

The Official Fowler Middle School Newsletter

2016-2017

Congratulations to the **Fowler baseball team** for finishing **second in the Middle School Matchup!** A group of 13 Fowler 7th graders played in the November tournament and finished with a record of 3-1-1 with their only loss coming in the Championship game. Well done to go Falcons!

Calendar of Events	2
Celebrations at Fowler	3
Team Notes	4
Spanish Club & Tech Notes	5
Library News & Announcements	6
Counselor's Corner	7
PTA News	8



FMS Calendar

January 13	End of 3 rd Six Weeks
January 16	MLK Day FISD Holiday
January 19	Counselors visit 8 th Grade Science Classes to talk about High School Courses
January 19	Pep Rally 3:05
January 19	7 th and 8 th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Clark MS @ FMS
January 19	7 th and 8 th Grade Boys Basketball vs. Clark MS @ Clark MS
January 20	GT Students attend ISM Presentation
January 23	Geography Bee 4:00 PM Fowler Library
January 23	Rising Freshman Night at LHS or LTHS
January 26	PTC Classroom Meetings Healthy Relationships
January 26	7 th and 8 th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Vandeventer MS @ Vandeventer MS
January 26	7 th and 8 th Grade Boys Basketball vs. Vandeventer MS @ FMS
January 28	Band Drive 8:30-4:30 Fowler Band Hall and 6 th Grade Wing
January 30	7 th and 8 th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Stafford MS @ Stafford MS
January 30	7 th and 8 th Grade Boys Basketball vs. Stafford MS @ FMS
January 31	Band Drive 4:30-9:00 Fowler Band Hall and 6 th Grade Wing

February 3	Theatre OAP Technical Rehearsal Fowler Stage 4:00-6:30
February 3-4	7 th & 8 th Grade Girls Basketball Tournament A Team TBA
February 3	7 th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament A Team Roach MS
February 3	8 th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament A Team Clark MS
February 4	Choir Drive 1-3:30 Fowler Choir Room
February 4	Orchestra Drive 9:00-1:00 Fowler Orchestra Hall
February 6-10	National School Counseling Week. Counselors and Testing Coordinator
February 6	Spring Sport Parent Meeting 5:30 Fowler Main Gym
February 7	Practice STAAR 8 th Grade Math & Algebra EOC
February 7	Beginning Band Concert 6:00 Fowler Gym
February 8	Scoliosis Screening 6 th Grade during PE Classes
February 9	PTA Board Meeting 4:30 Fowler Conference Room
February 9	PTA General Meeting 5:00 Fowler Library
February 9	Rising 6 th Grade Parent Meeting 5:30 Fowler Cafe
Feb. 13-24	Frisco Family Services Food Drive
February 15	Track Meet 4:30 Independence HS
February 16	Rising 7 th Grade Parent Meeting 6:00 Fowler Cafe
February 16	Rising 8 th Grade Parent Meeting 6:00 Fowler Band Hall
February 20	President's Day FISD Holiday
Feb. 21-24	Diversity Week
February 22	Track Meet 4:30 Centennial HS
February 24	End of 4 th Six Weeks

Celebrations



The FMS library was the setting of the 9th annual spelling bee on Tuesday, December 6th.

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade spellers competed in a bee that lasted more than seven rounds. 6th grade student **Anveeth Vietla out-spelled the other competitors to become**

the champion. Runner-Up was 7th grader Vidula Pandian.

The spellers who competed in the bee were selected through preliminary classroom bees held during ILA classes in November. Classroom bee winners were given study materials in order to prepare for the competition.

