

Happy St. Patrick's Day

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Edwen Baptista
Won the
State Wrestling
Championship in
Class D - 182 pounds!!
Congratulations,
Edwen!!
We are proud of you!

Dance Team Competes at State

The girls received Class D Pom Division Runner-Up at State Dance in Grand Island on Saturday, Feb. 16. They were .06 of a point away from 1st place that went to North Platte St. Patrick's. They were 5th in the Class C Jazz Division.



Members of the 2018-19 Black Lightning Dance Team:
 Front row: Marie Lou Mundelius, Emma Niemeier, Kate Houlden, Avery Moore
 Back Row: Josie Vyhnaek, Caitlin Sharkey, Abby Eberspacher, Corina Grimaldo, Mikayla Hausman
 Sponsors: Mrs. Alexandra Clouse & Mrs. Lori Vyhnaek

Friend Public Schools
 501 South Main St.
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 402.947.2781

David Kraus, Superintendent
Elizabeth Stutzman, Principal
Jim Pfeiffer, Activity Director
Amy Hottovy, Counselor

Strategic Plan Update

In 2017, a collective group of stakeholders in our district created a 3-5-year strategic plan. The plan has helped guide our priorities and decision making. The entire strategic plan can be found on our website for public inspection. Below is a dashboard of accomplishments since the plan had been adopted.

Academics

- A new instructional Framework has been adopted and implemented. (Marzano and ESU6)
- A professional development plan is created annually. (PLC time and Cohort)
- A curriculum review calendar has been adopted and implemented. (Board policy)
- Increased college level coursework. (SENCAP and dual credit in math/Lang arts)
- High school graduates returned to visit with students on college preparedness.
- Junior High grant received to allow students to make college visit.

Student Support Services

- Built and implemented a Life Skills program.
- Implemented LLI Reading program and intervention time.
- Evaluated and improved Student Assistance Team process.

Human Resources

- Developed and implemented PLC team concept and attend Cohort in-service.
- PLC teams assigned and calendar of development plan created.
- Created and implemented a positive behavior system. (K-12 Pawsitive referrals)

Communications

- Utilize newsletter, local newspaper, Blackboard connect, Facebook, Twitter, Remind app., to increase communication with community.
- Restructured our communication processes internally.
- Conduct monthly staff meetings to ensure communication lines are open.
- Review the Strategic Plan quarterly at board meetings.
- Review the Strategic Plan with staff and build goals.

Technology

- Improved technology infrastructure and created replacement plan.
- Created inventory plan to account for all devices.
- Installed school wide intercom system.
- Provided appropriate social media training to staff and student. (KSB Law)

Board Policy

- Created a board policy review process to update all policies.
- Created a purposeful and efficient district budget.
- Created short and long term facility plan.



March



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

For the most current
and up to date information,
please go to: <http://www.pioneerconference.org>
and click on Friend



Speech @
McCool Jct.

Girls State Basketball

1

2

Pioneer Conf.
Speech
@ Tri-County

FFA District
CDE @ Beatrice

7-12 Music
District Contest
Preview Concert

End of
3rd Quarter

Spring Break
NO SCHOOL

Spring Break
NO SCHOOL



Boys State Basketball

3

4

5

FULL DAY 6

7

8

9

Spring Break
NO SCHOOL

Board of Education
Media Center
7:30

FCA Lunch
Meeting in
Mr. Hitchcock's
room

Pioneer Conf.
Quiz Bowl
(Sr. High) @
Sterling 1:00

JH Music
Contest @
Malcolm



10

11

12

FULL DAY 13

14

15

16

HAPPY
St. Patrick's
DAY!



