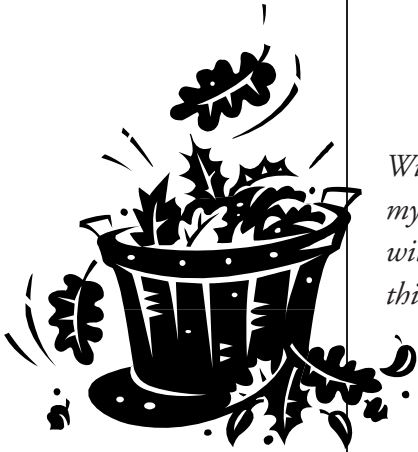


FalkTalk

Volume 16, Issue 2
November 2005



Will I embarrass myself, and worse, will my children think I'm not cool?

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From the Director

Dear Falk School Family Members,

The nice thing about a "rookie year" is that everything I am experiencing I'm going through for the first time. My first Curriculum Night, my first PTA Executive Committee Meeting, and my first unloading of the busses from McKeever have now been expanded to include my first Halloween. My years of experience have taught me that parent meetings and issues of transportation, although very important, pale when compared to the events surrounding the celebration of this holiday event. Most importantly, as the new director, what should I wear?

So, the weekend preceding our Halloween celebration found my wife and me searching the Monroeville Mall for the ultimate costume statement. Why the concern? Imagine that you are trying to do something that you ordinarily wouldn't attempt—with your children present. All those repressed insecurities

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From the PTA President

I think it's safe to say that the school year is well underway.

I want to start by thanking our PTA Vice President, Martina Wells, for having organized our October 20 General PTA Meeting. Each year I am wowed by the poise, humor, esprit de corps, and intelligence of our MAT's as they introduce themselves to the Falk Community. They are so consistently impressive that I have to believe Falk is attracting the crème de la crème of the Pitt Class.

Listening to these young teachers reminded me how fortunate we are at Falk to have our faculty. My Dad was a school teacher. Because of him and my general love of learning, I have always had a real reverence for teachers. I think it is the most

important work a person can do. On behalf of the parents, I want to emphasize to the Falk Faculty how much we appreciate your dedication and service to our children. It is a labor of love. Our building may need some sprucing up, but the work that you do within these less-than-state-of the art walls is cutting edge and heroic.

While I am thanking some unsung heroes, I'd like to give a round of applause to two people who have been working tirelessly for the PTA behind the scenes for many years – Sharon Berk and Rob Kass – the editors of FalkTalk. Sharon has been editing FalkTalk for four years and Rob, longer than he wants to admit. Sharon lays out the entire

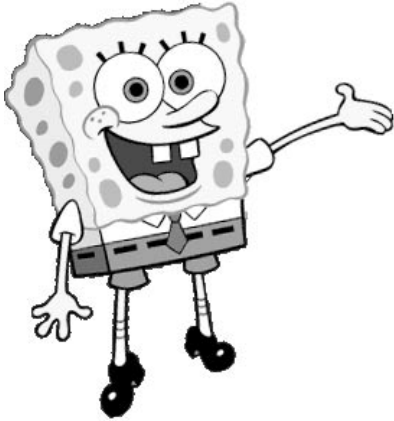
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Calendar of Events

Nov 24,25	No School - Thanksgiving Break	Jan 30	End of 2nd Quater (P, I)
Dec 7	End First Trimester (M)	Feb 9	No School – Clerical
Dec 23-Jan 2	No School – Winter Recess	March 6-10	No School – University Spring Break
Jan 13	No School – Primary K Applicant's Visitation Day	March 20	End of 2nd Trimester
Jan 16	No School – Martin Luther King Holiday	April 10	End 3rd Quarter (P, I)

From the Director (continued from page 1)

held in check since those middle school dances, burst forth with a fury you can surely imagine. Will I embarrass myself, and worse, will my children think I'm not cool? Now imagine that you have 280 children. As with all major decisions, especially those involving dress, I consulted with my fashion expert. We agreed that my selection must show taste, not be too scary for the kindergartners, but most importantly be cool. The choice was obvious; I would be "Sponge Bob."



