F.N. Brown School News

Principal: Dr. Anthony Lanzo **SCA Co-Presidents: Mrs. Pam Priscoe & Mrs. Antonia Castner**

B-Line News

Book Fair Committee - This event allowed our children to broaden their scholastic horizons and pick from some really great books. The FNB teachers would like to thank everyone for the purchases made from their "wish list" of books. Thanks to all of you, this fundraiser rose above expectations. As always, this is a tribute to our FNB parents, who have dedicated their time and effort to help make events like this become a wonderful learning experience for our children. "Donuts with Dad" was another great event for our children as they made their book purchases while enjoying a morning with Dad. 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!

Oliver's Labels – Kids going to camp? Heading to the pool? Be prepared for summer with Oliver's Labels! Oliver's Labels are the perfect way to identify all your kids' stuff so it comes back home again. Their products are waterproof and scuff-proof and can be used on items that go in the washing machine and dryer. Please visit OliversLabels.com/FNBrown to order today! Questions? Please feel free to contact Kate Fuller Curren at 973-857-8663 or katefullercurren@gmail.com.

June 2013
Dates to Remember…

Mon., 6/3 -	Grade 3 Class Trip – Native Lands
Wed., 6/5 -	Kindergarten Class Trip – Papermill Playhouse
Thurs., 6/6 -	SCA Mexican Lunch
Fri., 6/7 -	Spanish Assembly – 9am
Mon., 6/10 -	Grade 4 Class Trip – Sandy Hook
Tues., 6/11 -	Kindergarten/Grade 2 Father's Picnic @Turtleback Rock 9:00-2:00
Thurs., 6/13 -	Grades 1 & 3 End Of The Year Picnic @Verona Park (raindate 6/17)
Fri., 6/14 -	Flag Day Assembly – 10am 4th Grade Pool Party @ Verona Pool 3:30-7:30 (Rain Date 6/19)
Tues., 6/18 -	***12:30 DISMISSAL*** Author Visit: Lisa Funari-Willever
Wed., 6/19 -	***12:30 DISMISSAL*** 4th Grade Farewell – 10:30am (Pre-reception at 9:30am for 4th Grade Students & Parents only)
Thurs., 6/20 -	***12:30 DISMISSAL***
Fri., 6/21 -	***12:30 DISMISSAL*** ***LAST DAY OF SCHOOL*** ***REPORT CARDS ISSUED***

Contact Us
B-Line Editor: Valerie Balogh
Email: jayb41@verizon.net

Birthday Boys & Girls

June

Jack Aiello, Sydney Aiello, Kayla Bachan, Sophie Besante, Matthew Brown, Christopher Caldera, Julia Caprari, Marissa Carsillo, Christian Castner, Logan Colon, Shane Costigan, Jayden Czupak, Robert DeGennaro, Yusuf Elshazly, Stephen Gaffney, Zachary Garmont, Nina Josephson, Alyssa Lipesky, Brielle Marchese, Alexandra Popowich, Landon Ruggiero, Olivia Vasalani

July

Demitri Byrne, Michael Castner, Dante DeNicola, Kara Dunphy, Gael Gutierrez, Nicolas Handler, Isabella Lambert, Kayla Martino, Nicholas Mecca, Ivan Morales-Santiago, Isabel Perez, Andrew Priscoe, Alexander Vasquez, Christian Vasquez, Alissa Wendling, Megan Wynne, Lana Zecchino

August

Abigail Castillo, Kaitlyn Dunn, Liam Frey, Angelina Guarducci, Shelby Jeklinski, Cole Jenkins, Jonathan Jimenez, Michael Kosulin, Reece Luftglass, Philip Mancuso, Gavin Martin, Abigail Mautone, Jake Milmoe, Vincenza Palma, Ava Perry, Ethan Randall, Faith Reed, Tanner Reed, William Toomsoo, Lara Torromeo, Lauren Tracey

F.N. BROWN - THE BEST SCHOOL IN TOWN!

And a Special Thank You Goes to…

The Book Fair Committee: Gabrielle Caprari, Daniela Triggiano, Alice Poueymirou and Stephanie D'Andrea. The book fair was another smashing success.

