

# Floral Street Elementary School

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

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## FALCON FLYER

February 7, 2016

<http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/floral/>

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Dear Floral Families,

Better late than never! The first official Snow Day of the year came to us somewhat by surprise, with the weather report changing its tune later in the day on Thursday. While a school cancellation certainly puts a dent in everyone's work schedules, it's hard to get grumpy about a snow day – it provides a perfect excuse to hunker down with the kids for the day, let them stay in their pajamas later than usual, and then bundle them up in their snow gear and get 'em outside. We hope your first snow day of the school year was a treat...now we're crossing our fingers that it will be the only snow day of this school year.

During this week prior to the February school vacation, classrooms will remain immersed in their learning – our fourth grade classes are all engaged in a study of theme across fiction texts; third grade classes are solving two-step story problem involving multiplication and division using bar models; second grade classes are also solving story problems, but their focus is on measurement; and first grade classes are applying their reading strategies in guided reading and independent reading

time...it's sure to be a productive week!

Tomorrow, all families will receive a letter in students' backpacks with information about an upcoming change to our payment system in the cafeteria. Coming in March, parents will have the option of setting up a balance through Powerschool to avoid sending in lunch money or tickets with children to school. Students will enter a 6-digit PIN number onto a keypad, and the cost of their lunch will be deducted from the balance. This system is exactly like the one currently in use at the middle schools and the high school. Much more information will be coming from Beth Nichols, Food Services Director, tomorrow, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

We're looking forward to celebrating kindness at Floral Street School at our All School Meeting on Friday afternoon, February 12<sup>th</sup>. It's the perfect way to wrap up a productive week of learning and kick off a joyful week of vacation. Remember – school vacation is February 15-19. Enjoy!

~Lisa & Tiffany

**P.S. The next Falcon Flyer will be sent out two weeks from today – February 21, 2016.**

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### **Floral Street School Report Card – How Are We Doing?**

Attached below is a copy of the Floral Street School “report card” which reports our school’s overall progress and includes information about student enrollment, teacher quality, and PARCC performance. The students and staff have been working incredibly hard and it is reflected in this document. One highlight of our report card is that we are now a level 1 school. That means that we met the goal that was set for our students for the PARCC assessment. Another highlight is that our school percentile is 97. The percentile shows the overall performance of Floral Street School compared to other similar schools in Massachusetts. Our ranking of 97 puts us in the highest performing category. We are very proud of our school and you should be too! You can read the full report below.

### **From the PTO - Spring Yankee Candle Fundraiser**

We’re once again partnering with Yankee Candles Fundraising to help achieve our goal this year. They are the world’s #1 candle brand and they offer a wide range of premium candles, fragrances and décor items at a very wide range of prices. But

the most important thing to know is that 40% of every sale goes to Floral. Hence, any orders made will be much appreciated!

The Fundraising packets will be sent home **tomorrow, Monday February 8th**. The fundraiser will run through **February 26th**. All the orders will be delivered to school before Easter. Any questions, please contact Mitika Kathuria ( [MITIKAKATHURIA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MITIKAKATHURIA@GMAIL.COM) )

### **From the PTO – Boxtops Collection and Contest**

The PTO is holding its annual Box Tops contest – the class that submits the most Box Tops will win a pizza party with Mrs. McCubrey and Mrs. Ostrander. Please see the attached flyer for details, and send in your Box Tops!

### **From the PTO – Save the Date: Literacy Night on April 8<sup>th</sup>**

Friday, April 8th is Literacy Night! A favorite part of the evening is the Book Swap, where students are encouraged to take a gently-used book home for free. To make this happen, we are asking for parents to donate gently-used children's book targeted for readers in grades 1-5. We will be collecting the books from February 29th to March 25th. Boxes will be available in the foyer of the school to drop off the books. Thank you for your support!

### **From the PTO - Donate-A-Book Program**

The Floral Street School Media Center needs your support!

Great children's books are published every year, but due to limited funds, the Media Center is not able to purchase many of

them. By donating \$15, you will allow make current titles available and replace books that are in poor condition. Simply print and fill out the Donate-A-Book form (attached to this email or located at

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/floral/media/documents/2donate-a-bookFSSwebsite.pdf>), enclose either cash or a check (payable to Floral Donate-A-Book), and return it to school in your child's backpack. Your child will be invited by the Media Specialist to choose a book from the display case outside of the Media Center. An inscription label stating your name and a personalized message from you will then be added to the book. Your child will be the first to borrow the newly donated book.

Consider donating to mark a special event, holiday, to thank a teacher or staff person, or in honor/memory of a loved one. This is an excellent way to support our curriculum and get students excited about reading. Help us reach our goal of 160 new books for the 2015-2016 school year!

## **Notes from Previous Falcon Flyers:**

### **From the PTO - Holiday Staff Appreciation Breakfast**

The Floral PTO is hosting a Valentine Staff Appreciation event on Thursday, February 11th in the Floral media center. We need help to make this event a success and show the staff how much we appreciate them!

