

FalkTalk

Volume 14, Issue 1
October, 2003



*New faces and
new options have
made for an
exciting beginning.*

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From the Director

Change has become a part of our everyday lives. Planned or unplanned, coordinated or chaotic, strategic or abrupt, change is rarely easy to accommodate. Everyone has heard the phrase "the best laid plans..." We are immersed in change this year. September has challenged us greatly - the closing of streets we have always used to reach the school, the new car pool procedures we have initiated to improve the safety of the children at dismissal time, the unusual number of busses that transport our children to and from school - changes that have resulted in abrupt modifications to our usual procedures. We are not yet sure that these changes have all been for the good of the school. I have often been told that one should not worry about things that are beyond her/his control. I have found the adage to be untrue relative to the administration of the school. Every stakeholder involved with Falk School has experienced the frustration caused by the changes mentioned above. I am certainly no exception.

Fortunately, we can control some situations that involve the school. The faculty, the students and the parents have risen to the cause, and the beginning of the year has again been a wonderful educational experience. New faces and new options have made for an exciting beginning. Curriculum meetings have been very well attended, the Strategic Planning Committee is preparing a comprehensive report at the first PTA meeting, and the PTA is at full speed under the direction of new president Pam Greenhouse. The faculty is exploring new curricula, attending in-service sessions and conferences, and working diligently to make the school even greater. All of this activity is very satisfying.

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From the PTA President

Welcome to the 2003-04 school year! The PTA has had a busy summer and early fall, and it's my pleasure to be able to tell you about our activities.

Throughout the summer, a small group of dedicated parents and teachers, along with Dr. McDonald, worked hard to make the playground renovation

a reality. Novel ideas were generated to reduce the anticipated cost of the plans and to maximize the use of our outdoor spaces, while a design was developed to create areas that are safe, fun, innovative, aesthetically-pleasing, and environmentally sound. The plans include new, structured playground equipment for ages 5-12, as well as

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Calendar of Events

October 9	PTA Meeting 7:30 pm	November 3,4	No School
October 13	No School PAISTA Conference		Primary, Intermediate Parent Conferences
October 20-23	Middle School at McKeever	November 5,6	Falk Talent Show
October 30	End of First Quarter (P & I)	November 21	End of first Trimester (M)

From the Director (continued from page 1)

Involvement in Falk School activities not only sparks and supports friendships, it helps provide a large part of the foundation and uniqueness that make us Falk School.

I am personally excited about the possibility of upgrading our playground facilities during the year. I want to thank the parents who have made it possible for the PTA to begin the refurbishment of these facilities. I also want to inform you of the necessary "demolition" of some of the current equipment which will begin soon so that we can improve both the design and safety of these play areas. Certain pieces of the front and back playground will soon disappear so we can begin the installation of the newer safer equipment. We will also take care to upgrade the current equipment during this process. We hope that you will understand the "temporary inconvenience for permanent improvement".

There is much more to anticipate during 2003-2004. Stay tuned for future news. I thank you for your continued support.

– Dr. William McDonald

From the PTA President (continued from page 1)

equipment to encourage and support imaginative play; areas for quiet and contemplative outdoor time; room for running; and, of course, space for basketball, four-square, and other court activities. A phased-in approach to meeting the outdoor needs of all Falk School children, from K through 8, is being developed. As part of the University of Pittsburgh, there is a process we must follow in terms of facility improvements – and we are currently involved in that process. The full playground renovation plan is still taking shape, and will take some time to roll-out. I hope to be able to share more details with you soon. Thank you to everyone who has supported PTA fundraising activities, which are helping to create these new spaces for our children. Very special thanks to Tracey Evans, mother of Graham (Grade 4) and Emily (K) – for her dedication, commitment, and leadership on the playground renovation initiative.

On September 10th, the PTA hosted this year's New Family Welcome, which was combined with the Special Subjects Curriculum meeting. Annette Chiang, this year's PTA New Parent Representative, did a wonderful job coordinating the evening's events – with over 70 in attendance! As always, the Special Subjects teachers were both fascinating and entertaining in talking about, and demonstrating, their work with our children.

A number of PTA chair people have been especially busy during this first part of the school year and I'd like to recognize them –

1. Martina Wells and Sharon Semenza did a great job filling all of the room parent positions. Thank you to them, and to this year's room parents. May it be an easy year in terms of weather!

