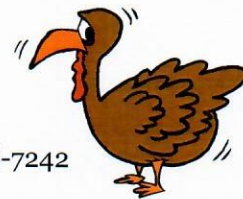


# November 2020 THE PRIMARY SOURCE

(For all the Primary News)

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



## A Note from the Principal...

What a beautiful time of year with all the fall leaves, brisk mornings, and the cotton harvest in full swing. It's no wonder they call this the season of Gratitude and Thanksgiving. We are very lucky to live in an area where we can feel safe and enjoy the benefits of living in a small community. I have said many times we are thankful for supportive parents that care and want to help us be the best school in the Gila Valley. I express my thanks to the great staff here at JDPS, and for the efforts, they put in each and every day.

We have just completed the first 9 weeks grading period along with our parent teacher conferences. I hope you had the opportunity to stop by and visit with your child's or children's teacher(s), if not please make an effort to stop by or call (928-348-7240) to set up an appointment to visit with the teacher.

## Reminders and Concerns

1) Parents if at all possible set your appointments after school. Our teachers plan to instruct right up to the end of the day so if you pick your child up early then they could miss something important. I understand that we sometimes can't avoid this and that's ok, we just don't want it to become a habit.

2) We ask that you do not drop your children off before 7:30 as there is no one on campus to watch them and their safety is important to us.

3) I am asking both parents and teachers to use the crosswalks in the mornings and afternoons, as it's hard to tell our students to obey the law when we as Adults do not.

4) Parents please keep your student at home if they are not feeling well as we want to keep our students coming to in person school. Also, we do have a few masks here at school but it has become a big expense so we are asking that you please make sure you are sending your student to school with a mask from home.

With the cooler mornings, kids are coming to school with their sweaters and jackets on and then shedding them at recess. Please take the time to write your child's name in their jackets so it can be identified and returned when it's brought to the lost and found. I want to remind you that students may wear beanies, earmuffs, and hoodies this time of year to keep their ears and heads warm. Thank you for all you do to help us out here at JDPS.

Remember to READ with your student(s). Wishing you all a special Thanksgiving season.

Mr. Tracy Allred  
Principal, JDPS

## November Events

Wed. - 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL  
Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Break-No School

## December Events

Mon. 21<sup>st</sup>- Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL  
Mon. Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> School Resumes

**Office Notes...** Just a reminder that we are still implementing the following procedure: Any changes to student transportation must be made before 12:00 noon. Only extreme exceptions or emergencies with approval of school administration will be allowed after 12:00 pm. This procedure helps eliminate confusion and chaos at the end of the school day. A

Also, **ALL Parent Volunteers** need to have completed the online volunteer application on the website at [www.thatcherud.org](http://www.thatcherud.org) **before** volunteering.

Check out our new website and find out information for upcoming events. Please call if you have any questions 348-7201 or 348-7240.

**Starting November 1<sup>st</sup> all students in district will receive free breakfast and lunches from the cafeteria. This will be available until the end of the school year.**



## Food Drive

We will be participating in the Radio's- School Food Drive again this year. We will be collecting items Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. **Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** will be the last day to donate. The winning class will get a pizza party, cupcakes, class trophy, and a tour of the LifeNet Helicopter. Thanks for donating! Your donations will benefit Our Neighbor's Pantry Food Bank and the St. Vincent DePaul Food Bank.

## KINDERGARTEN...

Our first quarter in Kindergarten has definitely been an adventure. We have practiced the alphabet and the sounds each letter makes and are learning how to blend the sounds of the letters to make words. We have been reading, using our high frequency words in sentences. We are becoming experts in writing our names and forming the letters correctly. In math, we are exploring numbers 0-10 using games, ten frames, word problems, oral expression and writing. We have been discussing seasonal themes like the life cycle of a pumpkin, bats, and spiders. AND on top of all that we are learning to adapt to Covid circumstances. Learning new things is so much fun! We appreciate all the help we are receiving from home with math and reading homework. As we work together great things will occur with our Kindergarten students! Thank you for your support! We hope you have a November filled with gratitude and Thanksgiving.

