



FALCON CREST NEWSLETTER

Winter 2011

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to winter, fabulous Falcons! I am very proud of the number of students that made the Honor Roll and perfect attendance for the first nine weeks of school. These students were recognized with a special Honor Roll Celebration and with a Perfect Attendance Fast Pass at the Fall Festival. In addition, Falcon Cards were issued to over 500 students with stellar citizenship in the 1st quarter. These students enjoyed a Picnic Lunch in the park. Way to go, Falcons!



To continue these achievements, please help your student academically by checking their planners daily, their teachers' Share-



Point sites weekly, and grades on Parent Portal on a regular basis. Midterms will be held December 19-21; help your student to be prepared not only through their studies, but by getting a good night's sleep and eating a hearty breakfast.

Fall sports have just finished. Football finished with a 3-2 record. Our volleyball ladies had a good year, along with our cross country team. Fairview is proud of all our student-athletes and their involvement. At this time, the boys' soccer and girls' basketball seasons are in full swing. Boys basketball and Girls Soccer will begin in January. We encourage all students to find an activity or sport to join at Fairview!

Teachers are continuing to work hard on curriculum for the students. Our teachers are also involved in training

for the new technology in their rooms. New "smart" technology is scheduled to be installed over the holiday break and utilized in all classrooms in January. What a help this will be for our 21st-century students!

Parents, a reminder: students cannot be on campus before 8:45 in the morning. We do not have supervision until 8:45. Please observe this rule for the safety and security of all of our students and our school campus.

I have enjoyed the start of the new year at Fairview; it is such a pleasure to work with your wonderful students. Please call or email me if I can help you or your child.



Scott Hansen
Proud Principal

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

Partners in Excellence are local businesses who contribute their time and money to make a difference here at the View! We are very lucky to have an excellent partner program this year. Please support the partners who help support Fairview and your students!

This year's partners include:
National High Magnetic Field Lab

Capital City Bank, South Monroe Branch

Awards 4U

Martial Arts Fitness Academy

Wachovia Bank, Southwood Branch

Glenda Conley, State Farm

The Printery Family

Michael Grimes, State Farm Lofty Pursuits

Mainline Information Systems

Applebee's Neighborhood Grill on Magnolia



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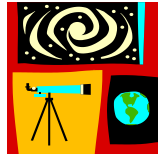
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Points of Interest

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- Find out what's happening with our IB Prep Magnet on page 5!
- Catch up with the Math Club on page 7!
- Calendars for December, January and February can be found on page 8-9!
- Need a good book? Check out page 9!
- Information about Lady Falcons basketball can be found on page 10!
- Sing along with our chorus classes on page 10!

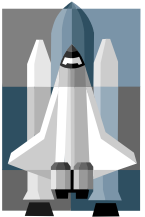
SCIENCE SCENE

The science department has been getting ready for our School Science Olympiad Competition. Each science teacher will hold 2-3 events in their



classrooms to determine who will be the participants in the finalist round on Friday, December 2, 2011. The events the students will be doing are the Naked Egg Drop, Picture This, Write It Do It, and Mystery Architecture. These events use a variety of science skills such as problem solving, engineering, and content knowledge.

If you would like to volunteer to help run the Science Olympiad Competition on December 2nd, please contact Mrs. Cameron, Mr. Dignan, or Mrs. Klay. Also, donations of food, beverages, and paper goods for the volunteer judges are welcome. Thank you!



Sixth Grade IB Science – Mrs. Klay

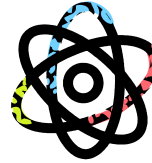
What an exciting and busy few weeks we have had in science! Students had a blast participating in Science Olympiad competitions within our classes. We did the "Naked Egg

Drop", and "Picture This". Winners will participate in the Fairview Science Olympiad, which will be held on December 2nd. Soon after that, we will take our field trip to the Challenger Learning Center! December will be such a fun month!

We concentrated on the scientific method the first nine weeks. We are into Space now, and loving it. We have studied topics such as the planets, the solar system, the moon and moon phases, solar and lunar eclipses, spring tides, neap tides, etc. We are also studying the sun, motions and activities of the Sun, stars, constellations, the brightness of stars, red giants to white dwarfs, neutron stars and black holes, galaxias, quasars, and much more.

Students are finding out the true meaning of "studying". It is a lot of review, and making sure we know the material before a test by using proper study skills, such as using foldables and flash cards. The science text book does not read like a novel. If you do not understand a concept, you have to re-read that section of your book as many times as necessary.

It's hard to believe that Thanksgiving is around the corner, followed by Christmas and the Winter Break!



7th Grade Science—Ms. Maley

Hello! We are now well into the 2nd 9-Weeks. Students have been working hard on tackling concepts pertaining to physical science. Together we have done a heat movement demonstration, a lab, a project, and guided notes. Next up on our agenda is Science Olympiad, where students will be competing in Mystery Architecture, Write-It, Do-It, and Picture This.

