

Fillmore CENTRAL SCHOOL

Enter to learn; go forth to serve.



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER • FEBRUARY 2025 • VOLUME 29, ISSUE 4

Houghton University's Division Day



Fillmore's 4th graders teamed up with Belfast's 4th grade to learn long division with help from Houghton University Education Department. We enjoyed a day of learning and made some new friends. Thank you, Professor Coates, for making this happen again this year.

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Dear Fillmore Families,

The other day, I came across a quote that has been stuck in my mind ever since:

"Great minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, small minds discuss people."

It made me stop and think about the kind of environment we're building here in our school and our community. What are we focusing on? Are we challenging ourselves to think big, or are we getting caught up in the little things that fail to move us forward?

At Fillmore CSD, we're committed to teaching students how to think critically, creatively, and collaboratively. It's not just about memorizing facts or

preparing for the next test. It is about equipping them with the skills and mindset to tackle the big ideas that shape our world. That's why you'll see teachers encouraging students to ask questions, take risks, and work together.

Of course, we also celebrate events and milestones that bring us together as a school community. These moments are important, but they are most powerful when they remind us of our shared purpose and the values we believe in. While relationships are at the heart of everything we do, it is important to use our words to build each other up, not tear each other down.

As we move through this school year, I invite all of us... students, families, and staff alike... to focus on the

bigger picture. Let us have the kinds of conversations that challenge us to think deeply and dream boldly. Let us celebrate ideas that inspire growth and progress.

Together, we can continue to make Fillmore a place where great minds thrive.

Thank you for all you do to support our students and our school.

Fillmore... Together.

With warm regards,

Mike Dodge
Superintendent





Exciting news! PAINT WITH BOB ROSS is back beginning on Friday February 28th. Join us at 6pm on the 4th Friday of each month...we have all the supplies- this is FREE and open to adults and teens.

Saturday February 22nd is **TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY!** Join us at 11am, **Hawk Creek Wildlife Center** will here for a live animal presentation! Miss Bonnie will be reading animal stories at 10:30 and will have a fun craft activity as well.

Miss Tonya has lots of fun activities planned during February Winter Break (Feb. 17th -22nd): slime making, escape rooms, and birdfeeder houses. Check our website (fillmorelibrary.com) or Facebook page for more details.

LOOKING FORWARD TO APRIL: We'll be hosting our **Annual Easter Egg/Scavenger Hunt** on April 12th and will once again be hosting **INDOOR PUTT-PUTT** during Spring Break (April 14th -17th) Stay tuned for more details!

Thanks to a large donation from the **Findlay Family Foundation** we'll be adding many new picture books, learning-to-read books, early readers, and audio books. The Foundation believes that it's important to instill

a love of reading while children are young, stating that "children must learn to read, so later they can read to learn". We are very thankful to the Foundation for this donation for early literacy books.

WIGGLES and GIGGLES Toddler Time with Miss Tonya is for babies and toddlers every Wednesday from 10:30-11:15. Besides reading books, there will be songs, movement, games, crafts, and playtime. This is for babies and toddlers who are on the move! Older siblings are welcome too.

Lil' Bookworms meet every Wed. from 3:30-4:30, this is for children in 1st-5rd grade. Join Miss Tonya as we read together, create crafts, science experiments, escape rooms, make (and eat!), snacks and more!

Story Time with Miss Bonnie takes place every Tuesday at 10:30. Join us for fun stories, snacks and an easy crafts!

Beyond Books for Homeschoolers now EVERY Wednesday from 1:30-2:30. Fun for ALL AGES! Miss Tonya and Miss Sadie will have crafts, STEM activities, books, seasonal escape rooms, and MORE! This is also a time and place for parents to connect while the kids have FUN.

Tai Chi every Wednesday at 7pm. Join in as we learn Tai Chi together. This is FREE and everyone is welcome to attend. (participating children must have an adult with them).

