

Principal's Corner

Hello and welcome to December!

When you receive this December Jagwire, we will have just completed our two-week gratitude campaign. In our Look for the Good Campaign, students and staff showed gratitude, wrote about what we were thankful for, and passed out "You Matter" cards to each other whenever we saw someone being an "awesome human." Our staff began feeling the difference in our students within the first week. Showing gratitude leads to more kindness and more connectedness, and we are definitely seeing those rewards in our building.

Before we let that gratitude go, I want to take a moment to thank you for all that you do for Jefferson Elementary. Parents and guardians and grandparents make an enormous impact on our building every day. From regular volunteers in the classroom, to the crew of parents who run special events like the Book Fair and Picture Day, every minute you spend in service of our students and teachers is recognized, and we are incredibly grateful. Your donations to our classrooms and to JPAT also go a long way in helping us to provide a rich and well-rounded experience for our Jaguars. Thank you for your volunteerism, and thank you for your monetary donations. We appreciate our Jaguar families!

This month our students will be focusing their attention on generosity. It is by design that our November focus is gratitude and December is generosity. When you spend a month being thankful for the wonderful things in your life, your next move tends to be giving to others as a way of sharing all that you have. Our staff will spend the few weeks we have before winter break modeling generous behavior and providing opportunities for our students to show their own generosity. It is important for our students to understand that being generous does not always mean spending money, and that everyone has something they can give to improve the lives of others.

"When you have more than you need, build a longer table, not a higher fence." - Anonymous

If you are looking for an opportunity to talk about generosity with your children and take some action, our Helping Hands Club has organized its annual Toy Drive for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates www.casa-vfc.org/). For three years now, this toy drive has been hugely successful and is a great way to support children during the holidays who are in the midst of very difficult circumstances. CASA has come to rely on our generous donations each year to make the holidays a little brighter for the children they serve. Please consider dropping off a new or gently used toy at school before December 14.

Be generous and enjoy your December.

Go Jaguars!

Melissa

Message from the JPAT President

This is the time of year when we take a pause to both celebrate and appreciate the good things in our lives: loving friends and family and the many people and places that together form the fabric of our lives.

As I reflect on the many good things in my life, one of the most important of these is Jefferson Elementary. At school, my kids see friends and meet people from a wide variety of backgrounds. There, they learn to connect with others and also to see the world through a bigger lens than I could ever provide them on my own.

At Jefferson, we are fortunate to have many opportunities available to help our children learn about themselves and the world. Through activities like extracurricular clubs, guest speakers and assemblies, field trips, band, and a full-fledged fifth grade musical, Jefferson kids have a view of what is possible in their lives beyond the regular curriculum. It's largely because of the generosity of Jefferson families that our students have these special opportunities.

As the end of 2018 quickly approaches, so does our opportunity to meet our goal for JPAT's annual Direct Donation Drive. This year, our goal is \$10,000. We still have about \$4,000 to go between now and the end of the year to meet that goal. Our capable and dedicated DDD chairs, Gabi Snyder and Laura Power, figured out that if every Jefferson family donates just \$20, we would hit our fundraising target! Remember, JPAT spends about \$115 per child at Jefferson each year. If your family could afford this amount – or more – please consider donating today. Funds raised through the DDD are 100% tax deductible and ensure that Jefferson can continue offering the same variety and depth of programming for our kids in years to come. All funds raised through JPAT this year will go to fund programs at Jefferson during the 2019-2020 school year.

The next JPAT meeting is January 8th at 6:30pm in the Jefferson Library. Join us; free childcare is provided and all are welcome!

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and healthy and happy New Year.

Camille Nelson
JPAT President

Mark Your Calendar

December

- 5 WB2S Day
- 7 2-Hour Early Release 12:40pm
- 11 Jefferson Java, 5:45pm, Library
- 11 JPAT Meeting, 6:30 pm, Library
- 11 Dine Out—Block 15 Tap Room (S. Corvallis)
- 21 NO SCHOOL (possible weather make-up day)
- 24-Jan 4—Winter Break, NO SCHOOL

January

- 1-4 NO SCHOOL (Winter Break)
- 8 Jefferson Java, 5:45pm, Library
- 8 JPAT Meeting, 6:30pm, Library
- 9 WB2S Day
- 21 NO SCHOOL
- 29 Dine Out - Zoup
- 31 NO SCHOOL (possible weather make-up day)

JPAT BOARD

PRESIDENT: CAMILLE NELSON
VICE PRESIDENT: REBECCA BADGER
SECRETARY: JILL STEIN
TREASURER: POLLY WEGNER

Direct Donation Drive Update

Thanks to all who've already donated to the DDD. As of November 29th, we've raised just over **\$6,000**, 60% of what's needed to reach our goal of \$10,000. **The DDD ends on December 31st.**

Funds raised through JPAT support Jefferson clubs, field trips, music, art, OBOB, and so much more.

To make a **credit card** contribution, visit the Jefferson website at <https://jefferson.csd509j.net>. Select FUNDRAISERS from the JPAT drop-down menu and then click "Donate" to give securely through PayPal.

Check donations should be made out to "JPAT" and placed in the secure white mailbox just inside the school doors.

Question: *Who decides how the money donated to the DDD is spent?*

Answer: Our PTA (JPAT). In May, JPAT will vote on how to spend the money we are raising this year.

Question: *How can I help make spending decisions?*

Answer: Attend a JPAT meeting and bring your \$10 JPAT membership fee to become a voting member.

Thank you, Jaguars!