-JENNIFER CAMERON, CHAIR

Please encourage your students to stay focused on school, as mid-term exams will be rapidly approaching. As always, I update my Sharepoint daily, with bellwork, classwork, and homework to keep you better informed of what goes on in class.

Here's the link: <http://www2.fairview.leon.k12.fl.us/7th/maley/default.aspx>

7th Grade IB Science—Ms. Kisiah

Winter is here and so is the end of our study of chemistry. We will end the second nine weeks studying chemical bonding, balancing equations and pH. Our Exams will cover the chemistry units and chapter one, the nature of science. In January we will start physics. We will begin our study of physics with motion and Newton's laws.

Mrs. Cameron – 8th Grade

The second quarter is the space quarter. The students have been learning about moon phases, seasons, the Solar System, stars and galaxies. The field trip to the Challenger Learning Center was a success. After the holidays we will begin our unit on matter and the periodic table of elements. Students will learn about how matter is recycled throughout the universe!

MATH MOMENT

6th grade – Ms. Chomat

Ms. Chomat's classes are continuing to work hard this quarter. Students should have cleaned out their binders, but kept their work at home. They will need to review their notes, tests, and old homework before the mid-term in December!

Math I Advanced: Students should be in the routine each night of doing homework. Parents, please check to make sure the student is writing the problem and showing his/her work on the paper. We are working through Chapters 3 and 4 before the Holiday Break. The mid-term will cover everything in Chapters 1 – 4. Students may earn extra



credit this quarter by completing 50% of the Grade 5 FCAT Explorer at 80% or higher. This is due December 20, 2011.

Pre-Algebra: Students should be in the routine each night of doing homework. Parents, please check to make sure the student is writing the problem and showing his/her work on the paper. Students who fail to follow this rule will receive a zero on the homework for the night. We are working through Chapters 3 and 4 before the Holiday Break. The mid-term will cover everything in Chapters 1 – 4. Students may earn extra credit this quarter by completing 50% of the Grade 5 FCAT Explorer at 80% or higher. This is due December 20, 2011. Students wishing to begin Quarter 3

-TERRY KING, CHAIR

Extra Credit early will want to secure a copy of *The Number Devil* before the Holiday Break.

Please contact me via email at chomate@leonschools.net for questions or concerns.

7th and 8th grade – Mrs. Faulkner

Pre-Algebra/Algebra

Can someone say Merry Christmas? It is hard to believe that we are already into the holiday season!

Algebra:

Time moves so fast and so is Algebra. Though many of the students are finding this class very difficult, they are willing to do what it takes outside of class

MATH MOMENT (CONT. FROM PAGE 2)

to get their high school credit. You should be hearing websites like brighthstorm.com and Khanacademy.com. These are the places I have given students to go when they begin to struggle with their homework. Both websites have most, if not all of the concepts we are covering in class with extra examples. These will be invaluable for the students who understand everything in class but get home and draw a blank. Now they will have something to look at when they sit down with their homework. Please remind them also that I post notes on my web page and that they can go there to refresh what we did in class. We are scheduled to finish chapter 4 on November 30th. We will then jump to chapter 10 and do Pythagorean Theorem, the distance and midpoint formula and similar triangles.

Advanced 7th grade:

Time moves so fast and so is Pre-Algebra. You should be hearing websites like brighthstorm.com and Khanacademy.com. These are the places I have given students to go when they begin to struggle with their homework. Both websites have most, if not all of the concepts we are covering in class with extra examples. These will be invaluable for the students who understand everything in class but get home and draw a blank. Now they will have something to look at when they sit down with their homework. Please remind them also that I post notes on my web page and that they can go there to refresh what we did in class. We are scheduled to finish linear functions on November 22nd. We will then begin Percents which will go through the Christmas Holiday and into the New Year.

7th grade – Dr. Henning

We are beginning Chapter 3 Linear Equations. Students will explore, investigate, and solve one-step, two-step, and multi-step equations using the Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division Properties of Equality. Opportunities for students to practice and communicate about the strategies presented are provided. As they progress through these lessons, students use previously learned skills such as order of operations, mental math and perform-

ing operations with whole numbers, integers, fractions, and decimals. In the future, they will use the skills they learn in this chapter to solve proportions and problems involving formulas. Homework is assigned daily, including weekends. Check planner for detailed daily agendas. Check parent portal weekly. Grades are updated each Friday.

Help sessions are held each morning (except Thursdays) in classroom beginning at 8:30. Students must have passes from Dr. Henning to enter building early to attend these sessions.

6th and 7th grade – Ms. Johnson

Parents we are off to a great start to the year! Your child will have homework Monday through Thursday. I do have the assignments on my website if needed, along with the topics we are working on each day in class. Please keep up with missing assignments encourage your child to make up his/her work upon return from being absent. The Parent Portal has recently been updated. I will also be giving out progress reports in class. Please sign and return them for extra credit.