The Allegany County Creative Writers Group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm to share their work, free-write, and support one another. This is a fun-loving, congenial group for the purpose of providing a time for other writer types to spend time together. Writers supporting writers! The group also meets via Zoom Saturdays from 11am-1pm. Check out their Facebook page for more details or contact the library.

COOKBOOK CLUB If you like to cook (and EAT!) then please join us on the 4th Monday of the month at 5:30pm. We choose a different cookbook each month, everyone picks a recipe to make and bring to our gathering for a potluck dinner. You can even bring a guest!

Monday Morning Book Club meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 10:30am, check out our website for the title of the book we'll be discussing each month. All are welcome! This is a fun and welcoming group...please feel free to join in at any time!

Our monthly **Library Board Meetings** take place the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm in our Community Room, the public is always welcome to attend.



I wanted to give an update on the 2nd grade classrooms Adopt a Platoon program. We were able to send out two large packages to our soldiers in Iraq. It took about a month and a half to arrive at their destination, but the soldiers were so thankful for all the amazing donations. We received an email response from our soldiers which the students absolutely loved. We want to thank all of those that generously donated to this project and helped make it all happen. I would like to acknowledge a special donation that was in memory of some local FCS graduates and marines: Nathan Adamowicz, Michael Baginski, and Stephen Baginski. Thank you all for this opportunity. We are looking forward to being able to meet all of the soldiers when they return from their deployment.

Thank you,
Mrs. Smith and the 2nd grade team

FILLMORE

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

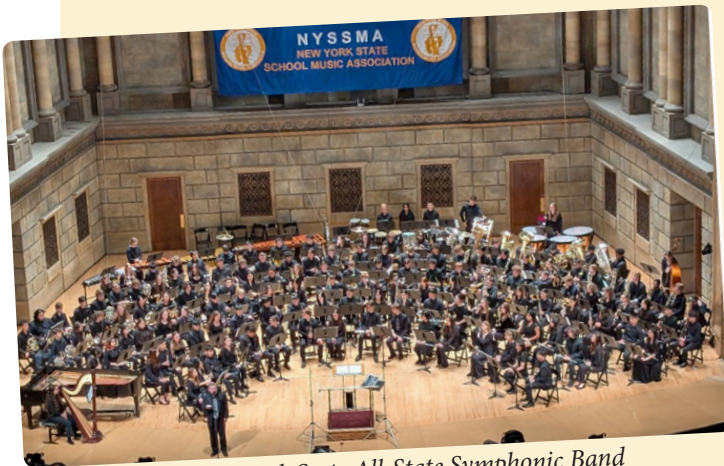
NYSSMA CONFERENCE ALL-STATE 2024



Mya Keeler - Alto | Treble Chorus
 Jenna Rowley - Timpani | Symphonic Band
 Evelyn Cox - Soprano | Treble Chorus
 Nathan Tanner - Bass | Mixed Chorus



New York State All-State Mixed Chorus



New York State All-State Symphonic Band



New York State All-State Treble Chorus

**2025 CREST
 (FCS YEARBOOK)
 ON SALE NOW!**

BUY NOW AND SAVE!!

\$45.00

Make checks payable to Fillmore
 Central School

All orders must be prepaid.

Please fill out the following information:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Student Grade: _____ # of Books Ordered: _____

Elementary Teacher or 1st Period Teacher: _____

Total cost of book: \$40 I have enclosed: \$ _____

Fill out this form and return it to Mrs. Deck
 in the 7-12 office. You can also order online at
yearbookforever.com (handling fees apply)

Order after May 1st - \$50

Order after June 1st - \$55

For more info. see Mrs. Reed or
 Mrs. Chamberlain



2024 was a successful year for the Secret Santa program. We made Christmas a little better for 55 families this year.

The Secret Santa Program is the biggest opportunity we have to help parents with Christmas. This program supplies children with Christmas gifts to open on Christmas morning.

