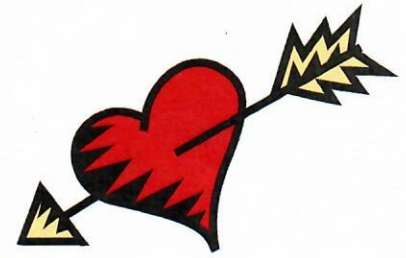


## February 2021 THE PRIMARY SOURCE

(for all the Primary News)

Tracy Allred, Principal

Renee Layton, Secretary – Sundee Swyers, Office Aide - 348-7242



### A Note from the Principal

January was a month with few activities, but was still very busy for us here at school. Our Second and First Graders along with our Kindergartners are continuing to work hard in our reading, writing, and math programs and are showing improvement in these areas. We are also continuing with our keyboarding program for K-6 students in our district as we strive to help better prepare them for the rigorous testing they will take starting in 3rd grade. We are also testing our students at JDPS as we prepare them for the things to come. I am very proud of our students and the great effort they put forth each and every day.

I want to thank our great teaching staff for being prepared each day to help their students leave JDPS feeling successful, as well as feeling good about themselves. It is very important that they receive encouragement both at home and at school. Working together creates the best possible environment for our children.

Parents, we appreciate all you do to help us here at school, and at home. I have a concern about students coming to school late or being absent excessively. We have a large number of students that come to school late or not at all. I am asking that we make a greater effort to get these children to school, as well as being to school on time. The first 3 years of a students education is the most crucial as this is where they learn to read and write. I know some of our students may be late occasionally, but we have many students that have made this a daily occurrence. The beginning of the day is as important as the rest of the day as valuable information will be missed by those students that are late. We know the education of a child is a team effort and we must work together. I encourage you to visit with your child's teacher often or as you feel it is needed. I want to encourage you to read with your children daily. If you do this, I promise that you will see a great improvement in your child's overall attitude about reading as well as school itself. I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable February.

Tracy Allred, Principal JDPS

OFFICE NOTES....Please remember to call the office or go on ParentVue to report your child's absent. Please call the school with changes to **address and phone number**. If you move out of TUSD, you need to fill out **Open Enrollment** forms at the District Office so that your child can continue to go to our school.

We want to remind you that we will not be accepting any Valentine's Day flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, etc. for your student. It is too distracting for the classroom and the buses do not have room to get these home. We also ask that you do not send arrangements on birthdays for these same reasons. However, store bought treats for the whole class can be a great way to celebrate a birthday! Thank you.

### February Events

Tues. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Weds. 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Class and Individual Pictures**  
**Lion's Club Flag Presentation**  
(For 1<sup>st</sup> graders)

Mon. 8<sup>th</sup>-Thurs. 11<sup>th</sup>

**Love of Reading Week**  
(Fun activities planned for each day)

Tues. 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Safford Library (8:30-10:15)**

Fri. 12<sup>th</sup> – Mon. 15<sup>th</sup> -

**NO SCHOOL – President's Day Weekend**

### March Events

Mon. 15<sup>th</sup> – Fri. 19<sup>th</sup> **No School – Spring Break**

### April Events

**Kindergarten Registration**

(More information will be coming.)

### Music

Thankfully, we have been able to spend another month in the classroom making music.

Our Kindergarten classes have been working on steady beat with many different songs using instruments and body percussion. "Warm Wendall", "5 Little Snowmen", "Jackson Blues", "Viennese Musical Clock" and "The Wild Horseman" are our main songs for this month. We have used egg shakers, drums, finger cymbals and Orff instruments to explore and perform the steady beat, silent beats and small rhythmic passages.

In our 1st Grade classes we expanded on the steady beat and silent beat concepts and they are improving their ability to echo different rhythmic passages on body percussion and instruments. The students are also getting better at singing call and response songs as well as the song tale "The Fox Went Out on a Chilly Night".

Finally in our oldest grade here, the 2nd graders are layering many musical elements. Singing, accompanying on the Orff instruments and playing rhythmic ostinatos as a class ensemble is pretty difficult and it is a joy to see that several of our classes are able to execute all three concepts at the same time. This month we have continued to work with the pitches So and Mi and just the last couple weeks of January I have introduced La. The students are not only singing them with solfège hand signals but they are playing the melodies on the Orff instruments.

