

F.N. Brown Newsletter

June 2014

Principal: Dr. Anthony Lanzo

SCA Co-Presidents: Antonia Castner & Alice Poueymirou

Dates to Remember...



- Tues., 6/3-** Gr. 3 Class Trip- Native Lands
- Thurs., 6/5-** SCA Mexican Lunch
- Fri., 6/6-** Spanish Assembly 9am
12:30 Dismissal
- Tues., 6/10-** Gr. 4 Class Trip- Sandy Hook
- Wed., 6/11-** Gr. 1 & 3 Picnic (raindate 6/13)
- Thurs., 6/12-** Gr. 4 Pool Party 4-7pm
- Mon., 6/16-** Flag Day Assembly 10am
Kdgn. & Gr. 2 Picnic- Turtle Back Rock
Brown Bag Lunch Only
- Tues., 6/17-** Gr. 3 BOB Final at Laning Avenue School
12:30 Dismissal
- Wed., 6/18-** 4th Grade Reception 9:30am
4th Grade Farewell 10:30am
12:30 Dismissal
- Thurs., 6/19-** **12:30 Dismissal**
- Fri., 6/20-** **Last Day of School**
Final Report Card
12:30 Dismissal



Contact Us

B-Line Editor: Valerie Balogh

Email: jayb41@verizon.net



B-Line News



Busy Bee Scrip Program – Thank you to those who helped make this program a success this year. We raised over \$1,000 for our school in the first year of running the program! If you are interested in buying cards over the summer break, please contact Kate Curren at katefullercurren@gmail.com or 973-857-8663.

Oliver's Labels – Is your child going to summer camp? Oliver's Labels are the practical way to ensure your child's belongings do not get lost this summer. The labels are waterproof and the tags are made of high-performance, scuff-proof materials that are dishwasher, microwave and washer/dryer safe. Customize and preview your labels instantly with your name and choice of over 70 colorful designs! Visit www.oliverslabels.com/fnbrown today! F.N. Brown receives 20% of all purchases.

Note from the Treasurer - For those submitting expenses for various programs, please place your receipts in an envelope along with your name and a short explanation of the expense. All reimbursement checks will be returned to the SCA mailbox in the main office within 24-48 hours. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Mulligan, jifclaims@comcast.net.

Pomptonian Lunch Dates

Pomptonian will be serving lunches on the following dates: June 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Please remember all lunches must be preordered.



Birthday Boys and Girls

June



Logan Colon, Zachary Garmont, Alyssa Lipesky, Marissa Carsillo, Stephen Gaffney, Jack Aiello, Sydney Aiello, Riley Stocker, Nicolette Vitale-Morano, Paige Kirby, Alexandra Popowich, Nina Josephson, Kenneth Zheng, Jayden Czupak, Sophie Besante, Brielle Marchese, Landon Ruggiero, Christopher Caldera, Madeleine Nogales, Olivia Baureis, Shane Costigan, Nicholas Zehnder

July



Michael LoCurto, Christopher Baker, Michael Castner, Madison Brown, Sarah Griffin, Sienna Griffin, Isabel Perez, Demetri Byrne, Nicholas Miranda, Kara Dunphy, Megan Wynne, Kayla Martino, Lana Zecchino, Julia Zysk, Isabella Lambert, Nicholas Mecca, Christian Vasquez, Nicolas Handler, Sofia Valese



August

Liam Frey, Reece Luftglass, Abigail Castillo, Gavin Martin, Kaitlyn Dunn, Ethan Randall, Lauren Tracey, Angelina Guarducci, Abigail Mautone, Vincenza Palma, Michael Kosulin, Faith Reed, Tanner Reed, Jared Giordano, Cole Jenkins, Benjamin Moskowitz, Ava Perry

More B-Line News

Shoparoo- F.N. Brown has raised more than \$250 since December using Shoparoo! There is no easier way to raise money for our school. All you need to do is take a picture of your shopping receipts with the Shoparoo app made for your smartphone or ipad. It does not matter what you buy- every receipt submitted from a grocer, super center, club store, dollar store, drugstore, convenience mart, liquor store or pet supply store results in a donation to our school! So what are you waiting for? You can either download the free app from the Apple AppStore or the Google Play Store by searching 'shoparoo' and then select our school as your chosen cause or contact Kate Curren at katefullercurren@gmail.com to receive a link to join. Since there is no limit to how much money we can raise with Shoparoo, be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join in- every receipt counts!

