

Jefferson Elementary

Responsible Citizens ~ Lifelong Learners

Dear Jefferson Families and Supporters,

Spring is here and excitement is in the air as we continue to have a wonderful year of learning here at Jefferson. As always, we greatly appreciate the combined efforts of all as we support our students in successfully meeting the highest of standards set before them!

During June, staff and students are busy with end of the year assessments and exciting events such as our Field Day, field trips, end of the year parties, school events, and celebrations. Our Field Day will be held on Monday, June 18th. Please make sure your children are dressed appropriately, have sunscreen, water, and hats/glasses if needed. The Kindergarten Graduation will be held on Wednesday, June 13th at 9:15 (Bonfardeci), 10:15 (Laurer, DelVecchio, & Delia), and 11:15 (Rivera). The 6th grade Graduation will be held on Thursday, June 14th at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, June 21st dismissal is at 2:05 pm and Friday, June 22nd (last day for students) will be distribution of report cards, dismissal begins at 10:00 a.m.

With the end of the school year quickly approaching, we want to thank each of you for your ongoing support of our students, our teachers and staff, and our mission here at Jefferson. This year has been, and continues to be, a success due to the collective efforts of all in providing opportunities for our students to succeed and grow.

Have a safe and happy summer. We look forward to next year!

Sincerely,

V. Rejrat

Vanessa Rejrat
Principal



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, and compassionate, and productive members of society.

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
8:30 – 3:30

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten classes held our annual "Muffins for Moms" event on May 10th. Our special guests were welcomed with hallway artwork, gifts, writings, and drawings showing just how much they are loved and appreciated. The students enjoyed sharing a variety of treats and juices with their classmates and guests. We would like to thank everyone who was able to attend.

In addition, our classes will be holding our "Donuts for Dads" event on June 15th. We are looking forward to spending more time with those individuals that mean so very much to us.

1st Grade

The first graders are embarking on a new journey in math...adding two digit numbers. First we learned about the tens place and ones place. For example, in the number 25 there are two groups of ten that equal 20 and 5 ones come together and make 25. Now we are taking two digit numbers and learning how to add and subtract the numbers. Here is an example of a strategy we are working on in class. This strategy may be unfamiliar to some of you and if you feel more comfortable using a different strategy to produce the answers that is fine. The ultimate goal is for your child to learn the concepts of addition and subtraction.

2nd Grade

In April Mrs. Gregory-Salvo had the opportunity to read to all second grade classes as a member of the Oneida County Farm Bureau for Agricultural Literacy Week. The book, [Before We Eat: From Farm to Table](#) by Pat Brisson, illustrated by Mary Azarian highlighted how some farmers grow food and raise animals. Students engaged in lively conversations about the journey our food takes from farm to table as well as how family farms of all sizes care for the environment, use technology, and produce safe and abundant food for their families and ours. Two copies of the book were donated to our library on behalf of the Oneida County Farm Bureau.





3rd Grade

As another successful year draws to a close, it is amazing to see how much has been achieved by our third graders! The children have worked incredibly hard this school year and for the first time took part in the New York State ELA and Math tests. With June approaching quickly, we are preparing for our end of the year assessments. We will wrap up our ELA curriculum with Unit 5. The focus question for this unit is "What are ways people can take action?" We continue to read, discuss and write about a variety of texts including realistic fiction, fairy tales, expository text, and biographies in this unit. We are also working on the comprehension skills of cause and effect and point of view. The final module for math this year will focus on Geometry and Measurement word problems. There will be hands-on investigation experiences with geometry and perimeter.



4th Grade

Fourth Grade has been working the past weeks in Math on measuring and drawing angles with a protractor as well as identifying the types of angles. We have been working with triangles and other plane figures as well. We will end the year with unit conversions, decimal fractions and revisiting multiplication. In ELA, we continue to explore the various genres and work on grammar and weekly spelling skills. The girls and boys have worked very hard this year and are looking forward to fifth grade! Keep reading daily and practicing math facts.



5th Grade

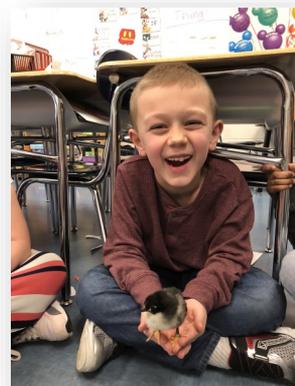
The month of May has been a very busy one for the fifth grade students. The month started with the NYS math exam that students did their very best on. Students also worked to complete final exams and I-ready testing. Students challenged themselves to live the life skills and literature skill of the month. Ms. Inkawich's class also had a visitor and proceeded to prove how not to spill water on Mrs. Rejrat. The month comes to a close with Community Reader's Day on May 22nd, plus some very well deserved vacation before the push to the end of the school year.

