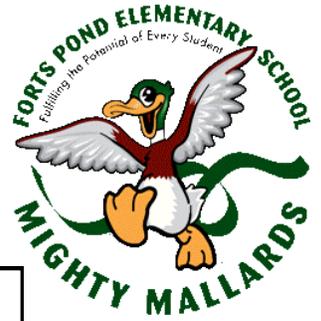


Mallard Monthly



Volume 4, Issue 8

March 31, 2015

Special April Dates

April 1

*Field Day (All Grades)

April 2

*Report Cards Issued

*FPES Talent Show 6:00pm

April 3

*Severe Weather Make-up Day or Holiday

April 6-10

*Spring Break

April 14

* 6:30 Title One Committee/SIC meeting

April 17th

*Civil War Re-enactment

April 21

*School Board Meeting
7:30pm

April 22

* First Grade Field Trip

April 24

*All Pro Dads' Day
7:00-7:30 Learning Commons

April 28-May 1

*ACT Aspire Testing
Grades 3-5

Mark Your Calendar:

May 7

*PASS Science (Grades 4-8)

May 8

*PASS Social Studies
(Grades 4-8)

May 14

*PTO Family Bingo Night
6:30pm

May 22

*Leadership Day

Important News

***Civil War Re-enactment** will return to Forts Pond again this year for an on grounds field trip on Friday, April 17th. To help offset the cost we are asking for a \$1.00 donation from each student if possible. We will collect money April 1st and April 2nd. Thank you for your support and helping us make this a wonderful learning experience for our students.

***Wednesday, April 29th**, originally an early release day, has been changed to a full school day for students.

***ACT Aspire Testing April 28-May 1** Testing will begin promptly at 8:00 each morning. Students arriving to school after testing begins will not be allowed in the classroom until after testing is completed and will have to make up that day's test at a later time. Students need a good night's rest and healthy breakfast in order to give their best performance on testing days.

***All Pro Dads' Day** - Friday, April 24th, 7:00 -7:30 in the Learning Commons. This is an open invitation to Dads, Granddads, Uncles, or any other significant male who may be a part of your child's life. Come and enjoy a light breakfast and enjoy some "special moment" time as we strive to grow in the time we spend with our children. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr. McDermet at 803-821-2500.

Forts Pond Elementary School is a **Title One** school. Additional information about our **Title One** plan is available on our website.

FPES Vision

FPES students will become self-directed, collaborative, creative and caring learners who will flourish in the global, competitive 21st century.

FPES Mission

Forts Pond Elementary School in collaboration with families and community will Fulfill the Potential of Every Student.



What's going on in our school.....



*On Wednesday, April 1st, we will have our first annual Family Field Day. Our Field Day will be a one day event for all grade levels enjoying the day at the same time with homerooms traveling to a variety of different activities. Field Day will be from 9:00am-1:30pm.

*Please join us for the Forts Pond Talent Show on Thursday, April 2nd at 6:00pm at the Pelion Performing Arts Center next to the middle school.

*First grade will be visiting Sease Strawberry Farms on April 22nd.

*On Friday, April 17th, we will have the Civil War Re-enactment at Forts Pond Elementary. The grade levels will be scheduled to visit the stations set up outside. The battle will take place from 1:30-2:00 for the entire school.

*Mrs. Blackwell was thrilled to receive a Spanish book created by Holly Tata. Holly is a senior at Pelion High School. She made a book about the months of the year and seasons in Spanish as part of her senior project. She presented the book to Mrs. Blackwell to share with her students.



*We have had over 40 students adopt from the STEMS Lab either an African Dwarf Frog, Fiddler Crab, or Millipede to keep as their "forever home". We used each of these species to study their different habitats and characteristics of each species.

*Mrs. Spence's class having great fun visiting the various Learning Stations.



Leadership Role Applications are available for students to complete. They are found in the Commons area. There is an application for K-2nd grade and an application for 3rd-5th grade. Please encourage your child to pick up an application and apply for a schoolwide Leadership Role. If your child is interested in applying for one of these positions, please be sure to sign the application form and have your child return their form to their teacher.



2015-2016 Early Registration
If you have a child who will be 4 years old on or before 9-1-15, you may register him/her Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. If you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before 9-1-15 (**and he/she is not currently attending the 4k program**), you may register for 5k as well. If your child is currently in the 4k program, you do not need to do anything at this time. Please bring required documentation for enrollment: long form birth certificate, shot record, social security number, electric bill and drivers license If you have any questions, you may call 821-2504.

Youth Art Month

These Forts Pond Elementary students have artwork selected to be on display at the TAPPs center in downtown Columbia to celebrate Youth Art Month.

Artwork will be on display from
March 5th - April 11th.

Maggie Northcutt
Cooper Hamm
Hannah Parker
Ashley Downs
Lillian Ariail
Emma Reynolds



Pelion Branch Library Annual Poetry Contest

Entries: Due Monday, April 20, by 5pm

*Entry forms can be picked up at the Pelion Branch Library or in the Forts Pond Elementary Learning Commons.

Elementary winners will be announced at the Elementary Poetry event on Thursday, April 30, at 4:00pm in the library meeting room. Prizes will be awarded at this time. All contestants are invited to attend and are encouraged to read their poem to the audience.

Prevent the Summer Slide

Please join our math coach and literacy coach for a workshop about how you can help your child with math and reading skills over the summer.

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2015

Times: 7:30am and 6:00pm (choose a time that fits your schedule)

Location: Learning Commons

Light refreshments will be served.

Title One Planning 2015-2016

Our School Improvement Council and Title One Committee will meet on April 14, 2015 at 6:30pm. The purpose of the meeting is to review, plan and improve our Title One Plan.

If you are not a member of either of these committees but would like to attend to offer feedback, please join us. We will meet in the Learning Commons.

Our Title One Plan can be reviewed on our school website. If you would like to provide feedback and are unable to attend the meeting, please send your suggestions to mlsmith@lexington1.net.



April Newsletter

Leadership Roles at Home

Every school year brings opportunities for academic growth and growth in all areas of development. Although children must be knowledgeable when they graduate, they must also be healthy, engaged, responsible, and caring people.

One of the best ways to help your child realize his or her worth and leadership potential is to provide an opportunity to lead. Most Leader in Me Schools offer student leadership roles as a way to teach:

- ◆ Responsibility.
- ◆ Leadership.
- ◆ Contribution.

Leadership roles can also be used at home.

To begin:

1. Talk with your child about the leadership role he or she might be interested in at home.
2. Discuss why he or she is interested in the role. Ask what leadership qualities your child has that will help. Ask how he or she will handle homework or other commitments with this new-role responsibility.
3. Together, discuss, write, and sign the paper detailing the leadership behavior and expectations of the role.

Give your child a week or so to adjust and then discuss how it's going. This may open a conversation on how to handle things that are too easy or too difficult.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Lexington County School District One does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age in admission to, access to, treatment in or employment in its programs and activities. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints. The Chief Human Resources Officer handles inquiries/complaints regarding Title IX. The Director of Middle Schools handles inquiries/complaints regarding Section 504. The Mathematics Coordinator handles inquiries/complaints regarding Title II.