### Jefferson Elementary Winter Newsletter

**Excellence \* Diversity \* Achievement** 

Dear Jefferson Families,

Principal's Message

We have so much to be thankful for within our school community. Your support of our students and school make Jefferson a great place to work and learn. It is wonderful to have families attending school functions once again. Our recent Winter Concert showcased our choir and band students. It was such a joy to see them perform.

We are already half-way through the school year! Your children have been working very hard and it is amazing how much they have grown academically over the last few months. Jefferson teachers continue to utilize data to drive and differentiate instruction. Furthermore, they recognize the importance of each student understanding what they need to improve upon. We are counting on you to partner with us as we encourage students to apply effort to targeted i-Ready lessons and interventions.

Thank you for all you do for JES and our "Junior Raiders". The faculty and staff join me in wishing you and your family a Happy New Year as we continue to move forward together. Please let us know if you need anything!

Happy New Year!

Tricia Norton

Tricia Norton Principal



March 17th - Wear green for St. Patrick's Day

March 21st - Crazy Sock Day

March 22nd - Ramadan

March 23rd - PTO Meeting 8:35 am

Zoom link will be posted in DOJO that morning

March 30th - Student of the Month/PAW Awards Ceremony

K-3 10:00 am

4-6 11:00 am

April 7 thru April 14 - No School - Spring Break

### **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

## Mrs. Brown - Mrs. Bonfardeci - Mrs. Timpano

We have had a very busy and super fun first half of the school year! We have a lot of hard working students that go above and beyond to show us what they have learned

We recently celebrated the 100th day of school by counting to 100 in various ways and making special 100th day of school snacks. We learned about important figures that contributed to our history during Black History Month. We drew pictures of how we could be kind to our classmates for Random Acts of Kindness Day. We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday in the beginning of March.

In reading, we have been working on our letters and sounds for a, m, s, e, h, d, o, c, n, I, t, p, r, f. We are starting to make words and blend the sounds of those letters together to read the words. We've learned high frequency words such as: I, like, to, see, the, you, are, my, he, can, go, with, and, we, do, a.

In math, we are writing numbers 0-10 and counting those numbers both forwards (0-10) and backwards (10-0). We have also started to work with number bonds (part + part = whole) as an introduction to addition and working on adding numbers 0-5. Please continue to practice these skills at home as well as writing their name. We are looking forward to a great rest of the year with our classes!



We are more than half way through the school year! Students celebrated the 100th day of school on February 15th. Our first grade students are working hard to become readers! We are using high frequency words and letter sounds to read and write sentences. We are also discovering the elements of a story.

In first grade we are continuing to work on place value within 20. We will begin focusing on the role of place value in addition and subtraction of numbers to 40. Keep working on addition and subtraction facts within 10 to help your child strengthen their math fact skills.

# Mrs. Belmont - Mrs. Bennett - Mrs. Kallies

Happy winter season from Grade 2! As we approach mid-year this school year, Grade 2 students are studying in E.L.A. Wonders Unit 4: Our Life, Our World and learning about different places, cultures and Earth's changes! In Mathematics, students are continuing to work on math facts, addition and subtraction within 1,000 with word problems to 100. In Science, we are studying our living environment and in Social Studies we are exploring geography and skills. Please continue to support your child's learning by reading independently at home, practicing basic math skills and reviewing your child's homework to continue supporting academic growth and achievement.

## SRD GRADE Mrs. Brown - Ms. Griffin - Ms. Waiter

In third grade we have been working hard to reach our goals! We are using our reading and writing strategies to improve our ELA skills. We are using higher order thinking skills to answer

more challenging questions. We are searching for text evidence to support our answers and responses. We are learning so much in math including fractions, graphing, and multiplication/division facts. We are working on becoming strong math problem solvers!

In addition to our academics, we are also working on our social and emotional learning! The Positivity Project is a program that helps us to build better relationships with others and to be our best selves. We put this into practice when we did a special activity for Random Acts of

Kindness Day. We wrote about the unique qualities of our classmates and friends. It made us realize how good it feels to give and receive compliments!

