

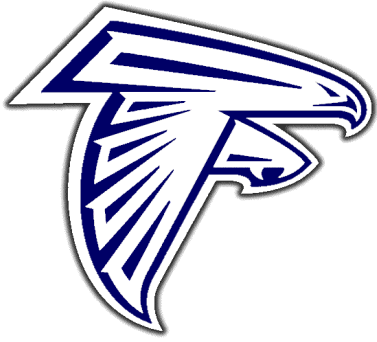
Fairfield Middle School

7th Grade Newsletter

It's Our Time...Right Now!

2nd Nine Weeks

2011-2012



A Quarter Done but We Just Begun!

Believe it or not we just finished up the 1st Nine Weeks. Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks will be here before you know it. While the extra days to sleep in will be nice, we also need to make the most of every class period at school.

The first report card of the year will be distributed later this month. Hopefully, this will give you reason to celebrate a marking period full of hard work. Whether your grades were up to par or not, you should use the report card as a tool for improvement. What can you do to bump your grades up to the next level?

The classrooms at Fairfield are filled with exciting and thoughtful daily lessons, but there is a lot more going on than just homework and tests. Have you checked out any of the new clubs on campus? Have you thought about trying out for a winter sport? There are plenty of activities to fill your social and academic calendars.

While the school year is off to a fast start we still have lots of work to do. If you are having a problem or need something extra, just ask! Parents, teachers, and the student are a team, with communication and hard work great things are bound to happen. By working together we can ensure that "*It's Our Time...Right Now!*"

Club P.R.I.D.E. is Coming Your Way

All Falcons have been working hard to prove that they have PRIDE. Now that hard work is about to pay off.

The 1st PRIDE Party will be on November 17th and Club PRIDE will be the place to be! There will most certainly be dancing and fun but also Wii tournaments, snazzy crafts, and don't forget about the special surprise.

Getting invited to the PRIDE Party isn't all that difficult. In fact, you are probably already meeting most of the criteria. You can expect an invitation if you have excellent attendance, stellar behavior, complete classwork and homework, and for being an all-around fabulous Falcon.

So get ready to show some PRIDE!

P.R.I.D.E.

- P - Personal
- R - Responsibility
- I - In
- D - Daily
- E - Effort

Important Dates:

11/15 Parent Visits & PTSA
Thanksgiving Dinner

11/17 PRIDE Party

11/21 Report Cards
Distributed

11/24 - 11/25 Thanksgiving
Break

12/10 Silent Auction
Fundraiser

12/13 - 12/16 Benchmark
Exams

12/19 - Winter Break Begins

1/16 MLK Holiday

1-23 - 1-27 Semester Exams

1/30 End of Semester 1 &
Student Holiday

**Please see the FMS website
for a complete calendar of
events**

Marking Period 1's Learning Profile Traits:

November: Knowledgeable

December: Thinkers

December: Communicators

School Counseling: Guiding the Way

Ms. Wallace has presented all the students with a crash course in Surviving 7th Grade. Students learned about study skills and began to look at the requirements for high school graduation.

This month is also full of helpful programs: Thursday Lunch Bunch will continue to the tradition of eating with friends and conversation, a girls group called Salvaging Sisterhood will begin meeting, and the next Parent's College course will discuss substance use and abuse.

"If you only have a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail"

~Abraham Maslow

Silent Auction: We need your bids!

On December 10th FMS will hold our first annual Silent Auction Fundraiser.

Thank you to all the students and families who donated items, whether they were big tickets or items for the grade level baskets.

Please consider attending the auction so the real fun can begin. Not only does all the money raised support FMS groups, but you can also walk away with some pretty awesome stuff. Don't forget to bid up those 7th Grade items!

Please email neolson@henrico.k12.va.us for ticket information.

7th Grade Team SHOUT OUTS!

Great job **Marcus Anderson** for introducing a fascinating segment on HCPS-TV!

Uriah Rogers you have a lot of class and Falcon spirit. Keep it up!

Thank you to **Mrs. Thompson** for being a leader and confidant to the teachers and students alike.

The race is on for the IB Humanities classes! They joined the American Mail Race, soon letters from around the USA will be pouring in!

Horary for **Mrs. Bayton & Ms. C. Washington** for being our Teachers of the Month.

Jalah Mack, Lauren Brown, & Jaeyson Washington made FMS proud at the Voter Forum.

You've got skills **Charles Sears!** That poster in Mr. Barfield's office looks topnotch. Way to represent the Art Club!

Mrs. Pierpont, those auction baskets look fabulous! The auction bidders are going to go crazy over them!

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas

The 7th Grade's journey to discover the power of one is well under way. Students have started to read the novel *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne.

Each week students read four chapters. Then on Friday they participate in a cross-curricular lesson that ties together the book's story line with information from their classes. These lessons have included menu planning on just 300 calories a day, graphing the distance between Bruno's home and the fence, and why individuality is OK. Coming up we have lessons from the media specialist, the school counselor, and the English teachers.

The Power of One program will be capped off with a trip to Washington D.C. While in the capital, students will tour the National Holocaust Museum and other national monuments. Only students with PRIDE will have a seat, so it's just another reason to be a model citizen.

The Responsibility of Technology

One of the coolest parts of being a middle school student in Henrico County is the one to one laptop initiative. With this privilege comes great responsibility. It is important to treat the laptops like they are your own.

Using technology in the classroom can lead to your school experience being more fun and will give you skills to prepare you for success in the 21st Century.

If there is a problem with your computer you should notify your teacher and take it to the Help Desk for repair.

Sharing the Power

Our *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* experience has been filled with many real world lessons. Whether it be the importance of our differences or learning about world hunger; this shared reading experience has started great conversations.

It's now time to put these lessons to good use! On November 19th we will officially kick-off the second portion of our program which consists of students completing 10 community service hours.

Students can do almost anything that helps out someone in their community. Please contact homeroom teachers for more information.