



FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

136 BLACKBURN ROAD • SUMMIT, NJ 07901

<http://franklinweb.summit.k12.nj.us>

March 13th, 2017

Dear Franklin Families,

It's hard to believe that we're deep into March! Here are some school highlights and important information to share:

- ❖ **Our first Franklin Falconwriter's article gets published!** Many thanks to Mrs. Alberico & Ms. Stochaj for leading our first cohort of young journalists towards publishing articles in *TAP into Summit*. We also thank Mr. Greg Elliot who has helped us forge this exciting partnership with our school and who joined the group as a guest journalist to share writing tricks of the trade! Cheers to our first student's published article:

<https://www.tapinto.net/towns/summit/columns/franklin-falconwriters-forum/articles/100-days-down-80-days-left>

Given the tremendous interest expressed by our fourth graders, we are looking to bring in another cohort from those who we could not accommodate for this first pilot cycle--during the start of fifth grade. Building up the current team will enable them to serve as wonderful mentors who will usher in a second cohort of journalists in the fall.

- ❖ **Mosaic artist's visit was outstanding!** We filled his visitation day with grade level assemblies that included an opening slideshow where Mr. Winer showcased his gallery of school mosaics along with highlights of the process leading up to creating them. He followed with demonstrations at 5 learning stations: showing students how special tools are used to cut tiles into an array of mosaic pieces, sharing a large sample of mosaic-making materials, examples of bird mini-mosaics, and blueprint drawings that preceded the creation of mosaics. Students were then able to explore these hands-on stations, which nurtured an appreciation for this particular art form and built excitement for our community project this fall. Students shared their ideas and artwork with Mr. Winer, followed by a question and answer period. Great photos of his visit:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B3zdJlp0YBL1ZEdKVERxUE9uSnc>

- ❖ **Continued classroom enhancements:** We continue to make our classrooms as inviting, student-centered and purposefully supportive as we can! In addition to freshly added book collections to our classroom libraries, we've added bright new rugs, corkstrips, bulletin boards, and book bin racks. We will also soon replace all first grade whiteboards and book baggies, worn down teacher easels, and all student chair pocket organizers. These improvements, in conjunction with PTO's continued generosity with granting teacher stipends as well as SEF grant approvals, will continue to optimize our students' learning environments.

- ❖ **PARCC information:** Please review Ms. Jennifer Ambrose's letter:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3zdJlp0YBL1aDRWc2NvbERCZVI3aHJnaWYwMWdnLVk1bWZz/view?usp=sharing>

Have a wonderful week,

Mrs. Dalia Mirrione