

JV FORRESTAL SUPER STARS NEWSLETTER



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Greetings from the music room! Happy New Year! We are back in the swing of things in the music room. Grades Kindergarten, first and second are focused on singing, moving and playing rhythmic instruments. Third grade is becoming familiar with reading the notes on the music staff. The fourth and fifth grades are playing the recorder.



The Fifth Grade Band Students did a fantastic job in their first concert. I would like to thank the students for all of their hard work and dedication. I would also like to thank the families of these students for all of their help reminding the children to practice and to bring their instruments to school on the correct days. I really appreciate all of your support.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear JVF Family,

Happy New Year JVF Falcon community! This month we enter the New Year with a commitment to Wellness. With our 4 day cycle our students have had more opportunity in Physical Education class and have also spent many P.E. classes outdoors. Additionally, as a school we've talked about social emotional wellness and the power of being kind to one another. Our focus on wellness, as we enter the New Year, will kickoff with the Kids Heart Challenge (formerly known as JumpRope for heart) and will focus not only on heart health, but will also incorporate education about nutrition and physical and emotional well-being. There will be more information sent home and your support and encouragement on wellness is appreciated!

Have a great kickoff to 2019,

"E_ducate the minds and E_mbrace the hearts of E_very student in E_very classroom, E_veryday!"

In Physical Education,

Its boot season! Please remind your students to wear (or bring) their sneakers for PE. Students of the Month from December were: Eliana Herrera, Anika Campbell-Huston, Desmond Barchetto, Marina Winters



PLEASE REMEMBER SNEAKERS FOR PE DAYS!



ART

JVF's art department will be starting the New Year off with the annual elementary art show being held at the Howland Library in mid-January. All of Beacon's elementary schools will be displaying select art pieces at the show. More information will go out once the date is set.



Grade Level News

Kindergarten is excited to travel into the depths of the ocean. We will be spending our cold winter month at the beach. Our students will research a very special ocean animal and present at our science expo. Next month, we will head to the Norwalk aquarium. The New Year will be wet and wild!

First Grade spent December discovering how each other's family celebrates for the holidays. We also learned how other countries celebrate. In reading we are learning how to read and recognize non-fiction books and know the purpose for the different text features found in non-fiction. In writing we are using our non-fiction books to research and collect facts to write our first of many All About books. In science we are learning how animals survive in winter and next we will learn about animal habitats and groups.

In January, second grade will be studying immigration in ELA. We will think about what it is like for someone to be new to our country. We will continue our study of matter. There will be a project coming home for kids to work on. We will be studying United States symbols in Social Studies. This goes well with our immigration unit. Students will even interpret the Emma Lazarus poem on The Statue of Liberty. We will continue with module 4 in math... moving to subtraction with regrouping. Second Grade will be busy, as always!

Happy New Year to all of our JVF families!! We hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and some much needed time off. As we begin the new year, third grade will focus back on multiplication. We will continue to study our facts while relating them to the properties of multiplication. In ELA, we are working through Module 2 which is a study of *freaky frogs*. The culminating project will be to research a freaky frog of their choice, write a first person narrative about the frog and a detailed picture to go with it. These came out amazing last year and we can't wait to see the finished products this year :) In third grade, the students continue to work extremely hard as they are learning and growing each day!

Happy New Year! We have finished our study of European explorers and we are ready to study Colonial Times. We are plugging along with long division. We will be moving into factors and multiples very soon. We are continuing our study of animals. Adaptations are fascinating! We are ready to start the new year working hard!

Operation Get Ready for Middle School is underway in the 5th grade! We are excited to learn about the earth in science. We have fun experiments and explorations planned. We will also be working on non-fiction reading as we read at the Rainforest. January is going to be exciting!!

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 1	Winter Break
Jan 2	School re-opens
Jan 8	PTSO meeting @ 4PM
Jan	Family Fun Night 6-8 PM
Jan 21	Martin Luther King Day - No School
Jan 2, 2019	School re-opens

Here is what is happening in MAPS Grades K-1

We will begin studying the five senses. We will continue working with numbers 1-10, working on letter and letter sound recognition, reading, and writing letters, numbers and words. We enjoyed learning about different holidays and making holiday crafts. Looking forward to a healthy and happy 2019!!!

Here is what is happening in MAPS Grades 1-3

We had a great time going to the high school last month and working with other classes to make fun art projects to share with our family and friends for the holidays. This month we are sad to see Ms. Jordan leave us, but are happy to welcome Ms. Robin into our classroom family! Happy New Year!

Here is what is happening in MAPS Grades 4-6

This month we will begin our immigration unit. We will continue to build on our place value knowledge and narrative writing skills. We are looking forward to an exciting January!

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:

This month in the JVF Library Media Center, we will be checking in on all student borrow records and focusing on increasing circulation. We will also continue our work with coding that was started before Winter Break.





FEBRUARY

2/13- PTSO meeting @ 7 PM

2/15 - 2/18 President's Day - No School

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

Happy New Year! **A sincere thank you to all parent volunteers.** We have accomplished a lot in less than 4 months. Our meeting attendance has been great and parent involvement has been amazing. Thanks to all who have helped at Family Fun Nights, baking for a bake sale, combing hair on picture day, slinging books at the book fair, talking kids into trying new things at the Taste Tests and on and on. Without you, these cool things would not happen and it's awesome to work together to make our school a FUN place of learning. Let's continue the trend into 2019!

The PTSO voted to donate \$90 in Scholastic Dollars to the building **Equity Committee**. Books will be selected by building committee members to reflect the mission.

Our school **coat drive** was a huge success! Thank you to all who donated winter weather wear and keeping all JVF students warm. At this time, we are not accepting donations. Extra special thanks to Anna Brady and Margaux Lange for organizing and laundering the donations. Good work all!

Our **Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser** was also awesome. We made over \$1500 for our school. Thank you to all who helped and sold those tasty chocolates.

To kick off **JVF's Literacy Committee** activities, our school is lucky enough to have booked Deb Lucke (graphic novelist) to work with with 4th and 5th graders in their classrooms this year! Special thanks to Kristen Holt-Browning for her passion with all things reading and getting this off the ground. If you would like to be part of the Literacy Committee or have an idea, please email jvfptso@gmail.com

Mark your calendars: **Fitness Family Fun Night** will be January 18, 6-8PM in the gym. More details to follow. Stay tuned.

The next **PTSO meeting** is Tuesday, January 8th at 4pm in the JVF Library. Childcare will be provided in the Cafeteria.

If you want to get involved or be added to the PTSO newsletter email list, please email jvfptso@gmail.com