*The choice was obvious;
I would be "Sponge Bob."*

On Monday morning, I dressed as usual in my sport coat and slacks. Sponge Bob (including special booties and yellow mask) was safely tucked into a large garbage bag. As I walked into the school with Laurie Williams, she asked why I wasn't in costume. She was allowed to ask because I was walking into the building with the "Jill" half of "Jack and Jill." I simply smiled and pointed knowingly at the garbage bag. All will be revealed. As we entered, the halls were filled with witches, spacemen, ghosts and goblins. Every adult I encountered was in costume. With renewed confidence, I slipped into my bathroom a lowly director but emerged as "Sponge Bob." The response was impressive. Younger children were delighted, middle schoolers were as impressed as middle schoolers allow themselves to be impressed, and teachers and parents were polite (at least to my face) and the day was marvelous.

I think the approach to Halloween encapsulates the Falk School approach to much of what we do and who we are. There is recognition that this is a special day for our students and that it is alright to look and act differently. Instead of limiting our enthusiasm, we celebrate the special nature of the occasion. The day was one of concerts, contests, parades and the carnival. In the gym, parents supported by fifth grade students provided entertainment for the primary and intermediate students. It was the epitome of a school community and a linkage of all of our various publics into a celebration of who we are. It was a day when a director could become Sponge Bob. Next major event, Thanksgiving—I wonder, does Mall sells turkey costumes?

– Wendell McConaha, Director

A Message from the PTA President (continued from page 1)

newsletter, chooses graphics and images, and then sends it to Rob. Rob reads through it, edits grammar and sentence structure, negotiates some less-than-diplomatic pieces from contributors, and keeps everyone on schedule. When Rob sends his edits, Sharon writes any last minute announcements and generally adds the finishing touches. They are poetry in motion. Thank you, Sharon and Rob. I love the afternoon FalkTalk arrives. I grab a big cup of coffee, hide away and enjoy!

We also owe a big thank you to Barb Bianco and Room Parent Co-Chairs Helen Vlachos and Beth Silver for organizing a fabulous Halloween Bash with the help of a covey of parent volunteers. And again, thank you to Tina Mattis and Jeanette Trauth for the great looking Directory. As we go to press, Rhonda Wasserman is hard at work organizing the Talent Show, and Deb Laurie is getting ready for her Sally Foster deliveries. Remember you can still order Sally Foster online.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the work of Nancy Glynn in fundraising. Nancy provided an excellent guide in last month's FalkTalk for effortless fundraising opportunities. I hope everyone read it and keeps it in mind – box tops, Giant Eagle Apples for students, computer cartridge recycling, and rebates from Target, Office Depot and the Carnegie Museums. Thank you, Nancy.

Please feel free to communicate with me. I welcome your ideas and suggestions.

– All the best,
Sharon Semenza, PTA President
saswsr@aol.com

Correction

In last month's newsletter, we identified an instrument played at the Multicultural picnic as a "prin." The actual term is "prim."

PTA Treasurer's Report

During the first two months of the school year, the PTA has raised funds from dues collections, rebates from cartridges and rebates from Target. Many families have still not paid 2005-2006 dues (\$20 per family per school year), and reminders will be sent out soon to those families.

In these first two months, the PTA has funded, among other things, the following items or events for the school:

- for the Middle School, the "Challenge By Choice" team-building program
- for the Intermediate, the field trip to Simmons Farm
- for the Intermediate, the picnic permit for the North Park field trip
- for Primary, the field trip to Reilly's Farm
- for Primary and Intermediate, the Halloween Party at Falk
- for Primary, supplies for its art studio
- child care and refreshments for the New Parent Welcome, Curriculum Meetings and general PTA Meeting
- the picnic permit for the Multicultural Picnic.



In future editions of FalkTalk, we will continue to keep you apprised of noteworthy expenditures made by the PTA.

– Greg Weingart, PTA Treasurer

News from the Nurse

Since the last Falk Talk, when over one-third of students were missing health forms, many forms have been returned. Thank you! Fifteen percent of students are still missing at least one health-related form, however. Is one of those students yours? Please send any outstanding forms into school as soon as possible. Remember, these forms are mandated by the Pennsylvania School Health Act and also help us to provide the best care here in school.

