



# Ben Franklin Herald

August  
2008

Ben Franklin Elementary School

Office: 724 465-5637 Fax: 724 465-1070

## From the Principal

Greetings! I trust that you have enjoyed your summer break. The first day of school is Monday, August 25th.

**Improving student achievement** remains our highest value, as well as our #1 goal. I am pleased to announce that for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year, *Ben Franklin has met AYP!* However, in a continuously changing and challenging world, we too must remain reflective and evaluative in the way we approach student learning. In light of that approach, we look forward to continuing our **German Club**, building upon our volunteer program: **VIPs (Volunteers In Partnership for Students)**, and launching the **Ben Franklin Academy** for struggling learners. If these opportunities intrigue you, contact Mr. Minnick for details.

2008 – 2009 marks the 3rd year of our school district's **Wellness Policy**. Please call Mr. Minnick if you have any question about **healthy foods** for your child's party(s) while in school. For example, sweets such as cupcakes are not permitted.

Promote **Reading/Literacy** from your home. Talk about the cover of the book with your child. Discuss the title, the picture and encourage your child to make predictions. Review those predictions as you read together. Also, keep in mind that children of all ages enjoy being read to. You can model fluency and voice inflection for your child. Does the figure 1,433 mean anything to you? It should! It represents the number of books our students read, as well as the number of links created, for our "Reading Chain" late last spring. Great job kids!

**Online Ben Franklin Bulletin** recipients: For those of you who are environmentally conscious, please contact Mr. Minnick about being added to our email database.

**Opening Day:** Monday, August 25. The school day begins at 8:55 a.m. and ends at 3:20 p.m. Children are expected to be seated in their homerooms no later than 8:55 a.m. Children are not permitted to arrive before 8:30 a.m. (Exceptions: those who attend the Indi-Kids Daycare or children who arrive early for a school sponsored event, such as a field trip.

I look forward to seeing you in a couple of weeks!

Sincerely,

Mr. Minnick

## DATES TO REMEMBER...

August	22	Kindergarten Open House 2-3PM
August	25	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of School
Sept.	1	Labor Day/School Closed
	3	Back-To-School Night for K-3 6:30 PM
		Back -To-School Night 4-6 6:30 PM
	15	School Picture Day
	18	Back-To-School Picnic at Mack Park 5-8 PM
	22	Picture Make-Up Day
October	1	Principal's Coffee 2:30PM
	6	Parent Tea 6:30PM
	7-9	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lutherlyn Trip
	10	Early Dismissal 11:45AM
	13	In-Service Day (Act 80)

## Have you moved, or is there a new family in your neighborhood?

If you have moved or are planning to move before the school year begins, please notify the office (724) 465-5637, so we can prepare your child's records to be sent to his/her new school. If you have moved but remain in the Ben Franklin attendance area, please inform us so we can change your child's records. Please encourage new families with school age children to register for school as soon as possible. Prompt registration of new students means a smoother start to the school year.

**Bus Assignments** for the 2008-09 school year will be mailed to your home. Assignments are made to regulate the number of students on each bus and to correspond with each child's residence. Any assignment problems will be identified and corrected during the first days of school. Please DO NOT change buses unless it is absolutely necessary. If you must need a bus change, notify the principal in writing. A pass will then be issued to your child.

**KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE...**Mark your calendar for Friday, **August 22**, when kindergarten classrooms will be open and kindergarten teachers will be available from 2:00 – 3:00. Parents and children are invited to attend. This experience will help the children to become familiar with the classroom and provide an opportunity to meet the teacher and other kindergarten students and their families.



## Back to School Picnic

Mark your calendars now for the Ben Franklin back to school picnic at Mack Park, Thursday evening,

September 18, 2008.

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHTS



Wednesday, September 3- **K-3** and  
Wednesday, September 10- **4-6**

Parents are invited to an evening designed to give an overview of the total school program and grade level curriculum. Beginning at 6:30 each evening, there will be a general meeting in the cafeteria followed by grade level meetings with your child's teacher in his/her homeroom.

