

# Freeman Elementary



Home of the Falcons  
Principal: Dr. Donna Ferguson



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## Upcoming Events

### November

11/2 Get Moving Monday!

11/5 Fall Picture Retakes

11/11 Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL

11/19 Family Night & Night at the Library 6-7:30PM

11/25-27 Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL

11/30 Book Fair Begins

### December

12/1 Christmas Music Concert for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades 6:30PM & Book Fair

12/2 Breakfast with "Grands" 7:30AM; Book Fair

12/3 Night at the Library 6-7:30; Book Fair

12/4 3rd,4th,5th Grades to WSU women's basketball game; Book Fair Ends

12/7 Get Moving Monday

12/8 Band/Orchestra concert 8:30AM

## November News

*November is here already and we can't believe it! So far, you've been with us for our Back to School Bash, Parent Teacher Conferences, Pastries with Parents, fall parties and field trips. We love having involved parents as part of our Freeman Family and hope you will continue to join us for fun and keeping your kids engaged in school. We are thankful to you for helping in classrooms and at events, for notifying the office when your child is sick or will be late, and for all you do to make sure your child is successful in school.*

**Need a Coat?** – The weather is finally starting to get colder. If your child is in need of a coat, please have he or she come to the office to get one or come to the Family Night event on Nov. 19.

**Give a Coat-** Coats are provided through our annual coat drive which was started by Freeman's previous nurse, Laura Kristek who passed away from cancer several years ago. The coat drive continues in her honor.

This year we are partnering with First Christian Church of Haysville which is conducting a coat drive for the children of USD 261. If you have a brand new coat or jacket to donate you can bring it to the school anytime 8AM-4PM or to the drop box at FCC. The coat drive will end at Family Night on Nov. 19. Extra coats will be divided up among all the elementary schools in Haysville to help all kids in USD 261 stay warm.

**Mornings at Freeman** –. Students are welcome in the building starting 8AM each morning. Teachers and staff do not arrive until 8AM to supervise so we appreciate your cooperation with this procedure.

**Absences & Tardies** – Parents please be sure you are calling the office (554-2265) to let them know if your child will be absent for the day. Excused absences include doctor visits, counseling appointments, funerals and family emergencies. It's important your children come to school regularly so please try to limit appointments to outside school times. Tardiness can be as big an issue as chronic absences. When students are late, even by just a minute or two, it disrupts the class, the attendance process and lunch counts. Please make every effort to be on time. If transportation is an issue, contact the office to see if your student is eligible to ride the bus. Thank you!

## Costume Parade/Fall Party/Red Ribbon Week Activities a Success



October 30 was a busy day for Freeman Students. Friday was the final day of Red Ribbon Drug Awareness Week and students ended it with a costume parade, special centers and fall parties.

Thank you, parents, for following the guidelines for costumes and ensuring our students had a safe, fun time!



## MUSICAL NOTES FROM MR. RUST

The third grade will be going on a field trip to Wichita for the Wichita Symphony's Young People's Concert on Wednesday, November 18. The students will leave the school at approximately 9:00AM and return by 11:15. The concert is an excellent opportunity for the students to see and experience a live performance from a quality symphony orchestra, and should perfectly compliment the work we've been doing in music class learning about the various instruments of the orchestra. There is no fee for the students and regular school clothes are fine for the trip.

Coming up in just about a month will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade music concert, which will be happening on Tuesday, December 1 in the Freeman gym. The concert starts at 6:30pm with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and will take around 30-45 minutes. The students from both grade levels have been working extremely hard to prepare for what should be a fun concert, so mark your calendars!

## COACHES CORNER – COACH KELLEY

We had another successful Relay for Life event at Freeman this year on Friday September 18th. Even though the weather wouldn't cooperate with us, we still fought through and had our event in the Freeman gym with all students participating.

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life program brings education and community service to your child's school in a fun and exciting way that allows students to help save people's lives from cancer. Through Relay for Life your child learns about cancer and steps they can take to reduce their risk of developing the disease and stay well. Participating in the Relay for Life program benefits your students by:

- Engaging them in community service activities;
- Teaching them habits that will enable them to lead healthy lives;
- Linking their fundraising efforts to how it will make a difference in their community through American Cancer Society programs;
- Unifying our school with our community for a common cause.

