

THE FALCON

FALCONER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

IN THIS EDITION

- 2 Administrative Letter
- 2-3 District News
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UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 7 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
- 10-11 HS Musical @ 7:30 p.m.
(HS Auditorium)
- 12 HS Musical @ 2:30 p.m.
(HS Auditorium)
- 13 PTO Mtg @ 6:30 p.m.
(Fenner)
- 15 Progress Reports(MS/HS)
- 17 Superintendent's
Conference Day
(No School)
- 21 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
(Fenner)
- 24 End of 2nd Trimester
(Elem)

April

- 3-7 Spring Recess
(No School)
- 4 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
- 7 SAT Registration
Deadline
- 13 Spring Picture Day
(Temple)
K-5 AIS Family Night
- 14 End of 3rd Quarter
(MS/HS)
- 15 ACT Test Date
Key Club Bunny Hop
5K/1K
- 17 PTO Mtg @ 6:30 p.m.
(Fenner)
- 18 Spring Sport Photos
Grade 5 Spring Concert
@ 6 p.m. (HS Auditorium)
- 19 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
Financial Aid/
Scholarship Night
- 19-21 Grades 3-8 NYS ELA
Testing

Congratulations to the Cast and Crew of the Middle School Play



Congratulations to the cast and crew on overcoming many obstacles in coming back to a full-on stage performance. We learned a lot and were able to produce a hilarious show. Great job to all!



Save the Date

Practices are currently underway for Falcon Productions' Spring High School Musical *Beauty and the Beast* which will be a must-see! The cast is working hard to learn the songs, dances, and lines to put on a great show. Please support drama at FCS by coming to a performance. The show will be presented in the **High School Auditorium on March 10-11 at 7:30 p.m. and March 12 at 2:30 p.m. All tickets will be \$10** and will be available at the HS Security desk beginning March 1 or at the door the days of the performances.

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com





Falconer Central School
 2 East Avenue, North
 Falconer, NY 14733
 (716)665-6624



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Greetings from Temple Elementary!
 I'm Mrs. Hannon, Principal of Paul B. D. Temple Elementary in Kennedy, New York. Temple Elementary comprises grades UPK, Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade for the Falconer Central School District. I'd like to share a couple of highlights with you from the 2022-2023 school year.



This is the first year of full-day universal pre-kindergarten. We have 3 UPK Classes: Miss Gates, Mrs. Long, and Mrs. Robinson. Each UPK class has a teachers aide too: Miss Anne, Miss Ginger, and Miss Sonya. We started the school year with an in-person UPK orientation where families had the opportunity to ride the school bus to Temple. Each UPK teacher conducted an in-person orientation in their classroom. Students in UPK attend daily specials in art, music, and library. They also eat with their class in the Temple Cafeteria. UPK is also implementing a new curriculum: World of Wonder.

Temple and Fenner share new music teacher Tim Przybelinski or Mr. P. as the students call him:) At Temple, he teaches UPK, kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade. He conducted our first holiday program in the FCS auditorium for all of the 1st grade students and their families. Be sure to check out the pictures of this great event on the back cover.

The second grade team kicked off the holiday season with a food drive. All four second grade classes collected canned and non-perishable items and donated them to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church food cupboard in Falconer. The collected items were stored in the display case at Temple for all to see. On December 13, 2022, all four second grade classes took buses from Temple to the food pantry to help distribute the donated items. Temple hosted the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Temple media center. The information shared in this article and a little more was shared and presented to the Board.

Sincerely,
 Holly Hannon, Temple Principal

The HS CDOS (Career Development and Occupational Studies) class is collecting can tabs to help fundraise for the Ronald McDonald House of Western New York. The district has several families that have stayed at the Ronald McDonald House in Buffalo over the years. Collecting the metal tabs from pop, juice, etc. cans is an easy way to help out an organization that does so much for others. The CDOS class would welcome anyone that would be willing to send can tabs to the school in care of Christine Wright/ CDOS Class. Thank you!