2. By the time you receive this newsletter, the Sally Foster campaign will be complete, having been coordinated by Deborah Laurie, in her first year as Sally Foster Gift Wrap Chairperson. We are grateful that she has taken on this role.
3. Jeanette Trauth and Tina Mattis are hard at work on the Falk Directory, which should be in your hands later this month.

We have a lot of fall fun to look forward to – the first General PTA Meeting on October 9th (see the Vice-President's column), the Multicultural Picnic slated for October 12th, and the annual Halloween Party, to name but a few.

I want to thank all of the parents who completed Parent Involvement Sheets. Involvement in Falk School activities not only sparks and supports friendships, it helps provide a large part of the foundation and uniqueness that make us Falk School. I am overwhelmed by the response, and the interest in getting involved.

I hope to see you at upcoming events, and look forward to keeping you informed of ongoing activities. Please feel free to contact me at any time – greenhousepk@upmc.edu or 412-422-2613.

– Pam Greenhouse

From the Strategic Planning Committee

As we begin a new year at Falk, I would like to bring you up to date on the strategic plan for Falk School. For the past two years a group of parents and faculty have been working on this plan for Falk's future. This process has provided us with a framework and a strategy to assess our needs currently and for the future.

The strategic plan is looking at areas of need that include safety and parking, classroom and administrative space, and an upgrade of the playground. The Strategic Planning committees include: Coordination Planning Committee (Chair- Keith Somers), Governance Committee (Chair- Sharon Semenza), Fundraising Committee (Nancy Del Presto), and the Facilities Committee (Co-Chairs- Tracey Evans and Matt Fineout).

The goal of this plan is to maintain the child-centered teaching environment that is a hallmark at Falk and to enhance the learning opportunities for the future. The strategic plan is looking at all of our needs and we hope to create a brighter future for all students.

We will be continuing this column monthly in the FalkTalk to keep you up to date with our progress. In addition, there will be a presentation about the strategic plan at the general PTA meeting on Thursday October 9th to share more details about the strategic plan.

- Keith Somers



The goal is to maintain the child-centered teaching environment that is the hallmark at Falk and to enhance the learning opportunities for the future.

Attention Falk School Families and Friends!!!!

We need your help in identifying a candidate for a **part time position** that will support the Falk School's strategic planning work. Please pass on the notice to people who may be interested. Extra copies are available in the office.

Resumes should be sent to keith.somers@verizon.net immediately.

Questions?

Call Steering Committee members: Keith Somers, Nancy Delpresto, Linda Metropulos, Cheryl Kubelick, Charlene Barnett or Dr. MacDonald.

Position Title:

Communications Coordinator

Hours:

This is a part-time consultant position for up to 20 hours a week.

Responsibilities include:

Support the development of a communications plan that lays the groundwork for a comprehensive identity campaign for Falk. This will include print and web-based communications. Work with a web designer to create, design, install and maintain a new Falk website which is a vibrant source of infor-

mation on the school and its philosophy, alumni materials, fund raising opportunities and events

Assist in the development of an annual fund-raising campaign. Responsibilities will include coordinating all aspects of this campaign including the development and maintenance of a data base of past and present Falk students and their families, drafting letters, mailing solicitations, acknowledging contributions and overseeing all other communications and financial reports necessary to this campaign.

Coordinate the logistics for all committee meetings (Steering, Fund-raising, Model/Research, Facility, and Governance), compile master file of all committee meeting minutes, communicate between committees via e-mail, phone or snail mail, provide support functions for the committees including typing, mailings, copying. Coordinate activities of the Falk School steering planning committees in cooperation with the Falk School PTA president and identify linkages.

A Bachelors degree and computer skills (Excel) desired along with experience in communications, public relations, education, and/or fund-raising.



**General PTA
Meeting
October 9, 2003
7:30pm**

General PTA Meeting

**October 9, 2003 7:30 P.M.
Falk Cafetorium**

All parents, faculty and staff are invited and encouraged to attend the first General PTA meeting of the 2003-2004 school year. The meeting will include the introduction of this year's Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Interns and an update on the Falk School Strategic Plan.

Dr. McDonald and Dr. Keith Somers, Falk parent and Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, will lead this presentation. They look forward to discussion, questions and continuing participation from the Falk community.

