

Welcome to Franklin Park School!

# back to school newsletter

August 2013 Volume 5, Issue 1



September  
What's the  
**BUZZ?**

**September 9th**  
First Day of School

**September 11th**  
First Day of School  
for Pre-K

**September 17th**  
Back to School Night  
(Pre-K and K)

**September 18th**  
Back to School Night  
(Grades 1 & 2)

**September 19th**  
Back to School Night  
(Grades 3 & 4)

**September 20th**  
Mugs & Muffins (Pre-K)  
9:00 am & 1:00 pm

**September 24th**  
Mugs & Muffins (Grade K)  
9:30 am & 1:30 pm

**September 27th**  
Birthday Recognition  
PTO Ice Cream Social  
5:30 p.m.

## Notes from Principal Nicole S. Scott

Realizing the power of our dreams...

*Feel it, Believe it, Dream it, Bee it!*



Welcome to Franklin Park School! We hope that you have had a fabulous summer, and that you are ready for a new school year!

We also welcome students who will be new to Franklin Park School. Together, we as a school family will be working with our 2013-2014 theme:



Realizing the power of our dreams...

*Feel it, Believe it, Dream it, Bee it!*

(Thank you AGAIN Justin Bieber! ;o)

An anonymous source is quoted to say, "No dreamer is ever too small; no dream is ever too big." Here, at Franklin Park School, all students, Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Four, will enter their classrooms each and every day greeted by a dedicated teacher, who will model through actions, words and experiences that everyone is capable of capturing their dreams, and that **WE** can, because **WE** think **WE** can!

It is through example that the Franklin Park School staff will help your children *realize the power of their dreams!*

In September, **Buzzter**, our school mascot, will help us re-launch our School-wide Positive Behavior Support program; an evidence-based approach to building a positive school climate.



We call this, "Bee Your Best at FPS," which aligns with our school's overarching expectations and values: **Be Respectful**, **Be Responsible**, **Be Caring**, and **Be Safe**. Students will be taught these behavioral expectations, and throughout the year, we will recognize those students who live up to the goals and expectations of the program. It is our continued hope that all FPS community members, through their active participation in this program, will be able to answer the questions, "What kind of a student does Franklin Park School expect you to be?" More information on this initiative can be found on our school website.

In the days prior to the start of school, please discuss with your child expectations for a successful year, as outlined in the FPS Family Handbook, which can also be found on the school website. Their preparedness is essential!

Enjoy the last few weeks of summer. We look forward to welcoming you on September 9th! Get ready to start dreaming!



# 21 TIPS TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

School-family partnerships contribute to academic success.

Become a partner with your child's school.

## Make home a learning center

1. Read with your child every day, in English or your native language. If you don't feel comfortable reading, discuss picture books or photos, or have your child read to you.
2. Make a regular time and space for homework every day. Turn the TV off.
3. Know what your child is studying. Learn new things yourself.
4. Make sure your child gets enough sleep each night and eats a good breakfast before school.
5. Involve your family in community activities that expand on school learning.
6. Let your child know that you expect good work in school.

## Communicate with the school

7. Inform the school of your child's needs and any changes in family circumstances.
8. Establish a communication system with your child's teacher and use it frequently.
9. Check your child's homework, attendance and academic progress often.
10. Respond to all messages from school.
11. Attend school meetings, events, and parent-teacher conferences.

## Help the school

12. Work with teachers to find educational materials, enrichment programs for students, and funding.
13. **Join the PTO and volunteer!** If you can't volunteer at school during the week, ask the PTO for ways to help at home or on weekends.
14. If you have time, ask to help the teacher in the classroom.
15. Recruit and train other families to form a volunteer group.
16. Help set up and manage a classroom phone tree or e-mail list.

## Become a leader

17. Learn how the school system works and how to advocate for all children.
18. Be part of decision-making committees at school, organize a parent group in your school, or be active!
19. Be a public supporter of education. Get informed about state and local education laws.

## Help bring the community into the school

20. If your school is diverse, find out which community organizations serve diverse cultural groups and help the school connect with them to provide services for families.
21. Arrange educational and cultural experiences for your child. Share these opportunities with other families and your child's school.



## SPOTLIGHT ON STRONG READERS

- Strong readers decide on a special reading place where they can do their best thinking. This may mean choosing a spot away from the TV or other distractions.
- Strong readers set goals for how much time they will read each day and when it will fit into their day. Keeping a Reading log with titles, pages, and times read may prove to be helpful.
- Strong readers invent their own reading projects to keep on growing. They take charge of their reading, whether it be learning more about a non-fiction topic such as dinosaurs, or reading several books in a series.



## Transportation Points of Interest

- Send your child on the bus the first day.
- The transportation department will contact you regarding the time of pick-up.
- It is important that your child is ready when the bus arrives, as the start of class depends on the arrival of the bus at school.
- If your child is a car rider, please drop them at the Annex Parking Lot.
- **Transportation Department Phone Number:**  
(732) 828-6620



The Franklin Park School teaching staff is a team of dedicated, talented professionals. Their individual and collective focus is on success for each student.

**Your Child's Placement for 2013-2014:**

**Grade:**

**Teacher:**