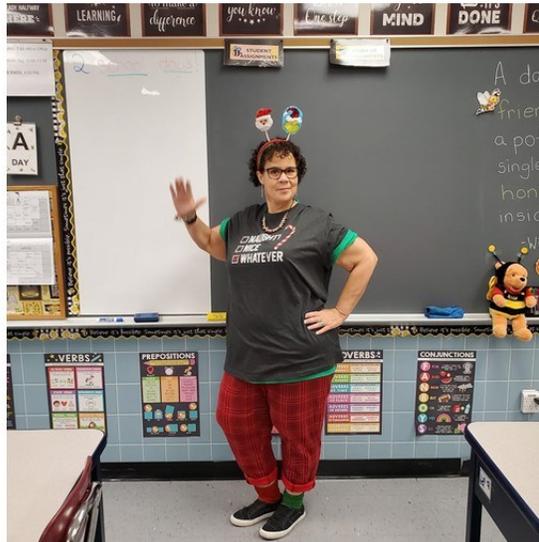


Mr. Paterniti Says "Thank you!"

I just wanted to say thank you to my Falconer family for voting for me for the NCL Giving Joy award. It was an honor to be among the top 100 teachers and participate on The Prima Cruise in October. It was an awesome experience and an honor to be among the top 100 teachers in the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico. We had a great time on the Prima maiden voyage to Progresso, Mexico.



SNOWBALL FIGHT!!



Wanna Build a



Snowman?



Community Resources at Your Fingertips

Have you ever been in need of support and been unsure where to turn? Maybe you or someone you know needs physical health treatment, mental health support, food, clothing, or housing assistance? While there are many resources available, it can sometimes be difficult to know where to turn for reliable support. 211 WNY is there to help! What is 211 WNY? This 24/7 helpline is a three-digit phone number that identifies services in your area to help address your needs. 211 can help you find services such as: basic needs, food assistance, free tax preparation, holiday assistance, housing, job training, legal counseling, mental health services, substance abuse services, volunteer opportunities, and more. You can dial 211 or 888-696-9211 and talk to trained personnel who can connect you to services in your community (available 24/7), or you can check out the website 211wny.org!

Money Matters with the Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union

Members of the Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union spoke to seniors, juniors, and 8th-graders about the importance of planning for their future and being financially responsible. The 8th grade students discussed how financial choices early on in life can make a big difference later down the road, while the juniors and seniors learned how to open bank accounts as well as recognize the importance of saving and developing sustainable money habits for long-term financial success.

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Career Exploration Through the ASVAB

In January, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) was offered at FCS for the first time in many years. This test measures one's skills and abilities as they relate to numerous occupations both within and outside of the military. A common misconception surrounding the ASVAB is that it commits the test taker to the military. Rather, this test is simply a resource and opportunity for students to explore where they may fit in the world of work. Through taking this test, students can gain a better understanding of which careers may be a good fit for their interests, skills, personality style, and strengths!

