

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SCHOOL MUSICAL

Thurs., MAY 29 @ 6:30 PM Fri., MAY 30 @ 1:00 PM

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MTG. Mon., JUNE 2 @ 7:00 PM

GREENAGERS: GR. 3 & 4

Monday, JUNE 2

GR. K FIELD TRIP: LUPA ZOO

Tuesday, JUNE 3



Wed. JUNE 4 @ 2:00 PM



Thursday, JUNE 5 @ 6:00 PM

GRADES 1 & 2 FIELD TRIP: MAGIC WINGS

Friday, JUNE 6

PTA HIKE & **STORYWALK**



FARMINGTON RIVER ELEMENTARY FAMILY NEWS

05/29/2025

Dear Farmington River Elementary Families,

As we approach the final stretch of the school year, it's hard to believe that this is already our next-to-last newsletter. The end of May is here, and while summer is just around the corner, our days remain full of joyful learning, exciting events, and meaningful moments for our students.

This edition of the newsletter offers a wonderful snapshot of the energy and enthusiasm that continues to fill our school. Inside, you'll find classroom highlights from Kindergarten, Grade 3, Computer Class, and Library, as well as a recap of recent school-wide celebrations like the All-School Walk and the PTA Ice Cream Social. You'll also see updates from the Boston field trip, the After-School Program, the Accelerated Reader Program, and student participation in Special Olympics, and a preview of our upcoming musical performance.

As we look back on the school year, it is truly inspiring to see how much our students have grown academically, socially, and emotionally. From the first days of school to now, their progress is a reflection of their hard work, the dedication of our staff, and the strong support from families. This is also a time when we begin to celebrate milestones, recognize achievements, and reflect on the meaningful moments that have shaped this year. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our entire school community for making this year so successful and memorable.

Even with the year winding down, we are not slowing down. Our students continue to engage in meaningful academic work, and our teachers are focused on finishing the year with purpose and care. We are so proud of the growth we've seen and grateful for the strong support of our families and school community.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school. Please take a few moments to enjoy this newsletter and all it reflects about the vibrant life of our school. We look forward to celebrating many more special moments together in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely, Laurie Flower, Principal

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." - B.B. King

BOSTON BOUND: A QUACK-TASTIC SIXTH GRADE ADVENTURE!

On Tuesday, May 27, the sixth grade enjoyed the sunniest day in over a month, as they journeyed to Boston on their traditional end-of-the-year field trip. Students, and chaperones boarded the coach bus at 7:55 a.m. sharp, and drove non-stop to The New England Aquarium. Some of the highlights there were the playful penguins and the central tank with its gliding rays and floating sea turtles.

Next, the group walked to the nearby Simon's Theatre where they were treated to the large screen movie about sharks. The underwater cinematography was breathtaking and the message of shark conservation was an important part of this visual experience. Following the movie, the entire group strolled several city blocks to the bustling Quincy Market. This wonderful building is a cornucopia of food choices, with some of the best clam chowder you can find in the northeast.













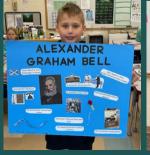
sixth graders would board one of the duck tours famous amphibious truck/boats. Our tour quide was dressed as a proper British officer from the Revolutionary War. He would give a very interesting and enjoyable tour of the city's 18th-century history, although slightly biased to the redcoated army.

Plunging into the Charles River was exciting, and the students all let loose with a duck call from their bright yellow 'quacker' whistles. Students could even take turns driving the boat! All-in-all, this was a wonderful time for all who participated! Special thanks goes out to our PTA for helping the students raise funds throughout their stay here at Farmington River!



HISTORY COMES TO LIFE: 3RD GRADE'S MASSACHUSETTS MINGLE

The Massachusetts Mingle will be taking place for the 3rd grade on June 4 in the library here at school. The third graders will dress as their notable person who has impacted Massachusetts and present their reports and projects to their families. During this final Social Studies unit we have learned about notable people who have impacted life in Massachusetts. Students have learned about public speaking, shone their creativity and put forth some remarkable perseverance looking for interesting facts about their notable person. We can't wait for families to mingle with us.