Child care for Falk students will be available. Light refreshments will be provided. Please come and support the committees that have been working hard to build the successful future of Falk School.

Hope to see you on October 9th!

Sally Foster Sale

Thank you to all families, faculty and staff who so kindly participated in this year's fundraiser!! We will soon have visible evidence of our efforts in fundraising. The Sally Foster Fundraiser delivery date is Wednesday, October 29 in the morning around 8:30-9:00. Volunteers for unloading and sorting the boxes are still needed. Please contact Debbie Laurie @ 412-624-5046 (work) or 412-331-3897 (home) to volunteer. Primary families should make arrangements to pickup their orders at the school. Enjoy your purchases and remember gift-wrap isn't just for wrapping gifts!

Thanks for your support!!!

Look for info on the Pizza Party coming along shortly.

– Debbie Laurie

Fundraising Corner

***Computer and Cell Phone Recycling Project
Nears \$5000***

To date, through our computer cartridge and cell phone recycling program we have earned nearly \$5000 in cash for our school playground project.

Thanks to all of you who are helping to fill the boxes near the main office to the brim! This is an ongoing project, so please continue to collect cartridges and cell phones from your home, place of business or from friends. Please let us know if you need any boxes for your place of business.

Thank you for your support and your cartridges!

***Send in your Boxtops!
The Fall Deadline is October 17th***

By clipping Box Top logos from participating General Mills products (visit www.boxtops4education.com for a complete list), the Falk School earns 10 cents for each Box Top we redeem. Money received from the Box Tops will be earmarked for the playground project.

Box Tops for the fall redemption period need to be turned into the main office (Attn: Nancy Glynn) by October 17th, although they can be accumulated and sent in all year round (so don't throw them out!).

***Use your Target Charge to Earn Cash
Donations for Falk***

TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION is an initiative designed by Target Stores to make cash donations to schools around the country. Every time you use your Target Guest Card, an amount equal to 1% of your purchases is donated to our school. Also, 1/2% of qualifying Target Visa purchases outside of Target stores or target.com will go to Falk. You can participate by:

- * Designating the Falk School on your Target Guest Card or Target Visa application. You can get an application at any Target store or at target.com.
- * If you already have a Target Guest Card, you can sign up for the School Fundraising program by calling 1-800-316-6142 or by visiting target.com. The Falk School ID number is 15303.

Once registered, Target will track purchases charged to participating accounts and donations will be distributed to the Falk School. We can allocate the fundraising dollars wherever they are needed most.

For more information on any of these fundraising initiatives, or to submit ideas for future fundraisers, please contact Nancy Glynn at 412.825.6545 or momalix@aol.com. Thank you for your support!

– Nancy Glynn

Music Notes

The new school year is off to a very musical start. The Intermediate Chorus is big and wonderful, with every Intermediate student signed up to be in the group. They sound great and are busy preparing for their first program in October. The instrumental program is also off to a great start. This program is open to every Falk student in grades 4-8 and includes one lesson a week during the school day and the opportunity to be in a band (or two!) We already have 80 students in the program and look forward to adding a few more before October. If your child is interested in signing up for the program, please contact me. The Intermediate Band rehearses every Friday at 8:00am and the Middle School Concert Band rehearses at 12:30 on Thursdays. Our Middle School Jazz Band rehearses on Mondays from 3:00-3:25.

We are also excited to offer two new music opportunities for our Middle School students. Ms. Daryl Godfrey is teaching a guitar class for all Middle School students as a part of their morning Humanities classes. Each child will take guitar classes for one of their cycles this year. A brand new MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORUS will begin in October. This group will meet at 8:00am on Monday mornings and will be directed by Falk parent Mary Catherine Dykhouse. We hope to see (and hear) a large group of Middle School singers---this is a wonderful opportunity for our students!

– Lee Ann Conover

Cross Country Wins

The Falk School Cross Country Team has started their second season with great attitude, lots of hard work and victories on the trails.

The highlight of the season so far was the team championship in the Falk School Invitational in which the girls placed first and boys second among the five participating schools. The team members are very dedicated and have attended many practices to achieve such a good result. The team has been invited to the largest cross-country meet in the region at Hartwood Acres on September 26, 2003 and will compete against over 700 other runners.