6th Grade

Grade 6 is getting ready with anticipation for their upcoming graduation to move on to middle school. We are also busy getting ready for final assessments, planning our end of year field trip, studying Ancient Egypt, and developing an understanding of statistics and probability. We had a visit from the middle school counselors and made our course selections for grade 7. Our Graduation Ceremony will be held on Thursday, June 14th at 10 am.

Baby Chicks Visit 1st Grade

Mrs. Brown's first grade class was visited by 5 very fuzzy bard rock baby chicks. The chicks were 5 days old when they visited our class. The students learned about the life cycle of a chicken through literature and an informative video about how a chick develops in the egg over 21 days. Students were able to observe the chicks throughout the school day both in and out of their cage. All the students were able to hold the chicks and had a great time interacting with them!



Parent Resource Room Raffle Winner

Congratulations to the family of Windoh Soe. They were the winners of the third marking period Parent Resource Room Raffle. Any time you sign in and use the Parent Resource Room, your name gets put in to win a gift card to a local business. Our Parent Resource Room has many fun, educational activities that you can use with your children. Please feel free to stop in, look around, and sign something out to use at home. You might be our next winner!

PTO News

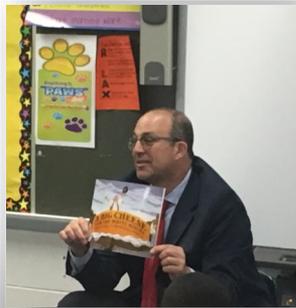
On Wednesday, May 9, 2018 Jefferson School sponsored a Summer Fun Family Literacy Night and Ice Cream Social. It was a great evening. There were literacy activities, math activities, games, and ice cream donated by Stewart's Shops and Byrne Dairy. More than 100 students and their families attended this event. Everyone enjoyed sharing ice cream with their families, classmates and teachers. Mrs. Rejrat shared the importance of reading aloud to children. Keep reading to your children whenever you can!



Community Readers Day

Students at Jefferson were excited to celebrate Community Readers' Day on May 22nd! Several members of our community came to school to read a picture book to our students and to tell students about their careers. It was a fun and exciting day for everyone! Our community readers included Christopher Salatino, Utica City School District Board President; Alicia Mroz, UCSD Administrator; Vanessa Rejrat, Nurse Susan, Margaret Beck (former Principal), John Licari (former Principal), and Rosann Rolchigo (former school secretary), from the Utica City School District.

Readers from the community included: Richard Cohen, lawyer; John Treen and Sunset from the Stevens-Swan Humane Society; Kevin Green, Oneida County Youth Bureau Director; Samantha Colosimo-Testa, Utica Councilperson; Kathleen Mallory McGill from the Utica Zoo; Selma Jasencic, ONA Community Navigator from the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees; Sarah Bormann, Director of Constituents and Support Services for Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi; Officers Dongsavanh and Castillo from the Utica Police Department; Symeon Tsoupelis from Symeon's Restaurant; Amanda Stewart, Director of Youth Services at the Utica Public Library; Amy Neff Roth, Utica Observer-Dispatch Education Reporter; Marolyn Wilson from Holland Farms Bakery and Deli; Bill Kardas, WKTV Chief Meteorologist; Fire Marshal Gerald Foster from the Utica Fire Department; Jamie Tuttle, Recycling Educator from the Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority; and Anne Lansing from Safe Schools Mohawk Valley. We thank our readers very much and we are already looking forward to next year!



A strong finish

As your youngster heads into the final stretch of the school year, keep him motivated to do well. Try these three suggestions:

1. Show your child that you take his "job" as student seriously. You might discuss things your jobs have in common (he counts pretend money in math class, and you count real money as a bank teller). Explain that his schoolwork is preparing him for the workplace.



2. Remind your youngster of his accomplishments. Maybe he got Bs in social studies the first two quarters and a C the third quarter. Suggest that he set a goal for his final report card ("I want to bring my grade back up to a B").

3. Encourage your child to find one new way to get involved at school before the year ends.

Maybe he could help out in the library or with the spring

picnic. You might also plan to volunteer before the year ends. Your youngster will be proud to see you at school hanging artwork in the hallway or chaperoning a class party. ♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

Cut-out art projects

With this activity, your child can have fun making "cut-paper art" while learning about famous artists and illustrators.

■ Show your youngster the work of Henri Matisse in a book like *Oooh! Matisse* (Mil Niepold and Jeanyves Verdu) or *Henri Matisse: Drawing with Scissors* (Jane O'Connor). Then, she can make a Matisse-inspired project by cutting out colorful shapes from construction paper and gluing them onto white paper. She might spread them out or overlap them into objects like butterflies or flowers.



