



Principal's Corner

"Ah kindness. What a simple way to tell another struggling soul that there is love to be found in this world."

Hello Jefferson families and welcome to October and a month of celebrating kindness. This is a great month to focus on being kind to others and to ourselves. Teachers understand that, as students really start to dig into their academics, they may be experiencing more frustration and anxiety about expectations in the classroom. As a staff, we realize that students express frustration in many ways, including challenging behavior. We like to remind ourselves that "all behavior is communication," and with that in mind, staff respond to challenging behavior in the classroom and on the playground with a re-statement of expectations and, most importantly, kindness.

What is the most impressive however, is seeing our students responding to each other with kindness. In these first few weeks, I have witnessed Jaguars walking students in from recess who need a Band-Aid or ice. I have seen students reading to each other and asking others to be part of a classroom activity. Students are also using the Buddy Bench that was donated to us by the Paup Family in honor of their daughter, Macey Elizabeth, who believed in the power of kindness. And I have watched as students greet each other during Morning Meetings with genuine concern and friendship. Your children are amazing.

"You will never speak to anyone more than you speak to yourself in your head, be kind to yourself."

A month of kindness is also a good time to remember that we must also be kind to ourselves. I am asking our staff to take the time to do those things that renew their spirit, and that is not a bad idea for parents as well. A quiet moment...a small treat...or a few chapters of a book will all go a long way toward being kind to yourself. Modeling this behavior for our children is also invaluable.

Enjoy October and spread some kindness this month.

Go Jaguars!

Melissa

Message from the JPAT President

The year got off to a great start with the Welcome Coffee hosted by JPAT volunteers on the first day of school. Many thanks to **Amy Mayfield** and **Jessica DuPont** for helping everyone to feel welcome.

We had a fantastic Back-to-School potluck complete with informational tables from a variety of community organizations. A good time was had by all! Huge thanks to **Shari Kellems** for stepping up and volunteering so this beloved tradition continues! Shari did an amazing job of organizing the event (and making snow cones!) and making sure that this event was both fun and informative for the entire Jefferson community.

The Fall Direct Donation Drive also kicked off at the potluck. A big thanks to **Gabi Snyder** and **Laura Power** for running the DDD again this year. We had a great start, raising \$2,400 of our \$10,000 fall goal! The DDD is one of JPAT's main fundraisers each year. It was started by Jefferson parents who realized that they could raise money more effectively – and efficiently – through a donation drive than they would by having their kids sell wrapping paper or chocolates. The DDD only runs in the fall and it set to wrap up December 31st, so please give what you can. Every little bit helps!

JPAT's fundraising goal for the year is just under \$40,000. To keep all the fantastic programs and events going, we need your contributions. Last year's donations fell short of our budget. We were able to cover the shortfall with surplus from a previous year but that is no longer available. If we don't fundraise our budgeted amount we will have to make cuts to JPAT activities and events. JPAT money funds the after-school clubs, the 4th and 5th grade band, the 5th grade musical, field trips, the garden, assemblies and more as well as community events like math night and the carnival. To learn more about JPAT's annual fundraisers, and to make an online donation to the DDD, check out JPAT's fundraising page on the Jefferson website.

In addition to money, we need your time! (I know, I am always asking you for something!) JPAT needs several volunteers this year for big events and fundraisers. **Colin Cigarran**, **Freddie Woekel**, and **Polly Wegner** have chaired the carnival for the past several years. Both Freddie and Colin will be moving on to middle school fun next year so we need some folks to step up and help out. This year you can assist and shadow the current chairs so that next year you can hit the ground running with Polly. **Rachel Harrington** has agreed to take over math night but she could use some volunteers to assist her. If you are interested in carnival or math night please let Volunteer Coordinator Amy Mayfield (amykmayfield@gmail.com) or myself know! Many hands make light work and many hands are needed to make all of the JPAT fun work!

The first JPAT meeting of the year will be on October 9th at 6:30 pm in the Jefferson library. Meetings are open to everyone and are a great way to meet other families and stay in the know about upcoming events at Jefferson and JPAT. It's a fun and casual group and I usually bring chocolate. I hope to see you there!

Go Jaguars!