Please sign up for one or more items at the link below. Contact Nancy Nelson at [nleenelson\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:nleenelson_99@yahoo.com) with any questions. Thank you for your help!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48abaf2ca3fc1-sweet2>

## **Coordinators needed: Floral Street School Olympic Field Days**

This year Floral Street School will be celebrating its fifth Olympics. Our celebration will include a school-wide parade and Opening Ceremony on **Friday June 3rd**, followed by Olympic Field Day games and competitions for each grade level the following week. To make these events possible, we need 2-3 parents who are willing to act as Olympic Field Day volunteer coordinators. Coordinators will assign parent volunteers to events, work with the Susan and Lynda in the office to check CORI status with the school, and assist with volunteer preparations on field days. If you are interested please contact Amy Smith, Floral Street School Physical Education Teacher, at [asmith@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:asmith@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us) or 508-841-8720 X4939.

## **From the FSS Student Council: Hat Day for the American Heart Association**

According to the American Heart Association, heart disease is the number 1 killer of women, causing 1 in 3 deaths every year. The staff at Floral Street School will be supporting the association's Go Red For Women by participating in our own version of National Wear Red Day® on **Wednesday, February 10th**. Staff will donate \$5 to wear their jeans and red on that day. All donations collected will help fund research conducted by the association.

The FSS Student Council will also be helping to raise funds for the American Heart Association. We will be asking students to participate in Crazy Hat Day on **Wednesday, February 10th**. In order to wear a hat (crazy or normal!) in school for the entire day on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, students can bring a \$1 donation into school that day. Students are encouraged to earn that dollar donation by doing a chore at home. Our Student Council motto is "We run on helpfulness!"

**From the PTO - Next PTO General Meeting- Monday,  
February 29th at 7pm**

Please join us at 7pm on Monday, February 29th for our next General PTO Meeting. We will be joined by School Committee members Erin Canzano and Jon Wensky who will share information about our schools, including information about the 2015-2016 school year, our strategic priorities and the FY17 budget. We will also introduce the newly elected PTO leadership for the 2016-2017 school year and give a brief overview of programs, events and fundraisers that will be held in the Spring. The meeting will be held in the media center and we are working on childcare and will have more information in a future list-serv. Please contact PTO President Hannah Kane with any questions at [hkanemcpc@gmail.com](mailto:hkanemcpc@gmail.com).

**From the PTO – Computer Workshops Offered this February  
Vacation**

RASA Creations is happy to announce another series of Computer Workshops this February Vacation.

**1. Count on Computers ( Grades 1 to 3)**

Date - February 15th and 16th 2016

Time - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Fees - \$150 (Sibling discount \$20)

**2. Super Scratch ( Grades 4 to 6)**

Date - February 17th and 18th 2016

Time - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Fees - \$100

For Registrations - sarita.deshpande@rasacreations.com OR 508  
845 2575

www.rasacreations.com

**The Elementary Lunch Menu and Directions for purchasing pre-paid lunch tickets** can be found at any time at:

<http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/foodsvc/elementarylunchmenu.cfm>

### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

**\*New dates added this week appear in bold print**

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| February 8         | 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade After School Book Club / Media Center  |
| February 10        | Crazy (or Normal) Hat Day at FSS /<br>Sponsored by the Student Council to support the American Heart Association |
| February 11        | PTO Hosts Staff Appreciation Breakfast   |
| <b>February 12</b> | <b>School Meeting / Grades 1-4 (All School Read- <i>What Does it Mean to be Kind?</i>)</b>                       |
| February 15-19     | School Vacation Week / No School   |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| February 24      | Local Dentist, Dr. Feldman, visits first grade classes  |
| February 29      | PTO General Meeting / 7:00pm at Floral Media Center   |
| March 1          | Early Release Day for Students (dismissal begins at 12:15pm) / Professional Development for Staff in the PM |
| March 4          | FSS Community Reading Day   |
| March 4          | School Meeting / Grades 1 & 2   |
| March 11         | School Meeting / Grades 3 & 4   |
| March 15         | School Council Meeting  |
| <b>*March 23</b> | <b>*Grade 1 Field Trip to Boston Children's Museum / Plourde &amp; McGrail Classes</b>                      |
| <b>*March 24</b> | <b>*Grade 1 Field Trip to Boston Children's Museum/ Harrington &amp; Frankian Classes</b>                   |
| March 25         | Grade 1 Field Trip to Boston Children's Museum/ Grossman Class  |

\*There was an error listed in last week's dates. The information above lists the correct dates for the

first grade field trips. We apologize for any confusion!

## **PARCC Assessment Dates**

April 26, 27, 28 (3 sessions)  Grade 3 English Language Arts

May 2, 4, 5 (3 sessions)  Grade 4 English Language Arts

May 9-12 (4 sessions)  Grade 3 Math

May 16-19 (4 sessions)  Grade 4 Math

## **Important Contact Information:**

Office (508) 841-8720

Nurses, Phone (508) 841-8729

Nurses, FAX (508) 841-1545

Extended Day (508) 841-8743

AA Transportation (508) 753-6322 (Please call the school first with bus-related issues)

The full district school calendar is available on the district homepage at: <http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/>

[FSS Report Card2016.pdf](#)

[Box tops contest 2015-2016.pdf](#)

[Donate-a-Book.pdf](#)