Laura Power and Gabi Snyder
DDD co-chairs

A Message from the Wellness Committee

Participate in a School Club!

Did you know that Jefferson has many clubs to offer? Band, choir, Jaguar Newspaper, Jaguar TV, Jaguar Student Leaders, Illustration and Helping Hands ... and more to be coming this winter and spring!

Being part of a club or a group has many health benefits. Create lasting friendships, learn something new, and be a part of something outside of your normal circle. Some other known health benefits of being a part of a group have shown to help you live longer, protect against heart disease, decrease risk of getting a cold, alleviate depression, and it can be a motivator to be healthier!

If you have an idea for a club, contact Sev Williams at severnwilliams@gmail.com.

Thanks!

The Wellness Committee

Dine Out **Dec. 11th, Block 15 Tap Room**

The December Dine Out is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec 11th at the Block 15 Tap Room in South Corvallis. The tap room is located at 3415 SW Deschutes St., and the hours are 3-9 pm. Dine in or out and support JPAT while doing so!



A big thank you to all the participants in November Walk/Bike to School Day! We had a lot of fun and had another great turnout. We saw great participation with over half the school walking or biking to school. Great job Jefferson!

Congratulations to the students and parents who participate and help to make this a fun and active day at Jefferson Elementary. We would also like to give a big thanks to our musicians, whose songs always brighten up the morning. Look for us the first Wednesday of each month.

Jesse Wegner, Karen DeWolfe & Jeff Ginalias
WB2S Co-Chairs

Library News

Book Fair

Our Fall Scholastic Book Fair was yet again a huge success! Many thanks go out to our Book Fair Chair, Melanie Eigel, and the 29 parent volunteers who set up, ran the cash registers, organized the shelves, helped kids find books, and cleaned it all up at the end of the week! Our sales reached nearly \$6,000, and a percentage of this will be returned to us as Scholastic Dollars which will be used to purchase books and materials for ALL of our Jefferson students and staff to access!

OBOB

3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students in OBOB are continuing to meet weekly with me in the library in preparation for February's School Battles. We have twice as many students participating in OBOB this year as last year, and we need twice as many parent volunteers to make this successful. If you are available to help at lunch recess on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays please contact the library ASAP!

Library Reminders

Library books are due back every week for K-2nd and every two weeks for 3-5th grade students. With rain and winter upon us, please help your kids find a safe and dry place for their library books at home. Having a set place for library books also helps ensure that books come back to school on time so children can continuously check out books with their classmates on their library days. If you can't remember what books your kids have checked out, just email me! I can send you a picture of the cover of the missing book. I know this has helped me out at my own house, and I'm happy to help you track down those valuable library books!

Happy Holidays,

Mrs. Melvin
kathryn.melvin@corvallis.k12.or.us



Mr. Yeh's Music Corner

Hi Jefferson Community,

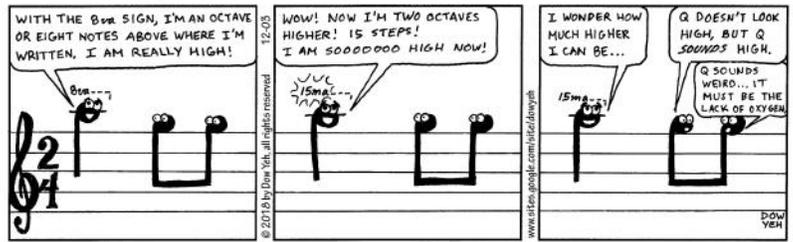
Happy December! I would like to reintroduce my student teacher, Krystina SanGiovanni, who will be doing full-time student teaching all this winter. She brings great energy and enthusiasm to her teaching and some experience with working with students with disabilities. Ask your student about "Ms. S"!

What we're doing in music class:

- 5th grade just started piano. Those with piano experience will be helpers in class and do independent study.
- 3rd and 4th grade will be starting recorders at the start of the new year. Look out for information on that soon. The school provides recorders for use at school.
- 1st and 2nd grade have been exploring solfege; you can ask 1st about the syllables "sol" and "mi" (like the word "me") and 2nd about "sol", "mi" and "la".
- Kindergarten has been exploring high and low pitches in music and has been doing some excellent pitch matching!

Cheers,
Mr. Yeh

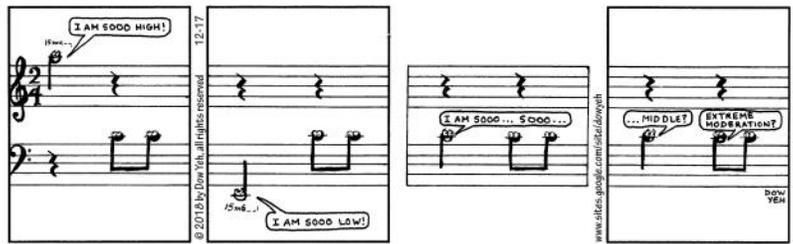
HIGH NOTES by Dow Yeh



HIGH NOTES by Dow Yeh



HIGH NOTES by Dow Yeh



Lost & Found

Please stop in and claim your coats, sweatshirts, sweaters, etc.

Remaining items will be donated December 21st at 3:00 PM.

The Corvallis School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, citizenship, color, disability, gender expression, gender identity, national origin, parental or marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in its programs and activities, and provides equal access to designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding discrimination: Jennifer Duvall, Human Resources Director, jennifer.duvall@corvallis.k12.or.us 541-757-5840 | 1555 SW 35th Street, Corvallis, OR 97333