



Newsletter

<https://sites.google.com/a/northampton-k12.us/nps/our-schools/jackson-street-school>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northampton-Public-Schools-Massachusetts/179921372117715>
<https://www.facebook.com/jacksonstreetpto> <http://www.jspto.org/>
You may also connect with us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/NPSDistrict>
Ms. Alles's website: <https://sites.google.com/northampton-k12.us/mindfulnessatjss>

JSS Office 587-1510

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January 19, 2018

If you wish to have a copy of this letter written in Spanish, French or Arabic, please contact the school department at 587-1315. Si le gustaria esta carta en Espanol, es posible. Llama 413-587-1315. Si vous voulez une copie de cette lettre en Français, veuillez contacter le Département de l'École 587-1315. إذا أردتم الحصول على نسخة من هذه الرسالة بلغة أخرى، يرجى الاتصال بالمدارس في 587-1315.

MESSAGE FROM MS. AGNA



REMINDER:

NO SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24 – it is a Staff/Faculty Work Day. MANY thanks to our wonderful PTO for providing us with the annual Staff Appreciation Lunch that day!



SNOW DAY ON FIRST VISITING DAY

Since our first Visiting Day of the year was scheduled for last Wednesday, a snow day, there will be an additional Visiting Day in March – Wednesday, March 21!

PLEASE make every effort to schedule visits to our school on the designated Visiting Days. There are many more than we typically have scheduled this year, which we hope will accommodate your schedule. Once the Visiting Days are over, we make few exceptions to schedule any more unless it's for families who move in from out of town. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation on this.

GIVING TREE

Again, the Giving Tree is up through January – keep donations coming!! The need does NOT go away after December – we'd love to donate as much as we did in December!



Stay tuned for our big collection in the spring – for the Summer Food Program at the Northampton Survival Center....

WELCOME TO OUR STUDENT TEACHERS

We are so fortunate to have student teachers working in many of our classrooms. FYI – student teachers are typically placed only in classrooms where the classroom teachers have professional status, due to certification requirements of the sending colleges. Professional status means that teachers have completed their 3rd year as a Northampton public school teacher and are hired for a 4th year.

WELCOME to the following:

- **Sarah Dean**, from Smith College, in Ms. Mary Bates' 1st grade class
- **Zoe Neeley**, from Smith College, in Ms. Michelle Mokerzecki's 4th grade class
- **Caida Mendelsohn**, from Smith College, in Ms. Joan Cameron's 3rd grade class
- **Hannah Searles**, from Smith College, in Ms. Kat Walmsley's 2nd grade class
- **Angela Fallovita**, from American International College, in Ms. Jolie Smith's 2nd grade class
- **Laura Battles**, from Mt. Holyoke College, in Ms. Ellen Brown's 1st grade class

BORED – PART II

Thanks to those who have commented and connected with me on this. I look forward to more conversations. I plan to follow up with a "Part II – Bored in Math" in the next few weeks. Stay tuned!

GOING AWAY - REMINDER

I will be away from school starting on Tuesday, January 23 and returning on Tuesday, January 30th. **Ms. Holly Ghazey**, Guest

Principal, supported by our in-house Guest Principal, **Mrs. Kathy Malynoski**, will be in charge – the school will be in very capable hands while I'm away. I will travel to the UK, where I spent 4 important years going to college and working, to attend the memorial service of a college friend and then the 100th birthday tea party of the mother of another college friend. I am so happy that I can be there for both events and thank everyone for making that possible.

There will still be a newsletter – please send me articles as usual. I'm sooooo sorry to be missing International Night at JSS – it is such a beautiful, community-building and affirming event. I'll be thinking of you all!

With great respect,

Gwen Agna
Gwen Agna

STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON ON WED., JAN. 24

- VOLUNTEERS (AND DESSERTS!) WANTED!

While students won't be at school on Wednesday, Jan. 24, faculty and staff will - for a Professional Development Day.