### Mrs. Galiulo - Mrs. Marsden - Mrs. Waskiewicz

The fourth grade students have been busy preparing for the NYS ELA and Math exams this Spring. We have been working hard reading passages, answering questions about what we have read and practicing submitting and typing answers on the computer for the ELA computer based test. We learned how to multiply and divide multi-digit numbers, learned how to use a protractor and are now learning more about fractions in Math. We are excited to show what we know on the upcoming tests!

STHE CRADE

Mr. Green - Mr. Rogowski - Ms. Dorborski - Mrs. Lawruk - Ms. Rivera

Reading: Our students are continuing to utilize their reading strategies during ELA. We are working on constructing higher level written responses to literature as well as developing strategies to read fictional and nonfictional texts. We continue to use our respective read alouds as an opportunity to emphasis skills good readers use while also engaging in talk-worthy discussions. Please encourage your child to read at least 20 minutes every day. As your child grows, daily reading will help the brain make connections between the written and spoken word, widening vocabulary in the process. Reading opens new perspectives and angles to the reader. It enables you to familiarize yourself with how other people see the world, it enables you to acquire skills, improve your communication abilities and much more.

Math: Our students are moving towards one of the most difficult topics in math this year. This would be fractions, decimals, and percent's. These harder concepts are made easier when the students have a solid foundation and quick recall of their multiplication facts. You can help at home by encouraging daily fact practice. Your child can go on 99math.com, blooket and kahoot to practice math skills. They can also go on Classlink to find interactive activities to develop their math skills.

### Ms. Mazzzara - Mrs. Sayles - Ms. Simon

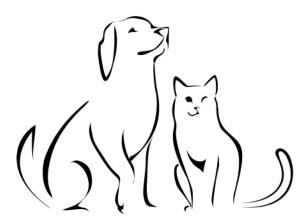
We hope you all had a relaxing February break with your children. We are back in the swing of things here at school and cannot believe it is March already. We have been busy working on algebra in Math and focusing on comprehension skills in ELA. Your children have been getting better and better at class participation and projects; as well as working in different groups/teams.



We have also shifted to positivity project character traits and the students are doing well working with those. Please continue to support your child at home and encourage them to read nightly and practice those math facts. We are looking forward to spring with some new growth outside and with our learning as well.



During the month of January, Jefferson School held our annual "Pennies for Pets" fundraiser. We collected pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars to donate to Anita's Stevens-Swan Humane Society in Utica. Thanks to the generosity of our whole school community, we collected \$250 for the animals in need at the shelter!!! We are so grateful to all those who donated towards this worthy cause!





Colton Gibson Nicolas Scialdone Ashlie Laraby Gabriel Velazquez Carter Standford **Ezriel Nunez Khamis Khamis Avery Hughes** 

Serenity Randall-Perry Daud Osman Tessa Carcone Ashton Howard Valentina Kecan Makayla Clark

Nathan Kelachinathu

Miley Oleksik Nayla Huskic Ahmed Saad Azaylea Davy Adel Causevic Isabella Pinna Gio Na Wah Ladhan Adan

Joshian Cirino-Diaz Sujeet Gurung Aliyah Nadarevic **Balal Juma** 





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

Miracle Clark Justin Htoo Nicolas Scialdone Shinny Moo Ashlie Laraby Amila Mustabasic Renad Hotbani Riley Wilkinson Tessa Carcone Owen DePalma Gabriella Jimenez Daud Osman Mia Wozny

Tatiana Baker

Jhoskian Cirino-Diaz Giada Gentile **Darnell Martinez** Alicia Moe

Shawn Colburn Xavier Velte

Fabdous Abdurahim

Sahi Dar

Ramone Sanders Angela Piacentino Ahmed Saad

Richard Enos Valentina Pina

Harmonie Rotach-Yazzo

Sry Ian Tillery Mavis Dohn Noah Gibson Ramya Gilmore Yanarelis Gutierrez Khadija Mnondwa