6th grade content: We are completing chapter 4 (Ratios and Rates). Please help your child review division and simplifying fractions.

7th grade content: We are working on Ch. 5 which is Functions. Please review order of operations with your child and integer operations.

If your child is having trouble with what we are doing in class please visit the website www.khanacademy.org where you can type in a topic and watch a video tutorial.

Concerns? Questions? Please contact me at [john-](mailto:john-sonnm4@leonschools.net)

sonnm4@leonschools.net or 850-488-6880

7th and 8th grade IB– Ms. King

Algebra/Geometry/Math Competitions

In the third nine weeks **Algebra** will be studying Systems of Linear Equations and Polynomials. For **Geometry** the third nine weeks students will learn about Quadrilaterals, Right Triangles and Trigonometry. Students should bring their textbook, FCAT

workbook, calculator, math notebook, and supplies to class daily. Offer a help session on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:00. Please pick up your child on time, since I will have to stay until every child is picked up for safety reasons.

8th grade – Mrs. McDaris

McDaris's Mathematicians have been working extremely hard at developing the necessary skills to write, graph and solve one and two step inequalities with one variable, as well as learning to write and graph compound inequalities! Next they will learn the basic skills about exponents and powers. Then they will apply these basic skills to multiplying and dividing monomials and finding powers of monomials. They will also learn how exponents are used to express very large and very small numbers in scientific notation. Then they will apply this knowledge of exponents to square roots. Finally, students will build on their previous knowledge of selecting, organizing, and constructing appropriate data displays to include box-and-whiskers plots, scatter plots, and lines of best fit. They will use these displays to convey information and make conjectures about relationships among the data sets. In addition, students will critically analyze single-variable data and examine how changes in data values affect summary measures. Homework will be assigned each day as usual. Please check daily to make sure your child is finishing the assignment for that day. Timely completion of homework is vital to the learning process. You can always access my web page via the Fairview website. I post the daily agenda and update the assignment sheet daily. Please check these as well as Parent Portal often.

7th and 8th Grade IB: Ms. Wallace

It's hard to believe we are near the end of 1st semester. Please continue to support our classroom activities by assisting your child with homework, checking their agenda/planners, sharing& discussing notebook items and checking parent portal for academic progress. Math Progress Reports are sent home on a bi-weekly basis. The first progress report for the 2nd 9wks grading period went home Friday, November 4th. As always your support is greatly appreciated! Together we can make a difference!



SOCIAL STUDIES SNIPPETS

Hello from the Social Studies department! We hope that you and your child have had a successful start to the second quarter. We are quickly approaching the end of the first semester, so the social studies department would like to give you a quick look at what is happening in your child's social studies class:



Ms. Crawley & Mrs. Wray's World Cultures: 6th grade students are moving right along in the World Cultures curriculum. Currently we are wrapping up Chapter 1: Early Civilizations. We have learned about the Paleolithic and Neolithic people, as well as the world's earliest civilization, Sumer! Before the holiday break we will travel to North Africa and learn about the Egyptians and Ancient Egypt. It is also important to note that we will have a fall exam right before the holiday break. Fall exams will take place December 19th through December 21st. When your child returns after the break, we will begin the chapter 3 on the Ancient Israelites. Please remind your child to come prepared to class each day with paper, pencil (or pen), colors, homework and a planner...it's an integral part of being successful in class. Please note that you have access to the classroom agendas as well as classroom materials through the following website: <http://www2.fairview.leon.k12.fl.us/6th/wray/default.aspx>. Please feel free to call or email with any questions or concerns.

Ms. Study's World Cultures: Our young Falcons are adjusting well to Middle School and the IB program. We've had a wide variety of activities this Fall, including the EPCOT trip and the IB "Time Warp". Students arrived in costume as historical figures from ancient times to form our human time-line along with the 7th and 8th graders. Everyone also delivered a speech during class, in 'character', to give a brief glimpse into our past. Amidst our studies of ancient history will be lessons and activities focusing on the National History Fair, "Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History". Students received handouts with information and guidelines for in-depth research, the grading rubric, bibliographies, etc. I will also provide examples of Process Papers and exhibits in class. History Fair Projects are due January 18th. Please check out the website: www.nhd.org for additional information. The Ancient Cultural Exchange is coming! The students will be designing performances and demonstra-

tions to share with their class. We are sure to sample a wide variety of old world cuisine along with unique topics such as Origami, Japanese Traditional Music, Samurai, and African drumming. A.C.E. is a wonderful opportunity for students to share diverse cultures with their classmates. Please remember to keep up with Parent Portal and check SharePoint for weekly agendas and class news.

Mrs. Hall's(Forbes' Civics): The second 9 weeks projects and lessons are up to date on my teacher webpage! Service learning projects are due Dec 15th! We are currently finishing up our unit on the Constitution and diving into Unit 4 on the Bill of Rights, starting with the First Amendment. We will also be having our class Geography Bee competitions before Winter Break. I hope you all enjoy the Holiday breaks that are fast approaching – take care and I will see you in January!