During their lunch break, the PTO provides a Staff Appreciation luncheon in the cafeteria (just one small way to say THANK YOU for all their incredible work).

The luncheon is catered, but we ask families to provide desserts, and we also need a few volunteers to help set up and clean up.

Set up will be at 11:00, and clean-up at 1:00.

If you can drop off a dessert (gluten-free or vegan options would be especially helpful) or can volunteer for half-an-hour for set-up or clean-up, it would be greatly appreciated. Kids are very welcome, and in fact make the best greeters and cheerleaders as our amazing teachers and staff as they enter the cafeteria for their luncheon.

We want to make this a wonderful lunch for our great staff!

Please contact Liz Horn at ELHORN@mindspring.com or 646-234-8805. Thank you!

JSS INTERNATIONAL NIGHT IS NEXT FRIDAY!

We need tables! Do you have one or more folding tables you could lend us for International Night? If so, please email Lisa Clauson, Lisaclauson21@gmail.com. Thank you!

Jackson Street School International Night

The Jackson Street Community is going around the world!

Friday, January 26, 6-8pm

JSS Cafeteria, Library, and Gym

Come and explore the world with your immediate and extended family members

FREE of CHARGE. There will be international food tasting, educational opportunities, music performances, socialization, and more.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!!

Noche Internacional de Jackson Street School

La comunidad de Jackson Street va alrededor del mundo!

viernes, el 26, desde las 6-8pm

Cafetería de JSS, Biblioteca y el Gimnasio

Venga y explore el mundo con sus miembros inmediatos y extendidos de familia

GRATIS. Habrá saborear de comida internacional, oportunidades educativas, demostraciones musicales, socialización, y más.

ESPERAMOS VERLE ALLÁ!!!!

BOOKS!!

Our book tree is up in the lobby! Soon it will be filled with leaves that show all the books in the three heavy boxes that have already been purchased for the library. Please help us fill our tree (and shelves!) and buy books on the wish list by visiting Broadside or using this link to buy online:

<http://www.broadsidebooks.com/wishlist/46>

WINTER WALK TO SCHOOL DAY - WED., FEB. 7

Even in the cold and snow, we're still trying to stay active and be outside as much as we can!

To celebrate all of you walk, bike (or scooter or skate...) to school, please join us for the third annual statewide Winter Walk to School Day on Wednesday, February 7. To reward you on a cold morning, we'll be giving out stickers and other fun stuff - and cups of free hot cider! Come to the flagpole from 8:25 to 8:45 am.

Third annual Jackson Street Film Festival

Thursday, Feb. 8 at 6:00 pm in the library

Come see the amazing, fun, creative short films that your friends and classmates worked so hard on!

Please come and see these wonderful short films by our talented young filmmakers - you'll laugh, enjoy yourself - and maybe be inspired to create your own short film for next year's festival!

The program will last under one hour - there'll be popcorn and fun surprises!

Bring family and friends!

Hope to see you there!

Greeters for Classroom Visiting Days at JSS

Beginning Friday, January 26, Jackson Street will be having their annual Visiting Days from 9:30 to 11:00 am, giving parents a chance to visit classrooms. Although it is for all grades and both current and prospective parents, attendance tends to be heavy on incoming kindergarten families.

We would love to have a current parent act as a greeter to families on those Wednesday mornings, to help direct them, possibly answer a question or two and generally give a warm first impression of our school. If you would be available and willing to come in and greet on any of these days, we would be most appreciative. And you do not need to be there the entire time...

If there is a two-hour delay or a snow day, the visiting day is cancelled for that day/week.

Thank you so much to anyone who can help out.

- Liz Horn, Volunteer Coordinator, elhorn@mindspring.com

4th ANNUAL JSS FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT

- Volunteers needed...

Thursday March 1st is our Family Science Night!

To make it happen, we need many adult volunteers who would be willing to prepare or share a science demonstration/hands-on activities.

