

Farley Fox Gazette

MARCH 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS



March 1
March 6
March 6
March 13
March 15
March 28

Celebrate Read Across America Day
Farley School Council meeting, 5:30 PM, Conference Room
Home & School meeting, 6:30 PM, Teacher's Room
11:40 AM Dismissal, Teacher Professional Day
Term 2 Grades Close for K-4
Farley Gives Back Bingo Night, Cafeteria, 6:00 PM



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Spring is almost around the corner and we can't wait! One sign of spring is that the 2019 MCAS standardized testing sessions are upon us. Through our daily curriculum and instruction, we are always preparing our students to reach the standards. The MCAS test is a way to measure student growth, curriculum and instruction effectiveness. There are a few things parents and families can do to help children prepare for tests (whether teacher-made or standardized). You can help create a positive and supportive environment for your children. I have included a few tips from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education:

- If your child is nervous at test time, ask his/her teacher for tips on helping him/her relax.
- Make sure that your child is in school during the testing sessions. Do not plan any doctor or dental appointments on test dates.
- Encourage your child to listen carefully to all test-taking directions given by the teacher and to ask questions about any directions that are unclear.
- See that your child gets his/her regular amount of sleep before the tests and is well-rested.
- Make sure that your child eats his/her usual breakfast on the day of the test. Hunger can detract from a good test performance.
- Encourage your child to do his/her best.

"Help Your Child Improve in Test-Taking," U.S. Department of Education, available online at www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/TestTaking, provides research-based techniques developed through the Office of Educational Research and Improvement.

Remember—you are very important to your child's success in school and in life. Your interest and support let your child know you believe in him or her and that you value education. We hope these suggestions help you help your child be successful in school and in life.

~ Mrs. Provost

This month's Growth Mindset quote is: **"Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try."**

2019 MCAS TEST SCHEDULE

Important notice to parents/guardians

MCAS test administration for 2019 will take place during the following range of dates:

English Language Arts

Grade 3 – April 4 and 5

Grade 4 – April 25 and 26

Math

Grade 3 – April 30 and May 2

Grade 4 – May 7 and 8

More information will follow soon. Please try not to schedule appointments during this time as failure to take any portion of the MCAS exam is included in the student's permanent folder.



From the Math Department

Fractions are everywhere!

We work with fractions everyday even though we may not realize it. For example, fractions are used every time we look at a clock. We know that quarter past ($\frac{1}{4}$), half past ($\frac{1}{2}$), and quarter till the hour are fractions. We relate it to the whole hour.

Whenever we tell time, cook, shop, travel, split things up, or share, we think about fractions. Fractions are required anytime someone needs to work with parts of something. How could we bake a cake without using fractions. If it were not for fractions, baking a cake would be impossible. Three eggs for the recipe is $\frac{1}{4}$ of a dozen. In fact, every ingredient in a cake recipe is a fraction of something: three fourths cup of milk, a half tablespoon of salt, a half cup of shortening, and two and a half cups of flour. Can you imagine the result of baking a cake mixing an entire salt shaker, a gallon of milk, a dozen eggs and an entire bag of flour? We would have a really bad tasting cake!

We encourage parents and families to "Talk Fractions" at home.

Can you think of another example of working with fractions outside of school?

Try it at home

- We have 5 people in my family, my mom is one-fifth of the family. What fraction represents my 2 brothers in the family?
- I bought 1 dozen donuts. How many donuts is one half of the dozen? What is the fraction that represents 1 donut out of the 12?
- The football game is 4 quarters long. Each quarter is 15 minutes. How long does it take to play 2 quarters? How long is 3 quarters? How long is 4 quarters?
- The brownies were cut up into 8 pieces. My sister ate 2 pieces. What is the fraction that represents what my sister ate?
- I went apple picking at Honey Pot Hill. My family picked 15 apples and put them in the bag. When we got home, I put one third of the apples in the fruit bowl. What is one third of 15?

Try it at home

Looking for websites to help with homework? Try www.KhanAcademy.org/Math. Search for any math topic. Watch it with your children and learn together.

LIBRARY NEWS

We are beginning the Month by Celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday on March 2nd! He was a talented and creative Author and Illustrator; his books have been enjoyed in many families for generations! Did you know that his real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel? He was known as "Ted" to his family and friends.

This Month we will also be starting the Hudson Children's Choice Book Award Contest. Each year the Students in K-4 look forward to hearing 3 new stories and voting on their favorite Title at the end of the Month!! I will let you know who the winner is in the April Gazette.

A friendly reminder to please return library books on time, keep them clean and away from water bottles!!

Thank you,
Mrs. Gough



Home & School Happenings

🍀 Happy March 🍀

I am so excited to be gearing up for spring events at Farley after an amazing Valentine's Day dance, which was made possible by Lynne Millson. She worked so hard to make sure everything was perfect. We can't thank her enough for her hard work.

