



FOX RIVER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Nuts & Bolts

Thinking ahead to the week of February 22 - 26, 2010
CBQ for this Week: Respect

- Saturday February 20** **Fen Day** 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Meet in front of the Administration Building. We will be working outdoors to cut, stack, and burn a large area of invasive buckthorn and bittersweet vines. Dress appropriately for the weather in cotton layers so clothes do not get damaged by the heat from the fire. Delicious hot chocolate to follow. Hope to see you there! If you have a question or need more information, contact Tim Holzworth at tholzworth@frcds.org.
- Tuesday February 23** **Move Up Day** Excitement is brewing as Grades K-4 students *Move Up* to the next grade for part of the afternoon to hear the highlights and attractions of the 2010-2011 school year. The Fifth Grade will join the Sixth Grade and have an opportunity to see the classrooms, hear about some of the exciting learning opportunities, and help them feel confident about this natural next step.
- Wednesday February 24** **Information Night**
Mark your calendar for a special afternoon at a special school!
3:30 p.m. Kindergarten & Grade One presentation in classrooms.
5:30 p.m. Middle School presentation in the Alumni Room
Information Night gives you the opportunity to look ahead and see what your child can expect in the coming years at Fox River. This is especially pertinent for Preschool & Kindergarten families with students moving up to Kindergarten and 1st grade, and for 4th & 5th grade families planning for Middle School. Discover what makes our programs unique at the next level from presentations by the teachers about the curriculum and student work samples. Families entering MS will hear about unique opportunities for our oldest students through class projects, assignments and year end trips.
- Thursday February 25** **Parent meeting for Costa Rica Trip** 4:30 p.m. in the Alumni Room All 8th grade students and at least one parent/guardian from each family are highly encouraged to attend this information meeting for the 8th grade Costa Rica Abroad. Important information covered include: what to pack, a day by day itinerary, photos from last year's trip and a Q&A session. See you there!
- Thursday February 25** **Meeting Invitation** Faculty & staff will meet with Elgin community employers and some FRCDS families to review our current ethics and character building program as part of our school's goal to be recognized as a National School of Character. We have been evaluating our strengths and challenges, making plans and setting priorities for developing students of the highest character. A small group is established to provide for an effective meeting. However, parents and middle school students interested in joining this meeting are invited to RSVP to Mrs. Kennedy at jkennedy@frcds.org by Wednesday, February 24.
- Friday February 26** **Spring Production Tickets** Advance tickets for Schoolhouse Rock will be available for pick-up from Judy starting today. If you have not ordered tickets, an **order form is attached**. We also need parent volunteers for ticket sales at the door. Please contact Tanya Moore at tmoores@frcds.org if you can help on either Thursday or Friday night of the performances.
- Friday February 26** **Money Hat Drawing to be held at Assembly Today**
The "Dinero Sombrero" is covered with one dollar bills (\$100 total). For every cash raffle ticket sold by next Friday morning before assembly, your family will receive an entry into the drawing for the hat. Raffle tickets can be sold to friends, family members, business associates ... anyone who'd like a chance at winning a large cash prize! Tickets cost \$100 each for **a chance to win a Grand Prize of \$7,500, 1st Prize of \$1,500, 2nd Prize of \$1,000 and 3rd Prize of \$500**. Contact Julie VonderHaar at jdahlb1@comcast.net with questions or to order tickets. Good Luck!
- Friday February 26** **Spirit Day – Super Heros!** Who is your favorite Super Hero? Superman, Spiderman, Batman. Wear a t-shirt that supports your favorite superhero!

Remarks and Reminders

2010 Annual Fund Challenge

We did it! We met our challenge goal of \$25,000 through gifts from FRCDS families of \$250 or more! This amount will now be matched by our challenge donors. **Together we raised \$50,000!**

Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute toward this common cause. We are so grateful! Parent participation is currently at 33%, and so we still have room to grow in our goal of 100% participation by our community. Even gifts of \$5 or \$10 will count toward our overall participation goals. Giving envelopes are available at Judy Kennedy's desk or in the Development Office. Remember, *every gift really does count!*

MS Student Blog

Students have been updating our Middle School Blog. Check it out: <http://frcdsstudents.wordpress.com>

FRCDS Sixth Annual Speech Tournament

Thursday, March 18. **See attachment** for details about this great event for our students.

"Entertainment 2010" books now available at half price!

Entertainment books are now for sale at both the Neil Building and the Administration Building.

A generous donation of these books has made it possible for us to pass an even greater savings to you- by cutting the selling price to only \$10.00, half of the retail price! This book of coupons and discounts is good through 2010. Help support our middle school trips and save money for your family at the same time! Students are encouraged to offer this great savings opportunity to family and friends.

In Appreciation

Special thanks to Maura Knight for coordinating such a wonderful Sweetheart Dance for our community last weekend. It was a special night for FRCDS girls and their "special dates." Thanks to all of the moms who also helped out that evening – Patty Rossen, Tanya Moore, Ranjana Soorya, Rohita Shah, Bridget Geenen, Kelly Bollinger, Stacey Spears, Karen O'Connell, Marla VanDurme, and Mei-Ling Clapp – we couldn't have done it without your help!

Thank you to Kyle, Christie, Ryan for organizing and supervising another fun Middle School Social for the students. Swim & Gym activities were enjoyed by Middle Schoolers.

Thank you to Ryan Wlodek and Kathy Prigge for putting together a well-run and organized Science Fair this week! The students worked hard on their projects and they were ready for the judge's reviews. Thanks too, to our volunteer judges who consisted of parents, faculty, and friends of the school from the City of Elgin and the U46 School District. It was a great success!