



Newsletter

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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 23 No. 11

November 16, 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 كنت ترغب في نسخة من هذه الرسالة بلغة عربية، يرجى الاتصال بالمدارس في 587-1315.

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR EDITION

Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Morvidelli's Kindergarten Room 101

I am thankful for my reading buddy because we read fun books.

I am thankful for my family because they take care of me.

I am thankful for my dog because he is cute and warm and for my parents because they protect me and I am thankful for school because I get to see my friends.

I am thankful for my reading buddy because they make me happy.

I am thankful for my brothers and daddy because they give me water and food.

I am thankful for my parents because they give me food.

I am thankful for my family and friends because they are nice to me and fun to play with

I am thankful for my Grandma because she lets me have ice cream after she picks me up from the bus stop.

I am thankful for my reading buddy because I love to read with her and I love my reading buddy because I love when she reads.

I am thankful for my food because I am always hungry and my family because they protect me.

I am thankful for my family because they take care of me and I am thankful for my teacher because she shows me stuff.

I am thankful for my mom and dad because they give me food. I go to school.

I am thankful for my shoes.

I am thankful for my mom and dad because they take care of me. They love and protect me.

I am thankful for my books because I love them and all 50 are fun.

I am thankful for food because I'm always hungry and for my brain so I can think.

I am thankful for my reading buddy because we read fun books together and for my teacher because she's the coolest and my mom and dad because they feed me healthy foods and take care of me when I am sick.

I am thankful for my sister because she shares with me.

I am thankful for the families at J.S.S.

Ms. Jenny Jen and Ms. Lilly's Kindergarten Room 105 is thankful for

The world
Ourselves
Our dogs and cats and kittens - because they are so cute and cuddly too!
Our homes
Our families- because we love them!
Our sisters and brothers, our parents and grandparents!
Playing games and having people to play them with!
Dessert! (Thanks parents for giving us such lovely, yummy food!)
Helping out (like setting the table for my parents!)
Going places together - like apple picking!
Having fun!
Playing together!
All living things!

Kindergarten Room 107

Maria and PJ and the amazing (KDG) children from room 107 are grateful for baby brothers, all the animals, our pets and the school dog Jackson. Many students were thankful; for the world, our earth, the sun, and all the solar system. They were also thankful for our school. We the adults are thankful that we get to spend our days surrounded by such special little humans!

Ms. Carlton's 1st grade Room 102 is so very thankful for...

My brother
My Dad
The Little Star Show
My dog
Bunnies
Family
Flowers
Hugs
My Sister
My whole family
School
Chocolate
Houses
My fantastic students!

Mr. Strouse's 1st grade Room 104

I am thankful for Dungeons and Dragons.
I am thankful for my teacher.
I am thankful for my mommy.
I am thankful for my mom.
I am thankful for my grandpa and his horses.
I am thankful to do a karate kick on my brother.
I am thankful for cats.
I am thankful for my cat and my horse.
I am thankful for plants.
I am thankful for my mice.
I am thankful for my sister and my gerbils, Bailey and Nacho.
I am thankful for love.
I am thankful for plants.
I am thankful for music.
I am thankful for Valentine's Day, Christmas, New Years Eve and Halloween.
I am thankful for Valentine's Day, Christmas, New Years Eve and Halloween.
I am thankful for my toys.
I am thankful that my first grade class is never boring or dull!

Ms. Talia's 2nd grade Room 111

- Friends
- Shelter
- family
- school
- being able to be generous
- sisters/brothers
- Jackson
- yoga
- Ms. Agna
- God
- food
- being alive
- getting educated
- nature at school
- having freedom
- going to the woods
- games

Ms. Walmsley's 2nd grade Room 113 we are thankful for...