From Monday, October 24, through Thursday, October 27, I "traded spaces," from school nurse to camp nurse, when I accompanied the Middle School for their annual days at McKeever Environmental Learning Center in Sandy Lake, Pa. The Primary and Intermediate students and their teachers, the office staff, and I are all very grateful to the following parents (and former Falk parents!) who volunteered their time to ensure Health Room coverage in my absence:

- Helene Berman, mother of Ericka Berman
- Bettina Dixon, mother of Christian and Claire Mazur
- Nancy DelPresto, mother of former students Paul, Maggie, and Jeff DelPresto

- Ann Kelton, mother of former students Laura and Ricky Hritz

In addition, I appreciate the time and care provided by Wilma Schmidt, mother of Chris Schmidt, who also volunteers in the Health Room. Many thanks to all of you!

I welcome any parent with health-related experience to get in touch with me concerning volunteer opportunities. On-the-job training provided!

We are quickly moving into cold and flu season. No one wants any student to miss school due to illness, but, unfortunately, it happens. Please keep your child home if he or she is experiencing vomiting/diarrhea, has a temperature of 100° or greater the evening before or the morning of a school day, or is simply not feeling well enough to participate in a normal school day. Above all, if you suspect that your child may be contagious, please keep him or her home in order that the entire Falk community may stay as well as possible.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call.

– Susan Sholtis RN, School Nurse
412-624-8023

P.S. DON'T FORGET THOSE FORMS!!!

Holiday Gift Shop

The Holiday Gift Shop is approaching soon. It will be Monday December 5th and Tuesday December 6th, 8:30 - 6:00 both days. The Gift Shop has been minimized this year to focus most on the shopping needs of primary and intermediate students as well as to shift emphasis to The Alternative Gift Shop. For this reason it is very important for children to remember their money or checks made out to Falk PTA on the day that they shop. We will not be doing any holding. Primary students will shop on Monday December 5th and Intermediate students will shop on Tuesday December 6th. There is a chance some students in Intermediate will be allowed to shop on Monday if they bring in their funds. Middle School students will be allowed to shop during their study halls and other times that they are free.



The Holiday Gift Shop will be the only place to shop for brand new Falk apparel and gift items to celebrate Falk's 75 years (Falk was established in 1931).

Holiday Gift Shop Volunteers

If you have not already signed up to work at the gift shop or to help set-up on Sunday December 4th, it may not be too late. Contact me at josaboma@msn.com. Parents who help set-up do get first dibs on the merchandise, including a preview of the new apparel!

Falk School Apparel

The Holiday Gift Shop will be the only place to shop for brand new Falk apparel and gift items to celebrate Falk's 75 years (Falk was established in 1931). There will be sweatshirts in assorted colors, long-sleeve shirts, tie-dyed shirts, fleece vests, fleece scarves and headbands, ski caps and beanies, travel coffee mugs and gym bags. Oh, and did I mention there will be gym shorts for girls with FALK written you know where? A price list and details will be sent home at the end of the month. The quality of all the items is guaranteed to be excellent. Don't miss this special opportunity to outfit your entire family in Falk gear.

Alternative Gift Shop

Oh what a difference a year makes! The Alternative Gift Shop is close to being able to open for business thanks to all the legwork that was done last year. I am enclosing an order form for the current 2005 offerings. We have added 6 new gifts including groceries to The Kosher Super Pantry, a native plant to replace an invasive species through the Frick Environmental Center, a theater ticket for an underprivileged youth to attend a performance at Prime Stage Theatre, a blanket for a woman at Bethlehem Haven Women's Shelter, and a toiletry kit for a resident of EECM's Men's Shelter. The most popular gifts from last year will remain. The Middle School Service Committee has grown a lot since last year and currently has 21 active student members. They are eagerly waiting to fill your orders after the Thanksgiving Break. More information will be sent home or mailed as the time approaches. Please peruse the order form now to see the exciting gifts available.

– Kim Lincoln

Winter Solstice

Jodi Lincoln is starring in the play *Winter Solstice* in December. It is a play that was written by a local playwright and is performed every 5 years. It is being produced by The Edgewood Foundation and performed at The Edgewood Club by mimeradio.org theater company. It is a holiday play appropriate for Intermediate students and older. It is not religious in that there is no mention of Jesus or God but it does have the premise that

Santa Claus is actually a regular person who has another job throughout the year. In the play it is a retired driver's ed teacher who is passing the torch of gift bearer to a cynical woman reporter. It will be December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, and 10th at 8 PM. Tickets can be reserved at PROArts: 412 394-3353. More information on the play, including the first scene, can be found at www.edgewoodfoundation.org.