The formidable girls team consists of Katya Chancellor, Alexis Lambrou, Jodi Lincoln, Jill Pinsky, Stephanie Pinsky, Hannah Ridge, and Anna Grace Watt-Morse. The very competitive boys team consists of Francis Ahia, Scott Anderson, Dan Finegold, Seth Goldsmith, Derek Green, Geoff Keller, Simrath Randhawa, Jake Rubenstein, Craig Standley, Seth Weidman and Jacob Weinberg.

– Coach Mark Rubenstein



Middle School News

The middle school has had a smooth start to the 2003-2004 school year. Organization is a focus for the year, and to facilitate this, we have adjusted our schedule to allow an additional homeroom period at the end of the day. This time is devoted to helping our students gather the materials they need to complete homework and pass out any handouts or flyers that need to get home to parents. (Please ask your child, every so often, if there are any papers for you that are in their backpacks or organizers.)

The calendar is filling with events. The curriculum meeting in September was very well-attended. Our soccer teams are practicing and began their season with games against Winchester Thurston and Community Day. Our cross-country team is also practicing and participating in meets.

McKeever Planning is underway. The middle school will be away from Monday, October 20 to Thursday, October 23. They will not have school on Friday, October 24. A packet of forms has been sent home with each student; please complete and return them.

High school night is Wednesday, October 29. This event features area public and private schools, which many of our students will be attending upon completion of their eighth grade year at Falk. Parents and students of seventh and eighth graders are urged to attend. Often, previous Falk Students are there to help represent their respective high schools.

Organization poses a focus for the year, and to facilitate this, we have adjusted our schedule to allow an additional homeroom period at the end of the day.

Welcome to a new year in the computer room!

This column will cover the following topics (in case you want to skim down the page):

- Keyboarding
- Robotics
- Current Projects
- Donations
- Giant Eagle (Apples for the students program)



*Welcome to a
new year in the
computer room!*

Keyboarding requires consistency and persistence. Children need to be supervised on a daily basis when using a keyboarding program. I begin to see students on a daily basis in the 6th grade. Therefore, I teach Keyboarding to the 6th graders for the first two weeks of their cycle. After the first two weeks, parents are asked to monitor keyboarding in their homes each evening for 10 to 15 minutes. It's important that they are using a Keyboarding program and practicing the lessons rather than the games. Recently, a student who forgot to her daily keyboarding lesson asked me, "Mrs. Bianco, I was using the computer by E-mailing to my friends. Can that count as practicing keyboarding?" The answer is "no."

However, it's best to begin Keyboarding at an earlier age, even as early as grade 3. Therefore, I have a limited number of keyboarding CD's available to borrow. Simply get in touch with me at the telephone number or e-mail address listed below.

Mr. Daryl Davis (father of Sean) and I are in the process of introducing Robotics to Falk School in the form of a club. We have a limited amount of space, equipment, and adult help. Want to learn more? Try these web sites:

<http://www.usfirst.org/jrobotcs/flego.htm>

<http://www.firstlegoleague.org/nobanner.aspx?pid=11240>

If you'd like more information contact me at the telephone number or e-mail address listed below.

Current Classroom Projects:

6th grade- Began the year with a two week introduction to "Ultra Key." Students are expected to continue typing at home each evening for 10-15 minutes. This group moved on to a fun project in Microsoft Excel about Vampires. Students use formulas to calculate how many people are bitten by vampires and how many total vampires exist over a 25 week period. Week one began with one vampire and no people bitten. Week two continued with one person bitten resulting in two total vampires. Students converted the spreadsheet into a graph of their choice. These will be on a bulletin

board display near the computer room. 6th grade's last project will be a timeline of their lives using Kidspiration.

7th and 8th grade students are completing multimedia research projects about The History of Computers. Groups of students chose sub-topics such as Biographies, The Internet, Software, and The History of Computers in General. Each group chose a different final project. They could choose a PowerPoint presentation, a bulletin board in the hallway, a poster, a traditional paper report, or a time-line. All projects must include evidence of correct citations. Ms. Herward, our librarian, helped us research sites on the web, research from books, and to correctly complete citations. Finally, all groups must give an oral presentation about what they have learned.

Intermediate students have had some instruction about safety on The Internet, Computer Basics, and are now learning about Microsoft Excel, spreadsheets and graphs. Intermediate parents, please be sure to read above what I had to say about Keyboarding.