**SCHOOL PICTURES**...will be taken on Monday, **September 15**. Purchase of photos will be handled on a pre-pay basis. These traditional school pictures will include a class composite. Additional information will be sent home during the first weeks of school.

### Breakfast and Lunch Programs

**Cafeteria Breakfast/Lunch Prices:** The price of breakfast is .85. Students receiving free lunches may also receive free breakfast, and those receiving reduced lunches can purchase breakfast for .30. Breakfast will be available on the first day of school and each day school is in session between 8:30 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. Lunch price is \$2.00, reduced lunch price .40, and extra milk .50



August 25, 2008 Menu

**Breakfast:** Breakfast Sausage Pizza, Choice of Fruit or Juice cup and Milk Available daily:  
Cereal and pop tart selections

**NEW OPTION:** Grab and Go Breakfast  
Bag-take back to your classroom and eat  
Pancakes w/Syrup

**Lunch:**  
Sausage Links  
Hash Brown  
Juice Cup  
Choice of Low fat Milk  
or

Alternate#1: Turkey Hot Dog on Bun  
Alternate#2: Ham and Cheese on Bun  
Alternate#3: Peanut Butter/Jelly with Yogurt Cup

Bonnie Gallo will be the manager of our cafeteria.

### Attendance and Building Security Guidelines

**Student Absence:** Please call the school office, (724) 465-5637 by 9:30 a.m. if your child is absent from school. Unless we have had contact with the parent or guardian of an absent student, a phone call will be placed to the home of each absent student. Your call in to the office will expedite the process.

*Pennsylvania state law requires that all students attend school when school is in session. Excused absences are for reasons of illness, recovery from accident or injury, required court attendance, or death in the family. Absences for educational trips must be approved in advance by the building principal to be considered excused absences from school.*

*A written excuse from the parent is required when a student returns to school from an absence. The excuse is required within (3) school days following the student's return. If the reason for the absence is not valid, or the excuse is not submitted with the (3) day limit, the absence will be recorded as unexcused.*

**Student Release from School:** The Indiana Area School Board has adopted policies on the release of a student during school hours. We cannot release a student to any adult other than that student's parent or guardian. The parent/guardian must come in to the school office and "sign out" the student. If a parent/guardian does grant approval for the student to be released to an adult not identified as parent/guardian, a written request is required. Identification may be required from any adult who comes in to take the student off of school grounds. The school reserves the right not to release a student to anyone other than the custodial parents if we have received a legal document determining custody. Please remember that all students must be signed out in the office. A parent/guardian should not proceed to a classroom ~ the student will be summoned to the office upon the arrival of the parent/guardian.

**Building Security:** All of our school entrances are locked by 9:00 a.m. Please enter our school using the main entrance. Press the buzzer outside the main entrance door and identify yourself to the office secretary. You will then be admitted to the building.

**All visitors to the building must proceed directly to the main office to sign in and receive a visitor's badge.** Please do not proceed through the building without signing in at the office. For student safety and building security it is essential that we know who is in the building at all times.

If you are dropping something off for your student's class or for your child, please permit our staff to be of service in delivering the items with the least amount of interruption to teacher instruction and student learning.

**THE BUS LOADING ZONE**...The guidelines established last year for private vehicles will be continued this year. To eliminate conflict with buses, parking in front of the school is strictly prohibited from 8:00 - 9:00 AM and 3:00 - 4:00 PM. During these times, vehicles must enter and exit the parking lot through the south entrance. There is a designated student drop-off area at the side of the building where children can safely walk on the sidewalk and enter through the front doors prior to 8:55 AM. If you bring your child to school after 8:55, please park in the school parking lot and walk your child to the office where you are required to sign in. Please note, there are a limited number of spaces in our parking lot. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Emergency Forms

New emergency care cards will be sent home with your child. Please complete two cards for each child. The white card will be placed in the School Nurse's Office and the yellow card will remain in the Main Office. Please pay careful attention when filling in the requested information, especially the name of a friend or relative to be called if the

parent/guardian cannot be contacted, in case of injury or illness. Please remember to sign the form on the back of the card. To maintain accurate records, please notify the school if there is an address or telephone number change during the school year. Also, if you wish to change the person whose telephone number we have on file, please call at your earliest convenience.

