

# JV FORRESTAL SUPER STARS NEWSLETTER



Happy Holidays



Greetings from the music room!

While we continue with our regular curriculum of rhythm reading, recorder playing, pitch matching and some compositions, the students at JVF will also experience singing and playing in games for the Christmas and Hanukkah season. Don't forget, our Winter concert is on December 18th at 7pm, though students must arrive at 6:30pm. Please see the letter that went home with the details regarding dress and other details for our concert. Happy Holidays!



The fourth graders are off to a great start learning how to play their first few notes. They are working very hard and are enjoying their band time. The fifth graders are putting the finishing touches on their band songs! They are very excited to perform their first concert on December 18th. The concert begins at 7pm at the Beacon High School. Students are asked to arrive at 6:45pm. Please be aware that with snow days the 4 day rotation shifts, so if Day 1 is a Monday but it is a snow day then Tuesday becomes Day 1. 5th Graders have band on Day 3 and 4th Graders have it on Day 4.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear JVF Family,

As we enter December it is important to recognize that while the holiday season is a celebratory time of the year, for many it is also a time that triggers emotional stress. We will continue to fill our school with love, kindness, a giving spirit to those in need. This will be a dazzling December! The FACE (Family & Community Engagement) committee organized a week of giving, where we are collecting food pantry donations and working together as a school towards a goal of 250 items! More information will be sent home with students - look out for info titled "JVF Gives"!

A few things to consider during this holiday season:

- Recognize that it may be tough - but keep in mind that this shall pass.
- Do something nice for someone else
- Call a friend who brings positivity to your life
- Laugh
- Treat yourself

Sincere Season Greetings,

*"Educate the minds and Embrace the hearts of Every student in Every classroom, Everyday!"*

## In Physical Education,

PE classes are taking part in Gymnastic activities! Skills will include rolling, balancing, climbing the cargo net, using a balance beam, jumping with style and many more. Students will be removing shoes when using the mats, but still need sneakers for warm-up and cool down times.



**PLEASE REMEMBER  
SNEAKERS FOR PE  
DAYS!**



## ART

In art we are finishing up our Autumn still life drawings and are now going into our Winter-themed lessons. Texture is being taught and how artists incorporate it into their work.



# Grade Level News

Kindergarten is warming up to the Holiday Season! We are looking forward to the magical performance of the "Nutcracker" at the Bardavon Opera House. After a fabulous performance of the "Wizard of Oz", we are excited to compare performances. Both theater experiences will give us the opportunity to connect what we have learned in story elements to live theater productions!

November had First Grade busy learning about the Lenape, Native Americans of this area, and Pilgrims. We even wrote our own Native American picture stories! We also learned about the First Thanksgiving and compared it to how we celebrate today to see what was alike and/or different. In reading, many of our students moved up in their reading levels and we will be reading non-fiction books next. And in writing, we have been finishing up our Small Moments stories and getting ready to show off our hard work to our families at one of our Annual Writers Celebration in December.

For the month of December, second grade will be learning about different holidays and traditions around the world. Students will get to create their own gingerbread houses and enjoy a winter celebration. We will be ending the unit on engineering with some fun class activities and beginning a new unit on matter. In math we will focus on double and triple digit addition and subtraction without regrouping. We are looking forward to a celebratory December!

It is hard to believe that December is upon us! The 3rd graders have worked hard in all areas and have moved with ease into the 2nd quarter of school. At the end of October, we enjoyed our trip to Common Ground Farm. While we were there we visited with the animals in the barn, made pickled carrots with Chef Katie, and took a walk to the crops to harvest carrots for our recipes. We had a lot of fun working together with both classes on a candy pumpkin STEM challenge. Students worked together to create the tallest structure using candy pumpkins and toothpicks. In ELA, we are working on our final writing piece about how the texts we read have taught us to appreciate the value of reading and learning. In Science, we are currently working on writing our animal reports, students have chosen an animal of their choice to study in depth. In Social Studies, we will be touching on holidays around the world as we head into the holiday season. In Math, we are continuing to work on multi-step word problems and telling time. 3rd grade wishes everyone had a happy and healthy Holiday Season!