Looking Ahead to Next Year: Scheduling

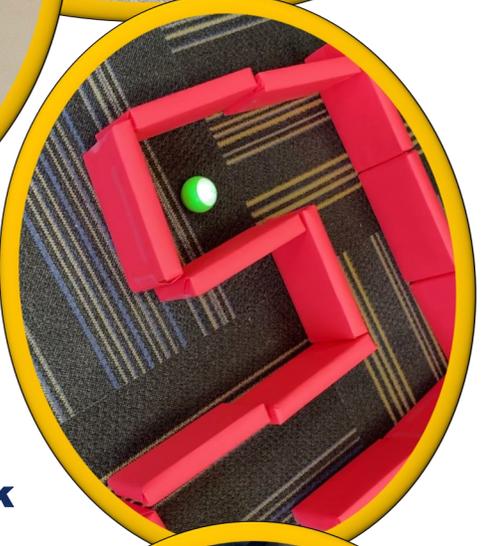
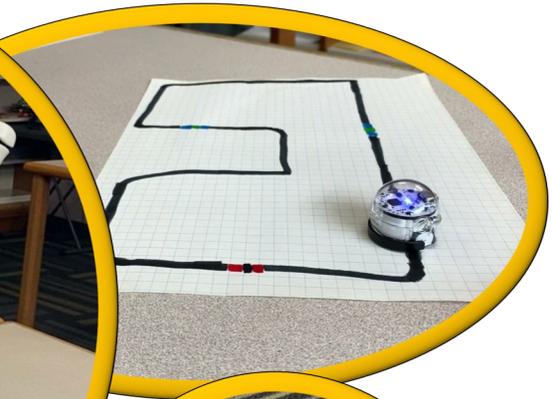
As we round the corner into the second half of the school year, it is time to begin planning and scheduling classes for the next school year! Throughout the spring, students will meet with their school counselor to explore coursework being offered for the upcoming school year, review NYS credit requirements and anticipated Regents examinations, discuss plans for after graduation, and much more!

No matter where your student is in their educational journey, grades do matter! Good grades can open the door to many different opportunities like internships, scholarships, job interviews, and college acceptance. Be daring and embrace the challenge of higher-level coursework that sparks your interest. Especially as students get into their junior and senior years of high school, there is more opportunity to take a diverse range of courses.

Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
SAT	March 11, 2023	February 10, 2023	February 28, 2023
	May 6, 2023	April 7, 2023	April 25, 2023
	June 3, 2023	May 4, 2023	May 23, 2023
ACT	February 11, 2023	January 6, 2023	January 20, 2023
	April 15, 2023	March 10, 2023	March 24, 2023
	June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023

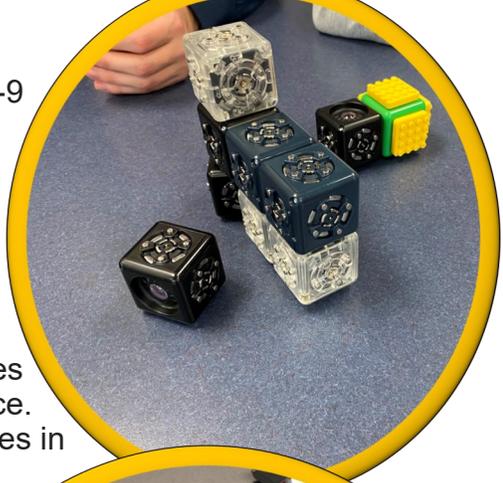
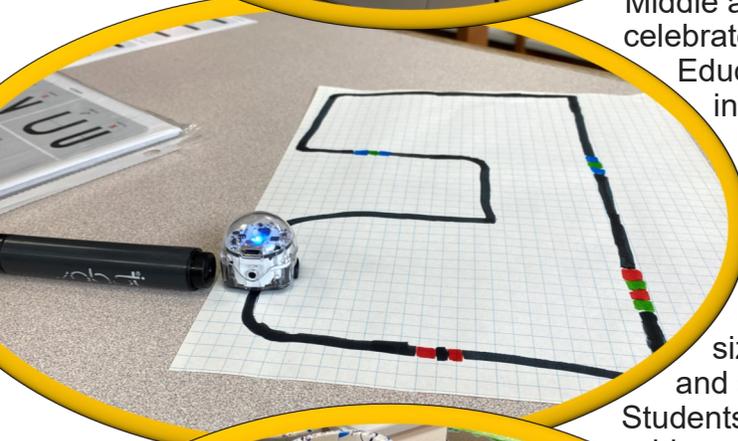
Senior Reminders

- ⇒ FAFSA for the 2022-2023 academic year is due by June 30, 2023
- ⇒ AP Test Administration May 1-5 and May 8-12
- ⇒ Apply for scholarships! Talk to your counselor and check out the College Information page on the FCS Guidance website for scholarship opportunities: www.falconercsd.org/domain/151



Celebrating Computer Science Education Week

Middle and high school students celebrated Computer Science Education Week December 5-9 in the MSHS media center! Mr. Caruso, Ms. Plumb, and Mrs. Binkley planned a variety of activities throughout the week. Students coded bots of all shapes and sizes to complete challenges and craft a community art piece. Students encoded secret messages in binary code bracelets and explored websites created by Mr. Spry's high school coding class. CS rocks at FCS!