### **FOOTBALL TICKETS**

During the week of the home football games, we will be selling student football tickets in the main office for **\$2.00**. If you do not purchase a student ticket at school, all general admission tickets at the gate will be **\$4.00**. No student tickets will be sold at the gate. All games begin at 7:30PM on the following dates:

Friday, September 5  
Friday, September 19  
Friday, September 26  
Friday, October 17

# **PTA**

*everychild.one voice.*

**PLEASE JOIN THE BEN FRANKLIN PTA...** Become involved in your child's education by joining this active and supportive organization. Grandparents, aunts, uncles and neighbors are all welcome to join. Membership is just \$4.00 per year. It is not necessary to volunteer time, although many members devote many hours to strengthen and enrich the educational program for all of our students. The more members we have, the greater benefits we reap for our children. Thank you for all you do for the children of Ben Franklin School.

### **HOMEROOM PARENT PROGRAM...**



The Homeroom Tea has been scheduled for Monday, October 6. It will be held in the school cafeteria at 6:30p.m. During the tea the homeroom mothers and fathers will be planning the Halloween parties. The kindergarten classes have a few more parties to discuss. Those parents will be meeting with the teachers to get dates and ideas. A light refreshment will be provided by our Hospitality committee. Please remember, to be a homeroom parent you must be a PTA member. So get those applications filled out and sent in. Thank-you.

### **HAVE YOU EVER NEEDED TO KNOW...**

- where to get medical insurance for uncovered children and adults
- about low cost loans to buy a house
- where to find child care or learn about child care issues
- how to start a small business
- where to obtain counseling services

Indiana County Department of Human Services' **Human Services Information** can help with these requests and more. Information regarding medical care, education, transportation, housing, employment, child care, food, clothing, counseling, and support is available to any requesting individual. Human Services Information provides a link between those in need and agencies that

may be of assistance. To find the answers you need, call **724-349-0500**, email at [hsinfor@adelphia.net](mailto:hsinfor@adelphia.net) check out the website at [www.humanservices-countyofindiana.org](http://www.humanservices-countyofindiana.org) or visit the **Indiana County Department of Human Services** at 827 Water Street in Indiana. All information requests are completely confidential.

**Parents ~ Start the new school year with New Choices!**

**Unemployed, underemployed, or seeking a career change?**

**YOU hold the key to your success!**



**FREE 5-Week Course  
Career & Personal Development**

- ✓ Career Assessments & Job Search Strategies
- ✓ Professional Resumes & Cover Letters
- ✓ Interview Preparation & Practice
- ✓ Communication & Goal-Setting Skills
- ✓ Financial & Stress Management Skills
- ✓ Basic Computer Instruction
- ✓ Tuition Assistance for Further Education

**NEW CHOICES  
NEW OPTIONS**  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**ITUTU!**

ember 2<sup>nd</sup>

Call TODAY to enroll! 724-357-4738  
[www.voced.iup.edu/newchoices](http://www.voced.iup.edu/newchoices)

The IJHS Student Council would like to invite you to attend the 9th annual Craft Show on Saturday, October 25 at the Indiana Senior High School. There will be more than 40 vendors set up in the gym from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Door prizes donated by the crafters will be awarded throughout the day. Admission is only \$1.00, and tickets will be sold at the door. Refreshments will also be available. The students and crafters are looking forward to your support. There are still a few spots remaining for vendors. If you are interested in reserving a spots or have any questions, please contact Mrs. Lisa Kinter, STUCO advisor.

