



Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Winter 2016

Message from the Principal....

Dear Jefferson School Families,

At Thomas Jefferson, we have worked collaboratively to create a plan, implementation plan and monitoring plan based on our School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) goals and state recommendations. Every teacher has been assigned a SCEP committee based on a preference rating. There is total participation in SCEP. Therefore, our programs and activities are rich with new, diverse and innovative ideas.

The Lifelong Guidelines and LIFESKILLS Program continues to be the foundation for character education at Thomas Jefferson. Our theory is that it's not what we do to make students behave, it's what we model day-in and day-out that provides an example of what acceptable behavior looks, sounds, and feels like. The Lifelong Guidelines are principles for success in life; not just rules for the classroom. To learn more about The Lifelong Guidelines and LIFESKILLS Program go to www.thecenter4learning.com for more detailed information.

Quarterly learning conferences/Parent-teacher conferences are being scheduled during the week of February 8th. Parent-teacher conferences can be downright scary to some parents. Other parents feel fine about them. Often parents go expecting the worst and/or don't get best out of them. Conferences should work both ways – the teacher sharing information with you and you sharing information with the teacher. Here are a few suggestions for making the conference a productive one:

- Take the time beforehand to write down any and all questions you have about the curriculum, your child's progress, etc. It is easy to forget even a very important question when you are nervous. Ask your child if s/he has any concerns you should discuss with the teacher.
- At the conference, don't hesitate to ask the teacher to be more specific if you are unclear about what s/he is telling you. "John is having trouble adjusting to school" could mean John is quiet and shy or John is constantly picking fights – two very different situations.
- Remember to raise all your child's concerns. Try to separate clearly any problems into two types:

Academic: In these cases, find out exactly which academic skills your child needs to work on and get the teacher's specific suggestions for what you can do at home (i.e. if your child needs to work on reading, find out if listening to him/her read aloud would be more useful than working on pre-reading skills). You might want to make another appointment when the teacher will have more time to show you some additional ways you can work with your child.

Behavioral: Again, find out exactly what your child is doing (crying, talking too much, daydreaming, fighting, etc.) that is interfering with his or her progress. Don't hesitate to give the teacher your suggestions for handling the behavior problem (remember, you know your child best). If there are things going on in your child's life which might explain some behavior, say so. You don't have to be too personal. Just letting a teacher know that your family is going through a difficult time or a favorite pet recently died may put your child's behavior in better perspective for the teacher. – www.education.com

Thank you for being supportive, dedicated, and caring parents. As Principal, my door is always open. Please feel free to stop in or make an appointment to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas.

Sincerely,
Vanessa F. Rejrat
Vanessa F. Rejrat
Principal

IMPORTANT Phone Numbers

Mrs. Rejrat – Principal
792-2163

Mrs. Rolchigo - Secretary
792-2163

Mr. Jalonack - Security
368-6712

Ms. Januszewski - Nurse
368-6702

School Fax Number
732-5902

Main Office Hours
8:30am to 3:30 pm

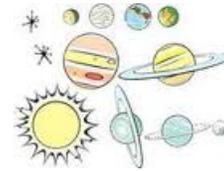
Birnie Bus: 797-4933

Kindergarten Is Learning ABC's & 123's

Kindergarten is moving along at a rapid pace. We studied the properties of plants, discovered our five senses, and will be investigating the activities of a farm. We've also been practicing blending the letter sounds we have learned to create words, so someday we can read information by ourselves. Math keeps us busy identifying numbers, along with comparing sizes and shapes of objects. If we keep going strong, we will be perfect first graders.

1st Grade News

First graders are blasting off into outer space! We are learning about the solar system, the phases of the moon, constellations, and many more exciting facts about celestial bodies in our universe. We especially enjoyed our planetarium visit on the phases of the moon!



