

MARY F. JANVIER  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

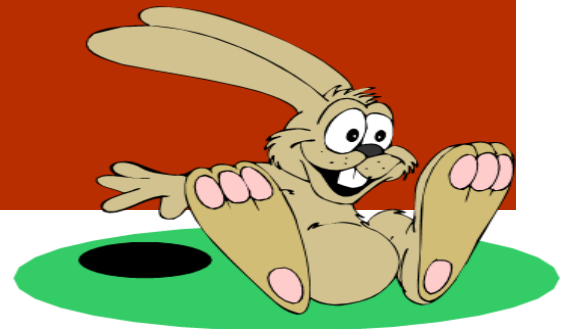
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Journal



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# The Janvier Journal



## Mr. Kobik's Corner

Welcome to the 2023 – 2024 school year! Our school year is off to a great start and I hope that your child has already told you of exciting classroom learning activities and new friendships that are being made. The staff of Mary F. Janvier Elementary School was excited to greet your children on the first day of school and we enjoyed seeing many of you at our recently held Back to School Night program. Throughout the school year, there will be additional events that will provide you with the opportunity to participate in activities that bring our school together as a community. Later in October, the PTA Monster Mash fundraiser provides this opportunity. In following the continued purpose of the *Janvier Journal*, it is my intent that this newsletter will serve as a valuable resource for all members of the Mary F. Janvier Elementary School community as a method of communicating general and grade - level specific information. Although this segment of the newsletter entitled *Mr. Kobik's Corner* provides me with the opportunity to share general information as well as educationally relevant material, this entire publication will involve many curricular areas of our school. You will notice that this edition contains information from the Related Arts and Basic Skills Departments as well as material from each grade level, our School Counselor, and our School Nurse. This past summer was again a very busy one at our school as upgrades were made to ensure that your child learns in a physically and emotionally safe environment that builds fundamental subject matter understanding while developing advanced thinking skills. Specifically, security procedure upgrades occurred in conjunction with local and county law enforcement officials, areas of outside lighting were replaced, multiple classrooms and bathrooms were painted, and main office renovations that expanded meeting space occurred. This school year will prove to be exciting as we continue to emphasize a centers – based approach that promotes small group and individualized teacher – student contact time. In grades K – 2, we are continuing with our use of the *Benchmark Workshop* literacy program and the *Ready Math* program. Additionally, Kindergarten, Grade 1, and specific Grade 2 Teachers are implementing *Writer's Workshop* with the goal of building student's motivation towards

writing while fostering structured thought throughout the writing process. Character education remains a core focus of our school as we continue to promote each child's recognition of the power of positive decision – making with the goal of making everyday a great day. As a component of our school's character education program, Morning Meetings occur daily in all homerooms and the children are enjoying the presentation of content and activities that promote social skills development, a teamwork approach towards problem solving, and develop communication skills. Of course, with all of the great activities and programs occurring in our school, it is vital that your child is in school to acquire the benefits of these programs. After all, it is within our classrooms that the foundation of future academic success is built. Your child missing even a few days of school can have a significant impact on their understanding of core content fundamentals. We have so much to look forward to this year as we enthusiastically welcome the cool mornings of Autumn and the vibrant colors of the changing leaves. School has started and it is going to be a great year!



## Why Read Aloud To Your Child

1. Brain Development - Babies are born learning. From birth to age 3 are critical years for the development of language skills that are foundational for future learning success. Parents are a child's first and most important teacher.

2. Language - The number of words that a child knows when he or she enters Kindergarten is the most important predictor of a child's success or fail-

ure. Reading aloud grows your child's vocabulary and introduces many words and concepts that you might not use in everyday conversation.

3. Knowledge - Books are a pleasure, yes, and they are also informative. You and your child can learn something new when you read aloud.

4. Literacy Skills - Vocabulary. Phonics. Familiarity with the printed

word. Storytelling. Comprehension. Reading aloud is invaluable for building literacy skills.

5. Love of Reading - Parents that read aloud demonstrate that reading is important, that reading is pleasurable, that reading is valued.

6. Bonding - Is there anything better than sharing a good book with a child in your lap?

## What's Happening In Computers Class

The 2023-2024 school year is off to a great beginning! All students are learning how to become good listeners and team players! This year we started the year listening to a story then working with our team and our imaginations to create something. In Kindergarten we listened to the story "Dragons Love Tacos" and then students were given Legos and asked to create their own dragon and a taco. They used their imaginations and created wonderful pieces! In First and

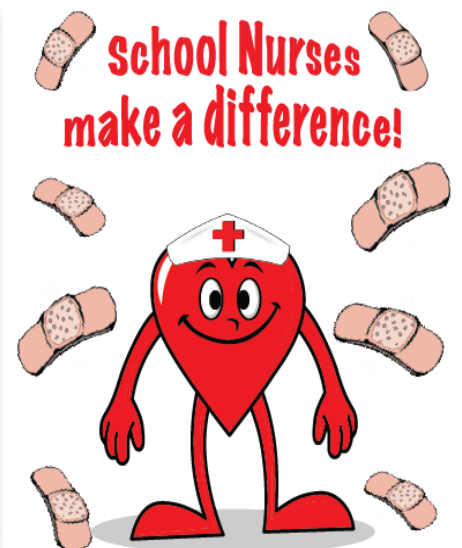
Second Grade students listened to "Iggy Peck, Architect" and had to cooperatively build a bridge across the table out of Legos. The children did a wonderful job with talking to each other, planning it out and building the structure! I am looking forward to working with each of your children and teaching them many things. All students are learning parts of the computer and how to become a good digital citi-

zen by knowing how to stay safe online and when to take a break from technology. I wish everyone a wonderful school year!