Pioneer Conf.
Quiz Bowl
(Jr. High) @
Johnson-Brock



TR—Pioneer
Conf.
Indoor Meet @
Doane 8:30

17

18

19

2:00 Out 20

21

22

23

JH Quiz Bowl
@ Freeman
5:00

TR— Turkey
Creek Relays
@ Friend
10:00

Golf @ Syracuse
9:30
High School Quiz
Bowl @ ESU 6 in
Seward 8:00

Musical
Matinee TBD

Musical 7:00

Musical 7:00

24

31

25

26

2:00 Out 27

28

29

30

NHS Induction
Media Center
7:30



Stutzman's Side Notes

"You Learn Something New Every Day"



Our theme for the month of February was "Giving". As a whole school we had a Hat/Jeans day and people donated money to the Camp Kesem organization. Camp Kesem is a camp for kids whose parents who have or had cancer. Thank you to everybody for donating! Pictured to the right is Alli Hottovy (Ms. Hottovy's daughter) who is a Camp Kesem counselor and came to meet and educate students about Camp Kesem and take our schools donation money. She is pictured with the afternoon Pre-School class.



Our school wide Bulldog Buddy groups created letters for Valentine's Day for Terrace Residents and Hospital Patients. The 2nd Graders are pictured holding all of the envelopes before being delivered that day! Everybody was excited to receive their kind letters from the students and staff at FPS.

Thank you to all of the parents for taking the time to come to Parent-Teacher Conferences. Your time and effort to work together to ensure your child's success is awesome!

February 26th the 7th-12th grade students listened to a speaker teach them about the opera, and then on February 27th the students were able to go to the Opera House and watch the UNL Opera Perform! It was a great opportunity for our students and staff.

On March 1st we will celebrate "Read Across America" day by having the elementary students invite in a buddy to read with them at the end of the day. The 7th-12th grade students have collected and donated books so that each elementary student gets to take a book home that day! Diane Odoski was also very generous and donated gently used books from Gilbert Public Library! Thanks, Diane, for getting into the giving spirit!

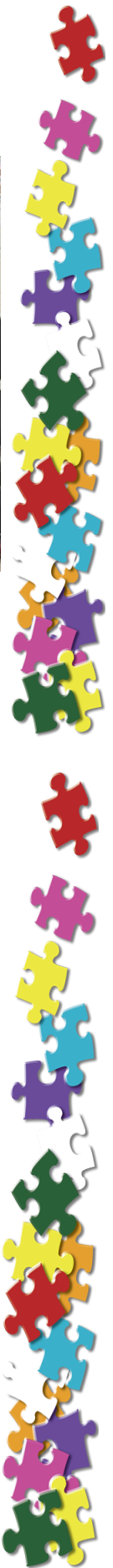


Go Bulldogs!!

Liz Stutzman—Principal

School Website:
www.friendbulldogs.org

Twitter Account:
@FriendSchools





SCHOLARSHIPS

- ◆ Seniors should be busy working on both local and national scholarship applications. Deadlines for several local scholarships are quickly approaching!
 - ◆ The list of scholarship opportunities is updated almost daily. Click here to see what has been made available so far this year: [Scholarship Central](#)
 - ◆ Many scholarship applications require the student to include a letter of recommendation.
 - Seniors are reminded to plan ahead!
 - A lack of planning on the student's part does not equal an emergency on the part of the individual writing the letter.
 - Give the writer a minimum of two weeks to plan and complete a quality letter of recommendation.
- If any other area businesses, organizations, or families are interested in offering a local scholarship and would like to collaborate with the school, please contact Amy Hottovy, school counselor, no later than March 15 (amy.hottovy@friendschool.org or 402.947.2781 ext. 212).
- ◆ *A huge thank you goes out to our local benefactors for the many scholarship opportunities being given our seniors!*

PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF JUNIORS

- Preparation for the state required ACT test on April 2 is underway for all juniors. Students meet as a group at least once each week to learn testing strategies in the areas of Math, Science, Reading, English (grammar), and Writing.
- Ask your son/daughter about the On To College program we are using. If you'd like to learn more about it, click here: <https://www.ontocollege.com/>
- Students are encouraged to access materials on their own time to sharpen their skills in any area that might be a weakness.
- If your son/daughter will be testing on April 2, please mark your calendar now. It is important for students to have a good night's rest the night before the test and to eat a healthy breakfast that morning.

WHY IS THE ACT IMPORTANT?

