

2022

# Jefferson Elementary Spring Newsletter

Excellence \* Diversity \* Achievement

*Principal's Message* 

Jefferson Families,

Spring is finally here! The staff and students are busy with end-of-year assessments, and exciting events such as our Field Day, end of the year picnics/parties, school events, and celebrations. Our Field Day will be held on Wednesday, June 22nd. Please make sure your children are dressed appropriately, have sunscreen, water, and hats/glasses if needed. The Kindergarten Graduations will be held on Friday, June 10th at 10:00 am (Bonfardeci/Shackett), 11:30 am (Timpano/Collins last names M-Z), and 1:00 pm (T. Brown/Collins last names A-B). The 6th grade Graduation will be held on Wednesday, June 15th at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, June 24th is the last day for students. Summer vacation provides time for your child to relax and have some fun. However, reviewing information from the previous school year can help prevent learning loss and keep them up to date on information that they should know for next year. Helping your child retain learning over summer vacation can be a fun activity for you both. Try finding some workbooks, quizzes, flash cards and practice problems to help your child review. Reading is always a good way to exercise the mind and practice skills your child gained from the previous school year. Have your child set aside some time each day for reading a book they find interesting. This could be for 15-30 minutes depending on their age and abilities. Visit our school webpage and click "class pages" in order to get a head start on what your child will be learning next school year. New this year, the final report cards will not indicate next year's teacher assignment. A district-wide standardized letter will be mailed home during the summer. Just a friendly reminder, we do not accept parental teacher requests. This helps to ensure equitably balanced classes.

Your participation and support throughout the school year has been appreciated. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this year, and all of our programs and fundraisers, a success. On behalf of the entire Thomas Jefferson staff, we thank you for another great school year and we wish you a productive and fun-filled summer.

Sincerely,

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, compassionate, and productive members of society.

#### Important School Phone Numbers

Principal  
315-368-6700

Secretary  
315-368-6700

School Nurse  
315-368-6702

Security  
315-368-6712

IT Help Line  
315-368-6997  
Ext. 9

# Kindergarten

Mrs. Brown - Mrs. Bonfardeci - Mrs. Timpano

We are very proud of how our kindergarteners have adjusted so well into kindergarten this year! In ELA, we have learned all of our letters and the sounds that they make. We are continuing to work on reading and writing 3-4 letter words. We are continuing to work on our list of 36 high frequency words. We have also been writing sentences using our high frequency words. In math, we are working on adding and subtracting to 10. We are currently working on composing and decomposing numbers 11-20.

Our kindergarten team would like to thank all of our parents for their continued support. We truly could not have had a successful year without you! We are looking forward to our moving up ceremony as our students blossom into 1st graders!!!

# First Grade

Mrs. Karelus - Ms. Czepliel

There is still so much to learn in first grade. As we enter our final months of the school year the first grades have been learning how to tell time on a digital and analog clock. They have also been learning how to count money. To practice these skills at home with your child, have them count up spare change and find the value. Also, have them tell you the time. With our reading skills continue to have them practice their high frequency words every day. Reading is very important. Have your child read daily, especially over the summer.

# Second Grade

Mrs. Belmont - Mrs. Bennett - Mrs. Kallies

Happy Spring to everyone from Grade 2! As the warmer weather arrives, our Grade 2 Students are busier than ever studying, learning and preparing for end-of-the-year assessments! In our English Language Arts Wonders Series, we are studying : "Let's Make a Difference" by being a good citizen, cooperating, preserving our Earth and why rules are important. In Mathematics, we are focusing on concepts of multiplication and division, problem solving with length, money and data. In Social Studies, we are also studying about how government works and in Science we are studying about Earth's surface and living things in our environment. Please continue to support your child's learning by monitoring your child's homework and encouraging math facts practice and independent reading at home to promote and support continuing academic growth and achievement. Best wishes for a happy, healthy Spring season to all!

# Third Grade

Mrs. Adamo - Mrs. Brown - Ms. Griffin

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of third grade! It was a challenging year, but our students worked hard and made excellent growth in many areas. The following quotes are from some of our own third grade students who were asked questions about their school year!

What did you learn in third grade at Jefferson School?

“I learned reading and writing.”

“I learned about telling time and fractions.”

