

LEADING the NATION

Foster School is part of the Massachusetts Leading the Nation Celebration. We will share a sampling of our involvement in community service, innovation, faculty excellence, global studies, curriculum breadth, and mission driven programs and services.

We hope you enjoy our website. The Foster School slideshow shares with you how Foster School helps Massachusetts Lead the Nation. We'll continue to place photos on the website throughout the year, and we will share Foster activities in our Foster Family Facts. Our Leading the Nation Celebration doesn't end this week!

- Our 2017-2018 theme is Stretching and Growing: Our Mindset Matters. Our theme becomes the focus of our monthly celebrations, where we recognize student and staff contributions to our Foster and Hingham communities. During this time together, classes might share a Habits of Mind strategy, Green Team activity, or recognize our Veterans for their service. Every celebration does include conversation about our ongoing service to the Hingham Food Pantry and the New England Center for Homeless Veterans, as well as additional student, class, or school service learning activities. For example, Ms. Tolman's class is creating "Birthday Party Packages" for the Hingham Food Pantry. The special packages provide everything a family would need for a child's birthday party. This is a collaborative project with the Martin Richard Foundation, thanks to Mr. Childs, a parent in Ms. Tolman's class.
- Foster staff members explore innovations and programs to extend student learning. For example, our Battle of the Books has become an annual event between our grade four and five students. During the summer our fifth grade teachers offer the nationally recognized STEM program, Camp Invention. With PTO funding, the Foster library is open during the summer, and we offer literacy and math coaching, online and in person. Again, thanks to our PTO, all students enjoy curriculum enrichment programs that extend our HPS curriculum.
- The breadth of our curriculum includes our specialists, who collaborate regularly with our classroom teachers to enhance learning. Mr. Lewis, our music teacher, offers grade one and two "sing alongs." The result of our "sing alongs" are grade level performances for our families. You would not want to miss the Grade One "Songs Around the World" concert. The grade two concert is "American Folk Music." Our Spanish teacher has a special week celebrating "Languages Around the World."
- Our motto, "Be Kinder Than Necessary," connects our social-emotional instruction to everyday learning and interactions. In addition to the monthly Social Thinking tool in our Foster Family Facts, our teachers use the strategies of Social Thinking, Steps to Respect, Responsive Classroom, and Second Steps throughout the day. When we're at recess, thanks to Mr. Davidson, we continue to integrate Play Fit and encourage Trouble Free Playground expectations.

Our commitment to Leading the Nation and Massachusetts continues. We hope you follow us on twitter and visit our website often.