PTA'S ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Ice Cream Social! Students were





EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES TO SUPPORT LEARNING AT HOME

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Looking for fun and engaging ways to support your child's learning outside the classroom? We've put together a list of trusted educational websites that can help reinforce classroom learning and spark curiosity in a variety of subjects. Whether your child enjoys reading, math, science, or creative activities, there's something here for everyone!

RECOMMENDED EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES:

1. Khan Academy

http://khanacademy.org/

Khan Academy

Best for: All grades - Math, Science, Reading, SAT

Khan Academy offers free instructional videos, practice exercises, and a personalized learning dashboard.

2. National Geographic Kids

https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/ Best for: Elementary and middle school – Science, Geography, Nature

Explore wildlife, geography, and science through interactive games, articles, and videos.



3. Coolmath Games

http://coolmathgames.com/ Best for: Elementary to middle school – Math and

A fun way to practice math through strategy and puzzle games (while still learning!).



4. Sesamestreet.org

https://www.sesamestreet.org/ Best for: Preschool to early elementary – Literacy, Math, Life Skills

Kids can explore computer

programming with engaging games and step-by-step lessons.



5. PBS Kids

https://pbskids.org/ Best for: Preschool to early elementary – Literacy, Math, Social-Emotional Skills Interactive games and videos featuring characters from favorite PBS shows.



COME ONE.

TIME TRAVELRS ECO ADVENTURES

FRRSD Community Productions Presents "Time Travelers: Eco Adventures", a time-traveling musical and educational adventure, written and performed by children in grades 1-6. The story begins when 3 children enter a time travel portal at a carnival and zip through time, past and future, to meet famous historical figures who have contributed to conservation efforts to help our natural environment thrive.

This year's show is supported with generous grant funding from MCC, Otis and Sandisfield Cultural Council, as well as funding from FRRSD PTA and in partnership with PULSE Dance Studio in Great Barrington, and choreographer, Tom Truss.

Parent and staff support has been very much appreciated!!

If you'd like to contribute with a donation of baked goodies for Thursday evening's performance, please contact Ms. Catullo at lcatullo@frrsd.org

THURSDAY @ 6:30 PM



FRIDAY



COME ALL!

ACCELERATED READER AWARD WINNERS!

DRAGON (5 PTS):

SPIRIT (15 PTS):

HYDRA (30 PTS): FIRE (75 PTS

DRACO (150 PTS):

BEAST (225 PTS):



Friday, May 30th:



TINY HANDS, BIG DISCOVERIES: LIFE SCIENCE IN KINDERGARTEN

In kindergarten, students have been exploring the fascinating world of plants and animals, learning about what living things need to grow and thrive. Through hands-on experiences and observation, they discovered that all living things need food, water, air, and the right environment to survive. One of the highlights of this unit was watching real caterpillars as they ate, grew bigger, and eventually formed a chrysalis. The children were amazed to see the transformation as the caterpillars completed their life cycle and emerged as butterflies, reinforcing their understanding of animal growth and change.

To wrap up the unit, students took part in a planting activity where they planted grass

seeds in individual cups. Over the next few weeks, they will observe the grass as it begins to grow, learning firsthand about how plants need sunlight, water, and time to develop. This ongoing activity will give them a chance to apply what they've learned by taking responsibility for caring for their plants and recording their observations. These experiences help build a strong foundation in science while encouraging curiosity, responsibility, and a deeper appreciation for the natural world.













BERKSHIRE COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS



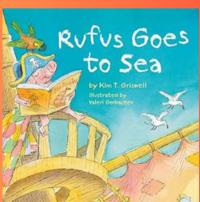








AHOY, SUMMER! KINDERGARTEN SETS SAIL WITH RUFUS THE PIRATE PIG DURING LIBRARY!



The kindergarten students read "Rufus Goes to Sea" by Kim. T. Griswell. "What does a book-loving pig like Rufus do when school's out for summer? He turns to his favorite



stories for inspiration, of course! Ahoy—Pirate Pig on board!" The kindergarten students got a chance to draw and write about their plans.



FOR WELLNESS

Last Friday, our school stepped out in shades of green for an all-school walk, a fantastic event ALL—SCHOOL WALK honoring Mental Health Awareness Month! We were so lucky to fit in this walk, which was great for both physical fitness and overall wellness, right between the recent rainy days. It was wonderful to see so many students and staff wearing green, showing our school's commitment to supporting mental well-being for everyone. What a positive way to end the week!























