



Bulletin Board

Week of May 2, 2011



2nd Grade Egyptian Museum

Once again our second grade students hosted an amazing tour of Ancient Egypt for the FSMH community. Their hard work and efforts were featured in the *Gloucester County Times* on Monday, April 18th. Visit the [FSMH Egyptian Museum](#) link to read the article!

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming Events and Updates:

Wed, May 4th 1st - 4th grades to Bay Atlantic Symphony Rowan University 9:15am - 11:30am

Thursday, May 5th Open Softball 3:00pm - 4:45pm

Thursday, May 5th PA Meeting 3:15pm - please note time change

Friday, May 6th Arc/Friends School MiniWalk 11:00am For more information on this important event, please read [T. Peter's attached letter](#).

Friday, May 6th PA Flower Pickup 3:00pm - 6:30pm in the gym

Wednesday, May 11th Open Softball 3:00pm - 4:45pm

Wednesday, May 11th PK - 2nd grade Spring Concert 7:00pm

Thursday, May 12th 3rd - 8th grade Spring Concert 7:00pm

Friday, May 13th Grandparents and Special Friends Day 8:30am - 12:00pm

Make plans now to attend the day with your special FSMH student. Students will be dismissed at **12:00pm**. For more details see the [Grandparents/Special Friends Invitation](#) and the [Grandparents/Special Friends Day Schedule](#). We hope you can join us for this wonderful and special day!

Saturday, May 21st First Annual FSMH Rummage Sale 8:00am - 12:00pm Sponsored by the FSMH Parent Association. For more details and deadline for space rental see [FSMH Rummage Sale](#)

What's Happening on Campus

State of the School - April 14, 2011

On April 14th Head of School Bruce Haines addressed members of the community including parents, teachers and trustees and shared highlights of Friends School's success in educating students for the 21st Century and a preview of plans for the 2011-12 school year.

Highlights for next year include:

Friends School is now accepting applications for Three Year-Olds! The school has researched and developed a promising academic curriculum and program focused on school readiness. This program will further expand our Early Childhood program, providing a strong educational foundation for more children.

The School and the Board are focusing on fundraising and facilities planning to replace Salem as academic space. The board focused on fundraising at its retreat on April 16 and along with Bruce will focus on fundraising and planning efforts for this project. Additional information on specific space plans will be shared as that work progresses next year.

The School is in conversation with a for-profit investor regarding possible construction of a solar electricity generation facility on school land to sell discounted electricity to the school. The project would benefit the school with reduced energy costs as well as allowing us to model environmental stewardship for students, and incorporate the project into our science, math and social studies curriculum. The lead investor for the project is currently seeking accredited investors. The school hopes to have a firm answer on the project by the time school starts in September.

One of Friends School's top priorities next year will be to further incorporate technology into the curriculum and classroom lessons and provide more technology training and leadership for teachers. The school will also be investing more in leadership for this work.

Bruce and Teachers Joseph, Kathy, Peter, Nicole, Glenn, Lesley and Patti also gave examples of how Friends School prepares students for their future success. Each teacher described examples of how we teach: creativity and innovation; analysis and integration; collaboration and teamwork; empathy; communication (written & oral); self-discipline & adaptability; and moral judgment. These are elements that educators agree will be critical for your children's success as they face the future. Grounded on Quaker values and incorporating education research, Friends School curriculum is already rich in projects and experiences that teach and reinforce each of these important ideas. Bruce also shared highlights of the use of technology in lessons at various grade levels. Future program growth will continue to focus on these topics and will incorporate even more use of technology.

If you missed the meeting and would like additional information on any of the above, feel free to contact Bruce.

What's Happening on Campus

Many Thanks from T. Colleen

T. Colleen would like to express her appreciation to the community. She is also looking forward to her return to the classroom. To read her letter, please see [T. Colleen's thank you](#).

A Message from the Fire Marshal!

In a visit to campus just at afternoon pick-up time, a representative from the Harrison Township Fire Marshal's office has reminded us of the importance that ***NO VEHICLES be left unattended, for even the shortest time, either along the yellow curb in front of the school building OR on the left side of the drive and drop lane, which is also posted with No Parking signs.*** This is a matter of safety for you and your children. At his instruction we will be reminding anyone who does park, even briefly, to please move your car to a designated parking area. Thank you for your cooperation by using the parking lot rather than leaving your car unattended on either side of the lane.

Upcoming Spring Concerts DVDs

Reserve your copies now for the upcoming Spring Concerts to be held on **May 11th** (PreK through 2nd grade) and **May 12th** (3rd grade through 8th grade). OK Video in Wilmington, DE has been selected to professionally videotape these events. For more information and an order form, please see the [Spring Performance DVD flyer](#). More specifics regarding the concerts will be available in upcoming bulletins.

Fine and Performing Arts Community is now accepting registrations for summer classes! See the [Registration Form](#) for information!

Join FSMH volunteers and "Go Green" with the Phillies on June 9th, 7:05pm Phillies vs Cubs

On June 9th, take part in the "Phillies Go Green" event and volunteer to collect recyclables during the game. Before heading to Citizen Bank Park, kick off the event with the **Parent/Teacher softball game** at FSMH from **3:00 - 4:45pm**. From **4:45 - 5:45pm** join us for a **tailgate BBQ** before departing the school at **5:45pm sharp** for the Phillies game. For complete details and a permission slip see the ["Phillies Go Green" flyer](#). Participation is on a first come, first served basis!