■ Read books by Lois Ehlert and notice the cut-paper illustrations (try *Leaf Man* or *Nuts to You!*). Let your youngster choose a subject for her own cut-paper project. For example, she might design a playground. She could draw and cut out a slide, a sandbox, and a swing, and glue them onto paper. ♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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Q & A Everyday writing

Q: I think my daughter would be more comfortable writing if she did it more often. How can I encourage her?

A: Start by thinking about how you use writing in everyday life. Perhaps you keep a to-do list or communicate with friends by e-mail. Show your daughter the ways you write, and help her find reasons to write, too.

First, consider creating a family message center. Place a notepad, pens, and pushpins near a bulletin board, and encourage family members to post events ("Piano recital Saturday at 6") and fun notes ("Happy Friday!").

Then, suggest other ways for your daughter to write. She could put a list of snack ideas on the refrigerator, add personal notes to birthday cards, or write a letter to the editor. Or she might like writing in a diary at bedtime. Writing more often will help her gain confidence—and find reasons to enjoy writing! ♥



PARENT TO PARENT

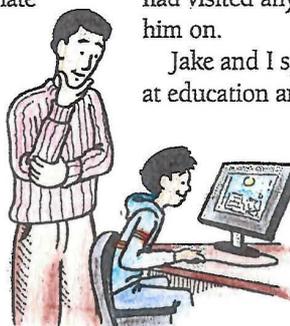
Internet safety

Lately I've noticed that more and more Web sites offer advertisements that I don't want my son Jake to see. I was having trouble finding appropriate sites, so I asked the school media specialist for help.

She recommended sites run by educational organizations or government agencies and explained that the Web addresses would end in .edu or .gov. She also showed me how

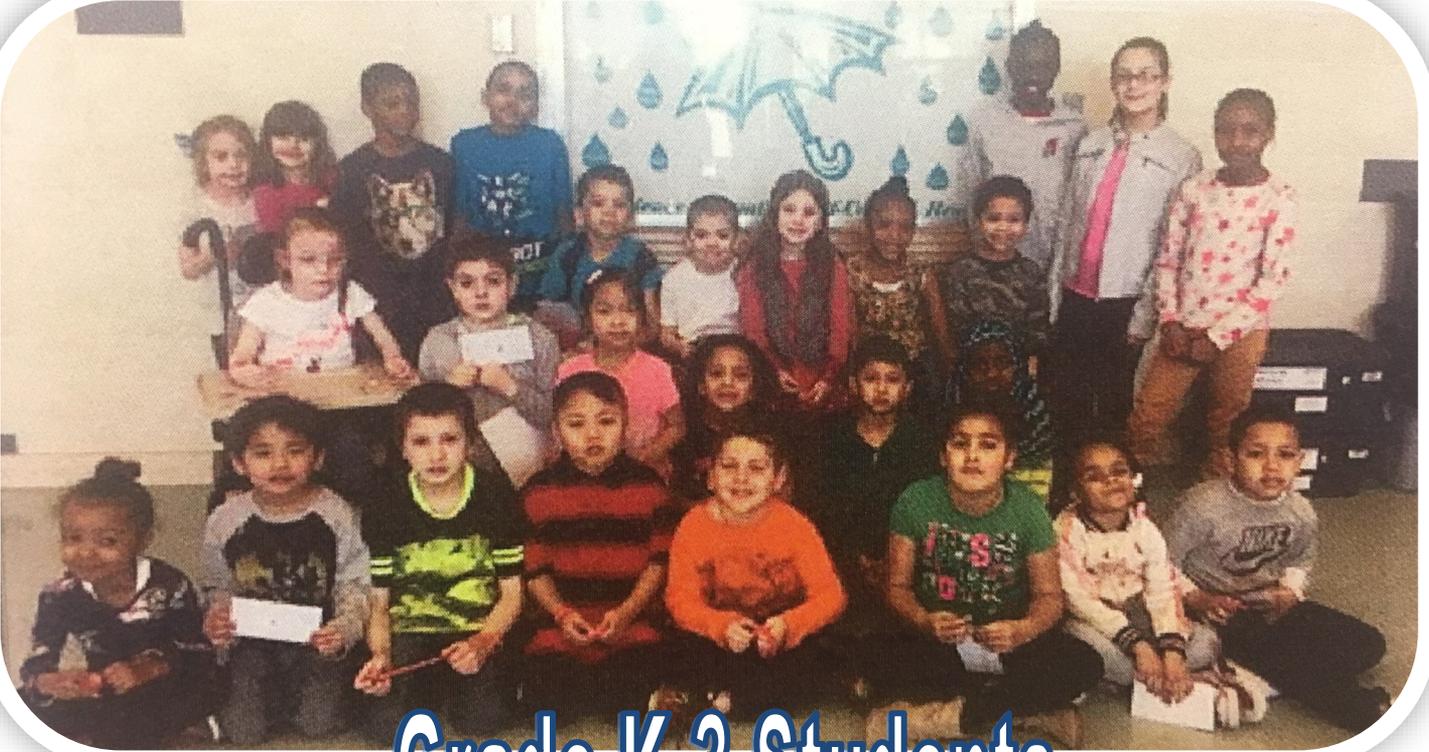
to feature to set parental controls that block mature sites. Finally, she suggested that I review the browser's history from time to time and talk to my son if he had visited any sites that I didn't want him on.

