



NEWSLETTER

August 17, 18, and 19 2021

UPCOMING DATES:

September 15: Field Trip 4/5th Grade Class to Catamount Institute
Front Desk Number: (719) 495-5373

Class Updates:

STEAM- Ms. Jill and Ms. Katrina

We had an outstanding first day of STEAM class! It was wonderful to meet and get to know your students! During our first day, we learned each other's names in a 'bouncy' way, completed a name tag design challenge, talked about teamwork using a 'toxic waste' challenge, and finished the day with a fun body percussion routine! This week, we will continue preparing our binders for the school year and begin our science of sound unit. We will start learning about how sound is produced from both a music and a science perspective. We will take a short listening walk and will think about different types of energy! If you have any questions as we get the year underway, please email us at jfoster@d49.org for Ms. Jill or katrujillo@d49.org for Ms. Katrina!

Ms. Stacy's K/1

WOW! What a fantastic group of students I have. Last week we had such a fun time of getting to know one another and I'm looking forward to more time with your little ones. I'm one lucky teacher, that is all I can say. This week in Science, we will be learning about the Earth and how it is made of many layers and how those layers are made of different materials. In Social Studies, we will be learning about positional words and how they tell where something is. It truly is an honor getting to know your children. Have a great week.. Please, don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. skley@d49.org

Ms. Kassi's 2/3 Class

Wow, what a wonderful first week we have had in 2/3rd grade! We learned our procedures, practiced our drills, and got to know one another through games and activities. I am so excited to get to know all of our returning and new families this year. This week our classes will finish creating our class Social Contracts and begin our content units. In social studies we will begin our *America the Beautiful* unit by learning the 5 regions of the US and discussing what symbols and landmarks are. In science we will begin our *geology* unit by looking at geologists, rocks, minerals, and the layers of the earth. *Outside of the classroom each week I will have copies of our non fiction content source texts (social studies and science) so you may choose to take them home to practice reading together! Grab your copies at pick up!* As always thank you for your support, and please do not hesitate to email me with any questions or concerns at knemeth@d49.org.

Ms. Leanne's 4/5 Class

What a great first week we had. This week we will learn about Pop Art and Andy Warhol. In Science we will dive into the history of energy. For our Civil War unit we will start talking about conflict and what causes it. Some general reminders: bring a water bottle, it's hot outside and we want to make sure our students stay hydrated. Also, remember we are a peanut free school. Rice krispie treats, fig bars, and chia squeezes are great alternatives to a granola bar :) Our first field trip is on Wednesday, September 15 to Catamount Institute. More details are coming soon,

but mark your calendars. Also, we are always in need of chaperones and drivers. See the message below about chaperoning, so you will be able to help! Don't ever hesitate to email me if you have any questions or concerns lmckinney@d49.org

Ms. Katrina's 6/7 Class

We had a great first week of school getting to know each other. This week in Science, we will begin our study of Ecology with our case study team simulation on the wolves of Yellowstone. All students will join a

"pack" and complete team challenges as they learn about ecosystems. In social studies, we will be learning about ancient Greek civilization by looking at the different characteristics of the Greek city states. Team time will continue with Ms. Heather's Bridge students with a "Genius Hour" project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me through email. katrujillo@d49.org

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS:

Drop off and pick up

One of our top priorities here at FHP is the safety and wellbeing of your students. For this reason we would ask you to read through the below directions regarding Drop Off and Pick Up.

Please note that the front doors will be opened and someone will be attending to the Kiss and Go lane **no sooner than 8:15am.**

To expedite the process and increase safety and security, strive to **drop off your students at 8:15AM.** We do share the parking lot with the preschool next door that opens its doors at 8:30AM.

Entering the Parking Lot:

- 1) When entering the parking lot, please **make the first right** and follow a counter-clockwise direction around the lot.
- 2) Decide whether you would like to park and walk your student into the building -OR- whether you would like to drop your student(s) off at the curb at Kiss and Go.
***Please Note:** Cars may not be left unattended along the curb. If you want to walk your student into school, you must park in a parking space.

Directions for Kiss and Go, Drop Off Lane:

- 1) Please stay as close to the curb as possible while you are waiting to drop off your student so that those wanting to park can continue around the parking lot.
- 2) Do not let your student exit the car until you have reached Ms. Nancy (or other FHP employee supervising Kiss and Go) and she has begun to assist your student in exiting the car.
- 3) Please make sure your student is ready to exit the car immediately once you enter the drop off cone zone so as to not hold up traffic.
- 4) Students may only exit the car on the curb side, DO NOT let them exit to the left side of the car as cars could be driving through the parking lot.

