



Fairlawn Connection

Fairlawn Elementary School

March 2017

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

At Fairlawn Elementary Magnet School we believe that every child can learn. Our faculty and staff are committed to improving student achievement. Together we are all accountable for ensuring students' level of proficiency. What is proficiency? Proficiency is when students are working on grade level and performing skills, strategies and processes with competence and confidence. Instruction is our priority!

Sincerely,
Pam Holmes, Principal

What Kind of Mindset Do You Have?



I can learn anything I want to.
When I'm frustrated, I persevere.
I want to challenge myself.
When I fail, I learn.
Tell me I try hard.
If you succeed, I'm inspired.
My effort and attitude determine everything.



I'm either good at it, or I'm not.
When I'm frustrated, I give up.
I don't like to be challenged.
When I fail, I'm no good.
Tell me I'm smart.
If you succeed, I feel threatened.
My abilities determine everything.

Created by: Reid Wilson. @wearelearning. © 2012. from thelearningminds.com

As educators, we are becoming more aware of fixed and growth mindsets and the importance of instilling a positive mindset in our students. When praising your child, praise your child for the process so that they can see how their effort contributed to their success. With a growth mindset, everyone sees how hard work and effort contribute to success. Model for your child that we learn from our mistakes. We do not want children to give up when faced with difficulties and challenges.

According to Carol Dweck, *"We found that students' mindsets—how they perceive their abilities—played a key role in their motivation and achievement, and we found that if we changed students' mindsets, we could boost their*

achievement. More precisely, students who believed their intelligence could be developed (a growth mindset) outperformed those who believed their intelligence was fixed (a fixed mindset). And when students learned through a structured program that they could "grow their brains" and increase their intellectual abilities, they did better. Finally, we found that having children focus on the process that leads to learning (like hard work or trying new strategies) could foster a growth mindset and its benefits."

People are not in a growth mindset all of the time nor in a fixed mindset all of the time. Let's start now thinking about the messages we send with our words and actions.

Attendance

Class begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. Students may arrive at 8:00 a.m. Breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m. If your child is going to eat breakfast at school, please make sure your child arrives no later than 8:15 a.m. so he/she has enough time to eat and get to class on time. Students may NOT arrive prior to 8:00 a.m. as there is no supervision. Students lose valuable instruction when they are absent or late. We understand emergencies and illnesses. Thank you for making school and education a top priority!

MISSION: Fairlawn Elementary School will empower students to become life-long learners by giving them ownership of their learning. Students will utilize problem solving skills and effective communication to solve authentic tasks every day.

VISION: Fairlawn Elementary School will be a high-achieving learning community where all stakeholders work collaboratively to design experiences that will challenge and equip students with the skills needed to be successful in college and/or their chosen career in a globally competitive society.

BOOK FAIR AND DONUTS FOR DADS

The Book Fair is coming to Fairlawn! The fair will be March 1 – 8. Special activities during the fair are Doughnuts for Dads of students in K-2 on Thursday, March 2 and Doughnuts for Dads of 3-5 students on Friday, March 3. Doughnuts for Dads is from 7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. If a dad cannot come, moms are welcome. If the date for your child's grade level does not work for you, please feel free to come on the other day. Family shopping will be Monday, March 6 from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. We appreciate your support of Fairlawn and for encouraging the love of reading with your child.

SAC/PTO

Calling all parents! Please feel free to join us at the next SAC and/or PTO meeting.

SAC

Thursday, March 9 – 7:45 a.m.

PTO

Thursday, March 9 – 8:30 a.m.

DRESS CODE

Thank you for encouraging and supporting your child to follow the dress code. If your child is out of dress code, he/she will be sent to the office for a dress code violation. We dress for success at Fairlawn. Thank you for your support.

CAFETERIA

We encourage you to be involved with your child and you are always welcome at Fairlawn. We would like to ask your help when you come for lunch events. If possible, please pay for your lunch ahead of time or send in the money with your child so not to back up the line or take time away from your time with your child.

Due to the overwhelming response to Citizen of the Month lunch, we are asking that no more than 2 adults per honoree on the stage. There is a table reserved on the floor for this activity as well as families can join their child on the tables outside. We appreciate your support.

PUBLIX MATH NIGHT

Over 100 students and their families attended Fairlawn's Publix Math Night at the Sabal Palm Publix. Each student was provided grade appropriate questions to peruse the aisles of Publix to find the solutions. The students and their families saw how math connects to the real world. Upon completion, Publix provided each child with a goodie bag.



Vote for Fairlawn

If you attend the St. Lucie County Fair, please visit the education building to view the Fairlawn display of our students work. Don't forget to vote for Fairlawn Elementary School Display!

We need your Vote!

Mr. Gelardo & Ms. Strunk, with the support of our teachers, did an excellent job displaying our students' artwork.



**Sunday,
March 12**





FSA Assessments and the Florida Standards



Victoria Jacquin was awarded 1st Place for her painting in the 2nd annual Highwaymen Heritage Trail Art Show and Festival on February 18. The Art Department will receive \$300 donation from the City of Fort Pierce. Congratulations Victoria!



Several of Fairlawn's students participated in the VFW patriotic art contest. Justin Thomas was the first place poster winner and Jarret Myers took home the second place award.

All students in grades 3-5 will participate in the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). These assessments measure how well the students are learning the Florida Standards. Whether your child is taking the FSA or not, he/she is working towards mastery of the standards at his/her grade level. The Florida Standards prepare students for college and career readiness by focusing on analytical thinking. Our students are ready for these assessments. We are confident the Fairlawn Patriots will continue to shine.

Let's get ready! Encourage your child to do his/her very best. Getting ready for an assessment requires more than studying. Make sure your child eats a healthy breakfast. Free breakfast is available to students during testing weeks. Make sure they arrive no later than 8:15 if they are eating breakfast. Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep. Remind your child to read and reread the directions and questions carefully and use all of the strategies they have been taught. Work out all of the math problems. Use time wisely. Leave cell phones and electronic devices at home. Students cannot have an electronic device or cell phone on their person. If they bring it to school, it must be in their bookbag in the off position.

There are many resources available such as FSA ELA (English Language Arts) and Mathematics fact sheets, Understanding FSA Reports, and Practice Tests for students to practice at home as often as they would like. These resources are available at fsassessments.org.

Congratulations

Congratulations Kathy Forbes



Congratulations Kathy Forbes for being recognized by the Florida Department of Education as a high impact teacher. Kathy Forbes teaches fourth grade at Fairlawn Elementary

Positive Behavior Intervention Support

Students work hard every day to show good citizenship. PBIS is a research based process to redirect what students do wrong (negative) to proactive teaching and recognizing what students do right (positives). Students earn Perks when they:

School Wide Expectations

- P**atriots are Respectful
- A**ct Safely
- C**ome Prepared
- T**ake Responsibility



- FSA ELA Writing – Grades 4 and 5 - February 28
- FSA ELA - Grade 3 – Window opens March 27
- FSA Math – Grade 3 – Window opens May 1
- FSA ELA - Grade 4 – Window opens April 17
- FSA Math Grade 4 – Window opens May 8
- FSA ELA Grade 5 – Window opens April 10
- FSA Math Grade 5 – Window opens April 24
- FSA Science Grade 5 – Window opens May 1

Free Breakfast During Testing

- February 27 – March 10
- March 27 – March 31
- April 10 – May 19