

# JV FORRESTAL SUPER STARS NEWSLETTER



It's Spring ...  
Bee Happy!



Greetings from the Music room! March is "Music In Our School's Month". This is a national celebration to acknowledge and bring awareness to the great things that are happening in American school's public school music programs. Our concerts are on March 5th and 7th. Please come out and see the wonderful performing groups in Beacon! We are also celebrating Allyia Best, who will represent Sargent School so finely at the Dutchess County Music Educators Association Elementary All-County Music Festival. We are proud of her personal and musical achievements.



The fifth grade band will be performing with the Glenham elementary school 5th grade band in the Music in our schools concert on March 5th. It is at 7pm in the Beacon High School Theater. Fourth grade band was been working hard to begin playing as a large group. They are very excited to perform in May.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear JVF Family,

Spring will be here, soon come - Happy March JVF Community! As we enter this month our school PTSO is gearing up to launch a trio of playground fundraisers. Look out for the flyer that will come home with students with more information! This month we will hold our second assembly focusing on Kindness through storytelling. Students and staff in our school community will share their stories of how they have experienced and/or witnessed kindness acts of and empathy. We will also take the time to celebrate how wonderful how school did with the Kids Heart Challenge fundraiser - thank you all for helping us to surpass our goal!

Please note, there is no school for students on Friday March 8th.

Warmly,  
Ms. Sessoms

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

## In Physical Education,

In the month of March, students in grades 3 - 5 will be playing "beachball volleyball" in PE classes. We continue to practice fitness skills for fitness testing in May. Grades K - 2 are striking balloons with hands pool noodles and paddles, and playing simple games involving small groups/teams. VF students raised \$3650 in contributions to the American Heart Association. Reward prizes are expected to be delivered in March.



**PLEASE REMEMBER  
SNEAKERS FOR PE  
DAYS!**



## ART

Student artwork from Beacon City Schools and surrounding school districts will be on display at the Garrison Art Center from March 2-10 with a reception this Saturday from 3-5pm. Come view the art of surrealism and see JVF student work! For more information contact Garrison Art Center at [education@garrisoncenter.org](mailto:education@garrisoncenter.org) (845)424-3960.



# Grade Level News

Kindergarten will be "lifting off" into Space by mid-March. We will explore a planet a day! Stand by while we write another grant, so that we can visit the SHARP Reservation Planetarium! It's sure to be out of this world!

What a FAST and FABULOUS February First Grade had! We had so much to celebrate and learn about. In Science we made predictions for more winter or early spring and were thrilled to hear that the Groundhog gave a prediction of an early spring! In Writing we made Valentine's for a special someone in our lives and we also paid homage to Black History Month writing about Garrett Morgan, inventor of the traffic light and Ruby Bridges, a first grader who became the face of school integration. In Math we celebrated the 100th Day of School with lots of activities. And lastly, in Social Studies we learned about Chinese New Year and the Year of the Pig. So much learning and fun!

Second grade is excited to begin telling time and counting money this month. We will be learning about amazing women and their accomplishments. We will be talking about what it means to persist in something no matter how difficult it may be. We will be studying wild weather in science and continue with map skills in social studies. Second grade will also begin working with an artist with DIA.

We are half way through the third quarter and can't believe how quickly the school year is flying!! Students in third grade have been working super hard in math. We have just completed our unit on area and looking forward to studying fractions. We also finished our nonfiction study on frogs. Our first person narratives came out amazing and they were truly so fun to read! We now have moved on to our study of wolves. Students will practice inferring in order to determine who is the wolf in fiction. Finally, we have eagerly started our study of countries and cultures around the world in order to prepare for the Calico Ball. Our first stop was China and we are headed to many other countries in the next few weeks! : )

Happy March from fourth grade! We can't believe we are already in the third quarter. Math has been fun as we are working on geometry. It has been exciting using a protractor to measure and create angles. We were excited to do our research on an African-American pioneer. The hallways look great with everybody's posters! Fourth grade has started Green Teen with Helanna and we are looking forward to researching honeybees and what is happening to them and how important they are. Be on the lookout for our class PSA. We will be filming them at the end of the month. Have a great month!

