

FORT MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY

April 2026 Newsletter

Principal's Corner

Hello Families,

As we welcome the month of April, we are looking forward to the energy and growth that spring brings to our school community. This time of year always feels like a fresh start, and we are excited to continue building on the strong learning and connections we've seen throughout the year.

Our students have been working hard, showing perseverance, kindness, and curiosity in their classrooms each day. It has been wonderful to see their progress and the pride they take in their learning. Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting their success, your involvement truly makes a difference. April will be a busy and exciting month, filled with meaningful learning experiences and special events. From classroom projects, field trips and opportunities for family engagement, we look forward to welcoming you into our school community whenever possible. Be sure to check the calendar and communications from your child's teacher for important dates and updates.

As the weather begins to change, we also encourage students to come prepared for outdoor activities. Fresh air and movement are an important part of the school day, and we are eager to take advantage of the warmer days ahead.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support, positivity, and partnership. We are proud of all that our students are accomplishing and grateful to work together with such a supportive community.



With appreciation,

Mrs. Hansen



April FMES Positivity Project Traits

- **Fairness:** Fairness means making sure everyone is treated kindly and has a chance to be included.
- **Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence:** Noticing and enjoying the wonderful things around us and the great work people do.
- **Purpose:** Doing things that are important to you and help others.

Important Dates

Monday, March 30 - Friday, April 3: Spring Recess (no school)

Friday, April 17: 2nd Grade Math Parent Workshop

Friday, April 24: Purple Up Parade 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 28: Second Grade & K/2 Class Field Trip



 **SPIRIT FRIDAYS -**
Wear **school colors** or field
day shirts

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Pupil Personnel Services

This month, we are excited to spotlight our district's School Psychologist, Gina DeMarco or as the FMES students like to call her, our **"Feelings Teacher"**! This is Mrs. DeMarco's 3rd year as a psychologist in Highland Falls. Outside of school, Mrs. DeMarco enjoys running, puzzles and spending time with family.



What does a school psychologist do?

Think of a school psychologist as a bridge between learning and well-being. Their primary goal is to ensure every student has the emotional and academic support they need to thrive. They aren't just there for "big" problems; they are part of the everyday team helping students feel safe and ready to learn.

How do they support your child?

- **Skill Building:** Helping students develop "superpowers" like emotional regulation, social skills, and problem-solving.
- **Learning Support:** Partnering with teachers to figure out why a student might be struggling with reading or math and creating a plan to help.
- **Emotional Safety:** Providing a listening ear and a safe space for students who might be feeling anxious, overwhelmed, or frustrated.
- **Crisis Support:** Being a steady hand during difficult times to ensure the school remains a supportive environment.

How do they support you?

The school psychologist is your partner. They help families navigate special education services (like IEPs or 504 plans), connect you with community resources, and offer strategies you can use at home to support your child's growth.

The Goal: To create a safe school climate for students that supports academic success, promotes positive behavior and mental health while strengthening the home-school connection between staff and families.

The Counseling Corner with Ms. Belz, Social Worker and Mrs. DeMarco, School Psychologist

Now that the weather is getting better, it's a great time to go outside and enjoy some sunshine. You could go for a walk with your family or have a picnic at a local park! Spending time outside can help boost your mood and get rid of the winter blues after being inside for so long, reducing anxiety, lowering stress levels, and calming feelings of anger. Plus, sunlight helps our bodies make Vitamin D, which is important for strong bones and a healthy immune system!

Do your mind and body a favor, and spend some time outdoors!

A note from Nurse Moscatello: Spring is a great time to refresh healthy habits! Getting enough sleep, washing hands, eating healthy foods, and staying hydrated help students feel their best at school. Please notify the health office of any allergies or health updates so we can keep everyone safe and healthy. 🌸💧



MONDAY BRANCH OUT DAY

There are certain colors that represent the different branches of military. Red is the color for Marines, Blue is the color for Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard, and Green is the color for Army. Let's wear these colors to support the different branches.

Pre-K: Red

Kindergarten: Red

1st Grade: Blue

2nd Grade: Green



HEROES IN THE HALLWAYS

**APRIL IS THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY
CHILD! JOIN US IN HONORING THEM
WITH A FUN SPIRIT WEEK!**

WEEK OF APRIL 20 -24, 2026

TUESDAY PATRIOTIC DAY

**Dress in red, white,
and blue or show their
American pride with
patriotic clothing or
accessories.**



WEDNESDAY

***SALUTE THE EARTH, PROTECT
OUR ROOTS***

**Dress in camouflage,
Army gear, or Earth Day
colors (blue, green, or
brown).**



***THURSDAY MILITARY
FAMILIES ARE OUR
HEROES!***

**Dress like your
favorite superhero!
(no masks)**



SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR MILITARY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AT FMES!



FRIDAY PURPLE UP! DAY

Purple symbolizes the spirit of military children. Wear purple to honor military kids.



PURPLE UP!
for military kids



HFFM PTP newsletter

FMES Edition

April 2026



REMINDER

April is here - and we're blooming with gratitude. Thank you to our amazing volunteers, families, and student participants for making this year's Science Fair such a success! Your time, creativity, and support made it a truly special event for our entire school community.



We're looking forward to a strong finish to the school year - full of growth, connection, and school spirit.

Thank you for being such an important part of it all!

What's Happening with the HFFM PTP?

- Apr. 1, 2026 -HFFM PTP Annual Election Goes Live - Info to Come! This year we are electing a President, Treasurer, and Trustees (3).
- Apr. 6, 2026 -HFFM PTP Monthly Meeting @ FMES Library at 6:30 PM
- Apr. 20, 2026 -PTP Sponsored School Assembly: "DrumPerks" During School
- Apr. 24, 2026 -PTP Earth Day Afterschool Craft for Grades Pre-K-Grade 2 @ 3:30 PM



Coming Soon:

- 2nd Grade Scripps Spelling Bee (5/15/2026)
- Spring School Pictures w/ BNL
- Spirit Wear (Spring Shop)
- HFFM PTP Hanging Basket Sale (Spring)
- Teacher Appreciation (May)

Fundraising:

- Spirit Wear T-Shirts (immediate purchase / on hand inventory) in Youth & Adult Sizes
- Raider Spirit Blankets - \$20/ea.
- Castle Play Cards - \$40/ea. (No exp. date)

Email Us to Order Today!

Visit <https://Bit.ly/PTPpay> for convenient online payment portal!



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FACEBOOK.COM/HFFMPTP



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