

Feb. 7, 2025

Dear Folsom Families,

Snow!!! Need we say more? Having a Snow Day sure took the sting out of having to cancel the second Winter Adventure ski /snowboard trip this week. We are hoping the weather warms and cooperates for our trip on Thursday, Feb. 13. Keep your skis crossed!

Table of Contents

[This Week at Folsom](#)

[Winter Ski & Snowboarding Trips](#)

[Pasta Dinner: Spreading the Love](#)

[3-4 Play: "A Mixed-Up Fairytale"](#)

[Science Fair](#)

[Budget Vote](#)

[Lost and Found](#)

[Spring Clubs](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

This Week at Folsom

We celebrated the 100th day of school this week. Our youngest learners are proud of their ability to count, group and organize. Our teachers made this celebratory moment a learning opportunity with activities that challenged students to work in groups, use fine motor skills, and think about different ways to produce 100.

The Middle School Team hosted several students from Grand Isle and North Hero who are considering enrolling at Folsom for 7th and 8th grade next year. Our sixth-graders were perfect hosts, making sure our guests felt welcomed as they visited classes and had lunch and recess with our students. We welcome wonderful students and families each year from CIUUSD, and we're hoping new friends join us next year.

For those who were fortunate to attend the Middle School concert and art show last Friday, I'm sure you'll agree that it was a great way to start the weekend. I'm impressed by how quickly beginning band students learn their instruments and come together to create music. The art show was a testament to the value of creative expression to engage and stretch the full potential of our children.



Our Middle School Chorus had us swinging into last weekend at their concert.



Visiting sixth-graders from CIUUSD participate in Math Class and talk with our students about which shape doesn't belong. In AV Club, a FirstVT Robotic competitor, the daughter of a former Folsom teacher, visited to show students her robot. They had fun putting it through its moves.



Students are learning to cross country ski. Lean forward, Mr. Currier advised.

Winter Ski & Snowboarding Trips

The ski and snowboard trip to Smugglers Notch Ski Resort is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 13. We are looking for the magical "feels like" temperature that is above 9 degrees and roads that are safe to drive on. Please let it be so! We'll keep an eye on the forecast and update you as the trip gets closer. One of the frustrating aspects of this trip is that we must choose dates in the fall, well before we know the actual weather. We would love to be more responsive to the forecast, but Smugglers Notch is a busy place and not able to change our scheduled dates. Trip leaders, Samantha Cantell for the Middle School and Eric Hammond for the South Hero Recreation Committee are working with Smuggs to reschedule in March so we still have a total of 3 trips.



Pasta Dinner: Spreading the Love

We are close to our Pasta Dinner on **Saturday, Feb. 15**. The PTO is helping us spread the love to our South Hero Community. The dinner will be from 5-7 p.m. at Folsom School. It will feature traditional marinara with gluten-free options. The meal will be cooked by parents and served by our 7th and 8th grade students. All are welcome! The meal is by donation, and proceeds will help us start a seed fund to benefit playground renovation.

- **Sign Up to Help:** If you are able to sign up to provide some of the staples needed for the dinner, please add your name: [PASTA DINNER SIGN-UP GENIUS](#). **Bring your donations to the Folsom lobby. We need everything by Tuesday, Feb. 11.**

3-4 Play: "A Mixed-Up Fairytale"

Our 3rd and 4th graders were "off book" this week as they continued to rehearse for their show on Feb. 18 at 6 p.m. In the play, a windstorm blows the pages of the Grimm Brothers' famous stories everywhere, and suddenly the characters aren't in the usual castles and cottages. For many students, this is their first experience participating in live theater, and directors Shannon Lowe and Kristen Bartle are teaching them the process (and vocabulary) with hopes this will be the first of many curtain calls. Plan to be in the audience at Folsom on Feb. 18.

Science Fair

Mark your calendars for the Middle School Science Fair on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m. Our 5th through 8th graders will be presenting their experiments to the community. The process of developing an experiment to test a question, of gathering and analyzing data, and of presenting results to a live audience provides lessons far behind the science curriculum. And the science is pretty cool, too.

Budget Vote

South Hero's Annual Meeting on the school budget is **Saturday, March 1**, at 9 a.m. at Folsom School. **Town voting on the budget is Tuesday, March 4.** Every vote, and every voice, is important in a democracy. Make sure your vote is counted by going in person to vote on March 4, or by requesting an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are available by contacting the South Hero Town Clerk: 802-372-5552 or townclerk@southherovt.org or <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. Look for information from the School Board soon about the budget.

Lost and Found

We have quite a collection of coats, hats, gloves, shirts, shoes, stuffed animals, prescription glasses (!) and more on our Lost and Found table in the lobby. Please stop by to see if you recognize any of your children's clothing. Apparently the ability to identify your clothing, especially your winter clothes, is not a given in the elementary years. Stop by: We'd love to reunite you with your stuff. Eventually, we will take unclaimed items to Goodwill.

Spring Clubs

Do you have an idea for an after-school club? Would you be willing to share your talent and time to provide an extracurricular opportunity for students? Please contact Julie Pidgeon (jpidgeon@gisu.org) if you are interested in being a club leader this spring. You need to be an approved chaperone (fingerprinted) and a willingness to spend an hour a week after-school with a group of students. I guarantee they'll put a smile on your face!

Upcoming Events

- ☐ **Feb. 15:** Folsom Pasta Dinner: 5-7 p.m. by donation at Folsom School. All are invited!
- ☐ **Feb. 18:** 3-4 Play "A Mixed-Up Fairytale" at 6 p.m. at Folsom School
- ☐ **Feb. 19:** 5th-8th Science Fair at 6 p.m. at Folsom School

- ☐ **Feb. 24-March 4:** Winter Break
- ☐ **March 1:** South Hero School Budget Informational Meeting, 6 p.m. at Folsom School
- ☐ **March 4:** School Budget Voting at the Town Offices
- ☐ **April 10:** Half-Day Inservice. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. with a grab-and-go lunch if they request it. The next half-day is May 8.

Enjoy your weekend!

Julie Pidgeon
Principal