

FAIR HAVEN GRADE SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2026

Principal's Message

Dear Families,
As we move into November, the changing season gives us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on gratitude and everything that makes our school community so special. Throughout this month, we are encouraging students to reflect on what they are thankful for—from their families and friendships to the daily learning experiences they share here at school.

To help bring this focus to life across our whole school, our Student Voice group is designing school-wide activities to help every classroom engage in gratitude thinking! Whether through creative projects or classroom conversations, our goal is to build a lasting culture of appreciation that extends far beyond the Thanksgiving holiday.

Benchmark Assessment Update
Throughout October, students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 completed Star 360 benchmark assessments in reading and math. These tools give us valuable insights into each student's growth and help us tailor instruction to support their individual needs.
We are pleased with how our students performed, showing steady progress in both subjects as well as strong skill retention over the summer. Individual student reports will be shared during your upcoming parent-teacher conferences (or mailed home shortly after). Teachers are currently using this assessment data along with daily classroom work to set personalized learning goals for the months ahead:

- Targeted Practice: Teachers are facilitating small group sessions to focus on specific skill areas where students need extra practice.
- Specialized Intervention: For students needing more intensive academic support, targeted interventions will be provided by our school-wide interventionists through the educational support plan process.

As always, we will continuously track progress and adapt our teaching to help every child reach their full potential.

Conference Reminder
Please check our calendar for upcoming school events and be sure to schedule your parent-teacher conference:

- Grades K–4: Sign-up links were sent out via email by your child's teacher.
- Grades 5 & 6: Sign-ups for student-led conferences (taking place in December) will be available soon.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We are deeply grateful for our incredible FHGS community and look forward to celebrating this season of gratitude together!

Warm regards,
Mrs. Infurna, Principal

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

6th - Early Release -
Parent-teacher conferences (K-4)
Options-Based Drill week of Nov. 9th
9th - SV Board Meeting, OVS 6:30 p.m
11th - No school - Veterans' Day
13th - School Picture Retakes
18th - PTO mtg 5:00 p.m.

17th - PLC Cluster Team meeting
19th - Veggie Van Go 10-11 a.m. FHUMHS
23rd - School Board Meeting FHUMHS 6:30 p.m.
24th - Business cluster team meeting
25th - 27th No School-Thanksgiving
30th - Falcon Gathering, 8:30 a.m.

DECEMBER

7th - School Board Meeting, FHGS 6:30 p.m.
Egress Drill (Fire) week of December 7th
9th - Winter Concert - 5/6 general music, chorus and band. 6:30 p.m. (weather date - 16th)
9th - PTO mtg 5:00 p.m
15th - Intermediate Parent Literacy Escape Room night 5-6 pm
14th -17th 5/6 student-led conferences
17th - Veggie Van Go 10-11 a.m. FHUMHS
21st - Board Meeting FHUMHS, 6:30 p.m.
22nd Early Release Day
22nd - Grade 4 family gingerbread house project 9:00-10:30
23rd - Jan 1st - No School-December Break



Kindergarten



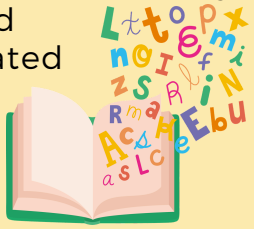
Kindergarten Science: Going Batty!

Our kindergarten scientists have been exploring the fascinating world of bats! We have been learning that bats are mammals, not birds, and that most are nocturnal, meaning they are active at night. We have also been discovering how many bats use echolocation—making sounds and listening for echoes—to find their way and to locate food in the dark. These amazing animals help nature by eating insects or pollinating plants. Our bat study has encouraged curiosity, built science vocabulary, and helped us appreciate these remarkable nighttime neighbors!



Loving Literacy

Literacy students focused on developing foundational reading and writing skills. They practiced composing sentences, learned new heart words, and searched for familiar heart words in books. Students also worked on reading and writing three-letter words, strengthening their phonics and word-recognition skills. Through these activities, they collaborated with classmates and supported one another as they practiced and built confidence in their literacy skills. We are so proud of their hard work and the progress they continue to make!