PACT Team Keeps Middle Schoolers Busy

This year PACT (Planning and ACTivities) team has been busy putting on activities for our middle-schoolers! We have hosted open gym and game nights where students play basketball or volleyball in the gym and many different board games and bingo in the cafeteria. Students were given the opportunity to decorate cookies to take home in a class after school! During another after-school event they painted a snowman scene during a paint class! PACT awarded honor and merit roll students with a certificate and treat too! We also went ice skating and played with bumper cars at Northwest Arena in January. Thank you to the many teachers and parents who have helped put on these fun events! If you are interested in helping, please email Mrs. Rhinehart.

(srhinehart@falconschools.org)



Esports Club Begins

The Middle/High School Esports Club had their first meetings in February. Regionally, Esports is just starting to gain traction as an after-school club activity. What is Esports? Basically competitive video gaming... but it's really much more. The benefits of esports include teamwork, collaboration, pro-social behaviors, increased school attendance and involvement, and the prospect of scholarships and job opportunities.

Mr. Spry and Ms. Pekrul supervise about 18 MS/HS students on the inaugural Falconer team. Teams scrimmage against other local schools, and formal competition will begin in spring. The Falconer team is in the process of designing their own logo as they look forward to kicking off their season in a couple of weeks. They will be playing *SmashBrothers*, *Brawlhalla* and *Rocket League*. The middle school team is partnered with Prevention Works and supported by Emily Van Wey.

Jamestown/Falconer Swim Team Shines at ECIC and Class Meets

The boys had an amazing meet at ECIC league championships! As a team of only five boys and swimming nine races they finished 10th among the 13 teams. All nine races were personal-best times! Aidan M. was one of only two double winners at the meet and was named Swimmer of the Meet! Conner D. won the 500 free and qualified for the state championship meet in both of his events, while Owen S. and Jack O. earned new class A championship cut times.

At the class meet, all swimmers advanced to the finals from preliminaries and over half of the swims were in the top eight finishes. Conner D. made two state cuts, Aiden M. placed 4th in two individual events, and the 400 yard relay team of Aiden M., Jack O., Conner D., and Logan J. dropped time to place 7th overall. The 200 medley relay of Logan J., Conner D., Aiden M., and Owen S. placed 6th, and Johnson placed 16th in the 100 back.



FBLA Community Service

Our Future Business Leaders of America had a busy fall season of community service. From hosting bake sales to collecting donations for their state charity, The Nature Conservancy, to hosting a food drive to benefit local pantries, chapter members gave back to their community in big ways. The food drive challenged homerooms in both the middle and high school to bring in donations. The top donating homerooms, Jamie Glatz's sixth-graders and Aleida Foulk's art students, were awarded with a donut breakfast. Chapter members worked diligently to gather the over 1,000 donations, organize them, and distribute them to the Falconer Food Pantry and The Salvation Army. Thank you to all of our homerooms that supported our project.



F₂CS Finish Strong

The F₂CS Blue and Gold Vanguard finished strong in championship competition finishing 7th in their state division with a score of 78.8 - the highest in marching band history since the merger with Frewsburg. Go, Band! Eyes with Pride.