Bookfair Committee- The three day long Fiesta of books at the Book Fair was a great event again this year. The FNB teachers would like to extend many thanks for the book purchases provided from their book request wish lists. Thanks to all of you, this fundraiser is meaningful because it emphasizes the importance of reading and books. We would like to thank all the parents for supporting the Book Fair. "Donuts with Dad" was another great event for our children as they made their book purchases while enjoying a morning with Dad or other loved one. On behalf of the Book Fair Committee and SCA, we would like to express our gratitude to everyone who helped make this fundraiser such a great success. Enjoy reading over the summer!

Box Tops for Education

Please remember to send in your box tops! We earn 10 cents for FN Brown for each box top that's collected. Just clip, save and send them in. Thanks!



And A Special Thank You Goes to...

*The Book Fair Committee!

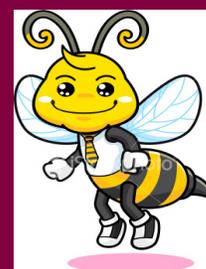
Thanks to Antonia Castner, Alice Poueymirou and all the other volunteers who helped make The Book Fair a success!

*The Fun Fair Committee!

Thanks to Lorraine LoCurto, Kristen Mautone and all the volunteers who helped to make The Fun Fair a great time for everyone!

*The Staff Appreciation Committee!

Thank you to all the wonderful families who donated desserts, drinks and breakfast items for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Breakfast. And a great big thank you to Lou Cerretta for his assistance with the set up and clean up that day. Special thanks to Dawn Mulligan, Kathleen Keating, Lisa Jacobson, and Carli Crinion!



F.N. BROWN – THE BEST
SCHOOL IN TOWN!

FREDERIC N. BROWN SCHOOL

VERONA, NEW JERSEY 07044

125 GROVE AVENUE

TELEPHONE: (973) 571 - 6753 FAX: (973) 571-6769

Anthony V. Lanzo, Ed.D.
Principal

June 1, 2014

Dear Parents,

Welcome to June! I can't believe how quickly the school year has passed. Please check the Wednesday Weekly Reminder packet for an update of all of the upcoming dates and events.

Music Programs

Our third and fourth grade students performed in our annual Spring Vocal Music program. It was a well performed show with heartfelt songs and messages. Thank you to Mrs. Szybist for the work she does with our students each year!

The F.N. Brown band entertained us this past month with an excellent variety of solos, duets, ensembles, and band pieces during our annual Spring Instrumental Concert. Under the direction of Mr. Max Morden, the members of the elementary band also performed at the Verona High School auditorium. This performance included all grade four band members from the district.

Art Show

Mrs. J and the students put together several pieces of art work that were proudly displayed throughout the building for our annual Art Show. Each student contributed at least three pieces of art work. There were over 1,000 pieces displayed throughout the building. Thank you to Mrs. J. for her work with our students, her enthusiasm and dedication to our school!

Eco-Fair

FNB held its sixth annual Eco-Fair. The purpose of the event is to capture the skills and concepts taught through an Earth Day unit. Special thanks to Mrs. Force and Mr. Waibel for spearheading the Eco-Fair. Much time and attention to detail was involved in this continued endeavor.

