



Ferry Farm Elementary

Where Eagles Learn to Soar!

Robert Freeman
Principal

Kara Colucci
Assistant Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

- 5 End of 1st Nine Weeks
- 6 **No School**/Election Day
- 6 Parent/Teacher Conferences
8:30-7:00 PM
- 12 **No School**/Veteran's Day
- 14 Report Cards Issued
- 15 Geography Bee 9:30 AM
- 16 Eagles' Flight Run
- 21-23 **No School**/Thanksgiving
- 27 Picture Retakes
- 29 PTA Spirit Day Chatham Subway
- 30 Spelling Bee 9:30 AM

December

- 8 Pancake Breakfast 8:00-11:00 AM
- 11 Winter Concert 7:00 PM
- 13 Interims Sent Home
- 17-20 SCA Spirit Days
- 21 Pajama Day/**Early Dismissal 1:10 PM**

No School
December 22 – January 2
Winter Break

November 2018

Message from the Principal

I'd like to take a few moments to reflect on the completion of another fabulous, memorable October here at "The Farm." The support of our community was evident in several outstanding and exciting events.

We held our annual Community DARE Parade. Our students, staff, parents, and volunteers made the parade a huge hit. It is inspirational to see the community come together for a common good! Our eagles thoroughly enjoy having our families and neighbors cheer along from their yards in support of the drug-free message. Special thanks to Sheriff Decatur and the Stafford County Sheriff's Department for protecting our staff, students, and families during the parade!

All who attended our second annual Trunk or Treat and Monster Mash had a wonderful time collecting candy and getting their spooky groove on. The PTA Fall Book Fair was a huge hit! Thank you to all of our families for making these events an enormous success. I especially want to thank our PTA for all of their efforts to make these events so unforgettable!

We would like to send a shout out to our neighbors, the Beard Family, for making "Moments and Memories" for the staff and students in October! They created a fun skeletal family which activity displays changed daily in their front yard. We are all definitely looking forward to seeing them next October!

With the change in weather, flu season is in our midst. Our staff, led by Nurse Diaz, is committed to the health and safety of each child. Her diligence has kept our school community abreast of flu shot clinic information and emphasized the importance of getting enough sleep, frequent hand washing, and staying hydrated. If your child does indeed come down with a "bug", please have them stay home until their fever has been gone for 24 hours without medicine. We want to make sure all students enjoy school in a safe and healthy environment.

November brings a few "days off" for students. Beginning with no school for students on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, and Monday November 12, for Veterans Day observance. On November 6, we have parent-teacher conferences. We look forward to meeting with you to share how your child has been performing this year. However, if you cannot meet on that date, please make sure to contact your teacher. We wrap the month up with Thanksgiving Break from November 21 through the 23. Please check the school/district calendar for more information.

The PTA Fun Run is coming November! This is the BIG fundraiser the Ferry Farm Elementary School PTA will be holding this year. Their goal is to raise \$30,000 for our school. This money will be used to fund our operational budget, and to provide the school with new technology and PTA Grants for teachers. On November 16, we look forward to having you join us to cheer for your eagle at the FUN RUN! For more information please visit our Ferry Farm or PTA website.

Thank you for your continued support, and know that **WE ARE THANKFUL** to be the ones educating your children!

Mr. Freeman



Music News



Kindergarten students are exploring different percussion instruments. They are learning making music means playing when it is your part and not all of the time. They are learning that music can be loud and soft and singing, instrument playing and dancing match those levels.

First grade students are practicing hard to learn songs for our upcoming Veteran's Day performance. Look for information to come home soon. They will be singing, playing instruments, speaking and creatively moving with the music.

Second grade students worked hard to learn the DARE song for our march. They have also learned that songs can be in sections (AB/ABA) and are playing in 3 parts! They learned a song to help them learn the 7 continents. Have them sing the song for you☺!

