



JEFFERSON NEWSLETTER-APRIL 2019



Principals' Message

Dear Jefferson Families,

Once again, the time has come to plan for your child's placement for next year. The placement process is something that is taken very seriously and can impact the overall atmosphere of our school in many ways. Some of the factors that we consider are:

- The academic abilities/needs of the student
- The social needs of the student
- The balancing of each class by gender, performance, and special student needs
- Classroom dynamics including the impact of students on each other in the same classroom

This process is one that is the result of a team effort in which administrators, the teachers of each grade level, and special area staff work collectively to develop classes for the following year. This placement process is based on the following assumptions:

- Our belief that a balanced class of diverse learners is the most important factor in ensuring the success of all the students.
- Our belief that any teacher in our school is capable of teaching any child.
- Our belief that children benefit from a variety of educational experiences and that they will grow from their interaction with different teachers and a variety of teaching styles.

We **do** value your insight as well. While it is not expected for parents to write a letter, we will take your **written** thoughts into consideration when creating a balanced class. If you are submitting a letter, it should include information concerning your child's needs as a learner and/or the type of learning environment in which you feel he/she can be most successful. **Please understand that it is not possible to honor requests for a specific teacher.**

In order to give full consideration to your thoughts, we are asking that all written communications be received by Thursday, April 18th. Letters received after this date may not be considered.

As we have done in the past, we will also provide students an opportunity to meet next year's teacher during the last week of school. This will allow your child to know who their teacher will be prior to our summer vacation.

Thank you for your continued partnership and we look forward to the remainder of this school year.

Always Jefferson Proud,

Mr. Gifford and Mrs. Gordon

"Caught Being Good" - A new Character Education initiative at Jefferson Elementary School

We started a "Caught Being Good" program last month. We will be recognizing our students' positive behaviors based on a different theme each month. Here are the themes for this spring.

March - Caring

April - Respect

May - Responsibility

June - Citizenship

Students who are caught being good will receive half of a green ticket which they can bring home to show you. The other half of the ticket is put in a box for a weekly drawing. We select 5 students each week to win a prize. We have prizes that the staff and the PTO have donated from which the students can choose. Once a month, everyone who received a ticket that month is entered into a monthly drawing for a little bit bigger prize. (So every student has 2 chances to win a prize.)

We could always use more prizes. Contact Mrs. Gordon for ideas if you would like to contribute to the prize box.

Our students have been so excited to get a ticket and then hear their name called over the loudspeaker on Friday afternoons. This has been a great motivator for our students and we are very pleased with their response to this initiative.

Any staff member, including secretaries, custodians, cafeteria workers, recess monitors, security, etc, can give a "Caught Being Good" ticket. In order to receive a ticket, an adult will need to see the positive behavior in action.

Dates to Remember

Apr. 2-4 Gr. 3-8 NYS ELA Assessments

Apr. 8 Board of Ed. Meeting, 7 pm

Apr. 9 JES PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm

Apr. 17 Board of Ed. Meeting, 7 pm
SAA Meeting, 7 pm
First Grade Concert, 6:30 pm HS



Apr. 19-26 No School- April Break

April 22 Earth Day!



LOST AND FOUND

MISSING A COAT?
MISSING A SWEATSHIRT?
MISSING A HAT/GLOVES?
MISSING A LUNCH BOX?

We have A LOT of items in our lost and found. PLEASE take a moment to stop by and see if anything belongs to you. **ALL UNCLAIMED ITEMS WILL BE DONATED during the April break.**

Notes from the Health Office

Attendance at school is very important, but there are times when it is important to stay home. They are as follows:

Fever 100 degrees or above: Your child must be 24 hours fever free without fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or Motrin before returning to school.

Vomiting or Diarrhea: Your child may return to school 24 hours after the last episode.

Rash: Your child must be evaluated by his/her pediatrician before returning to school (note to return).

Strep, pink eye: May return after 24 hours of antibiotic therapy.

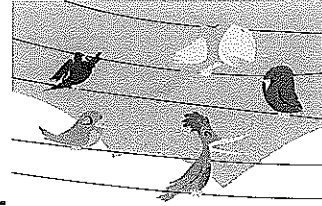
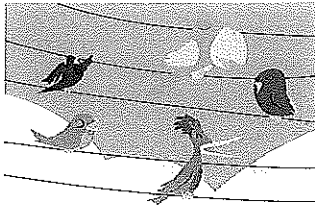
Thank you for adhering to these rules, it is very important for the health of our school community. Happy Spring and please encourage good hand washing!