Directions for Parking your Car and Walking Your Student Into the Building:

- 1) If you are parking and walking your student into the building, please note that the safest way through the parking lot is to make your way to the west side of the parking lot (near the shed and large IVES playground) and follow the sidewalk to our walkway.
***Please Note:** For safety reasons, students are NOT allowed to walk through the parking lot unattended, please use the Kiss and Go Lane if you will not be walking them in yourself.

Dismissal Pick-Up:

We will be requiring our parents to come into the building to pick up their students this year. This gives you a chance to have a short conversation with your student's teacher each day. Please be sure to park in a designated parking space. We will open our main door **at 3:10 pm** so that you may come into the building and head to your student's classroom. Teachers will begin dismissal, from their classrooms, **at 3:15 pm.**

***Please Note:** Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy (the school adjacent to ours) dismisses at 3:15 as well, please be sure to plan for traffic accordingly when scheduling what time to arrive at FHP.

***Please Note:** There is a neighborhood street (Pacific Crest Drive) just north of our doors that has parking along the street, a crosswalk, and a sidewalk leading to our doors. This will be a great place for overflow parking if it is needed.

Who do I contact if...

Ncarder@d49.org : Nancy Carder can answer questions about registering your child with us, records being transferred and curriculum lending. Also, if your email address needs to be updated (to make sure you are receiving the newsletter), please contact Ms. Nancy.

rawhite@d49.org : Rachel White is who you would call if you needed to drop off late or pick up early (719)495-5373. She's also who you would contact if your child has any updates on their medical records or medical needs.

Lmckinney@d49.org : Leanne McKinney is who you would email if you have general FHEP questions.

Hkrammas@d49.org : Heather Krammas is who you would email if you have any questions about our Bridge Program.

Sheckel@d49.org : Sandi can answer any questions about logging into Schoology or Powerschool, general homeschooling questions, or Notice of Intent questions. She is also who you would contact if you want to belong to our FHP Facebook page.

Classroom Teachers: Please contact your child's individual classroom teacher if your child is going to be absent. Individual teacher contact information is as follows:

K/1: Ms. Stacy skley@d49.org

2/3 : Ms. Kassi knemeth@d49.org

3-6 STEAM: Ms. Jill and Ms. Katrina jfoster@d49.org, katrujillo@d49.org

4/5: Ms. Leanne lmckinney@d49.org

6/7: Ms. Katrina katrujillo@d49.org

New Procedure for Orientation (Beginning of School) Paperwork -

All FHP 'beginning of school' paperwork is now electronic!!! So it is much easier to fill it out and submit. All parents will log into their PowerSchool Parent Portal and select 'forms' on the left hand side of your screen and fill all forms electronically. Please note, once you are in your PowerSchool parent portal, you will see each of your students have a tab at the top of the page. Parents will click each student tab, then choose 'forms', fill out and submit all the paperwork.

We need the following forms for each Enrichment student, as soon as possible:

1. D49 Annual Health Forms - *After your forms are completed, Rachel White, FHP's Health Assistant for FHP IVES Campus, will contact you if your student has any medical conditions to be sure FHP has all the paperwork & plan in place.*
2. FHP Parent/Student Handbook Signature Page
3. D49 Computer Network Agreement
4. **BRIDGE STUDENTS ONLY:** FHP MAP - Mutually Agreed Upon Plan

D49 PowerSchool Parent Portal: [PowerSchool Parent Portal Link](#)

Cannot remember your log in or password? Please contact Nancy Carder or Sandi Heckel to get yourself up and running!

Don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal?

Last year and again this year, D49 sent out an email to each parent that does NOT have a PowerSchool Parent Portal, this email contains some important access codes that you will need to set up your account. Please click here for a help page that will walk you through your set up: [PowerSchool Parent Creation Guide](#)

Did you know we have a private parent Facebook group? And that Falcon Homeschool Program also has a page?

Feel free to pull up FHP's Parent FB Group Page and apply or send Sandi Heckel an email requesting an invitation to join the group!

Facebook Group Name: FHP Parents

Facebook FHP Page Name: Falcon Homeschool Program (be sure to 'like' us to see any of our announcements and posts!)

