ADMINISTRATION STATION

Dear Freedom Families,

Fall is here, and we are looking forward to some of our traditional things happening this month, including Open House and the Book Fair. We have overcome many obstacles here at Freedom with the non-traditional start of the school year. Learning is taking place in every classroom everyday, both Live and here on campus. We are so very proud of the efforts by our awesome staff and students to make school the best it can be in these unusual circumstances. The campus vibe is positive, and we WILL continue to soar high. Please know that Freedom remains committed to taking all VCS precautions for the health and safety of our school community. Also, in the unlikely event that our campus must be evacuated in the interest of safety, parents and guardians will be notified immediately. Our primary evacuation site is Deland Middle School. For the safety of all, please follow all posted traffic signs when using the parent loop and gravel parking lot. As always, please let us know if you have any feedback for us regarding our success.

Sincerely,
Joy Walker, Principal
Bill Goldsmith, Assistant Principal

The year has started off great in STEM! Kindergarten and first grade students are busy learning the keyboard and how to log in. Typetastic is helping us learn the keyboard, while we build a giant keyboard for an elephant and dodge bubbles and frogs! Second, third, fourth and fifth graders have been busy block coding, and they are doing an amazing job. Students are completing courses in code.org featuring some angry birds, gem hunters and even BB-8! Students are looking forward to our next big project-coding robots and a ninja warrior robot obstacle course! Looking forward to a great October!

STEM Time!

PTA NEWS

Remember, join the PTA at [https://bit.ly/freedomptamembership](https://bit.ly/freedomptamembership) and receive your 2020-2021 discount card! Reflections is coming up! Your student can start thinking about this year's theme of "I Matter Because..." and how he/she can express that theme through the arts. The PTA is working on school spirit shirts. Follow our social media for the best source of updates: search for Freedom Elementary PTA on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. Freedom Strong! This year’s PTA board members are:
PTA President: Mary Kate Marsh
PTA Vice President: Angela Maione
PTA Secretary: Jennnifer Isenberg
PTA Treasurer: Amanda Bartleson
PTA Teacher Liaison: Elissa Sabatini
We would like to welcome a wonderful crop of teachers new to Freedom this year:
Ms. Huffman, Kindergarten
Mrs. Hansard, Second Grade
Ms. Cupp, Third Grade
Ms. Matthews, Fifth Grade
Mrs. Leatham, Fifth Grade
Mrs. Aslanli, Fifth Grade
Ms. Munoz, Fifth Grade
Mrs. Bolden, Intervention
Mrs. Hefner, ESE
Ms. Yao, ESE
Ms. Ward, ESOL
Ms. Gomez, ESOL
Mrs. Pearce, STEM
Ms. Tellier, Music
Ms. Casey, Speech/Language

We are so happy to have you as a part of our Freedom community!

We celebrated our first participants in the Freedom Media Birthday Book Club! Students enjoyed a small snack and were recognized for donating a book to our collection. Our SSYRA challenge is already in full swing. In addition, third graders will soon begin an additional challenge to try to read chapter books of various genres and earn brag tags for their achievement. Lastly, book fair is on its way! We will host our fall Scholastic Book Fair, October 20 through October 30. Come visit the Book Fair Time Machine!

First Grade is very excited for students to begin setting personal goals and working towards their Sight Word sundaes!

First grade teacher Mrs. Melissa Flesch is this year’s Freedom Teacher of the Year! This is her eighth year teaching, and all eight years have been at Freedom. She taught the first seven in kindergarten and now teaches first grade. She is the first grade team leader, coaches Girls on the Run, and is the school’s social media expert. She is a huge advocate of Social Emotional Learning and absolutely LOVES her Freedom Family. Congratulations, Mrs. Flesch!

4th grade’s Annual Fall Fest and Idiom Parade will be Friday, October 30th. (Due to current events, we will not be able to have volunteers.)

Visit the Freedom website at:
http://myvolusiaschools.org/school/Freedom/Pages/default.aspx