There are many ways that we get the help we need to make this program a success. Here are a few:

Once again, we participated in the exciting and always entertaining Christmas Auction with RG Mason Auctions, along with Absolute Auctions with Ron Wheeler. The patrons as well as the two auctioneers donate many gifts to the program. It has come to play a very big role in the Secret Santa program. Thank you to both auctioneers as well as the many patrons that attend this event. If you have not taken part in this, you may want to put it on your calendar for next year. It is always a great time with lots of laughs, lots of fun, and lots of great deals! WOW!

James Mason along with his wife Crystal have offered to accept cash donations at JRM Equipment in Fillmore and match those donations for Secret Santa. Thank you very much!

Mrs. Rookey's class, Mr. Tucker's class, the Middle School Student Council, and the High School Student Council sold Little Caesar's pizza kits as a fundraiser again this year. It is amazing to see all the students who participate in fundraiser that does not necessarily benefit them. Also, thank you to the people who purchase from this fundraiser year after year, you are the reason that this is one of our biggest fundraisers. Thanks so much for purchasing pizza kits!

At the annual Craft Show at FCS we hold a Basket Raffle. To make this work we need donations to put in the auction. This year we received gift baskets of all kinds, gift certificates, and items to put together in baskets. Thank you to those that donate items to this event and thank you to the people at the craft show that purchase the tickets year after year. This year was a huge success! Thank You!

We take donations in several different ways. Without help from the community members, local businesses, teachers and staff this program would not be possible.

Not only do the businesses of the Fillmore Community offer help to families suffering hard times so do many community members. So many people want to help in one way or another every year. There are so many great people, too many to list! It makes me so proud to live in such a great community! Thank you!

Centerville United Methodist Church helped make the season a success by sponsoring many children again this year. Thank you for your support.

Faculty, staff and students at Houghton College sponsored several children for Christmas. They are one of our biggest supporters, without this help it would be nearly impossible to make Christmas morning a special time for so many children. Thank You! Kim Cockle is the person who helps to make sure everything runs smoothly, Thank you Kim!

The faculty and staff at Fillmore Central School does an amazing job helping the students and families in so many ways. At Christmas time it is no different and they go above and beyond! So many sponsored children, donated money for gifts, or donated items for the Basket Raffle. Without all this help we would not be able to do this program. Awesome job team! Thank You!

As you can see it takes a lot of work from a lot of people to allow our Secret Santa to perform his magic on Christmas morning!

This year we had some new elves helping Santa!! The High School Student Council along with some advisors headed to Batavia to do some Secret Santa shopping! It was amazing to see the student council kids so excited to help the families at FCS. I was so proud of the kids that volunteered to help with the program so selflessly this year. I know with continued support from the High School Student Council the Secret Santa program will continue to flourish. Thank you so much!

I do want to let everyone know, I will be taking a back seat in the coming years in regards to Secret Santa. We will still have the program and as I stated earlier, my hopes are Student Council will continue to support and grow the program. I will miss the program greatly but, it is time I take a back seat. I will hold more of a secretary position to the program. Thank you to everyone that has made this program possible through the years.

Thank you again to all that sponsored or donated to our program. Without the wonderful people we have around willing to help in any way possible during the Christmas Season we would not be able help children have an amazing Christmas morning. You are all very important to the success of the Secret Santa Program.

This year marks the end of an era for the Secret Santa program at Fillmore Central. After 25 years of making the Christmas season special for families in our community, Stacy Parmenter has decided that it is time to focus on her own family. Stacy has shown great generosity by volunteering to run this program. Her willingness to share both her time and talent has had a profound and lasting impact on the Secret Santa Program and the community. Stacy has given selflessly to help others and that speaks to both her strength and character as a human being.

Stacy started the Secret Santa program 25 years ago when she saw a need in the community. When the program first began Stacy recognized families in need and on her own time and with her own money made their holidays merry. Over the years as the need of the community increased the program had to grow as well. Stacy began fundraising, asking the community for donations and adopting families to others who wanted to help. Stacy has transformed this program into a well-oiled machine that touches the hearts of many families.