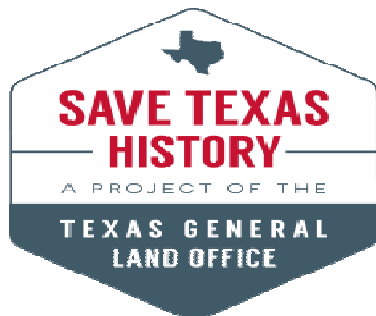
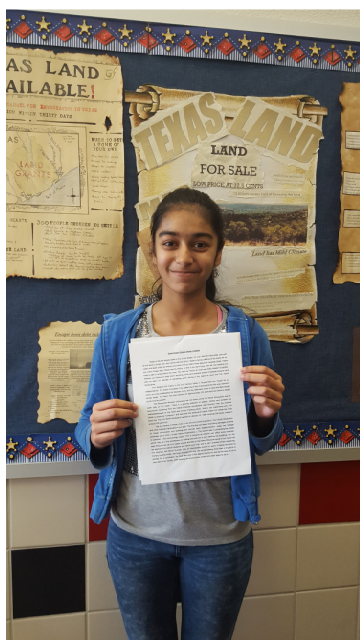
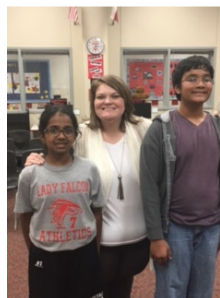
The judges for the spelling bee were Campus Instructional Support Facilitator Mrs. Sally Partin, 8th grade Teen Leadership teacher Mrs. Kim Smolka, and 6th grade social studies teacher Mrs. Melissa Rutherford. The pronouncer for the bee was 7th grade ILA teacher Miss Megan Smith.

Anveeth, then, advanced to the FISD Spelling Bee on January 11th at Liberty High School in Frisco. There, he competed against 40 other spellers from elementary and middle schools all across Frisco and came in first place! The top six spellers in the FISD bee will move on to the next round.

Anveeth will now have the chance to participate

in the Collin County Spelling Bee on February 1st at Heritage High School Auditorium at 6 pm.

Fowler is very proud of Anveeth's hard work! Congratulations on a job well done!



Sanjana Shangle was one of the top runners-up for the **Save Texas History Essay Contest** from the Texas General Land Office. Sanjana explained the significance of the Alamo and the Fort Worth Stockyards, and did a superb job.

The Falcon Reporter

The **Fowler Science Department** is so proud of all of our PreAP students this fall semester. Each of them has completed a 4-month extended research project, which is a huge undertaking for a middle school student. This year our students could select from a competitive project (ISEF, or International Science and Engineering Fair) or non-competitive project (IRP, or Independent Research Project.) ISEF students have been attending weekly meetings with their coaches before and after school, as well as completing a highly rigorous project following ISEF guidelines.

Here is the list of our **21 students who have qualified for the Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair** on Saturday, February 25:

Shreya Chintala- 8th
Ariana Harpavat- 8th
Aayush Kadakia- 7th
Hannah Le- 8th
Victoria Lee- 7th
Gautam Logeishwaran- 8th
Krishna Madhav- 7th
Gurnoor Narula- 8th
Rohan Nayak- 7th
Divya Nitin- 8th
Anika Patel- 7th
Tom Punnen- 8th
Neha Rajaj- 8th
Vinay Ravi- 7th
Pranay Shah- 8th
Shruti Siva- 7th
Ashmita Vaddeswarapu- 7th
Robert Violante- 7th
Naimisha Vunnam- 8th
Elaine Yao- 8th
Manisha Woodruff- 8th

Please congratulate them on this fantastic accomplishment!

Team News



6th

In ILA, the students will begin their Research Unit which will teach them about MLA citations, relevant/ reliable sources to use along with how to cite them. In addition to the research presentation, students will begin to read the novels Number the Stars and Fever to identify character's changes and different themes presented throughout the novel.

In 6th grade social studies, students will be constructing a Document-Based Essay over the European Union, then completing a research project over European culture. Next stop on our journey around the world: Russia and the Eurasian Republics!

In science for the fourth six weeks, students will study energy! During this unit, students will compare and contrast potential and kinetic energy and demonstrate energy transformations. In addition, they will investigate methods of thermal energy transfer. Finally, classes will research the advantages and disadvantages of using fossil fuels and alternative energy sources.

Sixth grade math begins the new semester with an introduction to Algebra! We will learn to write algebraic equations as well as solve equations and inequalities. Don't forget to keep up with TTM at home. By February 1st, on level should have successfully completed 44 lessons and Pre Ap should have 50.