More B-Line News…

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.

The Staff Appreciation Committee: Jodi Brown, Kathleen Keating, Dawn Mulligan and Lisa Jacobsen

Box Tops for Education –Please remember to save your box tops over the summer and send them in to school in September! We earn 10 cents for our school. That's $1.00 for each 10 Box Tops collected. Just clip, save and send them in! If you have any questions, please call Sandra Rizzi @571-1126. Thanks!

Pomptonian Lunch Dates

Pomptonian will be serving lunches on the following dates: June 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14.

Please remember all lunches must be pre-ordered.

Have a Wonderful Summer!!

See You in September!

FREDERIC N. BROWN SCHOOL
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TELEPHONE: (973) 571 - 6753 FAX: (973) 571-6769
Anthony V. Lanzo, Ed.D.
Principal

June 1, 2013

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. Wow – what great music! Thank you Mr. Morden!

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 five to eight pieces of artwork. There were over 1,500 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 fifth annual Eco-Fair. The Environmental Committee was comprised of teachers and the administration. One of the committee suggestions was to put together an event that captured the skills and concepts taught through an Earth Day unit, resulting in the culminating activity of the Eco-Fair. Special thanks to Mrs. Force, Mrs. Savolskis and Mr. Waibel for spearheading the Eco-Fair. Much time and attention to detail was involved in this continued endeavor.

Field Day 2013

Our students participated in our annual Field Day under the direction of our physical education teacher Mr. Hill. The day involved many fun filled activities that fostered the application of fine and large motor skills along with team building and problem solving. A big thank you to Mr. Hill for organizing this fun filled day for us! Also, thanks to the SCA for purchasing the Field Day t-shirts for students AND staff.

Annual Spanish Assembly – "Fiesta Fantastica"

Our annual assembly showcasing the skills and concepts from our Spanish language program will take place on Friday, June 7th 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.

Fourth Grade Farewell 2013

Our annual fourth grade farewell will take place on Wednesday, June 19th. The fourth grade farewell committee will sponsor a reception at 9:30 AM. The ceremony will begin at 10:30 AM. Students will be creating and sharing various poems. They will also compile a list of their favorite FNB memories to be shared as well. Certificates will be given to students from the various disciplines. A video montage capturing the spirit of the FNB experience will be displayed and students will perform songs. Students will receive a certificate of completion (promotion certificate) prior the program closing. The students are currently creating memory boxes in art class to store their special gifts from the SCA including the 2013 yearbook. Lots of fun!

Report Cards

Report cards will be available on-line via Genesis on the last day of school – Friday, June 21st. Hard copies of the report card are available by request. Please contact the main office if you prefer a hard copy of the final report card.

Lost & Found

Check out the FNB Lost & Found…there are many unclaimed items in the box.

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. Pam Priscoe, SCA Co- President, Mrs. Antonia Castner, SCA Co-President, 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!

Personnel Update

- Mrs. Kim Savolskis will be joining the fifth grade team at HBW in September. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in teaching. We will greatly miss Mrs. Savolskis at FNB!

Lunches

We will be continuing with the Pomptonian lunches during the 2013-2014 school year. Thank you for your feedback regarding the new lunch program. Please note that the SCA will continue to provide lunch as well on their designated dates.

Flag Day

We will have our annual Flag Day assembly on Friday, June 14th at 10:00 AM. The students will be singing a variety of patriotic songs, sharing facts about the United States flag and flag etiquette tips. We will close with our school song "We've Got That F.N. Brown Feeling". Students and staff are asked to wear red, white and blue on Flag Day. Parents are more than welcome to join us!

Author Visit

FNB welcomes Lisa Funari-Wilever during our upcoming author visit. Special thanks to our SCA for funding the author visit and for purchasing one FREE book by this author for each K-4 student. Additional titles are available for purchase if interested. Thank you Mrs. Walker for organizing our author visit on Tuesday, June 18th.