Can you believe we are already in the second quarter? Our fourth graders are finding out how important it is to memorize their multiplication facts! That will help tremendously as we start double digit by double digit multiplication! We can't wait to start our study of animals! We will learn their basic needs, and all the amazing adaptations they have to survive. We are closing up on our European explorers of what is now New York, and that is going to lead us into our study of Colonial Times. Band lessons are going great! We are so lucky to be playing instruments in fourth grade! We hope everyone has a fantastic holiday season!

The fifth graders are really enjoying their work with Esperanza Rising. They are excited to read and have thoughtful conversations around the book with their classmates. They are also intrigued to learn about new cultures and civilizations in Social Studies in the next few weeks. Enjoy the holiday season!!

## IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 4	Fall Make-Up Picture Day
Dec 11	PTSO meeting @ 7PM
Dec 12-14	Holiday Shop
Dec 14	Family Fun Night 6-8 PM
Dec 24 - Jan 1	Winter Break
Jan 2, 2019	School re-opens

### Here is what is happening in MAPS Grades K-1

We are looking forward to our craft fair at BHS, where we will make holiday crafts for our families with the other MAPS and middle and high school ADL classes. We continue to study the seasons and weather, two and three dimensional shapes, work with numbers 1-10, work on letter and letter sound recognition, reading, and writing letters, numbers and words.

### Here is what is happening in MAPS Grades 1-3

We have had an exciting November in our class! We enjoyed having a Thanksgiving Feast with our friends in the other MAPS classes, overall our favorite part seemed to be dessert. We also enjoyed getting to make stress balls with Ms. Greenspan out of balloons. Visiting the high school to see The Wizard of Oz was a great way to end the month! In December we are looking forward to partnering with the other MAPS classes and the middle school and high school ADL classes for a fun craft fair!

### Here is what is happening in MAPS Grades 4-6

This month MAPS 3-5 will be learning about December Holidays from around the world, Narrative Writing, and single-step word problems. We are also be studying the different branches of the United States Government. We are excited to collaborate with all of the MAPS and ADL classes for our craft fair at Beacon High School. Happy December!!

The Learning Differences Parent Group (formerly the IEP/504 Parent Support Group) will be meeting at Beacon High, October 18, from 7-830 pm, room C138. Please come if you have any questions regarding your child's IEP or 504. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend and if childcare is needed it can be arranged through the National Honor Society.

## HEALTH SERVICES MESSAGE

**ILLNESS**—Students are coming to school not feeling well and complaining of symptoms of illness after they arrive at school. Once these students board a school bus and/or arrive to their classrooms, they may have already contributed to the spread of contagious infections or disease.

Students should not be sent to school with instructions to “go to the school nurse and see what is wrong.” The function of school health services is not to diagnose or treat the sick child. We may only administer First Aid/Emergency care.

We ask that the parents not send students to school with any of the following symptoms:

**ELEVATED TEMPERATURE:** A student should not be sent to school until his/her temperature has been normal for 24 hours.

**NAUSEA OR VOMITING:** If a student has vomited during the evening, night or prior to coming to school, he/she should not be sent to school.

**OTHER SYMPTOMS:** Excessive cough, complaint of sore throat accompanied by headache, muscular aches or pain are also symptoms of illness.

The student who is not feeling well cannot benefit from instruction and in addition he/she may cause a spread of infections. Also, once a child returns to school from an illness, he/she should be ready to participate in all school activities, such as physical education, outside recess, etc. The only exceptions are current medical exemptions that we have on active file. Generally, a note from a parent requesting that a child not participate in regular school activities is not acceptable.

**CAST AND/OR CRUTCHES**—Before a student returns to school wearing a cast or using crutches, the parent should obtain a note from the physician stating the diagnosis and also, a statement that they may attend school and if there are any physical restrictions. Parents should contact the Health Office prior to the day the student will return to discuss any adjustment necessary to the student's program.

