

FAIR HAVEN GRADE SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2025

Principal's Message

Dear Families,
As we step into November, the shift in season reminds us to reflect on gratitude and the many blessings we share as a community. This month, we're inspiring our students to think about what they are truly thankful for. We encourage them to show appreciation for their family, friends, and all the exciting learning opportunities that surround them every day. Thanksgiving is the perfect time to deepen this focus. Our classrooms will feature special activities designed to help students share their thankfulness. Whether through engaging classroom discussions or creative projects, our goal is to foster a spirit of appreciation that continues long after the holiday ends.

Benchmark Assessment Overview
During October, students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 completed our key benchmark assessments (Star 360) in both reading and math. These results give us vital information about each student's academic progress and help us fine-tune our teaching to meet their specific needs.
We are very happy with our students' performance, noting steady growth in both reading and math and strong retention of skills over the summer. You will receive your child's individual reports at your scheduled parent-teacher conference, or they will be mailed home shortly after.
Teachers are combining this assessment data with other classroom measures to set individual goals for each student, guiding their learning in the months ahead.

- For students needing extra practice, teachers are implementing small group sessions to target specific growth areas.
- Where more intensive support is required, students will receive targeted intervention with our school-wide interventionists through the educational support plan process.

Rest assured, we will continuously monitor every child's progress and adjust our teaching strategies to help them reach their full potential.

Mark Your Calendar:
Please take a moment to look at our upcoming events! Don't forget to schedule your parent-teacher conference.

- K–4 This Week. Teachers sent out an email with a sign-up link for conferences.
- 5th and 6th-grade sign-ups will be coming soon, as they will be hosting student-led conferences the week of December 15th.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in your child's education. We are so grateful for our wonderful community at FHGS and look forward to celebrating this season of gratitude with you!

Warm regards,
Mrs. Infurna, Principal

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th Parent/Teacher Conferences Gr PK-4
3rd - SV Board Mtg, FHGS 6:30 p.m.
4th - Whitehall Elks 3rd grade dictionaries
4th - Staff meeting
7th - Early Release - 11:20 a.m. dismissal

Options-Based Drill Week of November 10, 2025

11th - No school - Veterans' Day
12th - School Picture Retakes
12th - PTO mtg 6:00 p.m.
21st - Veggie Van Go
24th - SV Board Mtg FHUMHS 6:30 p.m.
25th - Falcon Gathering, 8:30 a.m.
26th - 28th No School - Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

3rd - Winter concert (5th/6th general music, intermediate band, 4-6 chorus) 12/10 snow date. 6:30 p.m.
8th - SV Board Mtg, BVS 6:30 p.m.

Egress Drill (Fire) Week of December 8, 2025

9th - Intermediate Parent Literacy Escape Room night 5-6 pm
10th - PTO mtg 6:00 p.m

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten class is learning through movement!

Using an approach called Action Based Learning (ABL), students combine physical activity with academic concepts. The children say this is their favorite part of the week! They toss balls while counting as high as they can to strengthen their math and visual tracking skills, jump in different directions while rhyming or subitizing, and build core strength through yoga and balance exercises—all of which support overall academic growth.











Grade 3

This October, our third graders had a blast participating in the Disguise a Pumpkin Project! Each student was challenged to transform an ordinary pumpkin into a creative character or object—without carving—using materials found around the house. The goal was to “disguise” the pumpkin so it didn’t look like a pumpkin at all! Families worked together to bring imaginative ideas to life, turning pumpkins into superheroes, animals, book characters and so much more. When the disguised pumpkins returned to school, the classroom was filled with laughter and excitement as students proudly shared their creations. The project encouraged creativity, problem-solving, and family collaboration while celebrating the fun spirit of fall.





Student Support Center Strategies

UNDERSTANDING "INTENT VS. IMPACT"

We all have **good intentions** — we want to be kind, helpful, and do the right thing. But sometimes, what we **mean** and how our actions are **received** don't always match.



Intent is what we ***mean*** to do.

Impact is how our words or actions ***make others feel***.