Mrs. Manuel's Civics: What a busy time of year this is for Civics students! We are currently deep into our study of the U.S. Constitution and Amendments 1-27 and have been using songs, videos, and other activities to reinforce the content we are learning. Students who participated in **Time Warp** did a *great* job of representing political activists from American History – not only did they look great, but they gave many rousing speeches! With the November project completed, the next big project *all* students should be working on is the **Service Learning (Community Service) Brochure Project due December 7**. Remember, *every* nine weeks students are required to complete a minimum number of hours working to better the community ("Approaches to Learning" grade), and to also create a reflective project to showcase their hard work ("Assessment" grade). If for some reason your child is unable to work in the community, there is an **alternative assignment** available at my website. Finally, for those students required to complete **History Fair projects**, January will come sooner than most realize! In an effort to help students plan ahead and organize their time, expect to see a number of small assignments due between now and **January 17** to help ensure that students are working steadily on their projects! Please note that expectations for all of these assignments will be discussed at length in class. For your convenience, I am including an abbreviated list of important dates and deadlines specific to my Civics classes.

December 12-16 – Geography Bee – Class Competitions (ALL students)

-MARIA WRAY, CHAIR

January 5-6 – Civics Progress Monitoring - Part II (ALL students)

January 10 – School Geography Bee (one student to represent all of my classes)

January 17 – History Fair Project due (magnet students only)

January 27-31 – "Journey through Justice" Field Trips (ALL students - 2 classes per day)

February 1 – Fairview's History Fair (teacher-selected projects only)

Mr. Johnson's United States History: American History had a great first semester. We are moving right along through our book and standards. We will have completed the Revolutionary War by the time the holiday's get here. It has been interesting for the students to see how their country went from 13 colonies to a nation. After the holiday's we will review the first semester's content, the Constitutional Convention and work our way to the Civil War. Thanks again for all you do.

Mr. Mayer's United States History: As we approach the Revolutionary War, students will be learning about the great sacrifices made by the brave Patriots. They will compose and sing protest songs, declare themselves independent from my classroom, and study the propaganda of the Son's of Liberty!

Ms. Morris' ESE Social Studies: In our US History class, we are beginning a study of the French and Indian War. We will be focusing, to some extent, on the contributions of the Native Americans to American history during this era. In World Cultures, we will be studying ancient Israel and its contributions to today's culture.

Please note that as we approach the end of the first semester that your child will be taking fall final exams in each of their classes. The exam dates are December 19th through December 21st. Also note that your child will be participating in the Geography Bee classroom competition before the holiday break. Each social studies teacher will send a student to represent his or her social studies classes in the school wide Geography Bee on January 10th. Certain teachers will be requiring students to participate in the History Fair. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions about the History Fair. School wide History Fair judging of select projects will take place in the Media Center on February 1st. Hope that the rest of the fall semester is a successful and enjoyable one! See you next year!

READING ISLAND



Happy New Year Falcon Parents!

As we enter 2012, we proceed refreshed and optimistic. Falcon students are exploring new worlds by reading classroom novels and creating personal masterpieces.

The media center's circulation has increased a great deal since last year. Students are certainly checking out and reading books and Mrs. Lyons, our Media Specialist, is elated. As usual, our teachers are continuing to foster classroom cultures of reading and are progress monitoring for reading comprehension.

During the week of January 23rd –January 27th,

-RACQUEL HARRELL, READING COACH

the state of Florida proudly recognizes "Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!" The goals of "Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!" are to promote literacy throughout the state by raising awareness and to promote the enjoyment of reading for children and adults of all ages. This Literacy Committee has planned awesome activities to celebrate Literacy Week at Fairview. Please be on the lookout for a schedule of events.

Florida has released its Sunshine State Young Readers Titles for 2012! Please check them out on 9. These would be excellent suggestions for our Drop Everything and Read initiative detailed below!

Once again, we need your support in continuing to create a culture of reading in your homes. We would like for all of our Falcons to embark in our new challenge: **Drop Everything and Read for 20!** Remember to do this, each household would drop everything and read for 20 minutes every evening. Please continue to communicate with your child's reading and language arts teacher and be sure to check the FMS website and listserv for valuable reading information. Feel free to contact me at harrellr2@leonschools.net.

Happy Reading!
Mrs. Harrell, Reading Coach



SPANISH CLUB

Here in the Spanish world we are busy planning fundraisers; having fun at the Spanish club; and preparing for Fall Carnival, where we sold cotton candy and decorative pens.



The Spanish Wheel class has moved on to Technology and a new group of students from French class has made their way to me. ¡Bienvenidos a Español!