- ⇒ Most colleges and universities use ACT scores to judge a student's readiness for college and to determine if a student will be accepted to their Institution.
- ⇒ Doing well on the ACT can lead to more scholarships!
- ⇒ The test provides information to students on the strengths for education and career planning.
- ⇒ The State of Nebraska requires all juniors take the ACT as part of state accountability testing.
- ⇒ ACT results will help school personnel better advise students with their education and career planning. Also, it gives the school another way to analyze the academic development of our students.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Businesses, organizations, churches, etc. in the Friend school district are reminded to contact the school with any community service opportunities that might be available for our high school students. Thank you to all who have already begun partnering with the school!

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

Registration for next year's classes will soon take place. Upcoming 7-12 grade students are encouraged to visit with their parent(s)/guardian(s) about how they might challenge themselves by taking classes that are considered more difficult or rigorous, or maybe just a class that is outside a student's comfort zone.

Current sophomores and juniors will be hearing from Michael Morris, our Southeast Community College SENCAP representative, on March 13 about a few ways they can earn college credit next school year. Take a look at this website for more information: [SCC SENCAP](#)

ELEMENTARY PARENTS/GUARDIANS

I hope your student has come home and talked about what he/she is learning during our elementary lessons. Maybe you have heard about "attentoscopes", "self talk", or "empathy".

We use the Second Step curriculum at Friend, which focuses on Social-Emotional Learning. In other words, "In a world where emotional intelligence is critical for lifelong happiness, successful careers, and healthier relationships, social-emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults can better understand, manage, and express emotions and empathy, develop positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. SEL curricula teach children techniques that help them gain confidence, set and achieve positive goals, collaborate well, and navigate the world more effectively—adding a highly valuable dimension to education in the classroom," according to the Second Step website.



If you haven't heard your child talk about classroom lessons, ask any Kindergarten through 6th grader what he/she has learned during bi-weekly visits from Ms. Hottovy!



MARCH MENU



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; transform: rotate(-5deg); color: white; background-color: red; font-weight: bold;">IMPORTANT</div> <p>Breakfast serving begins at 7:50. Students should <i>NOT</i> be arriving at school prior to 7:50 as there is no supervision in the cafeteria until breakfast serving begins.</p>		<p>Breakfast.....\$1.75 Grades K-6 lunch.....\$2.70 Grades 7-12 lunch.....\$2.95 Extra lunch entrée.....\$1.00 Milk (extra or snack time) \$.35 Adult Breakfast.....\$2.00 Adult Lunch.....\$3.65 <i>A student will be notified in writing if and when his/her account has a negative balance.</i></p>		<p>Cherry Strudel Cheese Pizza Mini Bagels Green Beans <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>
<p>Breakfast Pizza Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes/ Gravy Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Bacon Breakfast Toast Mandarin Orange Chicken Rice Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Egg Omelet Sub Sandwich Chips Cookie <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>NO SCHOOL Spring Break</p>	<p>NO SCHOOL Spring Break</p>
4	5	6	7	8
<p>NO SCHOOL Spring Break</p>	<p>French Toast K-6 Chicken Strips 7-12 Spicy Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes/ Gravy Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Egg Taco Hot Dog/Bun Chili Shredded Cheese <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Breakfast Burrito Hamburger/Bun French Fries <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Biscuits & Gravy Fiestada Mexican Rice Churro <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>
11	12	13	14	15
<p>Donuts Soft Shell Taco Toppings Corn Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Pancakes Cheese Flatbread Cooked Carrots Pudding <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Breakfast Bites Sloppy Joes Sweet Potato Fries <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Scrambled Eggs **7th & 8th meal** Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Gold Fish Crackers Chocolate Chip Cookie <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Chocolate Chip Muffins Mini Corn Dogs Potato Smiles <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>
18	19	20	21	22
<p>Breakfast Pizza Chicken Fajitas Chicken Koos Koos Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Sausage-Egg-Cheese Sliders Meaty Nachos Toppings Bread/Butter <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Cinnamon Rolls Hamburger/Bun Tator Tots <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Egg Omelet Spaghetti Shredded Cheese Bread Sticks <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>	<p>Cherry Strudel Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza Brownies <i>Fruit & Veggie Bar</i></p>
25	26	27	28	29

Bulldogs of the Month



Chuck Parks from Tuttle Inc. teaching Slater Wells to tig weld.