Camille Nelson
JPAT President

Mark Your Calendar

October

- 5 2-Hour Early Release, 12:40 pm
- 9 Jefferson Java, 5:45 pm, Library
- 9 JPAT Meeting, 6:30 pm, Library
- 10 WB2S Day
- 29-30 Dine Out—Pastini
- 31 NO SCHOOL (Grading/Conferences)

November

- 1-2 NO SCHOOL (Grading/Conferences)
- 5-9 Fall Scholastic Book Fair
- 7 WB2S Day
- 12 NO SCHOOL
- 13 Jefferson Java, 5:45 pm, Library
- 13 JPAT Meeting, 6:30 pm, Library
- 14 Dine Out—Papa's Pizza
- 21-23 NO SCHOOL

JPAT BOARD

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

Direct Donation Drive

The Direct Donation Drive is off to a STRONG start!

Jaguars ROAR! Thank you for your generous kick off to the **Direct Donation Drive (DDD)**! As of September 28th, we have reached over \$2,400 towards our fall goal of \$10,000. Let's keep the momentum going!

What makes this fundraiser different than most school fundraisers?

Giving is easy.

No door-to-door candy sales. No awkward calls to friends and relatives hawking magazine subscriptions. You don't even have to buy wrapping paper.

- Through the DDD, you give to JPAT directly. Jefferson's Parents and Teachers (JPAT) helps the school provide educational enhancements like JAG Band, the 5th grade musical, Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB), and over 16 clubs.
- No amount is too little, and all contributions are tax deductible.
- 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.
- Checks can be made out to JPAT (with "DDD" in the subject line) and placed in the secure white mailbox just inside the school doors.

Thanks, Jaguars! We can't do it without you!

*Laura Power and Gabi Snyder
DDD co-chairs*

Box Tops

We are quickly approaching our 1st Box Tops for Education collection of the school year – Friday, October 19th! Please look through your pantry, clip your Box Tops and have your child drop them in their red classroom collection box. As a wonderful incentive, the classroom that collects the most Box Tops will receive a popcorn party!!!!



*Sarah Bastian, Erin Wallace, and Kim Graham
Box Tops Committee*

Dine Out

Pasta-a-thon at Pastini—Two Days!

Tell everyone you know to eat at Pastini on NW 9th Street Monday-Tuesday (Oct 29-30th). Be sure to mention Jefferson Elementary School when you order lunch and dinner, and 50% of the proceeds will be donated to JPAT. Take out food counts!

Wellness Committee: Move Your Body, Clear Your Mind

Hello Jefferson families,

School is well under way and so is the Wellness Committee! This year we plan to focus on three main areas: 1) promoting exercise opportunities in and outside of school; 2) providing resources about screen time and kids, and 3) continuing to advance the Alliance for a Healthier Generation's (AHG) Healthy School Program.



The Wellness Committee has adopted the Healthy School Program, now active in over 31,000 schools. The program takes the latest research on childhood health and combines it with the most effective school policies to maximize impact. The volunteer-driven program is divided into modules, to create a workable framework that sets specific actions to help make each unique school healthier. Parent volunteers are encouraged to adopt a module and help to move it forward. Examples of modules are Wellness Policies, Nutrition Services and Physical Activity, among others. Click here to see a full listing of the modules. Please contact Vikki (info below) if you'd like to adopt a module. (PS – this is a great way to volunteer with the school and make a significant, lasting difference.)

Speaking of physical activity, in addition to promoting existing physical fitness activities for students, such as Walk and Bike to School Day, the Wellness Committee is looking to create new opportunities for kids to get exercise, both in and outside of school. Perhaps you'd like to lead a weekly bike club? Early morning yoga class? Want to teach a hip-hop dance class? Or maybe arrange a pick up soccer game after school? Please let us know if you have an idea along these lines and we'll do what we can to make it happen.

Last, screen time is an issue many families struggle with. Should kids have cell phones? How much screen time is too much? What games are okay and which ones aren't? There are so many questions out there, and while we don't have the answers, we are going to try to create a school-wide conversation on these issues, and share resources that we hope will help parents and kids. Keep an eye out for more information on screen time and please don't hesitate to contact the committee with questions.

We are truly so fortunate to have such community-wide dedication to improving the health and well-being of students at Jefferson. We hope you'll join with the Wellness Committee to see what we can create this year at Jefferson together. Please contact Sev Williams (sev@publicgoodpr.com), or Vikki Fuhrman (vikkifuhrman@gmail.com) to get involved.

Thank you!

Severn Williams and Vikki Fuhrman



Next Wednesday, October 10th will be the first Walk and Bike to School (WB2S) day for the school year! Typically this will happen on the first Wednesday of every month, except this October. This October we want to coordinate with the national WB2S day! <http://www.walkbiketoschool.org/>.

