



# JEFFERSON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January 2012

District Website: [www.schalmont.org](http://www.schalmont.org)

## *Principals' Message*

*Dear Jefferson Parents,*

*We welcome each of you back from the holiday break and hope that you had some time to relax and enjoy time together with family and loved ones. We would especially like to thank you for your generosity last month with the "Giving Tree". The New Year is a busy one complete with a renewed vigor for further learning by all of our students as well as a number of enjoyable events.*

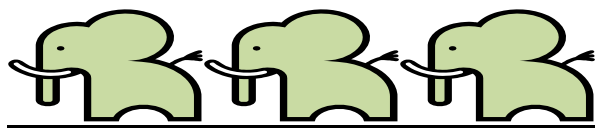
*One of the beginning steps in planning for further learning is assessing the growth that has been made by students this year via the administration of the second phase of our universal screening. This assessment typically takes less than 10 minutes and will occur for all students K-4 during the month of January. The exact date of assessment is based on the grade level that your child(ren) currently are in. Academic Intervention Services (AIS) will be delayed until the second week of January as the AIS team assists in the administration of the universal screening to the Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade students. The data attained from this screening, along with benchmarking information provided by the classroom teacher, will help to determine how best to adjust and/or provide supports to accommodate the success of each of our students for the months remaining in this school year. We welcome the opportunity to share this information with you upon completion and we encourage this dialogue to happen as we all take a personal stake in the success of your child.*


*While assessment does not often bring a smile to the faces of a child, we are excited to share the number of PTO sponsored activities that will be sure to do so this month. This includes a visit by author Joseph Bruchac on January 18<sup>th</sup>, as well as a week of fun alternatives to watching television from January 23<sup>rd</sup>-January 27<sup>th</sup>. We encourage your family to participate in these activities as a number of area businesses have donated to ensure that our students have a good time "rediscovering" the alternatives to electronics, while also finding the time to interact with their peers and families.*

*Thank you again for your support and we wish each of you a "Happy New Year."*

*Sincerely,  
Mr. Gifford and Mr. Thompson*

## Dates to Remember



Jan 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!	
Jan 3	Classes Resume	
Jan 6	Six Flags Reading Program thru 1/20 Popcorn Friday	
Jan 9	Board of Ed Mtg – 7 PM – Jefferson	
Jan 10	PTO Meeting – 6 PM	
Jan 13	Popcorn Friday	
Jan 16	NO SCHOOL – M L KING JR Day	
Jan 17	Budget Forum – 7 PM-HS Auditorium	
Jan 18	Visiting Author – Joseph Bruchac	
Jan 20	Popcorn Friday	
Jan 23	Turn Off the TV Week (see schedule on page 4) Board of Ed Mtg – 7 PM – MS LGI	
Jan 27	Popcorn Friday	

## FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE:



Winter is here! It is important that your child bring the appropriate cold weather clothing to school **each day**. There will be outside recess every day, with the exception of the temperature being below 20 degrees. This physical activity is important for the children and we want all of the girls and boys to partake of the outdoor fun.

Appropriate outerwear includes mittens or gloves, hat, jacket, snow pants, and boots. Even when there isn't any snow, the snow pants and boots help keep your child warm and dry!

It is important to LABEL all items. This will make it easier for your child to keep track of his/her clothing, or for us to return it to them if they don't!

A suggestion: Put an extra pair of socks in their backpacks in case they do get wet feet! Also, it would be most helpful if our kindergarten students kept a complete change of clothes at school. (We don't have smaller sizes to loan out.)

Thank you for your cooperation in our effort to keep our children warm, dry, and focused on their school work.



Are you in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade?  
Do you like to ski  
or snowboard?

Go to <http://www.44free.com/>  
to find out how to get your  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Passport for  
2011-2012.



## From the Art Room



Happy New Year from the Art Room!

For students in kindergarten and first grade, the color of the month is BLUE!

There will be plenty of activity in the art room this month:

- >>Kindergarten will be making crowns for Three Kings Day
- >>First Grade will be creating paper lanterns for Chinese New Year
- >>Second Grade will be making snowman shovels
- >>Third Grade will be creating snowglobes
- >>Fourth Grade will be creating original black/white drawings

## The Giving Tree

Thank you to all those who participated in spreading the holiday spirit among our community!



## Lunch with Santa

The music department thanks all those who participated in any way with this event.



## Craft Fair

Thank you to all the volunteers, shoppers, and vendors who participated in this annual event.

## 2012 – 2013 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Jefferson Elementary School is having a REGISTRATION AND ORIENTATION DAY for the kindergarten class of 2012-2013.

It will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at Jefferson School. In order to ensure you receive the paperwork necessary to pre-register your child, parents of eligible children are asked to contact the school at 355-1342 ext. 5080 as soon as possible.