Jake and I spent some time looking at education and government sites, and we found some he really liked. He's having fun playing educational games, and I'm happy knowing that he's visiting safe sites. ♥





March Paw Pride



Grade K-3 Students



Grade 4-6 Students



April Paw Pride



Grade K-3 Students



Grade 4-6 Students

March Student of the Month



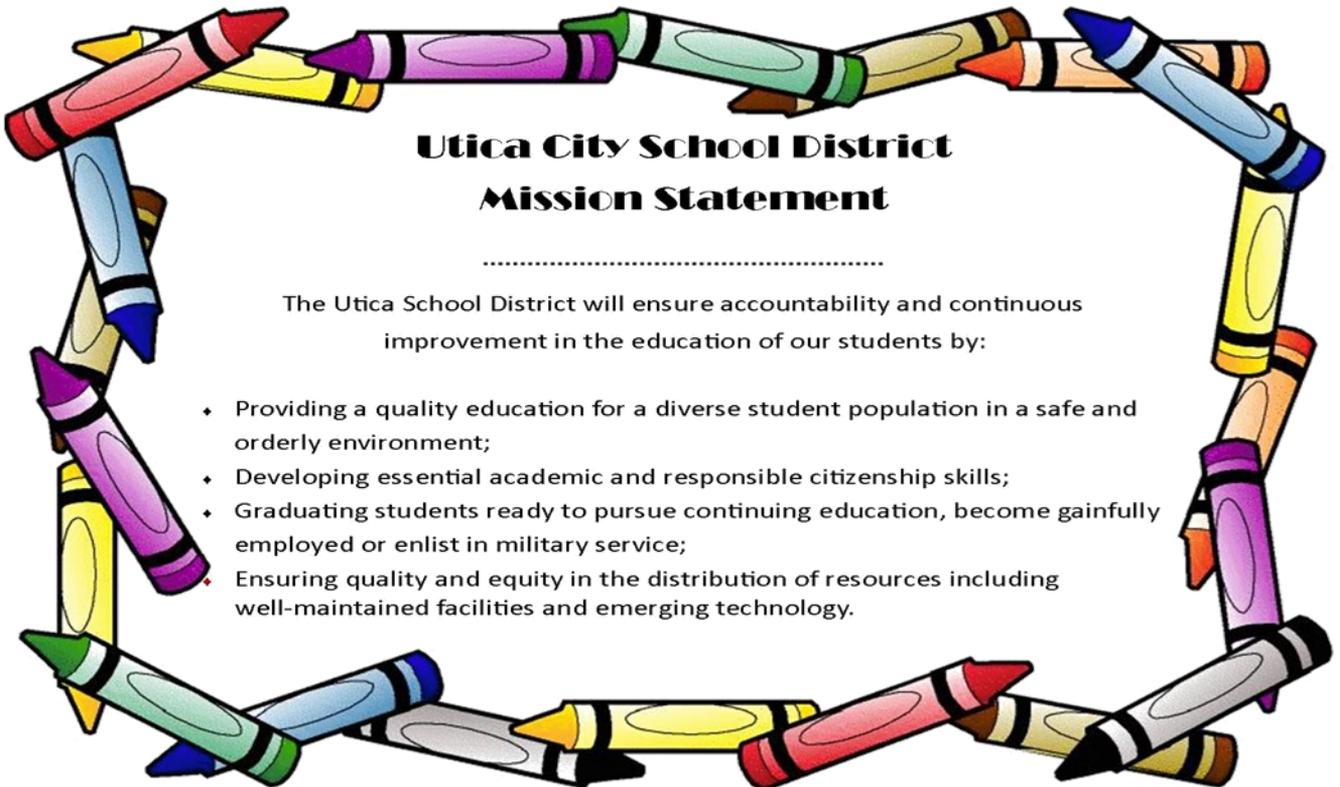
Grade K-3 Students



Grade 4-6 Students

April Student of the Month





Utica City School District Mission Statement

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The Utica School District will ensure accountability and continuous improvement in the education of our students by:

- ♦ Providing a quality education for a diverse student population in a safe and orderly environment;
- ♦ Developing essential academic and responsible citizenship skills;
- ♦ Graduating students ready to pursue continuing education, become gainfully employed or enlist in military service;
- ♦ Ensuring quality and equity in the distribution of resources including well-maintained facilities and emerging technology.