- A friend
- My friends
- My friends and family
- My Xbox and my family
- Family, food, home, and a friend
- My family
- My family
- My friends
- My friends
- All my friends and family
- My mom's first tomato soup
- My family
- Family, food, toys, and my dog
- My family, my friends, books, a house, and food
- My friends, my family, my dog, my school, and my house
- Books, family, friends, food, animals, water, and plants
- Cats
- My Mommy
- My friends
- My parents
- Mommy and Daddy
- My cat and dog
- Healthy food, my family, and love

Ms. Smith's 2nd graders Room 116

I am thankful for my...

- Family, my house, resources, and my friends
- Family, my friends, a house, a teacher, and a school
- Family, friends, electricity, and resources
- Friends
- Teacher and family
- School, teachers, the wonderful therapy dog, the principal, my family, and friends
- Family, homes, and school
- Family, friends, home, teacher, resources, electricity, school
- Teacher and my family
- School
- Baby sister and family
- Family, school, and friends

- Friends, family, and sports
- School
- Family, friends, and car
- Family, friends, teacher, home, and my school
- Family, mom, friends, school, teacher, home
- Sports
- Teacher and my school
- Family, friends, school, teacher, home, resources, and electricity
- Mom, home, friends, teachers, and family
- Family, mom, home, friends, school, teachers
- Family, friends, and school
- Students, because they teach me so much

Ms. Cameron and Ms. Flinker's 3rd graders Room 208 are thankful for...

Life!

Puppies.

my hamster because he makes me happy.

food and life.

earth because I would not be alive.

our house, because it gives us shelter.

cheese.

my family because I love my family!

my blanket because I had it since I was one.

school.

drawing because it's fun!

my dog because she showed us that there is now a skunk under our shed.

my house.

my family because they are nice.

for my dog, Darby.

my drawings.

Mrs. Cora's 3rd graders Room 207 are thankful for:

- My house and family
- Everything
- My family
- Friends
- Being alive
- What I have
- Having food, water, and a house

Room 207 continued

- I have a warm house and can have food every day
- My pet
- My puppy Sulu
- My gerbils and my friends
- Nurses
- My cat and the world
- Mother Earth
- PEACE!

Ms. Gerould's third graders in Room 209 are thankful for...

My mom and dad

My moms

Being in school and learning more

Me, myself and I!

My friends and family

My grandparents

Animals and nature

Ants, worms

Being alive

Fresh food and fresh water

My brothers

My sister

Having a nice house

This school

My teachers

The turkey

Fun!

My students and my colleagues

In Ms. Raymer's 4th grade Room 201 we are very thankful for:

Family, friends, dogs, cats, technology, books, food (in particular chocolate), shelter, clothes, water, money, holidays, this school, education and life!

And some of us have individual gratitude for:

Having a sister in college, toys, cars, furry blankets, fireplaces, soft PJ's, paper, helping people, candy, cookies, math, reading, baking, cooking, ice cream, Doritos, TV, my birthday, sleep, that I am healthy, weekends, my dogs cheering me up when I am sad, basketball being invented, going to Iceland with my family, getting to do awesome fun things in Buffalo New York with all my family, Jackson, trees plants, hot chocolate, PE, marshmallows, recess, swimming, UNICEF, chickens, soccer, Saturdays, and being happy.

Ms. Mokerzecki's 4th grade room 202 is thankful for...

Clothes because it keeps me warm.

My baby brother because he is kind, shy, nice, loves to play, and he loves his family.

My cat, family, home, food, and friends.

My friends because they keep me happy.

My family, friends, and the people I care about because they help me learn and grow. They are almost always there for me.

My family because they are always there for you and because they pay for everything I do.

My bed and home days because I get to sleep in. My cat because I love her. I am happy for my home because I have shelter.

Having a school because not everyone has education.

My family because they feed me and protect me. School because I get to learn and I get to meet and see my friends.

My family because they protect me. Food and water because I need them to survive.

Life because I existed how I am.

Books because I love to read. Soccer because I play on two teams.

My family because they take care of me and always help me when I get hurt.

