

THE FALCON FLYER



Flint Hill's News You Can Use!

VOL. 1, ISSUE 39

5.26.2018

In Honor of Memorial Day

Dear Families,

We would like to take a moment to remember those who died while serving in the U.S. armed forces. While we are grateful for this extra day with our families and friends, we are also reminded that it is a day of remembrance for so many.

Warmly,

FHES Administration

Updates from Administration Student Placement Google Form

We are accepting parent input on student placement next year. We ask that you use this form to provide substantive feedback that will guide us as we create classrooms. Of particular importance to us are student strengths. As we begin to think about how our classrooms will best meet the needs of all learners, we will be intentional about placing students with intellectual peers, as well as providing all student with peers who share similar strengths. This will help us support our teachers with their differentiation practices and, in turn, positively impact student outcomes. We will not accept any parent input that is not on this form. There are many reasons for this, but one important reason is that we hope to streamline the process and consider student placement for next year before the end of school. Having everything in one place helps to keep us organized! We hope you understand that this means we will be enforcing a **hard deadline of Friday, June 1st**. Over 100 parents have provided their insights. Thank you!

<https://goo.gl/forms/vqnwHKZFUxPYqL7F3>

Our Salad Bar is a Delicious Success!

Did you know that Flint Hill is home to the 50th salad bar opening in FCPS? This week, the salad bar was met with delight by students across grade levels K-6. Students received training in how to use the salad bar properly, in addition to enjoying a variety of fruits and vegetables not previously offered! Teachers and students shared that the salad bar is a wonderful addition to the menu options in the cafeteria. To see it in action, please click on the [link](#) to this tweet from FCPS Energy Zone!

Other Important Information Garden Showcase

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a Garden Showcase, on Wednesday, May 30th, from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Activities include, but are not limited to, a taste of the garden, petting a chicken, and making a wearable greenhouse! Please bring your family, and enjoy learning more about our school's focus on environmental literacy and stewardship! This event will take place, rain or shine. Please use this link to RSVP: <https://goo.gl/forms/I9Xuoy8vTEQVYJpH2>

Mr. Brett Leis and his **Cub Scout troop** finished, and delivered, the [Discovery Table](#) for our courtyard. See it in action at the Garden Showcase!

An Important Message About Social Emotional Learning

Often times, we notice new student behaviors developing toward the end-of-the-year. Whether it is recognized or not, the end-of-the-year can be very emotional for some children—even if they have a summer packed with fun activities, including time with family and friends. The end-of-the-year marks a change in routines, structures, and supports that students grow accustomed to each day. For our 6th graders, the end-of-the-year means moving on to middle school—which can be very unsettling, albeit exciting! These next few weeks, administration and counselors plan on meeting with our soon-to-be-middle school students to support their transition to Thoreau next year—and while we are focusing on our eldest students this week, we want you to know a little more about what we are doing to support each of our students next year and beyond with regard to academic and social behavior, as well as their overall emotional health. Please read the following [article](#) from the National Education Association, in accordance with the **Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)**. [CASEL](#) is the United States' leading organization advancing the teaching of academic, social, and emotional skills, and includes the Responsive Classroom approach as one of only 23 programs included in its research guide. As a school, we are excited about this shift in our schoolwide approach next year, in addition to the development of a comprehensive character education program for our students. The Responsive Classroom (RC) approach is not a behavior management system; rather, it is an approach to teaching, learning, and providing positive, proactive discipline. We look forward to providing you additional opportunities to learn more about RC this summer and throughout next year!

Getting to know you, getting to know all about you...

Videos continue to be updated! We are eagerly awaiting the last of our videos, and will be updating our Flipgrid with our newest staff members before the end-of-the-year! What an incredible staff we have! <https://flipgrid.com/72d830>

DedicatED

This is a new section, dedicated especially to our parents, to join us on our teaching and learning journey. Each week, we will provide an article, video, blog post, etc. to help you better understand changes in education, with a specific interest in elevating your understanding about deeper learning practices. We hope you will find this opportunity to learn informative and thought-provoking!

This week, we would like to expand your understanding of what [deeper learning](#) is, and how it relates to differentiation and evolved teaching practice; "...a common thread is that educators empower students to be more independent and take a more active role in their learning process."

Flint Hill Elementary School

@FlintHillES

2444 Flint Hill Rd, Vienna, VA 22181

(703) 242-6100

<http://www2.fcps.edu/FlintHillES/>

Falcon Feedback: <https://tinyurl.com/ybqt23sc>