Spanish 1 classes finished chapter two and we continue to expand our knowledge of the Spanish language by exploring new vocabulary words and grammar. The food and cultural project was a success. We ate food from Argentina, Spain,

Mexico and Cuba. Many parents came to help; special thanks to Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Janicki and Mrs. Lee for your assistance. Also, many teachers and administrators participated and allowed our students to serve them using vocabulary and phrases learned during chapter two. Thank you, administrators and faculty for your support!

Spanish 2 classes continue to electrify me with their desire to always do more. The students are well into their third chapter of the Expressate curriculum. They have finished reading a children's literature book in Spanish as a project and have created a labeled 3D-model of a home to

-YAITE ARTHMANN, SPONSOR

showcase the vocabulary learned during chapter two. During chapter three they will cover passive and impersonal forms of the reflexive pronoun *SE* as well as the preterit tense of irregular verbs.

The Spanish club would like to see the Falcons submitting more responses to the weekly Spanish trivia. Listen every Monday as Kaleigh Wingate announces the question; if you answer correctly, you may be one of three lucky winners every Wednesday. ¡Adios Falcons! Enjoy all the activities to come!



MAGNET NEWS

-MEGHAN DAVIS, IB PREP COORDINATOR



The 2011 school year has been full of lots of success and growth! First off, our 6th grade students have done a wonderful job of transitioning into middle school life. Way to go!

A couple of updates to keep you in the loop:

Community Service Hours

Community Service books were due to Social Studies classes on December 2nd, and will be reviewed by the Community Service parent committee on Friday, December 16th. 8th grade students submitted all of their hours, while it was simply a midpoint check for 6th and 7th grade students. Books will be returned to students when they return from holiday break in January. The final due date for community service hours for 6th and

7th grade students is Friday, April 27th.

Winter Dance

Our annual Winter Dance, "Holidays in New York City", will be held on Friday, December 16th, in the FMS cafeteria. Admission is one can of peanut butter to benefit a local food bank. Students will be able to dance the night away while enjoying hot cocoa in "Times Square", candy from "Dylan's Candy Bar", a red carpet Broadway entrance, and much more. We plan to see you there!

Parent Partnership

The Partnership will take the month of December off to enjoy family time during the holidays. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 2nd, at 6pm in the Media Center. The IB Language Arts department will present about their

curriculum as well as the Florida Writes requirements, and the Science department will also review Science Olympiad requirements.

IB Prep Recruitment

Now is the time of year where we start to accept applications for entrance into our magnet program for the 2012-2013 school year. If you know of any interested students, please direct them to contact Ms. Meghan Davis in the IB Prep office (488-6880 x122) for shadowing dates. Also, please share our two IB Open House Dates: January 31st and February 28th. Our best recruitment tool is positive word of mouth—thanks for being our strongest voice to the community!

Thanks for your support! We look forward to a great start to the new year!

LIFE IN LANGUAGE ARTS -LEE CAMERON, CHAIR

6th Grade

Ms. Kirkendoll:

Speeches, Speeches, Speeches! 6th grade is on the brink of the Tropicana Speech Contest. We have been preparing daily and taking notes on others speeches, so that we can prepare to write an outstanding speech. Students have recently been given lab time on Tuesdays to work on FCAT Explorer, FOCUS, and Successmaker. This is going to prove to be helpful in preparing for testing season. Soon we will embark upon the lovely Charles Dickens story, "A Christmas Carol". After winter break, we will embark upon an environmental experience with our Literature circles. Excitement and Learning are abound in 6th grade IB-Prep. Please check my teacher webpage weekly for updates and insight into what's coming up next.



Mrs. Hayes-Ford: As we progress through the school year, we are continuously working on various Language Arts strands including writing, grammar and reading. Our major focus after the Winter Break is poetry and benchmark master for FCAT.

Second/Third Nine Weeks

Folk Literature-Fables, Folktales, Tall Tales
Play-A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
Intro to Poetry
Black History Dress-Up Day
FCAT COUNTDOWN-WEEKLY FOCUS
CALENDAR
Writing -Expository/Persuasive/Grammar

Upcoming Events

Book Reports due 12/9—periods 3 and 4 only
FCAT Explorer reports due-11/28 and 12/12- required for all students

Mrs. Cornelius: My classes have started working on their Tropicana Speeches and preparing for Writes Upon Request. The Advanced classes have read *Tiger Rising* and are working on a Character Trait Project.

Mrs. Newman: After reading several scary stories and noting the use of strong adjectives and adverbs to evoke emotion, we wrote our own scary stories. Currently, we are reading the nonfiction *Oceans*, and learning to ask questions as we read, make annotations, and recognize various text features.

Students should be reading on their own every night. Two book summaries are required by the end of each quarter but I

have challenged them to do more. On the last day of the quarter, the person who has written the most summaries will get an entire McDonalds or Burger King meal, provided by Mrs. Newman.

