



FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2017 Newsletter

Principal Corner....Greetings Forest Families!

We had a great first day of school yesterday! We started the day with a welcome back assembly where we revealed the new look of the 'Forest Wolves' (which is on the top of our newsletter). We will now begin to work with a vendor to create a new line of **Forest Gear** that will soon be ready to purchase. We are excited about how this has already united and strengthened us as a school community!

A few things about arrival and dismissal:

1. **Doors open at 9:15.** Please do not send your child early, as there is no supervision prior to 9:15. Adults are not able to escort their child to the classroom so say your good-byes in the atrium.
2. **Parent Pick-Up:** This year we have over 650 students (that is almost 100 students more than last year). We also have students that need to access handicapped accessible transportation, which needs to load from the front of the school. For these reasons, we need the main hallway and front of the school available for student use. We have created a parent pick-up routine using the media center. Please be patient with us as we work through specific details to create an efficient routine.
3. **Dismissal Changes:** Communicate any changes to regular dismissal plans to the main office by 2:30.

Watch for my weekly Sunday message for updates, information and reminders. Please contact the main office if you are not receiving them or want to change how you receive them.

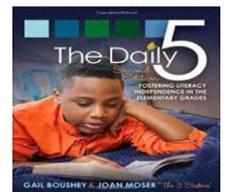
Together, we are going to make this a great year for all Forest students!

Mrs. Jackson

Literacy Corner

This will be a year filled with many new experiences and learning for your scholar as we continue our Daily 5 and CAFE structure for literacy instruction. At the beginning, the Daily 5 structure is put into place to teach scholars to be independent on literacy tasks. Once scholars are taught the behaviors of the tasks and build their stamina for independence, teachers will have the opportunity to work with individuals and small groups. Scholars will also be engaged each day in these research-based meaningful tasks:

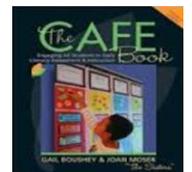
- Read to Self
- Work on Writing
- Word Work
- Listen to Reading
- Read to Someone



While the students are engaged in their literacy choices, teachers work with small groups and individuals, so everyone can get the just-in-time instruction they need to reach their full literacy potential.

CAFE is the organization of the reading strategies taught during the Daily 5 time. CAFE is the acronym for the four major components of reading:

- C for Comprehension
- A for Accuracy
- F for Fluency
- E for Expanding Vocabulary



Your scholar will learn reading strategies in each category. These strategies will become tools that help them become better readers and writers.

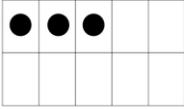
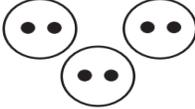
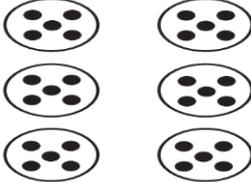
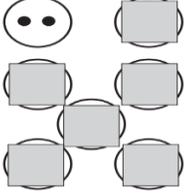
It is going to be exciting to watch your scholar's reading and writing skills blossom throughout the year. If you have any questions regarding Daily 5 /CAFE or literacy, do not hesitate to ask your scholar's teacher.

**Forest Elementary...Home of the Wolves
Where we put our best PAWS forward each day!**

Math Corner

This year we are including a math component to our morning meetings to get students to think and talk about their math thinking. This month we are focusing on a concept called subitize. Subitizing is the ability to 'see' a small amount of objects and know how many there are without counting. Subitizing is what tells you what number you roll on a six-sided dice. For example, most adults no longer have to count the pips after playing board games for a while. Subitizing is recognizing a number without using other mathematical processes.

Here are examples at each grade level. Simply show your child the image and ask- *How many? How do you know?*

Kindergarten	1 st Grade	2 nd Grade	3 rd Grade	4 th Grade	5 th Grade
					

After morning meeting, all classroom teachers will facilitate math learning activities through Calendar Math. This intentional activity is to create structures and routines to support mathematical thinking. We look forward to sharing more math ideas with you to talk about with your child each month!

PBIS Corner

We are excited to start our 2017-2018 school year as the Forest Wolves. Every day at Forest, we put our best PAWS forward! PAWS are the four letters of our new school-wide expectations. They stand for **PAWS**itive Attitude, **A**ct Responsible, **W**ork Hard, and **S**how Respect. This is our seventh year as a PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports) school. PBIS is a proactive approach to create a safe and productive learning environment. We directly TEACH all of our students how we expect them to behave and PRACTICE those behaviors on a consistent basis, just like academics.

Students will have the opportunity to earn PAWS tickets for exhibiting appropriate behavior throughout the school. This year, there will be a portion of the ticket that goes home so families can celebrate great behavior at home too. Our PAWS tickets are blue, so watch for them in your child's backpack and praise your child for their great behavior!

Please join us at our monthly assemblies where we acknowledge all the wonderful things happening throughout our school. Students have the opportunity to be the "Student of the Month" in the classroom. They can also earn awards such as, the "Golden Wheel" or the "Golden Lunch Tray" We always welcome parents at our monthly assemblies.