Rosar Be

Ader Mendez Liriano

Adita Bajric Isabella Pina **Evelyn Santacroce** John Nguyen Zainab Saad Naveah Frisbee

McKenzie Thorton Roanny Perez del Rosario Standford Htoo Majesty Estty



Emma Gagnon
Shinny Moo
Renad Hotbani
Ibrahim Basic
Faith Andino
Ariella Guso
Riley Wilkinson
William Phyo
Anderson Guallpa-Dutan
Fatuma Abdurahim
Paul McBee III

Pedro Nieves Roanny Perez del Rosario Jessie Dennis III Jerome Cruz
Sherry Moo
Xavier Velte
Alexandra Felix-Zuniga
Eldin Zeric
Eh December
Antonio Howard
Celie Vargas
Gabriella Caracas
Arnela Hozanovic
Westin Moore
Haliyah Moore
Anna Breckenridge

Zainab Saad





Alejandro Martinez
Diandre Hunter
Ester Ma
Eh December
Eleigha Mather
Nazar Smitiukh
Nathan Kelachinathu
Emily Rose Kelsey
Madey Muktar
Violet Nieves
Deyanna Green
Isaiah Bowens
Siranoush Marashian

**Ehchris Paw** 

Syceed Tillery
Saw Wahmoon
Yeshua Arroyo
Minela Duric
Seldina Mujcic
Clarissa Staton
Kyle Kelachinathu
Emma Gagnon
John Lanaux
Layla Shah
Adam Topic
Colton Gibson
Renad Hotbani
Ashlie Laraby

Amalia Byars
Amila Mustabasic
Dianna Mbula
Nicholas Scialdone
Shinny Moo
Justin Htoo
Aaden Pritchard
Alexander Nadarevic
Ezriel Nunez
Jadelyn Lopez-Ager
Kion Atkins
Zenaleas Rodriguez
Avery Hughes

William Phyo

Giada Gentile
Giuseppe Lewis
Sara Smitiukh
Pedro Nieves Jr.
Margot Kelsey-Morris
Fatuma Abdurahim
Hector Gutierrez
Adnan Gedow
Amila Kadic
Kenai Doster
Miracle Clark



December Life Skills - Compassion, Generosity, Integrity

Bryson Randall
John Etman
Amila Mustabasic
Joshua Antonetty-Roque
Johanelys Gonzalez-Colon
Kion Atkins
Jaxon Hughes
Selena Lay
Hamza Mnondwa
Shzrawn Salih
Giada Gentile
Margot Kelsey-Morris
Angela Piacentino
Ajsa Mekic

Amila Piacentino
Amila Kadic
Sophia Sum
Mohamed Alam
Hsereh Chris
Eleigha Mather
Alejandro Martinez
Jeffrey Moo
Marque Whitehurst
Adin Bajric
Adam Zieniewicz
Julianna Constintine
Yeshua Arroyo
John Nguyen





Ethan Zumpano
Amila Mustabasic
Giuliana Berg
Owen Belt
Renad Hotbani
Miracle Clark
Dianna Mbula
Justin Htoo
Shinny Moo
John Etman
Ariella Guso
Christal Williams
Hunter Slaughter

**Quameer Taylor** 

Sisi Win
Riley Wilkinson
Selena Lay
Margot Kelsey-Morris
Her Nay Chris
Riham Shahbain
Shzrawn Salih
Sabyan Morales
Jhoskian Cirino Diaz
Mikaela Dunce
Peyton Henry
Paul McBee III
Angela Piacentino
Nur Syafiqah Khair Ahmad

Alessandra Park
Arianna Gomez
Sophia Sum
Loenard Works
Dessianna Simmons
Alyaa Aldalali
Rosa Jones
Hsereh Chris
Yasin Haji
Saleena Gurung
Miley Oleksik
Mya Prescod
Jendal Ruiz Rodriguez
Sernay Taw

Asif Nadarevic
Kaitlynn Thompson
Alejandro Martinez
Ahmed Saad
Isabella Pina
Mason Herrera-Powell
Khadija Mnondwa
Phoenix Blount
Jared Holmes
Ethan Le
Angelia Cardin