“I learned multiplication facts and division”

“I learned addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.”

“I learned about area and perimeter.”

“I learned that you always need to try your best and never give up!”

“I learned cursive.”

“I learned everything I need to know!”

What was the biggest challenge that you overcame in third grade?

“The biggest challenge was the math and writing tests.”

“Fractions were hard for me, but I got it!”

“Subtraction was a challenge for me.”

“Homework was a challenge for me.”

“The biggest challenge I had to overcome in third grade was the state test.”

“The biggest challenge I had was being nervous about getting a question wrong.”

“The biggest challenge that I overcame was learning multiplication and division.”

“Reading was a challenge for me.”

“Spelling was hard for me.”

“What was your favorite part about third grade at Jefferson School?”

“My favorite part of third grade is story time.”

“My favorite part of third grade is learning and being kind.”

“My favorite part of third grade is PE, lunch and going to the playground.”

“The morning meeting is my favorite part.”

“My favorite part of third grade is reading.”

“My favorite part of third grade is math.”

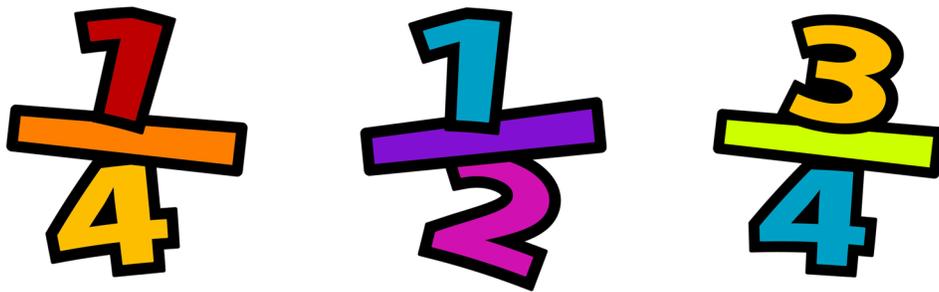
“My favorite part is using the computers.”

“My favorite part is my friends, my teachers and my school.”

# Fourth Grade

Mrs. Gallulo - Mrs. Marsden - Mrs. Rivera - Mrs. Waszkiewicz

The 4th grade students have had a busy spring preparing for the NYS Assessments! We worked hard to prepare for the ELA and Math assessments and are still preparing for the NYS Science test at the end of May. Along with our test prep we have also been continuing to learn about Fractions and how to add, subtract, and multiply fractions. In our ELA Wonders Unit we have been learning about "The World Around Us" and how we can learn new things by looking closely.

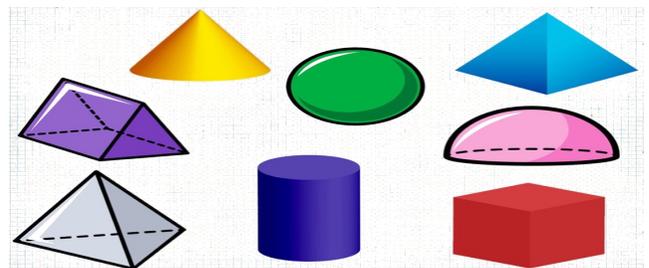
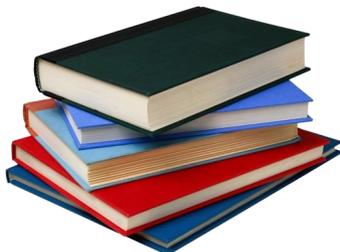


# Fifth Grade

Mr. Green - Mr. Rogowski - Mr. Thorne - Mrs. Lawruk

Reading: Students will be reading trade books to further develop their skills and knowledge of the following reading skills: determining the meaning of unknown words, comparing characters, plot and theme identification, drawing conclusions and making inferences.

Math: We have been working on our volume module. Students have been solving real-world problems involving volume. At this time, students will use the formula for volume and review multiplication strategies. Then, we will be working on drawing, analysis and classification of two dimensional shapes.



