Dear Parents,
What a wonderful time of the year! Spring has finally sprung and the children are thrilled to finally be outside! It is a pleasure to see how much they have grown since first walking through the doors to Jefferson Primary almost ten months ago.

I am happy to report that our annual Science Fair was a terrific success! Each student worked with their class on a class project and, in addition, over one hundred students submitted individual projects! For the second year in a row, Jefferson Primary is participating in the Brookhaven National Lab Science Fair. I am happy to announce the names of each grade-level winner. Grant Hurless from Mrs. Frye’s class will represent the Jefferson Primary kindergarten; in first grade our first place winner was Tess Stanley in Mrs. Irigoyen’s class; Nick Rowley in Mrs. Higgin’s second grade is the second grade winner and rounding out the field is Haley Mortell in Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Taormina’s third grade class. Congratulations to each student and we wish them well at the Brookhaven Science Fair on Saturday, May 1st.

Also this spring, we are working on creating the Jefferson Outdoor Garden and Science Exploration Center. This project is the brainchild of our very own Mrs. Kaczor who authored a winning HFEE grant outlining her vision. By the time she is finished, our courtyard will be an even more magical place where children in all grades may participate in activities that include planting a new garden, measuring rainfall, discovering the effects of wind and temperature all while enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of nature! We can’t wait!

Speaking of winners, two more of our teachers authored successful SEPTA grants this year. Mrs. Garcia and Mrs. Bell were both honored to receive word from SEPTA that each of their grants was so outstanding that SEPTA was happy to provide funding.

Finally, in the next two weeks our third graders will be sitting for their first state assessments in math and English Language Arts. As always, our students have been working with their teachers to prepare for these assessments and we are proud of their efforts. Since the tests are being given later in the year the state has promised...
News from inside Jefferson...

Kindergarten
Spring has arrived and the Kindergarten students are excited about all the signs of spring we see around us! To explore spring we are studying the change in seasons, planting seeds, making flowers, studying baby farm animals and even bugs!

Recently the Kindergartens had two field trips. Our in school field trip explored the many different kinds of sea life. Expect your kindergartener to share some of their knowledge of shells with you on your next trip to the beach. The children also went to see Cinderella at the Northport theater. The children enjoyed that interpretation of the folk tale, and heard many different versions of Cinderella from several cultures in their classrooms.

All the kindergarten classes wish you a healthy and warm spring!

1st grade
Spring has been very exciting for Jefferson, filled with many wonderful events and activities! The first graders have been keeping busy in the classroom telling time, counting money, and even making new tens! We're also working on our beautiful First Grade Writing Books, showcasing so many of our wonderful stories and poetry. We've certainly come a long way since September!

We will also be learning all about the life cycle of plants during our science lessons. And be sure to ask your child about the orange, purple and turquoise chicks that they met! (And these were not peeps!) The students learned how injecting an egg with a non-harmful vegetable dye will produce a colorful baby chick. This experience created many interesting topics for creative writing!

Don't forget about Jefferson's infamous Field Day on June 3 (raindate, June 4). We hope to see you there cheering on your team! And thanks to the generosity of our wonderful PTA, we also look forward to another schoolwide field trip to the Hall of Science on June 17. So save the dates! (And watch your child's folder for any other exciting end-of-the-year parties and events.)

As we enter the final stretch, we want to thank the parents, once again, for all your support throughout the year! We couldn't have done it without you.

The First Grade Teachers

2nd grade
Happy Spring to all!

Reading/Writing
We are having a wonderful time in our poetry unit learning about different elements of poetry such as similes, metaphors, personification, and onomatopoeia. What fun we have had writing our own poems.

Math—This quarter we are learning how to read tables and graphs and to make diagonals and midpoints. Subtracting from two and three digit numbers with regrouping is not as hard as we thought. Learning about various shapes and patterns is really interesting, too.

Social Studies—In Social Studies we are learning about the beginnings and growth of our country. We are talking about Native American groups and early settlers who came from Europe and explorers who led the way.
Science—As budding scientists, the second graders have been busy learning about plant and animal cycles. We have created our own germination bags, planted lima beans in cups and continue to watch our mealworms grow and change.

In our outdoor courtyard we will be preparing our new raised planting beds to grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers. We just love spring!!

The Second Grade Teachers

3rd grade
As usual, the 3rd graders at Jefferson have been very busy. We have been learning and engaging in activities for our Energy unit where we are learning about stored energy and energy of motion. A great deal of our energy and focus has been put into the areas of English Language Arts and Math in preparation for the state exams. Most areas of our work throughout the year involve reading, listening and understanding in addition to using math in our everyday activities. The knowledge acquired in these areas will be tested shortly. For your information, please mark your calendars for the following important test dates (3rd Grade State Exams) to remember:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language Arts</td>
<td>Tues. April 27th &amp; Wed. April 28th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Tues. May 4th and Wed. May 5th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please remember these test preparations...
· Get plenty of sleep starting the weekend before the tests
· Have a good breakfast the morning of the exams
· Bring in two #2 pencils
· Remind your child that they have prepared well for the tests so they should RELAX...BE ALERT... SHOW WHAT THEY KNOW!