7th Graders are ringing in the New Year with exciting happenings! In PreAP Science, our campus Science Fair will be held the week of January 9th through 13th. Students are excited to showcase their work. All science students are in the final stages of the unit on human body systems, and we look forward to our next unit on genetics. The mighty mathematicians will be taking the practice STAAR test on March 29th. Please make sure your child is present on this day and has pencils, a sandwich-size Ziploc filled with snacks, and bottled water. We are working on Module 4 – Scales, Similar Figures, and Equations! In ILA, students have investigated how persuasion influences peoples' choices. Students wrote a business letter using persuasive appeals and studied the art of persuasion in writing. For our next unit, students will refine their expository writing skills. Our budding writers are also learning about the many different ways that they can revise their sentence structure. GT ILA students are reading *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain and will analyze the choices made by the characters in the novel and relate the concept of choices and consequences to their own lives. We are looking ahead to our 7th Grade STAAR Writing assessment on March 28th. Texas history classes have fought the Texas Revolution and won their independence from Mexico! Our young historians have learned about many of the important battles, people, and issues that make Texas so unique. We are wrapping up the years of the Republic of Texas from 1836-1845 and will soon be learning about the annexation and early statehood of Texas.

7th

8th

Did your student happen to make financial literacy a 2017 New Year's resolution?! Either way, students will be exploring simple and compound interest, as well as discussing the terms of loans and investments. We will also touch on researching information about colleges and developing a financial plan to get there. We are looking forward to seeing students' wise investments in the upcoming weeks! Our Falcon scientists will slide into the new year studying Alfred Wegener's theory of plate tectonics and how this theory helps explain the topography, or landforms, we see around our planet. Our Pre-AP scientists have completed and presented their science fair projects. The projects will be on display in our library for the campus science fair judging. The campus fair will be Jan 10-12 and parents are welcome to view what our scientists worked hard to study, prepare and present. Just a note about the campus fair, parents may want to view projects the 10th and the 12th because we will have another team of teachers, from a visiting campus, judging our projects on the 11th. In ILA, students will be completing an independent reading project. Time will be set aside in class for this assignment, as well as required reading outside of school. You should see your child read! Students will analyze conflict, characterization, figurative language and so much more. In PreAP ILA students will begin the new year in the Count of Monte Cristo literary analysis unit. Students will be reading nightly and making annotations for class discussions. This novel explores complex character motivations and plot twists that cannot be assessed accurately without focused, scheduled reading time. Thank you for encouraging your students with their outside reading requirements in January and February! Please continue to check HAC and visit our teacher website for important news and documents. Presidents! Presidents! Presidents! 8th Grade U. S. History classes will be studying our early American presidents, Washington through Monroe. Students will also explore our early republic through domestic and foreign policies of the early presidents.

Our last **Spanish Club** meeting was a big success! Students participated in several rounds of Bingo. During the meeting, we ate chips, salsa, queso and bean dip. The words on the bingo cards were cognates, or Spanish words that sound like their English counterparts, and the student that won each round received a certain type of chocolate. These chocolates were created in molds that had shapes such as skulls and bones to represent El Dia de Los Muertos. This is a traditional Spanish holiday to celebrate the memory of passed loved ones and is celebrated at the beginning of November.



The Falcon Reporter

Mrs. Silver's Technology Class Information

All the students are having a good time and learning a lot in the computer classes at Fowler.

The following is a summary of the learning that has been occurring in the classes.

All of my technology classes participated in the "Hour of Code". They learned about different coding techniques and why it is important that they learn about coding. The classes spent a week trying out the different software online to practice how to do code. There were different levels – from easy to more difficult types of coding for them to try. The students all commented that they really enjoyed the activities. We hope to continue this activity as a yearly fun way to interest the students in coding.

Multimedia I: Terri Silver

The students have been editing sound using audacity software. They created their own sound effects and incorporated their sounds into other software. The students are creating, narrating, and illustrating an original children's storybook – We will E-publish the book. If there is time, their last project for the semester will be creating an E-portfolio of their work. They should bring in a flash drive if they would like to save their work to put on their computer at home. They are becoming experts at learning new software in class and applying their knowledge to real life situations.

