

**CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**
"Make a Mark, Make a Difference"
2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year

June 2026



Eighth Grade Recognition Ceremony

On Wednesday, June 17, 140 eighth grade students will be recognized for three outstanding years at Cawley Middle School. The students will receive recognition certificates and individual awards for academics, technology, history, school spirit, cultural arts and excellence. After the ceremony the eighth grade students will attend a dinner and dance to celebrate one last time together as a class.

Report Cards

Report cards will be posted in PowerSchool on Thursday, June 18 for all students. In addition, honor roll will be passed out to eighth graders on June 17 and sixth and seventh graders on June 18.

Sixth Grade Ancient Greek Olympics

At the sixth grade's Ancient Greek Olympics event on June 12, students were grouped into homeroom "city-states" and engaged in a variety of activities of spirited individual and team competitions inspired by the original Olympic Games. These events encompassed physical challenges, problem-solving activities, and creative contests that reflected ancient Greek culture.

Throughout the day, students rotated through both indoor and outdoor stations, working collaboratively to earn points for their city-state while immersing themselves in historical themes, sportsmanship, and cooperative learning. Adding to the excitement, each homeroom teacher dressed as the Greek god or goddess associated with their city-state, bringing mythology to life and enhancing the immersive experience. The festivities culminated in a ceremonial crowning of the victorious city-state with a laurel wreath in honor of their victory and teamwork.

Hip Peas Farm Field Trip

Over twenty-five sixth and seventh grade students attended a field trip at the HipPeas Farm on June 2. The students spent the day planting crops, sharing a fresh meal, and enjoying organized outdoor games with the farmers. Continuing their experiential lessons on sustainable farming and planting, students in Miss Barassi, Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Olsen and Mrs. Brewitt's classes toured the high tunnel greenhouses and the farm grounds. Students had their hands in the rich soil planting of such crops as lettuce, husk cherry shrubs, artichokes, cabbages and onions. Lunch was provided by the HipPeas Farm that included fresh fruit, sandwiches, macaroni and cheese, and a fresh salad grown on the farm.

Honor Flight

During the last weeks of May, students in several social studies and unified arts classes created "Mail Call" cards for the 58 veterans who took part in the landmark 70th Honor Flight New England trip on May 31. Additionally, 8th-grade social studies teacher Sarah Piana was selected to serve as a Guardian for one of the veterans on this trip.

Every veteran received at least three personalized cards from Cawley students. The students were excited to participate in this service opportunity, writing poems, drawing pictures, and composing heartfelt messages to thank the Korean and Vietnam War veterans for their service and sacrifices. Veterans were thankful for the thoughtfulness, time, and care that was conveyed in the cards. The Cawley students "Made their Mark and Made A Difference" in the lives of the heroes.

Student Council

As the year concludes, the Cawley Student Council has made recent efforts to encourage and celebrate our students. The members were first able to pass out NHSAS encouragement Smarties ("Show Your Math Smarts Today"), Jolly Ranchers ("Do a Jolly Good Job Writing"), and Starburst ("Be a Star at Reading Today"). Student Council students welcomed their peers into the building before each test with a sweet treat and words of encouragement.

The members continued formatting videos to share a video yearbook of memories from students from this school year. Students were asked to comment on the following: Their favorite Cawley memory from this year, something someone has done to make them feel good, their favorite song or dance move, and a career goal.

The week of June 8-12 was Spirit Week with student-chosen themed dress-up days to celebrate the 2025-2026 school year. There was an end-of-year celebration and breakfast party on June 11 for all Student Council members. This year there were many motivated and inspiring young people working hard to improve their Cawley community, and the members hope to continue that momentum next school year.

National Junior Honor Society

The Cawley National Junior Honor Society held their annual talent show on May 22 and treated students and families to a great night of entertainment. The advisors would like to thank the NJHS board members and all the performers for coordinating a great event. Congratulations to the following winners. The Audience Choice Award went to Rachel Liadis and Cora Zeuge, Best Routine Performance went to Violet LaRosee, Best Instrumental Act was Elijah Bondarenko, Best Singing Performance went to Shelby Ryerson and Piper Stewart, and the Best Overall Performance was Saje Loring.

The NJHS members held elections on June 4 for the executive board positions for the 2026-2027 school year. Congratulations to the new Executive Board members Lexi Field (President), Aubrey Duquette (Vice President), Makenzie Patrick (Secretary), Maci Dillon (Publicist), and Dishita Gurung (Historian).

