FAIR HAVEN GRADE SCHOOL

MAY 2026

Principal's Message

Dear Families,

As we enter the final stretch of the school year, the pace begins to pick up—filled with energy, excitement, and many meaningful moments. This time of year always brings a sense of reflection and celebration, as we recognize just how much our students have grown—academically, socially, and emotionally. May and June are truly special at FHGS, as we come together to honor accomplishments, create lasting memories, and strengthen the connections that make our school community so strong.

There is so much to look forward to in the weeks ahead:

- **Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week (May 4–8):** A meaningful opportunity to recognize the incredible dedication, care, and commitment our staff show to students and families each and every day.
- **Field Trips:** Students will have opportunities to extend their learning beyond the classroom through hands-on, real-world experiences that bring curriculum to life.
- **Memorial Day Program:** A heartfelt tradition at FHGS, where we come together to honor and remember those who have served our country.
- **Spring Concert:** Our Grades 3–4 general music students, band and chorus, will showcase their hard work and talents.
- **Celebration of Learning**: This special event provides students the opportunity to share their progress, reflect on their growth, and take pride in their accomplishments with you.
- **Falcon Fest:** A favorite among students, this field day experience promotes teamwork, school spirit, and fun through a variety of engaging outdoor activities.
- **Family BBQ:** Bringing families, students, and staff together for one of our annual favorites.
- **6th Grade Celebration**: We look forward to honoring our 6th grade students as they prepare for their transition to middle school, celebrating both their achievements and the bright paths ahead of them.

While the weeks ahead will be busy, they are also filled with opportunities to pause, celebrate, and appreciate the journey. Thank you for being an important part of this school year. Together, let's savor these final moments and finish the year strong, with pride in all that has been accomplished.

With appreciation,
Deborah Infurna
Principal

Calendar of Events

May

4th - Staff Appreciation Week
4th - Board Meeting CES 6:30
5th - Kindergarten Parent Math Night 5-6 pm
6th- Spring Concert (3rd/ 4th general music, beginning & intermediate band, 4-6 chorus)
8th Miss Lucy Native American Education 8:30-2:30.
Options-Based Drill Week of May 11, 2026
11th Preschool family night 4:00-5:00 p.m.
18th - 1st Grade Field Trip
21st - Memorial Day Program - 9:30 a.m. in gym
22nd - Early Release Day
22nd - grades 5/6 Dance 6:00-8:00.
25th - No School - Memorial Day
26th - Celebration of Learning 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
27th - 2nd Grade Field Trip
28th - 3rd Grade Field Trip
29th - High Notes Field Trip
29th - Primary BBQ

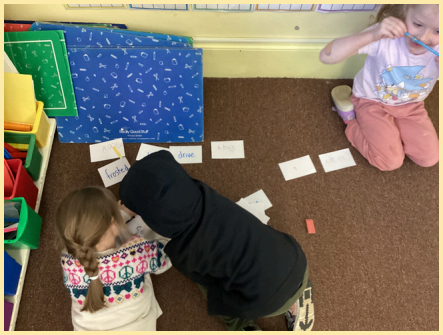
June

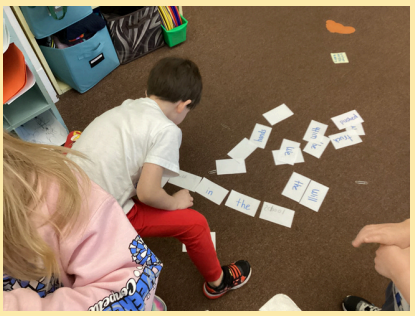
Egress Drill (Fire) Week of June 1, 2026
1st - Falcon Gathering
3rd K Field trip
3rd - 4th Grade Field Trip
5th - Intermediate BBQ
5th - Grade 6 field trip
11th - PTO mtg 5:00 p.m
8th - 6th grade visit middle school
11th FHU seniors walk the halls of FHGS 9:00 a.m.
12th Grade 6 celebration 11:00, 5th & 6th grade BBQ 12:15
15th & 16th - Falcon Fest
17th 5/6 Beach Day 9:30-2:30/ Move up day - 9:00.
17th - Preschool last day
18th Early Release (last student day)

Kindergarten

Kindergarten students have been collaborating to arrange words into complete sentences. They then build on their work by adding their own words to expand each sentence. This engaging activity has supported them in creating clear, detailed, and complete sentences.









I can Spell



Distribution
May 15, 2026
10:00-11:00 a.m.
Fair Haven Union
Middle & High School



FHGS PTO

The PTO has been super busy making plans as we move towards the end of the school year. We were happy to provide snacks for state testing again this year. We will be sponsoring the 5/6 School Dance on May 22nd. Students have voted for "Cities" as their theme this year.