Industrial Arts Classes

Jacob Schwab with the outdoor deck table he built in Woods Class.



Student
Emma Niemeier
Senior



Staff
Margo Houlden
Family & Consumer
Sciences



2019 Cupcake Wars



Recently the Friend FCCLA Chapter sponsored the annual Cupcake War for two age groups, Senior High and Junior High students. The cupcakes were judged in the design and taste categories while the entire student body was able to vote through monetary donations. Junior High students displayed their cooking talents by making delicious cupcakes. Winners in the appearance category were: 1st-Lilly Ellison, 2nd-Kiarra Fennell , 3rd-Shyann Smith
Winners in the taste category were: 1st-Shyann Smith, 2nd-Harley Vajgrt, 3rd-Madison Theis
People's Choice winner for JH was Kiarra Fennell.



Junior High winners pictured from left to right: front row: Shyann Smith and Kiarra Fennell, Back row: Madison Theis, Harley Vajgrt and Lilly Ellison



This year, eight students in grades 9-12 also created many different types of cupcakes.

Winners in the appearance category were:

1st-Alina Cordoba
2nd-Katelynn Schluter
3rd-Abigail Eberspacher

Winners in the taste category were:

Tie for 1st-Alina Cordoba and Kate Houlden,
2nd-Jeri Reed.

Collecting the most money was Abigail Eberspacher.

Thanks to all the participants and individuals for purchasing the cupcakes. Over \$150 was collected and will be donated to the Friend Food Pantry.



Senior High winners pictured in the front row from left to right: Alina Cordoba and Kate Houlden
Back row: Katelynn Schluter, Abigail Eberspacher, and Jeri Reed

Friend FCCLA Success at STAR Competition

On Wednesday, February 6th, eight Friend FCCLA members competed in the District II STAR competition which was hosted by Fairbury Public School. Entering the Illustrated Talk division and receiving a bronze were Layla Al-Bumohamed and Alysa Rumery. Competing in the Family Challenges and Issues Event and receiving a silver medal were Kendyll Pavel, Katy Schluter, and Jyllean Beck.

Presenting in Sport Nutrition and receiving a Silver were Blair Miller and Kate Houlden. Life Event Planning was entered by Hannah Manalili, and she received a silver. Congratulations to the girls for their hard work! Hannah, Blair, Kate, Kendyll, Katy, and Jyllean also earned the opportunity to compete at the State Leadership Conference in April.

STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition) are competitive events in which members are recognized for proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills, and occupational preparation. Schools in District II of FCCLA include Centennial, Milford, Seward, Waverly, Lincoln Southwest, Fairbury and Friend. Serving as STAR Coordinator is Tammi Mans of Fairbury, and District Advisor is Margo Houlden of Friend.



One School One Book

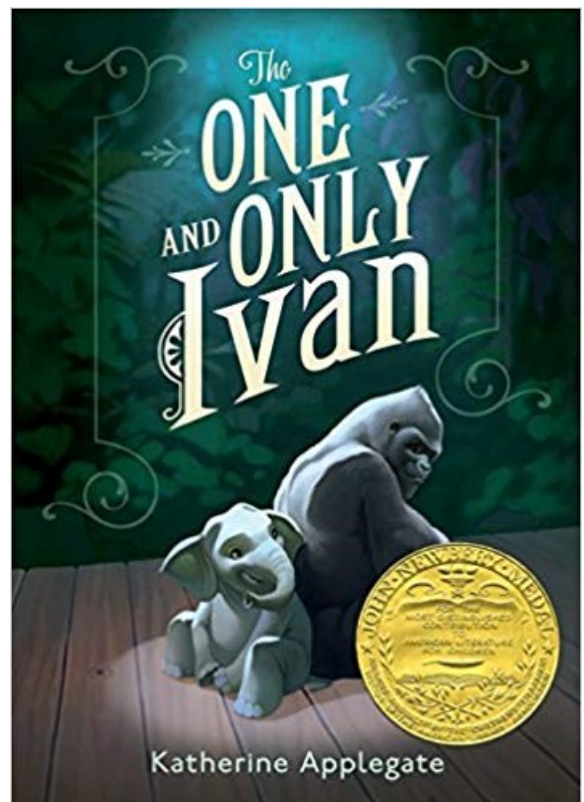
We are excited to announce a new year of the family literacy program called “One School One Book”. The program is a joint effort of the Media Center and FCCLA Chapter. Thanks to the collection of Boxtops for Education, the FCCLA Chapter was able to purchase a special book to be given to each family in the Friend Elementary School. Throughout the year, we have had elementary students donate labels, and we wish to reward them for their efforts.