New Signs Presented

A group of former members and staff of the Falconer Central School Marching Band recently gathered to present the school with a pair of new signs to replace ones recognizing their 2001 and 2002 New York State Field Band Conference SS3 State Championships. The 20-year-old signs, hanging on the back on the main stands at the Falconer HS football field, had worn and weathered over the years. The new signs were welcomed and accepted by the current directors of the F₂CS Blue and Gold Vanguard, the merged marching band between the Falconer and Frewsburg school districts. Pictured during the sign presentation are, from left, Rodney Stebbins, former Falconer Assistant Director and staff member from 2001-2003; members of the 2001-2002 Falconer marching band Rachel (Parkhurst) Tenpas, Gavin Paterniti, Martin Carlson and Kristina (Joy) Shelley; and current F₂CS Blue and Gold Vanguard staff, Tim Przybelinski, assistant director; Alicia Laska, director; and Shaun Laska, assistant director.



Future Business Leaders of America

2023 Spring District Competition

The 2023 district competition found our Falconer FBLA members proudly accepting a variety of well-earned awards! After weeks of practicing tests and presentations, both our high school chapter and the newly created middle school chapter competed with great success. A total of 39 competitors, from District 13, gathered at Randolph Central School to show their skills and talents. Here are the results...

Falconer FBLA

Qualified for state competition via elimination events...

1st Place

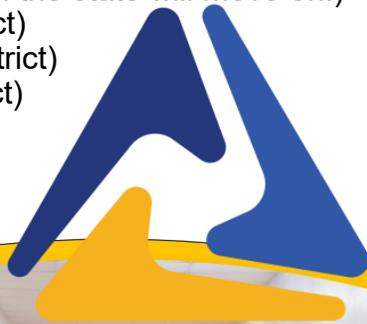
- Zach K....Client Service
- Anna C....Impromptu Speaking
- Joshua E....Introduction to Decision Making
- Isabella A....Introduction to Public Speaking
- Garrett C....Job Interview

2nd Place

- Lily S....Public Speaking
- Awaiting to hear if they qualify for states...
- Garrett C....Future Business Leader
- (Top 5 test scores in the state will move to the finals interview.)

Parli Procedures Team

- (Top 5 Team Averages in the state will move on.)
- Anna C. (1st Place-District)
- Garrett C. (2nd Place-District)
- Zach K. (3rd Place-District)
- Curtis H.
- Isabella A.



District Exam Awards

1st Place

- Joshua E....Business Calculations
- Hanna H....Business Communications
- Joshua E....Intro to Business Communications
- Brason F....Personal Finance
- Alix S....Word Processing

2nd Place

- Lily S....Accounting
- Zach K....Business Calculations
- Declan L...Business Communications

3rd Place

- Lily B....Business Calculations
- Isabella A....Business Communications

Falconer FBLA Middle Level

1st Place

- Carson B....Leadership
- Patrick B....Elevator Speech
- Patrick B....Learning Strategies

2nd Place

- Carson B....Elevator Speech
- Patrick B....Financial Literacy

3rd Place

- Carson B....FBLA Concepts



Solidarity Week

Falconer's GSA Club celebrated Solidarity Week Nov. 7-10. Each day focused on an important theme.

The daily themes were:

Monday - No Name Calling Day

Tuesday - No Bullying Day

Wednesday - Ally Day

Thursday - Rainbow Day

Rainbow Day was the culmination because rainbows symbolize joy, hope, and fresh beginnings. Students were also encouraged to spread "Kindness Grams," or small notes given to friends and classmates or teachers and other school staff to show how important they are, how much they are appreciated, what a great person they are, and how they make our school a better place to be.



<https://3.files.ed.net/18108/201141656-44902c3-a669-43b2-a0be-47936bb76733.jpg>

SADD's Clothing Drive

SADD Members held a clothing drive for local families in December as a fall community service event. Between the middle school and high school, an entire trailer-full of clothing was collected. SADD would like to say thank you to all who participated!



Pictured are SADD members: Abigail R., Zach K., Josh E., Alex H., Maddie B., Isabella A., Addie W.-O., and Kayla L.. Missing from photo are Dani K., Kamryn H., Autumn L., Jack S., Makayla C., Jayden G.