We will sponsor our annual Block Party with a DJ at the playground for the Celebration of Learning on May 26th. This event has become an exciting way for families to end the evening.

For Teacher and Staff Appreciation, we will be sponsoring two activities. We will be looking for some breakfast donations from families one day. We will also be sponsoring a catered lunch for all staff to enjoy. We are working with staff to support some fun projects at Falcon Fest this year! More information will be coming home about these events as they get a little closer.

Please consider joining our PTO team! We meet on the second Wednesday of each month for just one hour. It takes a village and we need your help keeping all of these events going for years to come.

Drama Club

Our cast of nearly 70 students from grades 1-6 did an outstanding performance of three short plays: Dolly the Polka-Dotted Llama, Talent Show Trouble, and Peter Pan to life.

Under the leadership of Cynthia Hutchins, Corey Kendall and Deb Williams, club advisors, our drama club students have been learning so much about acting, collective teamwork, and increasing their courage to perform in front of a large audience.

We look forward to future productions and growing our drama club program.



















Student Support Center Strategy

Helping children learn how to communicate kindly and respectfully is an important part of growing up and going to school. One tool families can use is the THINK Model, which encourages kids to pause and consider their words before speaking.

The THINK Model asks five simple questions:

- T – Is it True?
- H – Is it Helpful?
- I – Is it Inspiring?
- N – Is it Necessary?
- K – Is it Kind



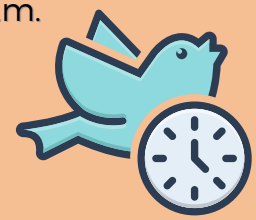
You can explain this to children as a "social filter." Just like a filter keeps unwanted things out of water or air, a social filter helps us stop and think before saying something that might hurt someone's feelings or embarrass them.

Parents can practice the THINK model at home by talking through everyday situations. For example, if a child wants to comment on someone's mistake or appearance, ask them to pause and run their words through the THINK questions. This helps children learn empathy, self-control, and positive communication. It also helps children differentiate between "inside" thoughts and thoughts we say out loud.

Encouraging kids to use the THINK model builds a kinder community and helps them develop strong friendship skills. Sometimes the best words are the ones we choose carefully—and sometimes the kindest choice is simply to pause and think.

Don't Forget

Friday, May 22nd
students are dismissed at 11:20 a.m.



Boys & Girls Club Summer Program

June 29 – August 21st
Monday – Friday
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Castleton Elementary
Applications are now available
Register Now!

May in Our Music Room

We have had a great year singing, dancing, playing instruments and learning about music. During May all of our classes will be learning about Memorial Day and preparing for our annual...

Fair Haven Grade School

MEMORIAL DAY

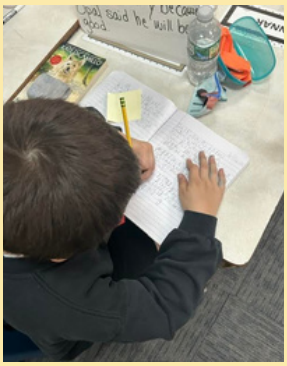
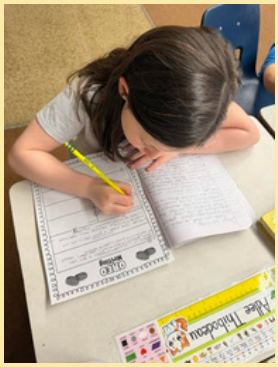
Program

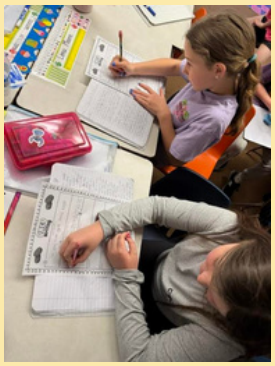
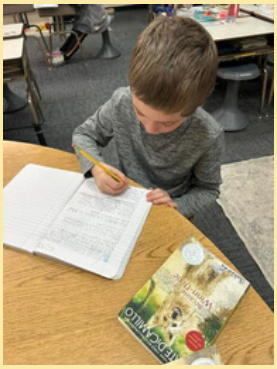


You are welcome to join us on:
May 21st at 9:30 AM in our FHGS Gym

Grade 3

In third grade, students are learning how to write strong opinions while also understanding how opinion writing differs from informational and narrative writing. They are exploring how informational writing focuses on facts and teaching the reader, while narrative writing tells a story with characters and events, and opinion writing allows them to share their thoughts and support them with reasons. To bring these ideas to life, students connect their learning to the novel Because of Winn-Dixie, using events and characters from the story as inspiration. After discussing key moments in the book, they choose a writing prompt that asks them to form an opinion—such as whether a character made a good decision or how a situation should have been handled—and then clearly express and support their viewpoint with evidence from the text. This approach helps students see how writing can be both meaningful and engaging while strengthening their ability to think critically and communicate their ideas.

