

Jenkins' Dec./Jan. Newsletter



A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Season's Greetings!

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your loved ones. As we enter the holiday season, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the incredible Jenkins Elementary school community. Our partnership is what will make a difference in the lives of our students. It is very important that we continue to ensure that students are in school daily, because school attendance does matter.

December usually contains a winter break from school and once your child returns in January, the school year will be about half over. This is a great time to review the first part of the year and make plans for the next. Looking at your child's school attendance should be part of this important process. Did your student(s) attend school every day unless he/she was sick or there was a family emergency? If so, congratulations! Let them know you're proud of their strong attendance. Help your student(s) keep up the good work for the rest of the year and beyond. Strong attendance is one predictor of success in school.

If not:

- Remind your student(s) that regular school attendance is a priority.
- Emphasize the need for rest, nutrition and exercise to stay healthy and stay in school.
- Consider the reasons you take your student(s) out of school. Can you make some appointments outside school hours?

It is also the time of year to start thinking about the changing weather. We would like all students to come dressed appropriately for the weather. If you need assistance with this, contact Ms. Scott-Bell and Ms. McNairy, our school counselors.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

December 21- January 1st – No School Winter Break

January 2nd – school reopens

January 15th – No School, MLK Jr. Holiday

January 26 – Elementary School ½ day- Parent/Teacher Conferences

January 29th – No School, Teacher Workday

Thank you for your continued support, and may the holiday season bring joy, warmth, and unforgettable moments to you and your families.

Your Admin Team,

Mrs. Marlene Coleman, Principal

Dr. Andria Watkins, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Catherine Trenkelbach, Admin Intern

Parent Notification Requirements

1. Parent Right to Know Communication
2. Opt- Out Policy Communication



According to Regulation 404.04-1, "School Closing Due to Hazardous Conditions," school and office buildings are closed, and the division operates virtually when the Superintendent or the designee determines a Code Orange. Synchronous virtual instruction and services are delivered remotely according to the schedule aligned to this guidance and posted online by the school.

In the event of a Code Orange:

- Live virtual learning day for students is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- School buildings and office buildings are closed.
- Business operations that can be conducted remotely will continue.
- Buses will not operate.
- The School Age Childcare (SACC) program will not open.
- All in-person school activities (day and evening) are canceled, including field trips, team practices, club meetings, interscholastic contests, and athletic contests.
- All non-school activities (day and evening) are canceled, including Adult Education, evening school classes, and community use, including recreational programs scheduled in school buildings.
- Remote (virtual) student extracurricular activities may occur.

TECHNOLOGY

All students have received a district issued student device. We would like your support in helping us to maintain operational student devices. When devices are at home, you can support your child by keeping devices protected from foods and liquids. Students should return their device to school daily, charged and ready to be used. We do not have extra chargers here at the school and are not able to supply extras. If your child's device needs repair, the tech team will send it out for service. During this duration, your child will be **without** a device.

Teachers will be notified and can give the assignments in another format. Once the device has been repaired, it will be returned to your student.

Devices should also be ready for use in the event of a Code Orange Day. This means that devices are fully charged and prepared for virtual learning. We ask that you follow the [Code Orange Student Checklist](#) during Code Orange instructional days.

Our goal is to continue to use technology to advance student learning, but we need your support in order to make that happen. Thank you for your cooperation

PTO

Advisory & PTO Meeting

Tuesday, December 12 at 6:00pm

JJES Library and Zoo

PTO Meeting

Tuesday, January 9 at 6:00pm

JJES Library and Zoom

We hope all families will attend. We will have an interpreter to translate for our Spanish speaking families.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS' CORNER

Dear Parents,

As you know, we are a "Leader in Me" school where we focus on the 7 Habits of a Happy Kid. Habit #2 teaches us to "Begin with the End in Mind. Habit #2 is about thinking ahead. How do you want it to turn out? What are you trying to get done? Start something and finish it. To help your student, together you can create a list of family goals. Talk about what you want to accomplish in the next year.

Another example of a goal could be to help your student memorize their home address and telephone number by next week. This is an example of a short-term goal. Work as a family to complete your goals and have fun doing it.

We are always here to help your student complete their goals and become successful at school. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Ms. Scott-Bell and Ms. McNairy

Your JJES School Counseling Team

LITERACY

It's that time of year to read, write and talk! At Jenkins Elementary we encourage every family to read and discuss what they have read nightly.

- It is important to talk about our thoughts with each other.
- Come across a new word? Look it up together using an online dictionary?
- Speak another language? Compare the new word to that word in your language?
- Draw a picture of to help you remember what that word means!
- After reading and speaking, take a moment to write that word and use it in a sentence or even better...a story!

December is a huge month for literacy at Jenkins Elementary! We started our One School, One Book event with the book- Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott.

- The whole school and their families are reading the book and completing weekly activities.
- Baby dragons are traveling from class to class, giving students a chance to write about their experiences with the new visitor.
- Nightly chapters read by our staff are sent home every day.
- Please read or listen to the whole book with your family!

Save the date: Friday, December 15 6:30pm-8:00pm! It is our Title I One School, One Book Finale Celebration. Come join us for a night of fun, free, and educational activities!

Over the next two months K-5 students are reading a variety of nonfiction materials.