She does everything from paperwork to shopping to handing out presents. You will see Stacy in many places in the months leading up to Christmas. She coordinates the Little Ceasars Pizza fundraisers. You can buy your tickets for the basket raffle at the craft show from her. She also attends the Christmas Auction put on by R.G. Mason Auctions, where they graciously donate toys to help. There are not many people that know how much work goes into this program, which attest to how well Stacy runs it.

This program, although rewarding, takes a lot of work behind the scenes. Stacy has always been up for task.

Stacy loves with her whole heart and puts everything she has into the things she does. That is why this program has been such a success. Although she will not be leading the charge in the upcoming years, I know she will be helping behind the scenes. Stacy has left a legacy at Fillmore and some very big shoes to fill.

**FCS HIGH
SCHOOL DRAMA
CLUB**

Valentines Day Fundraiser

VALENTINES DAY THEMED AND PACKAGED

**MILK CHOCOLATE COVERED
OREOS & PRETZELS**

\$10 FOR HALF DOZEN

**ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE 2025 FCS HIGH SCHOOL
MUSICAL PRODUCTION OF DISNEY'S NEWSIES**

**ORDERS AND PAYMENT DUE TO JESSICA CHAPMAN
BY FEBRUARY 5TH**

**ORDER PICKUP AT FCS AUD FOYER
FEBRUARY 12TH 6-8PM**

FCS HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB

Valentines Day Fundraiser

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Quantity

_____ Half Dozen Milk Chocolate Covered Pretzels

_____ Half Dozen Milk Chocolate Covered Oreos

_____ **Total Amount Due (\$10 per item)**

*****CHECKS PAYABLE TO FILMORE CSD*****



Dear Families:

The Middle School Student Council is selling Candygrams for Valentine's Day again this year. We are selling fruit flavored suckers. The cost is \$2.00 each. Each Candygram will be delivered on Feb. 14th. If you would like to purchase one or more (feel free to make copies of this form) please fill out and return this form and payment to school c/o Ms. Colombo by Feb. 11th. Thank you for your support!

To: _____

From: _____

Homeroom: _____

Message: _____

FILLMORE LITTLE LEAGUE WILL CONTINUE WITH THE ON-LINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

Signup and pay online using the QR code now through April 1st 2025.

Click the registration button on the site to create an account and sign up players or use your account from last year.

Fillmore Little League is open to children and young adults who attend school in **Fillmore, Belfast, Letchworth, and the Angelica side of Genesee-Valley** who live within our league boundary and those which also live and includes the Towns of Pike, Gainesville, and Bliss.

To meet the age requirement (T-Ball) players must have been born on or between Sept 1, 2008 and August 31, 2021.

A birth certificate and a medical form is required to be uploaded during your registration .

Parents of children league age 9-12 will need three different forms for proof of residency, one from each group, dated Feb 1st, 2024 and before Feb 1st 2025

GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3
Driver's License	Welfare/ child care record	Utility Bills
School records	Federal records (taxes)	Medical Records
Vehicle records	State records (taxes)	Financial records
Employment records	Military records	Internet/Cable bill
Insurance documents	Support payment	Voter's registration
	Homeowners/tenant	

Cost: \$75 for one child; \$65 for two children, ect.

A non- refundable \$3.00 service fee will be incurred for online registrations.

Any questions, contact Jen Austin: austinjenn0@gmail.com

Little League Try-Outs for baseball and softball
will be held at Fillmore Central School at 2:00 pm sharp on
SUNDAY, MARCH 23RD (YES , SUNDAY)
Come around 1:30pm and warm up .

Try-outs are for NEW players to the district or players that are moving up from minors.

Our annual **Kick-Off fundraiser meeting and Chicken BBQ** will be held on
Saturday, April 5th 2025 at the Fillmore Fire Hall at 11:30 am. All parents need to attend this meeting.





