



FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

136 BLACKBURN ROAD • SUMMIT, NJ 07901

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

September 18th, 2017

Dear Franklin families,

Our opening days have gone so smoothly and I hope that your children have enjoyed their experiences thus far! Here are a few highlights that I would like to share:

- ❖ **Club sign-ups:** Please keep a lookout for our many club launches, which will be posted within your weekly PTO emails starting this week. Descriptions and links to google forms for each of these offerings provide you with registration ease.
- ❖ **Mosaic parent volunteers:** As we plan for our exciting Artist-in-Residence experience for the weeks of October 9th and 16th, please consider volunteering to help during your child's art class. Our artist has requested 3 parent helpers for each art class and sign up information will be forthcoming. We will also offer an evening for parents who would like to contribute to the mosaic as well as an afternoon for our former 5th graders.
- ❖ **Guidance counselor addition:** We are fortunate to have Erica Dorsey, a newly hired district part-time guidance counselor, join our staff for once a week visits to lead social skills groups. She shared this introduction letter: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/11PDDPyZvalBvAzP398TO5inx4mrTzEYAYT-6aY9EQc0/edit?usp=sharing>
- ❖ **First grade recess orientation:** I am excited to share a new partnership with Summit's YMCA involving recess support for our first grade students. For many, this is the first time that they have had large open areas like a blacktop and field for unstructured play time. It can be overwhelming and intimidating, as they try to navigate what games to play and how to enjoyably pass the time with schoolmates.

Starting this week, we are introducing a 6 session recess orientation series specifically to teach students playground games, good sportsmanship, and positive interactions with one another as they learn to make the most of their free time together. This will also provide an additional benefit of deepening relationships and community-building among their classmates, which complements peer interactions throughout the instructional course of each day.

We look forward cultivating the scholar, leader, and citizen within each of our students. Our home-school partnership serves as the foundation for all that is possible here at Franklin, and I thank you for your support.

Have a wonderful week,

Mrs. Mirrione