JOIN OUR T

FARMINGTON RIVER REGIONAL

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Otis & Sandisfield, MA

Farmington River Elementary School is a rural public school serving about 120 students in grades PK - 6th.

Seeking applicants for the 2025 - 2026 School Year.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Farmington River seeks a fully-licensed SLP/SLC to conduct and oversee communication assessments and re-evaluations of students receiving speech services. Strong knowledge of assessment strategies for early childhood and elementary grades is essential.



PIZZA, POPSICLES, & CHEERS TO A GREAT YEAR! AFTER SCHOOL FUN MADE POSSIBLE BY BERKSHIRE TACONIC FIRE FUND

As the school year draws to a close, students wrapped up the final week of the after-school program with exciting celebrations made possible by a generous grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation. Laughter and the smell of fresh pizza filled the air on Tuesday afternoon as students gathered for a festive pizza party. The following day, everyone cooled off with sweet, icy popsicles - the perfect treat to mark the beginning of warmer days and the end of another successful

program year.

after school.







Both staff and students would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Berkshire Taconic Foundation for their continued generosity and support. This year's after school program has been a memorable one, and it couldn't have been possible without this meaningful partnership.





MA DESE educator licensure as a Speech/Language Pathologist

VAN DRIVER

Minimum qualifications:

CONTRACTED, PART-TIME

PART-TIME

FRRSD seeks a conscientious individual with a clean driving record to serve in the role of regular or back-up van driver. Hours could include AM and/or PM shifts. Holding the MA RMV 7D Pupil Transport or school bus endorsement is preferred, but the district may assist in obtaining the 7D endorsement.

TO APPLY:

Please email completed district application form, a letter of interest, a current resume, three letters of recommendation, and evidence of licensure, (Van Driver applications: completed district application form, copy of driver's license only) to: Timothy Lee, Superintendent, tleeefrrsd.org

CORI background checks and fingerprinting are required for all applicants prior to hire.

FRRSD is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual crientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, visibility, or any other status protected by law in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX and Section 504.

FIND MORE INFO ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.FRRSD.ORG

JOIN OUR TEAM AS A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER!



Substitute teaching offers flexibility and the chance to be part of our vibrant school community. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact us at frontoffice@frrsd.org for more details



LOCAL EVENTS

Otis Library StoryWalk TAM HUMAN

I Am Human By Susan Verde Illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds

I Am Human affirms that we can make good choices bu acting with compassion and having empathy for others and ourselves. When we find common ground, we can feel connected to the great world around us and mindfully strive to be our best selves.

WHEN: April 15th-May

WHERE: Behind St. Mary's of the Lake, 48 N. Main St. Otis

LYA Summer Day Camp

Enrolling children entering grades 1 – 8 Counselors in training going into 9th grade



Lee Youth Association summer day camp will focus on friendship and adventure this 2025 season. Our mission is to create a safe environment where children can play, grow, and learn. We will be exploring nature and building confidence along the way, while enjoying games, encouraging teamwork and forming friendships!

The number of campers per day will be limited so please get your registrations in ASAP - once we have reached that limit, we will not be able to take any more registrations

ummer Baseball Camp for ages 8-12!!!

Summer Baseball Camp Boys and girls ages 8-12. New and veteran players welcome!

Monday, July 28th through Thursday, July 31st (Rain Date: August 1st) 4 days - 8:30-11:30am

ee Middle and High School Baseball Field (Maple Street)

Activities will include drills and skill work to improve player performance combined with fun games to foster engagement and a love for the game!

Players will need to have their own glove and are welcome to bring their own bats, helmets, etc. Some helmets and bats will be provided.



Register: Online at www.leeyouthsports.com

Questions? Contact Dan Korte at lyahoop@gmail.com

Otis Library Craft & Country Fair Sat., July 5

10am-3pm

2025 from 10am - 3pm on the Town Hall Green in the center of Otis, Mass (Rtes

money for library programs and needs.

stop by during regular hours! We look

Place: Lee Elementary School (6/17-7/31) St. Mary's School (8/4-8/19)

Dates: June 17 – August 19, 2025

Time: 8:00 – 5:00



"Where all youth are valued for their individuality."

