



FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE • INNOVATION • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY

Mr. Joel Jocelyn
Principal

November 11, 2017

Dear Franklin Families,

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, I would like to thank you for your engagement and for your commitment to Franklin. Thank you for the trust and confidence you have shown us as we educate and care for your children. I am outlining below some important updates:

1. ***Playground Safety*** – When the weather is good, our students go outside to enjoy the fresh air on the playground and surrounding fields. This provides our students with a much needed break and a chance to enjoy the outdoor spaces at our school. Please know that these spaces are considered public spaces by the City of Newton and are open during school hours to families outside of Franklin, younger children, and individuals in our community. Our faculty and staff are vigilant and aware of the surroundings when outside with your children and always have safety as top of mind. Please remind your children that the adults with school identification badges are there to help them if necessary. Should you have any questions about the safety of your children while they are outside, please don't hesitate to contact me.
2. ***Sodexo Food Service Survey*** – Sodexo Food Service wants to hear from you! Please share your food service experience so that the NPS food service department can improve service, address any issues of concern, and make changes that create a more positive experience for students and families. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes and gives very important feedback to Sodexo. Please find the clickable link to the survey below:

Parent Survey: <https://www.sodexosurveys.com/f/102256/699f/>

3. ***Morning Drop Off During the Cold Season*** - Thank you for dressing your children warmly during the cold season. As a reminder, our school doors open at 8:20 AM. Thank you to the majority of you who drop off your children to school on time. We have had a handful of cases in which some parents drop off their children in front of the school much earlier than 8:20 AM. Please be mindful of the cold temperatures in deciding how early you will drop off your children for their own protection and to ensure their comfort.



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4. ***Communicating With the School Nurse*** - In order for the school nurse to be as well prepared as possible to care for students coming to the health room, it is helpful to have the “big picture” perspective for each child. Parents and guardians should know they have an open invitation to communicate with the school nurse both about **physical changes** such as significant illness, hospitalization, injury, and medication (even if not taken at school), and about **social and emotional changes**.

Examples include changes in the family structure such as a new sibling, parental separation, illness/death in the family or a parent traveling. It is also helpful for the nurse to know if a student is having trouble adjusting to school or if a parent is concerned about bullying or classroom issues. The goal for the school nurse is to keep students in school whenever possible. This “big picture” kind of information, along with phone calls for parent consultation, is helpful to achieve this goal.

Additional tips for communicating with the school nurse:

- For urgent or time-sensitive matters, please call. Occasionally there is a substitute nurse who cannot access the email of the regular school nurse.
- Parents should drop off medication directly to the school nurse instead of sending it with the student.
- Keep contact information such as cell phone and work phone numbers updated.

To reach the Franklin Elementary School Nurse, Nurse Erin, please call her at 617-559-9485 or email her at erin_hanley@newton.k12.ma.us.

Notable Dates for September and October

- **Wednesday, November 22nd**: Start of Thanksgiving Break: **12:00 dismissal**
- **Thursday, November 23rd**: Thanksgiving Day: No School
- **Friday, November 24th**: Thanksgiving Recess: No School

With Warmest Regards,

Joel