Please be aware that some of our students here at JV Forrestal suffer with **severe** and **sometimes fatal food allergies**. We are asking that if parents want to distribute goodie bags to the children, **no candy or home baked foods be in them**. We are also asking that any food brought into school be **cleared through the classroom teacher**.

Heather DelBianco RN

JV Forrestal School Nurse



### LIBRARY NEWS:

All students k-5 will be participating in Coding activities this month as we participate in the "Hour of Code." Visit [www.code.org](http://www.code.org) to learn more.





## JANUARY

1/1 - New Year's Day - No School

1-21 - Martin Luther Kind Day - No School

1/2 - School re-opens

1/8 - PTSO meeting @ 4 PM

The following are a few important reminders:

- **Keep the main office updated with any address/phone changes that may occur throughout the school year. If there is a change from your child's normal routine for dismissal a note must be sent to your child's teacher. Call the school only if an emergency arises before 2:00pm. Any calls received after 2:00pm cannot be honored due to the safety of your child and his/her normal dismissal procedure will be followed.**
- **It is very IMPORTANT that each child arrives on time every day especially if they are going to eat breakfast in school. Breakfast will only be served between 8:30 A.M. and 8:45 A.M. Please instill in your child an awareness of the importance of being in school and on time each and every day. Please note, no student will be allowed to enter until 8:30am.**
- **Arrival:**
  - Only bus students will be permitted to enter into through the main entrance. Parents in need of assistance must have ID, sign in, and enter in through the main entrance only. All walkers in K – Second Grade will enter in through the Kindergarten Entrance.**
  - All walkers in grades 3-5 will enter in through the Valet Entrance.**
  - When using the valet service, please remember to have your child exit the vehicle from the passenger's side only.**
- **Dismissal:**
  - Only bus students will be permitted to exit through the main entrance. Parents in need of assistance must have ID, sign in, and exit through the main entrance only.**
  - All walkers in K – Second Grade exit through the Kindergarten Entrance.**
  - All walkers in grades 3-5 will exit through the Valet Entrance \*\* Including Ms. Gall's class.**

Thank you to all that are making our new arrival and dismissal procedures safer for our students and each other.

### NEWS FROM JVF PTSO

The PTSO has received a special request from the Nurse's Office for **boys pants, jackets (size small and medium only,) and shoes in all sizes.** Please send in those items with your child in a bag label Nurse's Office, or drop off at school in the office.

JVF has also launched a school wide **COAT DRIVE.** Coats, rain jackets, snow pants, boots, mittens, gloves, hats and socks (washed and in gently used condition) are needed. We currently have an **urgent need specifically for warm coats (boys and girls) sizes 6-7 and 8-10 and boots (unisex) sizes T 11 - Kids 5.** Donations can be dropped off in the main lobby Coat Drive box.

**JVF FOOD PANTRY** The PTSO is accepting donations for our school food pantry. Donations of canned fruits and vegetable, rice, lentils, boxes of cereal, granola, pasta, peanut butter, paper products, personal hygiene items, baby care diapers and wipes, or household supplies are accepted. No glass please. There is a wooden collection bin located just inside the main entrance of the building. Thank you in advance for any donations.

**JVF Spirit Wear Fundraiser** was a success! If you ordered spirit wear, items are ready for pickup! And thank you to everyone who participated in this fundraiser.

**Gertrude Hawk Chocolate** is coming! Notices will be sent home. Thank you for your support.

**DEC 11 - PTSO Meeting @ 7PM** in the library at JVF

**DEC 12-14th - JVF Holiday Shop.** Send money in to school in an envelope with your child so they can shop with their class for holiday gifts. More info coming home in folders soon.

**DEC 14 6-8pm - Join us for Winter Celebration Family Fun Night!** FREE admission and open to all JVF families. We will have the Imagination Playground blocks in the gym to play with, an ornament-making station led by talented and crafty parents, a bake sale featuring a few of JVF's best bakers, 2 raffles with cool stuff up for grabs and of course hot cocoa! The JVF Holiday Shop will also be open for your Holiday shopping needs. We hope to see you there!

