



# Jenny Lind Elementary School



December 2021

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**Principal:** Pao Vue, 612-668-2020

**Asst. Principal:** Mercedes Walker, 612-668-2020

**School Secretary:** Lee Hibbard, 612-668-2023

**Parent Liaison:** Rochelle Kochendorfer, 612-668-2027

**Transportation:** Rochelle Kochendorfer, 612-668-2027

**Nurse:** Summer PaVon, 612-668-2052

**Health Office:** Tressie Mitchell, 612-668-2033

**MPS Transportation:** 612-668-2300

**Attendance:** 612-668-2033

## SAVE THE DATE

December 7<sup>th</sup>: PICTURE RETAKE DAY

December 7<sup>th</sup>: Site Council 5pm-7pm

December 20<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>: No School-Winter Recess

## Principals' Corner

Hey Lind Families! As the air continues to become more crisp and the leaves finish falling, we are grateful for all of you and the love you send to 5025 Bryant Ave N each day by way of your precious children. We so enjoyed getting to see and spend time with many of you this month during our fall family engagement event and during Native American Family Involvement Week, and we are currently planning our next event which will take place in February during Black History Month. Moving forward, we are looking to at least one family engagement event each quarter and would love more of our families to join our Site Council to help us plan. Please stay tuned to the JL Facebook site as well as our website and robocalls to stay updated regarding our latest events and all of the happenings at Jenny Lind. We look forward to seeing you soon and thank you again for your partnership. We are the village!

Sincerely

Mr. Vue and Ms. Walker

## Parent Liaison Update

Our **picture retake day** is on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Students who did not get their picture taken on picture day can get it done then, as well as retakes if you didn't like the picture that was taken. Picture forms are in the office, pictures are prepay using the form or online.

[Mylifetouch.com](http://Mylifetouch.com) (use ID: EVTQ8TRBW)

**Site Council is also December 7<sup>th</sup> from 5pm-7pm.** There will be a pizza dinner starting at 5pm and the meeting will begin at 5:30. Please see later in the newsletter for the link to join virtually. Childcare will be provided!

Children's Dental Services will be providing dental exams at Jenny Lind, most likely after winter break. If you haven't already completed a form and would like one, please contact the main office at 612-668-2020.

Testing season is coming up soon. Many of our headphones need to be replaced or have been lost. If at all possible, we are looking for families to send their student to school with a pair of headphones to be used for testing and other educational uses while in school. Thank you so much!

We have a lost and found table, near the office. Please have your child check the table if they are missing anything.

Any questions, please call Rochelle at 612-668-2027.

## Health Office Update

With Minnesota leading the nation in COVID cases, it is very important students **STAY HOME if they are feeling sick.** Please call the Health Office if your child is ill so staff can help guide families through the process to keep the community safe. If your student is in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID, the



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period of quarantine for COVID exposure is 10 days for unvaccinated students. In some cases, quarantine may still be for 14 days. To the parents of little ones, please put extra clothes in their backpack, or perhaps a set of clothes to leave in their locker for when they have accidents, we don't have a large supply of extra clothes.

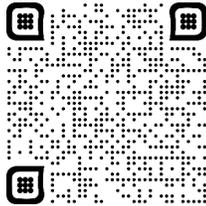
## Social Worker Update

Travis Hayes – Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – 612-467-9720

Nick Cross – 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade – 612-351-2206

Vanessa Wilson – Intern (Tue/Wed) - 651-560-3420

Resources are available [here](#).



## PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Retake day is December 7<sup>th</sup>. Please pick up a picture form in the office or go online to order.

[Mylifetouch.com](http://Mylifetouch.com) (use ID EVTQ8TRBW)

## Late passes

If your child is arriving after 7:40am, please let them know they need to come to the main office for a late pass. They can also get breakfast while supplies last. Thank you!

## DRESS FOR WEATHER

Now that the weather is getting colder, please send your child to school with warmer clothes and outer wear. The students will be going outside every day, unless it is raining. Thank you!

## Want to join our JL Community?

Please join us at Site Council! Our next meeting is on Dec 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00pm. A pizza dinner will be served at 5:00 and the meeting will begin at 5:30pm. Childcare will be provided. Join us either in-person or virtually. Reach out to our parent liaison, Rochelle at 612-668-2027 if you have any questions.

Here is the link to the meeting:

VIRTUALLY:

[HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/](https://meet.google.com/)

ENTER CODE: JLSITECOUNCIL

## CLASSROOM NEWS

### Hi-5

For the month of December High 5 themes are the season winter and holiday celebrations. For literacy students will practice letter names, letter sounds, alliteration, rhyming and journal writing. For math students will practice number identification, counting 0-25, patterns, one-one correspondence and more/less. High 5 students are also learning social problem solving, yoga, identifying emotions and self-regulation for social-emotional learning. Finally, High 5 students are learning about cultural holidays Ramadan, Hmong New Year, Hannukah, Kwanza & Christmas.