NEWS FROM THE P.E. DEPT

DRESS FOR SUCCESS!

Please remember your sneakers and to wear comfortable clothing on GYM days.





ART ROOM NEWS FOR APRIL

April is a big month for elementary art at Jefferson. We are hard at work preparing for our first annual district-wide art show! Every student taking an art class will have the opportunity to be a part of the show; which will be held on May 21st during the budget vote. More information will be coming home with students during the first week of May. As for April, Kindergarten classes will be moving on to the creation of spring birds; practicing their cutting and painting skills. First-grade classes will be finishing up their guitars inspired by Pablo Picasso and starting their 3D animals inspired by Laurel Burch. Second-grade classes will be finishing up their robots based on the children's book "Boy + Bot" by Ame Dyckman. Third-grade classes will be reading the popular children's book "Dragons Love Tacos" by Adam Rubin and creating their own dragon! They will learn fun tricks for drawing various dragons, and also explore patterns and textures. Fourth-grade classes will be learning about the many ways we can help keep our oceans clean and create their own underwater sea creature poster. April is also exciting due to the annual BOCES art show! Five awesome students will have their work on display on April 10th!

MUSIC DEPT. NEWS

Kindergarten continues to focus on keeping a steady beat, singing games, and using a light voice to match pitch. We have had fun making our puppet friends sing and speak with partners. We will begin working on our spring concert very soon!

PLEASE NOTE!!! There is an error on the start time for the Kindergarten concert on the school calendar. The concert is May 29, 2019 and will begin at 6:30PM! (Not 7PM as stated on the calendar).

The first-grade students are just about ready for their concert. They will be performing "Make a Difference" at 6:30 PM on April 17th in the high school auditorium. Each class will be assigned a color and the T-shirts are being ordered. More information will be coming home very soon.

Third-grade students continue to do an outstanding job playing recorders. We have turned our focus to reading the notes on the staff. We have already started reading E, G, & A and have had a blast playing Star Wars "knock-out" during class. We will be covering note values in the future.

Students in second and third grade will continue learning songs from our song list and filling up their sticker chart. The first grade will complete their list after the concert. When we have learned all of our songs and our chart is full, each student will choose a prize out of the music treasure box!

We have celebrated music in our schools throughout the month of March. Mrs. Ploss put up a bulletin board highlighting the musical talents of our staff. We had two wonderful assemblies with musician David Ruch, and the second-grade students gave a joyful folk dancing presentation to their families during music classes. You may enjoy "A Salute to John Williams" on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at 7:30 PM at the Palace Theatre, featuring music from *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter*, and more!

To purchase tickets, call the Albany Symphony Box Office and 518.694.3300.

Bring your ticket or program to Mrs. Ploss or Mrs. Cipperly after the concert and you may choose a prize from the music treasure box!

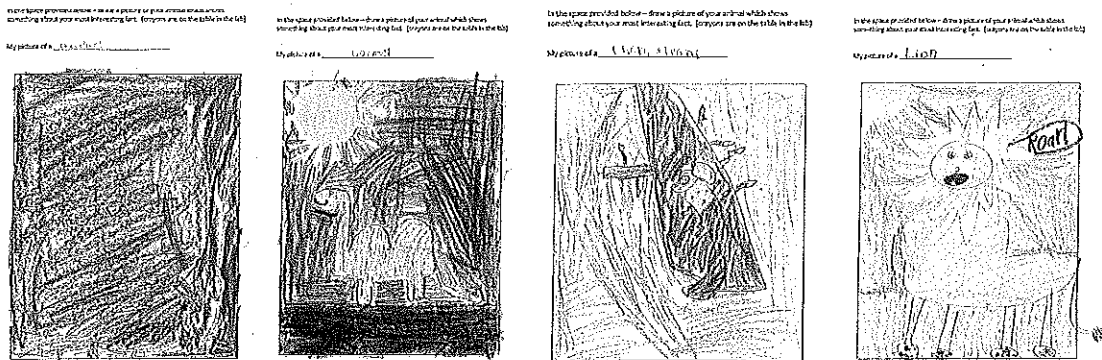
See Mrs. Ploss or Mrs. Cipperly for more information.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

APRIL 2019

Fourth-grade students have finished a research project using Schoology. Third-grade students studied Egyptian animals and played Egyptian animal bingo. Both Third and fourth-grade classes took a survey on the use of technology in schools and had a lesson in Internet safety. Second-grade students have been reading and researching about the weather. First-grade students have been studying animals and human teeth. Kindergartner students have been learning about different types of books through nursery rhymes. In Kindergarten tech, students have learned how to use typing club and used the virtual reality (VR) goggles to look at skyscrapers around the world.