Multimedia II: Terri Silver

The students have created sound effects in online software. The students have created QR codes – and placed the codes on a flyer for MM2. Now, they are learning some basic web development. The students are learning some basic html code and should be able to create some simple websites. They will also build a website to display their work. The students will be creating a virtual museum, using Sketch Up; they will place their PhotoShop artwork to display on the walls of the museum. They have also created flyers for teachers in the school. The students have really been doing a wonderful job this year. I am anxious to see what they create in Video Production 2 next semester.

Animation: Terri Silver

The students have been creating animations using Flip Book software, PhotoShop Elements, and Sketch Up. They have been doing a wonderful job creating a variety of animations – from a haunted house to an animated holiday E-card. The students are working hard and doing a terrific job with their animations; they have grown so much in their capabilities. I am so proud of them. Please make sure to check their Google websites to see their animations.

Next, they will be creating a stop motion animation, a 360° animation, and an animated musical instrument. Then, they will begin to use 3D animation software; they will have a wonderful time with that. I can't wait to see what they come up with. They will also learn about game creation. Look for more information about the Animation class in future newsletters.

LIBRARY

Catherine B. Fowler



Fun New Item for Checkout!

Have you seen the Makey Makey craze yet? The Fowler Library now has six Makey kits available for check out in the morning and after school. If you've never heard of it, you're missing the fun! Learn about some of the cool things it can do here <https://youtu.be/rfQqh7iCcOU>, and encourage your student to come get creative in the library!



Spring Book Fair

Spring Book Fair is February 6th-10th. Our book fairs at Fowler are always so successful because of the great support we get from our parents. It's amazing how much these fairs really benefit our students. The money and Scholastic dollars we earn allow us to purchase books (of course!), posters, prizes for giveaways, decorations, and even furniture for our library! As always, parents are welcome to shop at any time during the school day.



Announcements



We wanted to let you know about our upcoming **Best Buddies Dallas Winter Friendship Formal** and to ask for your support. This event will be held on **January 28th** and provides our students with a fun opportunity to hang out with their buddy, meet other students from various DFW, schools and dance the night away (and as you probably all know, our buddies have some great moves).

This annual event is for all DFW middle school, high school and college students and will be even bigger this year with Dallas expanding to 6 new schools! We have been able to offer this event as a free opportunity for our students but we need your help! Please check out our "wish list" of items that we need to help make this event successful and fun. It includes items such as fruit, veggies, and of course, lots of sweets, paper items, and drinks.

We also have opportunities to volunteer for this event and a parent lounge will be available!

If you have the opportunity or availability to volunteer or donate for us, we would greatly appreciate it, but understand if you cannot. If you have any questions about this event, volunteering or donating, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you for all that you do for Best Buddies, and we hope to hear from you soon!

Be a part of Fowler History!

Enter the **Fowler 10th Anniversary Flag Design Contest**. Designs will be judged by a panel of Fowler Staff members. The winning design will be announced at the end of the day on March 3rd. The winning flag will fly on our flagpole under the Texas Flag. Entire design must fill space 10 inches wide by 6 inches tall. Entry forms, with design space, are available in the front office. **All entries will be due by 4:00 pm on February 22nd in the front office.** One entry allowed per student.

Yearbooks are available for purchase online. Click the order a yearbook button on Fowler's website banner or copy and paste the link below into your internet browser. You must order before 1/27 @ 9am. At that time we are calling Jostens to give our final number of books to print. If you have not ordered a book by that time, you will not get a book. Email our Yearbook Advisor—Jennifer Emrick with questions at emrickj@friscoisd.org. <http://jostensyearbooks.com?REF=A01098308>

Counselor's Corner



As we begin the second semester of the school year, there are some important dates that the counselors would like you to be aware of over the next few weeks.

We are excited that during the week of **February 21 – 24, 2017**, Fowler will be celebrating Diversity Week. The diversity theme this year is **"I am Diversity"**. We are looking forward to celebrating the many gifts, talents and unique experiences that make the Fowler community so special. One of the key components for our celebration this year is a student t-shirt decorating contest. The Fowler hallways are lined with posters providing details about the contest along with the prize raffle drawing. Parents will also receive information about the contest through an email message in early January. Please encourage your student to participate. We love celebrating our unique and talented Fowler students. All students who wear their original decorated t-shirt on **Wednesday, February 22** will be entered in the prize raffle.



