

FRANKLIN LAKES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

High Mountain Road School
765 High Mountain Road, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417

(201) 891-4433 desk • (201) 891-1689 fax
www.franklinlakes.k12.nj.us

Jaclyn Bajzath
Principal

August 26, 2019

Dear HMR Families,

Welcome back to the start of a new school year at High Mountain Road School. As August comes to a close, we are eager to welcome your children back to school for an incredible 2019-20 school year. Our staff has been working to prepare the building for another exciting school year! HMR has undergone some noteworthy changes and building upgrades, some of which include:

- Upgraded classroom libraries with thousands of dollars in exciting new titles thanks to a FLEF Grant
- A freshly painted lunchroom for the students to enjoy
- enVision Math is our new math resource in 5th Grade (K-4 will follow in the 20-21 school year)
- A new intercom and bell system throughout the building
- An updated HMR Sign for that sought-after first day photo, thanks to our PTA!

As we get ready here at HMR, it is time for families to get ready to head back to school too! The PTA website(<https://www.hmrpta.org/>), Genesis Parent Portal(<https://parents.franklinlakes.k12.nj.us/genesis/parents?gohome=true>), HMR website(<https://hmr.franklinlakes.k12.nj.us/>) provide you with wonderful opportunities to get ready for the school year at your own pace, and district electronic mailing. You can find forms, supply lists, calendars and more by utilizing these resources! Setting your child up for a successful school year is one of the most important things we can do together. The entire HMR Staff & PTA have lots to do as we get ready to welcome students back on our first day of school, Thursday, September 5, 2019.

I am certainly thrilled to welcome back all of the members of our HMR Family and introduce our 2019-20 Staff to you!

Preschool: Mrs. Weiss & Mrs. Scillia
Ms. Kuperus & Ms. Ferrara
Mrs. Sweeney & Mrs. Scrivanich
Kindergarten: Mrs. Palsi & Mrs. Perry
1st Grade: Mrs. Bibergal & Mrs. Kosch
2nd Grade: Mrs. Butters & Mrs. DePalma
3rd Grade: Mrs. Cooney
4th Grade: Mrs. LoCascio & Mrs. St.Germain
5th Grade: Mrs. Liedel & Mrs. Smolenski
CSI: Mrs. Macaluso & Ms. Tracey
Art: Ms. Intriago
Library: Mrs. Luciano and Mr. Vranesich
Physical Education: Mrs. Gallo
Instrumental Music: Ms. Bradley & Mr. Finnen
Choral Music: Mrs. Ferrone

Special Education: Mrs. Bernstein,
Mrs. Marotti, & Mrs. Rogic
ELL: Ms. Perrin
Discovery Room: Mrs. Hatley
G&T: Mrs. Mascharka
Guidance: Ms. DeFazio
School Nurse: Nurse Linde
Office Staff: Mrs. Cerbo & Mrs. Iturralde
Custodial Staff: Mr. Ted
Special Services: Ms. Lowenfels,
Mrs. Hoekstra, Mrs. Kallini,
Mrs. Rosenberg, Mrs. Savino, Mrs. Cabezas

Please make careful note of our opening day drop off and dismissal procedures, which are described below:

Opening Day Student Drop Off Procedures for K-5 Students

The first day of school is an exciting one for both parents and students, and many parents drive or walk their children to school on the first day. To ensure that our opening day drop off is smooth and safe, we will be using the following procedure. This is a one-day only procedure and applies only to parents who drive or walk their children. Parents of K-5 students may bring your children into the gym, where you can escort them to the area with their teacher's name.



If you have school supplies that cannot be carried by your child, please leave them in the assigned area labeled with your child's name and teacher. You may wait with your child until the 8:50 A.M. bell. The teachers will join the children at 8:45 A.M in the gym. At 8:50 A.M. the teachers will bring the students to their classes. To ensure the safety of all of our children, **parents may not escort their child to his/her classroom.**

Bus students will follow the usual entry procedures. Parents may also use the car line drop off method on the first day. Following the first day of school, parents should follow normal drop off procedures.

Parents of preschool students should follow the directions provided in the separate letter that will follow from the preschool teachers.

The first day of school is a minimum day for all students. K-5 Dismissal will be at 1pm and Preschool will dismiss at 12:50pm. There is not lunch service on minimum days. Please ensure your child has a nut-free snack. There will be an option to purchase a bagel that day from the PTA, more details to follow. School lunch service will start Friday, September 6th with No Fuss Lunch.

Start Time

Please note that the first bell rings at 8:45 A.M. This is our “open for business” bell and the one around which you want to arrange your schedule. Please plan to drop your child at school between 8:35 A.M. and 8:45 A.M. This will ensure that your child is ready to enter the building when the first bell rings and is seated in his/her classroom and ready to start the day before the late bell rings. Any student who enters the building after 8:50 A.M. will be marked late. Please do not drop your child off before 8:35 A.M.

Dismissal Procedures

We will continue our previous dismissal procedure. This procedure creates a very efficient and safe dismissal. A thorough description of the dismissal procedure process is available on the school website and is also attached to this email. New families will receive pink car signs on the first day of school. If you are not a new family, but require another copy of any of the signage for your vehicle(s), please contact the office.

Please return the Daily Dismissal Schedule on the first day of school. If it is not returned, you will have to park in the lot across the street and pick up your child at the main office. This document is also attached.

Final Notes

Your child's class placement will be available through Genesis for this school year by the close of the day on Tuesday, August 27th. *Parents of fourth and fifth graders will want to make special note of our departmentalized structure listed following the close of this letter.

Please mark your calendars for HMR's Back-To-School Night on Wednesday, September 18th at 7:00 P.M.

I look forward to welcoming back all the members of our HMR Community at 8:45 A.M. on Thursday, September 5, 2019.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Bajzath

* In addition to the homeroom your child is assigned to, our fourth and fifth grades are departmentalized to allow for specialization in specific subject areas. All of the fourth and fifth grade students will participate in the departmentalized subject areas with the teachers listed below:

- Fourth Grade Math, Mrs. LoCascio
- Fourth Grade Science & Social Studies, Mrs. St. Germain
- Fifth Grade Math, Mrs. Smolenski
- Fifth Grade Science & Social Studies, Mrs. Liedel

