**Forestdale International School**

**74 Sylvan St.**

# Malden, MA 02148

Mr. Donald P. Concannon- Principal Karie Carpenito-Assistant Principal

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Dear Parents and Guardians, April 25, 2016

This spring, your child will take new tests in English language arts (ELA) and math, called “PARCC.” Your child will take the PARCC tests this year in place of the MCAS tests in ELA and math. The state will decide in the fall of 2015 whether PARCC will permanently replace MCAS.

April 26 through June 6 will be the testing period for PARCC for the areas of Mathematics (Gr. 3-8) and English Language Arts, (3 - 8). The daily schedule is located on the school website. PARCC testing is computer based and students are tested in English Language Art and in Mathematics. The tests are approximately 60-90 minutes in length; they are timed for most students.

Your support during the testing period can make a difference in how well your children perform. You can help them understand that while the PARCC tests are important, there is no need to stress over them. A few requests and suggestions that will help your child, and school logistics, are below. Your children have all participated in a PARCC test tutorial and PARCC practice test. You can view all the information about PARCC and view practice test, take the tutorial and practice with you child or children at [**http://parcc.pearson.com/**](http://parcc.pearson.com/)**, we strongly recommend that parents and guardians view the PARCC site with their child.**

* **Please make every effort to get your child to school on testing days**. (Sick children, of course, should remain home.) Students who are absent will have to make up any tests they miss. As a result they will miss class time on the make-up day.
* **Make sure children arrive on time** (**7:45** for Gr. 7 & 8; **8:15** for Gr. K-6). Testing often starts first thing in the morning.
* See that they get **at least** **8-10 hours of sleep** the night before each test.
* **A healthy snack** (e.g. nuts, ![MC900215520[1]]()a high fiber granola bar, cheese and crackers, fruit![MC900191715[1]]()) may be sent.

**🕫 Chips, cookies, candy or other “junk food” and beverages other than water are not permitted.**

* For students who eat at home, provide **a breakfast high in protein and low in sugar**. **A high protein snack** (e.g. nuts, a high fiber granola bar, cheese and crackers) may be sent. Please – do not send cookies, candy or sweetened drinks.
* If you have any questions regarding the PARCC test please contact Mrs. Carpenito (Assistant Principal), Ms. Pullano (Guidance Counselor) or Mr. Concannon (Principal).

Thank you for your support,

Donald P. Concannon

Principal