Valene Bryce



## PTO...

We will be selling Valentine's grams for Valentine's Day. They will be for sale in the office for \$1.00 beginning January 27<sup>th</sup> until February 10<sup>th</sup> in the TES and JDPS offices.

**KINDERGARTEN....** February is a short month, but full of holidays. Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Arizona's Birthday and President's Day all in February. We appreciate your help with High Frequency words. So many of your children are excited and motivated to earn their belts and become better readers. Thank you for your encouragement at home!! The more words they know the better reader they will be. We are working on our numbers and sets with the numbers 11-20 in Math! WAHOO! Please continue to talk to your child about the skills they are learning. They need to know their address, phone number. We are hoping to continue our tradition of walking to the Police Station, Fire Station, and the Post Office soon as we learn about different jobs in our community (Covid permitting). Watch for notes coming home about these activities. Continue to talk, read, talk, read, talk and read some more so your child will love what we do and do what we love (READ). Thanks for your cooperation in making this a successful year!



Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. Mleynek, Ms. Stone, Mrs. Vining, Mrs. Hatch, Ms. Claridge

**FIRST GRADE...** February brings many important days in First Grade! Groundhog Day, Lincoln's birthday, Arizona's birthday, Valentine's Day, and Washington's birthday are just a few of the special days highlighted this month. We are also looking forward to Love of Reading week this month! To help teach children about America, the Lion's Club will give a presentation on the flag. THANK YOU LION'S CLUB! We would also like to give a great big thank you to you parents for your patience and listening ears. This is a crucial time for beginning readers and the practice at home helps strengthen skills taught at school. We appreciate your support! Information on your child's class Valentine's Day party will be sent to you by their teacher along with a valentine list.



Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Hansen, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Angle, Mrs. Rubalcava, Miss Roderick, and Mrs. Barney



**SECOND GRADE....** February is here and we are still working very hard in writing, math and reading. In writing, we will be writing research reports. These are very time consuming, so please be mindful of any deadlines so we can complete these in a timely manner. In math, we are working on time to the nearest 5 minutes and counting money. Any chance you have to pull out your loose change and have your child count it, or read the time on an analog clock, would be very helpful. Remember to have your child READ, READ, READ. Those who have been spending more time reading - especially outside of school - are the ones who are making huge gains in their vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Valentine's Day is coming quickly. Watch for notes about Valentines and parties. President's Day weekend is a four-day weekend, so no school on Friday Feb. 15 and Monday Feb. 18. Thank you Parents for all your help and support.

Ms. Moore, Ms. Fox, Mrs. Bryce, Mrs. Stacy, Mrs. Scoggin, and Mrs. Cooper



<b>FEBRUARY 2021</b> <small>THATCHER UNIFIED SCHOOL LUNCH MENU</small> 				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Corn Dog Tater Tot Pears Milk	2 Dunkers Green Beans Peaches Milk	3 Fajita Meat Tortilla Rice Mixed Fruit Milk	4 Roasted Chicken Corn Dinner Roll Apple Sauce Milk	5
8 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potato's Gravy Pears Milk	9 Chicken Patty Sandwich Carrots Pickles Mixed fruit Milk	10 Walking Taco Rice Cheese Lettuce / Tomato Peaches Milk	11 Hot Dog Waffle Fry Apple Milk	12
15 * HAPPY * * Presidents * * day! *	16 Fish Sticks Corn MG Chips Strawberries Milk	17 Chicken Fried Rice Mixed Vegetable Pears Milk	18 Sloppy Joe Tater Tot Apple Sauce Milk	19
22 Grilled BBQ Chicken Sandwich Broccoli / Ranch Apple Sauce Milk	23 Meat Ball Hoagie Garden Salad / Ranch Strawberries Milk	24 Chicken Taco Rice Pears Milk	25 Roasted Chicken Mashed Potatoes Dinner Roll Gravy Pears Milk	26 ORANGES <b>FRESH PICKS</b>
				
<b>NUTRITION BAR</b> Included with your meal and offered daily. Choose from a variety of fresh fruits or vegetables. For questions and comments, please email the Food Service Director at <a href="mailto:faye.ortiz@aviands.com">faye.ortiz@aviands.com</a> or call 928-228-3562 <small>BLISS NORTH AMERICA</small> This institution is an equal opportunity provider.				