December 2019 Spotlight
Our Spotlight this month features
Mr. Corey Roberts, 4-6th Grade ELA Teacher

Can you share a bit of background about you:
I live in Agawam, MA.

What was your job before coming to Farmington River?
Before coming to Farmington River I was a student at Westfield State University. I also worked at Rocky’s Hardware Store.

What are your hobbies, or what do you enjoy doing on your time off?
I enjoy playing my guitar and bass. I like to read, play video games, and play softball during the summer and fall.

What is your job at Farmington River and what does it entail?
At Farmington River, I teach 4th-6th grade ELA (English Language Arts). I have the 4th grade class for homeroom.

Can you tell us how you feel about working at Farmington River and what your goals are in your position?
I’m excited to begin my career at Farmington River and would love to get a permanent position here. It’s a great school, with great class size and community feel.

What’s your favorite part of the day?
My favorite part of the day is the morning. I love to greet the kids as they come in and see what kind of energy they are bringing.

What sort of message do you want to give to the children and parents at Farmington River?
I’m glad to be part of Farmington River; it’s a great school and community to be a part of. I’m really glad to start my career here.

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”
– Aristotle
**GENERAL PTA UPDATES**

**HOLIDAY SHOP: DECEMBER 12-13**
It’s that time of year again for our Holiday Shop! This tradition allows our children in grades K-6 to choose gifts for their family members, teachers, friends and pets at prices ranging from $1-5. Please send your child with their money in an envelope, labeled with their name, and a reusable shopping tote.

**OTIS RIDGE SKI PROGRAM**
The PTA is sponsoring the Family Ski Night Program with Otis Ridge for students in K-6 and their families. PreK students can ski with a parent but no lessons are available. The program runs for 6 weeks on Wednesday evenings, starting January 8th. More information, including online sign up, is available at otisridge.com. (From the main menu, click on Ski School, then Wednesday Night School Programs and select FRRSD.) The deadline to sign up at the discounted rate is December 9th. See you on the slopes!

**QUARTER AUCTION A SUCCESS!**
We raised nearly $2,000 for students’ classroom accounts with our inaugural Quarter Auction! Parent and PTA member Jenna Bessey organized and auctioneered the event and Food Services Director Kendra Rybacki prepared a delicious dinner prior to the auction. Thank you to all of our vendors, parents, teachers, local businesses and community members who donated items and came out to support us!

**PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES DINNER**
Thank you to the parents who made a taco dinner with Candy Apple Bar for staff members during conferences!

✦ **Collect Box Tops!** If your package has a traditional Box Tops clip, cut it off and send it to the school, making sure it has a valid expiration date. If your package has a new SCAN label, there’s no need to clip: just use the NEW Box Tops app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school’s earnings online. See [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for more information.

✦ **Amazon Smile purchases help us earn money!** Simply visit [https://smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and log into your Amazon account. You can select Farmington River Elementary School as your charitable organization, and Amazon will then donate .5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to us! AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know: same products, same prices, same service.

✦ **Price Chopper Tools for Schools:** This program allows you to earn points to help our school get needed equipment, such as school supplies, musical instruments, and playground equipment. Our school code is 14062. Simply sign up at the store, or visit: [www.pricechopper.com](http://www.pricechopper.com)

✦ **Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards** offers customers the opportunity to be rewarded by earning money for their designated school! Our school code is 05619.