On the first Wednesday of each month (except October this year), all students who walk, bike, or roll to school will receive a participation slip as they arrive. Each student will write their name and teacher's name on the slip to be entered for random prizes. The class with the highest participation also receives a prize, which is often extra recess. It's LOTS of fun!

The main goal of this activity is to get kids moving and considering alternate ways to get to school. We know that not everyone can walk or bike. As an alternative, park the car by Cloverland Park and walk in to school with friends. Coordinate with other students and friends that live closer and walk with them. Be creative and have fun, we have seen kids get to school on all sorts of wheels.

*Jesse Wegner jesse.wegner@gmail.com
Karen DeWolfe dewolfekaren@hotmail.com
Erik Haluzak Propriis@gmail.com
WB2S Co-chairs*

WB2S Days for 2018-19:

October 10th
November 7th
December 5th
January 9th
February 6th
March 6th
April 3rd
May 1st
June 5th

Art Room News!

Jefferson artists have been busy getting to know Jojo. Jojo is Jeff the Jaguar's sister. She left in early September to travel around the world. Every time she arrives in a new country she will send us a postcard and we will learn about that country and make traditional art from there. In the hallway there is a map with her postcards if you would like to follow her adventures. Ask your artists where Jojo has gone so far and what kind of art they have made.

Our October artist of the month is Frida Kahlo.

Dinner table topics: Grades 2-5 start each class with a '2 Minute Draw'. I write a word on the board and the class takes a quiet 2 minutes to draw the definition. No words allowed. Ask your artist what the word was this week and how they visually communicated its meaning. Across from Jojo's map there is a 2 Minute Draw Hall of Fame for you to check out.

Wishing you a colorful October.

Dana Monroe

Fall Book Fair Coming Up!

Attention fellow gnomes, fairy folk, and parents at Jefferson Elementary. Mark your calendars for our Fall Scholastic Book Fair, November, 5-9, 2018. We need your help to make the book fair happen. Sign up to help set up, take down, or assist with the fair during the week. With your help we can make this the best one yet. Visit <http://signup.com/go/vhJetJw> to choose a time to help or contact Melanie Eigel at mormon_mel@yahoo.com.

Jefferson OBOB 2018-2019

Many 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders have already been asking about OBOB! Here is a little information about our program. OBOB will be introduced to the 3rd-5th grade classes next week with permission slips for participation being handed out during their library time.

Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) is a statewide reading competition aimed at encouraging reading, comprehension, and exposing kids to a variety of genres. Jefferson's program will run from October – February. OBOB is voluntary and open to all Jefferson students in grades 3 – 5 who wish to participate. Participating students are required to meet during lunch recess one day per week for practice.

The books can be read in ANY ORDER. Additionally, students can “read” the books in any format. Reading silently, listening to an audio book, reading aloud with a parent are all great ways to have students read the books. Students are not expected to read all 16 books. Because of the wide range of ages and reading levels, the number of books each child reads will vary.

Team formation will take place towards the end of October. The main focus of the Jefferson OBOB program is to have fun with book trivia. With that in mind, new teams will be formed each year in order to welcome students who are new to the program. Teams will consist of 4 or 5 members. The number of team members depends on the number of students registered in each grade level. Mrs. Melvin will work with the students to form teams.

Every family with a child participating in OBOB is encouraged to preview the book list together. One way to do this is by searching for the books on the Corvallis Public Library Website and reading the brief synopsis of the book there.

For additional OBOB practice outside of school, the Corvallis Public Library has an OBOB club that meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is Wednesday, October 10th at 3:30. <https://cbcpubliblibrary.net/obob-club/>

The success of our OBOB program depends on parent volunteers! For more questions and/or to volunteer during our OBOB practices, please contact Kathryn Melvin, Jefferson Librarian.

Kathryn Melvin, Jefferson Librarian
kathryn.melvin@corvallis.k12.or.us; 541-757-5950

3rd to 5th Grade Division Book List

- Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman
- George by Alex Gino
- Hana's Suitcase by Karen Levine
- The Hero's Guide to Saving Your Kingdom by Christopher Healy
- In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse by Joseph Marshall III
- The Infinity Year of Avalon James by Dana Middleton
- Nightbird by Alice Hoffman
- Pip Bartlett's Guide to Magical Creatures by Jackson Pearce & Maggie Stiefvater
- Real Friends by Shannon Hale
- Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson
- Ugly by Robert Hoge
- Waylon! One Awesome Thing by Sara Pennypacker
- When the Sea Turned to Silver by Grace Lin
- A Whole New Ballgame by Phil Bildner
- The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
- Wish by Barbara O'Connor