My mom and dad because they take care of me.

Life because I would not be here without it.

Hope, which keeps us going every day, time after time, no matter what. Hope wakes us up in the morning day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year.

My family and friends because they make me feel happy and take care of me.

Life, it is beautiful, it is such a thrilling experience full of wonders. Animals, plants, food, all of these things are such a thrill to experience, especially my family. I love them a lot.

Books because they are fun to read. Family because they are supportive, kind, nice and provide me with food, water, and shelter. Animals because they are fascinating, fun, inspiring, and make the world better. Music and instruments because I love playing and listening to them. Clean water to keep me neat. Friends because they are so nice and fun. Sports because they are fun to play. My teachers because they help me learn. JK Rowling because she writes my favorite books.

My family because they love and care about me. The only thing I could wish for.

My mother and father, cousins, and family in general. I am grateful because they are nice. They are kind and considerate. They understand and care for you. My teachers at JSS and principal. They educate you. They guide and help you.

Room 202 continued

I am thankful for the doctors and nurses that saved me when I was born.

My family because they take care of me and keep me safe.

Water because if we did not have it, we could not live.

Ms. McCue's 4th grade room 204

We are thankful for...

...My family, gymnastics, my friends, my teachers, my coaches, the principal, and the Earth.

...My family, my friends, my house, all the things I have...I'm thankful for my school, all the things I learn, and everything I have.

...My big family and my five dogs. I'm also thankful for the friends I have and my warm fireplace. I am also thankful for being able to eat food and play the sports I can. I'm thankful for my Xbox and my 4 moms, brother and sister, and my foster sister.

...The water bottle filler, food, sleep, hamburgers, mom, dad, school, brother, friend, cats, my dream to be a cosmologist (scientist).

...My teacher, my family, my life and my friends. I am thankful for the things that I've learned like math, writing, and reading. I'm happy we have a school. I'm grateful for my family because they give me food, water, and shelter.

...My family, friends, and cotton candy; candy and Halloween and food and Jackson Street School. My neighbors and my birthday, TV shows and going shopping, and me.

...My brother even though he tries to hurt me sometimes. I am thankful for a safe school to go to and that I live in a safe and awesome neighborhood. And all the specials.

...My family, food, the amazing teachers and principal, PS4, animals, friends, Earth, water, God, and Jesus.

...Everyone in this world! First, I am thankful for the military, for serving our country as the place they believe in. Second, I am thankful for my dog, the most tolerant, loyal, loving thing you could ever imagine. Third, I am thankful for my piano teacher. He showed me the key to understanding music's door. I am thankful for my friends, family, teachers, neighbors, human kind, and a million other things!

...The best principal in the world! My family! My school and friends! Basketball and the Chicago Bulls.

...My mom and dad, my birthday and my parakeets... Sunny, Sammy, and Stormy, even the dead ones that are in birdy heaven--Angel and Phoenix! I am thankful

myself and my siblings.

...My family, my school, the books, food, video games, my life, my stuff.

...My family, my friends, having a life. I am thankful for my school and food and water and my house.

...ART!!!! And paints and colored pencils and paper and markers and sharpies and all other art supplies!! I am also thankful for candy. It is AMAZING!! And my cats. And animal shelters!! (Except for the animal shelters that put animals to sleep when the animals have been there too long)

...Slim Jims and lobster and swordfish, and my dog...for my mom and dad and brother. I am also thankful for my home and candy, the world and for TV and my life and for heaven and for the universe.

...Every living thing, oceans, rivers, farms. I'm grateful for my family, my pet, my home, my whole life. I'm grateful for my teachers and my principal, my friends and my abilities that I'm lucky I have when some people don't. I'm thankful for my confidence and power that women have earned. I'm thankful for everything.

...My school and being able to learn. I'm thankful for books because I love to read and a pug who always cheers me up. I'm thankful for shelter, water, and food, my sister, my friends, and the rest of my family.