2nd Grade News

Grade 2 students have been studying Ancient Greek Civilizations, Greek Myths and the War of 1812. We are also busily working on our reading, writing and grammar skills. In Mathematics, we are studying addition and subtraction within 200, using multiple strategies and solving word problems. We are busily at work as the New Year 2016 commences!

3Rd Grade News

The third grade students have started off the New Year with great effort and higher level thinking! In ELA we are continuing to read the text "Peter Pan". Our students are analyzing characters, writing opinion paragraphs and pondering this question, "How does a writer capture a reader's imagination?"

In math we are continuing to study and learn our multiplication facts. We are also beginning to learn about area and multiple-step problem solving. As always, our students are using various strategies and showing work when solving math word problems!

2016 is off to an amazing start in third grade!!



4th Grade News

Please make sure your child is practicing his/her multiplication facts daily. Many students are not yet fluent with their facts. Many of the upcoming math concepts involve multiplication and division. Fact fluency will make these concepts easier for your child to learn. Please sign your child's agenda daily, and feel free to use it as a communication tool.

Winter is upon us! Please make sure your child dresses for colder weather and brings a coat to school every day. Don't forget the hat and gloves!



5th Grade News – Buddy News

Shaliyah Gigliotti and Ju Mi La

We went to Mrs. Adamo's classroom to work on our S.T.E.M skills. We sat next to our 2nd grade partners and watched as Mr. Cunningham and Ms. Inkawich demonstrated how to do the activity. They called it the "Blind Build." We worked together to build the Lego figures that we felt with our eyes closed from memory. The second graders got the same pieces as the built design and tried to copy it. After, we sat back to back and described it using words. The second graders had to follow our directions to build the design. Then, they did the same exact thing with different figures to us. As you can see, working with our buddies is always a learning experience!



6th Grade News

The Grade 6 students had a blast creating pyramids as a hands-on project to better understand Ancient Egyptian Civilization. They created a snapshot view of the inside to clearly depict artifacts. Additionally, they conducted oral presentations to show off their pyramids as well as giving 10 Ancient Egyptian facts. Some students even created PowerPoint presentations. Students graded each other on their oral presentations. They critiqued each other's volume, pacing, fluency, eye contact, voice expression, and overall presentation. The pyramids were amazing and so were the presentations. Awesome Job Grade 6 Students!



Portable Dentistry Program at Jefferson Elementary School this December!

Our school is excited to announce the Utica Community Health Center's Dentistry Program visited during the month of December and serviced approximately 90 students. This is a portable program that focused on oral disease prevention and oral health education.

Students who enrolled in the program received a toothbrush, floss, and educational materials. During a presentation, CDP staff taught students how to floss and brush their teeth correctly, what snacks are healthiest, and how dental decay happens. Enrolled students were also able to sign up for in-school services that included a teeth cleaning with a hygienist, fluoride varnish treatment, dental sealants, and a dental exam by a dentist.

Students were given information, including registration materials, following the dental presentation that was given by the Community Dentistry Program staff on December 2, 2015. The program accepted students with insurance and those without. If a student already had a dentist but had difficulty keeping appointments due to transportation, family work schedule, or any other reason, CDP staff worked with the child's dentist to coordinate care.



Students at Jefferson are jumping at the chance to fight heart disease and stroke. On February 1st, we will host our annual Jump Rope For Heart event to raise money for the American Heart Association, which funds lifesaving heart and stroke research and community and educational programs for our youth.

The need to educate children about the importance of physical activity couldn't be timelier. According to recent studies, about one-third of children ages 2 to 19 are overweight and obese. Jump Rope For Heart teaches students how physical fitness benefits the heart and shows them that volunteering can be a fun and positive experience for the whole community.



ATTENTION

Shoppers!

Help Us Earn Points!

Help Our School Meet Our Goal!
Our Goal Is:
100 Participants

Register your Price Chopper AdvantEdge Card with our School Code!

The more you shop the more points we earn!