All primary classes began the school year with instruction about Internet Safety and Computer Basics. Presently, all classes are working on a variety of projects that use the KidPix software. These projects provide many classroom skills including: listening, following directions, and taking turns.

Each year, some of our kindergarten student find that using the mouse is more difficult than it looks. They must learn to hold the mouse in such a way that they don't get stuck next between two pieces of hardware (like the monitor and keyboard) or run out of room on the mouse pad. Kindergarten has enjoyed bringing home full color pictures of their completed projects.

1st graders are being introduced to projects that require two students, one computer, and one Kidpix project. The focus is on sharing, visual memory, patterning, and visual discrimination. For example, a recent project had students learn how to draw a tic-tac-toe diagram. Then, student "A" chose two stamps; one was an elephant and placed it in the top right-hand corner.

The other is a parrot and is placed in the center of the page. Student "B" must close his/her eyes while student "A" erases the stamps. Student "B" must remember what the stamp looked like and it's location. Then, they switch places. This can be made more difficult by adding more stamps and different locations.

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2nd graders are involved in a KidPix project about the story, "The Elephant's Child" by R. Kipling. Students use KidPix tools to draw many different scenes from this story that include written descriptions. Finally, students will use these drawings to compile a KidPix slide show.

The Falk Computer Gift Giving Program was created to enhance the computer room with software applications and other miscellaneous items. Contributions will be used to purchase specific items. This program is for any member of the Falk School community who wishes to make a monetary donation in honor of a faculty member, in commemoration of a birthday, an anniversary, or the birth of a child, in memory of a loved one or any other occasion. You may choose to have the honoree receive a decorative card acknowledging the gift and sender's name. Gifts will also be acknowledged in The FalkTalk. Further inquiries: Mrs. Bianco -- 412-648-8459.

We are, again, asking for your support of another very important and EASY fundraiser – the Giant Eagle Apples for the Students program. This program provides our school the opportunity to earn points towards valuable technology products just by shopping at Giant Eagle and registering your Advantage Card. The program begins on Sunday, November 3, 2003 through March 20th 2004.

Donating your points to the Falk School is easy to do – it takes only 3 steps:

- 1) Call 1-800-474-4777 or register at www.gianteagle.com.
- 2) Have your Advantage Card available.
- 3) Enter the Falk School ID # 0335.
- 4) Shop with your Giant Eagle Advantage Card!

Please contact Nancy Glynn, PTA Fundraising Coordinator at epidnwg@pitt.edu or momalix@aol.com or Barbara Bianco, Falk School Computer Specialist at bbianco@pitt.edu or 412-648-8459

– Barbara Bianco

Visit the Library Website

<http://tc.education.pitt.edu/library/> or search Google for Falk School Library. Ms. Herward maintains a website for the Falk School Library. The site includes information about the library staff, curriculum resources, class schedule, parent volunteers, policies and procedures, the Gift Book Program, new library materials, special events, MLA Work Cited stylesheet, the library catalog, and magazine collection.

Go to the Curriculum Resources links to see web pages for class projects and assignments. Ms. Herward and the classroom teachers collaborate to provide students with easy access to the resources needed for their projects. Each project's web page is unique but most include a description of the project, a list of print resources, and, when appropriate, links to Internet resources.

Library Staff and Volunteers

This year a library graduate student, Ms. Jennifer Foucher, joined the part-time library staff. Ms. Foucher has an undergraduate degree from Penn State University and began the MLS school librarian program in the School of Information Sciences at Pitt this fall. Two undergraduate work study students assist in the library as well: Renee Sinclair and Aaron Bumbarger.

Valuable support is provided by parent volunteers. Bonnie Gorscak and Beatriz Kanterewicz coordinate the Library Gift Book Program. Volunteers also assist with special projects such as the Library Book Fair and the library table at the May carnival.

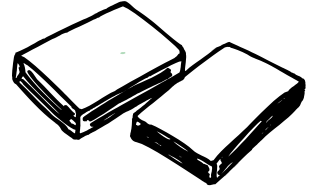
Title VI & II

Most years the school receives Title VI and II funds through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. At Falk the Title VI funds are used to expand the library collection. Title II funds address technology needs. This year the funds will be used to update encyclopedias and computer hardware. A selection of age appropriate print and online encyclopedias are being considered. Parent input is welcome.