Bryson Randall
John Etman
Amila Mustabasic
Joshua Antonetty-Rogue
Johanelys Gonzalez-Colon
Kion Atkins
Jaxon Hughes
Selena Lay
Hamaz Mnondwa
Shzraun Salih
Giada Gentile
Margot Kelsey-Morris
Angela Piacentino
Amila Kadic

Sophia Sum
Mohamed Alam
Hsereh Chris
Eleigha Mather
Alejandro Martinez
Jeffrey Moo
Marque Whitehurst
Adin Bajric
Iliannie Gutierrez
Adam Zieniewicz
Julianna Constantine
Yeshua Arroyo
Ajsa Mekic
John Nguyen





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

Miracle Clark
Nicolas Scialdone
Dianna Mbula
Justina Htoo
Ashlie Laraby
Ethan Zumpano
Owen Belt
Ariya Ward
Joseph Kobielski
Mohamed Abdurahim
Gabrielle Butler
London Henderson
Alicia Hurley
Selena Lay
Faduma Muktar

Madison Nadarevic
Tra'main Stokely
Shamila Bee
Gabrielle Carr
Jovanna Garcia
Demir Grgic
Karen Oleksik
Tamisha Hepburn
Ayesha Ahmadi
Amelia Cater
Kayloni Howard
Jermaine Stokely
Elara Delilo
David Peralta
Paul McBee III

Peyton Henry
Darnell Martinez
Mikaela Duniec
Zeinab Muktar
Gabriella Jimenez
Owen DePalma
Nur Ahmad
Edin Causevic
Kenan Grgic
Alessandra Park
Juan Henao Gutierrez
Fardous Abdurahim
Xavier Velte
Joseph Etman
Anthony Drennen

Kyng Reed
Ava Terebey
Ralik Gilmore Jr.
Wayne Marriott
Gael Arpi
Isabella Cing
Aiden Le
Fatuma Mnondwa
Xavier Rodriguez
Eldin Zeric
Thmas Tay
Alexandra Zuniga Felix
Elias Nadarevic
Leah Carey

Richard Enos

Nayla Huskic Biar Biar Anadelis Martinez Gabriella Caracas Adin Bajric Mason Dohn Arnela Hozanovic EhChris Paw Bilal Skiljan Irving Carr Isabelle Ryan



### February Life Skills - Curiosity - Love - Creativity

Adam Topic
Roman Giurzzi
Ariya Ward
Kayla Ann Woodley
Hunter Slaughter
Amelia Cater
Mohamed Abdurahim
Alexander Borys
Kayden Tourville
Tatiana Baker
Hser Nay Chirs
Kenan Grgic
Rosa Jones

Mason Roman

Thomas Tay
Yara Liriano
Asif Nadarevic
Majesty Esty
Jack Elseth
Adita Bajric
Mia Herron
Kailani Ware
Ryan Antanavige
Ju Nai
Sirlsaac Jackson
Anthony Mashtare





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

Miracle Clark Abdi Haji Fardous Abdurahim Kenan Grgic Luke Hood

Shinny Moo
Roman Giruzzi
Nicolas Scialdone
Justin Htoo
Luis Ortiz Jr.
Kareem Alyafai
Rosana Omar
Adel Causevic
Rocco Colantuono
Zakhar Kovalets
Avery Hughes
Andreilys Ramirez
Sryian Tillery
Majesty Esty
Alejandro Doria

Abdi Haji
Alexander Nadarevic
Ariella Guso
Jadelyn Lopez-Ager
Kion Atkins
Marta Smitiukh
Zenaleas Rodriguez
Dalton Carter
Rashi Daroe
Valentina Kecan
Lucas Vines
Zeinab Muktar
Sara Smitiukh
Hser Nay Chirs
Kayden Tourville
Camille Stokely

Fardous Abdurahim
Halima Ahmed
EmilyRose Kelsey
Mohamed Alam
Rosemarie Arroyo
Yara Liriano
Nyomi Prescod
Jamari Whitehurst
Deyanna Green
Isabella Pina
Siranoush Marashian
Owen Belt
Giuliana Berg
Ariya Ward
Joseph Kobielski
Malik Grant Jr.

