

FRIENDSHIP DAY SCHOOL FOR THE SCIENCES AND THE ARTS

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



CALENDAR

- Tuesday, Nov. 3rd - Election Day, NO SCHOOL- Remember to VOTE
- Wednesday, Nov 4th – FDS Board of Directors meeting
- Thursday, Nov. 5th – School Picture Day, postponed to December date
- Wednesday, Nov 11th – Veterans Day, NO SCHOOL – Thank you for your service!
- Thursday, Nov. 19th – Thanksgiving Meal Pick-up, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Saturday, Nov. 21st – FDS Parent Group Mtg, 10:00AM – 11:30 AM (ZOOM info coming)
- Monday, Nov. 23rd – Dec. 3rd - FDSPG Virtual Book Fair
- Thursday & Friday, Nov. 26th & 27th – Thanksgiving Holiday, We Are Blessed!
- Thursday, Dec. 10th – School Picture Day (see times below)

Dear Parents,

How effective do you think our virtual learning program is currently? Our scholars began virtual learning when the Governor closed schools last year because of COVID 19. Though our virtual learning has brought some challenges, usually due to technology, most scholars are doing well. As we continue to use the ZOOM platform, we have learned to incorporate new techniques to enhance scholar learning and behavior.

Making the decision to teach via ZOOM from the classroom, made it necessary for us to purchase cameras (Webcam) which give us a wider view. The camera is placed on a tripod with a USB extension which allows us to move further in the classroom, especially for our creative arts. To assist with shorter screen time, we use learning labs for independent work, transition between subjects as well as breakout rooms which allow for peer collaboration, testing and small group instruction.

With our new techniques, it seems some scholars might be doing better than face- to- face instruction. Not having the everyday distractions in school has allowed them to do a better job focusing on their schoolwork. However, even with the new techniques, other scholars are finding virtual learning difficult. They miss the classroom engagement, relationships, the face-to-face instruction, and socialization.

And finally, as we reach out to parents, grandparents and caregivers who are spending time in the role like teacher... we thank you so much for your reinforcement, organization, support and caring.

Blessings to all,
Ms. Comer

WELCOME TO OUR SUZUKI VIOLIN TEACHER – Ms. Walker, a Louisville, Kentucky native, began her studies as a Suzuki violinist at the age of seven. After beginning violin lessons, she quickly fell in love with classical music. She was inspired most by her teacher, Mr Keith Cook, a former member of the Louisville Orchestra. At the age of sixteen, Mr. Cook began mentoring Ms. Walker on how to teach Suzuki violin.

Upon graduating high school, Ms. Walker attended the University of Louisville in Kentucky for music. During her studies, she taught violin and piano lessons and completed her certifications to be a registered Suzuki violin teacher. Before moving to Charlotte, she served as Concertmistress of the Kentucky Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Walker is excited to be part of the Friendship Day School family. She finds fulfillment in spreading the joy of music to others. The FDS family is so pleased to have Ms. Walker join us and work with our third and second grade scholars. We are ready to SOAR!

“YOU GET A TURKEY, YOU GET A TURKEY, YOU GET A TURKEY!” – Thursday, November 19, 2020, FDS will distribute Thanksgiving meals, INCLUDING A TURKEY, PIE AND TRIMMINGS to our families. Come to the school doors on McAllister Drive to pick up your meal between 1:00 PM–4:30 PM. Thank you to Hendricks Motor Company and Ms. Carlenia Ivory for keeping FDS families in your thoughts. The PICK-UP date for your Thanksgiving meal is Thursday, Nov. 19th.

Reminder, scholars are to wear their navy or light blue shirt with khaki pants/skirt.

PARENT GROUP ACTIVITIES:

- FDS Parent Group Meeting – Saturday, November 21st. 10:00 AM – 11:30 M via ZOOM
- FDS PG Virtual Book Fair – Monday, November 23rd – December 7th
- School Picture Day – Thursday, December 10th (See schedule below)

Kdgn (9:00 – 10:00); First grade (10:30 – 12:30); Second grade (1:00 – 2:00); Third grade (2:30-4:30)

We thank Mrs. Baker, FDS executive board and parents for your assistance & support!

A Thanksgiving Thought for YOU:

Even while living in these uncertain times, our hearts must still be filled with gratitude. Our lives are full of our children, relatives, and amazing friends; we are to be thankful for the abundance of blessings in spite of the challenges we deal with from day to day. Please relax and celebrate your Thanksgiving Day with love in your heart, positive thoughts of the future and an abundance of gratitude.

Happy Thanksgiving wishes to all FDS families!