

Forest Hills Friday News

November 22nd, 2019

Friends and Family of Forest Hills,

So it's that time of year again to reflect on those things for which we are thankful. I hope and pray that when I ask you the question, "What are you thankful for?" that many things pop into your head. I hope you're able to say that you're thankful for family, friends, daily needs, health, and many other things. However, I know there are many people in our midst in different situations that may not be able to share each of those sentiments.

Something that I've sadly learned is that another question can become easier to answer. It's the questions, "What are you NOT thankful for?" This question may not always float to the surface in that exact way, but it's something that we can easily think about and talk about each day. So often, we all (myself included) grumble about things around us. Some of the things are what we have control over, and some are out of our control. It's easy to say that we don't have enough money, clothing, "the latest and greatest," and many other things. We find ourselves reflecting on what we WISH we had, rather than the things that we've been blessed with.

This became real to me this week as I grumbled quite a bit over the situation our school faced. Not having gas proved to be a real inconvenience. It was easy to grumble that we were cold, that we didn't have hot water, that we didn't have hot lunch, and other things as well. However, in the midst of that grumbling, I was encouraged to stop and pause and be thankful that we have a building, a program, staff to cook hot lunch, and space heaters. My thankfulness did not need to turn into grumbling, but true gratefulness. The key was in my mindset.

A recent quote I've come across says that we need to make the positives so loud that the negatives are impossible to hear. At this time of year, it's appropriate to reflect on the grace of God that we receive each day, and realize that in this grace, we have all we need. The things around us may fail. People may let us down. Circumstances outside of our control can create negative feelings in our hearts and minds. Yet when we reflect on God's grace in it's truest form, we remember that we have received the greatest gift, and it's a gift we don't deserve. That makes it all the more amazing. Sure, we still need certain things to sustain us in our day to day living, but it's God's grace that is given to us so that we will be sustained for living in eternity.

God's grace doesn't simply mute the 'negatives' in our lives. It eliminates them. In Jesus, we have received the gift of forgiveness and eternal life, and that's something that moves us to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. The positives of life trample the negatives because of Jesus, and this reality is a blessing that abounds.

As we head toward Thanksgiving, let me encourage you this week to change your mindset and to focus on things that are from God. What perceived negatives are weighing you down? Give them to God and accept His positives. What could you reflect on as a blessing that you never considered before? As you reflect on it, may you see God pouring His love in your life. This week, let us go before God with hearts of thankfulness that recognize each blessing, and even recognize each challenge as a blessing. No matter what, you are loved, and for that, we can all be thankful!

Mike Schiemann. <>< Principal



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Upcoming Events:

- Forest Grove Light Parade
 December 7th. We are looking for
 volunteers and families to walk in
 the parade. Email Sheila at
 <u>hills@FHLCS.org</u> for more info.
- Christmas Music Concert Date: Tuesday Dec. 17th at 7pm

Reminders:

- The Holiday Wreath Delivery will be Dec. 2nd in the afternoon. Watch your email for further info.
- Get a jump on your holiday shopping – teacher wish list items were mailed out this week.



Questions? email: PTA@FHLCS.org





November 26th is the final day of the Student Council canned food drive. Our goal is to collect 600 cans, that's just 3 cans per student. The collection barrels are filling up – can we overflow them?

In Your Family Envelope:

- 2020 Auction Classroom Basket Information
- Bethlehem Walk Shift Assignments

Dates at a Glance: Monday 11/25 5/6 Boys Black Bball @ Gilkey, 4pm 5/6 Girls Bball Here, 4pm 5/6 Boys Green Here, 5pm Tuesday 11/26 End of the First Trimester Thanksgiving Chapel by FHLCS Drama, 8:20a Young at Heart Readers Theater, 12:54p Wednesday 11/27 Teacher Work Day, No School Thursday 11/28 – Thanksgiving Weekend, No School Friday 11/29 Monday 12/02 PTA Wreath Pick-up, 2-4pm 5/6 Girls Bball Here, 4pm 5/6 Boys Black Bball @ Faith, 5pm 5/6 Boys Green Bball Here, 5pm Wednesday 12/04 Buddy Chapel Host St. Peter, 8:20a 5/6 Girls Bball Here, 4pm Thursday 12/05 5/6 Boys Bball Green Here, 5pm 5/6 Boys Bball Black Here, 6pm Friday 12/06 First Trimester Report Cards go Home Monday 12/09 5/6 Girls Bball Here, 4pm 5/6 Boys Green Bball Here, 5pm 5/6 Boys Black Bball Here, 6pm (tent)

Get Involved:

- Monday Prayer Group: join prayer group Monday 8:15-9am, Library
- Tuesday Bible Study with Mr. Schiemann 8:30-9:30am, St. Peters
- Thursday Bible Study with Kerry Bauer 8:30-9:30am, Conference Room

Special Announcements

Help Wanted!

FHLCS is accepting applications for help in our Before and After School Care program. We are seeking someone to help on Tuesdays after school and as a substitute. If you're interested, or would like more information, please contact Angela Hodge at <u>hodgea@fhlcs.org</u>



Our 3rd Annual Bethlehem Walk is just three weeks away! Watch your email for scheduling news, prop requests, & volunteer opportunities. Do NOT forget to invite your friends, family, and neighbors to this fun, free family event!



4221 Golf Course Road Cornelius, OR 97113 503-359-4853 www.fhlcs.org *info@fhlcs.org*





2194 SE MINTER BRIDGE RD HILLSBORO, OR 97123