Welcome May!

Administration Station

Dear Freedom families,

We are so thankful to have almost made it through this monumental school year! The support of the Freedom community has made it possible for the staff and students to persevere and conquer all challenges. So much learning has happened, and we are excited for students to continue to show their best efforts on the FSA next week. We hope all students will get plenty of rest and arrive at school on time. Also, participating in the iReady May Weekend Challenge will help review and strengthen skills and concepts needed to close learning gaps and round out the school year. Let’s finish strong, Falcons, and SOAR HIGH!

Mrs. Walker, Principal and Mr. Goldsmith, Asst. Principal

May FSA Testing!

Be present and ready for your best effort!

May 4-4th and 5th Grade FSA ELA
May 5-4th and 5th Grade FSA ELA
May 6-3rd and 5th Grade FSA Math
May 7-3rd and 5th Grade FSA Math
May 11-4th Grade FSA Math/5th Grade Science
May 12-4th Grade FSA Math/5th Grade Science

May iReady Weekend Challenge

The iReady Weekend Challenge continues during the month of May! Beginning this coming weekend, every student who completes 45 minutes of iReady reading and 45 minutes of iReady math at home with 70% or higher pass rate during each of the next four weekends in May will receive the choice of a cool treat served by SOAR the Falcon. Those students who completed the April challenge will be getting their treats very soon. Let’s do this, Falcons!

From Media

Freedom media is excited to host one final book fair of the year, and it is a BOGO book fair!! Every item is buy one get one free! So build your home libraries and get ready to READ for the district’s Summer Reading Challenge. More details will follow! Have a wonderful summer and happy reading!

Teacher Appreciation!

Teacher appreciation is the week of May 3. Thank you to all the amazing Freedom teachers who make our Freedom Falcons successful!

PTA News

Here we are at the end of the school year! It’s hard to believe that we will be holding our last General Membership Meeting on May 27 at 6:00pm. Please check your email and follow us on social media for details. Thank you to all the readers who participated in the PTA Read-a-thon. Prizes are on their way! Have a great summer!
We used to think that our intelligence was fixed, meaning we were either smart or we weren’t. Scientists have proven again and again that simply is not true. Our brain acts like a muscle, the more we use it, the stronger (and smarter) our brain becomes. Research tells us that having a **growth mindset** is linked to higher test scores. Individuals who believe their talents can be developed through hard work, good strategies, and input from others have a growth mindset. They tend to achieve more than those with a more fixed mindset, those who believe their talents are innate gifts. This is because they worry less about looking smart, and they put more energy into learning. Your child’s self-talk, or internal monologue, makes a huge impact on their mindset. If they say, “this is too hard,” help them change that to “I can’t do this yet, but I will keep trying.” Parents and guardians can help their children by modeling what to say when they are feeling defeated.

Ms. Amy Spata, School Counselor

---

**First Grade News**

First grade wants to thank all of our students and their parents for an amazing year! We came in knowing that this year wasn’t going to be quite normal. We gave it our all, and we came out stronger and smarter. Let’s make the best of these last few weeks. We can’t believe it’s already coming to an end! Thank you for everything! The First Grade Team

---

**Second Grade News**

Spring is in the air! Second graders are continuing to work hard and finish this school year out strong. We will continue to collect gently used, like new jeans that your child has outgrown, as well as adult size jeans for our **Just Jeans** collection project. All donations should meet dress code requirements: black or blue denim, no rips or tears, no designs, no stripes. Drop off your **Just Jeans** in the Jeans box in the office. Thank you!

---

**Parent Reminders/Dates**

- May 11, Jeremiah’s Ice Night 12-10
- May 19, Early Release Day
- May 20-26, Scholastic Book Fair
- May 31, Memorial Day/No School
- June 4, Last Day For Students

*Virtual Awards Dates/Times TBA

---

Visit the Freedom website at: [http://myvolusiaschools.org/school/Freedom/ Pages/default.aspx](http://myvolusiaschools.org/school/Freedom/Pages/default.aspx)