



**March 2023**



## THE PRIMARY SOURCE

(For all the Primary News)

Tracy Allred, Principal

Renee Layton, Secretary – Sundee Swyers, Office Aide - 348-7242

### A Note from the Principal...

This is the time of year where a large group of students need the extra help in getting ready to move up to the next grade level. Please make sure your student attends Friday reteach each week if invited by their teacher as this puts your student in a very small group setting where the help becomes way more personalized. It is sometimes necessary to talk about retention for some of our students. This is done out of a love and respect for each of our children as we want to set up all of our students for success. This is a decision that is made between the parents, teacher and principal when requested.

With the weather starting to warm up, I would like to remind each of you about our dress code. You can find this dress code in the student handbook section, found on the JDPS web page. The biggest problems are shorts that are too short (no more than 5 & 1/2 inches above the middle of the knee), no flip-flops, and tank tops or sleeveless shirts. Just a reminder that your students' hair needs to be a natural hair color. Also, parents, we have many coats and sweaters in our lost and found so please come by and take a look if your child is missing a jacket. **These jackets that are not claimed will be picked up by the Blessing Room on March 8<sup>th</sup>.**

Parents who drop off students should not use the bus lane between 7:30 and 7:55 each morning as this is when buses are using the BUS LANE. You do become a liability if you are in this area. This lane belongs to the Town of Thatcher and therefore the Police will be watching for violators and issuing citations if necessary. It is best to drop your children off at the proper gate. (Gate West of kindergarten building for Kindergartners, East gate for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders) Parents dropping off students need to use extreme caution as these areas become quite congested both before and after school.

Thanks to all the parents that helped make our Love of Reading Week. It was such a HUGE success. We have a Great Staff but we know it takes a group effort of parents and community to help make this event special for our students.

Read with your children daily! Have a Safe relaxing Spring Break (March 10 - 17)!!

Tracy Allred  
Principal JDPS



### March Events

- Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>** Kindergarten Online Registration Begins  
(More information below and on the website)
- Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>** Holladay's Spring Individual/Class Pictures
- Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>** Jackets and other lost items will be picked up by the Blessing Room.
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>** Spring Break – No School
- Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup>** Spring JDPS/TES/TMS Spring Book Fair
- Mar. 28<sup>th</sup>** Kinder/T1 Field Trip to Jill Gills "Sing A Thon of Celebrated Songs" (9:30-11:30)
- Mar. 31<sup>st</sup>** Kindergarten Testing/Screening Begins

### Kindergarten Online Registration-March 1st

When you register your kinder online for the new school year, you will be sent a link in your email to sign up for testing/screening. These dates will be March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup>, and April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please check your spam if you don't see the link in your email.

### April Events

- April 7<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>** Easter Break-No School
- April 18<sup>th</sup>** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Discovery Park  
(Mrs. Tadlock, Mrs. Scoggin and Ms. John's classes are going.)
- April 20<sup>th</sup>** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Discovery Park  
(Ms. Moore, Mrs. Cooper and Ms. Astrain classes are going.)
- Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>** Kindergarten Testing/Screening

### PTO

Candy Grams were a HUGE success. Our TRIFUNATHON is coming up in March so stay tuned for more details. Thanks to all for the support in valentines and See's Candy sales.

Breakfast/Lunch Menu can be found on our website at: [thatcherud.org](http://thatcherud.org)





**MUSIC...** Love of reading week was a jolly good time with many pirate sightings and new book adventures around each bend. As hints of spring emerge, so will the children's voices with new songs of nature and growth, both in plants and in life. All three grades are making wonderful progress in reading rhythms and identifying note names. For those who have children who have a musical talent they want to share, I would like to encourage them here. If they feel comfortable sharing their talent with the class I would love to make arrangements to have them do so. Please reach out to me if they are interested! Happy spring!

Valerie Wasson

**KINDERGARTEN...** It's hard to believe March is here already! We enjoyed our Valentine activities and a little break during our long weekend. We had a fun week of Pirate activities during Love of Reading. We are looking forward to celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday on March 2nd! Report cards will be coming out mid-month. Our kindergarten children have made so much progress! It is truly awesome to hear your children read and to read their writing! Please continue to work with your child if they have not received their certificate for the goals we have set for our kindergarten children; especially tying shoes, address, phone number, number and color words. Please continue to work with your child on their belt words! If they have earned all their belts, continue to review them so they will have a solid foundation for first grade. Your children are really OUTSTANDING! Thanks so much for your continued support! We hope you have a fun and safe Spring Break!

Mrs. Mleynek, Ms. Claridge, Mrs. Barney,  
Mrs. Vining, Mrs. Hatch, Mrs. Taylor

**FIRST GRADE...** February was a busy month as we covered Groundhog's Day, Arizona's birthday, Valentine's Day, President's Day, and Love of Reading Week. We had so much fun with Captain Book and Page Turner during Love of Reading Week!! We thank parents for the great job you and your children are doing with home reading, math, spelling, and sight words. Let's keep up the momentum all the way up until the end of the year. Don't forget Spring Break is March 10th-17th. Have a fun and safe Spring Break!

Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Rubalcava, Mrs. Angle,  
Mrs. Twitchell, Ms. Roderick, Mrs. Palmer, &  
Ms. Larrabee



**SECOND GRADE...** February was a busy and eventful month for 2nd grade! We finished up our math chapters on 2- & 3-digit addition and subtraction and are moving on to time, money, and linear measurements. We also had a FANTASTIC Love of Reading week, including a field trip to the Safford Library. A HUGE Shout-out to the pirates Mr. Gifford, Mrs. Monaco, and Mrs. Wasson who spearheaded all the great activities we enjoyed! We hope your children were motivated to spend as much time reading as they can. It makes a HUGE difference in all areas. In writing, we're finishing up our research reports, which has been an interesting, yet challenging experience. Thanks to all our wonderful parents who helped find information for their reports! March 9th is the end of our third quarter. We hope everyone has a wonderful spring break and comes back ready to push ahead to the end of the school year! One more quarter, finish strong!

Ms. Astrain, Mrs. Cooper, Ms. John,  
Ms. Moore, Mrs. Scoggin, and Mrs. Tadlock

### **Title One...**

With the onset of such nice, warm weather, you may be finding your child has spring fever! How do you keep them focused and on task with reading? Here are some tips that may help.



Follow your child's interests. If he/she likes soccer, get books on soccer. If he/she has a pet hamster, check out books about hamsters.



Get a craft book. Make a project together.



Encourage your child to read to someone younger. There's no easier way for a child to practice reading than by sharing with someone else. It also raises your child's self-esteem.

Joan Conrad  
First Grade Title I Reading Teacher

**Counselor Corner...** For March, JDPS will focus on **honesty**. **Honesty** is being truthful in what we say and do. Students can practice honesty by admitting to a mistake, telling the truth about something that happened, returning something that doesn't belong to you, and not making up lies to get out of trouble or to get someone into trouble. Talk to your child about ways to be honest and how being honest can make them feel happy, scared, or proud. As we have a Spring Break coming up, please remember that EACH of us need to take a break now and then. A short break can rejuvenate us and give us the energy to carry on.

Sarah Skemp-School Counselor

