

# THE FALCON FLYER

May 2, 2011

[www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/floral](http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/floral)

<http://floralstreet.blogspot.com>

Dear Floral Street School Families,

The first full week in May is traditionally **Teacher Appreciation Week** – and we here at Floral Street School have a lot to appreciate. Education research and anecdotal evidence both point to the same critical fact about education: **It is high-quality instruction that leads to the greatest gains in student achievement.** We are fortunate to have a group of teachers here at Floral Street who are at once incredibly skillful and yet always looking for opportunities to learn more.

As they focus on student achievement, our teachers are also ever mindful of making sure school and learning is a **joyful enterprise**, filled with opportunities to make new friends, to be curious and thoughtful, and to make mistakes.

**Please take a moment this week to share with us, and with your child's teacher, the difference he or she has made for your student this year.**

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## Other Notes

### **Biking to School**

Now that that weather is warm, we've had some questions about riding bikes to school. **Riding a bike to school is permitted for fourth-grade students only, with written parent permission** – please send a note to your child's teacher. Please also remember that if your child rides to school, a helmet is required and a bike lock is strongly encouraged.

## Attention Fourth Grade Parents

### **Summer Academic Extension Opportunity**

During four weeks over the summer, students who are currently in the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades will have an opportunity to participate in academic extensions at Sherwood Middle School. While the course offerings are in the process of being finalized, I wanted to share this information with you, as you make plans for the summer. These extension opportunities will be provided to any interested student who is seeking academically based, enrichment opportunities.

The course dates include the weeks of June 27<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>. Most, if not all of the courses, will be held in the air-conditioned, modular classrooms at SMS. The courses will be held **Mondays through Thursdays** and will consist of morning (8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.), afternoon (12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.), and full-day (8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) sessions. Half-day offerings will cost \$72 for the four-day week and \$144 for the full-day week. Some of the course

offerings include explorations into the areas of technology, geography, current events, astronomy, genealogy, mathematical exploration, eco-systems, summer reading and literacy development.

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

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

**Important Dates:**

May 24, 25, 26	Fourth Grade Chorus Concerts
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Incoming Grade 5 Student & Parent Open House @ SMS
June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 4 Completion Ceremony (tentative date)
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Last day of school (1/2 day)

**MCAS Dates:**

May 10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup>	Math – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
May 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	Math – 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade

The full district school calendar is available at:

[http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/egov/docs/1276871197\\_585906.pdf](http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/egov/docs/1276871197_585906.pdf)