7th Grade

Ms. Brown: Block students are racing through the *Blueford* series books, we have read 5 so far this year and I think we are all hooked! We continue to work on Successmaker online and FCAT skill sheets in class. Please encourage them to read aloud and ask them questions about what they are reading. They can also practice FCAT like questions online with FCAT Explorer. Keep looking for Friday progress reports to be signed for extra credit! The seventh graders are reading Jerry Spinelli's *Stargirl* this nine weeks; so far, they seem to be enjoying it. It is the story of a seventh grader who had been home schooled and then comes into a public middle school a little different than the other students. Seventh grade is also working on their autobiographic memories which we hope to turn into a book before the winter holiday. Please continue looking for Friday progress reports and checking parent portal grades! Also, encourage your students to take advantage of FCAT Explorer online from home or the library, it will help prepare them for the ever approaching FCAT!



Mr. Cameron: We're diving headfirst into all things persuasive. Over the past few weeks the students have tackled a variety of persuasive forms, including letters, essays, and even verbal persuasion. In addition to persuasion, our seventh graders will be taking a close look at the art and skill of public speaking. Along with getting up in front of their peers to speak, each student will have the opportunity to evaluate famous and well-regarded speeches from throughout history. This unit will allow our students to recognize—and learn how to apply—effective oratory techniques while watching, listening to, and reading a variety of influential and meaningful speeches.

Ms. Sinatra: In Ms. Sinatra's 2nd period class, the ESOL students are implementing our Coach textbook and discussing "generalizations" and "conclusions". We have also started "Persuasive writing." We intend to practice this much more! Then, we will start to use it in speeches (our goal being preparation for

the Tropicana Speech competition). In the 3rd period class, Ms. Sinatra is also doing persuasive writing.

8th Grade

Mrs. Hern is truly enjoying her students this year, and it has been a productive year so far. The last quarter was capped off by reading the suspenseful "The Monkey's Paw," and viewing Alfred Hitchcock's classic film *The Birds*. The classes just finished a unit on verbs and now are heading into persuasive writing, figurative language, and comma usage. Hopefully, there will be time to read a couple of more stories before the end of the quarter.

Ms. Morris: We are beginning a unit on biography. There will be an emphasis on Native Americans to tie in with what we're doing in US History. The students will also write an autobiography using a frame as a pre-writing strategy.

Mrs. Brown: The eighth graders are reading Walter Dean Myers's *Hoops*, which is the struggle of a high school aged African American boy to make it in the game of basketball while growing up in Harlem. They have recently finished typing their recipe memories and will begin on their Author projects after Thanksgiving. Please continue looking for Friday progress reports and checking parent portal grades! Also, encourage your students to take advantage of FCAT Explorer online from home or the library, it will help prepare them for the ever approaching FCAT!

Ms. Newman: We wrapped up our creepy and mysterious fiction/poetry unit of study with a Spooky Poem Campfire, complete with a tent and burning campfire. We had fun, shared our poems and a few sugary snacks. Currently, we are working in a persuasion unit. Students have learned about propaganda techniques that advertisers use to get our business and politicians utilize to sway our vote. We are applying these techniques in our own persuasive writing. Be sure to ask your child which techniques advertisers are using this holiday season in their ads, commercials, and shop signs.

Students should be reading on their own every night. I require 2 book summaries by the end of each quarter but I have challenged them to do more. On the last day of the quarter, the person who has written the most summaries will get an entire McDonalds or Burger King meal, provided by Mrs. Newman.

GUIDANCE GIVES YOU A CLEARER 'VIEW'

Electronic Personal Education Planner (ePEP)

The ePEP is an interactive online planning tool that enables students to create an academic plan for high school, based on goals the student has set. The plan is designed to get students thinking about their future and what courses they need to take. **It may be changed** as they progress through high school. Eighth grade students will create their ePEPs on January 5-6, 2012. The ePEPs will be created in their US History classes. A parent guide will be sent home along with the ePEP to provide addi-



tional information. Please remember the ePEP must be signed and returned to your student's US History teacher.

Please note that the students are not selecting their classes for 9th grade during this process. Course request forms for 9th grade will be completed during a separate process.

Tips to Ensure Your Student's Success- Check your student's agenda book and homework daily

Check Parent Portal weekly

Check the web pages of your student's teachers

Designate a study time and place

Communicate with your student's teachers

Economic Assistance

If you are in need of economic assistance, please call Mrs. Shelton-Martin, Guidance Director, for a social work referral.

Parent Conferences

If you would like to schedule a parent/guardian conference for your non-magnet student, please contact Mrs. Shirley Colson, Guidance secretary, at (850) 488-6880.

CAFÉ FRANÇAIS

- MME LAMARTINIÈRE, SPONSOR

Bonjour!

This nine weeks I'm enjoying getting to know a new group of student's in my French Wheel class. We have learned how to greet others and to introduce ourselves in French and to count to 1,000! We will be learning more about the geography of France and also how to talk about our families.

In French 1, we are currently learning how to



discuss our likes and dislikes in French, as well as how to invite others to do things with us (and how to refuse others' offers!). At the end of this unit we will be having a "boum" to celebrate; our recipe this time is chocolate fondue!

