

Feb. 21, 2025

Dear Folsom Families,

What a spectacular week for our spectacular community of learners! We saw students serving dinner to community members, performing on stage, teaching the scientific method, and playing basketball. And that was just our public face. Inside, students were writing essays, reading informational text, learning about geometric shapes, improving quick math skills, snow shoeing, learning guitar and more. And they did all this in a four-day week after a spectacular storm closed school on Monday.

We're on winter break from Feb. 24-March 4. School resumes on Wednesday, March 5. I hope you have a wonderful vacation!

I do have an important ask: Please vote on Tuesday, March 4. You saw the evidence of our school at work this week, The budget proposed for next year is lean, and the projected tax rate is a **decrease**. The School Board has provided a detailed report about it that is linked on the Folsom website: <https://www.gofolsom.org/o/fecc/page/school-board>. Voting takes place at Town Hall on Tuesday, March 4, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Absentee ballots are available by contacting the South Hero Town Clerk: 802-372-5552 or townclerk@southherovt.org. The annual meeting to discuss the budget is **Saturday, March 1**, at 9 a.m. at Folsom School.



Table of Contents

[This Week at Folsom](#)
[Pasta Dinner Thank You](#)
[Kestrels!](#)
[Spring Clubs](#)
[Middle School Calcutta](#)
[Dear Edwina, Jr.](#)
[Upcoming Events](#)

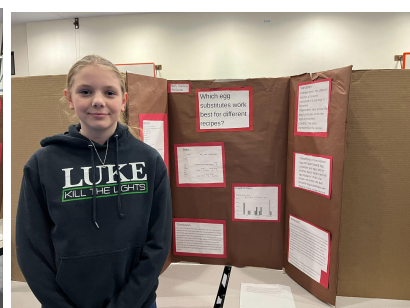
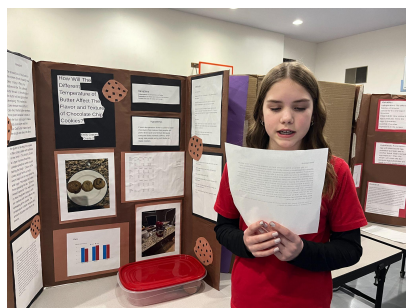
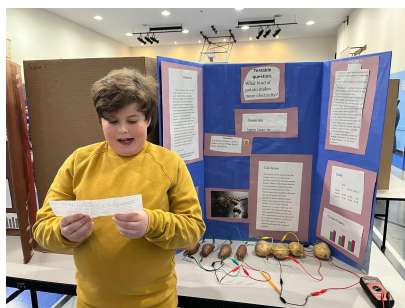
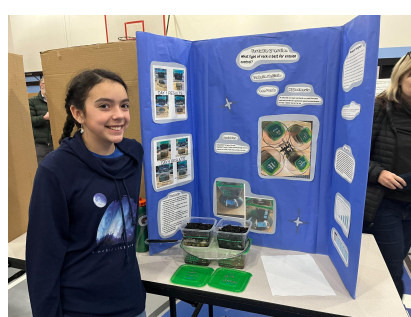
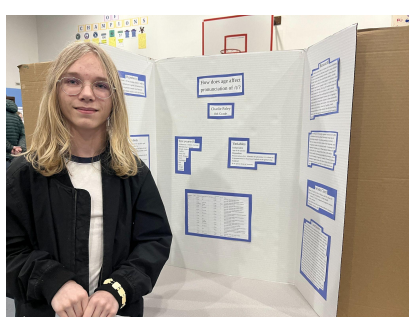
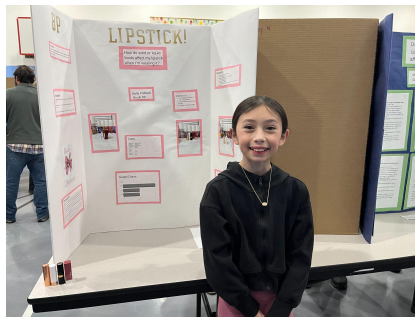
This Week at Folsom

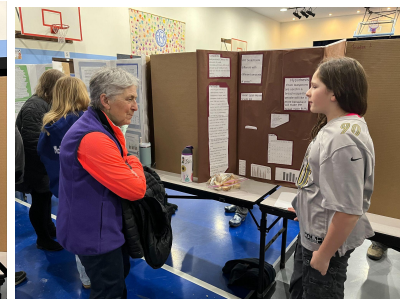
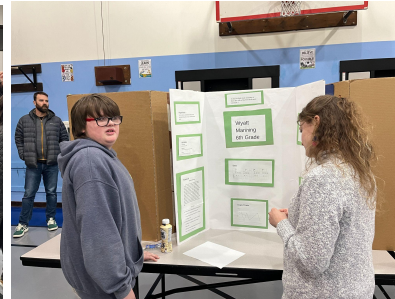
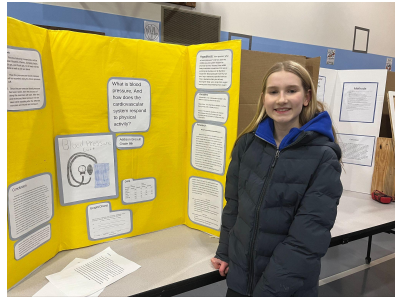
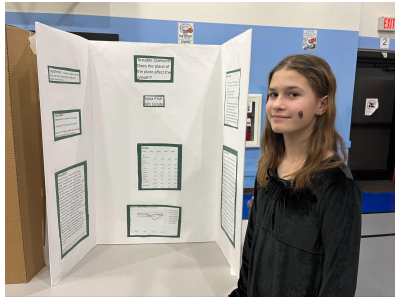
Take a look at what we were up to this week, starting with the 3rd and 4th grade play.