Pricing:
Week #1 = \$90, Week #2 = \$75, Week #3 = \$90, Week #2 & #3 = \$150

What to Bring



We are looking forward to a great summer!!. 413 243 5535





BCCYMCA.ORG

ARTS & CRAFT







A Berkshire Waldorf Summer

Seven Weeks of Waldorf Fun!

June 23 - August 8, 2025

Early Childhood (Ages 4-6) Grades (Ages 7-11)

\$500 per week | Financial aid available

For more information, email us at summer@berkshirewaldorfschool.org.





OTIS CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

INCLUDED!

Otisfiber subscribers! You may qualify for reduced internet costs through the Otis Connectivity Program, powered by Whip City Fiber (Westfield's locally-owned utility). For information, please email tdigrigoli@frrsd.org or call Terri DiGrigoli at 413-269-4466



Looking Glass Gardens 19 Dodd Rd.

Sandisfield, MA

RSVP By 6/14/25 to sandisfieldevents@recreationcommittee.info



 10AM Interactive performance with Laurel Lenski from

\$5 Pony Rides at Sunny

- Light lunch available
- Face Painting
- Craft Activity
- 12PM Terry A La Berr & Friends perform live



May 2025

- Bables & Books with Jess @ Lee Library, 100 Main St/Lee. Mondays 10:30am-11:30am. This program for infants, ages birth to 12 months. Join us as we sing, play and chat about the joys & challenges of being the challenges of
- Otis Explore & Play with Aning @ Otis Town Hall, 1 North Main Road/Otis, Tuesdays 10am-11:30an
- guere a ray with hond go the Lovens hair, I neeth mann heady be neethy playgroup will include play, songs, stories, and crafts. Drop in.

 Dance with Michelle @ Bushnell-Sage Library, 48 Main Street/Sheffleld. Tuesdays 10:30an m. This program will include music, movement, and dance. Drop in.
- is for this center-based playgroup with tabletop activities, free play, crafts & more. Great for toddle
- preschoolers. Drop in.

 New Mariborough Storytime with Jess @ New Mariborough Library, 1 Mill River GB Road. Wednesday Stan-Lam. This program includes a circle time with stories and songs, followed by a craft. Drop in.

 Beals Bulders with Michelle @ Lee Library, 100 Miln Syller. Brundays 10:10. This program is for age 3-5. Registration required by emailing southberkshirekis/Brunals.com

 Richmond Reads with Jess @ Bichmond Library (located in the new town building), 1751 Stat Rd/Richmond. Thursdays 10:80am-11:30am. Join w. for a storytime and craft, Drop in.

 Family Hiles @ Pleasant Valley, 4724 Moustain BodyLenox. May 8th 8, 22th, 10am-11am. Registratio required by emailing southberkshirekis/s@gmall.com.

 Tyringhem Stay & Play @ Tyringham Playgound, Fridays 10am-11am. Join us for this outdoor prograw with balls, bubbles, crafts and morred Weather permitting, Drop in.







Boston Symphony Orchestra Days in the Arts Summer Program 2025

The Days in the Arts (DARTS) free summer arts immersion program has been sponsored by the Boston Symphony Orchestra since 1969 and has grown into a vibrant collaboration with Berkshire Country public schools. Middle school students (grades 6 - 8) experience a weeklong immersion in musical, dance, visual, and theater arts (with additional opportunities in weelong interieston in musicul, alarce, valual, and treates are sive with adouble opportunities, creative writing], learning from local artist-educators at the renowned Tanglewood Music Center, in addition, students take special trips to arts and cultural institutions in Berkshire County, Bus transportation is available daily between the Tanglewood campus and multip drop-off/pick-up locations in southern Berkshire County and Pittsfield.

- WHEN
 Students May Register for one week.)
 Students May 14- July 18, 90.0 AM-330 PM
 -includes a Fall fig to Benshire County Arts Institution, 9:00 AM-400 PM
 Firiday, July 18. Student Arts Expo and Program with Crosing Reception from 1:30-330 PM
 -blorbort 2-July 27- July 25, 50:00 AM-300 PM
 includes a Fall of Tip to Benshire County Arts Institution, 9:00 AM-400 PM
 includes a Fall of Tip to Benshire County Arts Student, Oseing Reception from 1:30-330 PM
 Firiday, July 28 Student Arts Expo and Program with Closing Reception from 1:30-330 PM

REGISTER TODAY!

(Please fill out one form per child.)