Disability Awareness Week

Disability Awareness Week has once again arrived at our school. This program is spearheaded by Mrs. Santoro. Students have the opportunity to participate in a series of activities and stations that support the goals and objectives of the program. One of the main goals of the program is for students to become familiar with various disabilities and to continue to build an understanding and tolerance of individual differences. Various guest speakers will be speaking to the third and fourth graders about disabilities.

Annual Spanish Assembly

Our annual assembly showcasing the skills and concepts from our Spanish language program will take place on Friday, June 6th at 9:00 AM. Students in grades 1-4,

under the direction of Senorita Witter, will be performing songs, skits and recitations. Mrs. Szybist will be assisting with the music piece.

Library Volunteers

Mrs. Walker and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents that volunteered their time this school year in our school library. Your time and expertise fostered a true community of readers. Thanks again!

A BIG Thank You!

Special thanks to Mrs. Antonia Castner and Mrs. Alice Poueymirou, SCA Co-Presidents and Mrs. Dawn Mulligan, SCA Treasurer, the SCA executive board members and ALL of the parent volunteers, for another year of dedicated service to the children of F. N. Brown. We are most appreciative of your time and effort this year. Thanks again for making our school the very best!

Very truly yours,

Anthony Lanzo

Anthony Lanzo

Happy Summer!

June 2014 ~ Message from F.N. Brown SCA Co-Presidents



Dear F.N. Brown Families,

June is here! With the warm sunshine comes the excitement of the end of a wonderful F.N. Brown school year.

The Book Fair was a three-day long Fiesta of reading and books at F.N. Brown this past month. The hard working team of committee members combined with enthusiastic students and parents made the Book Fair a profitable fundraiser. We would like to thank Stephanie D'Andrea, Michelle Cerle, Jennifer Eng, Tina Houck, Paula Black, Stacey Perry and Janet Auriemma for all their hard work. Thank you to all the parents who also helped out over those 3 busy days.

The SCA extends special thanks to Kathleen Keating, Dawn Mulligan Kari Baureis and Carli Crinion for planning a great staff appreciation breakfast and luncheon for our spectacular staff members.

Thank you Kristen Mautone for organizing the F.N. Brown SCA Committee Nominations again this year, our SCA committee slate is out and we would like to thank all of the F.N. Brown parents that volunteer on the many committees the SCA needs to raise funds for our spectacular school.

Special F.N. Brown Teacher kudos go out to Mr. Morden for the Instrumental concert, Mrs. Szybist for the Vocal performance, Mrs. J. for the Art Show, Mrs. Force, Mr. Waibel and Dr. Lanzo for the 6th Annual ECO Fair, to Mr. Hill for Field Day and Senorita Witter for the Spanish Assembly. We appreciate all the time, energy and creativity that is poured into these events. The teachers go above and beyond for our students at F.N. Brown.

The Fun Fair was a great family night at F.N. Brown full of action and laughter. Kristen Mautone, Lorraine LoCurto and the committee worked like busy bees to prepare a fantastic night for our students at the end of the year – thank you!!!

Our SCA lunch committee members and volunteers have done a great job providing an extra lunch option to F.N. Brown families again this year. Thank you for the time it takes to organize, shop, and serve with a smile

As a reminder students are asked to wear their favorite hat to school on **Friday, June 6th** for **Hats on for Progeria**. Donations to the Progeria Research Foundation are being accepted to help find a cure for this rare fatal, “rapid aging” disease.

Our 4th grade students are moving up to HBW Middle School and we wish them well. Thank you to the 4th Grade Farewell committee for all you have done to make the 4th Grade Farewell a very special send off for our graduates. We have been very fortunate to have 4th grade moms and dads who have been very involved in the SCA and are now finished their term of service. Dana Socci and Kathleen Keating ... thank you for all your hard work and dedication over the years to F.N. Brown, you will be missed and we thank you for all that you have done for the SCA over the years. A very special Thank You! to Dawn Mulligan for serving as our treasurer for 8 years among other committees!

We hope your families had a great school year and wish everyone a fun and safe summer. Thank you!

