



March 7, 2008

Dear Parents,

As spring approaches, we have much exciting news to share from Farmington Woods. We are pleased to announce that five of our Farmington Woods teachers have been nominated for the Wachovia Foundation Excellence in Teaching Award, sponsored by the Cary Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations to Stephanie Dost, Scott Gaitan, Colleen Garvey, Katrina Owens and Shannon Zalinski. The winner of this award will receive a \$1,000 award and will be announced at a celebration at the Koka Booth Amphitheatre at Regency Park on May 12.

Thanks to our generous PTA, the students and staff have enjoyed an outstanding variety of cultural arts performances this year. We have been honored to host the Solazo Family concert and Arithmetickles, to name a few. On Wednesday, March 5 we enjoyed a visit from illustrator Chris Soentpiet. Mr. Soentpiet, who was born in Korea and adopted by American parents, spent the entire day sharing his inspirational story with our students. During his demonstrations he shared his process and how he perfects his craft. He also spent time meeting with students and autographing books for them. We appreciate our PTA for providing these opportunities for our students.

The staff members and parents on the School Improvement Team have spent many hours drafting a blueprint in the areas of reading, writing, math and healthy schools. One of the goals the team has been focusing on has been recruiting and retaining quality staff members. Thank you to all the team members who have dedicated so much time and effort to make Farmington Woods an even better place for children.

Farmington Woods has been informed by Magnet Schools of America that we have been selected for an MSA Award as a Magnet School of Distinction. This is a national award that is based on commitment to high academic standards, curriculum innovation, successful desegregation/diversity efforts and the consistent delivery of quality services. Farmington Woods will be honored, along with other recipient schools, at the National Conference on Magnet Schools. This conference will be held in Chattanooga, Tennessee on April 28-May 1, 2008.

As a reminder, Farmington Woods has an early release day scheduled for Thursday, March 20, 2008. Children will be released at 12:30 on this day. Friday, March 21 is a school holiday. Spring Break for students will be March 31 through April 7, 2008. April 7 is a Teacher Workday and students return to school on Tuesday, April 8, 2008.

Sincerely,

Frances Venezia  
Principal