Third grade students worked hard to memorize the DARE song. They have been learning music symbols and treble clef spaces in preparation for playing the recorder. They will adding treble clef lines soon. Most importantly, THE RECORDERS ARE HERE! Students will learn to play the recorder. It is very exciting for them!

Fourth grade students have worked hard on the DARE song. They have reviewed treble clef lines and spaces as well as note names and values. Students will begin working on recorders. They played a song with four part instrumental parts! Great job!

Fifth grade students worked on the DARE song, to learn and to perform. They have reviewed treble clef lines and spaces and starting recorders. They will soon be playing in a 3-part recorder consort! They have begun a unit studying our National Anthem.

Super Singers and Instrumental Ensemble are working hard to prepare our Winter Concert. They are learning technique, skills, and the songs they will perform. The concert is on Tuesday, December 11.



Kindergarten News



Kindergarten visited Braehead Farms in October.

No School

*November 6
November 12
November 21-23
December 22 – January 2*

Early Dismissal
December 21 1:10 PM

Eagles' Fun Run November 16

Support our PTA in this fundraising event! All money earned will provide our school with new technology, fund teacher grants, support DARE program, and so much more. Every dollar raised goes to support our Eagles.



Pancake Breakfast

The annual Pancake Breakfast will be held Saturday, December 8 from 8:00 to 11:00 AM. Come and enjoy breakfast, shop at the Craft/Vendor fair, and listen to the Super Singers.



Winter Concert

Super Singers and Instrumental Ensembles
Thursday, December 11
7:00 PM
In the school cafeteria

FOCUS

We are busy learning new and exciting things in Focus. Archaeology, bridges, roller coasters, and leaf monsters -- oh my!

Second graders will be putting the final touches on our Byrd Baylor, creative writing and thinking unit, by creating the "perfect" leaf monster!! They are working really hard to see the importance of colorful descriptive words in writing. We will be replicating an actual archaeological dig in **third** grade, as they tie up their unit on archaeology. In **fourth** grade we are exploring the importance of a bridge design in relation to its location and purpose. We are gearing up to begin our final days of the bridge unit by constructing our very own bridges! Things are getting a little loopy in **fifth** as we begin to explore the importance of gravitational force and centripetal force on roller coaster design. In fact, our final project may cause us to lose our marbles as we design our final project-a marble coaster!



All 2nd-5th grade students will continue preparing for their Continental Math League Challenge and will gear up for the upcoming WordMasters Challenge. Please remember to refer to our Google Classroom to see some of the exciting stuff that is going on in our class!



November 6

8:30 AM-7:00 PM

Make it a Priority. Meet with your child's teacher.

Second Grade



We thank Dr. Slunt, from UMW, for coming and presenting an experiment to second grade. Second grade thoroughly enjoyed Dr. Slunt's Foaming Pumpkin experiment.

To: All Parents, Staff and Local Supporters



In an effort to raise money for our school we are asking that you please donate all empty/used Inkjet and Laser Cartridges. Cartridges can be collected from home, work, friends or neighbors. This will allow our school to raise much needed funds as well as protecting the environment. Cartridges should be placed in a zip lock bag or wrapped in cellophane to prevent leakage.



Thank you for the support of our School!

PTA SPIRIT DAY
SUBWAY
November 29
Chatham

**A
R
T**



Rozy J. with her artwork and family at the Schoolboard Office Art Show.

PE Student of the Month

September

Effort



Sportsmanship

- Second**
 Alayna L.
 Tristan W.
 Donna M.
 Frederick S.
 Raven T.



- Third**
 Anthony I.
 Camden N.
 Morgan G.
 Gray E.
 Lacey O.

- Fourth**
 Ryan B.
 Joseph B.
 Russell G.
 Colton R.
 Joselyne R.

- Fifth**
 Madison E.
 London J.
 Garrett C.
 Samantha K.

Kindness

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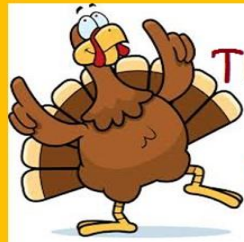
In PE this month, students in the 4th and 5th grade completed their fitness testing, mile run and pacer test. If you go to our webpage, there is a link where you can view your child's fitness test scores.