- Ask your child what they are learning about as they read their nonfiction passages.
- As they read nonfiction, they will also write a research paper using various resources.
- After our research, family members will be invited to each classroom to view what their student has written.
- Look out for communication from your student's teacher at the beginning of January!

Thank you for supporting literacy at home. Reading, writing and speaking daily makes the best leaders!!

Mrs. VanZetta and Ms. Wilson

MATH

As we approach the holiday season and break from school, I wanted to remind you of some great fun and easy ways parents can help their child to keep learning while not in school during the holidays.

Travel: Many families travel over the holidays. Invite your child to become a part of the travel plans by using your favorite Maps App or other resources to map out the best route to visit family or friends. They can also estimate the time it would take and develop a schedule for the family according to holiday activities.

Holiday Toys: Children can research top holiday gifts from the years their parents or other relatives were kids. For example, find out the number one toy from 1980, how much it cost, and find the difference or price increase over the decades. This is a great way to incorporate many different curricula into one activity.

Create Surveys: Children can create holiday surveys to collect data from family members at dinners and parties. Questions can range from holiday traditions to favorite gifts. Once kids have collected the data, they can create graphs (bar graph, pictograph, line plot) either on paper or online to display the results.

Weather: Everyone loves a White Christmas, right?! How many times in the past 10, 20, or 50 years has it snowed on Christmas morning? Children can collect weather data on temperature, precipitation, and/or snowfall levels over the years.

Remember, these are just suggestions to incorporate learning into things you may be already doing, they are not required!

Leap Year

Did you know 2024 is a leap year? Did you know there aren't 365 days in a year— there are actually 365.242189! That extra 0.242189 adds up over time, so we have a leap year every four years to keep our calendar accurate.

- o A normal year has 365 days.

- o A Leap Year has 366 days (the extra day is the 29th of February). The next Leap Day is February 29, 2024. The last Leap Day was on February 29, 2020.

To find out more about leap years, like what do we call people born on Feb. 29th or if I was born on leap day, how old am I really? Please visit <https://www.leapyearday.com/kids-page>.

Best wishes for the 2024 year ahead,

Angela Savage and Karen Lanzetta

STRINGS

Strings students are getting ready for their very first concert on December 19th at 6:30PM in JJES cafeteria. They will be performing traditional winter music including a Jingle Bells sing along at the end. Please feel free to come out and support all of their hard work in the classroom. I think you will be very impressed with all they have learned!

Students playing in the concert should remember to please dress nicely and arrive by 6:15PM. The concert will finish around 7PM."

Dr. Zac Saunders, DMA

LIBRARY NEWS

The library has circulated over 8,000 books this school year! Students are finding books to enjoy reading in the classroom and at home. Remind your child to keep library books in a safe spot at home away from food and water. Return books after reading and check out more books to read!

Students are learning library skills each week that carry over to reading skills used in their classroom. We will spend the month of December locating quality websites when researching topics in science and social students, we will review fiction and nonfiction books, biographies, holidays, and coding.

The library Canvas page has many great resources and modules for students to enjoy during library class and at home.

ART

Winter projects are taking over the art room as the temperature drops! Kindergarten has used shapes to build a collaged colorful winter village, complete with glittery snow paint. First graders are learning about Henri Matisse and creating a still-life collage complete with 3D tissue paper flowers. Second graders are learning about positive and negative space with a shape/space puzzle.

Fourth and fifth graders are playing "Choose-Your-Own-Adventure" with a landscape inspired by Austrian artist and architect Hundertwasser. They are using mixed media to create joyfully colored scenes. Third graders are learning how to value shade with color pencils and are ready to start Op Art and trick the viewers' eyes next!

Art Club will begin after winter break for 4th and 5th grade students selected. Notices will go home for those who will be a part of the art club, as well as notices for our waitlist. If you are on the waitlist, there will be an art club button available to you on canvas in January that is full of projects that you may work on for fun at home with your families!

Keep drawing,

Mrs. Weldner

P.E (PHYSICAL EDUCATION)

Students have enjoying dribbling, passing, shooting, and all things basketball in our most recent unit. Ask your children if they can tell you about the three cues for dribbling (finger pads, waist level, eyes up) and how B.E.E.F. can help us shoot.

Fourth and fifth grader students have completed all four of their fitness tests. The Pacer (Progressive Aerobic Cardiovascular Endurance Run) measures aerobic capacity. Push-ups measure upper body strength and curl-ups measure abdominal strength. Lastly, the sit and reach test measures flexibility. Students looked at all their data and set personal goals they'd like to reach by the end of this school year. Ask your child which fitness element they chose to target! As always, thank you for helping ensure your child wears appropriate PE clothes and shoes on the days they come to the gym for PE.

Coach Carmina and Coach Goff

SEL(SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL LEARNING)

A message from your Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Coaches,

Dear Parents,

The Social Emotional Learning Tip for December | January News Blurb. When interacting with your child, consider using encouragement instead of just praise. Encouragement focuses on the effort and process, motivating your child internally and promoting positive behavior. For example, instead of just saying "Good job," you can say "I can see you worked really hard on that drawing." See the video below:

Praise vs Encouragement

<https://youtu.be/1It3dr017JA?si=E2XKBrOi6L-Of44E>

Encouragement helps children develop an internal locus of control, leading to greater resilience and a growth mindset. Have a great Winter Break!

Katie Rubach

Beverly McNairy