Dear Spring Hill Community

We are well into our second week of school and what a great start it has been! The students and teachers are building relationships, sharing their goals for the year, and practicing new routines. I am really proud of the school-ready behaviors I am seeing and how ready they are to work hard. It is truly a pleasure to be here at Spring Hill. Once again, I want to thank you all for your patience while we worked with transportation to solve some of our bus concerns and while we worked to ensure that our Kiss and Ride runs smoothly.

I look forward to meeting you at our first PTO meeting on Friday morning in the Large Pod from 8:45-10:00am. Ms. Janie Strauss, Dranesville School Board Member, Dr. Steven Lockard, Deputy Superintendent and Region 1 Assistant Superintendent, Douglas Tyson will be in attendance.

America’s future will be determined by the home and the school. The child becomes largely what is taught, hence we must watch what we teach them and how we live before them. Jane Addams

Best regards,

Janet Funk

Janet Funk, Interim Principal

Important
Please Return Your Forms ASAP

If you haven’t already done so, please return your emergency care form to the office ASAP, please mark any changes in red pen. We need to be able to contact you in case of an emergency concerning your child. We need the Student Rights and Responsibilities signature page returned also. The Health form, please fill out and return. All forms were due back last Friday, September 11.
Welcome to the 2015-16 School Year!

School Hours:
The students’ daily schedule is from 8:50 AM – 3:35 PM Monday through Friday. Since teachers need to prepare lessons and materials, supervision is not provided before 8:20 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m. All students grades K – 6 will report to the Cafeteria if they arrive before 8:35 AM. Students arriving after 8:35 AM should report directly to their classroom. Any child arriving after 8:50 AM (after the bell rings) must report to the front office to gain a tardy pass.

If your child rides the bus, we highly encourage you to put him/her on the bus beginning with the first day of school.

Bus Schedules During the First Weeks of School

Please note that buses may run somewhat early or late during the first weeks of school, as we are trying to work out our routes and the time it takes to complete them. We thank you in advance for your patience!

For Kindergarten children: A parent, designated adult and/or sibling grade 7 or older must be present to receive the kindergartner at the bus stop or the child will be brought back to school and parents will be called to pick up the child.

Plan Ahead Daters:
Thanksgiving Break: Nov. 26 & 27
Spring Break: March 21-25
Last Day of School: June 23

Full 2015-2016 calendar: click here: http://www.fcps.edu/about/15-16cal.shtml
Please review the map below illustrating our traffic pattern for Kiss n’ Drop. All Kiss n’ Drop students and SACC students will enter the school at DOOR #9. Please understand that it is up to each driver to insure the effectiveness of our system. Traffic is eased when you pull your vehicle up to where our staff member on duty waves you to stop, deliver your children out of the passenger doors quickly and depart safely.

This school newsletter will be issued every Wednesday during the school year on our website, under “News and Events.” You will receive an email link to the newsletter if we have your current email address. Deadline for submissions are Mondays by Noon. Email nelda.hirji@fcps.edu Please include Panther Press in the subject.
News and Updates from Erica Berson, your Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART)

AAP Parent Information Meeting
October 2, 8:30-9:30

Calling ALL Parents (K-6)!

Did you know, FCPS is committed to providing challenging learning experiences for ALL learners that build on individual strengths and optimize academic potential. Please join me on October 2 at 8:30 a.m. to learn more about this continuum of advanced academic services and how they are implemented at SHES in order to meet the needs and develop the potential of advanced learners. Our agenda will cover:

- Understanding the continuum of AAP services at SHES (K-6)
- An introduction to the screening process (2nd-6th) for fulltime Advanced Academic Services (Level IV)

Please use this link to RSVP that you will be attending. http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094aa9a82aa6fa7-aapparent
It will assist us with setup for that morning. Thank you in advance for RSVPing.

I look forward to meeting everyone!

Keep in Touch (KIT) Subscribers

Please make sure the contact information we have for you is accurate so you can be reached in case of emergency and to receive school news. If the information is not accurate, you will not receive school messages and news. Please note that long distance phone numbers are difficult for the school to reach. We appreciate local phone numbers if at all possible.

This is also the time to add an e-mail address so you can receive news updates from school to your e-mail account, including this newsletter.

You can also update your child’s emergency care contact information via weCare@School at http://www.fcps.edu/kit/.