At Forest Elementary, we are dedicated to creating a safe and positive learning environment where we put our best PAWS forward every single day! We look forward to a great school year!

Look for our new P.A.W.S Ticket coming home with your student!

	<h3>Forest P.A.W.S. Ticket</h3>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">GREAT JOB!</p>	
	<p>Name _____ Gr _____</p> <p>Earned for demonstrating.....</p> <p>PAWSitive Attitude ~ Act Responsible ~ Work Hard ~ Show Respect</p> <p>We appreciate you putting your best PAWS forward!</p> <p>_____ Staff Signature</p>		



NO SHOTS---NO SCHOOL

MN law requires immunizations or written proof of exemption, for children to attend school. This requirement can be satisfied in one of 3 ways:

- Provide a copy of completed immunizations required by the state of MN
- Provide a medical exemption statement signed by your health care provider
- Provide a statement of conscientious objection NOTARIZED and signed by parent/guardian

**A student may not start school until requirements are satisfied. Contact the school health office for questions or resources at 763-504-7919.

Attendance and illness reporting:

Please be sure to call the school absence line if your child will be absent or late to school—763-504-7910. In addition, if your child has been diagnosed with a communicable condition such as strep throat, chicken pox, pink eye, head lice, impetigo, ringworm etc. please notify the health office. We submit a weekly report to the Minnesota Department of Health. This also helps us to respond to and prevent the spread of communicable illness at school.

Medication at school:

We encourage families to give medication at home before or after school when possible. If your child requires medication at school, the medication must be kept in the school health office. We need a physician’s order for ALL medications, this includes all over the counter medications such as cough drops and Tylenol or ibuprofen. You will need a new order from your doctor for each school year. Please call the school health office if you have questions about medications at school for your student. Our medication policy and forms can be accessed online at www.rdale.org under Departments--Health Services--Health Forms.

When to keep your student home:

Your child should not come to school if:

Fever over 100 in the past 24 hours	Vomiting or Diarrhea in the past 24 hours	Undiagnosed rash
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Your child can return to school if:

No fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication	No vomiting or diarrhea episodes for the past 24 hours	No question of contagious illness (for rash)
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Students with health conditions:

The school nurse would like to meet with you if your child has a health condition or you have health concerns for your child. A health plan or emergency plan may be helpful or necessary if your child has a health condition that may impact their learning or could result in an emergency at school. If your child has diabetes, asthma, severe allergies, seizures or other concerns please speak with the Licensed School Nurse at your school.

NOW IS THE TIME TO BE THINKING ABOUT GETTING YOUR FLU SHOTS!

From our Specialist Team

Media Center

Welcome back to the Media Center and Computer Lab! I can't wait to have students see our new books and read, read, read! My name is Mrs. Bailey and I am the Media Specialist here at Forest. I love teaching, reading, and creating with technology so I am excited for our year to begin. I have taught at Forest for many years and together with Mrs. Hansen (media EA) we have moved books around so students can find exactly what they want to read! Poetry, humor, scary books, super heroes, we have them all! Students will check out two books per week (kindergarten students will begin in October with one each week) and must bring them back before checking out more books. We do not charge late fines, but if a book is lost or damaged we would need replacement cost paid so we can get a new copy. I will meet with all students every two weeks for media class. See you soon!



ART

I am Mrs. Wendy Wold and I am the Art Specialist at Forest and Sonnesyn Elementary. I love teaching art and am looking forward to a terrific year using clay, paint, ink, and more! I have taught at Forest for 10 years and love the Forest community and the building. I am excited to see all of you very soon!

Mrs. Wendy Wold,
Art Specialist



Physical Education

Hello Wolves and welcome to another school year! We are greatly looking forward to working with everyone in Physical Education this year at Forest. In September we will be focusing on the following components and concepts in PE:

- 1) Understanding the importance of movement
- 2) Developing and understanding PE expectations
- 3) Building Community
- 4) Defining and understanding Teamwork
- 5) Understanding Boundaries and Spatial Awareness
- 6) Cooperative & Warm-Up Activities
- 7) Introduction to Fitness & Goal Setting

We will **Put Our Best PAWS Forward** in the gym this year and look forward to striving for excellence as we develop our skills and level of fitness.

Let's Go Wolves!
Mr. Seiffert & Mr. Doohar



Music

Welcome back to the Home of the Forest Wolves - AAHHOOO! My name is Paula Wagener-Lutz, and I will be teaching music to all the first-5th grade students, one of our new DCD classes and Mrs. Efron's kindergarten class. Two other Robbinsdale music specialists join us this year as well. Sarah Henning (from Lakeview) will teach the other kindergarten classes and Scott Weeklund (from Noble) will teach one section of DCD classes. Students come to music class twice a week for 30 minutes which is a paltry 34 hours for the whole year, so we want to use EVERY minute of our time! I am super excited about the year with our new mascot and PAWS expectations! I teach music because it is an important part of my life experience, and I truly believe we can build a better worldview through music making! I look forward to creating community and experiencing great musical moments with your children!