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Halloween Fun

Mrs. Gunnell and her two boys, Jeffrey and Ripp, had a blast on Halloween getting to meet Ms. Frizzle (FCS Admin Ms. Plumb) and enjoying a sweet treat.



Reality Check

Falconer Reality Check's Abigail R., Alix S. and Jay M. helped coordinate and "cup the fence" by the bus loop for the Great American Smokeout to raise awareness of the dangers of tobacco and vape usage. Their message included a hotline number to text to get help quitting the bad habit. Abigail went to Albany in early February for Legislative Day to meet with Senator Borrello and Assemblyman Goodell to bring more awareness to the dangers of vaping/tobacco use and how the government can continue to better influence healthier lifestyles for teenagers.



<https://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.cce.cornell.edu/images/437/inline/ally-check-logo.jpg?1389205948>

October 2022 MS "Stars"

Student of the Month
Ava C.
7th Grade

Kiwanis Terrific Kid
Zoe S-W.
7th Grade

November 2022 MS "Stars"

Student of the Month
Kennedy L.
8th Grade

Kiwanis Terrific Kid
Cody R.
8th Grade

January 2023 MS "Stars"

Student of the Month
Morgan R.
7th Grade

Kiwanis Terrific Kid
Levi O.
7th Grade

December 2022 MS "Stars"

Student of the Month
Ruhjeanea L.
6th Grade

Kiwanis Terrific Kid
Alexis S.
6th Grade

8th Grader Accepted to Art Exhibition

Acknowledgements and accolades go out to 8th-Grade Student, Savannah M., for having her artwork accepted into St. Bonaventure University's prestigious, Middle School Juried Art Exhibition. Highly esteemed artwork not only has to be evaluated by Mrs. Cheney as worthy of submission, but then voted by the Quick Center curators upon submission. If accepted, both the teacher and the student receive email confirmation, along with an invitation for the student artist, their families, friends and their instructor to join them for the opening of the exhibition. The exhibition was held on Tuesday, February 7, with a reception in the theatre atrium of the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts.

Congratulations, Savannah, for such an honorable achievement in recognition of your dedication and hard work!



Wizard of Oz Projects

Students in Mrs. Barron's 6th-grade ELA Skills class did a novel study on the *Wizard of Oz*. Students were then given creative freedom to depict a memorable moment in the story and create a project. Kolton V. captured the opening chapter with his tornado and Ruh L. captured the friendships made along the yellow brick road with her interactive pop up book.



Holiday Music

The HS ensemble visited Fenner on December 22. They played in the hallways for all to enjoy.

We had our first holiday sing-along in three years!

Fenner Welcomes Molly

Fenner welcomed Molly, the school therapy dog! Molly is a one year old black lab who loves to greet the students at Fenner with a big smile. Molly has gone through special training and tests, including her AKC Canine Good Citizen certification, so she can provide endless love to each student! Molly's favorite activities include playing with staff in the morning, greeting the students as they start their day, playing with Mr. Johnson's gym classes, and hanging with students who may be upset or need a break. She follows her handler, Miss Narraway, around Fenner to stop in different classes to say hi when she can and enjoys her belly rubs!

Researched benefits of therapy dogs in a school setting:

- Physical benefits such as lowered blood pressure.
- Social benefits such as greater self esteem and increased positive peer interaction.
- Cognitive benefits include: stimulated memory and increased problem solving skills.
- Emotional benefits include: lifted moods in the classroom, lessened anxiety and depression, and enhanced empathy among students.
- Many schools that have implemented therapy dogs have documented less office referrals due to behavioral problems.
- Students have another healthy avenue when dealing with trauma.

