

Fiddlehead News



December 2024



Light, Wonder, Connection

Dear Fiddlehead Families,

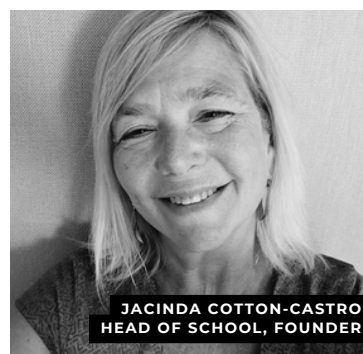
As the days grow shorter, we find joy and warmth in gathering as a community to celebrate curiosity and connection.

Tomorrow, **December 5th**, we'll spark wonder at **STEAM Night**, diving into hands-on explorations of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. Later, on Wednesday, **December 18th**, our annual **Solstice Walk** invites us to honor the turning of the seasons and embrace the peaceful magic of winter's light.

Both events reflect the heart of Fiddlehead: a place where learning, creativity, and gratitude shine. I look forward to seeing you there as we close this year with inspiration and togetherness.

With love and hope,

- Jacinda



JACINDA COTTON-CASTRO
HEAD OF SCHOOL, FOUNDER

In this newsletter you can expect:

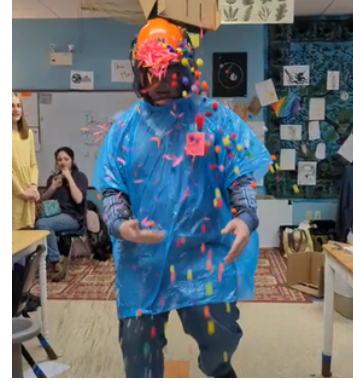
7th Grade Engineers
and Sneaky STEAM
Fun!

Strolling Toward the
Light

Breathe Through the
Holidays



We **received several healthy snack donations for students** during our recent food drive with Hannaford! Freezing rain cut the drive short so please stay tuned for round two! The **Gray Caring Communities Food Pantry** has also shared a list of much-needed holiday donations—email kaitil@fiddleheadscool.org to learn how to help.



7th Grade Engineers and Sneaky STEAM Fun!

This year's STEAM Night offers an exciting glimpse into the creative minds of our 7th graders as they work toward their ultimate goal: trapping their teacher, Jonathan!

The students have only just begun their booby trap brainstorming, starting with foundational concepts like bridges, towers, forces, motion, and gravity. These fundamentals are essential for building a strong understanding of how their future traps will work, teaching them the importance of balance, precision, and the science behind their ideas. Using the Design Thinking process, students learn to empathize with their target, define their mission, and ideate wildly creative solutions.

As they move forward, they'll prototype and test their designs, collecting data and making adjustments to ensure their traps balance science, strategy, and silliness.

Join us tomorrow, Thursday, December 5th, to see the 7th graders in action as they put their measuring skills to the test, create magnificently elaborate towers and create the beginnings of an epic trap. Check out the pictures above from last year's hijinks to get a sneak peek at the kind of creativity they're working toward!

Have questions? Email Jonathan at jonathand@fiddleheadschoool.org.

Strolling Toward the Light

Each year, **Fiddlehead hosts a Solstice Walk**, bringing our community together to pause, reflect, and connect before winter break. This peaceful walk offers a chance to ground ourselves in the present moment. As we enjoy this solstice journey together on **Wednesday, December 18th**, we'll celebrate the strength and connection of our Fiddlehead family. It's a time to share in stillness, honoring the energy of the solstice and the transition into winter. We look forward to continuing this meaningful welcoming of the season with a shared sense of peace. More details will be shared soon!



Breathe Through the Holidays



Join us on **December 13th from 5:00-6:00 pm for a calming Reiki session at FSAS** with Kate Whitescarver, a Level 2 Reiki practitioner and FSAS parent. Reiki is an ancient Japanese healing technique that helps balance energy and promote relaxation. Bring a yoga mat, pillow or blanket, and water/tea. **Space is limited to 10 participants, so RSVP to enrichment@fiddleheadschoool.org to secure your spot!**

Cost: \$10 for Community Members, \$5 for FH Staff, \$15 Drop-In