



# FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## May/June 2018 Newsletter

### Principal Corner....Greetings Forest Families!

It is already time for the last newsletter of the school year! We want to maximize every moment with your child these last weeks of school and we have many things planned to keep them engaged and motivated to finish the year strong. See our list of important dates and I hope to see at these special events!

I want to recognize our staff members that are retiring at the end of the school year: Janelle Baker, Wendy Wold, Kathy Gaffer, and Deb Swanson-Carlson. Mary Bareis will be retiring in September. Thank you for your years of service to the Forest community and we wish you the best in your retirement!

Our Family Fundraiser and Carnival is this Friday! We are looking forward to a great evening of fun, food, and games. Our silent auction is part of our carnival so be ready to purchase some great items for your family while supporting our PTO. We will also have our talent show as entertainment. This year, students in grades K-5 will be participating in the show. Invite your family members and friends to see this great showcase of our student's talent. Remember that cash or credit are the accepted forms of payment during the Carnival. We hope to see you there as a great community gathering while raising funds for the PTO to support our students!

In closing, I want to thank everyone for their support and involvement this school year. It has been a great year and we couldn't have done it without the partnership from our families! I wish everyone a great summer of family fun!

Mrs. Jackson  
Principal

### Important May and June Dates

#### MAY

- May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>: Science MCA's Grade 5
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>: Patrol Field Trip  
VIP Recognition Breakfast
- May 7<sup>th</sup>: Chipotle Family Night
- May 8<sup>th</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Track Meet (1:45 – 3:00)  
MN Historical Society Field Trip/  
Indian Ed Grades 2-5 (10:30 – 2:30)  
6:00 – 7:30 PTO Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup>: 4th Grade PARK Field Trip 9:30-2:30
- 10<sup>th</sup>: 2nd Grade Field Trip to WORKS 9:30-12:00pm
- 11<sup>th</sup>: Assembly at 10am & SUPERHERO Day
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Cooper Cares Day of Play at Recess
- 16<sup>th</sup>: 3rd Grade Fire/Library Field Trip
- 17<sup>th</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade College & Career Field Trip 1:45-3:15
- 18<sup>th</sup>: 5th Grade at RMS 10:00-1:30pm  
Family Picnic 5:30-7:30.
- 21<sup>st</sup>: 3rd Grade Rainbow Concert at 10:00  
3rd Grade Fire Prevention 1-3pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup>: 5th Grade District Track Meet 10:00-12:30pm
- 24<sup>th</sup>: Schoolwide Root Beer Float Party (2:30)
- 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>: PTO Book Give-Away
- 25<sup>th</sup>: DREAMS Field Trip to the U of MN
- 28<sup>th</sup>: Memorial Day—NO SCHOOL
- 30<sup>th</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Bowling Alley 1:15 – 3:15
- 31<sup>st</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair 2-3:00

#### JUNE

- 1<sup>st</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade DARE Graduation 2:30pm in Gym
- 4<sup>th</sup>: Field Day for all students Pre K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- 5<sup>th</sup>: Awards Ceremony @ 10:00 am
- 6<sup>th</sup>: Last Day of School for students. Report cards go home.

#### SPIRIT DAYS:

- Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>: "My future is bright" Neon and Sunglasses Day
- Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>: Red and Black Day-Celebrating DARE Graduates
- Monday June 4<sup>th</sup>: Sports Day (Wear hats, jerseys and other items of your favorite team)
- Tuesday June 5<sup>th</sup>: Dress Your Best Day

## Math Corner

The key to supporting children in developing mathematical thinking is providing the relevant and fun opportunities to think and talk mathematically! Here are some great resources for supporting mathematics at home this summer!

#mathadayinafunway

<https://solveme.edc.org/Mobiles.html#play>

**Be sure to engage in the conversation and thinking with them.**

**Ask questions like the following...**

- **What do you need to find out?**
- **What do you know now? How can you get the information? Where can you begin?**
- **Can you make a drawing (model) to explain your thinking? What are other possibilities?**
- **What would happen if...?**
- **What do you need to do next?**
- **Why did you...?**
- **How can you convince me your answer makes sense?**
- **Is there another possibility or strategy that would work?**

