

Falcon Families,

First Day - We hope your children came home excited about school and had positive stories to share about the first day of school. I had several people tell me that it was the best first day of school they had ever had. We began the day with our patrols and some families reciting the Pledge of Allegiance as we raised the flag. Our students were greeted by our falcon mascot, music and our entire staff. There was a lot of energy in the building. The 6th graders were able to 'hang out' in their common area just before reporting to class. As I walked around the school and was able to visit a few classes I saw lots of lessons on meeting people and the components of 'Capturing Kids Hearts' that I shared about before. They were sharing 'Good News' and learning some signs that will be used school wide. Fun was happening around the school. We had a great beginning to our day. Unfortunately, we did have some problems at dismissal with our buses. We do not hold resource classes the first day of school so the resource teachers can spend the day working on making sure every child knows how they are going home. Despite our efforts, we did have a few problems. We met with the transportation department and will have a new (much easier) plan in place tomorrow. As a parent there is nothing you need to know or do at this time, other than expect us to do better, to which we are committed.

Traffic Requests - The Sherriff's deputies did have a couple requests concerning traffic on Longleaf Pine. These suggestions are to address safety concerns. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.

1. Please do not walk or allow your child to cross Longleaf Pine Parkway. All students on the other side Longleaf Pine as the school are provided transportation.
2. When exiting Shetland Drive from the school, please make a right hand turn. If you need to go left, please make a right and turn around further down Longleaf Pine.

Making Your Mark - Thank you for all the support of the classroom book drive, "How to Behave and Why". I am looking forward to sharing what we do with these books in the future. I have another opportunity for your family to leave a mark in this school, and it does not cost any money 😊. We have about a dozen small bathroom cabinets that we would like to place in the adult bathrooms around the school. A couple are assembled, but most are not. We thought we could offer an opportunity for families to build and decorate one of these as **a family activity**. We were hoping you could decorate in a way that would inspire others. Words of affirmation, inspirational quotes, hand prints, child art work, etc. Your family project could be a lasting source of inspiration to all the adults that walk our halls. If you are interested and would like your family to do this please use the link below. Be sure to hurry as numbers are limited. Once the spots are filled I will be sending out an email to arrange pick up.

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0449A5AB29A4FC1-inspiring

Parents of Kindergarten students – Our PTO would like to invite you to a coffee and pastry social after you drop your child off this Wednesday. Please join us in the cafeteria at 8:35am this Wednesday morning. PTO and Administration will speak and answer any questions you may have concerning FCA.

Birthday Celebrations – We have had some questions concerning birthday celebrations. Please arrange these by emailing the teachers. Please be sure to ask about any food allergies in the class. I have asked teachers to keep these celebrations in the common areas or during recess. We have several classes sharing tables at lunch, so we would prefer to keep special treats out of the cafeteria.

Good News – We start every staff meeting by sharing Good News. Teachers ask students to share Good News throughout the day. We are very fortunate to have teachers from all over as a part of our staff. Our last staff meeting began with two stories of how amazing this community is. After the meeting, I had other staff share with me how supportive and kind this community is. You exemplify that it takes a community to raise a child. **We are very grateful for you.** During my weekly newsletter to staff I like to share good news with them. So, if you have a positive experience with a staff member or your child does, please share these with me. It means a lot when we can share positive news.

Have a Great Day and GO FALCONS!!!!