For example, you might mean to joke with a friend, but if it comes across as teasing, the impact could be hurt feelings.
Learning to notice the difference between intent and impact helps us:

- **Show empathy** by thinking about how others feel.
- **Take responsibility** when our actions have unintended effects.
- **Grow and learn** from our mistakes to build stronger relationships.

When we pay attention to both what we mean *and* how others experience it, we make our school community a kinder and more understanding place for everyone.

Early Middle Level Happenings

Early Middle students participated in fun and creative STEAM activities for October team building. They rotated through four hands-on stations: virtual pumpkin carving, fall graph paper art, haunted house building, and making leaf people using natural materials.

In the virtual pumpkin patch, students designed and "carved" pumpkins online. The art station had them using shading techniques on graph paper to create fall-themed designs. At the haunted house station, they built spooky structures with paper cups and floating ghosts. For the final activity, students used leaves and twigs to create their own "leaf designs" or some students did leaf rubbings. It was a fun and engaging way to build teamwork and celebrate the season!











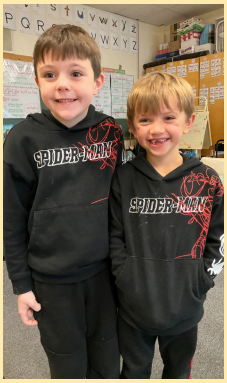





We had great fun celebrating Red Ribbon Week, with the message, life is like a puzzle, solve it drug free.
We kicked off the month with Jared Campbell, giving us great ways to live life ~ make history, be yourself, be a leader, and have a good attitude - be a superhero!



The Weeks events include classroom activities and Spirit week with the following fun:
Monday-Hat day-
"Put a cap on negative energy"
Tuesday-Pairs/Twin day-
Pair up for positivity"
Wednesday- Pajama/stuffy day-
"Put negativity to sleep"
Thursday- Anything but a backpack day-
"Pack up negative choices"
Friday--FHGS school spirit day-Wear Blue and White
"Be positive, show your school spirit"

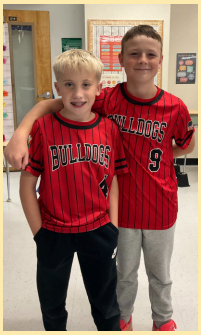


















Art Class at FHGS



Hello FHGS families and friends and Happy FALL! Welcome to another amazing year of ARTASTIC happenings at FHGS. As expected, our students are off to the races (so to speak) as creative vibes and imaginative 'wonderings' are clearly the order of the day.

Fifth and sixth graders are engaged in a new design challenge that requires not only in-depth research of a specific owl breed, but the utilization of this research to formulate a unique and original artwork that best portrays the bird of their choice. So far, our benchmark pieces (in 5 & 6) have run through a variety of mediums, but my favorite samples to date are the OWL 'zoom' portraits in oil pastels (showcased here).



In other news, grades 1 & 2 are investigating the use of lines and shapes to create their very own pumpkin zentangle artworks, integrating Sharpie, crayon, oil pastels & watercolors (i.e., a technique known as a watercolor resist).

Last but not least, grade 3 is beginning a self-portrait project inspired by the quirky and gothic drawing style of artist Tim Burton. As part of our spotlight artist mini-intensive, we will look at Burton's early career as an animator for Disney and his crossover into film as a director. We will draw on his work (and eccentric style) for inspiration in our self-portraits.

I hope you enjoy the sampling of art from our budding Picassos this time around... see you soon & stay arty!





FHGS PTO News

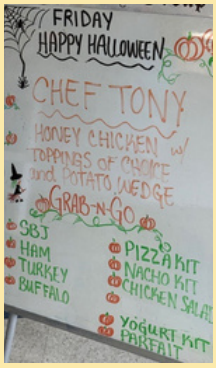
Fair Haven PTO weathered the elements Halloween Night to provide our community with a free dinner while Trick or Treating! Families and educators donated finger foods for people to travel with. The PTO and Boys and Girls Club enjoyed handing out Halloween treats as well!



Falcon Cafe

Chef Tony from Witsons came to FHGS and created a great honey chicken dish for our students and provided some fun lunch time entertainment.













Distribution November 21st
10:00-11:00 a.m.
Fair Haven Union
Middle & High School





Bundle Up!



Please remember to dress for the weather. 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