My French 2 class is getting a lot more in depth with the French language, including how to speak in the past tense. This takes a lot of focus and memorization. Their new unit will remind them how to talk about their fa-

vorite foods and beverages and how to order in a French café or restaurant. They will also learn to express what they want to do, what they can do, and what they must do in French.



All of my classes have been invited to participate in Café Français, the FMS French Club. Hope to see you there!

Mme Lamartiniere

MATH CLUB

- SPONSOR, MS. TERRY KING

Congratulations to the following students who won a trophy at the Rickards Invitational Math Competition:

Pre-Algebra team - 1st place Members were: Anvitha Mandapati, Stephen Ren, Aman Raj, and Rithik Gavvala

Algebra team - 1st place Members were: Aditya Hota, Melissa Ma, Jasmine Zou, and Tulsi Patel

Pre-Algebra Individual trophies: 2nd - Anvitha Mandapati, 3rd - Carson Jones, 5th - Karthik Macherla, 7th - Stephen Ren, 8th - Rithik Gavvala, 9th - Aman Raj, 10th - Kiran Mital, 13th - Cherry Moparthy

Algebra Individuals trophies: 1st - Aditya Hota, 3rd - Kyle Chen, 4th - Sitara Mysore, 5th - Melissa Ma, 7th -

Roehl Reyes, Shardul Heda, 9th - Jasmine Zou, 10th - Rida Darji, 13th - Zackary Button

Euclidean Individual trophies: 1st place - Shardul Heda, 3rd - Kyle Chen, 4th - Roehl Reyes, 5th - Sitara Mysore, 6th - Cherry Moparthy, 7th - Rida Darji, 8th - Zackary Button, 9th - Karthik Macherla, 10th - Timothy Gavrilin, 11th - Michelle Waldman

Geometry Individual trophy: 4th - Graham O'Donnell - Graham, who is only in 6th grade conquered tons of High School students to win 4th place!

These are some awesome kids! Go Falcons!

6th grade math club is held on Mondays after school from 4:00 - 5:30 and 7th

and 8th grade math club is held on Tuesdays after school from 4:00 - 5:30. Please pick up your child on time, since I will have to stay until every child is picked up for safety reasons.

Upcoming math competitions:

January 7th - Vero Beach Statewide

January 11th - Mathematical Olympiad

January 21st - Pensacola Junior College

February 4th - Gulf Coast State College

February 8th - Mathematical Olympiad

February 18th - Tampa Bay Tech Statewide

February 21st - Math League for 6th, 7th, and 8th



DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Science Olympiad Comm. Serv. Due	3 MAT—Haggerty
4	5	6	7 IB Challenger Trip	8 IB Challenger Trip	9	10 MAT—Vestavia Hills
TEXTBOOK CHECKS!						
11	12	13 Chorus/Guitar Concert	14 Math Olympiad	15	16 IB Winter Dance	17
18	19	20	21 End of 2nd 9 Weeks	22 Holiday Break Begins	23 Holiday Break	24
EXAMS!						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
HOLIDAY BREAK!						



JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Teachers Return	5 Students Return	6	7 MAT Vero Beach
HOLIDAY BREAK!						
8	9	10 FAIR Testing	11 All-State Chorus/ Band	12 Fair Testing Report Cards	13	14
15	16 NO SCHOOL	17	18 FAIR Testing	19	20 FAIR Testing	21 MAT Pensacola
22	23	24 FAIR Testing	25	26 FAIR Testing	27	28
LITERACY WEEK						
29	30 FAIR Testing	31 IB Prep Open House				



FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 MAT GCCC
5	6 Progress Reports	7	8 Math Olympiad	9	10 FMS Dinner Theater	11
12	13	14 Falcon Card Valentine Dance 6th/7th Pd.	15	16	17 Model UN Trip	18 MAT Tampa
19	20	21 French Mardi Gras Parade	22	23 Choral MPA	24 Choral MPA	25 Spanish Expo
26	27	28 FCAT Writing IB Prep Open House	29			

SUNSHINE STATE FALCON FACULTY READING TITLES ACCOLADES

Need help selecting a good read? Below you will find suggested reading by the *Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Program Master List of Titles 2011-2012 for grades 6-8:*



- The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger
- The Prince of Fenway Park* by Julianna Baggott
- Flawed Dogs: The Novel: the Shocking Raid on Westminster* by Berkeley Breathed
- Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper
- Dark Life* by Kat Falls
- Scat* by Carl Hiaasen
- Alibi Junior High* by Greg Logsted
- The Day of the Pelican* by Katherine Paterson
- Woods Runner* by Gary Paulsen
- Bystander* by James Preller
- Alcatraz versus the Evil Librarians* by Brandon Sanderson
- Jolter: Newton Starker's Rules for Survival* by Arthur Slade
- Killer Pizza* by Greg Taylor
- Peace, Locomotion* by Jacqueline Woodson

FMS Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Ms. Racquel Harrell, Fairview Middle School Teacher of the Year for the 2011-2012 school year. Ms. Harrell has taught Language Arts at Fairview for seven years, with six of those years spent teaching in the IB Prep Magnet program. She also holds the position of the Fairview Middle School reading coach. We are blessed to count Ms. Harrell as part of the Falcon Faculty!

