

Quaker Farms School



**Office of Rachael Cacace
Principal of Quaker Farms School**

September 11, 2018

Happy New Year! The beginning of the new school year is really like the “New Year.” It is the time for a new start, new hopes, new promises, and getting to know new teachers and make new friends. I hope this new start finds you rested and ready to begin a new journey. The students are off to a great start, thanks to the superb staff at QFS, the Oxford Board of Education and all of the outstanding parents that worked so hard in giving our children such a wonderful opening into the school year. The first day of school went smoothly and we had many smiling and HOT faces.

Celebrations & Events

- QFS currently has 362 students registered. PreSchool is at 15 students, kindergarten is at 107 students with 6 full day sessions, first grade consists of 112 students with six teachers, and second grade is at 128 students with six teachers. Average class size in kindergarten is 18 students, first grade is 19 students, and second grade is 21 students.
- PreSchool Orientation was held on August 21, 2018. Students and their families visited the classroom and participated in some “table top” activities and centers.
- New student orientation was held on August 23, 2018. Ten new first and second grade students and their parents visited Quaker Farms School. Parents and students were given a tour of the school and had an opportunity to ask questions. Parents and students were also informed of the rules, policies, and procedures at QFS.
- Kindergarten Orientation was also held on August 23, 2018. The students were acclimated to their classrooms and met their classroom teacher for the first time. While the students were getting use to their classroom, the parents met in the gym where I presented an overview of full day kindergarten along with some policies and procedures at QFS. Students and parents were able to take a short bus ride as well as enjoy refreshments from the Oxford PTO. Parents were also able to ask questions and receive answers on a one-to-one basis. Bus company representatives were also present to answer all busing questions and concerns.
- Quaker Farms School will celebrate Constitution Day on Monday, September 17th. Students will participate in various classroom activities and all students and staff are encouraged to wear red, white, and blue.

- Over the summer, QFS students participated in various summer reading initiatives including the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge. We are looking forward to rewarding those students who returned their Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge list with an “ice cream” celebration on Wednesday, September 26.
- Quaker Farms School Family Night, “Dancing Under the *STARS*” will be held on Thursday, September 27th from 5pm – 7pm. This will kick off our PBIS initiative where QFS students and staff learn to shine like a STAR...Show Kindness, Try Our Best, Act Safely, & Respect Others.

Communication

- Our annual Meet the Teachers Night will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018. First parents will have the opportunity to meet with the Special Education Teachers, Reading Specialist, Early Intervention Tutors, and the School Specialists (Art, Music, Library, Science and Physical Education) at 6:00. Parents will then visit with their child’s regular classroom teacher at 6:30 where they will have the opportunity to hear an overview of the curriculum, learn the rules and expectations of the classroom, and listen to what a typical day in the life of their child is like.
- PowerSchool information and KDG student passwords were sent out to all QFS parents as part of their Welcome Back letter in the mail. This will allow all parents to update important student information such as emergency contacts, phone numbers, and email addresses.

Facilities & Safety

- Quaker Farms School conducted its first fire drill on August 30 as well as its first lockdown drill on August 31. A September fire drill is scheduled.
- Two classroom teachers were ALICE trained over the summer in regards to school safety. I will be attending the same training on October 4 and 5. ALICE training was introduced at our staff meeting on August 27.
- The custodial staff at QFS worked very hard to get the building clean and ready for the start of school. A special thank you to the custodians and John Barlow for all of their efforts during the summer months.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachael L. Cacace

- John Barlow also met with the QFS staff on August 25th during our staff meeting to review the *Green Cleaning Initiative*, school security, and summer school improvement projects.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachael L. Cacace
Principal