**Below is a list of some ideas to get kids having fun while thinking and talking mathematically.**

- Count all the loose change you can find. How much is it? If you counted correctly- ask your parents if you can keep it!
- Make a schedule of the best summer day ever, what would you do, when, and for how long? Share it with your parents and see what parts can happen.
- Write down all the different ways you can make a \$1.00. (or a different amount)
- Use 1, 4, 5, and 6 to make: the greatest number possible, an odd number and an even number.
- Use a ruler to draw a shape robot. Label each shape.
- Estimate how many heads or tails for a penny tossed 20 times. Toss and compare the actual findings with your estimate.
- While waiting in the checkout line- ask your child to estimate the number of items in the cart.
- Play restaurant. Have your child create a menu with prices. Have your child calculate the bill.
- List the ingredients of your favorite meal. Calculate the cost to make the meal.
- Develop a chore chart. Assign values to each chore. (Ex. 25 cents for making your bed) Have your child create a weekly "bill".
- Cut a snack, such as an apple or orange into equal parts and talk about fractions with your child.
- Notice the length of your shadows at different times of the day and try to find a pattern between the length of the shadow and the time.
- Let your kids take charge of a family picnic. Give them a budget and let them plan the menu, shop for the food, and pack everything. For more challenge, add nutritional goals, such as grams of protein per serving and overall calories.
- Bury coins in a sandbox and have children use colanders or sieves to find them. Then have them count their loot. Compare findings and crown the winner.
- The next time your child asks "Are we there yet?" help her figure it out. Using tools like a map or road signs, ask her to estimate how far you've traveled and how much longer it will take to reach your destination. On routine trips, ask questions like "It's 2:15, and it will take 25 minutes to get to the doctor's office. Will we arrive before your 3:00 appointment?"

There are many other great resources and ideas at this link:

<http://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/math/index.html?exp=2>

# Preventing Summer Reading Loss

## Why

Why does my child need to read in the summer?

•Children who don't read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect

## How

How much should my child read during the summer?

•Research indicates students who read just 6 books during summer months may prevent any reading loss. The general recommendation is twenty minutes per day.

## What

What should my child be reading this summer?

•Let your child choose the books she wants to read (as long as they're age-appropriate and are written at the *just right* level of difficulty).

Here are some resources to keep your child(ren) reading over the summer:

- [www.readingrockets.org](http://www.readingrockets.org)
- [www.scholastic.com/summer/home](http://www.scholastic.com/summer/home)
- [www.pbs.org/parents/education/reading-language/reading-tips/summer-reading-tips/](http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/reading-language/reading-tips/summer-reading-tips/)
- [www.readkiddoread.com/reviews](http://www.readkiddoread.com/reviews)

*Something to also keep in mind, in August we will be completing some reading assessments with our students before they return to school. We will be asking families to call and schedule an appointment for this reading assessment. Please plan to schedule an appointment for your child. Dates and how to schedule your appointment will be sent home with report cards.*

## PBIS Corner

As the school year winds down, we have a lot of exciting events coming up for all students. We will have our last school-wide celebration assembly on Friday, May 11th. We will recognize our Student of the Month honorees as well as our final Golden Awards for the school year. This is also SUPERHERO day at Forest. We can't wait to see what superheroes are going to come to school that day! We also have a special 2nd grade performance during our assembly. All families are always welcome to attend.



On June 5th, we have our annual Awards Ceremony. Each classroom will choose a citizenship award and our fifth graders will be recognized with most improved awards and presidential academic awards. This is always a fun event for parents and students so we hope to see you there.

The month of May we will be celebrating our PAWS super powers! Each week we will be focusing on the superpower of our PAWS Expectations! All staff will be on the lookout for superhero students who have a positive attitude, act responsibly, work hard and show respect!

## Nurse Notes

### **NOW is the time to schedule your camp and school physicals!**

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all school age children up to the age of 21 have a yearly Preventative or Well-Child check-up with a Licensed Health Care Provider. Although Robbinsdale Area Schools does not require a yearly physical to attend school, we highly recommend a yearly check-up and a minimum schedule of before Kindergarten, grade 4, grade 7 and grade 10. Check with your clinic regarding their recommendations for Preventative Care. Call your clinic NOW to make your appointments for shots and physicals to avoid exclusion from school for immunization non-compliance in the fall. The law requires that all students attending public school in MN be up to date on immunizations in order to attend school or have a legal exemption. Contact the Licensed School Nurse at your school for questions and/or resources.

### **End of the school year medication distribution:**

If your child has medication in the school health office please be aware that epi-pens and asthma medications will be sent home in your child's backpack. ALL OTHER MEDICATIONS WILL NEED TO BE PICKED UP BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN BY THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL. If medications are not picked up by the last day of school, it will be disposed of by Stericycle pharmaceutical waste management. Please call the school health office if you have any questions or concerns. Refer to Robbinsdale Area Schools policy/procedure 597AP for medication waste procedures. The school health office staff would like to wish everyone a safe and healthy summer!