Purchase Price Chopper store brand products to earn **DOUBLE POINTS!**

AdvantEdge
Tools for Schools

It's Easy!

Our School Code Is:
1 6 8 8 9

Parents & Friends Register their AdvantEdge Card and participate at:
www.pricechopper.com

PTO sponsored a Barnes & Noble Book Fair on Thursday, December 8, 2015. This was an exciting event with multiple activities to support literacy and Thomas Jefferson. Families engaged in the following activities throughout the fun-filled evening:

- “Charlie Brown’s Peanuts” Craft Center
- International New Year Coloring/Activity Center
- Gift wrapping
- Temporary Tattoos
- Dramatic reading
- Choir performance
- Character Drawing



Barnes & Noble
Bookfair

Pennies for Pets

During the month of January the Jefferson School Community demonstrated the Life Skills of compassion, generosity, cooperation and caring by raising money for the Stevens-Swan Humane Society.

Thanks to all of you who donated \$1.00 to buy a super hero logo for our Jefferson School has Super Hero wall!

Thanks to all of you who dressed in your super hero attire!

Thanks to all of you who donated your pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters to support this worthy cause!

Thanks to your generosity, Jefferson School raised over **\$325.00** for the Stevens-Swan Humane Society!
Great Job Jefferson Jaguars!



Jefferson Jaguars Lego Robotics

Jacqueline Fischer, Julia Harvey and Ervin Ruznic

On November 21st and January 16th, Ms. Ferris and the Lego Robotics team went to the FLL competition. It was so much fun! When we first got there, we set up the posters and then started practicing the missions with our robot. Next, we went to different rooms to present our project to the judges. We showed the trash can we created to attract people and encourage them to recycle. After, we went to talk about our core values, or the values that keep us bonded as a team. Later, we went and presented our robot. Finally, it was competition time!



Our overall highest ranking score was 208 points for the November competition. We were so proud. When they announced that we would go on to the championship in January, we jumped and screamed! It was one of the best days ever! Although we did not win on January 16th, we still had an awesome time. We started in 23rd place and ended in 15th with an overall score of 257 points. What an amazing experience!

Planetarium Visits Jefferson

Frank Pelli Jr. and Casey Service

All the classes at Jefferson went to the planetarium and learned about the stars, constellations and much more! We heard myths and legends about Orion the Hunter and Leo the Lion. Now if we get a chance one night, we can look for some pictures in the night sky. We also learned about the moon and how it moves. Hallie Watkins said, "I loved the planetarium. It showed the constellations and was orbiting all around. We learned about the Milky Way, the moon, the Earth, different stars and so much about Greek mythology! Did you know the sun is a star?"

This amazing experience was presented by Ms. Dachary in the Old Gym the week of January 19th through the 21st. Thank you to the PTO for giving us this opportunity.



Our Field Trip to the Nutcracker Ballet

By Khathy Le and Tayla Snyder



On December 4, 2015, the third grade classes went to see the Nutcracker at the Stanley Theater. First, we went on the buses with our teachers. When we got to the Stanley Theater we sat in our seats. Then, the ballet started. The dancers were not talking but we heard a lot of soft music. We heard many different feelings in the songs. We also saw many different characters like The Nutcracker, Clara, Clara's family members and The Snow Queen. It was very cool! When the show was over, we went back on the buses with our friends and teachers. We had so much fun on our field trip! We hope we can go to the Stanley Theater again sometime! We would to thank Mrs. Rejrat, the PTO, our teachers and our parents for letting us go to see the Nutcracker!

Fall Fieldtrip to Black River Outdoor Education Program

Nathan Mariani

We rode the bus for about an hour and arrived at this beautiful place. All the trees were red, brown, orange and many shades of yellow-green. There were two groups: hikers and bikers. The hikers walked through the woods with Ms. Grant and magnifying glasses. We observed and collected samples that we found. Bikers actually biked through the woods wearing helmets, kneepads and gloves. After roughly an hour we met up to eat lunch. When lunch was over, all the 5th graders loaded onto the school buses, and we all went back to school. As you can see, the 5th graders had quite a wonderful day.