We are so proud of our students with their fundraising efforts this year to help and support our Relay for Life event. We also would like to thank all of the parents, family members, and friends for making this another successful year!

This year our students raised \$202.67 for Relay for Life. Way to Go Freeman Falcons! See you next year at the Relay. Thanks again and "Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back!"

## *Notes from the Nurse – Mrs. Warren*

**Lost & Found** - In addition to ice packs, band aids and taking temperatures, the school nurse also houses the Lost and Found in her room and it's overflowing. We have jackets, shirts, flip flops, even a pair of glasses! Please ask your child to check the Lost & Found for anything they might have misplaced at school.

**Health Assessments and Immunization Records** – If you received a letter from the nurse asking for child health assessments and immunization records from the doctor please make sure you provide that information right away or your child might be excluded from school.

**Medication Reminder** – Any medicines you need your child to take at school (INCLUDING: cough drops, ibuprofen, etc.) must have paperwork signed by the doctor and parent before the nurse is allowed to give meds. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

## Counselor Tips of the Month

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning.

Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If your student asks to stay home "just because" remind them of what they will miss, such as reading, math or technology class.

Explain that they can be absent only if he or she is sick or if there's a family emergency.

### Did You Know?

Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade or be held back.

Students can begin to reverse their academic difficulties if they improve their attendance.

This is not just a high school problem. One in 10 kindergarten and 1st grade students is chronically absent.

Students who are chronically absent in kindergarten and first grade are less likely to read proficiently by the time they finish third grade. (Source: [Attendanceworks.org](http://Attendanceworks.org))

## Talking about PRIDE

In the month of October, Kindergarten and first grade students learned about getting along with others through the story "**Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns That We All Get Along**" by Howard Binkow. We practiced taking turns through a variety of art activities in which they had to do a shared art project and present it in front of the classroom. We then began a lesson on the perils of interrupting others and how we should wait our turn patiently through the story of "**My Mouth is a Volcano**" by Julia Cook.

In second grade we continued our talk on PRIDE by moving on to the topic of discipline. Discipline is the ability to control oneself and your actions. We talked about many real world examples that did and did not show discipline.

In third grade we started our friendship unit with the story "**How to be a Friend**" by Laurie Krasny Brown. In the story, we learned many traits of a good friend, traits of someone who is not a friend, as well as ways to solve problems with friends. Third graders then began to work on the friendship project by creating friendship books.

Fourth grade began acting out the play "**The Big Switcheroo**". It is a play about showing respect to elders and helping out when their family is in need.

Fifth grade continued on their PRIDE curriculum by reading the story "**Have you Filled a Bucket Today?**" by Carol McCloud and David Messing. The story talks about how each person in the world had an invisible bucket that when filled makes the person happy. Students then began their yearlong project which entails writing positive affirmations to fill other students' buckets.

We wrapped up the month of October with our annual drug prevention lessons in honor of Red Ribbon week. They learned about the perils of drug use and the effects of drugs on an individual's health.

## BIONIC

In October the BIONIC team was busily writing scripts for their Red Ribbon Week presentations. Each group presented a story that showed what to do if someone asked them to use drugs. The skits were then recorded and aired during Red Ribbon Week on the weekly newscast Falcons On-Air.

Later this month the BIONIC team will be helping set-up for the Freeman Family Night and Laura Kristek Memorial Coat Drive as well as prepare for the Freeman Fall Food Drive.

## Coat Drive

On November 19<sup>th</sup> Freeman Elementary and First Christian Church of Haysville will be partnering for our annual Laura Kristek Memorial Coat Drive. If you have new coats or jackets you would like to donate, you may bring them to the school anytime during school hours or at the drop box at the FCC. If you or your children are in need of coats please come to the event to select a coat for the winter. All remaining coats will be given to the USD 261 Restore, a store where any Haysville elementary student who needs a coat can get one.