On a personal note…

Thank you to the FNB community for the numerous cards, emails, and kind conversations of sympathy after the loss of my mother, Madeline Lanzo, who passed on Thursday, May 2nd. FNB is a very special place – I appreciated the support during this difficult time for my family and me. Also, thank you to the many parents that attended the wake and/or funeral. Your thoughtfulness was much appreciated!

Very truly yours,

Anthony Lanzo

Happy Summer!

June 2013 ~ Message from F.N. Brown SCA Co-Presidents

Dear F.N. Brown Families ~

It's hard to believe that this is the June newsletter! Another school year is almost over. It has been a great year at F.N. Brown for the SCA!!!

The Book Fair was a great success ~ a profitable fundraiser, as well as a way to share the love of reading with the children. Special thank you to Gabrielle Caprari, Daniela Triggiano, Alice Poueymirou and Stephanie D'Andrea. Thank you to all the parents who also helped out over those 3 days.

Special thanks to Jodi Brown, Kathleen Keating, Dawn Mulligan and Lisa Jacobsen for planning a great staff appreciation breakfast and luncheon for our wonderful staff members.

Thank you Kristen Mautone for organizing nominating this year, our committees have all been filled and next year should be another great success!!

Special Teacher "Thank you's", 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, Mrs. Savolskis and Dr. Lanzo for the 5th Annual ECO Fair, Mr. Hill for Field Day and Senorita Witter for the Spanish Assembly. We appreciate all your work – you really go above and beyond with these activities!

As a reminder students are asked to wear their favorite hat to school on ***Thursday, 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.

We wish the best of everything to the 4th graders and their families as they move onto HBW. Good Luck always☺ Thank you to the 4th grade farewell committee for all you have done to make the 4th grade Farewell special for our children.

We would personally like to thank all the 4th grade moms and dads who have been a huge back bone to the SCA and our now leaving us to head over to the Middle School. Elizabeth Marano, Jodi Brown and Gabrielle Caprari… thank you for all your hard work and dedication over the years to F.N. Brown, you will TRULY be missed and we thank you for all that you have done for the SCA over the years.

We hope that everyone had a great school year and has a wonderful and safe summer.

Happy Summer ☺

Pam Priscoe and Antonia Castner

ACTIVITIES AT F.N. BROWN SCHOOL

KARA PASSAGE'S CLASS

After Spring Break, we kicked off with Field Day cheering on our team! We also sprung into our new writing unit, non-fiction. We kicked off the unit by planting seeds. We then transferred our activity into our writing, creating how-to grow flowers story. As we continue into our non-fiction unit we have also reviewed Small Moments and how to apply it to our non-fiction stories. We continue to further develop our non-fiction stories through research and watching our very own flowers grow.

In math, we completed repeated addition and have begun our geometry unit. We have started to learn about solid figures. While creating our very own solid figures we have also compared them to items in our own class.

Each day we are watching our flowers grow as we grow with knowledge!

KINDERGARTEN – CATHERINE ORSINI & MICHELE STARANKA

May was jam packed with fun learning activities in Kindergarten! The students experienced their first FN Brown Field Day. Each class worked together as a team, rooting for each other and enjoying every minute.

The Kindergarteners invited their wonderful Moms to their classrooms to celebrate Mother's Day. It was a very special time for all.

We concluded our Writing Workshop author study of Lois Ehlert by creating artwork using recycled wrapping paper and wallpaper. Our creativity was showcased at the Eco-Fair. The students also created some very interesting characters from vegetables and fruit to display for the Open House. We are winding down the year in Math by exploring shapes and learning how to use a calculator!

In June we look forward to seeing Skippyjon Jones at the Paper Mill Playhouse. We will be celebrating Father's Day with a picnic at Turtle Back Rock with the second graders.

Kindergarten is a year of tremendous growth - socially, emotionally and academically. It has been a wonderful year for all of us. Along with all the fun summer activities, we hope that our children will continue to enjoy reading and writing.

We would like to thank all of our families for the support they have given us throughout the year. We hope you all have a wonderful summer and we'll see you in September!