Below are some pictures from third graders Egyptian animal research:

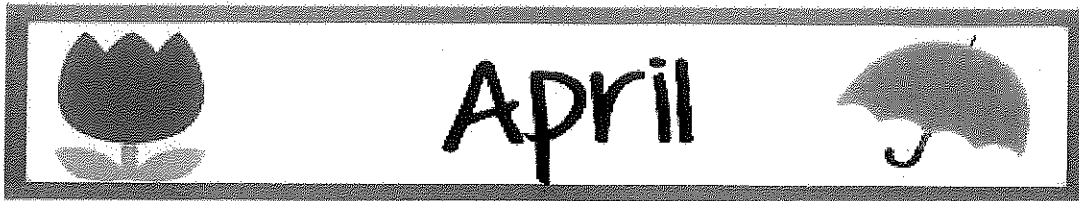


Fourth graders working on STEM projects:










Fourth Graders caught reading:





Jefferson Elementary PTO

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| <p>2018-2019 PTO Officers</p> <p>President Pamela Brunette pcnB512@outlook.com </p> <p>Vice President/ Treasurer   Rosa Pezzuto  Rosa.pezzuto@yahoo.com</p> <p>Secretary Crystal Hadley JeffersonPTOinfo@gmail.com</p> <p>Homeroom Parent Coordinator/School Banking Coordinator Vallee Votaw ValleeCaiazzo515@hotmail.com</p> | <p>Next PTO Meeting April 9th 6:30 p.m. JES Cafeteria</p> <p>Discussion Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Spring Sale Pick-up ✓ 1,000 Book Club ✓ Book Fair Volunteers Needed! ✓ Teacher Appreciation <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <p><i>A big THANK YOU to the parents who stepped up to help at Movie Night in March!</i></p> | <p>Upcoming Dates in ❁ APRIL ❁</p> <p>2-4 -NYS ELA Exams (Grades 3-8)</p> <p>8- BOE Meeting, 7 p.m.</p> <p>9- Fundraiser Pickup -PTO Meeting, 6:30p.m.</p> <p>17-First Grade Concert -BOE Meeting, 7pm</p> <p>19-26 NO SCHOOL! </p> |
| <p>Upcoming Dates In</p>  <p>1-3 -NYS Math Exams (Gr. 3-8)</p> <p>6-10 -Teacher Appreciation Week</p> <p>7-Teacher Appreciation Day</p> <p>7-17 BOGO BOOK FAIR</p> <p>13-Kindergarten Screening</p> <p>14-PTO Meeting, 6:30pm</p> <p>21-School Budget Vote</p> <p>24-27 No School</p> <p>22-31 Gr. 4 Science Exams</p> <p>29- Kindergarten Concert</p> | <p>Please send in your Box Tops and Register your Price Chopper card for Tools for Schools THANK YOU, Miss Scotti, for organizing! Questions? Email: SScotti@schalmont.net</p>  <hr/> <p>SCHOOLBANKING \$\$\$</p> <p>Thank you to Vallee Votaw and Jackie Stark for volunteering every Wednesday morning for School Banking! Questions? ValleeCaiazzo515@hotmail.com</p> | <p>LOVE Book Fairs?! We are looking for volunteers to help with our BOGO Scholastic Book Fair! Any amount of time you can spare is helpful! Please contact Rosa!</p>  <p>May 7th-17th <i>Volunteers Needed!</i></p> |

April 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----|
| | 1 A | 2 B | 3 C | 4 D | 5 E | 6 |
| 7 | 8 A | 9 B | 10 C | 11 D | 12 E | 13 |
| 14 | 15 A | 16 B | 17 C | 18 D | 19 <u>NO SCHOOL</u> | 20 |
| 21 | 22 <u>NO SCHOOL</u> | 23 <u>NO SCHOOL</u> | 24 <u>NO SCHOOL</u> | 25 <u>NO SCHOOL</u> | 26 <u>NO SCHOOL</u> | 27 |
| 28 | 29 E | 30 A | | | | |