



OCTOBER 2023

NEWSLETTER



Have you seen this? Our students have! It's the Mobile Ag Lab!



During the week of September 26-29 our students participated and visited the Ag Lab. The Mobile Agriculture Education Science Lab is a **40-foot mobile classroom that travels** across the state of Pennsylvania bringing an interactive field trip style experience directly to schools and students in grades K-8. The Mobile Ag Lab is equipped with **over 30 STEM-based science experiments and lessons**, a certified teacher, and all the supplies needed for a hands-on learning experience. Each science experiment is designed to emphasize a different aspect of agriculture, including Pennsylvania's commodities, the environment, biotechnology, food and fiber. While on our lab, students work cooperatively to solve a problem as they form a hypothesis, collect data and draw conclusions while focusing on the scientific method. Each lesson on the Mobile Ag Lab focuses on increasing student knowledge on the importance of agriculture and its impact on their daily lives.

FIRE PREVENTION ASSEMBLY

On Wednesday, October 11th, the Royersford Fire Company will be at RES to offer students and staff important information regarding fire prevention and safety. Students will attend grade level assemblies outside with the firefighters and have the opportunity to see a fire truck and ask questions related to the information presented and safety.



Principals for the Day!

Say hello to Lane Wisser and Hazel Marlatt, fourth grade students who spent September 28th, getting to know the roles and responsibilities of being a principal. We worked together solving a real-life principal scenario and identified the most important things to consider before reaching a decision. We discussed and learned about the various leadership traits and important characteristics of leadership such as communication, care, enthusiasm, adaptability, character, and being a problem solver. If you asked them what they liked the best, they may tell you that it was lunch where they were treated to a meal by Giovanni's. It was an absolute pleasure to share my role and responsibility as a school leader with these amazing young ladies. Great Job Lane and Hazel! No matter what you choose as a career in your future, I know that your own leadership skills will help you be amazing!



School Counselor Newsletter - October 2023

Welcome to a new school year!

Understanding the Role of the School Counselor



Our School Counselors Mr. Mest and Mrs. Crescenzo are your counseling team we are here to support your child in school, whether that is academic support, and/or social emotional support. Mr. Steve Mest is our full time School Counselor at Royersford and can be reached at Smest@spring-ford.net. Our other School Counselor is Mrs. Kristen Crescenzo and is at Royersford every other day, switching from RES and Oaks Elementary. Mrs. Crescenzo can be reached at Kcres@spring-ford.net. Please do not hesitate to reach out to them with any questions or concerns that come up throughout the school year. They are here to help! Here are ways they can support your child:

- ★ **Individual Counseling** - We can set up short term counseling with your child to better support them in school.
- ★ **Group Counseling** - We will begin to reach out to families in the next month as we begin to look at student needs and arrange for small group counseling. This takes place for a half hour, once a cycle (6 days) for six sessions. We try to have no more than 6 students in a group.
- ★ **Classroom Lessons** - Lessons have officially started! Mrs. Crescenzo teaches Kindergarten lessons for 15 minutes, once a cycle, for a total of 16 lessons in the school year. Mrs. Crescenzo also teaches three 2nd grade classes (Pogash, Ellis, and Kurtas) once a cycle for 30 minutes and a total of 7 lessons. Mr. Mest teaches all 1st grade and Ms. Nealon's second grade class for 30 minutes, once a cycle for a total of 7 lessons. In the winter/early spring, Mrs. Crescenzo will teach 3rd grade and Mr. Mest will teach 4th grade, once a cycle for 30 minutes and a total of 7 lessons.
- ★ **Lunch Bunches** - We have already had lunch bunches with our new students in Royersford! It was great to get to know each new student in our building! We will now be working on trying to set up a lunch bunch with students in our building. Lunch bunch can also be set up on request and allows an opportunity for students to eat lunch with their counselor and work on social skills with friends.
- ★ **SAP** - Our Student Assistance Program is a great starting point for getting your child additional support. Our SAP team meets monthly with our SAP liaison from Creative Health Services. Together we work with families to provide outside support such as counseling services and family based services.

Check out our new mosaic!



A huge shout out to Jessica Liddell, artist and Kathryn Barton, RES Art teacher for creating a beautiful piece of art for our school located in our main foyer at the entrance of our media center. Students and staff worked on the mosaic project throughout last school year and most recently the installation was finalized to start of our school year.