Grade 3

This month FHGS fourth graders began exploring a new science curriculum called OpenSci! This program sparks students' interest by focusing on inquiry and questioning of a specific scientific phenomenon. In particular, fourth grade students are focusing on Earth's processes through an inquiry based exploration of the changing landscape of Acadia National Park in Maine. This unit will then expand into additional explorations and experiments that help students understand how Earth's surface changes over time due to Earth's processes and various natural disasters.

This learning also parallels student learning in ELA, as students have been exploring a nonfiction text about Earthquakes. Next, students will research their own natural disasters and write a multi-paragraph informational essay!

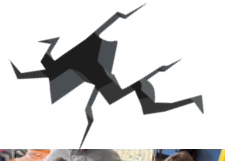










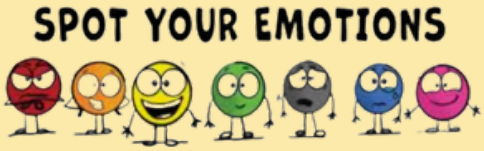






Student Support Center Strategies

Helping Students Understand Their Feelings



Helping children understand and manage their emotions is vital to their development. In our Student Support Centers, we use Diane Alber's A Little SPOT of Feelings series to support this learning.

These engaging books introduce emotions simply and relatably. Through colorful characters and clear examples, students learn that all feelings are normal and see how emotions affect their bodies and behaviors.

The collection gives students a shared language to discuss how they feel. Rather than just saying they are having a bad day, familiar visuals help them identify specific emotions and express what they need.

Additionally, the books teach practical coping strategies to help children manage frustration, calm down, and work through worry or difficult situations.

A key message is that there are no bad feelings. We aim to help students recognize, understand, and navigate all emotions appropriately rather than eliminate uncomfortable ones.

Integrating A Little SPOT of Feelings builds emotional awareness, self-regulation, and confidence in tackling everyday challenges.

Ultimately, we want students to know they are supported and equipped with lifelong tools to manage even the biggest emotions.

Early Middle Level Happenings

Early Middle students participated in fun and creative STEAM activities to celebrate October and build teamwork! Students rotated through four hands-on stations, each offering an opportunity to explore, create, and problem-solve.



At the Virtual Pumpkin Patch, students designed and “carved” their own pumpkins online. At Monster Shape Up, they used pattern blocks to create unique monster designs. At the Catapult Station, students built catapults using popsicle sticks and rubber bands to launch mini “pumpkins.” Finally, students embraced the beauty of fall by creating leaf designs with natural materials, such as leaves and twigs.

It was a wonderful way for students to work together, use their creativity, and enjoy some seasonal STEAM fun!









PE Class at FHGS









Check out all the amazing things our students have been doing in the PE classroom! All FHGS students did a fantastic job working hard, using all the muscles in their bodies, and building overall strength while completing our obstacle course last week. They also had a great time participating in cardio activities and working on their cardiovascular endurance through our Omnikin ball activities!

Check out these photos to see some of the fun and memorable moments happening in our PE classroom!

Keep SOARing to new heights, FHGS!







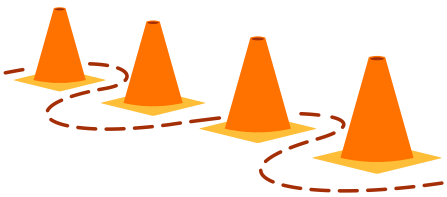












FUN AT SCHOOL





Spirit Week





Students and staff enjoyed our Red Ribbon Spirit Week organized by our Student Voice Group. It included a PJ and stuffy day, dress as your favorite book character, dress as a teacher/student, anything but a backpack and Falcon Spirit Day!







Distribution November 19th
10:00-11:00 a.m.
Fair Haven Union
Middle & High School





Bundle Up!



Please remember to dress for the weather, as it is starting to get cooler out. We try to bring all students outside daily, following our district's guidelines for outdoor classes.

If you need support with winter gear please reach out to:
Carrie Ann Wolcott
Home School Liason
ext. 7068

