



# The Firebird Screams

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

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Welcome to  
the **SCREAMER!**



*Gooooood Morning, Falls Lake Academy!! Isn't it fantastic to see the sun again? Fred the Firebird here, flying high in the morning sky, checking out the beautiful green earth below and blue sky above, **TAKING FLIGHT** as only we Firebirds can do: on a fiery trail of learning that leads to ultimate **SUCCESS!** Here's all the latest from Firebird Central, everything the parents of all FLA sparklets need to know!*

**-Fred the Firebird**

## Student Checkouts

Once again, please be reminded of our procedure for checking students out:

Students may only be checked out by one of their own parents or someone their parents have listed on their checkout approval form. All others must be cleared by the student's parents through a personal phone call to Ms. Ford, Ms. Maxson, or Dr. Daniel prior to the time when the student is going to be picked up. Otherwise, the student will not be released, regardless of the reason given for not securing parental approval prior to checkout.

We do not accept phone calls from parents or others on the pickup list instructing us to call the student up and have him or her wait in the office to be checked out and picked up. Our office is a very busy place, and we have neither space nor personnel to devote to supervising students who are waiting for someone to check them out. Except in cases of extreme sickness or other emergency, students must remain in class until their rides arrive at school to check them out.



Parents or others who are authorized to check students out must park and come into the office to sign the students out in person. We take our responsibility to keep your kids safe very seriously, and we do not want to fall into the trap of just believing anyone who shows up saying they are who we think they are; we must make a full identification before releasing any student to anyone. And besides, whoever is checking a student out must sign them out in person. We're sorry for any inconvenience, but being in a hurry is not a good enough reason not to come in and sign your student out.

Generally speaking, except in emergencies, we cannot call students up to the office for checkout less than a half-hour before the end of the school day. As we noted already, the office is a busy place, and it sometimes gets really crazy during the last hour of the day. If you can't come in to check your child out at least 30 minutes before dismissal, please wait and pick him or her up at the regular end-of-the-day dismissal time.

These procedures have been established for our students' safety and to help facilitate our administrative accountability efforts in keeping our kids safe while minimizing any disruption to the learning process. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

## Catered Lunches Cease

Mark your calendars: Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, is the last day for delivery of catered lunches to the FLA campus. After that day, students must bring their own meals every day through the end of the year.

# Parent Volunteer Hours

Redeem Your Volunteer Hours: send an email to the following address: [volunteer@fallslakeacademy.com](mailto:volunteer@fallslakeacademy.com)

The information we need in the e-mail:

- Subject Line: < Name > Volunteer Hours
- In the Body of the email:
  - Name: < Name >
  - Date you Volunteered: < Date >
  - Number of Hours: < # of Hours >
  - Volunteer Task Description: < Task Description >



Hours that aren't e-mailed in don't get recorded, and you can't get credit for them. And you should definitely want to get credit for all your service hours, because we plan to recognize our most active volunteers at the year-end awards program, including the Volunteer of the Year award!

FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT YOUR PAC GRADE-LEVEL REP OR MS. FORD IN THE FLA MAIN OFFICE!

## Temporary Homes Needed



Falls Lake Academy has been donated two pianos, one for our new Band room and one for our new stage/classroom just off the gym. They aren't new, but they are plenty nice! The problem is, we must take possession of them by next week, and we must find a climate-controlled place to store them until our building is ready to move in, probably sometime in July (or early August at the latest, we hope!). They are both "spinnet" – sized, relatively small, but they need a room in a house or building that won't reach a sweltering temperature in the summer months while waiting to move in. If you can go to Raleigh to pick them up sometime in the next 2 weeks, and/or if you're willing to let them live with you until we move in, please call Dr. D as soon as possible. Each piano will take four strong men to move!

## 2014-15 Student Apparel Orders

It's that time of year again! All students are being given a new, updated copy of the FLA Firebird Apparel form to bring home. We will be ordering t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, sweatpants, hats, parent shirts, and vehicle magnets in June so they will be here when school starts in August. The form has been re-designed to make it easier to indicate which colors and sizes you want (thank you, Ms. Ford!). Please mark the form carefully and return it, along with a check made out to Falls Lake Academy for the full order amount, no later than Wednesday May 28<sup>th</sup>. Sorry, but we can't accept order forms for this order after that. But don't fret; if you miss this order deadline, we'll be ordering again in October so the items will be here in time for Christmas!