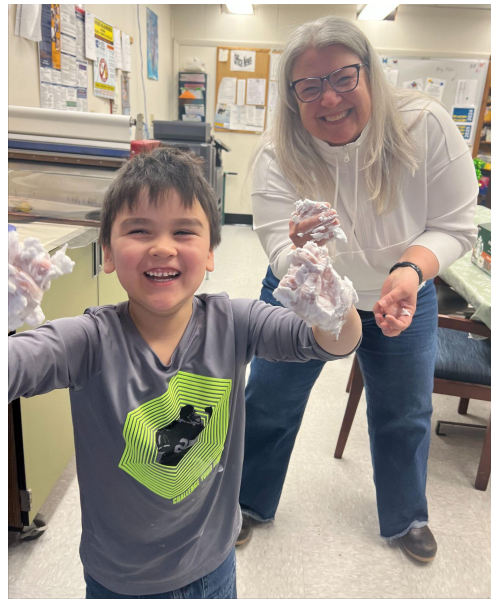


The 5th-8th grade science fair was impressive. We learned about yeast, erosion, potato batteries, lipstick adherence, bacteria growth, T articulation, blood pressure and more.





We met in Community Groups and even squeezed in tactile math instruction.



Pasta Dinner Thank You

The Pasta Dinner was a wonderful night for our community to reconnect and enjoy each other's company over a delicious meal cooked by Chef Jackie Major. **We raised \$2,166 for our playground!** Thank you for helping us seed a fund to update our much-loved playground.

We are so fortunate to have Jackie and the PTO superheroes who made this dinner possible. Thank you to the PTO for organizing the dinner, to all the parents who helped buy food, cook and clean-up, to our 7th and 8th graders who served the meal, to art teacher Jamie Bedard and Folsom students for the decorations, to Helen Bishop for all the support behind the scenes, and especially to Chef Jackie who took on the daunting task of turning our cafeteria into a pop-up restaurant. It was such a fun night!



Kestrels!

The South Hero Conservation Commission will be holding an American Kestrel nest box building community event on Saturday, March 8, 2025, in the Folsom gym from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This project is a partnership with Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences (VINS). According to VINS, "Kestrel populations are declining across North America and one hypothesis is that they lack adequate nesting sites as a result of habitat alteration." The plan is to put some of these nesting boxes near Folsom. If you are an eighth-grader, you can earn community service hours for volunteering at this event. For more information, contact Mark Naud from the Conservation Commission (mnaudlaw@gmail.com).

Spring Clubs

Look for information on Spring Clubs the week of March 3. The goal is for clubs to start the week of March 10; although some offerings will have a later start as we wait for the snow to melt and spring to arrive. Do you have an idea for an after-school club? It's not too late to sign up to offer a club. You need to be an approved chaperone (fingerprinted) and have 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! Here is a link to a Google Form you can use to sign up to be a Club Leader: [FORM](#)

Middle School Calcutta

The Folsom Middle School is holding a Calcutta fundraiser to help pay for the costs of busing for middle school field trips and graduation. This fundraiser is a chance to win \$1,000 by buying a Calcutta ball. If your numbered ball is the last one drawn, you're the grand prize winner. There will be additional prizes from local businesses, ski resorts and more.

When: 4-7 p.m. Sunday, April 6

Where: McKee's of South Hero

Cost: \$50 for 1 ticket/1 dinner; \$75 for 1 ticket/2 dinners. You can buy as many tickets as you'd like.

How to participate: Fill out the [FORM](#)

Or, email or call Alison Perry: 802-238-6950 aperry@gisu.org

Thanks for your support!

Dear Edwina, Jr.

Dear Edwina Jr. is the Folsom Middle School musical this year! All are invited to audition, and all who audition will be able to participate in the play. Come one, come all! The auditions are Thursday and Friday, March 6-7 from 3 to 5 p.m. Students who are interested in crew should sign up but do not need to attend auditions. Information about the play is going home with middle school students on Friday, 2/20. Here is a link to all the materials. [Dear Edwina Jr. Packet.](#)

Upcoming Events

- ☐ **Feb. 24-March 4:** Winter Break
- ☐ **March 1:** South Hero School Budget Informational Meeting, 9 a.m. at Folsom School
- ☐ **March 4:** School Budget Voting at the Town Offices, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ☐ **March 5:** School resumes!
- ☐ **March 8:** Kestrel Nest Box Building at Folsom, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- ☐ **March 10:** Ski/Ride Trip (*rescheduled*)
- ☐ **March 14:** Middle School Dance, 7-9 p.m. & end of Trimester 2.
- ☐ **March 19:** Ski/Ride Trip (*rescheduled*)
- ☐ **March 28:** PTO-sponsored Family Community Movie Night. Save the date!
- ☐ **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.

I hope you enjoy a restful winter vacation. See you back at Folsom on March 5!

Julie Pidgeon
Principal