Minority Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Ms. Shelton-Martin, guidance counselor, and winner of the 2011-2012 Fairview Middle School Minority Teacher of the Year award! Ms. Shelton-Martin has been in the Fairview guidance department for five years. We are so proud to call her a Falcon!

School Employee of the Year

Congratulations to Ms. Shirley Colson, Guidance Secretary, our 2011-2012 School Employee of the Year! Ms. Colson has been the secretary for the guidance department for three years, joining us from Belle Vue Middle School in 2009. Thanks for your dedicated service to our school, Ms. Colson!

Higher Education Degrees

Congratulations to Ms. Eileen Chomat, who graduated with a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership in December. Way to go, Ms. Chomat! We are proud of you!



LADY FALCONS BASKETBALL

We are very excited anticipating the start of a great basketball season for the Lady Falcons! The Lady Falcons are the current Back to Back Leon County Middle School Girls Basketball Champions. This year we have great expectations as we prepare for a "Three-Peat".

The girls have been working very hard and showed great promise in our first home game, defeating Swift Creek Middle School 31 – 14. Our entire schedule can be found on the FMS website calendar. We are also very proud to report that the Lady Falcons are excelling in the classroom as well, with 14 of our 16 players are carrying a 3.0 or higher grade point averages.



We invite you to come out support the Lady Falcons at all of our game but especially our home games. It will be a treat to see the Fabulous Fairview Cheerleaders and the "Brand New to the View" Fairview Dance Team and Drumline.

Come feel the heat!

CHORUS AND GUITAR



Happy 2nd Nine Weeks from the Chorus Department! Our students are working hard, learning to sing, making music, and having a great time along

the way!

The Chorus and Guitar classes were excited to travel to the Old Capitol on December 2nd to sing and play on the giant staircase located in the front lobby. It was a spectacular performance, and we thank all the parents who came out to support us on our special day.



In addition, the FMS Chorus and Guitar classes are excited to invite you to come support Fairview's performing arts at our Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00pm at Leon High School. Admission is free! (donations are always appreciated!)

We look forward to seeing you there, Falcons!

WANT TO BE IN IB?



Are you interested in becoming a part of the oldest and most prestigious middle school magnet program in Leon County, the IB Prep Magnet program? Now is the time! Applications for the 2012-2013 school year are being accepted throughout January and February. Please be aware that applicants generally earn a 4 or 5 on both the FCAT reading and math, as well as have stellar teacher recommendations and a solid A/B report card. Applications can be obtained from the Fairview website beginning in January, as well as from the district office.

If you feel you would benefit from participating in the program, please be aware of the following important dates and times:

January – February: Shadowing

Call Ms. Meghan Davis, IB Prep Coordinator, to set up a date to shadow at Fairview

January 31st, 6:30pm: IB Prep Open House

February 28th, 6:30pm: IB Prep Open House

March 1st: Application Deadline (due to district office)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Davis in the IB Prep Office at davism6@leonschools.net or 488-6880x122.

PICKETT'S PIECE

Congratulations on completing the first semester of the 2011-2012 school year! Please be prepared to apply and acquire more skills and knowledge, learn how to become a life-long learner, participate in on-going progress monitoring, and complete standardized assessments. This semester continues to make a difference!



In September, students received the 2011-2012 Middle School Promotion Brochure. This brochure introduces students and parents to state and local requirements and expectations of the middle school years. If you cannot find the brochure you may access it on the Leon County Schools webpage at

-MRS. PICKETT, ASST. PRIN.

http://www.tandl.leon.k12.fl.us/Promotion_Brochures.htm. Once you click on this website, you may access all Leon County promotion brochures Kindergarten-8th grade. The brochure is your roadmap to high school.

Please remember that you may access your student's assignments and grades on the Fairview Webpage. The assignments can be found on the Teacher's Webpages link (found on the left hand side of the website towards the bottom), and the Parent Portal (third link under the top picture). If you need access information for the parent portal, please e-mail Mrs. Pickett at picketta@leonschools.net. The information may be emailed to you or sent home with your student. And, if you are interested in speaking with teachers,

please feel free to e-mail one or all of your student's teachers.

Remember there are many means of communicating academic and behavioral information- **student planners** (you should see this everyday), **Parent Portal** (updated weekly), **Teacher webpages** (updated bi-monthly), and **emailing and/or leaving phone messages**. Only with constant and consistent communication can success happen.

Have a wonderful holiday, Falcons! We appreciate all of the hard work you put into 2011, and we look forward to a productive 2012!

