

THE FALCON FLYER

May 3, 2010



Dear Floral Street Families,

The thermometer seems to be saying that summer has arrived, but the calendar shows that May has just begun! While summer is nice, we're thankful that there are seven weeks remaining in this school year. Late spring is a busy time and we do begin to spend significant time planning for next year – **but we're thankful for these last seven weeks because of what they mean for this year.**

Like the bulbs now blooming around the school that were planted months and even years ago, the late spring provides numerous opportunities to watch growth in students that began months ago in those (also) hot days of August and September. Powerful learning sometimes takes place in a moment, but more often it is the result of repeated teaching and exposure to important ideas, lots of practice, and lots of patience. That hard work and patience won't pay off in many cases unless we treat each school day – right up to the end – as important as all the rest. We look forward to the learning experiences and student growth in the weeks to come, and appreciate your assistance in keeping our students focused and engaged, even as the thermometer continues to rise.

Not so incidentally, this work happens because of the incredible care, persistence, and enthusiasm of the teachers of Floral Street. **This week is Teacher Appreciation week, and we would love to hear from you about the difference the work of a Floral Street teacher has made in the life and education of your child.** We know it happens every day – please share a story with us!

Sincerely,

Todd Curtis
Principal
tcurtis@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Lisa McCubrey
Assistant Principal
lmccubrey@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

OTHER DISTRICT NOTICES:

School Council Updates & Thank you's

Our School Council has been very busy of late! This is a great opportunity to update you and to recognize some of their important work.

Thank you to parent Sharon Connolly, second-grade teacher Ken Avery, and Fourth-grade teacher Helene Bisceglia. Very soon on SETV, you'll be able to watch a 30-minute program starring these three council members as they discuss **reading** and the important connections between home and school. This project derives from our School Improvement Plan goal about improvement of home-school connections and communication, and we're excited about trying the format of a television program. We hope that it provides opportunity for parents to learn more about this critical academic area.

Thank you also to parent Cindy Wright and community representative Lorette McWilliams. Well before the tragic events of this year in Massachusetts related to bullying, Cindy and Lorette were advocating strongly to incorporate work on this important issue into our School Improvement Plan. They have been working for several months since then to gather information, from Shrewsbury and beyond, about best practice for addressing bullying. They are continuing to prepare materials and learning experiences for both students and teachers at Floral Street. The new anti-bullying law recently passed in Massachusetts calls for parent involvement in schools' plans and programs. We are fortunate to already have that in place, and any school would be lucky to have the dedication and vision that Cindy and Lorette have already brought to this process.

Fourth Grade Celebration

Our Fourth Grade Celebration for 2010 has been scheduled for June 16th. Lisa Greene, our PTO President and current fourth-grade parent, will be holding an initial planning meeting **this Thursday morning at 9:15 at FSS. Many volunteers are needed to help support this event**, from the planning stages to helping to put on the special student lunch afterwards. Please contact Lisa at greene6365@townisp.com if you would like to volunteer and/or attend Thursday's meeting.

Music "Show Off Days"

Please see the flyer from Mrs. DeBlois and Mrs. Demarky-Anderson that was sent along with this Falcon Flyer for information about upcoming music "Show Off Days."

Shrewsbury Destination Imagination Team

The DI Team would like to invite all the 4th grade students and their families to an Ice Cream Social and Family Game Night being held at Spring Street School on May 21, 2010 from 7-9pm. (This is the same night as Floral Goes Green, but feel free to pop over after that!). This will be our final fundraising event before the seven girl team head to Tennessee on May 26th. Any questions, please contact Patty Kinnucane at pkinnucane@townisp.com.

Summer Enrichment Programs

The second registration for the Floral Street Summer Enrichment program will open on Wednesday, April 28th. It will remain open for one week. After this time, registrations will not be accepted until June 28th. Please do **NOT** direct any inquiries to Floral Street School or the Central Office. All phone inquiries must be directed to the Summer School voice mail box (508-841-8300 X 1696) or via e-mail at SEP@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

The Elementary Lunch Menu can be found at any time at:

<http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/departments/division.php?fDD=20-17>

Important Dates:

May 25, 26, 27	Spring Chorus Concerts May 25: <i>Bisceglia, Largess, Spangenberg</i> May 26: <i>Borraccino, Edgren, Richard</i> May 27: <i>Beal, Morgan, Ross</i>
June 1 & 3	Field Days June 1: Grade 1 & 2 June 3: Grade 3 & 4
June 16	Fourth Grade Celebration

June 17
June 18

Open House for new students
Last day of school – half day

MCAS Dates:

May 11th & 12th
May 18th & 19th

Math – 3rd Grade
Math – 4th Grade

Please check the FSS website for other important dates and the most recent updates!