The fused glass mosaic is stunning and makes our school even brighter! This experience was an exciting opportunity for students and staff to collaborate with our artist and create a beautiful piece of artwork that will last forever. Students not only learned about fused glass art and the work involved but also got the chance to make choices and get creative. The mosaic was worked throughout last year and we just completed the project and installed it to start off our school year. Please be sure to check it out! It is impressive!



About the Artist: Jessica Gorlin Liddell has been making mosaics professionally since 1997. Her work can be found in private collections and public spaces throughout the country. She has experience with large scale installations. She also fabricates her own ceramic and fused glass tiles. Jessica's business, Bella Mosaic Art, has been featured in numerous books and magazines. She and her work have appeared on the NBC 10 Show, Good Day Philadelphia, HGTV and the Travel Channel.



HOMECOMING WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS



A festive weekend is in store for Spring-Ford students, families, alumni, and community members who attend this year's Homecoming celebration, which will begin on Friday, September 29th and continues through Saturday, September 30th.

Friday, September 29, 2023: Homecoming weekend events kick-off Friday with the annual Powder Puff football game. Junior and senior girls compete against one another, with their male classmates serving as cheerleaders. The game will begin at 6 p.m. in Coach McNelly stadium, located behind the 9th Grade Center, 400 S. Lewis Road in Royersford. All proceeds will go to the Warrior Scholarship.

Saturday, September 30, 2023: Spring-Ford students will continue a longstanding tradition of parading through the streets of downtown Royersford starting at 12 p.m. Main Street will be closed to traffic during the parade.

The parade will feature the talents of Spring-Ford's award winning Golden Ram Marching Band, the chorus and the Spring-Ford Middle School Band and will include various high school clubs. Athletic team members, School Board members, local dignitaries, local fire companies and the Rowdy Ram will all make appearances.

The parade will end with a community picnic, provided by the Spring-Ford Educators Association (SFEA).

Finally, join fellow Ram fans as Spring-Ford Area High School's football team takes on Owen J. Roberts at 2 p.m. in Coach McNelly stadium. Gates will open at 12:30 p.m. for pre-game festivities that will include musical performances, as well as the introduction of the Homecoming Court.

LET'S GO SPRING-FORD!!!!



HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARADE

Tuesday, October 31st
School Wide Parade 2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
AM Kindergarten 10:30am – 10:45am
Transition into building 2:45 p.m.

Parade Route: The students will start from the Front Main Entrance on 4th Avenue and parade around the perimeter of the school playground (blacktop area).

Parade Viewing: Parents are asked to remain either on the mulch/woodchips or along the playground fence outside of the school playground. Please do not block the perimeter of the school playground.

Cars must be park in designated parking areas. Space is at a minimum; carpooling is advised during parade times. **Dogs are NOT Permitted on our property.**

Classroom Volunteers: Must make prior arrangements with the teacher. All parents that have made arrangements in advance to volunteer for classroom activities will be asked to report to the main entrance (office) & to sign into the building at the time your child's teacher has specified. Please do not plan to remain at the school building or classroom between parade and volunteer times. Volunteers must have proper paperwork and ID.

All parents viewing the parades are asked to leave the property following the outside events. This will free up parking for all the day's activities and reduce stress on the building security plan.

Children's Costumes: In choosing a costume for your child, keep in mind the following:

1) **WEAPONS OF ANY KIND ARE NOT PERMITTED!**

a. This includes swords, knives, guns, whips, etc. This would be in violation of the district's weapon policy #218.1.

2) Children must choose costumes that they can easily put over top of their clothes for the parade.

3) Children must be able to see clearly; no masks that obstruct their vision.

4) Choose a costume that your child can walk in as students will be parading outside.

5) Please use your best judgments when selecting costumes.

Alternate Activities: We recognize that some families may not celebrate this holiday in the same way, if at all. **If you do not want your child to participate in these "traditional" activities, please send a note to the office BY 10/25/23**

An alternate activity will be provided in the school library

BARKSDALE FALL RE-TAKE DAY

Just a reminder that re-take day will be Wednesday, Nov 1st. If you were absent on the original picture day (September 20) or were new to the school and started after September 20, your child will be photographed on Nov 1st.



Halloween is the scariest holiday—for your teeth. During this holiday season, it might feel impossible to keep your kids away from the sweets. Use these tips to limit candy consumption, help prevent tooth decay, and



keep your kid's teeth healthy and happy.

What Halloween Candy Is the Worst for Teeth?

Any candy that contains sugar will feed the plaque development that leads to tooth decay. It's no secret that some of your favorite sweets can damage your teeth—and some types of Halloween candy are worse than others.