### **ATTENTION PARENTS CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE**

Do you have books that your children have outgrown? If you have any gently used books for younger children just learning to read, please donate them to the Indiana County Head Start! The books will be collected from the first day of school until Friday, September 12. The collection box will be placed near the main office. Thank you for helping to support literacy in our county. (This book drive is being organized as a part of Liam Young's Eagle Scout project.)

**Class Lists for 08-09**

<b>Mrs. Leonardo Room 9 Kindergarten</b>	
Mohamed Aldaway	Cameron Albert
Isaac Kuen	Madison Bence
Brody Kunselman	Sarah Daniels
Hayden Lybarger	Madison Delbrugge
Ethan Marcozzi	Shaylee Eisman
Tanner Smith	Courtney Hozak
Ryan Trostle	Chloe Kocinski
	Alexis Single
	Lauren Visnesky
	Harley Wolfgang

<b>Mrs. Carr Room 10 Kindergarten</b>	
Lucas Connell	Jasmine Burtick
Tucker Davis	Trynity Kester-Williams
Jacob Freeman	Olivia Kuzneski
Joshua Keene	Savannah Mimis
Jordan Lauer	Alivia Parke
Gavin Prebish	Lily Palfrey
Kylen Sawtelle	Samantha Shumaker
Kevin Tra	
Daniel Williams	

<b>Mrs. Stalteri Room 14 Kindergarten</b>	
Jonathan Dietz	Kiley Libengood
Kayden Edwards	Hannah Mcilwain
Patrick Greene	Kylie McIntire
Zachery Huey	Jossalyn Satterfield
Landen Leasure	Hailey Schrecengost
Corbin Murdick	Adelle Ziegenfuss
Justin Reese	Sara Zimmerman
Kyle Thome	

<b>Miss McCutcheon Room 30 Kindergarten</b>	
David Avey	Natalie Camilli
Cole Dillon	Leah Campbell
Jessie Harper	Jonnessa Hughes
Andrew Legros	April McKendrick
Carter Robbins	Teagan Merriman
Dalas Waltemire	Sandy Milby
Noah Westover	Madison Palmer
Zachary Wood	

<b>Mrs. Geary Room 1 Grade 1</b>	
Cole Brown	Lindsay Booth
Austin Edwards	Emily Busija
Dennis George	Alexis Fisher
Xavier IntVeld	Aliyah Isenberg
Brayden Hodak	Harley Kessler
Robert Murdick	Sammantha Mackey
Nick Shaffer	Kayley Palmer
Jeffrey Skursky	Madison Pernesky
Keith Sprenger	Haley Powell
Herbert Watson	Haleigh Trabert
Caleb White	

<b>Mr. Moran Room 3 Grade 1</b>	
Dante Adamson	Nicole Aloise
Mohannad Al Maita	Haylee Blystone
Cameron Anderson	Angela Campbell
Nathan Birch	Bryanne Clayton
Hunter Burris	Alissa Gornick
Dustin Buterbaugh	Christa Kunkle
William Ferguson	Avery Redd
Samuel Frumkin	Alexis Smathers
Raymond Kovach	
Donovan Mimis	
Joshua Pahel	
Jacob Steiner	

<b>Mrs. Marshall Room 4 Grade 1</b>	
Thomas Blystone	Rebecca Boston
Adam Fulmer	Jessa Degnan
Alexander Holby	Daylynn Enriquez
Jason Kovalchick	Sylvia Galeno
Michael McGarvey	Katelyn Ondo
Ryan Olechovski	Morgan Patterson
Drew Rado	Lauren Saurer
Vincent Sherry	Megan Wood
Chase Thomas	
Malik Turner	
Nick Vennard	

<b>Mrs. Cunningham Room 6 Grade 1</b>	
Zuhayr Affan	Reaghan Altman
Josiah Burkett	Lexus Dadson
Lucas Claypool	Jordan DeBar
Joseph Kuzneski	Danielle Domino
Nathan Myers	Krista Harper
Nicholas Owens	SunWoo Kim
Jonathan Pecany	Julie McCurdy
Justin Raible	Kayla Moran
Braedon Rearick	Elizabeth Turek
Alexander Roush	
Preston Satterfield	
Kevin Zheng	