# Sixth Grade

Ms. Mazzara - Mrs. Sayles - Ms. Simon

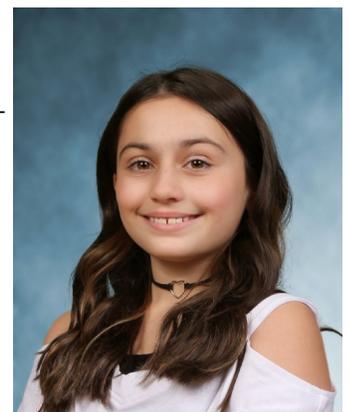
June is fast approaching and sixth graders are busy with their Egypt projects for Social Studies and the study of geography of the world. We are preparing for our final exams in ELA and Math. Science has taken us under the earth( wow it's really hot down there) and above as we study different rock formations. We are learning new songs in Music for graduation and getting ready to end the year on a positive note. We are also practicing for the Graduation Ceremony which is on June 15th at 10:00 am the Jefferson auditorium. The spring concert was a great success and many 6th graders have chosen choir for middle school music.

The sixth grade teachers wish you all well as you move up to the middle schools. Have a great summer.

# Optimist Club Winner

\*Sophia Pelli\*

The very first time I met Sophia was before she even entered my classroom. It was in the hallway the previous year, when she decided to compliment the clipboard I was holding. I was a little stressed out at the time, as my class and I were in the hallway preparing to begin our 6th grade graduation ceremony. I'm not a fan of public speaking, and it was my first year as a 6th grade teacher, so the whole event was a bit nerve wracking. Such an out of the blue comment, coupled with such a cheerful presence, put a smile on my face, eased my mood, and made it all a bit better. Coincidentally, she ended up in my classroom this year and I've witnessed every day what an optimist Sophia is. Every day, I am greeted by Sophia with a cheerful, "Good Morning". Every day, after walking the class to special or lunch Sophia never fails to say, "Have a nice break!" or "Enjoy your lunch!". Every Friday, she doesn't leave unless she's said "Have a great weekend!" I often overhear Sophia when speaking to her classmates; applauding their accomplishments, providing kind words of support and encouragement, or offering advice for difficult situations. When things don't go as planned, or we have difficult tasks to accomplish, and the rest of the class starts to complain, Sophia chimes in with a statement of how it's actually a good thing or tries to point out the positive in the situation. On top of that, Sophia works diligently in all that she does. Academically, she never lets a lower grade or difficult topic defeat her. Instead, she looks for her mistakes, asks for help when needed, and works to understand what it is she missed the first time until she's mastered it. She's always taking on additional challenges when provided and is involved in a variety of extracurricular activities. Moreover, Sophia is more than happy to help others in achieving their own success. What's even more amazing is the way Sophia helps others. She really takes the time to explain, ask questions, and emphasize to others that their hard work and effort is what matters most. It's been a tough school year, but each day has been made a bit brighter due to Sophia's optimism and always cheerful presence. I know the future has great things in store for her and hope her shine never dulls. ~ Mrs. Sayles, Grade 6



# PAW Award Winners

## April

**These students have been recognized for being respectful, responsible and safe.**

Riley Wilkinson  
Azaylea Davy  
Brian Herron Jr.  
Clarissa Staton  
Karen Oleksik  
Christal Williams  
Luke Hood  
Kion Atkins  
Jovanna Garcia  
Dajiah Bradley  
Joseph Etman  
Kenai Doster  
Ashton Howard  
Juliana Baker  
Rashi DaRoe  
Ryan Antanavige  
Alianna Lee  
Krystopher Mather  
Isabella Pina  
Sophia Richardson  
Mahirah Shameem  
David Simmons IV  
Windoh Soe  
Jordan Strahan  
Joseph Taurisani  
Alfredo Troutman  
Gio Na Wah

Jaxen Davy  
Sujeet Gurung  
KuKu Hser  
Krystal Nieves-Martinez  
Xavier Nkurunziza  
Melina Poturovic  
Zin Thu  
Amaury Martinez Velez  
Amy Wahmoo  
Sahi Dar  
Anthony Drennen  
Anadelis Martinez  
Marlicia Vines  
Oscar Boykin  
Jeffrey Moo  
DeYanna Green

Arnela Hozanovic  
April Moe  
Ehchris Paw  
Amari Armour  
Mohammad Yousef Rahimi  
Leah Jackson-Carey  
Violet Nieves  
Andreilys Ramirez  
Asif Nadarevic  
Eddie Ramos Jr.  
Hla Hnin Nwe  
Chrysanthemum Htoo  
Gabriela Mercado  
Elijah Powers  
Madison Gadziala  
Jovani Goico