Antonia Castner and Alice Poueymirou

ACTIVITIES AT F.N. BROWN SCHOOL

KARA PASSAGE'S CLASS

This spring, we sprung into our non-fiction reading unit! We learned about the various text features such as table of contents, diagrams, headers, labels, glossary, and index. After our non-fiction reading unit we transferred what we learned into our writing. We learned how to identify a topic, compile research, take quick notes, and apply them to our writing. We then studied how to add various text features to our writings. To culminate our non-fiction unit, we had a mini-celebration dedicated to the students for their hard work!

In math, the Kindergarteners and first graders continue to build on their math skills by comparing numbers up to 10. They have also learned the numbers up to 20. Some of the students have begun to learn to use Touch Math with addition. Our second graders, have learned how to add and subtract with and without regrouping, as well as numbers in the hundreds place value.

Our students have enjoyed this warm weather as we practice our conflict resolution and social skills out on the playground! We are looking forward to the many fun things coming up in June!

KINDERGARTEN – CATHERINE ORSINI, DEBORAH WALLACE (MARIA PERRI) & MICHELE STARANKA

We have been busy little bees in the month of May. Throughout the month we focused on different types of poetry for our reading unit. In Math we studied measurement and shapes. The spring season is always a great time to study plants. The students enjoyed learning about the parts of a plant. They planted their own seeds and were excited about watching them grow.

The kindergarten classes took a trip to the Paper Mill Playhouse to enjoy the play Click Clack Moo. Next, all three Kindergarten classes honored their mothers with beautiful Mother's Day Celebrations. At a special assembly we honored Mrs. Dugan, Mr. Cerretta, and Mr. Joswick for all of their hard work at FN Brown School. Mr. Hill organized a wonderful day of activities on Field Day. The weather was beautiful! The students enjoyed base-running, the bean bag toss, potato sack races, and the golf ball/spoon relay. It was so nice to see everyone cheering each other on. The students loved having their dads come to school for Donuts with Dads early in the morning. The Eco-Fair, Art Show and Book Fair were other awesome opportunities for the kindergarteners to share their school experience with their parents.

As Kindergarten winds down, we will look back at all we have learned this year and all we have to look forward to in First grade! Have a wonderful summer and see you next year!!!

FIRST GRADE –ANNA COLLINS & ERICA MC KENNA

Can you believe this school year is coming to a close? Our first graders have learned so much and continue to prepare for second grade. In writing workshop both classes have been busy at work writing poetry. They have been exposed to many different types of poems such as: Haiku's, Acrostic poems, and Sensory Poems are just to name a few. Students are writing poetry through "POETS EYES." Using their imaginations and looking at ordinary things in different ways has made students feel more about their writing thus the creation of poetry is flowing. The use of line breaks is a technique the students now know can actually make words have a rhythm without having to rhyme. They loved listening to all the great poetry shared in our poetry unit as well as listening to poetry in library.

In math, we just completed a topic on geometry. Presently we are working on a unit on fractions. The students need to realize the smaller the fraction the larger the piece. This concept can be very confusing. So throughout the summer, show your child one half of a whole item and then $\frac{1}{4}$ and so on.

Also, the students learned many different strategies to add and subtract to find the sum/difference. The use of related facts and fact families is very important at this stage of their learning. It would be very helpful to practice flash cards for accuracy and repetition as much as possible at home during the summer months. Also use math skills in practical fun ways. For example: have your child use an analog clock to tell time for their daily events to the hour and half hour.

In Reading, the students have made remarkable progress. Please continue to motivate your child to read by engaging them in conversations about the books they are reading. Discuss why a character may have acted in a certain way, ask questions related to making connections with the story read, and even discuss their feelings about a given story. Have fun, no pressure!

SECOND GRADE – MARIA GRAZIANO, NANCY HISCANO & LAURA QUINN

All good things must come to an end. Can you believe it's already June?? We've made wonderful second grade memories this year. We participated in our third Field Day and the highlight was taking part in the tug o' war. The weather was beautiful and each class worked well together. We were all winners at the end of the day.