Birthday and Gift Book Program

The library and the PTA coordinate a Gift Book Program as a means of expanding the library collection while commemorating special times and special persons: birthdays, holidays, grandparents, teachers, interns and sometime even pets. An appropriate bookplate is placed in each book. All Falk students, teachers, interns, and staff benefit from the continuous updating of the collection.

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*Visit the
Library Website:
<http://tc.education.pitt.edu/library>*



The Heartwood Program is a literature-based ethics curriculum for children.

Those students who have birthdays in the fall will be receiving letters inviting their families to participate in this program. Students with birthdays in the winter, spring and summer will receive information later in the year. Families may make donations at any time. Some families choose to make selections for siblings at the same time. Others make one book donation in honor of the family rather than individual books for each child. Write notes on the Gift Form as needed. Please keep in mind all dollar amounts are suggested donations.

Bonnie Gorscak and Beatriz Kanterewicz will coordinate this program with Ms. Herward. If you have any questions about the Birthday/Gift Book Program contact Ms. Herward (412-624-8010), Bonnie Gorscak (412-243-3672), or Beatriz Kanterewicz (412-521-7168).

Library Gifts

Thank you to the many students and families who donated books near the end of the school year: *Will Robinson, Brett Weingart, Rachel Weingart, Tessa Coulter, Ellie Deri-Sproull, Yette Loch-Temzelides, Miriam Brostoff, Chris Schmidt, Elana Slesnick, Emma Tulsy, Mark Bagnato, Sam Falk, Susannah Glick, Jessica Kurs-Lasky, Anna Watt-Morse, Alix Glynn, Rebecca Greenhouse, Greenhouse Family, Zachary Greenhouse, Joaquin Gonzalez, Logan Styche, Peter and Alexis Lambrou, Jonathan Mattis, Colin Rutenbar, Gabrielle Rubinstein, Elizabeth Martinson, Drew McDermott, Julian Einhorn, Dorothy Krug, Kyle Krug, Maggie DelPresto, Nancy Del Presto, The Simmons Family, DeMarcus Simmons, Devin Simmons, Patrick Ryan, Dr. Meyer Sonis, Andrew Marcus, and Zia Kandler.*

Book Selection

Students at Falk School have a wide range of reading interests and abilities. Every effort is made to assist students in making appropriate reading choices. Please contact Ms. Herward if you have concerns about your child's library book selections. Keep in mind parents may check books out of the library. See information under Heartwood Program for most convenient times.

Library Computer Network

The library network has six student search stations, a circulation station, a librarian workstation, and the server. The library uses Follett Library Software automation system. A new component to the program allows access to the library catalog over the Internet. A link to the catalog website can be found on the Library Homepage.

The network is connected to the Pitt network and the Internet. The library computer network is governed by the school technology policies including the Acceptable Use Policy. The Internet is accessed for school research. Ms. Herward together with content area teachers design web pages for school projects and select web sites for student use. Students' Internet use is closely supervised.

The Heartwood Program

The Heartwood Program is a literature-based ethics curriculum for children. The program uses illustrated books from representative cultures around the world to help children understand seven attributes: courage, loyalty, justice, respect, hope, honesty, and love. The stories are primarily folklore, legends and hero tales. The books are read aloud in class and then discussed. The different attributes are featured according to a schedule throughout the school year. Parents are encouraged to read the books aloud with their children. Many of the books are available at the public library. Falk School Library has most of the main books and many of the supplementary books. Stop in the library after school Tuesday through Friday between 3:10-4:00 or before 8:30 to arrange to borrow books. Contact Ms. Herward (624-8010) for a complete list of the Heartwood books.

October -- Main Books for Courage

Abiyoyo by P. Seeger
Very Last First Time by J. Andrews
The Boy Who Held Back the Sea by L. Hart
Following the Drinking Gourd by J. Winter
The Flame of Peace by D. Lattimore
The People Who Hugged Trees by D. Rose

Supplemental Books For Courage

The Bridge Dancers by C. Saller
Call It Courage by A. Sperry
The Courage of Sara Noble by A. Dalgliesh
El Chino by A. Say
The Firebringer by M. Hodges
Mikko's Fortune by L. Kingman
Momotaro, the Peach Boy by L. Kingman
Messa's Fish by N. Luenn
St. George and the Dragon by M. Hodges
The Samurai's Daughter by R. San Souci
The Sleeper by D. Day