<b>Mrs. Obush Room 32 Grade 2</b>	
Hammad Affan	Rachel Clayton
Mikail Bajwa	CourtneyJo Edwards
Chase Cunningham	Sarah Harper
Brandon Gunsallus	Skylar Hughes
Adam Linder	Sadie McBride
Zach McDivitt	Grace Margita
Aiden Murdick	Breanna Olechovski
Joey Plivelic	Michayla Rinker
Logan Shupe	Haleigh Zimmerman
Devin Smith	

<b>Mrs. Pina Room 33 Grade 2</b>	
Chase Clawson	Alexis Baker

Kyle Fatora	Katie Davies
Michael Huml	Molly Nowell
Robert Mackey	Maura Nutter
Mason McCauley	Alexa Piraino
David Simmerman	Laylah Richardson
Tyler Stiles	Breanna Smathers
Chance Thomas	Caitlin Thomas
Jacob Valentin	
Eddie Williams	

<b>Mrs. Matz Room 34 Grade 2</b>	
Corey Blystone	Madison Berzansky
Grant Harkleroad	Kira Cunningham
Tye Juart	Claire Gamble
Joseph McCracken	Morgan Jarvie
Matt Robinson	Madelynn Muller
Luke Thomas	Sequoiah Rhoades
Andrew Woan	Liliana Semone
Nick Wood	Shaelyn Waltemire
	Eryn Watson

<b>Mrs. Bartolini Room 29 Grade 3</b>	
Tommy Arbuckle	Kaitlin Altman
Tyler Balogh	Halle Angelo
Vince Birch	Trisha Blystone
Carlos Carter	Maria Galeno
Gavin Cowen	Kilee Gaston
Corbin Crawford	Noor Ghanam
Jarrett DeFoor	Emma Kenley
Preston Dulion	Brianna McCurdy
Tyler Moran	Jordan Raible
Dalton Rhoades	Saige Shelkey
Creighton Ziegenfuss	Cassidy Turek

<b>Mrs. Bailey Room 31 Grade 3</b>	
Sebashtian Brown	Nabeeha Affan
Ryan Goodrich	Caitlin Blystone
Eric Griffith	Nicole Clawson
Erik Isenberg	Tayla Fair
Brent Johnson	Makenzie Kessler
Gunther Kishlock	Destiny McKendrick
Aaron LeVier-Gray	MacKenzie Prosser
Braden Schrecengost	Makaela Rising
Luke Sergent	Hannah Smith
Wyatt Wolfgang	Jacqueline Sprenger

<b>Mrs. Hilliard Room 35 Grade 3</b>	
Kevin Beer	Kara Gibbon
Timothy Blair	Carlie Glavach
Noah Burkett	Kelsey Heckert
Austin Carnahan	Cassie Kuzneski
Isaac Evans	Shelby Lewis
Logan Lybarger	Brittney McDivitt
Mason Maschak	Alicia Mimis

Nolan McQuown	Samantha Palmer
Gavin Miller	Haley Pernesky
Jeremey Rising	Sandra Shanshala
Franco Woan	Jennifer Zheng

<b>Mrs. Sabbia Room 16 Grade 4</b>	
Danyal Bajwa	Sumer Chappell
Bobby Bell	Sarah Coffman
Nathan Cribbs	Catherine Crusan
James Hanna	Wiley Frumkin
Reed Harkleroad	Taylor Marcozzi
Brayden Lorelli	Abby McCauley
Jeremy Metzger	Anna Mimis
Triston Mibroda	Randi Schrecongost
Caleb Rinker	Aurora Vatter-Mcilwain
	Carley Yosurack