We hope that you all were able to make it to our Open House and got to see the annual Eco-Fair, your child's artwork, and were able to take part in the new, scavenger hunt. The staff at FN Brown feel that this year's projects were some of the most creative we've seen. The second graders chose various buildings to create and used a variety of materials to showcase these beautiful places.

All three classes have been rehearsing with Senorita Witter for the upcoming Spanish assembly. We hope that you can see these shining stars on stage during their songs and dances on June 6. Another special treat this season will be ODE (Outdoor Discovery Environment) lessons with a new instructor. We will be able to explore the newly refurbished West Woods located behind the school and learn more about our backyard habitat. Another special event that is coming up is our annual Kindergarten and Second Grade Picnic. Did you know this picnic has taken place every year since the 1970s? The students are looking forward to a fun filled day at Turtleback Rock where they can hike, play and enjoy a picnic lunch.

As we wrap up our academics for the year, we will be finishing up our Reading and Writing Topic in Poetry, Measurement: Data, Graphs, and Time in Math, Homes for Living Things in Science, and Conflict Resolution. Be sure to practice addition and subtractions and regrouping over the summer. And remember to read, read, and read!!! Have a happy and healthy summer ☺

THIRD GRADE – MEGAN PELLEGRINO & KAREN SABATINO

It is hard to believe that summer is around the corner! A great deal of events has taken place over the past weeks. We survived NJ ASK preparation and testing! Students did well and approached the tests with confidence, and a tool kit of strategies. Back to School Night was a great success. The Eco-Fair and Art Show both showcased how resourceful and creative our students can be! Classes are now immersed in topics and class projects to wrap up our year.

The final topics in Math will be Geometry and Multiplication of larger numbers. In addition, students will continue to strengthen problem solving and reasoning skills. Science classes are understanding how scientists use identifying traits to separate animals into various groups of vertebrates and invertebrates. Annual ODE sessions are underway, involving students in fun science activities, while exploring the outdoors.

In Social Studies, students will enjoy learning about the presidents, our government and Washington D.C. We will attend a field trip to Native Lands in Parsippany. Groups of Native American and African tribes join together to demonstrate their culture and way of life for the students. Authentic housing, clothing, dances, and work animals will be on display. It will be an enjoyable, informative and memorable day. We're also looking forward to a day of fun at our annual 1st and 3rd grade picnic in Verona Park. This is always a great way for teachers, parents and students to enjoy the company of one another, and close the year on a positive note.

Battle of the Books will be the final highlight of the year, with our final district battle taking place at Laning Avenue School, on June 17th. Students are reading intently, in order to prepare for our in-house battles, which will determine a school champion team. This will be the last year of Battle of the Books as a district-wide program event. It has provided our students with a valuable reading experience, a sense of pride, and the excitement of friendly competition. The greatest outcome of the program is the noticeable love of reading, and an interest in authors, that has emerged in the students. It has created many lifelong readers, and a memorable third grade experience!

Thanks to all for a great year! We wish all of our students and families a safe and wonderful summer!

FOURTH GRADE – MARY ANN FORCE & LOU WAIBEL

It's hard to believe that this year is winding down. May was a very successful month, which focused on many exciting activities.

Our annual Eco-Fair proved to be an awesome experience enabling students to learn Earth friendly ways to protect our planet. Fourth grade students had the opportunity to be involved in presentations teaching other grade levels the importance of recycling. Since honor is a focus at F. N. Brown, students selected a person they wanted to honor. They then created a portrait of this special person using recyclable materials. Each student included a composition giving reasons as to why they wanted this person to be honored. It was certainly a very heart-warming experience for all teachers as well as our children.