Kenan Grgic Jessica Nguyen Cedriyauna Anderson Gabriel Gonzalez Colton Gibson Ferdaws Barakzai Adam Topic **Brysin Randall** Layla Shah Ivan Htoo John Lanaux Jhoskian Cirino-Diaz Mikaela Duniec Paul McBee III Josephina Htoo Ridwan Gedow



On Sunday, December 11, 2022, our chorus students Isabelle Ryan, Elijah Powers, Nicholas Thomas, Siranoush Marashian, and Olivia Cavanaugh participated in a performance that was

part of a fundraiser for Jefferson School at Barnes and Noble. Students performed their holiday program as well as some additional Christmas/winter tunes. Later that day, Olivia Thrash played the clarinet and Lily Ortega played the violin.

Much like the title of one of their songs, "Snow" was on the ground today so we appreciate these students coming out despite the "frosty - snowy weather" that was happening today.

Thank you, Jefferson musicians!





During February, Jefferson students participated in the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge (KHC)! Jefferson students learned about staying strong in body and mind, got to move with fun activities, meet kids with special hearts and raise funds for the health of all hearts. This year, Jefferson has raised over \$1,600 in donations! Thank you to all the students and their families for your support.





On Wednesday, January 18, many Jefferson students and their families attended our first Candy Bar Bingo event. Assorted candy bars were chosen by the winners as a "sweet" prize. At the end of the evening, all in attendance went home with a candy bar of their choice. Thank you to the students and families who attended. A special shout out to the student council members and staff members who volunteered their time at this fun, new event.



Motivation Methods
That Work

"Have you finished your book report?" "When are you going to take out the trash?" Does it seem like you're constantly nagging at your youngster to get things done?

Instead of nagging, try the suggestions and "can-do" tips in this special report. You'll boost your child's enthusiasm for doing what he needs to do—in school and at home!



Offer praise

Never underestimate the power of a "Good job!" Children crave approval from their parents. A positive response, such as a hug or a smile, can be a great incentive. Whether it's for washing a sink full of dishes or passing a math quiz, a word of encouragement will show your youngster that you notice his hard work. His self-confidence will soar, and he will want to keep trying.

Can-do tips: Let your child overhear you bragging to a friend when he cleans his room without being asked. Hang tests on the fridge, or send copies of a good report card to relatives.

### Create excitement

When your youngster needs help getting motivated for a task, find a way to make it enjoyable. For example, if you make reviewing for a test entertaining, you're not only helping her study, you're teaching her that learning doesn't have to be boring.

Can-do tip: The next time your child is preparing for a test, turn studying into a game. Example: Draw a baseball diamond on a piece of paper. Ask her questions related to what she's studying. Tell your youngster that she gets a base

hit for every correct answer and a strikeout for every incorrect one. For every three base hits, she scores a home run.



Let your child know that what he's involved in is important to you. When you express curiosity about the new computer game he's playing with his friends or you regularly attend parent-teacher conferences, your youngster will see that you're interested.

Can-do tips: Ask your child questions about his day. Examples: "How was the field trip?" "What was the score of the game?" Attend extracurricular and school functions, such as music recitals and parent nights, whenever possible.

### Give rewards

Simple rewards, like extra privileges, can be powerful motivators. But rewards should be used sparingly. Bargaining too much can limit your child's natural motivation by putting the focus on getting something.

Can-do tips: Offer your youngster a special snack or extra TV time when she finishes her homework quickly. Or surprise her with a thank-you card in her lunch bag for helping you clean the garage.

### Use consequences

Experts agree that punishing kids for not doing what they're supposed to do doesn't always produce improved results. However, linking consequences to performance can provide a reason for your child to get the job done while giving him a greater sense of control over his life.

Can-do tip: Try to connect what your youngster needs to do with an outcome. Example: "After you rake the leaves in

continued





the yard, you can go skateboarding." This way, it will be an action on his part, rather than you, that lets him do something he wants.