See you in the fall!



## From our Specialist Team!

### Media Center

Our focus as the school year winds down is summer reading and the return of all Forest books and computers to school. All library books must be back by Friday, May 25 so we can reshelv the books for next year. Which class will be the first to have all books back? If you receive a notice that a book is overdue and it is lost or damaged, please pay us the replacement cost so we can re-order the book. Let's get books back in record time!



Chromebooks, cases and power sources for grade 5 students are also checked out on their library cards, and each student is responsible to return all items clean, in good condition with stickers attached. A fee will be assessed for any missing items and you will be notified. Chromebooks will be checked in during June, but there may be an earlier cutoff date for students taking chromebooks home. Your classroom teacher will let you know.

There are great summer reading possibilities at the Hennepin County Libraries, books and activities! Watch for special events at book stores as well. You can utilize our Forest media page (linked in the [foe.rdale.org](http://foe.rdale.org) Forest website) to read electronic books on TumbleBooks or MackinVIA eBooks, and also utilize our WorldBook, Britannica, PebbleGo databases. You may need to enter a username: rdale and password: rdale. Enjoy using our resources, they are there for you. Reading and exploring over the summer will give your child a boost in the fall as school starts up and he/she is ready for new challenges!

### Physical Education

It's looking like it will finally be nice enough to be outside in May for some fun PE activities. Our focus will be on running and track & field skills, as well as batting, kicking, and striking skills and games.

We will have the Forest Field Day on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. Watch for a link to volunteer to help us with this great day!!

Enjoy the spring sunshine and keeping work hard Forest Wolves!

Mr. Seiffert & Mr. Doohar

### Music

We are ending the school year highlighting the amazing skills and talents of our students at the Talent Show on Friday, May 18th which will be part of the Family Fundraiser and Carnival. All grades will be represented at the Talent Show. Each block of grades - K/1, 2/3, and 4/5 will have a 30 minute slot to show off their talents.

#### Grades

**K-1:** 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm

**2-3:** 6:15 pm - 6:45 pm

**4-5:** 6:45 pm - 7:15 pm

**FAMILIES MUST PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR PERFORMERS.**

**We are looking forward to a great show!**

## May/June Art News

The Art Room is still buzzing along this spring! Students will have Art just three more times this school year. The year will wrap up with the following lessons, grades K-5.

- Kindergarteners will do an Aboriginal-style painting, using dots of color and will illustrate a story.
- First graders will complete a yarn weaving and draw a picture like Van Gogh's Starry Night.
- Second graders will paint swatches, showing textures and color blending and will create an Eric Carle style illustration. They will also draw a beetle, using patterns and symmetry.
- Third graders will use proportional human drawing skills they learned to create a Zulu-style dancer in collage form and will also learn to draw trees, using different techniques.
- Fourth graders will complete a personal trademark and will print them, using brayers and ink. They should have time to use architectural blocks to revisit our unit on buildings.
- Fifth graders will complete a one-point perspective drawing and may have time for a Cubist-style collage.

That's it folks, as we end a fabulous year in Art soon!



## Student Council

We had a fantastic Pennies for Patients campaign this school year! Our Forest community raised over \$4,500 dollars for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This is the most money we have raised in our 8 years of supporting this cause! We are so proud of the Forest Wolves and their passion for giving back to the community and help children with cancer.

Please stop and see the Student Council at our Family Carnival. Student Council students will be doing Face Painting again this year, which is included in the cost of the wristbands! We hope to see you there!

## 2018-2019 School Year

Here are a few things to get on your calendar for next year:

- **Open House:** Thursday, August 30th
- **1<sup>st</sup> Day of School grades 1-5:** Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- **1<sup>st</sup> Day of School for Kindergarten:** Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- **1<sup>st</sup> Day of School for Pre-K:** Monday, September 10th, 2018
- **Fall Parent Teacher Conferences:** Oct 9, 11, and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- **Winter Break:** Monday, December 24th, 2018 – Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- **Spring Parent Teacher Conferences:** March 5, 7, and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- **Spring Break:** March 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Orchestra

If you have an instrument, bow, or any accessories (shoulder sponges, rosin, end pin holders) that belong to the school in your home, please return it to the school as soon as possible.