November

Grade	Teacher	Student
K	Mrs. Bonfardeci	Autumn Win
K	Ms. Pentasuglia	Shee La Soe
K	Mrs. Rivera	Xzayvier Niles
1	Mrs. T. Brown	Shi Shi Htoo
1	Ms. Czepiel	Lilac Lay
1	Mrs. Karelus	Gabriella Price
2	Ms. Adamo	SaAt Him
2	Mrs. Ferris	Jelenny Niles
2	Mrs. Kallies	Alyssa Randall
2	Mrs. Gregory-Salvo	Ehkhoo Moo
3	Mrs. Brown	Cin'que Watson
3	Ms. Griffin	Almin Cuturic
3	Mrs. Laurer	Kennysse Brockington
3	Mrs. Montanarelli	Gianna Fiore
4	Mrs. Delia	Asmira Lugonic
4	Mrs. Marsden	Olivia Thomas
4	Mrs. Simon	Sophia Ferraro
5	Ms. Grant/Mrs. Manino	Evelina Mironova
5	Mr. Green	Kaylie Grant
5	Ms. Inkawich	Lizandro Hernandez
5	Mrs. Mallozzi	Zachary Hassan
6	Mrs. Almy	Honey Love
6	Mrs. Colucci	Jenna Sabanagic
6	Ms. Mazzara	Marisa Pavia
6	Mrs. Stalker	Dominick Morgan



December

Grade	Teacher	Student
K	Mrs. Bonfardeci	Olivia Mroz
K	Ms. Pentasuglia	Jovani Gioco
K	Mrs. Rivera	Madison Sbarra
1	Mrs. T. Brown	Caleb Rios
1	Ms. Czepiel	David Bonvicino
1	Mrs. Karelus	Colin Kelly
2	Ms. Adamo	Bryson Randall
2	Mrs. Ferris	Jaxon LaFluer
2	Mrs. Kallies	Haris SAbanagic
2	Mrs. Gregory-Salvo	Nyssa Sepulveda
3	Mrs. Brown	Abriana Briggs
3	Ms. Griffin	Alana Recchio
3	Mrs. Laurer	Bradley Roser
3	Mrs. Montanarelli	Corina Clarke
4	Mrs. Delia	Kalil Aguayo-Valazquezs
4	Mrs. Marsden	Maung Maung Htway
4	Mrs. Simon	Amy Tipping
5	Ms. Grant/Mrs. Manino	Grace Edwards
5	Mr. Green	Nadina Gacic
5	Ms. Inkawhich	Jacqueline Fischer
5	Mrs. Mallozzi	Syncerae Wilcox
6	Mrs. Almy	Lu Ke Ya
6	Mrs. Colucci	Kadence Cooper
6	Ms. Mazzara	Sa Kay Da
6	Mrs. Stalker	Natasha Torres



January

Grade	Teacher	Student
K	Mrs. Bonfardeci	Thomas Doe
K	Ms. Pentasuglia	Rukia Hassan
K	Mrs. Rivera	Ajout Ajang
1	Mrs. T. Brown	John Ehmi
1	Ms. Czepiel	Laila Ajang
1	Mrs. Karelus	Lwe Doh Soe
2	Ms. Adamo	Norah Neives
2	Mrs. Ferris	Harmony Maine
2	Mrs. Kallies	Angelina Kuzmich
2	Mrs. Gregory-Salvo	Ali Rosic
3	Mrs. Brown	Israel Matos Jr.
3	Ms. Griffin	Philip Santa Croce
3	Mrs. Laurer	Sang Le
3	Mrs. Montanarelli	Louis Feisthamel
4	Mrs. Delia	Rosalys Polanco
4	Mrs. Marsden	Haley Price
4	Mrs. Simon	Erma Bulaja
5	Ms. Grant/Mrs. Manino	Sha Wee
5	Mr. Green	Ayden Genter
5	Ms. Inkawhich	Casey Service
5	Mrs. Mallozzi	Raaya Phillips
6	Mrs. Almy	Edvin Cuturic
6	Mrs. Colucci	Derrick Pavia
6	Ms. Mazzara	Mia Donatello
6	Mrs. Stalker	Devante Wright