### Encourage problem solving

When your child runs into a problem, don't solve it for her. Instead, give her clues that will help her discover the answer. The more she does on her own, the more confident she will feel about her work, and the harder she will try. And she'll learn how to handle future problems.

Can-do tip: If your youngster comes to you for homework help, have her turn the problem into a question. Example: If she asks you for the name of the first president of the United States, suggest that she ask herself, "Where in my textbook did I read about the first president?"

### Manage stress

You may not realize it, but stress can zap your child's energy. Feeling that he can't get everything done can keep



your youngster from trying to do anything. Help him simplify his schedule so he can regain the motivation he needs to focus on what's most important: school, family and friends, exercise, and relaxation.

Can-do tip: If your child seems overwhelmed, make some schedule changes. Cut back on after-school activities like clubs and sports, and limit playdates.

### Establish expectations

It's important for parents to set high standards for their children at home and in school. Students whose parents expect them to do well in school have a better chance of learning success. Encourage your youngster to give her best effort in everything she does. Let her know that some things may be harder for her than others, but there's parents of the set of th



but there's no excuse for not trying.

Can-do tips: Teach your child to be responsible at home by assigning chores and setting clear guidelines for behavior. If she's struggling with schoolwork, offer tutoring or other help to improve her skills and boost her self-confidence.

### Provide choices

Children, like adults, are motivated by their own interests. Allowing your child to make decisions will give him a sense of control and encourage him to tackle the job at hand.

Can-do tip: Give your youngster plenty of opportunities to have a say in day-to-day decisions. For example, ask him which movie you should rent for the evening or whether he'd like to visit a museum or a pet farm on a weekend trip. Let him choose whether to spend his allowance on a new video or the next book in his favorite series.

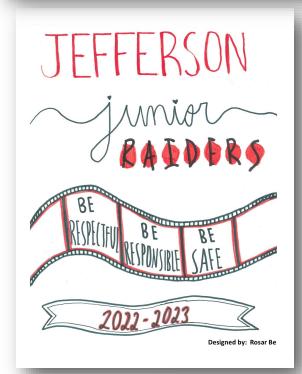
### Accept mistakes

Some kids are afraid of trying new things because they think making a mistake means they failed. When your youngster messes up, tell her you believe in her, and give her a chance to try again. Treating mistakes as opportunities instead of failures shows that you value effort, not just achievement.

Can-do tip: When your child makes a mistake, help her explore what went wrong. Examples: If she gets a poor grade, you might ask questions like, "Did you understand the teacher's instructions?" and "Did you remember to bring your review worksheets home?" If she forgets that she has practice after school, try, "Did you write the date on your calendar?" By figuring out why mistakes happen, your youngster will improve her chances for success in the future.

### Home & School CONNECTION

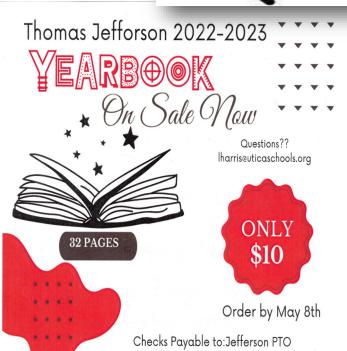
### YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST



Rosar Be from Mrs. Lawruk's 4th grade class is the winner of the 2022-2023 Yearbook Cover Contest. Congratulations Rosar!







### **Attention 6th Grade Parents**

Have your student bring in "1" baby picture of themselves by Friday, April 21st.

Please have the picture in an envelope with your students name and teachers name.
Pictures will be scanned and returned to student.



### Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Brian Nolan

### **UCSD Board of Education**

Mr. Joseph Hobika Jr., President
Mrs. Danielle N. Padula, Vice-President
Mr. Robert Cardillo
Mr. Donald Dawes
Mrs. Tennille Knoop
Mr. James Paul
Mr. David L. Testa

### **Administrative Director of Curriculum and Instruction**

Mr. Steven A. Falchi