Our fourth graders are excited about their visit to Sandy Hook. This trip coordinates with our study of the history of Sandy Hook. Our program offers students a learning experience in compass use, recording temperature and observing different sky directions, wave length and how sand depth affects temperature. This trip will give our students hands on experience by doing a beach and bay study. It is sure to be a great educational experience as well as enjoyment. Who wouldn't love having Science class on the beach.

June is upon us. That means one thing...Fourth Grade Farewell !!!!! It is a time of excitement, but also sadness as we say goodbye to our fourth graders as they depart for HBW. We have begun collecting memories, practicing our farewell ceremony and writing poems reflecting our time at F.N. Brown. We wish all of our students much success in all their future endeavors. They will truly be missed.

SPANISH – LUISA WITTER

Hola de la clase de español! It has been an excelente year working with your students! First grade students have been currently working on a unit on animals in Spanish and using adjectives to describe the animals to create short sentences when talking about the animals. Second grade students have been learning the days of the week in Spanish. Third grade students are currently working on geography in Spanish to know where the Spanish speaking countries are located and being able to identify what countries are north, south, east, and west in Spanish. Students are currently working on a project on a Spanish speaking country. Fourth grade students have been learning places in the community and identifying the location in Spanish.

You are invited to attend the annual Spanish assembly. It will be held on Friday, June 6th at 9:00 a.m. Please refer to the memo regarding approximate times when grade levels will be performing as well as specific instructions regarding attire. I look forward to seeing you there! The program will consist of songs, a mini-play, and traditional Spanish dances. If you have any questions, please e-mail me at Lwitter@veronaschools.org. Muchas gracias!

SPEECH – GILLIAN ALDWORTH

Speech and Language students are finishing the year strong! Students working on their articulation are becoming more intelligible in the speech room as well as in their classrooms. Great times to practice articulation at home are during nightly reading and at the dinner table. Incorporating

articulation practice into your summer playtime can be fun and easy! Playing games like ‘Go Fish’ with picture cards with the target sound are easy to make and fun to play. Write words that have the target sound in it with sidewalk chalk or incorporate them into a game of hopscotch. Siblings and parents are great speech models for students! Students requiring development in pragmatic language continue to work on "social thinking", which will help them be better communication partners. Students are learning to ask questions and make appropriate comments in order to improve the quality of their peer interactions. There are great free apps on the i-Pad that specifically target pragmatic language skills as well as grammar and vocabulary. Remember to keep practicing over the summer!

RESOURCE ROOM – SARI SANTORO

What a busy time at FN Brown! The students are working hard to combine all of their learning into end of year testing and projects. Third and fourth graders have been reading novels with a greater understanding and use of strategies learned in reading workshop lessons. Fourth graders have been reading *There’s a Boy in the Girls’ Bathroom* by Louis Sachar. They have been very insightful with their observations and connections with this novel. Third graders have finished the *Case of the Mummy Mystery* by James Preller; a Battle of the Books selection. The students have been identifying story elements using graphic organizers and are excited to be creating questions with our newest novel, *Who Stole the Wizard of Oz?* by Avi.

In math, third and fourth graders have been learning about measurement, perimeter and area. Third and fourth graders have also learned just how important it is to memorize their multiplication facts. We are always using them in many different aspects of math all year. Keep up the hard work of memorization. It will pay off next year.

LIBRARY – CORISA WALKER

One of the reasons I love summer is that I have more time to read for pleasure. The summer months are a perfect opportunity for children to embrace who they are as a reader, and extend their reading experiences. Research has proven that the impact of summer reading loss can be significant. The best predictor of reading achievement is the amount of time spent reading- The more time a child spends reading, the better reader they become. The best thing we can do for our children is read to them, read with them, and provide them with opportunities for more reading. At the conclusion of the year, you will receive a list of recommended books for summer reading. You will also get a list of some other fun reading ideas!