### Kindergarten

We hope you had a wonderful Harvest Break! We will begin our geometry unit in math and study 2-D shapes. In literacy we



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will begin our nonfiction unit: What do plants and animal need? When students start wearing snow boots to school, please send along a pair of shoes. Snow boots become hot and uncomfortable when worn during the school day.

### 1<sup>st</sup> grade

In language arts, we are learning about the features of nonfiction and learning how to write like a specialist. In math, we are working on addition and subtraction strategies and using standard notation. We are learning to recognize emotions in others by looking at their face, body, and listening to their words.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Second graders say good-bye to November and welcome to the month of December! We had a productive first quarter and an even better start to our second quarter, which began Monday, November 8th. This quarter will take us through Thursday, January 27th.

In November, our focus in Second Step Social Skills curriculum was Empathy, where the students learned to identify and understand their own and others' feelings. Students are also learning how to take another's perspective and how to show compassion. We have two more lessons to complete before we finish Unit 2 and begin Unit 3 after winter break, which will be Emotional Management.

In language arts, we continue to practice our new phonics curriculum, Groves Method and in Benchmark we are finishing Unit 2, where the students are reading fairy and folk tales to recount story details, and how the characters respond to challenging events in the story. We have read different versions of Cinderella and we will next read the folktale of the "Three Billy Goat's Gruff."

Math has been so much fun as we continue to engage with our Unit 1 study of a variety of math skills including reading, writing & representing numbers, coins, telling time, reading, adding, and subtracting! We will begin Unit

2, Investigations 1: Attributes of 2-D and 3-D shapes shortly.

We have our winter FAST testing in reading and math on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 14th, and 15th. The FAST test is a set of reading and math assessments that teachers use to measure student learning. FastBridge scores help teachers to know what kind of instructing each student needs to help them grow, both individually and as part of the whole class. Remember to have the children get a good night's sleep before each testing day.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

Third grade have been having a lot of fun writing our own fables. We will be starting our next unit on animal adaptations. We are very excited to start learning multiplication in December. Please start practicing multiplication facts at home. Don't forget to bring hats and gloves to school every day for outdoor recess.

### 4<sup>th</sup> grade

Hello 4th Grade families! Fourth graders finished strong with their multiplication and are now moving on to algebra. We have learned about equations, pawns, scales, and will continue to grow their knowledge. In literacy, we concluded our nonfiction unit focusing on our animal reports. The fourth graders worked extremely hard on their reports. In December we will be reading *Because of Winn Dixie* and analyzing the novel as a class. Continue to read every day!

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

I hope your family had a restful Harvest Break. This month our focus in Literacy will be a literature study of *Save Me a Seat* by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan. The text will explore how the perspectives of two 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys are different but are from the same



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situations at school. The book lends itself to great conversations about the assumptions we make on people that are not always true!

Math we are beginning Unit 2: Fractions. This unit will cover equivalent fractions, placing fractions on a number line and being able to model fractions. Please continue to practice multiplication facts at home to help support our math curriculum.

We have 3 weeks before our Winter Break and a lot to get through. Please continue to send your child daily and on time! Also, as the weather begins to get colder, please make sure your child has the right warm weather gear to be outside daily.

Thanks for the support, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Team

## Media Center

*Over the past month, students have enjoyed visiting the library with their class each week to check out books. In the coming weeks, all students will be allowed to start bringing those books home to read if they choose. This is a great opportunity to read together with your child and discuss with them how to take care of library books at home and while traveling to and from school. Please remind your child to bring borrowed books back to school each week. If you're interested in getting more involved in our school library, we would love to have volunteers help with tasks like shelving and organizing books. For more information on volunteering, please contact our Family Liaison, Rochelle Kochendorfer. Happy Reading!*

## SPECIALISTS

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The winter months require us to use some heavy boots for the outside. However, those boots are not ideal to wear indoors all day. Everyday let's try to bring some indoor shoes! Our warm boots will last longer and be more comfortable if we only wear them outside.

Our specialist schedule is hard to remember, some students have PE every three days, and many have PE every four days.

Have a pair of shoes for movement in the bookbag at all times! They do NOT need to be new! So, if they are extra, leave them at school in the lockers or cubbies! Thank you so much!

### ART

Students have begun creating their luminaries for the Creekview Winter Solstice Event on December 18th! Every student will be decorating a luminary bag with their favorite winter activities. These bags will then be lit up and placed along the path for the community to enjoy. Please see the attached flyer and come see the luminaries!

[Winter Solstice Event Flyer 2021.pdf](#)

### MUSIC

Hello from the music room! We spend the month of November studying music from several different Native American tribes and are now beginning to work on chords, rhythm patterns, international folk dances, and reading our first music! Kindergarten and 1st grade are working on making patterns in music with dance, instruments, and word patterns, 2nd and 3rd grade are studying songs with organized dance from many different cultures all over the world and they can now play simple chords on the xylophones with songs that they sing, and 5th graders are starting to read 5 different notes and play them on their instruments. There are a lot of talented students at Jenny Lind!

