volunteers who once again helped make the Book Fair a success! We had sales of \$3,666, which resulted in \$2,016 in Scholastic Dollars profit. 100% of that profit will be used to purchase new books for our school library!

◆ **HOLIDAY SHOP 2014** ◆

Our annual Holiday Shop will be open as follows:

Thursday, December 11th
Friday, December 12th (half day)

Elves are busy shopping for the PTA's annual Holiday Shop! Students will be brought to the shop by their classroom teacher either on **Thursday the 11th** or on **Friday the 12th**. Reminder, Friday the 12th is a **HALF DAY**—but the shop will remain open for one hour at the end of the school day for any parents, staff or students who would like to visit.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Next PTA Meeting

Thursday, Dec 12 at 3:15
 in the School Library

Annual Holiday Shop

Thursday, Dec 11
 Friday, Dec 12

Otis Ridge Ski Program

6 weeks total, ending
 with our annual Pizza Party!
 Commences Wednesday, Jan 7
 Ends Wednesday, Feb 11

Cash Calendar Fundraiser

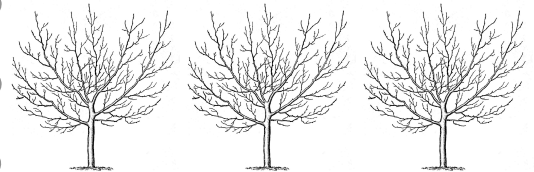
Calendars distributed in early January

CASH CALENDAR FUNDRAISER 2015

Tara Beardsley, Dawn Lemon and Sherry DeCelle are in the process of confirming sponsors for the **2015 March Cash Calendar Fundraiser**.

We still have a few openings on the calendar that need to be filled. If you are a local business owner interested in sponsoring a square on the Cash Calendar, please contact us at PTA@frrsd.org as soon as possible. Calendars will be distributed in early January!

BOX TOPS: KEEP SAVING!
\$400 EARNED SO FAR, THIS YEAR
THEY REALLY ADD UP!



OTIS RIDGE SKI PROGRAM 2015

Mark DeCelle has begun to coordinate the **Annual Ski Program** in conjunction with Otis Ridge. The ski program will commence on **Wednesday, January 7th** and run for 6 weeks through **February 11th**. There will be a slight change to the program this year; a lesson lasting 90 minutes will be provided in Weeks 1 and 2. An hour-long lesson will be provided on weeks 3, 4, 5. The final week, February 11th, will not contain a lesson, but students are expected to ski freely that evening and enjoy our annual pizza party hosted by the PTA! Enrollment paperwork will be sent home early in December.

Happy Holidays and best wishes to all for a happy, safe New Year!