Fifth grade is studying rainforests as we read about scientist, Meg Lowman. We are also studying fractions.

## IMPORTANT DATES

March 4-8	National Breakfast Week
March 4 and 6	Free Breakfast for our students
March 5, 12, 19 & 26	ELA - IRP - Grades 3-5
March 7, 14, 21 & 28	MATH - IRP - Grades 3-5
March 11	Open House 6-7:30 PM
March 11 to 15	Book Fair
March 12	PTSO meeting @ 4PM

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

We continue to identify our letter of the week with items from our mystery letter box and then we do many activities centered around that letter. We are finishing learning about penguins and polar bears. Stop by and see the children's reports during open house! We will be making a class book about winter and finishing up our winter activities. Then we look forward to recognizing signs of spring and beginning to learn about plants. We continue to work with numbers 1-10, on letter and letter sound recognition, sight words, reading and writing letters, numbers and words.

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

We had a great month of February in our class. We are excited to start the month of March with learning new things. This month we will be learning about the start of spring and changing seasons. In math, we will continue to work on addition and subtraction while we begin to explore measurement in various ways. Through reading and writing, we will also be exploring biographies and autobiographies. We cannot wait for the weather to warm up so we can take our learning outside as well!

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

This month MAPS 3-5 will continue to learn about individuals in American History that have fought for a cause. We will build on our word problem skills in math. The students will create opinion writing pieces. We are looking forward to Spring and warmer weather!

The Learning Differences Parent Group (formerly the IEP/504 Parent Support Group) will be meeting at Beacon High, October 18, from 7-8:30 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**. **gives. We them. We**



Melissa Lahey, RN

JV Forrestal School Nurse

## LIBRARY NEWS:

I am Allison Ryley and I will be JVF's Library Media Specialist while Ms. Coleman is on Maternity Leave. We are kicking off March by celebrating Read Across America Day with a Dr. Seuss themed Maker Space! This month, grades K-2 will be reading and learning about Caldecott book winners. Grades 3-5 will be learning about the importance of digital citizenship and how to stay safe online.





April

4/4 - Spring Picture Day

4/11 - Kinder Cap and Gown Bell Picture

4/9 - PTO meeting @ 4 PM in the Library

4/15 - 4/22 - Spring Break

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 PTO

**MARCH JVF PTO MEETING** is 3/12 at 4pm in the JVF Library. Childcare will be provided. Highlights include Dr. Landahl's discussion on strategic planning, updates on spring fundraising efforts, and committee updates. Hope to see you there!

**SPRING BOOK FAIR** is March 11-15! The JVF PTO is looking for volunteers to work the Book Fair during school hours and in the evening during Open House on March 11th, 6-7:30pm. Help us keep the Book Fair open as much as possible for our school community to browse and shop. It's always so much fun to talk about books with all of the students! Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4ba8ac28a6f85-volunteer>

**PROJECT PLAYGROUND** The JVF PTO will launch Project Playground in March! Look for a trio of spring fundraisers to reach our goal of adding new equipment to the upper playground. We are more than halfway to our fundraising goal and with a little help from our entire school community we hope to have 2 new playground play structures installed by the end of this school year!

**PENNY WARS** is coming! Grades will compete to raise money through loose change collected in each classroom. There will be prizes! All funds raised benefit Project Playground!

**GERTRUDE HAWK CHOCOLATES FUNDRAISER** is March 4-15! Look for paper order forms backpacked home soon for this favorite JVF fundraiser—just in time for spring holiday treats. Information on making your child's online account will be included so you can email family far and wide. All funds raised benefit Project Playground!

**SAVE THE DATE FOR BINGO AT THE BREWERY!** The spring evening fundraiser will be held on Thursday, May 2nd. It will be a fun grown-ups only Bingo Night at Hudson Valley Brewery. Stay tuned for more! All funds raised benefit Project Playground!

The April PTO meeting will be Tuesday, April 9th at 7pm in the JVF Library.

Please email JVF PTO with any questions at [jvfpto@gmail.com](mailto:jvfpto@gmail.com). Thank you!