Early Middle Level Happenings

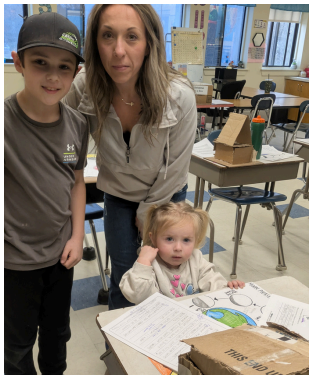
With the end of the school year fast approaching, fifth and sixth graders are working hard to build the skills they need for a successful transition to the next grade. As part of our PBIS framework, students earned a reward for their positive efforts and enjoyed outdoor activities—including kickball, cornhole, and basketball—during the April half day.

Students have also had wonderful opportunities to share their learning with families through our March and April Family Engagement events. Fifth graders showcased their work from the Spaceship Earth unit and the Great Depression Unit, focusing on Hoovervilles at our Family Night. They shared their planet reports and moon phase posters from science. For social studies, they presented their cardboard replicas of their Hooverville shanties along with their informational writing that went with it.

Sixth graders hosted their Pinewood Derby on April 30, organized by Miss Poalino and Mrs. Robinson. Students applied their understanding of force and motion as they designed and built their own derby cars, working individually or with partners. They proudly raced their creations in front of family and friends, making it a fun and memorable evening for all.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work, creativity, and enthusiasm our students have shown as they continue to grow and learn!








Nurse's Office

Bike Helmet Habits

As the sun begins to shine more and kids aim for adventure and freedom, bike helmet habits will be important. Naturally, children want to get out and ride their bikes and scooters.

Remembering to protect our brains by wearing a helmet during these activities can prevent life-altering and life-threatening irreversible injuries. There is no doubt that enforcing a child to wear a helmet can be an extra frustration. However, new empowering habits are always possible and can change the future.

Bike helmets are available for free for those who need them. Just contact the nurse or PE teacher to arrange.



Have a wonderful summer.

Kori Mitchell RN
FHGS nurse.

Health & PE Classes

We are incredibly proud of our FHGS students in grades 3–6 for their outstanding participation in Hands-Only CPR training during their PE/Health classes. During this meaningful learning experience, students not only gained an understanding of the critical difference between cardiac arrest and a heart attack, but also developed essential, life-saving skills that can make a real difference in an emergency. Through hands-on practice, they learned how to perform effective chest compressions and how to respond quickly and confidently in high-pressure situations.





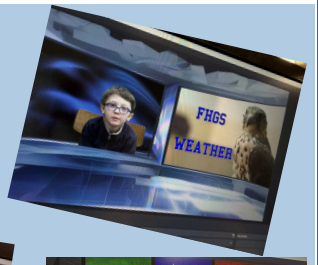




Falcon News

We continue to build public speaking skills in our students by providing opportunities to be a news reporter on our daily Falcon News show.















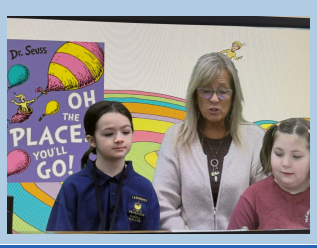


















Library

As we head into the final stretch of the school year, the library has been buzzing with excitement! We've officially wrapped up reading the Red Clover Book Award nominees for the year. This beloved Vermont program gives students in grades K–4 the chance to explore outstanding picture books and have their voices heard. Last year, an impressive 15,932 students from 192 schools across the state cast their votes!

Our students have been voting this week and will continue into next week—so the big question is: Who will win? So far, Ursula Upside Down, Wat Kept Playing, Whale Song, and We Are Definitely Human are leading the pack. We can't wait to see the final results!

We're also thrilled to announce:



Scholastic Book Fair is returning to our school!
Tuesday, May 26, through Monday, June 1.

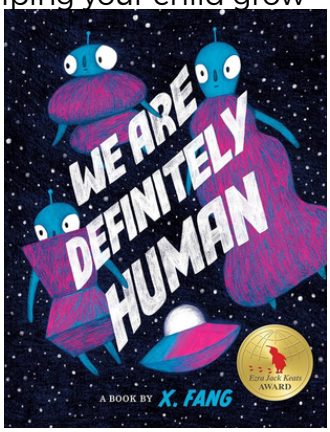


It's a wonderful opportunity to get kids excited about reading and help them build their home libraries. Favorite characters and series will be featured, including Dog Man, The Babysitters Club, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, and Pokémon. Be sure to stop by and check it out!