Now that we are getting into March, we are ready for our Farley Gives Back Bingo Night. We are so excited for this event and all that it does for our community. By the first week in March we will have our charity decided on. We are currently looking for basket and gift card donations from families and staff as well as volunteers for the night to help with raffles, door help, back sale, and concessions. If you have any interest in helping or donating, please contact Kristina Edison at edgurl2486@aol.com. We hope to see you all there to raise money for our community.

Our next meeting will be held on March 6th at 6:30 PM in the teacher's room by the cafeteria.

🌸 Think spring thoughts 🌸

Kristina Edison, Farley Home & School President

"Ask Your Child/ren"

Have you ever asked your child/ren about what they did during their day and the reply you get is "nothing."?

Here are some questions that might help you get more of a conversation going with your child/ren.

- Who did you eat lunch with today?
- Describe something you saw outside today and I will try to guess what it is.
- What would you like to do this weekend?

MUSIC IS IN NEED OF RECYCLABLES

Hello Farley Families,

Our 4th grade music classes are starting an instrument building unit and we are in desperate need of recycled materials. Cardboard boxes, shoe boxes, cereal boxes, plastic bottles, wax paper, elastic bands, just anything that we can make a cool sound with. Please send these items to the music room or send me an email and I can collect the items.

My Thanks,

Ms. Nugent

SENugent@hudson.k12.ma.us

C.A. FARLEY ELEMENTARY STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

The Annual Farley Staff Appreciation Luncheon is Wednesday, April 24th, 2019, which is a half-day for Farley students. The Farley Home & School Association is hosting this fun-filled event for our teachers, administration and staff! A monetary donation in any amount would be helpful and greatly appreciated! The luncheon is an important event and we rely on volunteer participation to make it successful. Your help is greatly needed and sincerely appreciated.

We are looking for volunteers to:

- Send in a **monetary donation which will help to cover the following:**
 - Cost of the food and décor for the luncheon
 - Small favors for our incredible teaching staff
 - A few mid-week treats to brighten the day for our teachers, administration, and staff
- Help **set up the luncheon** and **clean up** afterwards:
 - Hours are 8:30am – 10:30am and 1:00pm – 2:00pm



The Farley teachers, administration, and staff are so fortunate to have such *generous, thoughtful, and caring* families. Thank you for your consideration! If you choose to make a monetary donation please send it in your child's red folder in a sealed envelope marked "Farley Staff Luncheon," no later than April 8th. (Please make checks payable to Farley Home & School Association.) **This is our chance to thank the entire staff for its ongoing commitment to the education of our children.**

Flyers will come home with more information in March.

Questions? Contact: Shawnacy Miller shawnacymf@hotmail.com OR Lynne Millson lynne.millson@gmail.com

PARENTS IN P.E.

Parents in P.E. was a great success during the month of January! We had over 30 parents visit their child's Physical Education class, and both parents and students loved the experience! While visiting, parents saw their children exercise, hula hoop, jump rope, use pedometers to track their distance running, and each class concluded with a game. Some parents were able to play Banana Tag, Protect the Pins, and Star Wars!

If you weren't able to make the first Parents in P.E. week, we'll be hosting another session during the week of **March 18th-22nd**.

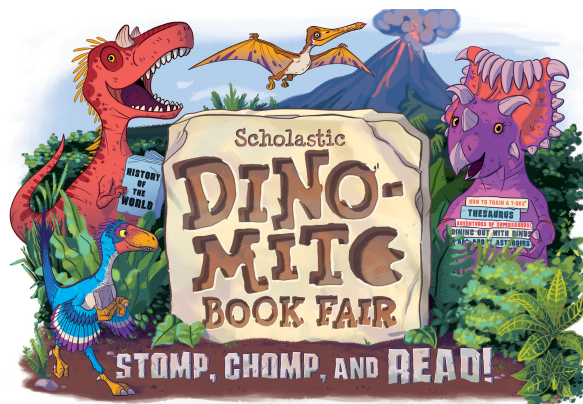
Below is first grader, Eamon Murphy, teaching his dad, Dean, how to hula hoop!



A REMINDER FROM OUR NURSE

A reminder to fourth grade parents to send in a copy of their child's updated physical. The MA department of Public Health requires a physical exam within one year prior to school entrance (kindergarten) and every three to four years after this. In Hudson we ask for an updated physical for students in **grades 4, 7 and 10**. If your child has had a recent physical please send in the form, thanks to those who already have.

SAVE THE DATE—SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



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The Scholastic Book Fair sponsored
by Farley Home and School
is coming soon!

Mark your calendars!
It will be here April 8th- 12th.

Please look for more information
coming home in Thursday folders soon.

Emergency Closing and Weather Related Delays

If the forecast indicates the possibility of a delay or closing, you should listen to the radio (WBZ AM 1030 or WTAG/WSRS), or watch television (Channel 4, Channel 5, Channel 7), or check online notices at www.hudson.k12.ma.us. The superintendent will send a broadcast voice message to all student families and staff members indicating a closing or delay. Do not wait for this notice. Check TV, radio, and the website.



If you have comments or suggestions for future Gazettes, please contact Jennifer Azar at jencoelhoazar@gmail.com.