



# Newsletter

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

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You may also connect with us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/NPSDistrict>

Ms. Alessi's website: <https://sites.google.com/northampton-k12.us/mindfulnessatjss>

JSS Office 587-1510

Volume 22 No. 38

June 15, 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. 587-1315 ي ف سردم ل ا ةراد ا ب ل اصت ال ا ج ري ، ي ب ر ع ل ا ة غ ل ل ا ب ة ب و ت ك م ة ل ا س ر ل ا ه ذ ه ن م ة خ س ن ي ل ع ل و ص ح ل ا ي ف ب غ ر ت ت ن ك ا اذا .

## MESSAGE FROM MS. AGNA

### FINAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR!

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS WILL BE ON MONDAY, JUNE 18 - I will be walking on the Walking School Bus on the Bike Path, behind Stop & Shop starting at 8:10AM. Please join me – and Mr. Strouse too!

### GOOD-BYE

**Lauren Barry**, PE teacher for some of our kindergarten and 1st grade classes, has been hired to teach full time at JFK and will not be at JSS next year. We're in the process of hiring a part-time PE teacher. Thank you so much, Ms. Barry, for your happy energy and wonderful skills in teaching our students! We'll miss you!!

### LAST CHANCE – THE PJTM EXPRESS!

The annual summer food collection for the Northampton Survival Center's Summer Food Program ends TODAY, Friday, June 15 – last chance to send in donations of peanut butter, jelly/jam, tuna and mac & cheese with your child(ren). This is one of our most important projects – please help us support the Survival Center's efforts to provide food to families during the summer months.

### THANK YOU JIM LEVEY!

The man behind the curtain, as it were, is Jim Levey – he makes our newsletter look beautiful and professional as well as our attendance and 5th grade graduation certificates through his desktop publishing. He is, as many know, a volunteer extraordinaire in Northampton as well. We are so grateful to you, Jim, and hope you'll stick with us for another year at least – it will be our 23rd, yours and mine!!

### GOOD-BYE WAVE TRADITION

If you don't know, on the last day of school there is a beloved JSS tradition – our entire faculty and staff come out to the circle in front of the cafeteria and wave good-bye to all! If your child goes out another door, please remind them that they can come around for this good-bye!

And to all who are leaving us for different schools, towns, states and countries, we thank you for being a part of our JSS community – we will miss you! A special good-bye to our beloved 5th graders – we wish you the very best in middle school – whatever schools you go to will be so lucky to have you! **WE WILL MISS YOU!!** To all who will be returning, have a wonderfully safe and happy summer – see you in September!!

*With great respect and affection,*

*Gwen Agna*  
Gwen Agna

## FIELD DAY 2018-

One for the books my friends. An enormous THANK YOU! To the many volunteers, you make field day possible. You showed up with incredible enthusiasm and made the day! THANK YOU to all the wonderful spirited teachers and staff for letting us take over your grounds and your routines. You go above and beyond every day; we hope you enjoyed a day of levity.

Special Shout outs to **Jeff Dawson** for all his planning assistance, **Mr. Mark**, the **Northampton Fire Department**, **Pinebrook Farm** on Bridge Rd (get some STRAWberries) and our very own **Ms. Totty** for ALL her field day magic.

*Thank you. Vanessa (Ainsley and Josiah's Mom)*

AND A HUGE THANK YOU TO VANESSA FOR HER BRILLIANCE, INSPIRATION AND WONDERFUL GOOD HUMOR IN COORDINATING IT ALL!!

## CAR WASH

### SUNDAY, JUNE 17 - TO BENEFIT NATURE'S CLASSROOM!

Thanks to some amazing parents, we have a great Nature's Classroom fundraiser planned for Sunday, Jun 17 - a Father's Day Car Wash. From 11:30 to 4:00 that day, we'll be offering car washes for \$5 each in the parking lot at King & Cushman (right on the corner of King St. and Finn St. - great visibility for cars going by!)

4th grade parents and kids - and friends! - Please let us know if you can volunteer for an hour or two. We need LOTS of volunteers on June 17 to hold signs, wash cars, sell baked goods, and handle money.

And please come get your car washed! Get all that winter grime and pollen off your vehicle and support kids at the same time (and if you have a Dad to celebrate on Father's Day, how about giving him the gift of a clean car?..).

*- Liz Horn, elhorn@mindspring.com 646-234-8805*

## LOST & FOUND!!!

Thanks to our JFK students who came to do a Day of Service, our Lost & Found is organized and ready to be claimed - in the front hall! Please take a look before the last day of school!!

## GARDEN NEWS - SUMMER IS HERE!

If you are interested in signing up to help water and care for the JSS garden this summer please sign up at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c4caca92ba5fc1-jssgarden1>

If you have any questions please email summer coordinator Katharine Walmsley at [kwalmsley@northampton-k12.us](mailto:kwalmsley@northampton-k12.us). We look forward to seeing students and families in the garden this summer!