In addition, our 5th and 6th graders have been diving into important lessons about being responsible digital media citizens. They've been learning how to protect their privacy, make safe choices online, and build healthy, respectful relationships in digital spaces—skills that are more important than ever.

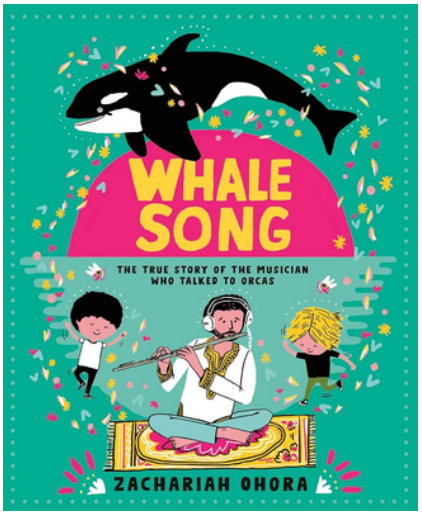
As always, thank you for supporting reading at home and helping your child grow as a lifelong learner!



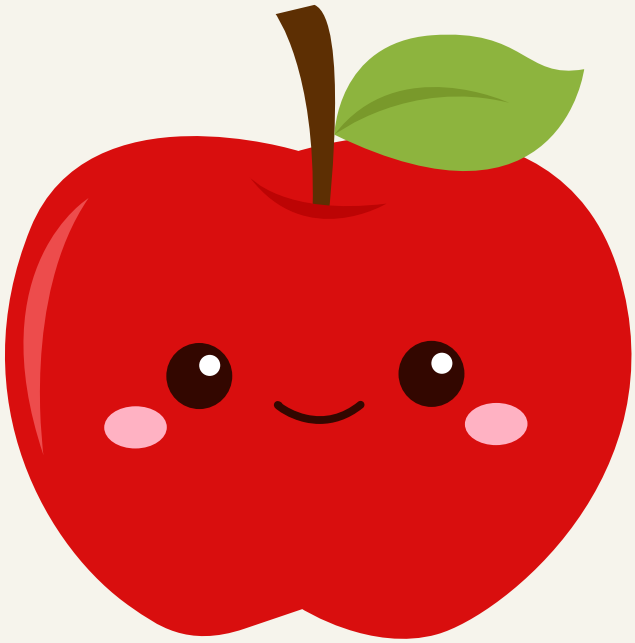








Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week



May 4th- 9th 2026

This is a wonderful time
to let the teachers and staff know how
much you appreciate the work they do
with your children.
Lets flood FHGS staff with notes of appreciation!!

FAIR HAVEN GRADE SCHOOL FAMILY



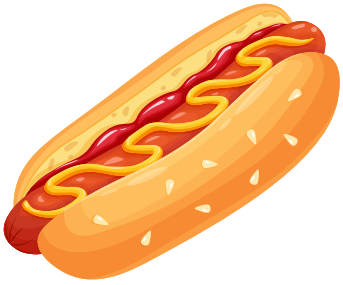
We are continuing our tradition of hosting the end-of-the-year Family BBQ. In an effort to operate more efficiently, we will be holding a BBQ by grade clusters on separate days.

Friday, May 29th - grades Prek-1
(Prek 10:40, Kindergarten 10:55, 1st 11:05)
RSVP by Friday, May 22nd

Friday, June 5th - grades 2-4
(2nd grade: 11:20, 3rd grade 11:30, 4th grade 11:40)
RSVP by Monday, June 1st



Thursday, June 12th grades 5-6
(5th grade, 12:10, 6th 12:15)
RSVP by Monday, June 8th



Cost: $5.75 per family member attending

RSVP: You must call the school to make a reservation. Reservations help to ensure we have enough seating and food to serve.

ARRIVAL: Please arrive 5 minutes early to check in at the main office. You will then meet your child in the cafeteria and pay for your meal.



YOU ARE INVITED

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN, PARENT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, AND SCHOOL COMPACT MEETING

Your Input Matters to Us!



WHAT WILL BE discussed?

- We will review and seek input on our continuous improvement plan for the 2026-2027 school year.
- We will review and seek input on our parent family engagement policy
- We will review and seek input on our home-school compact.



WHEN AND WHERE?

- Wednesday, May 13th, 5:00-5:30 p.m. at the FHGS PTO monthly meeting
- FHGS Learning Center