

# Florenceville Middle School

## April 2017 Newsletter



**School Vision** - "All students will be given the opportunity and support to become responsible citizens."

**School Mission** - "The mission of FMS is to develop students who are intellectually, technologically, physically and socially ready for their place in the 21<sup>st</sup> century world."

### It's APRIL! WOW!

Your child should be bringing you a report card at the same time that you receive this newsletter. **Parent-Teacher interviews** will take place on **Monday, April 10**. We will be scheduling meetings with parents to take place from 8:30 to 11:30 in the morning and 5:00 - 8:00 in the evening. There is no school for students that day. You may call Ms. Sally in the main office to book appointments with those teachers you wish to see. There will be a regular school day for students on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Due to the Easter holiday, schools are closed on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

Recently, we reminded you of two FMS policies which help us ensure safety and order at FMS. We thank you for your continued support of these policies with your words and actions.

"If a student brings a cell phone, digital camera or other electronic device to school, it must be locked in the locker and **turned off** during the entire school day." If you are sending and receiving calls and text messages from your child's cell phone anytime between 8:20 and 2:50, you and they are in violation of this policy. We will always allow them to communicate with you on our land lines, so simply call the office and we will have them come to the phone if you need to speak with them.

The expectation for every school day is that students are going home as per their usual routine (which is bus for most of our students as only a few walk or are picked up daily) unless we have heard directly from the parent or guardian (by note, by email, by text to the school phone or by phone call). The student saying "Mom said I could . . ." does not meet the criteria we have for communication.

"Staying after school for Extra-Curricular Activities - While waiting for an activity to begin, students are to go to the cafeteria until the coach or supervisor indicates their entry to the gym or field. No one is allowed off school property unless accompanied by parent/guardian. If the game or practice begins after 4:15, students are generally expected to go home and return to the school 10-15 minutes before the activity begins."

While we have tried to accommodate students staying until 4:30 and sometimes 5:00 events in which they are participants, we simply cannot accommodate spectators. There had been an increase in the number of students saying "I'm just going downtown and will be right back. It's ok because my parent texted me," and we simply cannot allow this. Legally, we must communicate directly with you about the whereabouts of your child. The student must remain at the school or be accompanied by an adult.

Thank you for your support of these policies, an increase in which we have already seen since our last School Connects message home.



---

## April 2017

5<sup>th</sup>: FMS newsletter and report cards go home

7<sup>th</sup>: Regional Science Fair in Fredericton

10<sup>th</sup>: No school for students: Parent-Teacher and Professional Learning Day; Parent-Teacher 8:30 – 11:30 and 5:00-8:00 pm

14<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday. No school.

17<sup>th</sup>: Easter Monday. No school.

21<sup>st</sup>: Heritage Fair

25<sup>th</sup>: PSSC Meeting 7:00 pm

28<sup>th</sup>: Professional Learning Day. No school for students.

## May 2017

1<sup>st</sup>: EH440 Concert for student body at CNHS.

3<sup>rd</sup>: FMS Newsletter

5<sup>th</sup>: Provincial Council Day – No school for students

10<sup>th</sup>: Active Boys for Grade 8 Boys

12<sup>th</sup>: UNB Math Competition

15<sup>th</sup>: Local Branch Meeting Day – No school for students

22<sup>nd</sup>: Victoria Day – No school

30<sup>th</sup>: PSSC Meeting

TBA: Moving Up Day; Grade 6 Provincial Assessments

Congratulations to all Grade 8 students (and the 7s who participated too!) for their dedicated work on their Science Projects. Winners were announced at the Rally last week, but we are super proud of all the hard work that all students put into their projects. Several will be participating in the Regional Fair on April 7<sup>th</sup>. We are also looking forward to seeing more great student work in the upcoming Grade 6 Heritage Fair! Way to go, Falcons!!


We are also very proud of all our students who are performing this week in the **Musical Festival of the Arts**. Congratulations to you all for your dedication, commitment and success! ☺

**The Grade 8 Farewell Party** is scheduled for Thursday, June 1st. This event is meant to be inclusive for all who attend, allowing all to feel comfortable and welcome regardless of dress and financial situation. It is **not** a mini prom. It is an informal party where many dance while others play in the gym or just hang out together. No students should be informing parents that they need a prom dress or other formal wear. Although some girls do choose to wear a sundress that they already have or purchase to use for many occasions this summer, no 'special' attire is expected. Students should simply wear something in which they will be comfortable. (Most boys and some girls wear shorts!)

### Upcoming Initiative for Community Building at FMS

We would hope that you, as families of FMS students, would be familiar with our FALCONS code. **F**riendly, **A**ccountable, **L**eaders, **C**ooperative, **O**rganized, **N**urturing and **S**uccessful are the attributes we hope to see in daily action in our FMS community and beyond. We reinforce and celebrate these attributes in our monthly rally by recognizing a few students from each team who have modeled these. We also encourage students to take the time to recognize these behaviours by nominating a fellow student with our FALCON to FALCON awards. The FALCONS Code attributes help develop the skills and attitudes reflected in our School Vision - "All students will be given the opportunity and support to become responsible citizens."

As I shared with you in our February newsletter, this year, we are struggling with an increased number of incidents and behaviours that are not productive to a quality learning and working environment. Although we remind students of the code, and celebrate it at our rallies, the reality is that FMS does not consistently feel like a community in which students are living by the code. Faculty has examined the behavioral data to see which behaviours are most common and been engaging in dialogue of how we can best address the dilemma. Our goal is to focus our energies on improving our school climate. We will be engaging in a school-wide initiative which will include defining what it is we are looking to see in daily action; celebrating it when we see, hear and feel it; and providing additional supports and learning activities for students who are struggling to meet the targets. Through this focused work, we expect to rebuild the FMS community in which all FALCONS are productively and consistently contributing to a positive learning and working environment.



Education is a shared commitment between dedicated teachers, motivated students and enthusiastic parents with high expectations.

Bob Beauprez  
PICTUREQUOTES.COM



PICTUREQUOTES

Your support will be an integral part of our success with this initiative and we will bring your more details as they unfold. We look forward to being able to reflect some of our successes in our next monthly newsletter!