



PARENT NEWSLETTER February 2021

SCHMECKFEST WORKDAYS

On the February Events Calendar (attached to email) there are several dates marked with work days in preparation for the Schmeckfest Drive-through fundraiser.

If you are interested in helping on one of these days and need more information, you can contact the following:

February 5-6 [Noodle making](#)
Amy Waltner
605-648-3772

February 26-27 [Cheesepockets](#)

March 5-6 [Kuchen](#)
Kathy Kleinsasser
605-925-7952
605-310-1547

This is a great opportunity to connect with the larger FA community and to learn how to make some of the traditional foods that the first Schmeckfest featured!

This is also a TERRIFIC way to contribute to the largest fundraiser for Freeman Academy!

FEBRUARY EARLY DISMISSAL AND NO-SCHOOL DATES

- Feb 3, 2:30PM dismissal, Staff mtg
- Feb 5, 12:50PM dismissal
- Feb 12, 12:50PM dismissal
- Feb 17, 2:30PM dismissal, Collab mtg
- Feb 26, 12:50PM dismissal



This past fall we received a supply of homemade masks from several FA community supporters. We have been able to supply students (and sometimes staff) with a mask when one has been forgotten. This has worked very well.

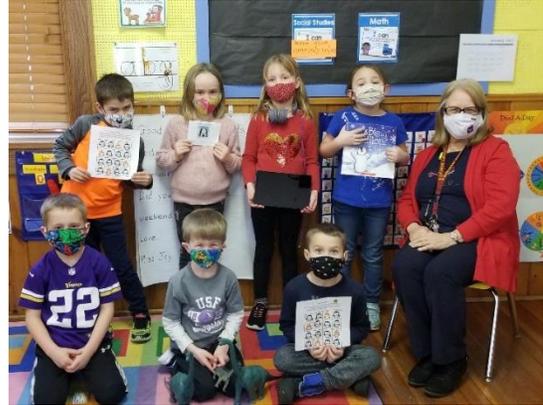
Your student may have brought one or several of these masks home. **Please take a look around at home and return any masks marked with "FA" or "Freeman Academy" to the school office** (or classroom teacher). We will take care of washing borrowed masks so they are ready for others who may need one.

Thank you!

Region I Vocal/Piano Contest

Each year the Music Department participates in the Small Group/Ensemble Vocal/Piano contest facilitated by Region I.

This year the contest will be held virtually. FA will record their selections and send them in to the Region I Contest adjudicators.



Kindergarten class with teacher Joy Erdman, long-term sub!

Tuition Credit Opportunity \$200-\$500

Telling friends and family about Freeman Academy is the best way to get the word out about our great school. Research shows more than 70% of new students join independent schools because another family recommended they check out the school. Advertising does not produce these results; parents talking to other parents does. Remember: when a family you contacted enrolls at the school, you receive a tuition credit after the new family has been enrolled for one trimester. Our families have received \$2500 through this program! Talk to enrollment director Lynnelle Allison when you know of an interested family. Thank you for your help in growing our enrollment!

Help Grow Enrollment!

Tell friends about these upcoming events.

Open Houses 2-4pm

February 5 & 26

March 19

Booster Club News!

Students in grades 5-12 should have brought home a **Fruit Sales** fundraiser packet this week. Please encourage your student to ask friends and family if they'd like to order some delicious fruit, meat sticks and string cheese. Prizes will be awarded to the top three sellers! Order forms and money are due back to the school office by Friday, February 12th. Please make arrangements for students to pick up their orders from the Link on Tuesday, March 2nd and deliver them right away.

Thank you to our families and community for your continued support of the Booster Club, which provides support to ALL students and ALL school-sponsored activities!



OWLS IN THE CLASSROOM



Living in a rural area where raising animals is part of the agricultural economy means that animals are frequently observed in order to gather important information. The Grades 1-3 students were recently able to experience this scientific process by studying owl pellets.

One week they researched and wrote book reports about barn owls. By virtually dissecting an owl pellet on the computer, they found out that after owls chew up their food they spit out the fur, feathers, bones, grass, and any other items that do not provide the owl with nutrients.

Next, the students were provided real owl pellets and all the dissection tools that were needed for scientific exploration. They observed, measured, and wrote journal entries about where their owl might have lived and what they might have eaten.



Then, they sorted out the bones and classified them on a bone sorting chart to find out what animal of prey to which that bone belonged.

As owl pellet discoveries culminate, the 1-3 students will be creating their own fiction owl-stories based on the artifacts that they found in their respective owl pellets. They are excited to create an adventure that exposes why there would have been five rodent skulls and jaw bones in their owl's pellet!



Thanks so much to everyone that bought an Elementary Raffle ticket earlier in the school year, as those fundraising efforts contributed to this amazing learning opportunity for the 1-3 students!

Written by Karla Rupp,

Grades 1-3 Teacher