The school year has flown by and shortly we will begin our study of the Painted Lady Butterflies in our Life Cycles unit in science. This unit is one of the children’s favorites as they observe, predict and learn about the different stages of development. It is always difficult to say goodbye to the butterflies that we have raised. However, similar to how the 3rd grade teachers feel about our matured students, we must get ready to say good bye and let them soar.

The Third Grader Teachers

From the Librarian..

Welcome Readers,

Spring is here and another book filled year at Jefferson is rapidly coming to an end. This is a great time to check the desk, bookshelf, toy box, and under the bed for materials that may belong to the school library. Closing a media center is a time consuming task, and inventory is around the corner.

Our kindergarten students are now checking out their books on the automated system – no more “Bookie-Bookie”. Library citizenship remains a top priority and book care is second nature to our little readers. The children are allowed free reign of the shelves and pride themselves on distinguishing fiction from nonfiction.

First and second grade have been exploring different genres, and seem to have a passion for historical fiction. When selecting material for reading together at home, you may find it helpful to ask what they enjoy. History, science fiction, biography, and nonfiction seem to appeal to some reluctant readers.

Third grade is outgrowing our library, and their requests are now able to be filled through interlibrary loan. District librarians
1. What inspired you to travel to Peru?
I always wanted to go to a Spanish-speaking country!

2. Where is Peru?
It is in South America.

3. What different forms of transportation did you take during your trip?
I went to Peru by plane. I had to take 3 planes to get there: 1st from New York to Miami, Florida; next from Miami overnight to Lima, Peru; then to Cusco, Peru. While I was there, I did mostly walking around Cusco, I went hiking for 3 days on the Incas Path in the Andes Mountains, camping out, I also took trains and buses to get back from my “trek” to my hotel in Cusco.

4. Tell us about the meals you ate during your visit to Peru?
The food was delicious, even during the 3-day hike! I had yucca, potatoes, fish, chicken and the best hot chocolate!

5. What cities did you visit in Peru and where did you stay?
First, I stayed at a hotel called Casa San Blas, in Cusco. I camped out in a tent while I was hiking in the Andes. Then I visited Cusco, The Sacred Valley, Ollantaytambo, Aguas Calientes, Macchu Picchu, Wayna Picchu and other Inca Ruins.

6. What was your biggest surprise during your trip?
My biggest surprise was that I hiked up Mountains that were 13,000 feet high! I didn’t know how challenging it would be to hike in such high altitude! The 1st day I hiked for 9 hours! I didn’t think I could make it…but I did!

7. What did you learn about this country and the...
Arts-In-Education

Arts-In-Education is presenting Puneeta Mittal who will demonstrate Indian Block Printing to the 3rd grades. Students will participate in a workshop and create their own scarves! This artist is presented with help from Huntington Arts Council.

Thank you to all the parents and the Jefferson PTA for your support this year.

Parent Volunteers:
Peggy Low, Sue Buchholtz & Cynthia Rabito

Our April Body & Brains Workout Activities:

- Playground Safety - Review
- The “Perfect Push-up”.
- +Baseball/Softball Skills & Games.

Assessments:

- Push-Up Test.
- Batting

Just a P.E. Safety Reminder: All students should wear sneakers in order to safely participate. Sneakers may be brought to school and changed into before P.E. class. It would be a tremendous help if you could teach and encourage your child to learn how to tie their sneakers if they don’t know how to do so already.

Community Events: Spring sports seasons are in full swing. If you are interested in attending any High School or Middle School sporting events, (Spring: Baseball, Softball, Tennis, Track, Lacrosse) check www.sectionxi.org for dates, times and locations.

Field Day - 2010:
Field Day is just around the corner. The date is Thursday, June 3, 2010 and (Rain Date: Friday, June 4, 2010). Our theme this year is “A Luau Beach Party” We will be sending home detailed information shortly.

Physical Education Staff:
Karen Fischer & Lynn Hefele

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at Jefferson for contributing to “Jeans For a Cause”. The contributions that you have made went to a worthwhile cause that I am very involve “Surfer’s Healing”.

Surfers Healing was founded by Israel (Izzy) and Danielle Paskowitz. Their son, Isaiah, was diagnosed with autism at age 3. Israel is a former competitive surfer and started the camps to offer surfing therapy after seeing what a profound impact it had on his own son. Camps are held all summer and fall at various locations along both the west and east coast. Surfers Healing brings needed respite to the lives of children with autism and their families.

people who live there?
I learned so much about the Incas—the ancient people who once lived in Peru, and their beliefs about nature. I would love to teach my students more about the Incas! It was a wonderful trip!!
It's a day filled with excitement, hope, pure joy... and peace. I also work with other various organizations such as Land & Sea Sports Club, Inc., Surfers Way, and I Matters Surf Camp. For more information you may visit:

www.surfershealing.org

Thank you again to Mrs. Sweeney and Jeans For a Cause.