The younger kids, k-2 focused on listening and following directions with the parachute. This was followed by games that involved kicking.

HOW COLD IS TOO COLD TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO PLAY OUTDOORS?



During typical winter days, common sense requires us to look beyond a specific temperature and consider factors such as wind chill, whether the ground is frozen or the sun is shining, how well the children are prepared to play outdoors (jackets, gloves, and hats), what activity the children are participating in, and the length of time to be spent outside. When the weather turns extremely cold, we have to balance students' needs for physical activity with the dangers that come from too much exposure to the cold. To keep our Eagles safe during these cold weather months, our classes **will not go outside for recess or PE when the wind chill is below 30 degrees Fahrenheit**. When a grade level has decided it is too cold to go out without proper attire, one teacher may choose to stay inside with students who do not have a winter coat, gloves, and hat. In the event we must stay inside, students will have indoor recess and they can play all kinds of games, including those that reinforce what they learn in school.



Thanksgiving Break
No School
November 21-23

Fifth Grade

Fifth grade has been working diligently in all subject areas! Interesting projects of cell functions and capital resources out of natural resources have added some hands-on creative work to our learning. To help your child with study skills for science and social studies tests, use the review sheet/study guide and help make flashcards, encourage your child to study by creating a Google slideshow of the material, or call out questions nightly for 10 minutes. Starting to study ahead makes a huge difference. For math fluency, go with board games that involve counting around the board or card games where adding and logic must happen. Finally, as always, turn off the electronics and let them read. Even reluctant readers will turn to reading if the TV or tablets are off. Together, we make a great team to help your child become a strong student!



Library News



Second grade students create story settings before adding characters as they build a story during October's Library Stations.

Picture Retakes

November 27



Mrs. Sypolt's Math Tips

How to help with fractions

When children experience difficulty in math it often begins when they are introduced to fractions. Before fractions, children have only known counting numbers and the one-to-one relationship between these numbers and the set of objects the number represents. The difficulty can arise when the students need to think about rational numbers in a different way.

Imagine two children each with a similar cake. Child one has the cake divided into six parts and child two's is in three parts. Thinking of whole numbers as he has always done, child two thinks child one has more cake. He doesn't think of the cake as the unit (one whole).

Children need to learn **to think differently** in order to understand fractions.



Teaching fractions to your child:

You can guide your child through the process of learning fractions. Use these tips to help answer questions they might have about fractions:

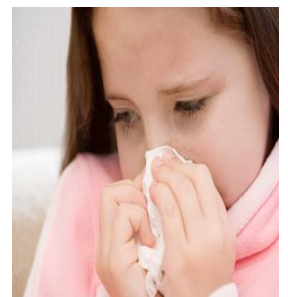
- Think about sharing equally
- Like with all math, experiencing the concept is the best for learning. Use objects and share them. Pizza is always popular 😊
- Discuss fractions with your child whenever you come across a "real life" example. Sporting events, hardware stores and your own kitchen are all great places to start.

Sick Day Guidelines

Should I keep my child home or send him or her to school?

Keeping your child home if he or she:

- Has a fever of 100.0 degrees or higher
- Has been vomiting
- Has diarrhea
- Has symptoms that prevent him or her from participating in school, such as:
 - Excessive tiredness or lack of appetite
 - Productive coughing, sneezing
 - Headache, body aches, earache
 - Sore throat



A minor sore throat is usually not a problem, but a severe sore throat could be strep throat even if there is no fever. Other symptoms of strep throat in children are headache and stomach upset. Contact your pediatrician as your child needs a special test to determine if it is strep throat.

Keep your child home until his or her fever has been gone for 24 hours without medication.

Colds can be contagious for at least 48 hours. Returning to school too soon may slow the recovery process and expose others unnecessarily to illness.



DARE MARCH
October 22




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