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November -- Main Books for Loyalty

The Legend of the Bluebonnet by T. DePaola
The Seven Chinese Brothers by M. Mahy
Teammates by P. Golenbock
The Sailor Who Captured the Sea D. Lattimore
Cornrows by C. Yarbough
The Nightingale by H. C. Anderson

Heartwood Supplementary Books

Buffalo Woman by P. Goble
The Big Wave by P. Buck
Brothers: A Hebrew Legend by F. B. Freedman

Doodle Flute by D. Pinkwater
The Mousehole Cat A. Barber
Rosie and the Yellow Ribbon by T. DePaola
Summer of My German Soldier by B. Greene
Two Pair of Shoes by P. L. Travers
The Voice of the Great Bell by Hearn retold
 by M. Hodges
The Wave by M. Hodges
The Weaving of a Dream by M. Heyer
The Whipping Boy by S. Fleishman

– Linda Herward

Fall Sports Schedules

**Falk School
 Middle School Cross Country Schedule 2003 ***

Date	School (Hosting)	Location	Teams Invited	Meet Time	Leave Class	Leave School	Return Time
10/01	Comm. Day	Schenley Park	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
10/15	Sewickley		CDS, Falk Ellis, Sewickley	3:30	2:05	2:15	5:30
10/22	Falk	Schenley Park	Falk	3:30	2:40	2:50	5:00

There will be more meets added to this schedule.

Coach: Mark Rubinstein (412) 391-4305
 Assistant Coach: Lindsay O’Sullivan (412) 383-9607
 Athletic Director: Laura Hunt (412) 624-8017

**Falk School
 Middle School Soccer Schedule 2003***

Date	School		Teams	Game Time	Leave Class	Leave School	Return Time
10/02	Sewickley	Away	6th Only	4:30		3:30	6:15
10/09	St. Edmunds	Away	A/B	3:30/4:30	2:35	2:45	6:00
10/15	Sewickley	Away	6th Only	4:00	2:50	3:00	5:45
10/16	Comm. Day	Away	Boys Only	4:00		3:15	5:30
10/17	Winchester	Away	A/B	3:30/4:30	2:35	2:45	6:00

Coach: Donald Wallace
 Assistant Coach: Dan Pihlblad
 Athletic Director: Laura Hunt (412) 624-8017

** Important Note to Parents/Guardians:*

Please note the return time to Falk. You should be at Falk ready to pick-up your child prior to the arrival of the bus at Falk from the game. In addition, if your child will not be riding the bus back to Falk a written note signed by his or her parent/guardian must be given to the coach before boarding the bus to go to the game.

Published by the Falk School PTA

FalkTalk

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412-268-8723

Annual Falk School Talent Show

The Annual Falk School Talent Show will be held at Falk on Wednesday November 5, 2003 for the student /daytime performance, and Thursday November 6, 2003 in the evening for family and friends! This year promises to be even bigger and better. If your child and/or you are planning to participate, look for information being mailed very soon concerning the sign up procedure and this year's rules. One thing we wish to firmly stress is the limited number of acts that will be selected, upon evaluation of the performances. The acts should be tasteful and appropriate for audience members from kindergartners to grandparents. Donations for the Talent Show are in support of the Sunstein Scholarship, and can be made at any time. Don't forget that the forms for the Talent Show program ads, in support of your families performer, will be in the mailing as well! We can't wait to see what our talented Falk families will come up with this year. Hope to see you there!!!

– *Charlene Barnett*

Falk Multicultural Picnic

Sunday October 12, 2003

3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Forest Hills Park/Playground

All Falk families and staff invited!

Rain or shine!

Join your Falk friends for a celebration of cultural diversity and ethnic heritage! This park has basketball courts, a ball field, and a playground so sports equipment is welcome.

Each family is asked to bring a dish to share, preferably one which reflects your ethnic heritage or one you wish to celebrate. Please bring enough for 10-12 people, plus serving spoon, and your own beverages and silverware. If you would like, bring a card describing your dish.

Information or suggestions: Jane Dirks
(412-242-5166 or chispadirks@yahoo.com).

Directions: (take Forest Hills exit off 376; down Ardmore Blvd., left on Braddock Rd. at 3rd light, immediate right into park)