– Kim Lincoln

Primary News

The Primary Team had a great time on their field trip to Reilly's Farm! Many thanks to the PTA for funding this fun trip. We also loved the Halloween festivities and carnival, as always, and appreciate both the hard work Ms. Bianco put into planning it and the PTA for their financial support.

The primary rooms have been finding ways to invite our new director to our rooms to get to know us. Dr. McConnaha visited Room 111 and read the book "A Fine, Fine School" by Harry Bliss. Room 111 invited him back again to answer questions (18 questions, in fact!) and they now know a lot about their director. Did you know that Dr. McConnaha has a dog named Cleo, his favorite color is blue, and his favorite place to vacation is in Italy? Room 116 is planning to have Dr. McConnaha come be a "guest chef" on one of our cooking days, and Room 115 is also planning a special visit. Look for reports on these visits in the next Falk Talk. Room 112 played a trick on him, described below!

Kindergarten Plays a Trick on Dr. McConnaha

One Monday afternoon during Project Time, the kindergarten children were visited by Lowly Worm, a character from Richard Scary's books. Lowly worm was lonely and asked the children if they could make him some worm friends. They said yes and soon the worm friends were made, however, there was a problem. The worms were hungry. They really wanted to find some apples. So the children took the worms on an apple hunt on our patio. The worms found apples in Dr. McConnaha's window.

Now we had another problem, how could we get the apples for our worms without Dr. McConnaha knowing that they were gone? The children thought about the problem and decided that if they used paints to mix the colors of apples, they could paint some that would look just like the ones on Dr. McConnaha's windowsill. So they mixed and painted, and Dr. Krakowski showed the children how to use wire to make the paper apples stand up. When the paper apples were ready, the children and their worm puppets snuck onto the patio, reached into Dr. McConnaha's window and switched the real apples with the paper ones.

A day later, Dr. McConnaha came into our room and said that he was hungry and when he went to bite into his apple discovered it was only paper! He asked if we had seen anything suspicious since we share the patio space. We replied that our worms had in fact taken the apples to eat. We asked if he would mind if we kept the real ones for our worms and gave him our paper ones to keep. He said, "Yes, I would like that." The real apples are long gone, but the paper ones can still be seen on his windowsill today!

The merriment the children experienced was contagious. The children have a special connection to Dr. McConnaha and smile whenever they see him. One child enjoyed this experience so much that the next day he asked if we could play another trick on "the boss".

– The Primary Team



One child enjoyed this experience so much that the next day he asked if we could play another trick on "the boss".

Library News

Online Resources on Library Website

<http://tc.education.pitt.edu/library> or search Google for Falk School Library.

The library subscribes to Britannica Online School Edition. This outstanding online resource is accessible from all school computers and your home computers. The first time you use the resource you will need to login. The user name is falk (all lower case) and the password is school (all lower case). New this year is the Gale Virtual Reference Library, a collection of reference books in ebook format. The books currently available are UXL Encyclopedia of Biomes, UXL Encyclopedia of Water Science, UXL Complete Health Resource, UXL Complete Life Science Resource, and UXL Encyclopedia of Science. The first time you use the site you will be asked for a password. The password is school. To access these resources go to the link on the library homepage for Online Resources.

Book Circulation

The Primary and Intermediate level students have library class once a week and have an opportunity to check books out of the library about every two weeks during library class. Students are welcome to drop-in to borrow books whenever Ms. Herward or a library assistant is available to assist them. The best time is between 8:00 and 9:00 am.

The Primary level library class schedule is Tuesday – room 112, Wednesday – room 115, Thursday – room 111, and Friday – room 116. The Intermediate level schedule is Monday – room 222, Tuesday – room 224, Thursday – room 221, and Friday – room 225. Students in kindergarten may have three books checked out at a time, primary levels 1 & 2 may have four books, and intermediate and middle school students may have five books checked out.