Student of the Month November



Student of the Month December



Student of the Month January



February 24	World Finest Chocolate Orders Due
March 1	Half Day Jefferson Only Dismissal 11:55
March 25	Good Friday No School
March 28	School Recess No School
March 30	Early Release Day Dismissal 2:05 pm
April 5 – April 7	NYS ELA Assessment
April 13 – April 15	NYS Math Assessment
April 25 – April 29	Spring Break No School
May 17	Superintendent's Conf. Day No School
May 19	Spring Concert @ Kennedy Middle School
May 27 – May 30	Memorial Day Recess No School

Jefferson's Vision

We, at Jefferson, are committed to meeting and exceeding state and national academic standards. Additionally, we will encourage our students to strive to become kind, caring, compassionate, and productive members of society.

Jefferson Standard
Responsible Citizens ~ Lifelong Learners

المواطنين المسؤولين
متعلمين مدى الحياة

တာဝန်ခံသော၊ နိုင်ငံသားတာဝန်ယူပြီးသင်ယူသူ

Jefferson Standard
Responsible Citizens ~ Lifelong Learners

“ထံဖက်ကိစ္စတဖန်လာသွန်ညါဒီးဟံးမူဒါသ့. ဝှါမာ
လိတံဖိလာတံဆိန်မူဒီကတီၢ်.”
"Ciudadanos Responsables, Estudiantes de por vida"
"जिम्मेवार नागरिक बनौं, जीवनभर सिक्ौं"

Jefferson Elementary
Excellence - Diversity - Achievement

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Quick Links

- 2015-16 Utica Calendar
- Enrollment/Registration
- Menus
- Facilities Capital Project
- mySchoolBacks
- Employment Opportunities
- ALSOP (Formerly Subfinders)
- Gal: Virtual Library
- IEP Direct
- EngageNY
- COGNOS
- QuestCenter
- Parent Portal
- My Learning Plan
- Staffline
- BlackBerry
- Channel 3
- Utica Safe Schools

Welcome

The Utica City School District will provide a quality education for a diverse student population in a safe and orderly environment. Students will develop essential academic and responsible citizenship skills and graduate ready to pursue continuing education, become parents, employed or enlist in military service. This district will provide quality and equity in the distribution of resources and will maximize to state and emerging technology. Fiscal and administrative accountability and continuous improvement in the education of our students is the goal of the Utica City School District.

Jefferson Vision
We at Jefferson, are committed to meeting and exceeding state and national academic standards. Additionally, we will encourage our students to strive to become kind, caring, compassionate, and productive members of society.

Jefferson Standard
Responsible Citizens - Lifelong Learners

CONTACT INFORMATION
Mrs. Vanessa Rejzart
Principal
DASA Coordinator
Office - (315) 792-2163
Fax - (315) 722-3902
Security - (315) 368-6712

Announcements:
November 11th
NO SCHOOL

Upcoming Events
Black River Field Trip

We're on the Web!
Visit our website at:
www.uticaschools.org/jefferson



Utica City School District

Mission Statement



The Utica City School District will provide a quality education for a diverse student population in a safe and orderly environment. Students will develop essential academic and responsible citizenship skills and graduate ready to pursue continuing education, become gainfully employed or enlist in military service. This district will provide quality and equity in the distribution of resources including well-maintained facilities and emerging technology. Fiscal and administrative accountability and continuous improvement in the education of our students is the goal of the Utica City School District.