Jayvon Pitts  
Joseph Polise  
Abubakar Mnondwa  
Tony Harrington  
Kaylee Sim  
Maryam Mugalli  
Camille Stokely  
Sabyan Morales Jr.  
Margot Kelsey-Morris  
Issa Ahmed  
Elara Delillo  
Zane Limbu  
Amila Kadic  
Jessica Nguyen  
Fardous Abdurahim  
Rosa Jones



# Student of the Month

## January

January Life Skills - Problem-Solving, Flexibility, Curiosity

Kayleigh Tennant  
Mohamed Abdurahim  
Luke Hood  
Kanderson Le  
Owen DePalma  
Malek Ali  
Raymond Laraby Jr.  
Gabryela Ocasio  
Noah Gibson  
Madey Muktar.

Emma Adam  
Aidin Divovic  
Brian Herron  
Adin Bajric  
Lily Ortega  
Famo Ahmed  
Melina Poturovic  
Desmond Gibson  
Kaitlynn Thompson  
Angelaniz Orta

A'Veyah Scudder  
Diandre Hunter  
Albert Musyoka  
Dustin Philips  
Albert Musyoka  
Dustin Philips  
Ali Talas  
Reem Mufata  
A'Veyah Scudder  
Diandre Hunter

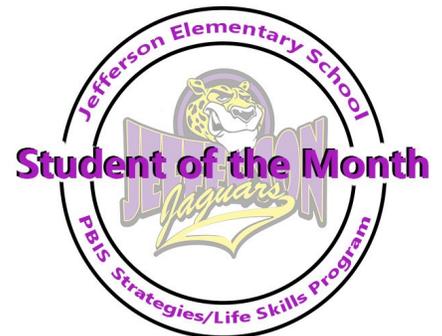
# Student of the Month

## February/March

March Life Skills - Caring, Effort, Initiative

Madison Nadarevic  
Katherine Sofia Mejia-  
Ponce  
Angel Martinez Moreno  
Peyton Henry  
Darnell Martinez  
Alessandra Park  
Ava Terebey  
Juliana Baker  
Eldin Zeric  
Emily Rose Kelsey  
Ka'Niyah Buchanan  
Kullen Vargas  
Gabriella Caracas

Adita Bajric  
Seldina Mujcic  
Yeshua Arroyo  
Ajsa Mekic  
Thoo Ray  
Alyson Le  
Dasaun Kittrell  
Payton Gentile  
Serenity Randall-Perry  
Christopher Winchester  
Andy Chavez Ventura  
Zainab Saad  
Dajiah Bradley



# Butterfly Release

Mrs. Brown's kindergarten class read and talked about butterflies. We watched as our 5 little baby caterpillars turn into butterflies! We watched them eat and eat and eat until they grew bigger. They hung from the lid to form a "J" before going into a chrysalis. We waited several days while they became butterflies. We watched them feed on slices of oranges and watermelon as well as cotton balls soaked in sugar water. We had fun releasing them outside, watching them fly away to be happy and free!!!



# STAR WARS DAY™ MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU

Ms. Czepiel's first grade class had fun celebrating Star Wars Day! They read stories, completed math worksheets and created a geometry project all involving the Star Wars theme. The students had a fantastic day learning in a galaxy far, far, away!

All Jefferson students were asked to celebrate Star Wars day, by wearing their Star Wars attire. It was a fun-filled day for all!

# STAR WARS





5th Grade Choir



Chess



Drama



Student Council



S.T.E.A.M.



Tech Club



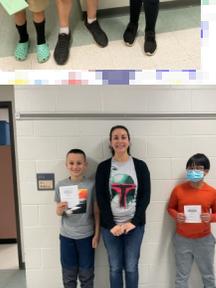
5th Grade Band



# School Clubs

T E A C H E R

APPRECIATION WEEK

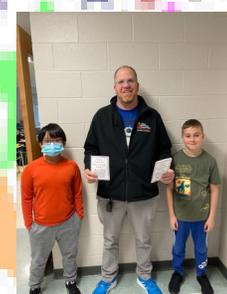


Jefferson

And the OSCAR goes to....