Please sign up using attached flyer or email Pallavi at: pal-lubv@gmail.com

or jsspto@gmail.com

Thanks,

JSS PTO Committee

ONE MORE TIME

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE SPRING CONCERT!

Friday the 9th of March, 9:30 am – snow date will be Friday, March 16.

Also a request from Ms. O' - If families have any old pots, pans and big metal spoons that we could borrow for our STOMP accessories. Better if they are old, as they will be hit and used in non-traditional ways!!! Please no new cookware - it have a few dents when returned!

NEW PROJECT!

REAL (Racial Equity And Learning) is a new project funded by the Northampton Education Foundation. We are gathering stories from a wide range of community members about their experiences of race in the district. The overall mission of REAL is to support and strengthen our school community by developing an intentionally anti-racist culture. Our core group is comprised of teachers, staff, students, and family members across the district.

We believe that we can create a school district that is anti-racist, not only in theory but in practice, and has genuine acceptance, respect, and love for all people as a recognizable part of its identity. Talking together and sharing life stories and experiences is one step toward this.

Stories will be developed into a report and/or multimedia exhibits that will be shared and used to help create an anti-racist school district.

Stay tuned for an event!

Have questions or ideas? Want to join the working group? Have a story to share?

Please contact these school parents:

- Bridge Street: Benita Jackson (benitajackson@gmail.com)
- Jackson Street: Jenny Bender (jenny.bender@comcast.com)
- Leeds: Bill Brown (liam.brown1963@gmail.com)
- Ryan Rd: Suna Turgay (sunaturgay@hotmail.com)
- JFK: Noel Raley (noelralley@yahoo.com)
- NHS: Jen Berneche (jenberneche@gmail.com)

JSS DAD PAUL FITZGERALD RUNNING BOSTON MARATHON TO SUPPORT CANCER RESEARCH

Paul Fitzgerald, parent of JSS first grader Owen and teacher at Northampton High School, is running the Boston Marathon on April 16, 2018 to raise money for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This will be his 6th year being involved with Dana-Farber, and his 4th year running the Boston Marathon in order to raise critical funds for Dana-Farber. Paul writes, "I am consistently amazed and

saddened by the amount of families in our NPS community that are affected by cancer. In my position at NHS I am in contact with students, parents, and colleagues who are presently receiving treatment and support at different facilities, or have recently lost a loved one to cancer. 100% of the \$ raised by the Marathon Challenge goes the Claudia Adams Barr Program in innovative Basic Cancer Research. <http://www.rundfmc.org/faf/home/ccp.asp?ievent=1174187&ccp=677155> Although the Barr program is affiliated with Dana-Farber, their mission is to develop new lines of research that are not yet eligible for government funding. This means that although the research is being conducted at Dana-Farber, the effects of their research are felt at every facility in the

world treating cancer patients.”

If you would like to / are able to, please consider supporting Paul: <http://www.runDFMC.org/2018/runftzy>

And please share this with any family and friends who might want to support Paul in this great endeavor.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Upcoming SciTech Cafe events:

- January 22nd: Do Be So Sensitive: Tactile Sensing in Soft Robotics with Prof. Kristen Dorsey

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – We’re always adding new dates so keep checking. PLEASE check the Northampton Public Schools website for district calendar updates.

Parents Hour in the Family Center every other Wed. from 9-10AM, beginning Wed. Sept. 6.

Walking School Bus (See you in the Spring!) – Ms. Agna alternates on Fridays around 8:10AM between the bike path (starting behind Stop and Shop) and Hampshire Heights, starting at the bottom of the hill near the CVS plaza.

Thurs. Jan 18 Session 2 HOLA ends

Wed. Jan. 24 NO SCHOOL – Staff Professional Day
Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Fri. Jan. 26 VISITING DAY 9:3-11AM
INTERNATIONAL NIGHT! 6-8PM

Wed. Jan. 31 VISITING DAY 9:30-11AM

Wed. Feb. 7 WINTER WALK TO SCHOOL DAY! Ms. Agna will walk in Hampshire Heights. We’ll all meet at the flag pole!
VISITING DAY 9:30-11AM

Thurs. Feb. 8 JSS FILM FESTIVAL 6-8PM Details to follow...