Experiments in 3rd

The third grade classes have been studying inherited traits and how our environment affects some of the traits of organisms. We did an experiment in class to determine if we could change the inherited trait of celery having a green color. We discussed how to make a fair experiment by changing only one factor. The kid's groups then talked together about how to set up the experiment, deciding things like how much water to use and how many colored drops each cup would get. They were very excited to see the results! This is a picture of just one group experiment from Mrs. Pawlak's class.

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<https://images.squarespace-cdn.com/content/v1/15e5617d386106049d68db1e1617907015744-30DS8XKJWTVBQES6HEAY/blue-star-mother.jpg>



4th Graders Create Cards

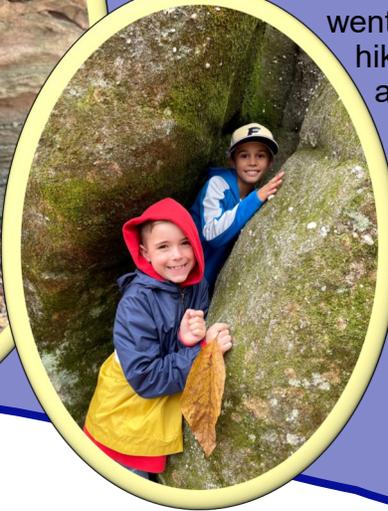
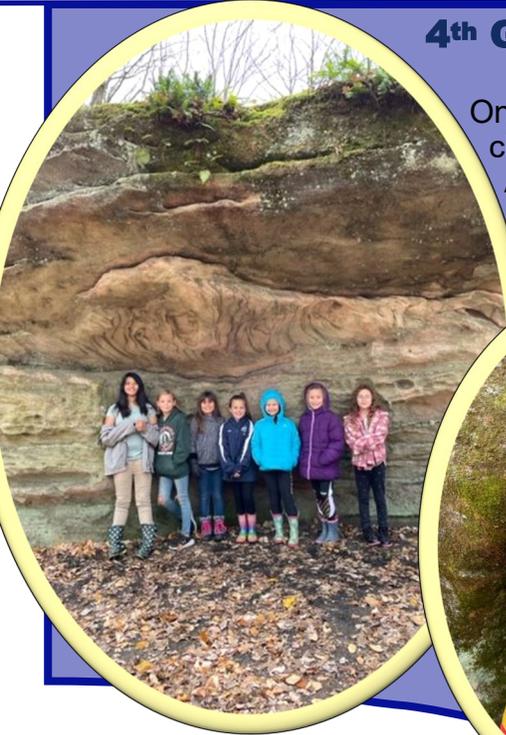
The fourth graders made holiday cards for local military service members stationed away from home. They were sent in care packages by the Blue Star Moms.

4th Grade Trip to Allegany State Park

On October 26, the fourth grade classes went on a field trip to Allegany State Park. It was a crisp fall day, perfect for exploring. They visited

Thunder Rocks, went for a hike, learned about

camping and survival, and learned interesting facts about bats. The 4th grade teachers applied for the NYS Connect Kids grant in order to make this trip possible.



Iroquois Projects

The 4th graders have been studying Iroquois culture. Many students completed an Iroquois project at home and shared their projects and knowledge with their classmates. Students created either a longhouse, wampum belt, dreamcatcher, poster, or corn husk doll. The projects were displayed in the Fenner library.



4th Grade Annual Decorating Contest

All fourth-graders were invited to participate in a snowman decorating contest. They took a snowman template home to decorate with their families. Their creativity was impressive! The entries were judged by teacher aides and Mr. Gilbert, and the winners were announced on February 7. (L to R) Avery Y., Claire T., Ryder D., Graceen M., Simon C.



October Soaring Students

3rd Grade



4th Grade



5th Grade



(pictured below)

3rd: Amelia H., Gwen D., Alaina B., Chloe G., Aubrey D., Susann G.

4th: Claire T., David S., Ian C., Greceen M., Savannah H., Connor B., Braedan P.,

5th: Brodie G., Mathius A., Gia M., Clara C., Adaline L., Wyatt S., Mae G.