LITTLE LEAGUE® BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL MEDICAL RELEASE



NOTE: To be carried by any Regular Season or Tournament Team Manager together with team roster or International Tournament Affidavit.

Player: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender (M/F): _____

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Player's Address: _____ City: _____ State/Country: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN AUTHORIZATION: _____ Email: _____

In case of emergency, if family physician cannot be reached, I hereby authorize my child to be treated by Certified Emergency Personnel(i.e. EMT, First Responder, E.R. Physician).

Family Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Country: _____

Hospital Preference: _____

Parent Insurance Co: _____ Policy No.: _____ Group ID#: _____

League Insurance Co: _____ Policy No.: _____ League/Group ID#: _____

If Parent(s)/Legal Guardian cannot be reached in case of emergency, contact:

Name	Phone	Relationship to Player

Name	Phone	Relationship to Player

Please list any allergies/medical problems, including those requiring maintenance medication (i.e. Diabetic, Asthma, Seizure Disorder).

Medical Diagnosis	Medication	Dosage	Frequency of Dosage

Date of last Tetanus Toxoid Booster: _____

The purpose of the above listed information is to ensure that medical personnel have details of any medical problem which may interfere with or alter treatment.

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____
Authorized Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

FOR LEAGUE USE ONLY:

League Name: _____ League ID: _____

Division: _____ Team: _____ Date: _____

WARNING: PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT CANNOT PREVENT ALL INJURIES A PLAYER MIGHT RECEIVE WHILE PARTICIPATING IN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL.

Little League does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, gender, sexual preference or religious preference.

Fillmore Central School
104 W. Main Street
Fillmore, New York 14735

Board of Education:

Mr. Matt Hopkins
Mrs. Faith Roeske
Mrs. Darice Mullen
Mr. Brian Reitnour
Mr. Kellen Dantz

Administration:

Michael Dodge, Superintendent
Eric Talbot, PK-12 Principal
Sarah Petre, PK-12 Assistant Principal
Joseph Butler, Business Manager
Betsy Hardy, Director of Technology
Melissa Washburn, Director of Special Education
Corrie Buckley, PK-12 Curriculum Coordinator

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Or Current Resident

POSTAL PATRON

READING IS A PLEASURE BOOKS ARE A TREASURE

Thanks to the generous donations from our families, friends, community members and FCS staff, each student in PreK through 8th grade received at least one brand new age-appropriate hard-covered book just before the holiday break as a result of participating in the Books are Fun BOOK BLAST campaign. Here are some interesting stats from our BOOK BLAST adventures:

- 31% of our students participated.
- We raised \$13,117.95 in less than two weeks.
- Our students received 1,078 books.
- 135 students earned participation prizes.
- Another 192 students partially registered.
- 4 Students won Treasure Chests.
- 1 Student won an Epic Treasure Chest.
- 3 Classes earned a \$100 Shopping Spree.
Mrs. Behen/Mrs. Farrington
Mrs. Beardsley/Mrs. Worthington
Mrs. Pastorius



Raelynne McCutcheon in 3PK was Treasure Chest Winner #2



1st Grader, Ryelighan Bender, was Treasure Chest Winner #1.



4th Grader, Brycen Russell, Was Treasure Chest Winner #3.



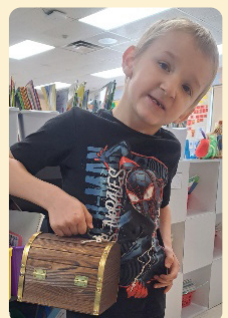
1st Grader, Ryleen VanBuren was the Epic Treasure Chest Winner.



Mrs. Sisson's 3PK students hugging their brand new books.



Mrs. Behen and Mrs. Farrington's First Graders are excited about their new books.



1st Grader, Evan Romasser was Treasure Chest Winner #4.

