



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.jspspto.org/>

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. 14

December 14, 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 رغبت تذاك اذا 587-1315 يف ةسردملا ةرادإ لاصتالا ىجري، ةيبرعلال ةغللاب ةبوتكم ةلاسارلا هذه نم ةخسن ىلع لوصرحال يف بقرت تنك اذا.

MESSAGE FROM MS. AGNA

FAMILY DINNERS

The teachers/faculty and I thank all who attended the Family Dinners In November and December! We enjoyed having dinner with you and your families as well as the discussions we had, based on your questions, concerns and interests. And THANK YOU, dear JSS PTO, for underwriting the cost of the dinners and to **Ms. Deirdre Johnson** for coordinating it all. We served pizza, salad/carrots and cookies to over 500 people and Ms. Deirdre and her assistants took care of over 300 children!

We, the faculty and I, will debrief this year's dinners and we'd like to hear from you. Please fill out the short survey at the end of this newsletter and email or return to me in the school office.

TIS THE SEASON - REMINDERS

Please join us to celebrate the return of the light and the Winter Solstice at our annual assembly on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 2:15PM in the gym. Our 2nd graders lead us in this celebration and we light candles representing the many holidays celebrated during this period.

The annual Giving Tree is continues to welcome canned/boxed goods to be donated to the Northampton Survival Center as well as decorated by mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves! Please consider doing this as part of your family's giving this season. We are looking for volunteers to transport the tree's bounty to the Northampton Survival Center on Thursday afternoon, December 20th. Please let me know if you can help!

END OF YEAR GIVING

The JSS PTO Emergency Fund – to help families facing serious financial challenges – is all but depleted. Please consider an end-of-year gift to the JSS PTO (in the memo line “JSS Emergency Fund”)! This will allow us to purchase gift cards for food, clothing and household items for JSS families in need. Thank you.

Peace to you and all,

Gwen Agna
Gwen Agna

TODAY!!

Free Yoga Class at Karuna with Ms. Alessi Friday, December 14th 4:00 - 5:00 PM

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

Karuna Center for Yoga & Healing Arts
25 Main Street, Third Floor
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

Chess and Checker Day at Morning Math Club

Tuesday, December 18 will be Chess and Checker Day at Morning Math Club. Whether you are a chess or checkers expert, or absolutely new to the game, have fun at Morning Math Club next Tuesday as we all play together. All are invited to wear red, black and/or white clothing (checkerboard patterns are a plus!!).

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT HOLIDAY STORE!

Thanks to all who volunteered, donated or shopped at the JSS Holiday Store last week.

We really appreciate all the help and support, and were so happy to see so many kids (and adults!) find gifts for their family and friends this season.

And we also raised \$578 for our school!

Thanks and Happy Holidays to all!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR HOLA!

Tues. Jan. 8 HOLA Session 2 starts

Thurs. Feb. 14 HOLA Session 2 ends

HOLA session 2 will run six weeks, January 8- February 14. Registration forms went home this week and will be due back December 19th. Class confirmations will go home the first week of January, and classes start the second week. Any questions?


hola@northampton-k12.us or 587-1510 x3775


LOST & FOUND AND COATS – ONE MORE TIME!

The Lost & Found table is overflowing! PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS! We will try to return lost items to students during the day but we can't when they're not labeled!

Also, it is cold outside and some students aren't wearing/bringing coats, hats, glove, mittens, and scarves! We are happy to enforce wearing them but we need them to come to school with your children!