Builders Club

The Cawley Builders Club ended its school year with elections for next year's board, and a celebration for the retired board, the new board and graduating 8th graders. The top volunteers for Builders Club this year were Zoey Staples with 51 hours, Sara Tilton with 45.25 hours and Madison Huberty with 43.5 hours. The Cawley Builders Club members were recognized and celebrated by the Hooksett Kiwanis Club at the Oscar Barn on May 20.

Advanced Learning Program (ALPS)

All 6th and 7th grade students had the opportunity to experience the Advanced Learning Program through four engaging hands-on stations: Keva Planks Engineering Challenge, Strawbees Build a Structure, Playdough Inventor Challenge, Ozobots Coding Paths. These activities encouraged creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving while exposing students to engineering, coding, and design concepts in a fun and interactive environment.

The 6th grade composting program was extremely successful. Students consistently made responsible and environmentally conscious decisions while helping promote sustainability throughout the school community. Current student-driven ideas included designing a robotic compost collection bin, constructing model designs for a future Cawley garden space, and developing marketing strategies to help educate others about sustainability initiatives. The future looks bright for Cawley as students continue to take ownership of projects that make a meaningful impact within the school community.

Seventh grade students completed their own 3D cardboard polygonal busts and sculptures. Examples of student creations included an Abraham Lincoln bust, a ballerina, and a bunny, all constructed entirely from polygonal shapes. This interdisciplinary project integrated geometry, spatial reasoning, engineering, and artistic design.

Eighth grade ALPs students developed ideas for an interactive "Cawley Coldplay Concert" experience that combined music, technology, engineering, coding, and creativity. Students explored a variety of ways to create audience interaction and immersive visual experiences.

The students tested finger flyers as a potential interactive concert element, while others experimented with classroom drones to determine whether they could safely support lightweight lighting systems to project constellation-inspired patterns. Students also analyzed and timed musical measures in order to choreograph movements synchronized with technology and coded Ozobots to perform simultaneously with music sequences. Additionally, several students collaborated to create presentations focused on constellations and astronomy concepts connected to the larger concert theme.

Summer Academy at Cawley

This summer Cawley Middle School will offer Summer Academy. This program will provide students with opportunities to work on skills in reading and math and/or science and social studies. Summer Academy will begin on July 5 and end on July 23.

Athletics

The Spring Sports season was highly successful. The girls track and field team finished 1st place in the Tri-County Championship meet and the boys track and field team finished 2nd. Olivia Gagnon competed in the State Meet of Champions and finished third place in the High Jump. The golf team finished ninth in the state in the Tri-County Championship Golf meet. The boys and girls lacrosse teams, baseball and softball teams all made the Tri-County Championship finals. The boys lacrosse team and baseball finished runner up. The softball team won their third championship in a row. The current eighth graders did not lose a game in their career at Cawley Middle School. The girls lacrosse team won their second championship in a row completing their second undefeated season. The eighth graders who played on the team only lost one game in their middle school career.

Performing Arts

The Cawley Music Department finished with multiple performances. The performers had three concerts. There was one performance at Hooksett Memorial School and two at Cawley Middle School. The students did an amazing job with all performances being thoroughly enjoyed.

The fifth grade chorus and band students from Memorial visited Cawley after school on Thursday June 11 for the Step Up Concert. The HMS students had the opportunity to meet the current Cawley Chorus and Band Directors along with the middle school students. The 5th grade students and Cawley students learned a song together and had a brief performance for parents. Mr. Davini and Mrs. Vanderhoek coordinated this event to help ease their transition for students into middle school music programs for next year.

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2026 Music Awards. Musicianship Awards are given to recognize students for their talents and enthusiasm, striving to make themselves better. This year's Musicianship Awards were given to Dean Wayman and Christian Thibault for band, and Shelby Ryerson and Lily Fitzpatrick for chorus. Director's Awards are awarded to recognize students for their dedication, leadership, effort, and musicianship. This year, the Director's Awards were given to Olivia Tremblay and Lyla Scheyd for band, as well as Violet LaRosee and Piper Stewart for chorus. Congratulations to each of these students, and to all of the 8th grade musicians for their growth over the years.

Upcoming Dates to Note at Cawley:

- June 17: 8th Grade Students Last Day of School
- June 17: 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony, Dinner and Dance, 6:00 pm - 8:45 pm
- June 18: Last Day of School for 6th and 7th Grade Students
- June 18: Early Release Day for Students, 11:30 am
- June 18: Reports Cards Posted in PowerSchool and Honor Roll Distributed
- August 3: Summer Team Letters Emailed to Parents
- August 27: Cawley Open House, 5:45 pm - 8:00 pm
- August 31: First Day of School

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Benson, Principal