Jack Daley

From the Desk of the Principal: We are looking forward to an exciting New Year that will bring many new challenges to each of our lives. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to set a goal to take a few minutes each day to read with your children (child). Research shows that a child that has been read to on a regular basis achieves much higher scores, not only in reading, but in all academic areas. We have great students that have a desire to do their very best, but they still need encouragement from their teachers, parents, and other important people in their lives. Success is a result of setting goals, working hard, and never giving up. I know each of our students can experience successes throughout this next year when we all work together. As students return to school, after this extended break, please be patient with them and other students as we all acclimate once again to school rules, routines, and procedures. If your student comes home and reports inappropriate behaviors by other students please report to their teachers or directly to me. We will as well as yourselves, use the crosswalks as often as possible and refrain from walking behind parked cars. We have had a few near misses and we do not want anyone hurt or injured because of a preventable mishap and address the issues as soon as possible. I wish to express my appreciation to my staff for all the hours they put into making school a place where our children want to come and learn. I also want to thank the great parents of this community for all the hours donated as volunteers to help our youngsters learn. It takes a team effort to succeed in educating our children. We are all doing a good job, but we must keep working to improve each day. If you are looking for a tax credit opportunity, please donate to JDPS. We use those tax credit funds to help promote Character Strong centered events as well as purchase new books as incentives for promoting the love of reading. These funds are not wasted. May you have a Safe, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year! Sincerely,

Mr. Lin Gifford, JDPS Principal



a focus because of all the holiday festivities, now is the time to re-establish or begin a reading routine with your child. Explore and learn about what your child loves, have a family reading time, be patient, and re-reading helps children read more quickly and accurately.

Mrs. Whitmer, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Ferrin

Breakfast/Lunch Menu on Website @thatcherud.org

## **Counselor Corner:**

Happy 2025! As we return to school, it may be challenging for students to get back into the swing of our school's routine. Students may need to push themselves to overcome these challenges. At JDPS, we have many supports for our students, including the school counselor, Ms. Skemp, and our calm room (the NEST). Our students may struggle at first; however, I know all will show respect (our character trait for January) and forge forward with courage, responsibility, honesty, gratitude, and empathy-our traits from past months. These traits continue to help us become a better human being.

We are Eaples. Watch us Soap?

L

Sarah Skemp-Our School Counselor