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 completed a unit on How to and All About writings. The Mother's Day writing was a very special version of an "All About" which the students enjoyed creating. Weren't the portraits special? A unit on poetry has followed so please continue to expose your child to this genre for fun.

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 ¼ 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 book 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.

We just want to say thank you to all the parents for helping their first grader be respectful, responsible and resourceful this school year. Enjoy your summer and make new memories for your child to think about when choosing topics to write. Remember to keep a record of special activities and or events in their idea pads so they always have a topic to ponder.

SECOND GRADE – MARIA GRAZIANO & NANCY HISCANO

The year may be winding down but second graders are not! We have lots of classroom events and special occasions to look forward to. We just participated in our annual Eco-Fair. Second graders designed musical instruments out of recycled materials. We saw everything from saxophones to pan flutes and pianos to maracas. We enjoyed visiting the Eco-Fair to see the other classes' creations. We hope you enjoyed Back to School Night and got a chance to tour our wonderful school. Our spring poetry and wonderful art work was on display for all to see.

We look forward to the upcoming Spanish Assembly. Senorita Witter has worked so hard with us and we are ready to perform some special dances and songs in Espanol. The annual Father's Day Picnic with the kindergarten and second graders will be Tuesday, June 11th. It's a great day at Turtle Back Rock for a picnic with a special family member!

In class we are working on a Measurement unit in Math. So don't be surprised if you catch your child searching the house to measure such attributes as length, weight, or capacity. In Reading, we have started a new unit called All Aboard, which focuses on what we can learn by traveling. This unit will bring us to many different places and should get us thinking of some summer traveling as well. We might even be able to squeeze in one more novel before the year ends.

In Science we will be starting a unit on Homes for Living Things. We will learn about different habitats and environments, food chains and food webs, and we will explore how living things survive in different places.

We wish you all a happy, healthy, and safe summer vacation. Be sure to keep reading and practicing your math facts to prepare for third grade!

THIRD GRADE – MEGAN PELLEGRINO & KAREN SABATINO

A great deal of learning and special events took 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 for success. The Eco-Fair showcased how resourceful and creative our students can be, and Go to School Night was a great success. Student Art work brought our hallways to life. Classes are now immersed in topics and class projects to wrap up our year. It is hard to believe that summer is around the corner!

Battle of the Books was a highlight of the year. Months of hard work paid off as students enjoyed competing for a school champion team. Sportsmanship demonstrated by our students was outstanding! The greatest result of the program is a noticeable love of reading, and an interest in authors that has emerged in the students. They are excited to find and read great books.

In Reading workshop, students reflected on their growth as a reader through a reading reflection journal. Students reflected on how their reading has grown, what strategies they implement in their everyday reading, the goals they have set and achieved as well as what excites them about reading. In writer's workshop, the students continued to craft their realistic fiction stories through much editing and revisions. Students utilized many of the tools learned throughout the year to help enhance their final piece of writing.

Students enjoyed learning about the presidents, our government and Washington D.C. in Social Studies. Each student researched 4 monuments, memorials, or historic places in our nation's capital. They designed a model of a giant sized postcards and wrote a letter highlight their research, findings and fun facts that they learned on their "virtual trip".

In our Math unit on fractions, we learned how to figure out equivalent fractions and to compare and order fractions, which proved quite challenging. We will finish out the school year with money, telling time, graphs and briefly touch upon multiplying and dividing greater numbers.

As a strong finish to a great year, students attended a field trip to Native Lands in Parsippany. Various groups of Native Americans join together in the form of a pow-wow to demonstrate their way of life for the students. Authentic housing, clothing, dances and animals will be on display. It is always an enjoyable, informative and memorable day. We're also looking forward to a day of fun at our annual 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. Thanks to all for a great year! We wish everyone a safe and wonderful summer!

FOURTH GRADE – MARY ANN FORCE, KIM MATERNA & 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 project 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. Fourth graders worked hard at depicting endangered animals, utilizing recyclable materials. It was educational and fun!

We will also be visiting 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 a hands-on experience by doing a beach and bay study. It is sure to be a great educational experience as well as enjoyment.