School Picture Day
Monday September 28

School pictures are provided as a service to our families and are also a valuable fundraiser for the school. These portraits will also be used in the school yearbook. Picture Order Envelopes will go home with your children in mid September. If you would like to place an order, please complete the envelope and have your child bring it to his or her teacher before picture day.
Family Emergency Plan Preparedness

It is critical that your child knows where to go if for some unforeseen reason nobody is home when they arrive back home. This may occur during an emergency weather related issue which necessitates school closing early. Often, parents cannot make it home in time but we are required to send the children home. Please train your child and have two or three alternative places they may go if they are locked out.

Footwear

Due to safety concerns – NO SANDALS, OPEN-TOED SHOES, OR SHOES CONTAINING WHEELS (WHEELYS) ARE ALLOWED AT SPRING HILL!

“Thursday Folders”

Each Thursday your child will bring home class papers and other school materials for you to review. Please be on the lookout for these materials.
Non profit flyers may be sent home in Thursday folders on the following days this school year: October 2 and May 19. In the interest of saving paper, we encourage electronic flyers which may be included in our weekly newsletter on these dates.

During the 2015-2016 school year and according to regulation 1367.3, the following will be in effect.

**Newsletters** will announce events or activities sponsored by the school, P.T.O. and governmental agencies only.

**Fliers for Non-Profit Organizations:**
Flyers can be displayed in the front foyer literature rack for community review and pick up.

Flyers may be distributed at Back-to-School Night via a non-profit organization’s staffed table.

Flyers can be distributed via student take home folders **twice per year – October 2, 2015 and May 19, 2016.**

**Directions for non-profit flyer distribution on designated weeks in October and May:**

All fliers must be submitted in advance to the principal for review.

All non-profits are treated the same, regardless of the view they express.

Fliers and other community materials must be related to the school’s educational mission, be directed to students, not be harmful to children, be age-appropriate, and not be violations of the current versions of Regulations 2601 and 2612 (Student Responsibilities & Rights).

At least 48 hours must be allowed for the principal to review the flier.

**All fliers must contain the following disclaimer:** “These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent, or this school.”

Fliers must be collated into 38 sets of 35 fliers.

Fliers must be delivered to the school office by 10 a.m. Monday, September 28 or May 16 for inclusion in these take-home folders.
October 2015

Food and Nutrition Services has developed monthly Energy Zone Wellness articles that schools are welcome to use in monthly parent newsletters.

9-5-2-1-0 Zip Code to Your Health

To encourage student wellness, FCPS Elementary Schools are promoting 9-5-2-1-0 Zip Code to Your Health the week of October 19 – 23, 2015. Students will learn about healthy eating and exercise through this daily message. This program is a partnership with the Northern Virginia Healthy Kids Coalition. Teachers are invited to highlight the daily message in the classroom.

What’s on the Menu Today?
Healthy Choices!

Parents - did you know? Today’s school lunch includes:

- Fresh fruits and veggies
- More whole grains
- Less sodium and fat
- Nonfat or low-fat milk

LUNCH APP
Interactive monthly school breakfast and lunch menus can be accessed via the free FCPS mobile app (Android or Apple) or through the web version of the lunch app, http://fcps.nutrislice.com/. Both options provide quick and easy access to menu choices and nutrition information, so parents and students can learn more about the variety of healthy foods available in their school. The web version features a link to MySchoolBucks.com, making it easy to add money to a student’s lunch account or check a student’s school meal selections. Other widgets connect customers to ingredient lists, allergen information, and resources and services provided by the FCPS Office of Food and Nutrition Services.
Box Tops!

Contest ends 10-20-15 - Individual students are eligible to win!

Kids, scour those drawers and cabinets at home for products from these big brands: Ziploc, Cheerios, Chex Mix, Fiber One, Hefty, Green Giant, Kleenex, Land O'Lakes, Mott’s, Nature Valley, Pillsbury, Totino’s, Yoplait, etc. [http://www.boxtops4education.com/](http://www.boxtops4education.com/)

Then clip and submit!

Our “TOP 10” submitters will be recognized in the Panther Press.

Prizes: The “TOP” submitter will also win a $20 Target gift card. Plus, a $15 Target gift card winner will be chosen via a drawing on the “Morning Show.”

Rules:

- **Box Tops must be complete, and include visible & valid (11/1/15 or later) expiration dates.**
- **Put the box tops (torn or clipped) in a Ziploc bag.**
- **Include your name, teacher's name and grade**

Deadline: Please give them to your teacher or leave in the main office’s box by October 20, 2015.

Questions? please email Kim Saxenian at [springhillboxtops@gmail.com](mailto:springhillboxtops@gmail.com)