

# Firebird News Flash



## March 2017

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Happy March French Run Families!

Friday (3/10) marked the end of the Third Quarter, and begins the countdown until the end of school. Only 10 weeks of school remain for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Fourth Quarter brings a very busy and important 10 weeks of school. In April, students in grades K-4 will be taking their end-of-year exams, which are given by the District and the State. Please ensure that your child gets plenty of sleep, arrives to school on time, and gives his/her best effort not only on these assessments but also on each day of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. These tests are very important for students and the school, as the results of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade tests determine French Run Elementary's Report Card Grade.

Please copy and paste the link into your web browser to provide feedback on how French Run can continue to improve. We always want your feedback and suggestions!

<https://goo.gl/forms/054KpSUQda736HB42>

### March Events

March 10<sup>th</sup> – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

March 13<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Concert 7pm

March 14<sup>th</sup> – COSI on WHEELS

March 17<sup>th</sup> – FIREBIRD BREAKFAST 7:15

March 20-24<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL

March 30<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards Go Home

March 31<sup>st</sup> – Pride Assembly 1:30pm

April 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> – OHIO 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> TEST

APRIL 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> – OHIO 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> TEST

March's Character Pillar is CREATIVITY.

Allow your child to explore his or her creativity by joining a club, creating something new and cool like an app or a video or board game, or participating in a sport or hobby.

Continue to check out our website, like us on Facebook, follow us on twitter, and join our email list.

Thank You For Your Continued Support,

Thomas Holdren





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## Character Pillars

August – RESPECT

September - CITIZENSHIP

October – COLLABORATION

November –TRUSTWORTHINESS

January- RESPONSIBILITY

February - ACCEPTANCE

March- CREATIVITY

April - PERSEVERANCE



French Run Elementary is dedicated to holding students to high standards academically as well as behaviorally. A strong character foundation will enable our Firebirds to navigate successfully through school, in the workplace and in the community. Please help stress the importance of a strong moral compass with your child, and encourage them to listen and seek understanding as well as the importance of utilizing their own voice. The above themes or pillars are the basis for our PRIDE ASSEMBLIES held eight times a year to recognize leadership qualities of our students. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to attend and volunteer. Being a member of a PRIDE TEAM is one of the highest recognitions at French Run Elementary.

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## Notes From French Run PTO

The PTO is proud to announce we will be starting a school garden this year! This fall Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Schulze and Mrs. Riggs attended 26 hours of training with Project Green Teacher, learning many techniques and resources about starting and maintaining a school garden to share with our students and staff.

French Run Elementary was one of 7 schools selected by Slow Foods Columbus to participate in the National School Garden Program and received a grant to build a low tunnel raised garden bed. Slow Foods Columbus in partnership with Franklin Park Conservatory and Franklin Soil & Water Conservation will conduct a series of school visits to assist our garden efforts.

To further fund the growing needs of the garden, the PTO is holding a Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser just in time for Super Bowl Sunday! Make sure your pizza and snacks are hot and fresh by making them at home. Kits contain all items necessary to make your favorite treats whenever you want them. Please help us by buying a pizza for a great cause.

The PTO invites you to attend a meeting, always on the 1st Monday of the month at 6pm in the media center. The next meeting is 4/3/17. We have several big events coming up and would appreciate your assistance with planning and executing the events the students look forward to each year. If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to offer your time and talents, please drop us an email: [FrenchRunPTO@gmail.com](mailto:FrenchRunPTO@gmail.com) or search for sign ups on [SignUpGenius.com](http://SignUpGenius.com)

Don't forget to save and send in your Box Tops For Education

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### NEWS FROM THE NURSE

**Vision & hearing screening for Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades has been completed this fall. If you received a referral letter for follow-up with a professional, please make an appointment as soon as possible. Please contact me if you need assistance in obtaining care. Good vision and hearing are essential for learning!**

**Check out [www.cdc.gov/family/holiday](http://www.cdc.gov/family/holiday) for a fun version of holiday health & safety tips.**

As the new school year begins, remember these tips to help keep our French Run community well:

\*Send only healthy, well-rested children to school.

\*Keep ill children home until they have been fever, vomit, and diarrhea free for 24 hours without the aid of medication.

**\*\*\*The most important defense against germs is good, frequent hand washing!\*\*\***

#### SCREENINGS:

All kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and students new to the district are screened for hearing and vision. If you receive a referral for further follow-up care by a professional, please schedule an appointment right away. If you need assistance in getting care, please contact me at French Run. Good hearing and vision are vital to learning!

#### MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL:

If your student needs medication to be administered at school, please be aware that there are specific procedures that must be followed. All prescription medications require a form to be completed by the physician and the parent (attached). Medications must be in the original labeled container and must be delivered to the school along with the proper form by an adult. We cannot administer expired medications.

In good health!

Sandra Kageorge, RN  
School Nurse

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### Assessments and Testing

During the school year each child will be assessed on multiple occasions with multiple measures. The purposes of the assessments are to determine where a child begins, to ensure the child is progressing, and to find out how much he or she learned over the course of the year.

This year the local or school-based assessments that we will use for Kindergarten through Fourth Grade are DIBELS(K-3) to measure fluency, STAR Reading, STAR Math, iReady Reading and iReady Math. It is extremely important that students do their best on these assessments, and also understand that they will get some questions wrong. At the beginning of the year we will use these results to form station and rotational groupings in the classroom, as well as intervention groups.

State Mandated Assessments for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade include Reading, Math, and Social Studies (4<sup>th</sup> only). The state assessments are used to determine achievement scores and grades on school report cards.

If you have any questions about how these tests affect your child, please feel free to contact his or her teacher. All teachers at French Run Elementary are well versed in discussing assessment data. I also love to have these discussions and my office is always open.

Our job of educators is to assist families, and advocate for the best education possible for each one of your children. Whether you know a lot, or a little, we are always here to help. Use us as a resource. The best educational outcomes occur when parent and school relationships remain strong and unified.

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## LIBRARY NOTES

Each week, your child checks out a book from the library. (If they are in third or fourth grade, they check out two.) Their books are due on their library day the following week. Lately, we have been having a struggle with the return of books. Please remind your children to return their books so that others can use them. Parents are responsible for the replacement cost of books that are lost.

Thank you for your help in keeping our shelves full!

Mrs. McMillan  
French Run Library

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### School Report Card

As many of you know, the State of Ohio has released school report cards from last year. Many school districts and school buildings received results that were lower than previous school years. Although French Run did not have an impressive grade in the category of Achievement, we fared well in Growth and K-3 Literacy.

Our Continuous Improvement Plan for 2016-2017 addresses our deficits in achievement and we expect to maintain our grades in literacy and growth. If you are interested in speaking about the report card, or our plan to increase achievement outcomes for all students, please come in and speak with me.

All parent and community feedback is welcomed and appreciated. Knowing your views on what we do well and what we can do to improve is the only way that we can get better.

<http://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/Pages/School-Report.aspx?SchoolIRN=012518>

Welcome back, and here's to a great second half of the school year!

Thomas Holdren

Principal

French Run Elementary