I would like to give a HUGE thank you to our parent volunteers. They have been busy completing the inventory process, which is essential to providing our students with proper access to library materials. I can’t thank our parents enough for volunteering in the library. Special thanks to Mrs. D’Andrea, Mrs. Curren, Mrs. Besante, and Mrs. Papocchia for coordinating our library volunteers this year. Finally, remember to visit the Verona Public Library this summer. Ms. Ashley, the Children’s Librarian, will be there with lots of great books and fun activities all summer long! Maybe you will see Mrs. Walker there, too!

TECHNOLOGY – JENNIFER HOGAN

Our Kindergarten students have come a long way since learning mouse skills in September! Students have learned to use Microsoft Word to type and edit sentences, draw and create pictures and text in Kid Pix and how to navigate through the internet to research topics and play educational games. Kindergarteners also learned basic keyboarding and completed their first skills test. In first grade students practiced telling time by manipulating virtual clocks and completing online activities. Students created a 5 senses story using text formatting and clip art in Microsoft Word, they really used their imaginations and did a great job. First graders also learned about maps and made and labeled their own virtual maps. In second grade we discussed the importance of cyber safety and students completed an online license to drive the web activity. The 2nd grade used PowerPoint and Google Maps to create a “Where I live” slideshow complete with designs and transitions. The students used “Cool Text” to create their own name

collages. This activity helped them master cut, copy and paste as well as the use of drawing tools in Microsoft Word. We will finish out the year learning about digital cameras as we take nature pictures and create digital photo stories.

Our third grade classes did some immigration research and looked up their surname origins. Classes also created timelines of the events that took place during the sinking of the Titanic. Students were able to see an interactive timeline complete with real pictures and video of the building of the Titanic. While learning about Vertebrates and Invertebrates in science, students created PowerPoint slideshows defining and showing examples of various Vertebrates and Invertebrates. Our third and fourth grade classes have begun our computer science unit, students are learning to code using Blockly on Code.org. I would love for students to continue these online lessons at home over the summer. Fourth graders have also learned to create price comparison charts in Microsoft Excel using formulas for adding and subtracting columns. Students researched famous inventors from the 1800's and created posters advertising their inventors "visit" to the school. As a fun activity 4th graders learned to photo shop themselves onto a silly cartoon image using paint.net. Best of luck at HBW 4th Graders! I want to wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer vacation!

ESL – NANCY BEATTIE

Students in the English as a Second Language (E.S.L.) program continue to make progress with their English language skills in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The ACCESS for ELLs and NJ ASK testing has been completed, so the ESL lessons have resumed their regular schedule. Students have been learning vocabulary and grammar skills related to various themes. They learned about spring and the environment by listening to stories, reading books, and "moving" to rhyming chants. The younger students are learning sight and spelling words while the older students are focusing on synonyms, antonyms, homonyms and reading comprehension and writing skills. The older students have also been focusing on the language of math and learning new math skills. The students have been reading daily, and they are rewarded weekly with a toy from the prize box for their efforts. Stickers are an additional reward that the students love to collect. It is amazing how much English the students have learned and how well they have acclimated themselves into the F.N. Brown community.

HEALTH – ROB HILL

In addition to teaching physical education, I have also been teaching health in Verona for the past several years. Each marking period I teach at a different elementary school and teach various grade levels and sections. For the fourth marking period of this school year I have been teaching health at F.N. Brown to grade two and grade four. The students have worked very hard in the classroom and continue to amaze me with their level of interest and depth of questioning.

The topics that have been covered so far in second grade have been stress, hand-washing and healthy eating. The fourth grade topics that were covered were stress, the respiratory system, the circulatory system and how to take your pulse. In both grades, the students are doing a great job of turning each class period into a discussion on each topic. We have utilized the Smartboard and also Brainpop and Brainpop Jr. to enhance these lessons and incorporate technology into the classroom. These websites are also a great resource for students to continue to pursue additional knowledge at home.

I look forward to finishing the year out strong in the classroom and hope that everyone has a great summer! Thanks.