

Dear Franklin Families:

Today was Character/Diversity day where students learned about fairness & tolerance along with celebrating Arab American Heritage Month. During our morning announcements, our student government officers explained the following: "Fairness is treating people equally, being open-minded, and keeping a good attitude towards those whose ideas or actions are different from your own. Being fair is not always easy, but it is always important. Respecting everyone's unique individuality is part of being fair. We are all unique and different, but we must respect everyone in our school community. Fairness in our school will include keeping an open mind to new ideas, understanding everyone has a unique point of view, including others even if they are different, and respecting all cultures, religions, ethnicities, races, genders, and physical conditions. As you go through your day, I challenge you to remember to be fair and accepting of everyone you encounter. What will you do to show that you are a cooperative Franklin Academy student?" In our cafeteria today, some traditional Mediterranean meals were served to follow up on the lesson plan delivered today.

As part of understanding tolerance, next week is Anti-Bullying Week. Students will create a paper chain of 17 acts of kindness that will culminate in a master chain that will circle the track by Friday, April 13th. On Tuesday, they will have the opportunity to come to school with unique hairstyles that represent who they are (only temporary hairstyles please!) On Wednesday, they can participate in Superhero Dress Up Day as long as they pre-purchase their \$5 dress down pass.

Please do not forget that you are invited to our celebration on Friday April 13th to unveil our Benjamin Franklin statue. There are limited invitations therefore please pick one up in the main office during office hours before the event. I have attached detailed information.

Next Wednesday, April 11th our Parent Academy will focus on IB. As we get ready to finalize registration and select our courses for next year, this is an important session to attend to answer all of your questions and concerns. Mrs. Englert, our Guidance Director has also included a follow-up to our last Parent Academy which covered drug trends and signs to look out for (attached).

FSA testing begins on April 17th (see flyer attached). Test preparation is well underway in all of our English and math classes. Some of our students have received certificates celebrating their progress. Some students are currently in pullout sessions to give them some needed support. All students will receive a math test prep session prior to their math test. In addition, the Mu Alpha Theta Honor Society is offering free math tutoring Monday through Fridays from 3:00-4:30pm in room 330 through April 30th. If you would like individual tutoring at a fee, attached please find the list of available tutors.

On Sunday May 6th, the Florida Hemophilia organization has organized their annual Jungle Walk in Jungle Island. Some of our sophomores will be out there volunteering their time cheering on and providing cups of water for our walkers. Franklin has created a team and it would be an absolute pleasure to see our Franklin family out there supporting an important organization. A donation of \$25 or more (per person) will get the donor a free walk shirt and a ticket to return to Jungle Island when it officially reopens. There will also be music, face painting, a photobooth, food, and more at the Walk. Please register through this link:

<https://www.uniteforbleedingdisorders.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=9289>

Hope to see you all out there!!! If you have any questions, please feel free to email Ms. Azaiza at Azaiza.hanadi@franklin-academy.org.

Please join us for a 6th Grade IB Celebration on May 18, 2018 from 4:30 – 6:30 P.M in the Franklin Academy Cafeteria. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Franklin Academy will be hosting their second annual Career Fair on May 22nd. Please consider sharing your career knowledge and experience with our middle school students. We are asking for all parents who can participate to please contact Ms. Almendarez at Almendarez.vanessa@franklin-academy.org. The event will take place from 9am-11am at our indoor track and all hours will count towards parent service hours.

Last but not least, our Booster Network President, Mrs. Julie Doar Sinkfield will be providing a monthly newsletter to give parents opportunities to get involved (see attached) and answer some common questions.

Thank you,

Dr. Arlene H. Valdes

Principal