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The loan period is generally two weeks. A date due card is placed in the pocket usually found in the front of the book. The last date on the date due card indicates when the book is due. There are no fines for late books. Students are encouraged to return books so that others may borrow them. Books may be renewed if others are not waiting for the book. Students need to return their books in order to get other books. It is helpful to have a special place at home to keep library books. If a class missed a library book circulation day it will usually be rescheduled for the next library class time.



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

Congratulations to Falk Summer Readers

Many students participated in summer reading programs at the Carnegie Library: Jacob Stuligross, Maya Roma, Maya Frizzell, Fiona Berk, Connor Mowry, Anna Okada, Elizabeth Smith, Olivia Ames, Kai Shaikh, Parker Shatkin, Jordan Abbott, Victoria Yang, Amanda Conwell, Jacob Berkman, Harrison Smith, Talia Roma, Rebecca Tsapis Mosse, Timothy Pugh, Vinay Umapathy, Lucille Berk, Elizabeth Siefert, Maddie Mays, Anna Wang, Juliet Supowitz, Lucas Ochoa, Sidney Ridge, Amrita Singh, Joshua Scherrer, Sascha Rojtas, Anna Swarts, Bani Randhawa, Cindy Li, Joshua Grail, Benjamin Stern, Katherine Smith, Nana Okada, Benjamin Hsiung, Aveeka Vats, Avery Feingold, Taro Sekikawa, Nancy Cai, Tara Lee, Anna Stuligross, Leigh Jackson, Helena Nichols, Adi Krupski, Sophia Rosenfeld, and Clara Stuligross. The above names were provided to the library by the Carnegie Library. Apologies for possible errors and omissions. Notify Ms. Herward with corrections and additions for the next Falk Talk.



Birthday/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 sometimes 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.

Those students who have birthdays in the fall will soon 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 or email Ms. Herward at Herward@pitt.edu. Please keep in mind all dollar amounts are suggested donations. Information, book lists, and forms will be available on the library web site.

Dinnie Goldring and Niki Gorecka will coordinate this program with Ms. Herward. If you have any questions about the Birthday/Gift Book Program contact Ms. Herward (412-624-8010), Dinnie Goldring (412-363-4089), or Niki Gorecka (412-241-5416).

Library Gifts

Thank you to the many students and families who recently donated books: Emma Ries, *Dolphins at Daybreak* and *Twister on Tuesday* by Mary Pope Osborne, October 2005; Deborah Brandon, miscellaneous used books, November 2005, and Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Moss, grandparents of Josh and Adam Somers, in honor of their mother's birthday, Dr. Deborah Moss, October 26, 2005: *Diary of a Spider* by Doreen Cronin, *Tigress* by Nick Dowson, *Guide to Dinosaurs: A Thrilling Journey Through Prehistoric Times* by David Lambert, *Judy Moody Declares Independence* by Megan McDonald, *Toad Rage* by Morris Gleitzman, and *Akiko: The Training Master* by Mark Crilley.

– Linda Herward

Music Notes

This is a busy time for Falk's musicians. The Intermediate Chorus presented their first program of the year when they sang for the Primary students on Halloween. They did a great job! More performances are ahead for Falk's musicians as we prepare for our annual Talent Show which will be held on Nov. 15th. Our Middle School Chorus will be presenting their first concert on Nov. 18th. We will be singing for our neighbors at the VA and have been invited to stay for lunch.

Once again, the Pitt Jazz Symposium sent us a guest artist to perform for our Middle School and Intermediate students. This year we met and heard Jazz legend, James Moody. Mr. Moody, a tenor saxophonist, is a Grammy award winner who has performed with Dizzy Gillespie, Thelonius Monk and Manhattan Transfer, to name a few. It is a wonderful experience for our students to hear live performances from musicians of this stature. We are grateful to Nathan Davis and Harry Clark for making Falk School a part of this campus event.

The German department, through Falk parent Clark Muenzer (Maya-Middle School and David-alumnus) is providing all Falk students with a wonderful musical opportunity on Nov. 10th. Ms. Susanne Ortner from Augsburg, Germany will perform in concert for all our students and will present a Master Class for our clarinet students. Ms. Ortner is a high school music teacher in Augsburg and has also taught Klezmer and clarinet at the University of Augsburg. She has recently toured Israel with her Klezmer ensemble and is a widely known in Bavaria for her Chamber Music work as well as her solo performances. Falk is honored to host Ms. Ortner as she visits the United States for the first time.