- **Hard candy.** You might think sticky candy would harm teeth most, but hard candy like lollipops and peppermints cause the most dental damage. These harder treats linger in your mouth longer, putting your teeth at risk for prolonged acid attacks, which lead to tooth decay. Plus, they can also trigger a dental emergency such as a broken or chipped tooth.
- **Sticky treats.** From gummy worms to caramels, sticky candy is plentiful during Halloween. These softer treats tend to remain on teeth and "stick around" long after the candy has been enjoyed. You can help reduce dental damage by enjoying one piece at a time, chewing thoroughly, and brushing teeth afterward.
- **Chewing gum.** Surprisingly, one of the safest Halloween treats to enjoy is gum. Gum stimulates extra saliva production, which naturally rinses the mouth and keeps plaque-causing bacteria at bay. Choose **sugar-free**, all-natural gum that's sweetened with xylitol, which helps to reduce plaque acids and bacteria that cause tooth decay.

How Do You Protect Your Child's Teeth During Halloween?

Though candy is plentiful, you don't have to let the threat of tummy aches and cavities ruin Halloween. With some extra diligence and a few ground rules, you can make the holiday fun and healthy for the whole family.

- **Inspect the loot.** When your child returns from trick-or-treating or a Halloween party, make sure you get a first look at the haul. Give them a piece or two to enjoy while you check their bag for tampered wrappers, potential allergens, or choking hazards.
- **Limit candy consumption.** Ask your child to help you sort the sweets into piles based on type: chocolate, gummies, and hard candy. Then use small baggies to create candy rations, including one piece from each pile. You can make a rule about how often your child enjoys a treat—like once or twice a week. Make sure to store the candy out of sight.
- **Make snacking healthier.** When it's time to indulge, permit candy consumption only at mealtime when extra saliva production helps to rinse food particles from teeth. Hard fruits and vegetables

can also help dislodge any sticky treats from crevices in the teeth. When eating candies, have your child drink a bottle of water to help periodically rinse the sugar from their teeth.

- **Propose a trade.** If your child collected more candy than they'll ever be able to eat, offer to make a few trades. Let the child use the candy to "buy" other items, such as movie tickets or a new toy. You might even have some smaller items available on Halloween night to help take the attention off the giant bag of candy.
- **Prioritize oral health.** Proper brushing with toothpaste is essential to preventing tooth decay, so getting your child into the habit is vital. Help your child **correctly brush their teeth** at the end of each day to remove sugary build-up. Also, practice regular flossing to remove any candy debris that might be stuck between teeth.

Have a Happy and Healthy Halloween!!!



Dates To Remember

Sept 29 - Homecoming - Wear Blue & Gold and all things Spring Ford

Oct 2 – National Custodian Appreciation Day – Be sure to High Five Mr. Mike and Ms. Kate!!!

Oct 11 - Fire Prevention Day - Wear Red

Oct 13 - Breast Cancer Awareness Day - Wear Pink

Oct 16 - No School for Students

Oct 23 -26 Red Ribbon Week :

Oct 23 - Be Kind to your Mind. Live Drug Free - Wear Red

Oct 24 - It's no sweat to be drug free- Wear Sweats

Oct 25 - Too bright for drugs - Wear bright colors and sunglasses

Oct 26 - Jump Rope Assembly - Anti Bullying Message

Oct 31- Happy Halloween! - Wear ORANGE/BLACK and costumes!

Nov 1 - Picture Re-take Day

Nov 10 - Veterans Day - Wear RED, WHITE, and BLUE

Nov 14 - Diabetes Awareness Day - Wear Blue

Dec 5 - T-Shirt Tuesday - Wear your RES T-shirts

Dec 8 - Festive/Ugly holiday sweater - Wear your ugliest most festive sweaters you own

Dec 18 - 22 Pre-Winter Break Spirit Week!

Dec 18 - Wear your favorite winter hat/scarf

Dec 19 - Holiday pajamas

Dec 20 - Wear something sparkly, shiny, white or bright

Dec 21 - Wear your favorite holiday colors

Dec 22 - Wear your favorite holiday sweater



Upcoming PTO Events 2023-2024

Sept 26 - Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser Begins

Oct 2-11 [Scholastic Book Fair](#) (evening shopping Oct 10 5:00pm-8:00pm)

Oct 12 - PTO meeting 7:00pm Media Center (free babysitting available)

Oct 16 - No School for Students & Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser Ends

Oct 23 & 24 - Haunted House Contest Drop Off

Oct 31 - Fall Classroom Parties

Nov 3 - Family Movie Night (more info to follow)