*-The Garden Committee*

## Jackson in Action

### News from Physical Education at JSS

*Ms. Janis Totty, PE Specialist Teacher*

THANK YOU to Ms. Lauren Barry, who taught Physical Education for Ms. Carlton's first grade, and Mrs. Reed and Ms. Reed's kindergarten classes. Ms. Barry, who also teaches ELL at JFK, will be teaching more hours at JFK next year and will not be here at JSS. Thank you, Ms. B, for your inspiring positive energy, for your skill, kindness and sensitivity in providing developmentally appropriate movement time for young learners. We will miss you!

THANK YOU to the Big Y supermarket in Northampton - belated thanks - for lending us a grocery cart for our STOMP-ish performance in March!

THANK YOU to our walking program volunteers Leah Berkowitz Gosselin (Alton in 3rd grade), Jess Saalfield (Kaya in 2nd and Alaisia in 3rd grade), Ilana Polyak (Stefan in 2nd and Koby in K), Beth Tascione (Maddie in K), and to anyone else who helped our students participate in this very popular and important program!

THANK YOU to our PTO for our new GaGa pit! We had a long process that involved the need to make some changes in direction. Our PTO was incredibly thoughtful and skilled during this process, and incredibly supportive of our students and their long-standing desire to have a GaGa pit of our own. Special thanks go to Jenna Lanterman (Dean in 2nd grade), Chris Chamberland (Rowan in 1st grade), and to Mark LaCasse (JSS staff as well as Dad of Maddie in 5th and Jake in 4th grade), Tony Kusnierz and Rolly Lebeau of NPS Buildings and Grounds.

THANK YOU the staff at Mamba GaGa, LLC, in New Jersey who drove up from New Jersey with a pit so we could have it in time for field day. Wow!

THANK YOU to Vanessa Keilor (Ainsley in 4th and Josiah in 1st grade), who organized an amazing field day, to Sandy and Richard Jaescke of Pine Brook Farm for lending us straw bales for the obstacle course, to parents Jared Kajka (Emily in 1st grade) and Marc Lusier (Simone in 3rd grade) for transporting bales to JSS and back to Pine Brook Farm, and to our amazing Mr. Mark LaCasse (staff and parent both), for helping us with so many things. Thank you to the Northampton Fire Dept for bringing a truck and hose to field day. Last but not least, thank you to all of the grown-up caregivers who came out to help us run stations, have fun and PLAY!

THANK YOU to all of our amazing staff and faculty, and to our incredible grown-ups at home, for supporting our Physical Education program, and physical activity in the lives of children. .

And last, THANK YOU to our students, who were born to move, who bring joy, kindness, respect, care, curiosity and so much more to our Physical Education program every day. You are amazing and we hope you have a safe, healthy and active summer. Fifth graders, we will miss you and we are so excited for you to be going on new adventures! HAPPY SUMMER!

## IN THE NEWS

At this time of year, we like to give a shout-out to staff/faculty members who are graduating or have family members who are. Here are this year's:

👩 **Alexis Oldham Barca**, Reading teacher, Ms. Linda Barca's son, who graduated from San Diego State University with a BA in sociology.

👩 **Nathalie Garcia**, KDG ESP, Ms. Lilly Pastor's daughter (and JSS grad!) from Springfield Technical Community College with an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice.

CONGRATULATIONS from us all!

## KDG AND NEW STUDENT Summer Playground Playdates:

When: Wednesdays, August 8, 15, 22 Time: 4:30-6:00pm

This year new students in all grades will be invited to the playground playdates! Ms. Agna will attend the playdates.

## 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 – 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.

- Sun. June 17 CAR WASH for Nature's Classroom 11:30-4PM at King and Cushman!
- Mon. June 18 WALKING SCHOOL BUS!  
JSS Council meeting 3:30-5PM
- Tues. June 19 5th GRADE GRADUATION 1:30PM
- Wed. June 20 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! It's a half-day – dismissal at 12:20PM and bag lunches will be available
- Mon. Aug. 27 NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION 1PM
- Thurs. Aug. 30 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for grades 1-5  
KDG Visiting Day
- Fri. Aug. 31 KDG Visiting Day
- Mon. Sept. 3 NO SCHOOL
- Tues. Sept. 4 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for Kindergarten!
- Thurs. Sept. 13 WELCOME BACK Bring-Your-Own Picnic 5:30- 7PM
- Thurs. Oct. 4 JSS OPEN HOUSE!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

A very important workshop!

Northampton Area Pediatrics, LLP

PARENTING WORKSHOP

*Understanding Transgender Children*

Presenter: Jennifer Nesteby, MSN, FNP

Sunday, June 24th 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

193 Locust St., Northampton

RSVP by calling 413-517-2226 or email [contactus@napeds.com](mailto:contactus@napeds.com)

Parenting workshops are open to the community and free of charge.