...Basketball, soccer, and all the teachers that keep us safe inside. And Jackson--he is sooo cute and fluffy and he likes to jump on people. And a great teacher and back to the people who keep us safe.

...My family for support in all my events, and my friends for being my friends, and all my coaches. I am grateful for walls around my body and a roof over my head. I'm thankful for my dog. I am thankful for Sony, Apple, food, good shoes. I am thankful for the NBA, NFL and for good shoes.

...My big family and my friends because they are nice and kind, etc. I am thankful for being alive. I am thankful for all the food I can eat.

...That my dog loves me. Having a nice family plus I have a great mom. Having great fun and nice times and my siblings.

...Jackson Street School--for amazing colleagues (including Jackson!), my amazing student teacher, and a principal who leads with compassion, humor, and vision. I'm grateful for students who are curious, insightful, and enthusiastic. They make me laugh, learn, and grow every day. I'm very thankful for wonderful, supportive family and friends. I am grateful to be a mama to my daughter.

Mr. Ames' 5th grade Room 210

I'm thankful for my friends because they are nice and they support me.

I'm thankful for having a good dad and Mom.

I am thankful for all the people who stand up for themselves and others.

I am thankful for my trampoline.

I'm thankful for my family because they take care of me.

I'm thankful for my town, because it has all the things we need, for example food, sport teams, and other activities, and cool people.

Room 210 continued

I'm thankful for my toddler foster brother, because he's super cute, and funny, and he distracts me from all the things I have to do, and worry about.

I am thankful for my dog, Rosie because she's funny and she makes me happy when I'm sad.

I am thankful for recess because it helps me get all my energy out.

I'm thankful for my friends, because they are kind, and they respect and understand me.

I'm thankful for my parents, because they always there to listen to me, and encourage me to try new things, and not be afraid.

I am thankful for sports because they exercise my mind and body.

I am thankful for school (most of the time), because I can be with my friends and can learn cool information.

I'm thankful for pizza because, if I didn't have it, there would be a problem.

I am thankful for gluten-free snacks.

I am thankful for Legos.

I am thankful for fidgets.

I am thankful to work at a wonderful school, with wonderful students and co-workers.

Mr. Chang's 5th grade Room 211

I am thankful for my family, school, food, and water.

I am thankful that I reliably have food to eat, and water to drink.

I am thankful for my family and my house, my brothers, and parents.

I am thankful for a principal who is full of love.

Mr. Slattery's 5th grade Room 212

I am thankful for shelter, electricity, my family, a safe place to live, a country with no child labor, healthcare, education, my best friend, community, everyone's rights, and friendship.

I am thankful for food, clean water, electricity, shelter, our ecosystem, animals, and people you can trust.

I am thankful for animals, my dog, my horse, my family, friends, laughter, and me

I am thankful for food, water, shelter, friendship, a safe place to live, doctors, nature, and life

I am grateful for education, rights, food, clean water, JSS!, safety, friends and family, my dog, and books.

I externally express gratitude for community, communication, freedom, happiness, and your time.

I am thankful for having survived Hurricane Maria and being able to move to a safer place, and having a home and family.

I am thankful for family, water, home, animals, dinosaurs, WWF, Legos, clothing, airplanes, and school.

I am thankful for this community and education and friendship and water, food, and shelter.

I am thankful for my family, friends, education, and a safe place to live with warm water, electricity, and heat.

I am thankful for my family, a place to live, for safe drinking water, community, and friends.

I am thankful for family, friends, safety, food, water, healthcare, electricity, and more.

I am thankful for religious rights, a safe place to live, my family and friends, community, and healthcare.

I am thankful for food, water, a roof over my head, my friends, family, education, my clothes, and animals.

I am thankful for friendship, food, water, shelter, healthcare, people I can trust, and community.

I am thankful for food so I'm not starving, somewhere safe for me to live, and my family, community, and friendships.