– Lee Ann Conover



Jazz legend James Moody performs for the Middle School and Intermediate students.

Art News

New Art Displays

Our Favorite Colors

Kindergartner's collages and paintings of their favorite colors are on display in the front hallway. They brought in a special object/treasure of their favorite color and included it in their collages. Come and read what they said about their work.

At the Beach (and Other Watery Places)

First and second graders' oil pastel paintings of a favorite beach or water vacation site are on display in the front hallway stairwells outside their classroom (room 115).

The Colors of Us

111's (first and second grade) self-portraits are on display in the art studio. After reading the children's book, *The Colors of Us*, they mixed black, white, yellow and red paints together to match their own skin color on their hands and then painted it on their self-portrait drawing. 115 and 116 also did this activity. Their work will soon be up in the front stairwells outside their classrooms.

"Dream" Rooms

6th grade students (Cycle One) took on the role of interior designers and constructed three-dimensional, small scale "Dream" rooms. They are on display in the case outside of room 115.

Sunflower Paintings

Fourth and fifth graders in rooms 224 and 225 studied Vincent Van Gogh and created impasto paintings of sunflowers. They are on display in both second floor stairwells.

Action Figure Sculptures

Inspired by the sculptures of Edgar Degas and the figure sculptures of parent, Eric Rose, the 6th graders (Cycle One) created their own action figure sculptures. They are on display in all of the stairwells on the radiators.

Please stop by and enjoy the work!

– Pam Krakowski
Stephanie Lind, student teacher



*Please stop by and
enjoy the work!*

Some interesting things going on in the Intermediate Team

Library

At Library you can get five books out. In Library, Ms. Herward is teaching about how to search for a book on the computer. Thank you Ms. Herward for letting us use the Library for Falk Talk!

– Madison Fisher from Room 221

Gym

This year in gym there are new games or physical activities like learning volleyball and more fun sports. This way we will want to participate and have more fun and maybe play on a team.

– Hannah Famili for Room 225

Art

In art this year we are having a great time making bright colorful flowers. We are learning about detailed spots that we might want to include. We are also learning different techniques like stained glass and more!

– Hannah Famili for Room 225

Social Studies

Social studies is a great way to learn more interesting facts and more about the continent or islands we have chosen as the background for our play. Each group picks a continent and finds out everything there is to know about it and puts it on a big piece of white paper. We are having lots of fun!

– Hannah Famili for Room 225

Language Arts in 224 & 225

In Language arts (or LArts as we call it) we are working on /sh/ sounds and how you spell them. We will have a test on Thursday, and I find it surprising how many ways you can spell /sh/. As we have extra-long periods this year we can do another activity in the 2nd half of the class. We did "If I Could Be..." poems once and the last activity in LArts was making Halloween cards for the children in Children's Hospital. I enjoy this class and assume that other people feel the same.

– Noah Kahrs, Room 225

Computers in 224 & 225

In Computer class we are working on researching a subject we want to know about using Google and other search engines. We have to brainstorm questions and look up synonyms using Microsoft Word's Thesaurus and then use keywords to search in Google. I don't know what this is for, but I think it will be big.

– Noah Kahrs, Room 225

Gym in 221 and 222

In Gym we are learning about volleyball. Now we are playing with a beach ball. Our gym teacher modified it so we can play. We are in 222 and 221 and we play inside the gym on Tuesdays and Fridays. I like it because it's fun and we learn all the rules. I think we are learning because our gym teacher, Ms. Hunt used to play and it's her favorite sport so she wants us to learn. Ms. Hunt put up badminton nets and we pick partners and there are 4 people in a group.

– Vinod Rajakumar from Room 222

Halloween

At Falk we had a Halloween party. There was candy, a sing-a-long, a carnival and chorus. It was a fun time. The activities were marshmallow relay, jumping rope, scary stories, a bubble gum contest, and weighing a pumpkin.

