Dear Parents,

On September 7th Jefferson Primary opened her doors to welcome eighty “new” kindergarteners and eighty “old” fourth graders!! Sandw iched between the littlest and the oldest were almost three hundred first, second and third graders. In order to make sure we had room for everyone, we faced a number of challenges but we were determined to make sure we were ready for the children on the first day school. And we did it!!! I want to thank the faculty, staff, custodial staff, members of Buildings and Grounds and our wonderful PTA for all the hard work in getting our building and the classrooms ready for that first big day. Everyone did a great job!!

While we are larger than we were last year, Jefferson’s vision for an environment that nurtures a young child’s mind and imagination and seeks to establish the foundation for a lifelong love of learning remains constant. Our emphasis is to develop literacy and numeration skills for all children. To that end, we begin by building on the language and experiences that our youngest children bring to school. The faculty works collaboratively to provide appropriate learning experiences that will contribute to the needs of each child in all areas of development – social, emotional, physical and cognitive. We view each child as a unique person with individual learning styles, interests and levels of development. To be successful, we work together to provide well planned instruction in a nurturing and safe environment.

We invite our parents and grandparents to join with us as partners. Parents often ask me “What can I do to help my child at home”. The answer to this question lies not in extra dittos or pages for homework, but in more important activities that you are uniquely qualified to provide your child.

Most importantly, talk with your child every day. When you talk with, not at, your child you are helping him or her to become a better speaker and listener. Being a good listener and speaker are important prerequisite skills to becoming a successful reader and writer. Listed below are some suggestions:

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News from inside Jefferson...

Kindergarten:
The kindergarten classes are leaving the ghost and witches behind. We are learning about fall and the first Thanksgiving. We are studying the Native Americans and pilgrims. We are learning about what they ate and how they lived. We are writing with quills and making patterned beaded necklaces and bonnets. We are learning about nutrition and healthy food choices. We are noticing the change in weather and the colorful leaves. We are bundling up and staying cozy as the cold winds redden our cheeks and noses. Happy Thanksgiving!

1st grade:
The first grade teachers started the school year with so many wonderful projects. During the month of September we covered all the new routines and procedures necessary to ensure a wonderful and safe beginning. During the month of October, we are learning about the new season and its wonderful changes, fire prevention, and community helpers. Our first graders are becoming wonderful scientists, experimenting different hands-on activities following our science curriculum. We can't wait for our famous Halloween parade on October 29th.

During the month of November our teacher/parent conferences will happen. We expect the children to be totally immersed in their routines and comfortable with their new surroundings, learning is in full speed! Please continue checking their folders for important notices and classroom assignments, we don't want them to miss anything!!!

2nd grade:
The Second Graders are transitioning into “Respectful, Responsible and Safe” learners. They have been very busy learning many new concepts in all academic areas. In Math… the children have been using “lots” of manipulatives and “getting” organized! During the months of September and October they were becoming familiar with Using a number line to add and subtract, Math Mountains, Math Stories, Comparing order, Greater than & Less than and becoming familiar with measuring the perimeter of different shapes. In Science… Our first unit is Solids, Liquids and Gases. Our little Scientist are becoming “thinkers” and understanding how to analyze different forms of Matter! In Social Studies…We've been discussing different “Types of Communities,” reading and analyzing Non-Fiction text, recognizing captions, bold words and referring back to the text for answers. We are all excited about our trip to the Conklin Farmhouse House which was built in 1750 to learn about all the interesting artifacts of that era!

3rd grade:
Welcome back to school!! The 3rd grade has been immersed in a wide array of curriculum topics so far this year. As the 1st marking period comes to a close, the third grade teachers couldn’t be more thrilled with the progress and success of our young learners. We have covered a variety of topics in the area of Math, Social Studies, Science and Language Arts. Math topics include place value and multi-digit addition and subtraction, lines, line segments, quadrilaterals and addition and subtraction word problems. At home, practice of the math facts (addition and subtraction) will be a great help!! In Social Studies we have been learning about communities found in the United States and abroad. In Science we are wrapping up our units on Earth’s Water and Buoyancy. During our Language Arts block we have covered lessons in spelling and becoming more effective reads and writers of the English language.

As we begin November, the 3rd grade students will be responsible for running the Jefferson Primary food drive. Please help us make this another
From our Librarian...

Hello Readers,

Welcome back to books. The school year is in full swing and children are taking advantage of the wonderful resources here in the Jefferson library. The renovation is complete and the new book order is available for checkout.

From the moment the children come through the library door at the tender age of four or five, they begin a journey towards information literacy. They learn about library citizenship, authors, illustrators, book care, literature awards, research, the intricacies of the Dewey Decimal system, genres, fairy/folktales, fiction vs. nonfiction, parts of a book, and the magic of using your imagination to travel through time and space.

Congratulations to the 75+ children who participated in the Jefferson Summer Reading Challenge. Books and certificates were sent home last week.

All classes K-4 have library once a week. Children in K, 1, & 2 are permitted one book a week to take home and enjoy with their parents. All 3rd & 4th grade students may checkout two books per week.

This year, all 3rd and 4th grade students will attend "Research and Enrichment Activities for the Children of Huntington" (REACH) every other week following an A/B schedule. In the 3rd grade students are currently working on our acting skills with Reader's Theater. In 4th grade, children are enjoying the Junior Great Books anthology of literature. All activities will be mixed with "hands on" math/science lessons. We are even looking forward to working with the Rubik's Cube.