Notice of Intent & Homeschool Help

Please feel free to email your 21-22 Notice of Intent to Homeschool to Sandi Heckel, FHP's Home Base Education Specialist at sheckel@d49.org Sandi will file your NOI for you and give you a confirmation...

[FHP Notice of Intent to Homeschool](#)

Also, if you have any questions about homeschooling, I'm there to help!! Email is the best way to make contact with me!

STAR Academy--Only a Few Spots Left, Closing Soon

We are limited to 25 families, and it is a first come, first serve basis. We are quickly approaching that number, so we will likely have to close out sign ups soon. For more information about STAR Academy, please visit this link:

<https://www.d49.org/cms/lib/CO01900838/Centricity/Domain/2545/STAR%20Academy%20FHP%20Information%20Session%20REDUCED%20PDF.pdf>

To sign up your child/children for next year, please complete this survey:

<https://forms.gle/yBFkvroQVoaYUTXK8>.

We will be reaching out to our registered families in the next week or two to confirm your interest and to meet with you to get you set up with the STAR suite.

COVID Information

Some families have inquired about COVID restrictions and guidelines. FHP will respect and honor families that wish to mask or do not wish to mask. We will also honor and respect personal space, but we do not have rigid guidelines to follow. For a well-articulated message from Peter Hilts, Chief Education Officer for D49, please click this link for a short video: <https://youtu.be/jfVKwUmPDDY>.

Chaperones and volunteers for field trips

Classroom Field Trips are Quickly Approaching - Have you completed a background check yet?

Field trips for our program depend on parent drivers and chaperones. If you would like to help out our program and volunteer, you will have to have a background check completed by District 49. Background checks are only good for one calendar year, and since we didn't have field trips last year, most of our volunteers will need to complete a new background check.

If you were *fingerprinted* prior to 2019, you are probably still in the system. Check with Ms. Nancy to see if you are cleared.

To complete a background check follow this link and complete both applications at the bottom of the page. The cost of the background check is \$5.00. Thank you so much for your willingness to help our program with this need. [Volunteer applications](#)

**Please note that if you would like to go on the field trip with your student, but NOT chaperoning or drive other students, you do NOT need to have a background check completed.

If you have any questions regarding volunteering, please contact Ms. Nancy at ncarder@d49.org.

A Note from Ms. Katie, Our Principal

It was so nice to see so many of our families at our Orientations and for the first days of school! As I mentioned during Orientations, and I'm sure you noticed, I am due very soon with our second daughter and will be leaving on Maternity Leave in about one week. While on Maternity Leave, my responsibilities have been split up amongst FHP staff. I may be a bit biased, but I believe FHP has the very best of the best staff, and we have been planning on my leave since last spring. Rest assured that as needs arise, the FHP staff will be here to help and serve you just as we always have. I will miss the FHP family while I'm on Maternity Leave, and I will be looking forward to returning in late November.

Landsharks



Falcon Homeschool Landshark Running Club

We offer a non-competitive youth program to introduce running to young athletes in a safe and fun environment. The focus is on self-improvement, being an encouraging teammate, and making new friends. The Fall XC Series is a fun running program led by Danny and Leah Wicks and is open to students in kindergarten through 6th grade. Please remember to purchase an **Orange** team race shirt (\$16) if this is your first season running.

First practice: September 9, 2021

Practice details: Thursdays and Fridays 5:45-6:30pm

Thursday practice will be held at Grand Peak Academy 7036 Cowpoke Road Colorado Springs, CO 80908

Friday practice will be held at the green area west of Frank Castello park on Potomac Dr. in Fairfax.

Practices consist of running games and workouts with a strong focus on fun.

Meets: Races will be held on Monday evenings at Challenger Middle School. Each race day runners will run one race. Meets are September 20, 27, and Oct 4. Time TBD.

Kindergarten and 1st graders run 0.5mile

2nd-6th graders have the choice between 1.0 and 1.50 miles

Registration opens August 1, 2021

Runners must be registered prior to their first practice.

Register online at www.Landsharksrunningclub.com

(\$65 registration fee until September 6, 2021 when \$15 late fees apply)

Financial Assistance is available thru Every Kid Sport Aug 1-Sept 1, 2021

We look forward to working with your athletes. If you have any questions please e-mail us.

FHP Coaches: Danny and Leah Wicks Email: leahanddanny@comcast.net