– Madison Fisher from 221

Halloween is a fun holiday that even Falk School celebrates. We first have intermediate sing to primary, then primary goes to the Gym and plays Halloween games while the fifth grade runs the booths. The Fourth Grade does a sing-a-long.

– Reporting from room 224: Liza Plakseychuk

Social Studies from 221 and 222

In Social Studies we are studying flight. We first make a letter to our parents all about flight. Then we edit and revise with someone. Then we make a rough draft of a postcard. Then we make a final copy of the postcard with a picture. We have Social Studies at 1:55 p.m., last period. We do this to increase our knowledge of flight. I am on my rough copy of the post card.

– Brett Weingart from 222



Social studies is a great way to learn more interesting facts and more about the continent or islands we have chosen as the background for our play.

Math

In Math class we are studying multiplication and division, and we are occasionally doing tests. We are also doing fact families. We start everyday at 9:40 a.m. so we can learn and have fun. I think Math is really fun. I am really enjoying it.

$$9 \div 3 = 3$$

I hope that I will grow up to be good at and like Math. I like Math now especially because I think it's a really cool subject and you learn a lot from it.

– Reporting on Third Grade Math
Olivia Perfetti

Language Arts in 221/222

In 221 and 222 language Arts, we start at 9:05. We are doing Reading Workshop. We are doing Connections Writings. Third grade does one a week. Fourth grade does two a week. We are also doing projects like letters to the author and a board game on a book.

Chorus

In Chorus we just performed the Halloween concert for the primary. We sang 6 songs at the concert. We had a cast party on 11-2-05. We had Krispy Kreme donuts.

Paper Cranes

At Falk we made 682 paper cranes since last year. Ms. Scherrer read a story to us about Sadako. The legend is that if you make 1,000 paper cranes your wish will come true. We are going to send them all to Japan to the monument for Sadako. It says: "This is our cry, this is our prayer, peace in the world."

– Madison Fisher reporting from Room 221

224 and 225 Science

In 224 and 225 Science is going well. We are in the plant unit in 225's classroom and one class or the other goes everyday. We recently grew plants from lima beans, (each plant having something special done to it), watched a video and made clay plants with the things we learned. It is being taught by Ms. Metcalf.

– From 224 Patrick Carroll

221 and 222 Science

In 221 and 222 Science is off to a great start. We are studying trees and the Falk outdoor environment. When we go out we use our senses to draw and write about what we see, hear, feel and smell. It can change every day. We also did bark rubbings. You take a piece of paper and put it on the bark and rub it with a pencil. The bark tells a lot about a tree.

L.Cpl. Pozviak in Iraq

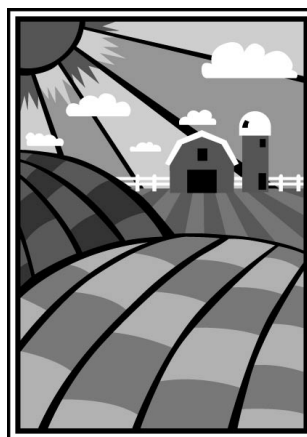
Falk Intermediate students are raising money for L.Cpl. Pozviak who is Ms. Pozviak one of the lunch staff's son. He is in Iraq and we raised money for a health kit and care package for his unit by guessing how much a pumpkin weighs and how many pieces of candy corn were in a jar. It was 10¢ for 1 guess and 3 for 25¢. We raised \$39.95.

– Benjamin Hsuing, Room 222

Simmons Farm

Simmons Farm is a fun farm with Pumpkins to pick, mazes to go in, a big fun slide that goes really fast, and shops where you can buy things. There is an animal pen with really fast, kind animals. A fun place to go for the whole intermediate!

– From 224 Liza Plakseychuk



Basketball Practice Schedule 2005-2006

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning 7:30-8:30	Girls B	Girls B	Girls B	Boys 7th	Boys 7th
Afternoon 3:10-4:10	Boys 7th	Girls A	Girls A	Girls A	Boys 6th
Evening 5:00-6:00	Boys 8th	Boys 8th	Boys 8th		
Evening	Boys 6th 6:00-7:00	Boys 6th 5:30-6:30			

Important:

- If a game is scheduled during your practice time then there is no practice for that day.
 - There will be no practices for any team on November 15 (Talent Show)
 - There will be 1/2 court practices on December 5, 6, 7 (Holiday Sale)
 - There will be no practice for any team on the following days:
November 24, 25
December 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
January 2, 13, 16
February 9
- Athletic Hotline Number-412-624-8017

Girls Basketball Schedule 2005-2006

Athletic Director: Laura Hunt 412-624-8017

Assistant Athletic Director: David Kramer 412-383-9615

Date	School	Location	Team	Game Time	Leave Class	Leave School	Return Time
12-1	St. Edmunds	Away	A/B	3:30/4:30	2:50	3:00	6:00
12-7	Sewickley	Home	A/B	3:30/4:30	--	--	--
12-9	Ellis Tournament	Away	A Team	TBA	--	TBA	TBA
12-10	Ellis Tournament	Away	A Team	TBA	--	Parents Drive	Parents Pick-up
12-12	CDS	Away	A/B	4:00/5:00	--	3:20	6:30
12-15	Winchester	Away	A/B	4:00/5:00	--	3:20	6:30
1-10	Sewickley	Away	A/B	3:30/4:30	2:20	2:30	6:15
1-12	CDS	Home	A/B	3:30/4:30	--	--	--
1-18	St. Edmunds	Home	A/B	3:15/4:15	--	--	--
1-24	Shadyside	Home	A/B	3:30/4:30	--	--	--
1-28	Falk Tournament	Home	A Team (Ellis, SE, SA)	10:00	--	Parents Drive	Parents Pick-Up
1-30	Valley	Away	A/B	3:30/4:30	1:20	1:30	7:00
2-3	Shadyside Middle School	Away	A/B	3:30/4:30	2:20	2:30	6:15
2-6	Winchester	Home	A/B	3:15/4:15	--	--	--

Coaches:

Girls A: Autumn Dillaman, mammabass00@hotmail.com

Girls B: Amy Fetters, alf_falk@yahoo.com

Important Reminder:

Please note the return time to Falk. Parents should be at Falk ready to pick up their athlete before the bus returns from the meet. 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. NO athlete is permitted to walk home from a game without their parent/guardian with them.

Boys Basketball Schedule 2005-2006

Athletic Director: Laura Hunt 412-624-8017

Assistant Athletic Director: David Kramer 412-383-9615

Date	School	Location	Team	Game Time	Leave Class	Leave School	Return Time
12-1	St. Edmunds	Home	7th/8th	3:30/4:30	--	--	--
12-7	Sewickley	Away	7th/6th	3:30/3:30 Alumni gym-7th	2:20 Synder gym-6th	2:30	5:15
12-12	CDS	Home	7th/8th	3:30/4:30	--	--	--
12-15	Winchester	Home	6th/8th	3:30/4:30	--	--	--
1-9	CDS	Away	7th/8th	4:00/5:00	--	3:20	6:30
1-11	Sewickley	Home	7th/6th	3:30/4:30	--	--	--
1-14	Falk Tournament	Home	(SSA, SE	8th	10:00	Parents Drive	Parents Pick Up
1-18	St. Edmunds	Away	7th/8th	3:30/4:30	2:50	3:00	6:00
1-24	Shadyside Middle School	Away	6th-7th-8th	3:30/4:30/5:30	2:20	2:30	7:15
1-30	Valley	Home	7th/8th	4:00/5:00	--	--	--
2-1	Shadyside	Home	6th-7th-8th	3:30/4:30/5:30	--	--	--
2-6	Winchester	Away	6th/8th	4:00/5:00	--	3:20	6:30
2-11	St. Edmunds Tournament	Away	8th	TBA	--	Parents Drive	Parents Pick-up

Coaches:

Boys 8th: Jon Nauhaus, jnauhaus@hotmail.com

Boys 7th: Tim Doyle, etown525@hotmail.com

Boys 6th: Ben McGovern, bmm33@pitt.edu

Important Reminder:

Please note the return time to Falk. Parents should be at Falk ready to pick up their athlete before the bus returns from the meet. 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. NO athlete is permitted to walk home from a game without their parent/guardian with them.



Published by the Falk School PTA

FalkTalk

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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 pm or before 9:00 am to arrange to borrow books. Contact Ms. Herward (624-8010) for a complete list of the Heartwood books.

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 by 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 by 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