Please note that you should plan to bring Your incoming kindergarten student with you on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

They will participate in an abbreviated day of school, which includes a bus ride and other fun activities.

# Get Unplugged - January 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> !!!!

As chairs of the Jefferson Elementary School PTO's "Turn Off the TV Week," it is our goal to encourage our students and their families to get out from behind their TV screens and monitors and enjoy activities together.

Each night we have scheduled an activity which incorporates area businesses helping to keep our children and families active and showcases their commitment to the community. A schedule of the week's events are below (ready to be cut out and hung on the refrigerator). In addition to fantastic family entertainment, each night all participants will have an opportunity to win great door prizes which have been donated to this event. Prizes include: gift certificates to Open Door Bookstore, Radio Disney prize packages, a private pool party at the Boys & Girls Club, studio time at The Pottery Place, snow tubing at Willard Mountain, tickets to the Great Escape, and more!

Finally, one lucky student from each grade who designs the best "Turn Off the TV" poster will be selected to join Hoosic Valley Trucking in their VIP area at Friday's concert. We look forward to having you join us!

Kate & David Kruk—a.k.a "William's Mom & Dad"

**Want to volunteer, donate a prize, bake refreshments, or have an idea for this event?  
Call/text/email: [katekruk@hotmail.com](mailto:katekruk@hotmail.com) / 518-526-5283**

<b>TURN OFF THE TV WEEK</b> <b>JANUARY 23—27</b> <small>An initiative of the Jefferson Elementary School PTO. Encouraging students and their families to enjoy activities together. For more information visit: <a href="http://www.schalmont.org">www.schalmont.org</a></small>				
<b><u>Family Roller Skating Night</u></b>  <b>Rollarama</b> <small>2710 Hamburg Street</small>  <b>6-8 PM</b> <small>\$6 admission (includes skate rental)</small>	<b><u>Pool Party &amp; Open House</u></b>  <b>Rotterdam Boys &amp; Girls Club</b> <small>721 Curry Road</small>  <b>6-8 PM</b> <small>FREE</small>	<b><u>Magician Domino the Great</u></b>  <b>Jefferson Elem. Gym</b>  <b>Show time: 6:30 PM</b> <small>FREE</small>	<b><u>Fun with Flight</u></b> <i>Presented by:</i> <i>Empire State Aerosciences Museum</i>  <b>Jefferson Elem. Gym</b>  <b>6-8 PM</b> <small>FREE</small>	<b><u>The Zucchini Bros.</u></b> <i>In Concert</i> <i>Presented by:</i> <i>Hoosic Valley Trucking, LLC</i>  <b>Jefferson Elem. Gym</b>  <b>Show time: 6:30 PM</b> <small>FREE</small>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>

**\*\*\*Students MUST be accompanied by a parent/guardian to all events**

## "Turn Off the TV Week" Poster Contest

The goal of the PTO's "Turn Off the TV Week" is to encourage students and their families to take time away from electronic devices and participate in activities together.

### Contest Rules:

- ▢ Create a poster that would help promote "Turn off the TV Week" and the idea of families doing activities together.
- ▢ Poster must be no larger than 8.5" x 11"
- ▢ Student's name, grade, phone number and teacher must be written on the Back of the poster
- ▢ Deadline for submissions to classroom teacher is Tuesday, January 17th

### Winners:

- ▢ One winner from each grade (K-4) will be selected by the President of Hoosic Valley Trucking
- ▢ Winners will be announced at the "Healthy Kids" assembly on Friday, January 20th
- ▢ Parent/Guardian of winners will be notified no later than Thursday, January 19th.
- ▢ Winner will receive a "VIP" pass to the Zucchini Brothers concert on Friday, January 27th.
- ▢ Pass includes seating in special zone, snacks, recognition and more
- ▢ Winner and one guest\* will be picked up at the winner's home the night of the concert and brought to the event courtesy of A Touch of Class Limo.

\*Parent/guardian will still be responsible for attending the event. Transportation home will not be provided.

## SCHOOL CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

School closings, delayed openings, and early dismissals resulting from weather conditions or other emergencies will be announced, usually by 6:30 AM, by the following:

Radio: WGY, WRVE, WYJB, WFLY

TV: Channels, 6, 10, 13

Online: [www.schalmont.org](http://www.schalmont.org) and/or sign-up to receive notices via e-mail and or text message through the district's opt-in alert system, School News Notifier, via the district website.



Whenever the start of school is delayed (1 or 2 hours), students who walk or are transported by parents must also arrive at school later. Staff also arrives later and supervision is NOT available. Please DO NOT drop off your child early when school is delayed.

Whenever school is closed for emergency reasons, all night activities are also cancelled.

Remember, phone calls will NOT be used for WEATHER related closings but only for emergencies or