If your child is signed up for a summer orchestra program or private lessons and needs to use a school instrument over the summer, please let Ms. Nimchuk know. The instrument needs to return to school for inventory, but can be checked out again for summer use. **Financial assistance and scholarships are available for the following summer orchestra programs:**

Robbinsdale Summer Orchestra Camp, Sandburg Middle School, June 18 - 29 & July 16 – 27. Transportation provided by the district if you register for 1 additional morning class and students receive breakfast, lunch, & a snack each day! Register online: <https://rdale.ce.eleyo.com/>

Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, 612-870-7611, [mail@gtcys.org](mailto:mail@gtcys.org), [www.gtcys.org](http://www.gtcys.org)

Minnesota Youth Symphonies, 651-699-5811, [www.mnyouthsymphonies.org](http://www.mnyouthsymphonies.org)

MacPhail Center for Music, 612-321-0100, [www.macphail.org](http://www.macphail.org)

**Parents of 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra Students:** Please let me know your plan for 5th grade orchestra. It is as easy as [clicking this link](#), clicking “Yes”, “No,” or “Maybe,” typing in your child’s name, typing F for Forest, then clicking “Submit!” I hope to see lots of “Yes” responses!

**Parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Orchestra Students:** If you would like your child to learn to play violin, viola, cello, or bass during the school day next year, please complete a short survey:

[Pre-registration for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra – English](#)

[Preinscripción para la Orquesta de 4to Grado - Español](#)

Hard copies of surveys will be sent home with 3rd and 4th grade students, but electronic responses are preferred.

**Sarah Nimchuk**

Orchestra Director for Meadow Lake and Forest Elementary

[sarah\\_nimchuk@rdale.org](mailto:sarah_nimchuk@rdale.org) | 763-504-7345

[nimchukorchestra.weebly.com](http://nimchukorchestra.weebly.com)

## Band: Summer Music Academy for Band & Orchestra

You can still register for Summer Music Academy classes, including all levels of band and orchestra! These classes are a great way to keep up your playing skills in a relaxed and fun atmosphere.

And if you are just going to be getting started in band or orchestra next fall, you can sign up for the jump start classes, where you can "sample" several instruments before joining your school band or orchestra. You can get a jump start on learning about the instruments, meet new musical friends, and participate in a variety of games and activities.

The Summer Music Academy classes are offered in conjunction with Summer Academy at Sandburg Middle School.

Free bus transportation is provided within the Robbinsdale district boundaries when you sign up for a full morning of classes.

Check it out & register now!

Go to [rdale.eleyo.com](http://rdale.eleyo.com) or call 763-504-6990

## Recognizing Our Retirees

**Janelle Baker** has been a special education teacher in Robbinsdale Area Schools for 26 years. The first two years were resource level at Neill Elementary. She then worked the next 10 years at the EBD center based level at Meadow Lake, Sonnesyn, Zachary Lane and Forest. Ms. Baker then worked at Forest the last 14 years as a resource teacher.

**Wendy Wold** has taught Art in Robbinsdale Area Schools for 29 years. She has worked in 14 buildings during this time. She currently teaches about 1200 students at Forest and Sonnesyn. Over the years, Mrs. Wold has worked under 25 principals and taught about 14,000 students. She served on various committees, including many years on the CAPP (Comprehensive Arts Planning Program), AAC (Arts Advisory Council), and numerous scheduling committees; has been a member of many cycles of the district visual arts writing teams. For the past eight years, she has had fun chairing the Robbin Gallery Art Show, Art is Primary!

Mrs. Wold shared, “It has been a fabulous career, so invigorating watching students grow in their art abilities and seeing their enthusiasm in their creativity! I've really enjoyed the Forest community! Thanks Wolves for a wonderful ride!”

**Mary Bareis** has taught high school English, directed three infant-pre-school programs, and been an educational assistant, teacher and supervisor at Forest Adventure Club for 21 years. Forest feels like family to Mary and she respects and admires all the staff. Her two sons attended Forest and after she was hired at the school she was even more impressed with the staff's dedication. She will retire mid-September to care for her oldest son's daughter part of each week, but hopes to sub and volunteer at Forest occasionally.

**Cathy Gaffer** has worked for Adventure Club for 29 years and has a Child Development Associate degree. She started out at Olson, then Cavanaugh for several years until Adventure Club was relocated to Forest. She taught our kindergarten component for many years and is highly regarded for her commitment to diversity, creative projects and overall dedication and professionalism.

**Deb Swanson Carlson** has been employed at ISD 281 for 21 years, first as an EA in Title One, then as a special needs assistant at Adventure Club. She is known for her patience with children, her drawing ability and is the proud grandmother of 2 children at Forest, along with two sons who work for the district.