Thank you to the PTA for their generous infusion of Scholastic points to our school library! We were able to provide materials for the new 4th grade.
grade students immediately. Children are now enjoying the 39 Clues series, Percy Jackson, Hank Zipzer, beautiful new country books, and almanacs purchased with those funds. A special thank you to the Low family for the donation of the autographed Peter Sis book Madlenka’s Do.

Until next time, keep on reading…..Mrs. Tietjen

Arts-in-Education committee
AIE kicked off the 2010 with a trip to The Conklin House in November. All Second Graders got to experience life in Huntington from the mid-eighteenth century to the early 20th century.

Our fund raiser is Sundy, January 30th at 1:00 PM. Huntington High School stage will be the location of a great double header show. The Silly Dilly Band with entertain families with band music and Alexander, King of Jesters will fascinated the audience with humor and wonder. The Medieval theme will extend to the lobby with snacks, activities and raffles.

Thank you to Mrs. Evers, teachers and Jefferson parents who support AIE through their PTA fund-raisers and dues. We believe that the Arts are vital to our children’s educational growth process and we know that Huntington supports education in the Arts!

Peggy Low, Susan Buchholtz, Cynthia Rabito – AIE Reps

The Huntington Foundation for Excellence in Education (HFEE) is a non-profit 501(C)(3) corporation dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for all students in the Huntington school district.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit organization. It will hold its 17th Annual Reach for the Stars fundraising gala on Friday, January 21, 2011 at the elegant Woodlands in Woodbury. The evening will honor Huntington Booster Club President Barbara Cutrone, who has been an active volunteer in district organizations for nearly two decades.

Liaison for Jefferson Primary is Robin O’Leary. Please contact her at Nodizy@aol.com for information about the Reach for the Starts tickets.

From The School Nurse

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to ask for your help in keeping our children and Faculty healthy!!

Whenever your child has been diagnosed with a communicable illness please call me immediately at (631) 673-2070 or (631) 673-2141 (for answering machine).

Examples of such diagnoses include:

- Strep Throat
- Fifth’s Disease
- Pink Eye
- Lice
- Flu

Once you provide me this important information, I am better able respond effectively in order to avoid the spread of these illnesses.

I thank you for your cooperation and look forward to a happy and healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Betsy Steiner, R.N. - School Nurse
Greetings to all! We would like to introduce ourselves - our names are Toniann Mangan and Jennifer Hebert and we are proud to be your PTA co-presidents.

The Jefferson PTA is off to a rousing start! On Oct. 20, PTA parents worked alongside the kindergarten teachers to provide a spectacular Harvest Fest for the kindergarten students. The children enjoyed a morning filled with hayrides, pumpkin decorating, scarecrow stuffing and “Stone Soup” with Mrs. Tietjan! Thanks to Donna Kye, Rosemary Miller and their team for a job well done.

The PTA also hosted Family Fun Night. This event was incredibly well attended and it was so much fun to see the kids dressed in costumes, dancing and laughing, and enjoying carnival games! And of course, the “Mummy Wrap” was a highlight of the night! Thanks to Rosemary Miller, Lisa Santa-Maria and Ellen Heller for organizing this huge event. It was loads of fun!

The Jefferson PTA has many upcoming events that we’d like you to know about. Our next PTA meeting is on Monday, Nov. 8 at 10am in the cafeteria. The Book Fair and Holiday Boutique are scheduled for Dec. 1 & 2 - more details to follow.

We are finishing up our Kidstuff Coupon book sale and it has been quite successful. If you still have your book and intend to keep it, please send payment in to Jefferson. Or you can still return unwanted books to the school.

Toniann Mangan and Jennifer Hebert (PTA Co-Presidents)
Jefferson Rocks!

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😊 Start a conversation by asking a question that has no right or wrong answer (What did you think when you saw.....?):

😊 Remember to encourage your child to exhibit good eye contact during the conversation:

😊 Start a family tradition of reading together a few days a week. Children love to share books with you!! When our little ones hear you read the language, watch you model what good readers do with books and, of course, when they feel the comfort, security and warmth of being close to you, they are quietly building a lifelong love of books! Don’t forget to choose some non-fiction books, too!

Together, I know we are going to make it a great year at Jefferson Primary!!

Sincerely, Margaret H. Evers

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 4th  Early Dismissal at 12:40 / Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 8th  PTA meeting at 10:00 AM
November 9th  Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 10th  Early Dismissal at 12:40 / Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 11th  Veterans’ Day – School Closed
November 15th  Board of Education meeting - Jack Abrams Auditorium at 7:30 PM
November 16th  Duel Language Parent meeting - location to be announced at 6:30 PM
November 17th  SEPTA meeting - Finely Middle School at 7:00 PM
November 23rd  Emergency Go Home Drill (15 minute early dismissal)
November 24th, 25th and 26th  Thanksgiving Recess – No School
December 1st, 2nd  PTA Book Fair & Holiday Boutique
December 6th  Board of Education meeting - Jack Abrams Auditorium at 7:30 PM
December 14th  Duel Language Parent meeting - location to be announced at 6:30 PM
December 21st  Jefferson Winter Songfest - 10:30
Halloween 2010

SPOOKY!