<b>Mrs. Laverick Room 17 Grade 4</b>	
Brenden Crusan	Abigail Blair
Jack Ferguson	Phinelope Haggerty
Matthew Fletcher	Megan Kester
Zach Linder	Kallie Kocinski
Kyle Lear	Katrina Laney
Nicholas Roberts	Joanna Li
Jared Rupert	Rebecca Olechovski
Caleb Sipos	Lillian Rauss
Aaron Springs	Angel Redd
	Kara Sciulli

<b>Mr. Rado Room 18 Grade 4</b>	
Dakota Gunsallus	Leesa Blystone
Colton Kunkle	Sadie McQuaide
Brenden Lawton	Mariah Mibroda
Hojun Lee	Hope Nibert
Keaton Libengood	Jaena Owens
Joe Muller	Sarah Pistole
Remington Nicklow	Ellen Simmerman
Ray Pollock	Autumn Slupek
James Williamson	Kathleen Tra
	Hannah Wood

<b>Mrs. Maudie Room 19 Grade 5</b>	
Brenden Connell	Cassidy Fairman
Brendon Curry	Tiffany Hozak
Dustin Fair	Madelin Kuzneski
Ryan Holby	Bailey Lastner
Zach Kosicek	Ivy Morrow
Mack Kuhne	Autumn Owen
Hyunseob Leem	Emily Reese
Sooraj Sharma	Danielle Rosenberger
Ben Strong	Courtney Shetler
	Bryanna Yeager

<b>Mrs. Helsel Room 21 Grade 5</b>	
Joseph Cook	Rachel Baumler

Landon Coy	Josephine Campbell
Tyler Dillon	Jennifer Han
Dominick Glavach	Teghan Kallsen
Dean Haggerty	Cassidy Mouser
Dakota Jarvie	Rachel Park
Zach Prugh	Kacey Raible
Christopher Schmidt	Jamie Simmons
Matt Swatsworth	Phyllis Springs
David Wiles	Shawna Wyatt

Kevin Cawley	April Butler
Brandon Cribbs	Kelsey Cunningham
Shayne Domino	Natalie DeBar
Austin Evans	Jennifer Graham
Brandon Griffith	Ruvini Navaratna
Ian Hatter	Kristin Nibert
Chase Irvin	Jocelyn Nisbet
Abdur-Rahman Jabir	Amia Redd
	Rachael Shanshala
	Chanel Sherry
	Taylor Thomas
	Megan Wise

<b>Mr. Talotta Room 23 Grade 5</b>	
John Angelo	Brianna Dalessio
Joshua Blystone	Brianna Dillon
Trevor Bartlebaugh	Emily Dulion
Jason Evans	Alison Feight
Mason Frumkin	Alexis Fleming
Izaak Gray	Tessa Rinehart
Jason Herrington	Larissa Rocco
Mickey Juart	Prihana Shetty
Brett Muir	Amber Wilson
Cole Shaffer	
Ben Snyder	

<b>Mrs. Beard Room 22 Grade 6</b>	
Alec Ebeling	Annaleana Blystone
Joey Ferguson	Tianna Deyarmin
David Hanson	Emily Farmer
Shane King	Abbi Henry
Ben Linder	Callee Hill
Tyler Lyons	Stormie Jacobson
Austin Miles	Haley Johnson
Eric Olechovski	Neda Karimi
Joey Sciulli	Dokyung Lee
Ryan Stambaugh	Kennedy Libengood
Tyler Watson	Sophie Nowell
	Kristen Sulkosky

<b>Mrs. Troutwine Room 24 Grade 6</b>	
Travis Berry	Laykin Altman
Miles Dietz	Michaela Boston
Devon Ewing	Lexi Gamble
Brody Halliwell	Kierston Hensley
Adam Henry	Katlin Moore
Hunter Hughes	Rachael Mossgrove
Evan Jeffries	Baylee Sergent
Jacob Kester	Brettlyn Shelkey
Luke Lewandowski	Stephanie Smith
Nathan Shirley	Ashlee Stiener
Quintin Shupe	Coley Yosurack
Jordan Valentin	

<b>Mrs. Horvath Room 26 Grade 6</b>	
Paul Birch	Lexi Bocook