December Soaring Students

3rd Grade



4th Grade



5th Grade



3rd Grade



4th Grade



5th Grade



(pictured above)

3rd: Nolan C., Kendall V., Kolbi L., Isla F., Huntyr H., Macynn R., Coby B.

4th: Seth S., Vera M., Mia K., Trenton S., Collin C., Beca S., William M., Avery Y.

5th: Lydia C., Ethan D., Chase P, Noah D., Kayden D., Jaxin J.

3rd Grade



(pictured above and at right)

3rd: Alahna C., Aiden R., Jacob A., Shawn R., Alyse C., Andrew Y.

4th: Teddy A., Kemya F., Rylee K., Darci C., Beca S., Seth S., Sammy J., Waylin G.

5th: Aiden P., Sutton W., Ben C., Paige M., Margaret D., Courtney K., Holden B.

January Soaring Students

4th Grade



5th Grade





Ceramic Cup Creations

Our artists at Fenner Elementary created ceramic cups in art class with Mrs. Obrist! Each student created a functional piece that represents their artistic style and personality. The kids did an excellent job and Mr. Gilbert even made one!



Temple Students of the Month

Students who receive this award are featured in weekly videos, assist with the announcements, and are able to eat lunch with a friend of their choosing.



Temple Store

Mrs. Bidney, Miss Buccola, and the students and staff from Mr. Andy's room ran the Temple School Store in November.



The 2nd Grade Team kicked off the holiday season with a Food drive!



Learning about Maps

Miss Lindahl's 2nd grade classroom has been learning all about maps, landforms and water forms! Using our new BOCES science kits, students studied different types of maps, landforms and water forms. Students then worked in groups by using model magic, paint, glue and sticky notes to create and label their own 3D map using all the knowledge they have learned! Pictured are students working together to create their projects!



The 2nd grade classes held a food drive in November and December. We collected over 500 items and delivered the items to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Falconer. The students were able to see the whole process through from donating to sorting the food at the church for community members who need it. Students learned the importance of giving back and collected hundreds of canned and non-perishable items. It was an amazing experience!



Mission Statement

The Board of Education, collective staff, and community of the Falconer School District are committed to preparing our children to be productive members of society. Through continuous evaluation and improvement, this partnership will provide a quality educational environment for students to meet the graduation requirements.



Alma Mater

Falconer High School here's to you best in the land. 'Neath the old gold and blue, we will proudly take our stand. In classroom study, field, or track with you dear as our guide, no honor ever shall you lack. I'll win your pride.



Board of Education Agendas, Additions/ Deletions, & Minutes

To access any of the above documents, go to:

- ⇒ www.falconerscsd.org
- ⇒ District Home Page
- ⇒ Our District
- ⇒ Board of Education
- ⇒ Board Meetings 2022-23
- ⇒ Select what you want to look at (ex: *Agendas*, or *Minutes*)
- ⇒ Click on Meeting Date



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UPK and Kindergarten Screening Dates Set!

All parents of children in the Falconer District who have children who will be 4 on or before December 1 are asked to call Temple Elementary at 716-267-3255 to register for universal pre-k screening which is being held on May 31 and June 1. UPK is free and a full-day program.

All parents of children in the Falconer district who will be 5 years old on or before December 1 are urged to call Temple Elementary at 716-267-3255 to register for kindergarten screening which is scheduled to be held on June 7 and 8.

Also, new families in the area that may not be listed on the school census should contact the school as soon as possible.



Concert Held in Auditorium

Shout-out to Mr. Przybelinski and the 1st grade for a fantastic holiday concert held in the HS Auditorium. (Thanks to Ro Woodard for taking the pictures!)



Winter Carnival

On February 7, CA BOCES hosted a Winter Carnival at Holiday Valley Tubing Park. Our students were treated to tubing, hay rides, snow soccer, and broom hockey. Students and staff alike were able to enjoy the outdoor adventures.