IN THE NEWS

 Title I Math teacher, **Ms. Mary Cowhey**, was captured by a Daily Hampshire Gazette photographer for a front page article on the visit to the region by MA Senate President, Karen Spilka. Ms. Cowhey spoke about the need for increased funding for public schools. **Isaiah Comerford-Hennessey's mother, Jo Comerford**, organized the visit and Northampton Superintendent, John Provost testified to the need for more funding. The following is the link to the article: <https://www.gazettenet.com/State-senate-president-visits-Franklin-Hampshire-counties-2211764>

 1st grader, **Julia Lloret's mother, Regina Galasso**, Director of the Translation Center at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, was quoted on the center's work as part of an article on workshops for educators in the Holyoke Schools. The following is the link to the article:

<https://www.gazettenet.com/UMass-Translation-Center-Holyoke-schools-partner-for-staff-workshops-21965718?fbclid=IwAR2OSoMsO7wTpsEl-Lhk6Grgz86wtHaKjtIE-oNU5gnHtRD-fQj40E6Wphcg>

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!

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

MASS AUDUBON

We are fortunate to have an Audubon sanctuary on the border with Easthampton. Opportunities abound for vacation camps, nature walks, etc. Call 584-3009 for information and to register.

Here are a few upcoming events:

Winter Solstice Celebration Friday, December 21 5:30 - 8:30pm

This FREE event is open to adults and families with children of all ages.

Bring the family to Arcadia to celebrate the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year and a time we welcome the longer days ahead. As with cultures the world over, we will celebrate the early dark with light. This year, we'll have a small bonfire and a magical luminary trail through the winter woods (weather permitting). Our festive event will include face painting and joyous live music. (Please bring a nonperishable food item for the Food Bank of W. MA).

Tracking Fun for Families

Saturdays, Jan. 5; Feb. 2/ 10:00- 11:30am

Adults \$8 members \$10 non-, Children same

Your child will love this magical shadow puppet presentation of Jane Yolen's classic book *Owl Moon* while learning about the seven native owl species in MA. After the show, we'll take a walk in the winter woods to call for owls. After the walk, we will return indoors to warm up with a cup of hot chocolate and a snack. (Dress to be outdoors).

Tracking and Animal Signs at Laughing Brook (Hampden, MA)

Saturdays, Jan. 5; Feb. 2/ 10:00- 11:30am

Adults \$8 members \$10 non-, Children same

Paw prints aren't always necessary to track an animal. The forest is full of signs that tell us about the wildlife within, and in this class you will learn how to identify and read them with your family.

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.

Thurs. Dec. 20 All-school assembly – 2nd grade presents on the Winter Solstice 2:15PM

Fri. Dec. 21 LAST DAY before holiday break
Progress report cards go home with students in grade 1-5. Kindergarten reports go home in early February

Fri. Dec. 21-Tues. Jan. 2 (first day back) NO SCHOOL – December Holiday Break

Tues. Jan. 8 HOLA STARTS

Fri. Jan. 11 All-school Martin Luther King Jr. assembly 3rd grade presents 10:30AM

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

Thurs. Feb. 14 HOLA ENDS

Wed. Feb. 27 All-school assembly 1st grade presents 1:30PM

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!)

Thurs. Apr. 25 All-school assembly 5th grade presents 9:10AM

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!

Thurs. May 30 All-school assembly WELCOME BACK JSS/HIGH SCHOOL GRADS – KDGners are hosts 2PM

Wed. June 12 All-school assembly FINE FINE SCHOOL

ASSEMBLY DATES

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

Jan. 11 –10:30AM 3rd grade MLK, Jr.

Feb. 27 – 1:30PM 1st grade

Apr. -25 – 9:10AM 5th grade

May 30– 2:00PM KDG - JSS Grads

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

VISITING DAYS

Wednesdays 9:30-11AM

January 9, 16, 23, 30

February 6, 13, 27

FAMILY DINNER SURVEY (use back side if needed)

We/I attended Family Dinner(s) for grade(s) _____

What I/we liked about the dinner(s) – check all that apply:

_____ the free dinner _____ the childcare _____ hearing from the teachers _____ the chance to talk with other families

_____ the discussion _____ OTHER (please list)

What improvements to the dinners can you think of?

COMMENTS:

Thank you! Please email Ms. Agna or return to the school office by December 21st.