It is our hope that “One School One Book” will encourage reading aloud by family members in the next few weeks. Also through this project, we hope that students continue to be motivated by family members to read independently.

FCCLA members will be kicking off this project by visiting each K-6 classroom and reading the first chapter. During the months of March and April, we are planning other activities for students. Other details will be shared with elementary students and parents at a later time.

Mrs. Beckler and Mrs. Houlden

Inspired by the true story of a gorilla who spent 30 years alone in a cage at an indoor zoo in a mall, this beautifully written book is told from the point of view of Ivan, the Gorilla. Follow his struggle to free himself and a baby elephant from his down and out “domain.”



SIXTH GRADERS and THIRD GRADERS.....



Learn Together!



Have Fun Together!

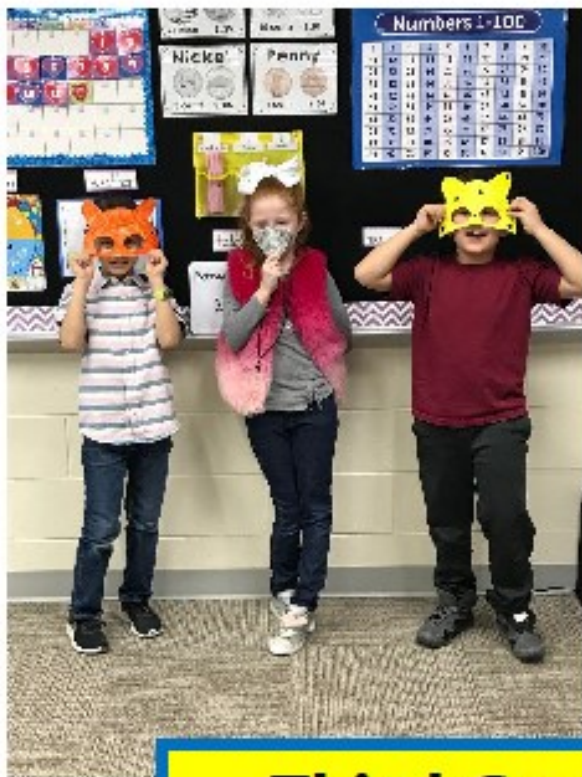


Work Together!

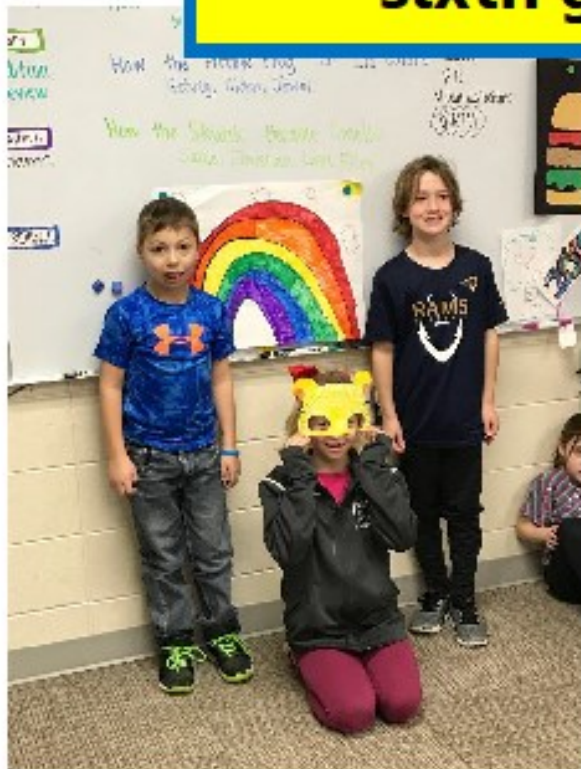


Sixth graders read their original dragon fairy tales to the fantastic third grade class.





