

## FRIENDSHIP DAY SCHOOL FOR THE SCIENCES AND THE ARTS

### FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER



#### CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 2 – 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School!

Monday, February 14 – Happy Valentine’s Day!

Wednesday, February 16, 6:30 pm – FDS Parent Group (FDSPG) virtual Zoom meeting

Thursday, February 17 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Mid-Progress reports go home

Friday, February 18 – NO SCHOOL/Teacher Workday

Monday, February 21 – NO SCHOOL/Holiday - President’s Day

Monday, February 28 – FDS Black History Program, virtual (stay tuned for details)

Upcoming: March 7 – 13 – FDSPG Scholastic Book Fair

Greetings FDS Families

The **100<sup>th</sup> Day of School** was hilarious! Thank you for sending your “aged” scholars to school today. I didn’t recognize many of them when they arrived this morning.... gray hair, walkers, canes, infirmed ways of moving... they did it all! The OPP (Old People’s Parade) was amazing! Each class, in turn, got to strut its stuff around the gym to music. (We did have to remind them that older folk aren’t so spry anymore.) They dubbed the Before Care Program room the “Nursing Home.” Everyone - scholars and staff, got in on the act. I was “Granny” Harrison and had my great, great, great, great granddaughter with me - Lily (a baby doll). Throughout the rest of the school day, scholars were engaged in 100<sup>th</sup> Day academics. Ask them about what they did and what they learned today. See pictures on class Dojos.

## **COVID CONTROL**

Covid is still alive and the Omicron variant continues to spread. (There's even talk about a new variant on the horizon.) We want our scholars and staff to stay Covid-free. So, if you visit unvaccinated persons, are in close proximity to strangers, or if you travel outside of North Carolina, take a Covid test yourself and/or give your scholar a Covid test upon returning home. And, of course, please inform the school office if your scholar or anyone living in your household tests positive for Covid.

***The FDS Covid protocol is based on current CDC guidelines:***

- If a scholar gets Covid or has been exposed to Covid, then they are to quarantine for at least 5 days. (Consult your doctor, scholar's pediatrician or Covid test facility for their recommendation of how long to quarantine; every case may be different.)
- While in quarantine, scholars are to wear a mask at home at all times. Keep your scholar away from other members of your household, especially if they've only been *exposed* to Covid.
- Within 3-5 days of being in quarantine, have the scholar take a Covid test (3-5 days is the incubation period before symptoms appear). PCR tests are best, but since it may be hard to get an appointment for one, then use a Covid home test. Remember that a Covid test result is based on a moment in time. That's why it's important to also quarantine after taking a Covid test. If you didn't have Covid on the day of the test, but you put yourself at risk of exposure after taking the test, then you could get Covid later that day or another day following taking a test. If you do that, then when the test comes back as negative for not having Covid on the day of the test, you still could be positive now and just don't know it.
- Sometimes it takes longer to get your Covid test results back. So, if your scholar has been completely quarantined for 5 days after exposure AND does not show symptoms of Covid or another infectious illness, then they may return to school on the 6<sup>th</sup> day. If your scholar has Covid, then your doctor/pediatrician may tell you when it is safe for them to return to school. If not, then after 5 days of strict quarantine, the scholar may return to school. The letter that comes home if a scholar has been exposed to Covid at school will tell you when they may return.

Your scholar's teacher may assign work to be completed at home if the scholar or entire class has to quarantine for 1-2 school days. If the quarantine period is 3 days or longer, then virtual instruction may take place. The teacher or office will inform you if virtual instruction needs to occur due to Covid.

Guard your health. Stay safe. Err on the side of caution. Practice all Covid safety protocols at all times.

**CARPOOL ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL LINE** – *Friendly reminder:* There's only one way in and out of the parking lot and that's up the hill. Never drive down the hill. Dropping off or picking up a scholar for Before Care, After Care or other reasons, please only park in the handicapped spaces. Never park in front of the landing leading to the school doors, that is a fire lane. Never park in the car pool line spaces. Thank you.

**FREE SPEECH- LANGUAGE SCREENINGS at FDS** – A folded 2-page packed went home in scholars' book bags about the free screenings. Please return the signed form only if you **Do NOT** want your scholar to be screened. The screenings will begin next week with all scholars if we don't hear from you, so please return the form by February 8th.

Thank you for your continued support, suggestions, help and love. **WE LOVE YOU, FDS FAMILIES!**