Follow the Yellow Brick Road and Save the Date for the Wizard of Oz!!

This year the Middle School students will be presenting The Wizard of Oz at the Tohill Theater at Rowan University on **Thursday, May 26th at 7PM**. Tickets and priority seating can be reserved for 5 dollars by contacting T. Patti at psanderson@friendsmh.org. We hope to see many Friends School families there! Bring along your favorite Munchkins!! See the [Drama Rehearsal/Costume flyer](#) for information regarding schedule practices and costume requirements.

What's Happening on Campus

2011 Summer MiniCamp Preview

MiniCamps with T. Nancy

Turtles, Frogs, and Ducks – OH MY! July 11 - July 15 9:00-12:00 Cost \$150 Ages 5 - 7

Come and discover life at the pond with T. Nancy. Activities will include stories, songs, crafts and of course - edible critters. Class size limited to 10 campers....so register early!

Kids in the Kitchen July 18 - July 22 9:00-12:00 Cost \$150 Ages 5 - 7

Cooking with Teacher Nancy is fun! Learn to use different cooking tools as you prepare recipes inspired by popular children's books. The best part of each day - tasting your creations! Class size limited to 10 campers.....so register early!

MiniCamps with T. Gina

Calling All Authors! Calling All Authors!

July 25 - July 28, August 1 - August 4 9:00-12:00 Cost \$250 Grades: 3rd - 5th

Do you love to read? Have you ever dreamed of writing your own children's book? Participate in this two week long mini camp with T. Gina and you will be immersed in reading fabulous children's literature and create your own children's book. Campers will love to show off their hard bound book that will last a lifetime! Class size 12 campers.

Let's Get Creative August 8 - August 12 9:00-12:00 Cost \$150 Ages 5 - 7

Join T. Gina in this fun creative camp! Students will get to express themselves through a variety of arts and crafts projects. They will have the opportunity to make and take home one of a kind, personalized items that can be used every day! Class size 12 campers.

Watch for additional MiniCamp Previews in upcoming bulletins or find additional information on the [FSMH MiniCamp](#) page of our website.

The [2011 Summer Camp Registration Form](#) is now available! Visit the [FSMH Summer Camp](#) page of our website for more details about the **2011 Summer Camp!**

Enroll in weekly sessions, Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 4:00 pm daily, with an early room beginning at 8:00 am and extended day option until 5:00pm at an additional cost. Campers will engage in creative, recreational and enriching activities, each around themed weeks and special field trips! Some of our weekly themes will include: Medieval Times, Around the World in 5 Days, Pirates, Planes, Trains, Automobiles, Theater, Sports & more! For more information contact: 856.478.2908 ext.356 or email ksaia@friendsmh.org or summercamp@friendsmh.org.

What's Happening on Campus

FSMH Teacher Feature - Getting to Know the Friends School Teachers

T. Olga Yelkina



T. Olga grew up in St. Petersburg, Russia. She describes it as “a beautiful city, rich in culture, with its unforgettable palaces, museums, and theaters. This city is truly a masterpiece; the work of leading architects from all over the world. It is a city of artists, composers, poets, writers, and scientists.”

She began learning piano at the age of 7, attending a musical institution, studying music theory and singing in the children's choir. T. Olga received her Associate of Applied Arts in Music Education at the Pedagogical College of St. Petersburg. She also earned a B.A. in Cultural Studies and Choral Music from the St. Petersburg Institute of Culture. Upon her arrival in the US, T. Olga furthered her education at Rowan University receiving a Certification in Music Education grades K-12 New Jersey and the Center of Music for Young Children in Princeton, NJ.

T. Olga began working at Friends School in Mullica Hill in 1998 as a private piano instructor and Music Together teacher at the Fine & Performing Community Arts Program. In 2001, she began teaching regular music classes and has had the opportunity to teach across all grade levels. Currently, T. Olga's responsibilities at FSMH include: Pre-K to 5th grade vocal and classroom music instruction, private piano instruction, and teaching Music Together classes at the Fine & Performing Arts School.

T. Olga became a teacher because, “I was inspired by many of my teachers from my youth, who were outstanding musicians and wonderful instructors.” She went on to add, “My parents also encouraged me to choose this path. Music was always a big part of my upbringing. While they were not professional musicians, my parents played and sang music in my home regularly at family gatherings.”

T. Olga chooses to teach at FSMH because of its “friendliness, warmth, and welcoming environment, providing me with freedom, flexibility and creativity.” She also values the dedication and willingness to help from the faculty.

To the classroom T. Olga brings her belief, “that music is a great achievement of human evolution. It is a treasure of our life, and every child has an innate musical potential, deserving to experience and learn this craft.” T. Olga finds inspiration from children's sincerity and openness to learn.

T. Olga lives in Cherry Hill with her husband, Yakov, and two children Yevgeniya, who is a student at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Andrew, a 6th grader at Rosa International Middle School. Andrew also attended Pre-K with T. Nancy and Shirley in 2004, and Kindergarten with T. Maria and T. Dorothy in 2005.

In her free time, T. Olga finds, “A good book is my best friend.” The last book she read was, “*A Russian Princess Remembers*” by Ekaterina Mescherskaya.

What's Happening on Campus

Fine and Performing Community Arts Spring Recital

Photo Highlights



2nd grade Egyptian Museum



What's Happening on Campus

2nd grade Egyptian Museum (continued)