I am thankful for our ecosystem, family, electricity, no child labor, and education.

I am thankful for clean water, food, shelter, my family, my dog, books, libraries, and a safe community.

I am thankful for my cat, healthcare, electricity, anti-slavery, friendship, community, food, and a home.

I am thankful for food, water, my family, friends, JoJo Siwa, and my dog Rosie, of course.

I am grateful for my biological and chosen families; my loving friends; my health; Ruby and Clementine; the JSS community; and for my strong, capable, amazing students.

MOVIE NIGHT FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16 6PM!!

Please come watch Aladdin with your classmates!

Bring a pillow and blanket!

Pizza, popcorn and snacks available for sale!

Kids need to be accompanied by an adult.

Suggested donation \$3 an adult \$2 for kids

Thank you,

The Natures Classroom Committee 2019

HOLA NEWS

The last Tuesday HOLA class will be this coming Tuesday, 11/20. The last Wednesday class will be on 11/28. The Thursday classes have ended.

Next session begins 1/8. Look for HOLA forms in December.

FIRST JSS COUNCIL MEETING

We will hold the first JSS Council meeting with our new members, David Lukens and Nicole Walsh on Tuesday, November 20, 3:30-5PM.

Here is the agenda for the meeting – all are welcome to attend:

1. Greetings, introductions (Welcome Nicole and David!), and approval of last month's Minutes (5)
2. Council at PTO (10)
3. Family Dinners (5)
3. Documenting the JSS Experience, Broadening scope to include Students and Families (10)
4. New Survey (45-60)
5. Next meeting agenda items

GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving, is the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, November 27. The JSS PTO will be participating to raise money for a Teacher Wish list Fund. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for a PTO fund to directly support teacher and staff needs in the midst of shrinking supply budgets. Examples of what this fund will support are: alternative seating, classroom supplies, helping new teachers set up their classrooms, equipment for PE, funds for guest speakers, the technology lab and maker space supplies, and so much more!

Mark your calendars for #GivingTuesday on November 27 and stay tuned for more information on how you can take part in this amazing community day of giving to support our teachers, staff, and students at JSS.

~JSS PTO Leadership

Free Yoga Classes at Karuna


Friday, December 7th 4:00 - 5:00

A gentle, mindful practice for all teachers and staff. Come and let go of your stressful week with some movement, breathing, and meditation.

Friday, December 14th 4:00 - 5:00

An active, playful class for teachers, staff, students and FAMILIES. Come and experience for yourself what happens every day at the JSS Mindfulness studio.

IN THE NEWS

 Gazette photographer, Carol Lollis, captured 4th grade, Alton Berkowitz-Gosselin with his mom, Leah, while she voted at the JSS polling place.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SCI-TECH CAFÉ

Event location: Union Station, 125A Pleasant Street, Northampton MA. Light appetizers are available while supplies last, and food is available to order.

Time: 6:00pm

Save The Dates / Upcoming Speakers!

12/3/18: Ken Colodner, Mount Holyoke College (Neuroscience)

1/28/19: Katie Mack, NC State University (Astrophysics)

2/25/19: Kaca Bradonjic, Hampshire College (Physics)

3/25/19: Jesse Mager, UMass Amherst (Vet Science)

4/22/19: Bosiljka Glumac, Smith College (Geology)

6/3/19: TBA

MESSAGE FROM MS. AGNA

Reminder that there will be no newsletter next week due to the short week.

VISITING DAYS & KDG INFO

Please see the attached pages to this newsletter regarding next year's KDG Family Info Night, KDG Registration as well as the January and February Visiting Days. We're letting you know in advance so you can plan to visit/attend if you'd like. All the elementary schools hold Visiting Days for prospective families as well as for current ones. We encourage you to mark your calendars and visit during these designated days. We don't schedule visits after February, unless for families who are moving to our school.