This month, students will learn what all matter consists of and be able to compare the basic properties of various materials to determine how they dissolve in water. They will learn about the atom, the smallest particle of matter, and understand that elements are substances made of just one kind of atom. Our reading focus this month is determining main idea and details, as students search for details about atoms. Throughout the unit, students have concluded that Science really does matter!

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 familias! You are cordially invited to attend the Spanish assembly which will be presented by students in grades one through four on Friday, June 7th at 9:00 a.m. Please refer to the memo that was sent regarding estimated performance times by grade level as well as directions for specific attire and/or props that may be needed. Any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at Lwitter@veronaschools.org. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Spanish assembly! The students have worked very hard in preparing for the annual Spanish performance.

First graders have been learning the names of fruits in Spanish and figuring out whether or not they will sink or float using Spanish terminology to make predictions. Second graders learned how to describe animals using colors and size adjectives to describe the animals. Third grade students learned about all the Spanish speaking countries in the world by listening to each other's projects and recording facts about the countries. Third grade students also learned the Spanish alphabet and how helpful it is for pronunciation of Spanish words. Fourth grade students learned how to name members of the family in Spanish and did a project in Spanish describing their families and their heritage. Buen trabajo a todas las estudiantes! Good job students!

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. Playing games like 'Go Fish' with picture cards with the target sound are easy to make and fun to play. 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. Students will enjoy an end of the year speech project! Remember to keep practicing over the summer!

RESOURCE ROOM – SARI SANTORO

Resource Center students have been busy getting ready for NJ ASK testing and Battle of the Books. Third graders read two novels, The Case of the Mummy Mystery and Civil War on Sunday, in the Resource Center for practice with summaries and detail questions. Reading the Cricket in Times Square as a whole school read aloud was also fun and this book is a battle book as well. Third graders have been applying the skills they learned this year in Reader's Workshop to their reading for the Battle of the Books project. Third graders have learned a lot of new strategies and are applying them to their independent reading.

For NJ ASK practice, third and fourth graders reviewed writing strategies and developed leads for many writing prompts similar to the prompts given as part of the testing. Students were excited to develop these leads and became very comfortable with developing creative leads in a short period of time.

LIBRARY – CORISA WALKER

It has been a very busy and exciting spring in the library! We had a wonderful visit with author Debbie Dadey, who has written over 140 books, including the Bailey School Kids series, which is one of our favorites! We are also preparing for our next author visit on June 18th from Lisa Funari-Willever, author of the Nicky Fifth series. We have been reading her books, and talking about her writing, and we are so excited to meet her! We will be winding down the year by thinking about our favorite books we have read this year, and planning our summer reading.

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. Curren and Mrs. D'Andrea 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

We have had a busy spring in Technology class. Our Kindergartens worked hard to create "All About Me" slide shows using Kid Pix. They have also been working on their keyboarding skills focusing on using both left and right hands to type the alphabet. Students have also been using Microsoft Word learning to type words and change text font, size and color. The first graders completed slide shows showing their knowledge of the Seasons. Students had to use drawing tools to create pictures and open text boxes to type a fact about each season. The first grade has also been working on keyboarding, keeping their hands on the home keys and using two hands for typing.

In second grade students used Google Maps and PowerPoint to create slide shows of where they live. They had to copy, paste and crop images of their country, state, town, etc. and add titles. Students then added designs and transitions to present their finished presentations to their class.

The third graders spent some time in class typing and editing their Buddy Biography books using Microsoft Word. Lots of hard work went into these and I am sure the finished products will show their

efforts. The 3rd grade also used PowerPoint to create slideshows comparing and contrasting vertebrates and invertebrates. Students added definitions, text boxes and images to complete these informative slide shows.

Our Fourth Grade classes completed virtual science labs to help them visualize concepts they were learning about the states of matter in science. We also had a poetry day where students were able to complete online activities to review different types of poems using personification, hyperbole, and alliteration. Students are currently working on PowerPoint slideshows taking an aspect of Technology and showing how it has changed and improved over time.

I want to thank the F.N. Brown family for the warm welcome I have received this year. It has been a great experience working with such great students. Have a wonderful summer!