Third Graders wonderfully performed their original folktales for an eager sixth grade audience.



spelling bee



Congratulations to this year's Saline County Spelling Contest participants.

Fifth grader, Babe Weber, qualified as an alternate to the district spelling contest

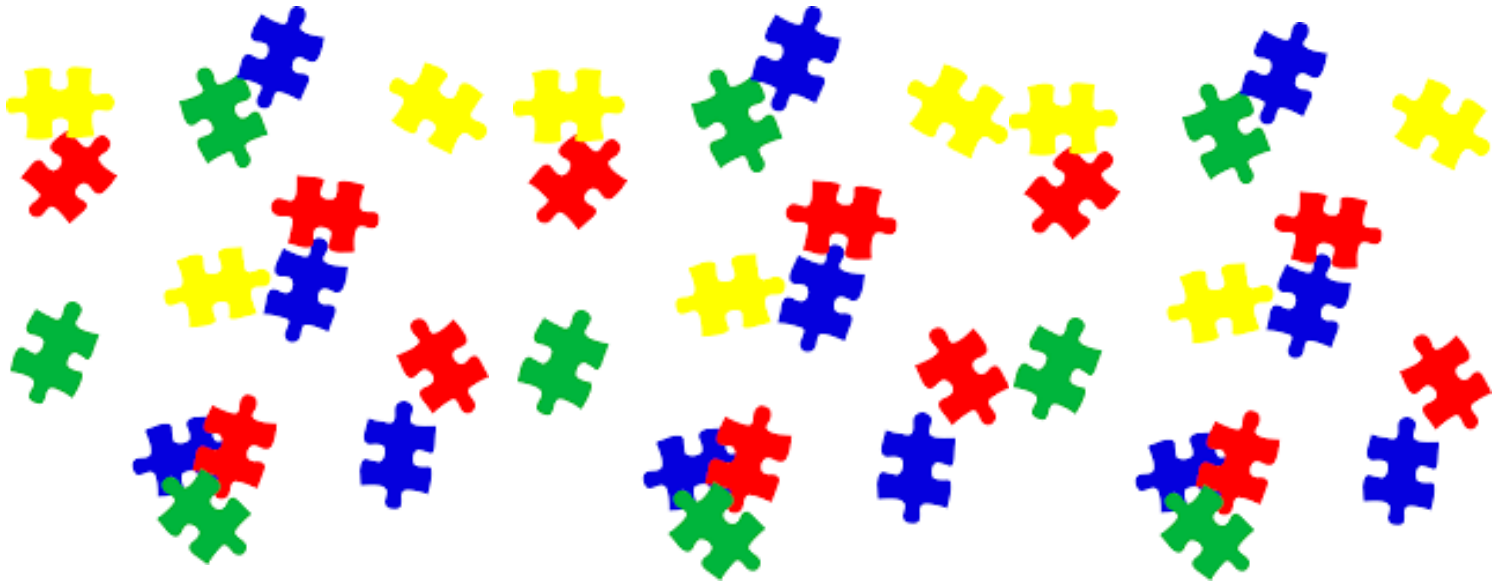


Back Row: 6th Graders Trinity Williamson, Ashley Braun (alternate), Reagan Bartley, Gabby Theis

Front Row: 5th Graders Marlie Johnson, Babe Weber, Josiah Ocegvera (alternate), Brayden Foley

6,000 Puzzle Piece Challenge

The Friend school community has been challenged to see how fast we can put together a 6,000 piece puzzle. Stop by the library and put in a piece. A large table has been set aside with box lids for sorting puzzle pieces. The dimensions of the finished puzzle are 42" x 62". A reward of tootsie pop suckers for all puzzlers will follow the completion of the stained glass window image. All staff and students are invited to stop by the library and put in a piece or two or three or...



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