FAMILY DINNERS

Here are the upcoming Family Dinner dates:

Wed. Nov. 28 – 1st grade Thurs. Nov. 29 – 2nd grade

Tues. Dec. 4 – 3rd grade Thurs. Dec. 6 – KDG (rescheduled)


We are taking sign-ups through email or calling the office. Email me: gagna@northampton-k12.us or call 413-587-1510. We think this is the best way to get an accurate count for ordering pizza.

GRATITUDE

I love reading all the things, people, animals and places that our students and staff are thankful for in this annual edition. I bring the newsletter to our family Thanksgiving table – my family looks forward to reading this edition and being reminded of all that the children are grateful for. As difficult as it is to celebrate Thanksgiving in all its troubled history and ongoing situations for those who are the original inhabitants of our country, I think it is a good practice to pause and acknowledge what we DO have to be thankful for.

This year's table at our house will be different, given the loss of our dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather. We are all broken hearted at his passing but are profoundly grateful for our lives because of and with him. I wrote his obituary (it's online at gazette.net) and my siblings and I are all sharing it with our communities as way for our friends, co-workers and colleagues to understand where we came from. His was a remarkable life and a pretty good death and we miss him so.

Peace to you and all,


Gwen Agna

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.

Fri. Nov. 16 MOVIE NIGHT 6PM

Wed. Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Break begins at 12:20PM

Mon. Nov. 26 Welcome back to school!

Wed. Nov. 28 1st grade Family Dinner

Thurs. Nov. 29 2nd grade Family Dinner

Tues. Dec. 4 3rd grade Family Dinner

Wed. Dec. 5 Teacher Work (Half) Day

Fri. Dec. 22-Tues. Jan. 2 (first day back) NO SCHOOL – December Holiday Break

Fri. Jan. 25 NO SCHOOL for students – Teacher Work Day

Fri. Mar. 15 GRADES 3,4 & 5 CONCERT 9:30AM in the gym (YES, we know it's a half-day – dismissal is at 12:20PM, plenty of time for the concert!)

Fri. May 3 GRADES K, 1 & 2 CONCERT 1:30PM in the gym

Fri. May 10 Alex Smith Trio RETURN ENGAGEMENT – stay tuned for details!

HOLA DATES!

Tues. 11/20

Wed. 11/28

Questions? hola@northampton-k12.us

ASSEMBLY DATES

Nov. 30 9:50AM – 4th grade

Dec. 20 – 2:15PM 2nd grade Winter Solstice

Jan. 11 –10:30AM 3rd grade MLK, Jr.

Feb. 27 – 1:30PM 1st grade

Mar. 29 – 9:50AM – Ms. Agna

Apr. -25 – 9:10AM 5th grade

May 30– 2:00PM KDG - JSS Grads

June 12 – 10:30AM Ms. Agna Fine Fine School

TOY FUND APPLICATIONS

The Berkshire Children and Families Agency is currently accepting applications from families who wish to be considered for this year's Sidney F. Smith Toy Fund. The fund gives parents vouchers for children ages 1 - 14 to be used for holiday gifts.

Applications will not be taken over the phone. The required eligibility forms can be picked up at the following locations:

Berkshire Children and Families
220 Russell St. Hadley

United Way
71 King St. Northampton

Amherst Family Center
1200 N. Pleasant St. Amherst

Amherst Survival Center
138 Sunderland Rd. Amherst

Center for New Americans
42 Gothic St. Northampton

Easthampton Community Center
12 Clark St. Easthampton

Hilltown Family Center
9 Russell Rd. Huntington

South Hadley Family Center
7 Woodbridge St. South Hadley

Community Action Offices
17 New South St. Suite 116 Northampton

Daily Hampshire Gazette
115 Conz St. Northampton

Applications must be mailed to: Sidney F. Smith Toy Fund c/o Berkshire Children and Families, 220 Russell St. Suite 200 Hadley 01035

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
NOVEMBER 26, 2018**