



The Firebird Screams

“Ask not for whom the Firebird screams, he screams for you!” - Fred the Firebird

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Greetings, Firebird Families! Fred the Firebird here, returning from a [very] brief vacation while my lovely sister Fiona the Firebird filled in for me. I hope you enjoyed her feminine perspective in the last two issues of *THE FIREBIRD SCREAMS!*

Lots of big goings-on around the Firebird's Nest this month. So read on, and stay informed!

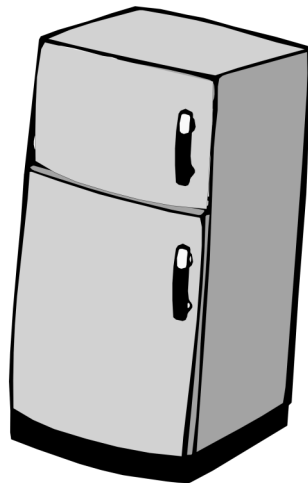
-Fred the Firebird

Christmas Apparel Order

In response to the massive request by parents since our big summer apparel order was delivered, we are opening up another big Firebird apparel order, effective immediately! The same items will be offered at the exact same prices as the summer order. **ALL ORDER FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN BY FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13th!** Remember that a check made out to “FLA” must be attached to your order form, or your order will not be placed. A copy of the order form and the style sheet are attached to the same e-mail message you are getting which carries this edition of the *SCREAMER*. Fill out the order form, attach your check for the total, and turn in by November 13th. Order forms and style sheets are available in the office as well.



Big Items Needed



We are still in need of a refrigerator for our break room, to replace the one blown out this summer by lightning. If you have a refrigerator to donate, let us know and we will get someone to come pick it up. It's good for a tax write-off, too!

Calling all woodworkers! In addition to the refrigerator, several of our elementary classrooms need a few extra cubbies to store student belongings. Six classrooms need two cubbies each, either wall-mounted or built in a free-standing bookcase style to fit underneath the existing cubbies. One classroom needs ten cubbies.

Dads, break out your tape measures and come take a look at the space and style where we need some nice, smooth, painted or varnished cubbies!

Background Checks

Reminder to all parents: please attach a check for \$10.75 (made out to FLA) to all background check request forms. We cannot process your request without payment!



Counselor's Corner

Hi all Firebirds! We are wrapping up our first – very successful – Red Ribbon Week today! Students have enjoyed participating in each days' activities and have been reminded of the importance of living a drug free life and making healthy decisions! Students and staff have done really well with rising to the occasion with their outfits and costumes. Winners of the poster contest will be announced in the next *SCREAMER*. Thank you to all who participated!

Detective Laws, along with three other officers from the Granville County Sheriff's Office, presented "Bullying Prevention" to all students earlier this week. They covered four types of bullying: Verbal, Physical, Cyber, and Relationship. Presentations were made to K-5, 6-8, and 9th grades. There was even a K-9 demonstration with a German shepherd named Rico!

I can proudly now present our Character Education Program! I will start classroom guidance for Character Education in December! For K-5 we will be learning "Building Character with Kelso" and 6-9 will be learning about the "Six pillars of Character!" Any student that demonstrates one of the character traits we learn about will be nominated for a "Soaring Firebird Award." More information to come!

FOOD DRIVE—(Firebirds serving the community)

Thank you to all who brought items for our school wide food drive early in October! We had great success and even provided Faith Baptist Church with enough food to serve the families in need for three months! The FLA K-5 Community Service Club had a great time helping sort and organize the warehouse at Faith Baptist Church on October 10th! Twenty students along with their parent(s) worked for 3 hours! Way to turn out and serve, all you Firebirds!

- Ms. Moore, FLA School Counselor

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found pile is growing and growing, getting bigger every day! It is absolutely AMAZING how much high-quality stuff makes its way to the Lost and Found pile which no one ever claims! Check the L&F if your little one's jacket, pants, shirt, coat, or other garment item has mysteriously disappeared, take a few minutes to look through the L&F pile. Chances are, you'll find what you're looking for!

On a related note, we encourage all Firebird parents to label their little sparklets' clothing with their names. When garments are turned in to L&F, we always check to see if a student's name is inscribed on it somewhere. If so, we return it right away. So if you'll take a moment to label the clothes which come to school with your children – as well as bookbags, shoes, and other items – maybe you'll lose less stuff and maybe we'll have a smaller L&F pile!



Peanut Butter Alternative

Not long ago Dr. D sent out a letter to all parents notifying them of FLA's new status as a "peanut-sensitive" school. We have a number of students (and at least one staff member) who are seriously allergic to peanuts and/or tree nuts, and whose allergic reactions can be life-threatening. For that reason, Dr. D has asked all parents to be sensitive to the difficulties faced by students with nut allergies, and take all reasonable steps to limit exposure to nuts and nut products.

Recently, one of our Fantastic Firebird parents sent us a note about a new product called "Wowbutter," which is soy-based and – in her words – "delicious!" She found it at Walmart right next to the peanut butter. Its label says it is "safe for school:" peanut-free and made in a peanut-free facility. Wow! Now all your little sparklets who thrive on peanut butter can experience the pleasure of that taste without endangering their classmates! Many thanks, Kristy Andrews (Jeffrey's mom)!



Driver's Ed



The NC State Legislature has [finally!] restored funds for Driver's Education, which were cut from the initial state budget. It is taking awhile for those funds, along with the rules for how they are used in charter schools, to work their way down to us. We are close to an answer about the FLA Driver's Ed program: students who will be 14-and-a-half by November 15th, stand by to hear the news. We'll let you know as soon as we get the word!

Calendar of Events

Attached to this e-mail please find the latest revised FLA Calendar of Events, listing all non-athletic events of interest to our students and parents. Note that some events, dates, times, and places have changed from when the last Calendar of Events went out; other events have been added (listed in **bold print**). Please print this out and/or store it on your home computer and keep it handy; you don't want to miss all the great things going on at FLA!

Morning and Afternoon Carpool

During Morning Carpool Drop-off...Please pull up as far forward as you can, and follow the directions of the staff members directing traffic. During Afternoon Carpool Pick-up...Please remember to use your orange cards (ESPECIALLY if Mrs. Maxson is not calling names), also please remember that 6th-8th grade isn't usually ready for their names to be called until after 3:15.

Okay, Firebird families, that's it for another edition of "The Firebird SCREAMS." The Firebird who is SCREAMING is me, Fred the Firebird, the Keeper of the Flame of Learning which burns away ignorance and sophistry.

The FLA Firebirds are ON FIRE for learning as they TAKE FLIGHT into their futures and fortunes. And that makes this place, Falls Lake Academy,

*The HOME OF THE FIREBIRDS and the SEAT OF BURNIN' LEARNIN'!
Until next time, here's Fred the Firebird wishing you all a great Holiday Season, right around the corner!*

