



FMS Family Newsletter

Attendance Matters—Why consistent attendance matters:

- Students who are present regularly build stronger academic skills and confidence.
- Being in school helps students feel connected to peers and staff, strengthening social and emotional well-being.
- Regular attendance allows students to fully engage in classroom instruction, discussions, and activities that cannot be replicated at home.

Arrival and Drop-off—Reminder to be mindful of student crossing between cars both in the morning and afternoon. Cones have been put in place to help with the flow.

Student-Led Conferences will take place on Thursday, November 6th & Wednesday, November 12th From 2:30 - 6:00pm

This fall, our middle school conferences will be **student-led**. Each student will showcase a **Google Site presentation** highlighting their classes, sharing their learning, and reflecting on their progress. These conferences are designed to empower students to take ownership of their learning while giving families an authentic look into their school experience.

Advisors will be reaching out to schedule these **20-minute conferences**. While the student-led format gives students the spotlight, we encourage families to **reach out directly to teachers** if you have specific concerns or insights to share. Communication between home and school is an **ongoing, as-needed process throughout the year**, and we welcome opportunities to connect at any time.



Upcoming Events & Reminders

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, November 6th and Wednesday, November 12th from 2:30-6:00pm

Pie-Fundraiser –October 1- October 16th. Delivery of pies will be on Wednesday, November 19th. Time to be determined.

Student Highlights

A Eulogy to the Summer of 2025

Oh Dearly Departed Summer of 2025, there will never be a summer like you again! Cami Jones and Lily Vaughan went to the front of the class to present their eulogies, written to honor the Summer of 2025. Students in Mrs. Cowperthwaite's Grade 6 English Language Arts class practiced their writing skills by collecting personal memories from the summer break and composing their thoughts in the form of a letter written directly to summer. Sentence and paragraph structure, developing details, and striking the right tone were all highlighted in this assignment.



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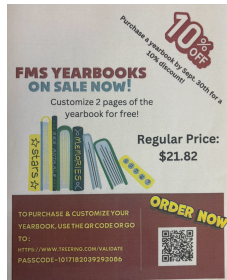
Dear FMS Families,

We are off to a wonderful start to the school year! It has been a joy to see our students settling into routines, reconnecting with friends, and diving into new learning opportunities. The energy in the building has been positive and encouraging, and we are proud of the way our students are already showing kindness, curiosity, and school spirit. Thank you for your continued partnership in helping us create a strong, supportive community—together, we're setting the stage for a great year ahead!



Upcoming Events & Reminders

- 📖 **Yearbooks** – Order yours today!



Advisory & Social-Emotional Learning at FMS

This year, FMS will continue using **The 7 Mindsets (BASE)** curriculum as part of our advisory program.

What is BASE?

- A research-based program that strengthens **school culture**, **student well-being**, and **academic success**.
- Helps students build important life skills through engaging lessons and activities.

Parent Access:

We'll soon share a **parent login** so you can view lessons, start conversations at home, and support your child's growth.

Topics students will explore include:

- Building self-esteem & managing emotions
- Goal setting & stress management
- Navigating peer pressure
- Developing positive social skills

We're excited to continue this program and partner with you in supporting your child's success.



Clubs, Activities & The Arts

- **6th–8th Grade Band & Chorus** are up and running!

- Encourage your child to try something new this year — from clubs to sports to creative opportunities.
 - Be on the lookout for Club start dates - Check the [Weekly Announcements](#).
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Helping Your Child Make New Friends

Middle school is a time of new opportunities and new friendships. Here are a few ways you can support your child in connecting with others:

- **Model friendly behavior:** Show how you greet others and ask questions. Kids often mirror what they see.
 - **Encourage participation:** Have your child join a club, sport, or activity. Shared interests make connections easier.
 - **Practice conversation starters:**
 - “Hi, I’m [Name]. Do you want to sit together at lunch?”
 - “I like your backpack—where did you get it?”
 - “Are you into [sport/game/show]? I am too!”
 - **Remind them that friendships take time:** Encourage patience and persistence.
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News from the Library

We’ve had a busy and exciting start to the year in the FMS library, with students checking out more than 450 books already! Sixth graders visited the library to learn the layout, practice checking out books, and even walked the trail to the Freeport Community Library, where Teen Librarian Brandi Lemieux introduced them to after-school programs. Seventh and eighth graders have also been active, borrowing books and suggesting new titles for our collection. If you still see a school-issued summer reading book at home, please help your child return it. If your child borrowed an FMS library book from the Freeport Community Library over the summer, that book should be returned directly to us. Your help in ensuring books are returned on time keeps our collection strong and accessible for all readers. Thank you for partnering with us!

✨ Thank you for partnering with us to make this school year positive, engaging, and supportive for all of our students!

Pam Crosby

Principal