## News From The Nurse's Office

We are off to a great start this school year! If you have not done so already, please turn in all updated physicals and immunization records including Flu shots! Flu season will be here before we know it. Protect yourself against the Flu by getting your Flu shots. We will be starting our yearly screenings of vision, hearing, height and weight soon! Stay Healthy.





Each year, the Week of Respect is celebrated by all schools in New Jersey during the first week of October. Our students and staff celebrated the week by participating in a Spirit Week. "Respect" is also the character trait of the month for the month of October, so we will be continuing to discuss the importance of respect all month long, and throughout the school year! During the week of Respect, students and staff participated in the following respect themed days:

## MONDAY- October 2nd

"Let Respect Shine"

Celebrate by wearing your brightest and shiniest neon or sparkly outfit!

## TUESDAY- October 3rd

"Put Bullying to Bed" Pajama Day!

## WEDNESDAY- October 4th

"Help Everyone Respect Others"

Superhero Day! Celebrate by wearing something related to a superhero character or a community superhero! (ex. Scrubs, stethoscope, badge, etc.)

## THURSDAY- October 5th

"Team Up Against Bullying"

Celebrate by wearing your favorite team jersey!

## FRIDAY- October 6th

"Kindness is Classy"

Dress to Impress in your finest attire!

## News From The Library

Our Library classes are underway and we have already learned much about books and library manners! We had a great time at the Book Fair in September. A big THANK YOU goes out to all of the PTA volunteers who made it possible and to all of the parent/guardians for supporting our Book Fair. Library book checkout began during the first week of October. Please make sure that water bottles are not placed near library books in your child's backpack. A gallon size Ziploc bag with your child's name

is a great way to keep the books clean and dry. This year we are utilizing Google Classroom to complete library assignments. I will be assisting the students with Google Classroom during their library class. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [kmonaghan@Franklintwpschools.org](mailto:kmonaghan@Franklintwpschools.org).



## What's Happening In Gym Class

Phys Ed is off to a great start for the 23-24 school year! Students have been practicing their locomotor movements such as walking, jogging, running, skipping, galloping, hopping and jumping. They've used these movements to complete different tasks including participating in class relays! Remember to continue to wear sneakers on the day you come to the gym!



## Learning Rules & Procedures In Kindergarten

In Kindergarten, we have been working hard to master our classroom rules and procedures. Students have been learning how to count and write to 5 in Math. We have also been learning our ELA routines by tracking text, recognizing the differences between letters, words, and sentences, identifying syllables, and identifying the beginning sounds in words. In Writing, students learned to write their names and drew a detailed

picture. The week of September 25th was Apple Week! Teachers implemented various apple activities in the classroom and students participated in fun Johnny Appleseed-related lessons and crafts. We have had a wonderful September and are looking forward to an even better October!



## Learning About Johnny Appleseed In 1st Grade

A month has gone by and everyone is settling into the new school year! It's been weeks of community building, setting routines, and some fun beginning of the year activities. 1st Grade has been studying apples and celebrating Johnny Appleseed with various fun activities. Activities included apple tasting, charting what kind of apples were the class favorite, completing Johnny Appleseed crafts, coloring pages, and viewing brain pop videos showcasing Johnny Appleseed or apples in general. We look forward to a fan-

tastic school year!



Johnny Appleseed

## Off To A Great Beginning In Second Grade

Second Grade is off to a fantastic start this school year! Classrooms are becoming learning families and we have all settled into the new routine of switching classes for ELA and Math each day. After spending time establishing rules and expectations, practicing routines and procedures, as well as completing beginning of the year testing, ELA students have been very busy working on the Launch units of the Phonics and Reading portions of our Benchmark Workshop program. In Phonics we have reviewed sounds, spelling patterns, and

high-frequency words from First Grade to prepare us for new skills we will soon learn. In Reading, we have been working on listening to read-alouds and answering an accompanying question about the text with a written response. We will soon discuss topics like the differences between fiction stories and informational texts and begin independent reading in centers. We have also started completing individualized i-Ready Reading lessons on chromebooks. We will soon begin Writing where we will start to look at all kinds of writ-

ing and try various types of writing of our own in class. In Grammar we will soon begin having discussions about different types of sentences and punctuation marks. Please read with your child at home as often as possible as this is vital to their growth in ELA and success as a