Mark Smith - Jefferson Custodian

From the READING Teachers!

The Jefferson reading teachers are welcoming spring this year with our usual round of spring books and review classes. We are helping the third graders to get ready for their English Language Arts tests while keeping our classes excited about reading.

PARP was such a great success; why not try some Spring books at home also? “The Great Kapok” by Lynne Cherry and “The Giving Tree” by Shel Silverstein are good discussion starters for Earth Day. Rainy day reading is fun when you share a book like “Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs”.

April is poetry month and there are a slew of humorous poetry books such as “The New Kid on the Block”, and “The Frog Wore Red Suspenders” by Jack Prelutsky. And of course you might try the ever popular “A Light in the Attic” and “Where the Sidewalk Ends”, by Shel Silverstein.

Whatever you choose, don't forget to read aloud and keep the PARP promise going!

First Grade - For the first time ever I attempted a very challenging art medium called charcoal with such a young group of children that are first grade age. Usually this type of medium is reserved for older children but I am very happy to say that this young age group met the challenge of this medium very well and they were able to learn the techniques of shading an apple and orange. They really did a wonderful job!!!! They learned about the female artist named Georgia O'Keeffe who made beautiful flower paintings. The students did their own painting/sculpture of flowers using watercolors to paint a beautiful cluster of flowers and then a clay flower was made separately and then put together with the watercolor picture- very pretty!!!!!
2nd GRADE - Learned how to take a 2-Dimensional (flat) piece of colored paper and turn it into a 3-Dimensional (height, width, depth) sculpture by first cutting shapes into the colored paper and then assembling it into an interesting sculpture that is free-standing. The students worked with a very challenging art medium called charcoal and just as my first graders handled this difficult and messy medium so well the 2nd graders did beautifully with the charcoal as well and they turned circles into 3-dimensional bubbles. Great job! The students made a very colorful design/pattern picture using only oil pastels which were pressed down hard when they were drawing with them to create such bold, bright colors.

3rd GRADE - Learned how to make a flat (2-dimensional) drawing of a circle into a 3-dimensional (height, width, depth) sphere and this was accomplished by using hard pastels and learned how to blend light and dark values of various colors to make the circle turn into a sphere. They also did a beautiful tropical landscape painting that included many different painting techniques, some of which involved a fan brush which they have been learning to use all year. These paintings look great; it almost makes you feel like you are part of the painting.

Maria Mazzola - Art Teacher

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 23 – VIP night
Jefferson Gym

April 27 & 28 – NYS ELA Exams 3rd grade

April 28 – PTA Spring Social

May 4 & 5 - MATH NYS Exams 3rd grade

May 7 – Lip Sync and Plant Sale pick-up

May 10 – BOE/Budget meet 7:30 JAI

May 11 – Duel Language Parent meet HHS 6-7 PM

May 12 – Jefferson PTA meet 7:30 PM

May 13 – SEPTA Coffee Talk 10 AM

May 14 – Staff Appreciation Day

May 18 – BUDGET VOTE and District Wide Art Show

May 21 – Kindergarten Orientation

May 22 – SEPTA Fundraiser The Bay Club - 7 PM

May 31 – Memorial Day Schools Closed

June 3 – Jefferson Field Day

June 4 – Field day Raindate

Kevin O’Donnell donates books to the Jefferson library

Pasta Night!
cont. from page 1,
that these 2010 assessments will assess a
greater fund of knowledge and skills. We
know our children are prepared and we are
hopeful the assessments remain as fair a
measure as in years past. Parents can help
by making sure children get a good night’s
sleep and come to school having had a good
breakfast and a big hug from you!

Jefferson Primary is certainly one very
special place where teachers and parents
work together to bring the joy of learning to
our children!

Sincerely,
Margaret H. Evers

Mrs. Kaczor
Retires!

The Jefferson family is preparing
to wish good luck to one of our
most beloved teachers as she
prepares to end
a 33-year career
and begin a
happy and healthy
retirement. Mrs.
Susanne Kaczor
will be retiring at the
top of her game on
June 25th. Over the
years, Mrs. Kaczor
has done it all and
seen it all. She is one
of the few educators
who has actually worked in every one of the district’s
buildings, including a few that have since been
closed. Always the consummate professional,
she has had only one focus: to provide each
child all they need to reach their potential and
thrive. While we will miss her brilliant skills with
children in the classroom, it will be the memory
of her grace, good humor and gentle heart we
will all miss the most. I know I speak for all
of us at Jefferson when I say “Best Wishes,
Susanne!” - MHE