# EOG Testing Calendar

Right about now, all FLA teachers are gearing up for the final madhouse rush downhill to the End-of-Grade Test finish line for this school year. We need the parents of each and every single FLA student to be focused on their kids' testing dates, and to help prepare them for those days and support them in their efforts to get ready. You'll be getting more information about this from Ms. Maxson as we get closer, but for now, please note which students will be testing which days:

Thursday May 29 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade Reading
Friday May 30 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade Math
Thursday June 5 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade Reading, 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies
Friday June 6 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade Math, 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Science
Monday June 9 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> grade Science, 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> grade English-Language Arts
Tuesday June 10 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade state-mandated EOG re-test, 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Math

## Spring Concert

The fourth and fifth grades will present their spring concert, joined by the middle school Chorus and Beginner and Cadet Bands, on Thursday evening May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Bible Baptist Church. This event is free and open to the public, so come out and support the FLA Music Department and all our budding musical geniuses at this final performance of the school year. Ms. Wallace and Mr. Morgan are making sure that all students who are participating know what time to be there, as well as any other important information needed by the parents. We hope to see you there!



## PBL Presentations and Student Led Conferences



Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup> is an early-release day to accommodate this year's year-end PBL project presentations and student-led conferences. School will let out at 12:00 noon; parents will be scheduled to come at specific times to observe their kids' group project presentations followed immediately by individual student-led conferences using the students' Showcase Portfolios, just as we did in January. [Please note: there will be

no FAST after-school program that day!] Every student must have one or both parents in attendance for his or her presentation and conference. Your child's PAA will contact you soon with your scheduled appointment time for the afternoon or early evening on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.



## Field Day

The first annual FLA Field Day is Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> (rain date: Tuesday May 27<sup>th</sup>). The whole school will be outside most of the day, involved in a mostly full day of fun and games. Award ribbons will be given for game and competition winners. There is a lot to do, so we need a lot of folks to help. If you're interested in helping with Field Day, please contact Coach Vincent at the school. Thanks!

## School and Community Service Hours

Recently, Ms. Lee and Ms. Dinkins sent out the last notice of the year listing each student's current School and Community Service Hours. **Please remember that completion of at least 10 approved School and Community Service Hours is a condition of grade promotion at FLA.** In other words, students who don't complete 10 approved hours cannot be promoted. If you are not sure whether or not your child has completed his or her hours, or if you need to get an activity pre-approved for hours' credit, or if you're panicking and need help finding an event or activity that will give your child the hours he or she needs, please contact your child's PAA immediately for answers!

## Athletic News

Stay "in the know" about FLA Athletics and Flight Crew activities! Check out the two websites below. Any and all updates to the athletics website will be made on the Facebook page as well. In addition to this, any changes or updates to the Booster schedule will be made on the Booster club's website. Pretty self-explanatory. [Note: "Like" these sites so you won't miss anything!]:

<https://www.facebook.com/fallslakeacademyathletics>  
<https://www.facebook.com/flaathleticsboosterclub>



## New Calendar

After a couple of false starts and near-misses, the 2014-2015 school year has finally been defined, and a complete calendar has been settled. The Board has approved the new calendar, which is posted on the FLA website ([www.fallslakeacademy.com](http://www.fallslakeacademy.com): click on the "Parents" tab, then on the "2014-2015 PDF" link at the bottom of the page). The FLA calendar is closely aligned with the Granville County Schools' calendar, but not completely so – for instance, we start school a full week earlier (Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>) than GCS starts in order to give us a little more wiggle room in spacing out our teacher workdays and early release days for PBL project presentations throughout the year. All the major holiday breaks are the same, though, and we end up at the same time in June.

**Well, that does it for now. Keep SCREAMing, sparklets, and good luck on your EOG tests!**

**- Fred the Firebird**