

Franklin Avenue

22 Franklin Street, Westfield, MA 01085

fa.schoolsofwestfield.org

Ph: 413.572.6424



Dear Franklin Families,

Our classrooms are filled with energy and blessed with student smiles. It is such a gift to be able to start a new year each September. We push the re-set button and are given the opportunity to begin again. However, even though we re-set, we carry with us what we know, and our teachers use the first six weeks of school to review our HEART expectations and classroom routines so our students remember how to be a Franklin Scholar.

Our overarching goal is for our students to be kind to one another. If you ever have an aspiration for what you want your child to be, let it be KIND. Ask your child what they did to be kind today, and who was kind to them. This conversation starter will allow you to better understand who your child is at school and how their day went.

This year to help us support our Franklin Scholars, we welcome many new faces into the Franklin Family:

- Mrs. Thielen – Grade 3 Teacher
- Ms. Vadnais – Math Interventionist
- Ms. Waskiewicz – Reading Interventionist
- Ms. Levesque – Technology Teacher
- Ms. Fettig – Physical Education and Health Teacher
- Ms. Carvalho – General Music/Band/Chorus Teacher
- Mrs. Jarvis (Welcome Back) – SPED Teaching Assistant
- Mrs. Batchelor – SPED para
- Ms. McEwen – Library Para

They are discovering just how special our school is due to our amazing students, families, and staff. We are grateful they have become a part of our Franklin Family. And we also thank you for being such a supportive part of our Franklin Family. Together, we will provide the best possible environment for your child to learn and grow.

My Best

Mrs. Tolpa

Upcoming Events

PTO Meeting – Google Meet

September 14 @ 6 pm

PBIS Passport Celebration

September 16

Picture Day

October 4

Open House – Details to follow

October 13

Franklin Has HEART Celebration

On Friday, 9/16, we will celebrate completing our PBIS Passport for our HEART behavior with a schoolwide dance party. Students have been learning and practicing Franklin Avenue expectations since returning to school. From classroom routines to lunchroom procedures, our staff has been busy laying the foundation for a good year. There is no better way to say thank you to our students than with a Franklin Dance Party!

PTO Invites YOU to Join

Want to help out Franklin Avenue, but not sure how? Attend our first virtual meeting on Google Meet, Wednesday at 6 p.m. to learn more. We have opportunities to fit anyone's schedule. Learn more about the events we have planned for our school this year by joining us this Wednesday, 9/16, at 6 p.m. on Google Meet. You can find the link on our website.

Absent/Tardy/Dismissal...Here's what you need to know!

Absent: Please call Franklin Avenue at 413-572-6424 to let us know. This will save our nurse time from calling you. Leave a message on our attendance line.

Tardy: If you bring your child to school after 9:15, you must walk into the building to sign him/her into school.

Dismissal: Please be sure to send a note in to your child's teacher so we can have him/her ready to go.

Change in Plans: If you have a change in plans for your child's dismissal (take the bus, aunty will pick up, not going to B&G, etc), please be sure to call **before 2 p.m.** at 413-572-6424 to alert us so we can write it down and alert the teacher.

Your child's absences, tardies, and dismissals are excused if accompanied by a doctor's note.

Franklin Avenue Open House

Yes! There is no better way to learn about Franklin Avenue than attending Open House. It is a time for students to show you their new classrooms, introduce you to their new teacher, and give you a tour of our wonderful school. Please look for a flyer in October that will give details of our October 13 Open House Night.

Basketball Hoop Ready for Recess



Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Somers, Mr. Lusa, and Mrs. Tolpa's family, our basketball hoop has been installed. Purchased with a generous grant from Westfield Foundation for

Education before the pandemic, we have been waiting for the world to get healthier and some hands to help install. Friday, our third and fourth grade students enjoyed it immensely.



HEART

Honor

Build a good reputation

Effort

Give your personal best

Attitude

Be positive and kind

Responsibility

Do your part

Teamwork

Be reliable and help others

HEART Behavior

For those families who are new to Franklin Avenue, we want to let you know how we speak to children about their behavior. Through our Positive Behavior Intervention System – PBIS – we use an acronym to identify expected behaviors, HEART. The attributes below are the vocabulary we use to praise and remind students of Franklin expectations:

- **H = Honor** – This is YOU and your character
- **E = Effort** – persevere and give your all in everything you do
- **A = Attitude** – make it a good one
- **R = Responsibility** – you are accountable for all you do and say
- **T = Teamwork** – We are all in this together; be kind to one another

You will see references to HEART throughout Franklin. It is the foundation of our culture and so important to our students' learning.