Wed. Feb. 14 VISITING DAY 9:3-11AM

Thurs. Feb. 15 All-school assembly – 4th graders present at 9:45AM
Kindergarten 2018-2019 Information Meeting 6:30PM at JFK Middle School

Mon. Feb. 19-23 NO SCHOOL – February vacation

Wed. Feb. 28 VISITING DAY 9:30-11AM

Thurs. Mar. 1 SCIENCE NIGHT!

Wed. Mar. 7 VISITING DAY 9:30-11AM

Wed. Mar. 14 VISITING DAY 9:30-11AM

Wed. Mar. 21 FINAL VISITING DAY 9:30-11AM

Thurs. Mar. 15 All-school assembly – 5th graders present at 9:15AM

Fri. Mar. 23 SWING INTO SPRING AUCTION!

Wed. Apr. 11 all-school assembly – 1st graders present at 1:30PM.

Wed. May 30 all-school assembly honoring our JSS/High School Grads – with KDGners at 2PM

Thurs. June 14 all school assembly “FINE FINE SCHOOL” led by Ms. Agna at 10:00AM

4th Annual Jackson Street School Family Science Night !!!



Thursday March 1st, 6:00 to 7:30pm

The purpose of this event is to promote the thrill of Science through short, but exciting adult-led demonstrations.



Bring your IDEAS / Volunteer

To make it happen, we would need many adult volunteers who would be willing to prepare and share a **science demonstration/hands-on activity** of no more than 15 minutes in duration. Your demonstration would be repeated many times during the evening as students and their families rotate around the school visiting the “science stations.”

You may also sign-up to demonstrate some of the **JSS Science projects** like the aluminum boats, M & M math, etc.

Dinner from Sakura buffet will be served beforehand from 5:30 to 6:15pm. We need volunteers who can help with set-up, serve and clean-up.

Sign-up to set up a demonstration / to volunteer 

Please return this slip to the office / email by Jan 31.
pallubv@gmail.com or jsspto@gmail.com

I / My family would like to give this demonstration - Name

Brief description:

Your Name and Email / Phone number

I can demonstrate JSS Science Project

I would like to Join the planning committee

I can help with set-up/clean-up

I can help with buffet set-up, serve/ clean-up

La 4th Noche Familiar de Ciencia de Jackson Street School



Jueves, 1 de marzo, de 6:00 a 7:30 pm

El propósito de este evento es de promover la emoción por la ciencia a través de demostraciones breves pero vibrantes, dirigidas por adultos.



Lleven sus IDEAS / Voluntarios

Para realizarla, necesitaríamos muchos voluntarios adultos dispuestos a preparar y compartir **una demostración científica/actividad manos-puesta** de no más de 15 minutos en duración. Su demostración se repetiría muchas veces a lo largo de la noche así como estudiantes y sus padres dan vueltas por la escuela visitando las “estaciones de ciencia.”

También puede inscribirse para demostrar algunos de los proyectos de JSS Science como los barcos de aluminio, M & M math, etc.

Se servirá la cena buffet Sakura antes desde las 5:30 hasta las 6:15pm. Necesitamos voluntarios para ayudar con la preparación, el servicio y hacer la limpieza.

Registre para preparar una demostración/alistarse como voluntario

Por favor, devuelve este boleto a la oficina/por email por el 31 de enero. pallubv@gmail.com o jsspto@gmail.com

Yo/mi familia quisiéramos ofrecer una demostración – Nombre

Descripción breve:

Email/# de teléfono

Puedo demostrar el Proyecto de Ciencia JSS

Quisiera alistarme con el comité de planear

Puedo ayudar con preparación/limpieza

Puedo ayudar con preparación de buffet/servicio/limpieza