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

## FIRST GRADE...

November is a time to be grateful and first grade already has a long list of "thank yous". First, we would like to say thank you to all parents for attending parent/teacher conferences last month to discuss your little ones. We also had a great time watching a movie, eating popcorn, and picking a pumpkin at our "pumpkin patch." A big thank you to Mr. Allred for making sure all our students got a pumpkin, and thank you to Mr. Gifford and several of our teachers for creating a special day for our primary school students. Our home reading program is well underway and we appreciate the extra help you are giving your child by listening to him/her read every night. In math, concepts and language continue to be expanded as well. Thanks for your help with math homework too. We are seeing much growth and improvement in all areas. As always, "THANK YOU" for all the time and effort you give to your children.

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

## SECOND GRADE...

This school year is moving right along! Can you believe it's almost November! October was a very busy month and November is looking like it will be just as busy. A special thank you to all the parents who took the time out of your busy schedules to come and discuss your child's progress at Parent/Teacher Conferences. As teachers, our goal is to give our students the best possible education that we can. Thanks to you parents for working with us as a team effort in meeting that goal. Dare Week was October 26 - 29. We sang our Dare Song every day and talked about the dangers of taking drugs. We also visited our own homemade pumpkin patch to watch a Halloween movie and select a pumpkin to take home. Thanks to Mr. Allred and Mr. Gifford for arranging this.

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



## PTO...

\* The Shoe Drive is STILL HAPPENING! Help us make a strong last push to collect as many shoes as we can! Clean out those closets!!

\* Cookie dough orders raised over \$10,000! Congrats to our top 3 sellers:

1. Blayze Brown
2. Riley Talley
3. Madeline Barringer

\* 3 more water bottle filling stations were graciously donated to be installed for the Kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> grade hallways.

\* The shirt orders from the beginning of the year earned over \$2,000!

\* We are so grateful to all the parents, families, and local businesses for their donations to the PTO, which make it possible to support our Primary and Elementary school with their needs!

\* Follow "Thatcher School PTO" on Facebook and check your child's backpack for upcoming events!

## Music...


*The Little Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything*, *The Very Busy Spider* and "Peer Gynt: In the Hall of the Mountain King" were ever present in our music room this month. As we performed the stories with song, instruments and body percussion, the stories became more than just words on a page. The second grade class learned the rhythms that are present in "The Hall of the Mountain King" by Edvard Grieg and were able to hear the same rhythm and song used 145 years later in the more recent movie *The Trolls*.

Every day in the music room you will find rhythm readers and young musicians making music with their voices, bodies and instruments.

Valene Bryce

# NOVEMBER 2020

THATCHER UNIFIED SCHOOL  
LUNCH MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>2</b> Mac & Cheese Dinner Roll Broccoli Fruit Milk	<b>3</b> Meat Ball Hoagie Garden Salad Fruit Milk	<b>4</b> Chicken Taco Rice Fruit Milk	<b>5</b> Bacon Cheese Burger French Fries Fruit Milk	<b>6</b>
<b>9</b> Hot Dog Baby Carrots Ranch Fruit Milk	<b>10</b> Turkey & Ham Club Veggies Fruit Milk	<b>11</b> <b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>12</b> Crunchy Chicken Wrap Veggies Fruit Milk	<b>13</b>
<b>16</b> Baked Ziti Corn Fruit Milk	<b>17</b> Chicken Patty Sandwich Butter Carrots Fruit Milk	<b>18</b> Turkey Mashed Potato Vegetables Stuffing w/Roll Fruit Milk	<b>19</b> Corn Dog French Fries Fruit Milk	<b>20</b>
<b>23</b> Warm Ham & Cheese Melt Vegetable Fruit Milk	<b>24</b> Spaghetti Dinner Roll Green Beans Fruit Milk	<b>25</b> <b>No School</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>30</b> Pizza Broccoli Fruit Milk	<b>31</b>			

**NUTRITION BAR**  
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 [faye.ortiz@avlands.com](mailto:faye.ortiz@avlands.com) or call 9282283562.

THATCHER UNIFIED SCHOOL