



Jefferson Jaguars Newsletter

September 5, 2018



Dear Jefferson Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Jefferson Primary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2018-19 school year! We are proud of our dedicated, experienced staff and enthusiastic learners! We look forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We believe that all of us – the school and the community – must work together in an extended family environment to ensure success for all students. We believe it is everyone's responsibility to empower children with the creative, intellectual, and decision-making skills necessary for them to become academically, socially, physically, and emotionally successful and responsible.

It has been a very busy summer at Jefferson Primary School. We made many improvements to our facility including our new double door entry, new handicap accessible ramp, newly paved front parking lot, and ADA complaint bathroom. In addition, I am very proud of our recent academic accomplishments and look forward to our continued growth as a school within the Huntington Union Free School District. Last year, we were identified as a school that is boosting the achievement of Economically Disadvantaged Students Beating the Odds and Building Opportunities 2017-2018 by Better Outcomes Research. We also introduced to the Next Generation Standards in reading, mathematics, and science. Our teachers received extensive training in reading, mathematics, technology, science, and social emotional learning. We take pride in engaging Jefferson Primary School families. Each year, we invite families to school performances, class events, and field trips. We are fortunate to have a supportive PTA that helps fund our field trips, school-wide assembly programs, arts-in-education programs, Parents as Reading Partners month, class parties, and school-wide evening events. I look forward to our continued growth as a school community.

It is our desire to keep you informed of all that is taking place at our school. Each month, you will receive a Jefferson Primary School calendar and a copy of the Principal's Newsletter. I will also be sending a weekly text message as a friendly reminder about the important events that will take place in the week ahead. Additionally, you will receive a copy of the Jefferson Student and Parent Handbook. Kindergarten and grade 1 will receive the Handbook in a separate booklet while grades 2 and 3 will receive a copy of the Handbook inside of the Jefferson Homework Agenda. We ask that you please review the important information in the Handbook with your child. Kindly sign and return the tear-off to your child's teacher once you and your child read the Handbook. I am also sending home a copy of the Notification of Rights under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Each month we will hold Citizen of the Month Assemblies. Our goal is to continue focusing on and encouraging "Being Responsible, Respectful and Safe" citizens. One student per class will be recognized as "Citizen of the Week" for demonstrating "Respectful, Responsible, and Safe" behaviors. The "Citizens of the Week" will be announced on Fridays during "Happy News" and those students will receive a prize. In addition, one student per class will be recognized as "Citizen of the Month" at our monthly assemblies. Classroom teachers will give a brief anecdote providing specific details as to the "Respectful," "Responsible," and/or "Safe" behaviors one student demonstrated throughout the month. This anecdote will be read when the student's name is announced at the assembly. We believe highlighting specific "Respectful, Responsible, and Safe" behaviors will support and encourage these behaviors throughout the building, at home, and in the community.

Please note that our classroom teachers will begin to benchmark assess students in kindergarten through grade 3 using AIMS Web. The assessment results will help us acquire important information about your child's present levels of learning so that we may develop lessons to meet your child's learning needs. The results will also be incorporated in the first quarter report card grades. Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about the benchmark assessments. Please see the table below that lists each assessment.

Grade Level	Reading	Mathematics
Kindergarten	· Letter Naming Fluency	· Number Identification
Grade 1	· Reading Curriculum Based Measurement	· Math Computation
Grades 2 & 3	· Reading Curriculum Based Measurement · Measure of Comprehension based on the students' ability to use semantic and syntactic knowledge during silent reading	· Math Computation · Math Concepts and Applications

Please see the attached Jefferson School calendar for pertinent dates relevant to our school.

The wonderful Jefferson staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. If you have questions or concerns that arise at any time, please do not hesitate to give your child's teacher or me a call. I look forward to having a long and rewarding relationship with you and your family.

Sincerely,

Valerie Capitulo-Saide

Principal