Outstanding  
Supportive  
Caring  
Awesome  
Respected

Faculty Staff



# Thank You!

## Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Bruce J. Karam

## UCSD Board of Education

Mr. Louis D. LaPolla, President

Mr. Robert Cardillo, Vice-President

Mr. Donald Dawes

Mr. Joseph Hobika Jr.

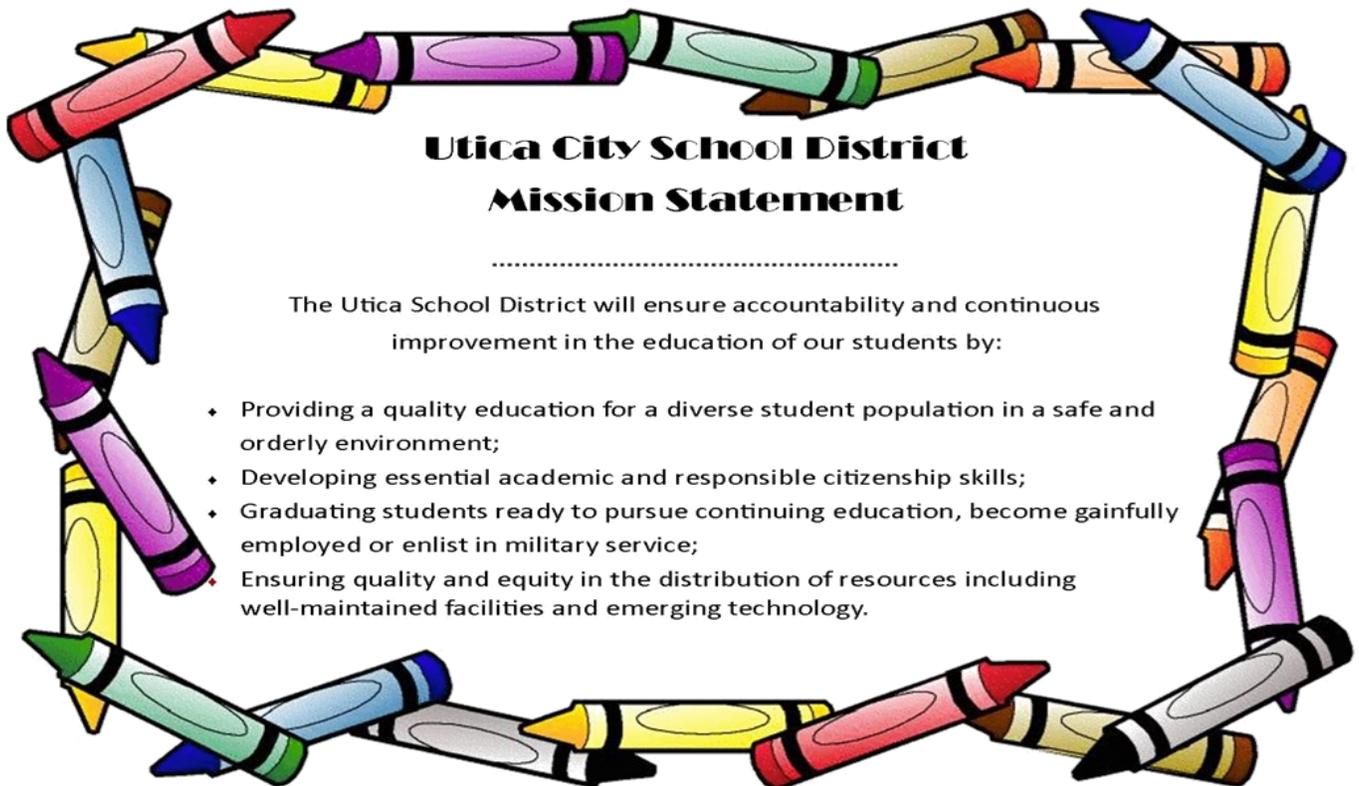
Mrs. Danielle N. Padula

Mr. Christopher J. Salatino

Mr. David L. Testa

## Administrative Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Mr. Steven A. Falchi



### Utica City School District

### Mission Statement

.....  
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.