Another important event near the end of this six weeks, **February 13-24, 2017**, is the **Frisco Family Services Food Drive** sponsored by the Fowler Student Council. Our student body will collect items for needy families in the area. There will be more details as we get closer to the drive, yet please encourage your students to take part in this worthy cause.

Power to Change Lessons:

January 26, 2017 - Healthy Relationships

February 23, 2017 - Diversity

My Future Lessons for 7th graders: **February 21 and 22, 2017**

Also, we have several important registration and orientation dates coming up for our 8th grade students in January/February and all others students in February. Please look over the dates below so that you can be involved in your student's registration process for the 2017-2018 school year.

6TH TO 7TH GRADE Course Selection

February 14, 2017 – Counselors visit 6th grade social studies classes in Library

February 16, 2017 (6:00pm) – 6th to 7th Grade Parent Meeting in Fowler Cafeteria

February 24, 2017 – Course Request Cards due to 6th grade social studies teachers

7TH TO 8TH GRADE Course Selection

February 15, 2017 – Counselors visit 7th grade science classes in Library

February 16 2017 (6:00pm) – 7th to 8th Grade Parent Meeting in Band Hall

February 24, 2017 – Course Request Cards due to 7th grade science teachers

8TH TO 9TH GRADE Course Selection

January 19, 2017 – High School Counselors visiting 8th graders through Science classes

January 23, 2017 - Rising Freshman Night at the high schools

January 25, 2017 - Complete 4-Year Plans with 8th graders – ILA classes (Hill, A., Brown, and Scalf)

January 26, 2017 - Complete 4-Year Plans with 8th graders – ILA classes (Mughal, McKemie, Arndorfer, & Millan)

February 7, 2017 - 4-Year Plans due to US History teachers

February 8, 2017 – High School Counselors visiting w/students during **Sitzler's** US History classes

February 9, 2017 – High School Counselors visiting w/students during **Fitzgerald's & LeBlanc's** US History

PTA news

This sale is the **ONLY** fundraiser that is devoted exclusively to **SAGE** funding.

Where does that money go?

- Diverse Abilities Day Station Materials
- Best Buddies Programs
- Lending Library Materials
- Parent Sanctuary Needs
- Parent and Student Programs for special populations (usually 2 per month)
- Partners PE Needs
- SAGE Scholarships offered through Frisco Education Foundation
- Special Olympics requests
- SibShop Programs
- Any special request that promotes inclusion in our schools that we can fund!

As you can see, the SAGE budget covers a lot of ground.

Here is the link to the signup:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pa3Ikmn_QknxAK2rvMjcl1ORLM1pA2qZro5Y1PZ-RKY/edit?usp=sharing

For more information please contact Christine Kurtz, Fowler MS Sage Chair at ckurtz.pta@gmail.com.

The Falcon Reporter

When you see someone wearing the
2016-2017 SAGE Inclusion Shirt...



and you forgot to order!

Don't worry.....we've got your back because, like you, we don't want to exclude ANYONE! Our 2nd AND FINAL order for the year will be placed January 27. We do have a limited number of extras available now on a first-come, first-served basis.



Questions?

Contact FISD SAGE Chair at FriscoSAGE@gmail.com

To Order:

FriscoptaSage.strikingly.com



Thanks to your PTA donations, our teachers got to enjoy a yummy luncheon from Costa Vida. Queso, salsa, pork/chicken/veggie salad bowls in ginormous tortilla shells! Thanks for helping us spoil our teachers!

Sharisa Lewis, Fowler PTA Hospitality Chair, Sharisalewis@gmail.com

PARENT VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!

If you would like to hear what's going on at school please:

Email your name, student's name and grade, and email address to: juneann8700@aol.com

This simply allows me to alert you about volunteer opportunities - *no commitment*.

You select on a case-by-case basis when you would like to help.

Thank you!

June Blessingame -
PTA Volunteer Coordinator