

# Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



December 2018

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

## From the Principal

How can it be December?! This year is flying by, but we have full four weeks between Thanksgiving and winter breaks. Students will be busy **learning every single day**, from the very start of the day. Students who enter class on time are more focused and feel more a part of the classroom community. But did you know that Jefferson has one of the highest tardy rates in our school district? That's why this month we are kicking off a program to recognize students and classes that consistently beat the tardy bell. Please support your child's learning by having him or her on time to school daily. That means leaving the house a few minutes early to navigate the roads and our parking lot safely even in wintry weather so that your child can be in class by the 9:15 a.m. tardy bell. Classes head down from the covered play area between 9:05 and 9:10 (the first bell), but student supervision there (and in the kindergarten area) begins at 8:55. Breakfast begins at 8:45. Thanks in advance for your help with this!

We are now entering the fourth month of our **behavior management system based on the Charger Code**. In November, we began monthly assemblies to recognize students for following the code, and for academic successes. In addition to learning how to follow the Charger Code – which is to be safe, respectful, responsible, and kind – in different areas of the school, students in every grade level are receiving instruction in social/emotional skills. Second Step, our district's adopted social/emotional skills curriculum, is not new. However, this is the first year that classroom teachers rather than school counselors are providing this important instruction. It supports students with developing behaviors for learning, communication and problem-solving skills, and strategies for managing emotions. You can get more information from teachers or by going to [www.secondstep.org](http://www.secondstep.org). Codes to register are:

- Kindergarten: SSPK FAMI LY70
- First grade: SSP1 FAMI LY71
- Second grade: SSP2 FAMI LY72
- Third grade: SSP3 FAMI LY73
- Fourth grade: SSP4 FAMI LY74
- Fifth grade: SSP5 FAMI LY75

Have a wonderful December and holiday season!

**Mrs. Kelley**

**Elizabeth Kelley**  
Principal

Jefferson Elementary School  
425-385-7400  
2500 Cadet Way, Everett, WA 98208  
[www.everettsd.org/jefferson](http://www.everettsd.org/jefferson)

**Through December 7**

PTA Holiday Basket Drive

**December 3-7**

PTA Holiday Store

**December 7**

Learning Improvement 2:15 dismissal

**December 12**

PTA popcorn for sale at lunch

**December 14**

Spirit day: Ugly sweater day

Learning Improvement 2:15 dismissal

**December 21**

Spirit day: Pajama day

Learning Improvement 2:15 dismissal

**December 24-Jan. 4**

Winter break, no school

See you Monday, Jan. 7!

### Important Safety Reminders

- There should be **no dogs** other than certified service animals on campus from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and during school events.
- The **back parking lot** is for buses, day care vans, delivery vehicles, and staff parking only. Please do not park, drop off, or pick up students in the back lot.
- Please help Jefferson **be a good neighbor** by driving cautiously and respecting driveways and other property in the neighborhood surrounding the school.



## Important Reminders from the Jefferson Office

**Vacation-related absences:** If you are planning a vacation and your student will be missing school, please visit to the office to fill out an absence request form. Per district policy, we may only excuse up to five days for vacation or travel-related absences per year.

**Visitors and volunteers:** Please remember to sign in and out of the office. A volunteer badge or visitor sticker must be worn and visible at all times.

**Update your e-mail address with the office:** Providing us with an up-to-date e-mail will help us keep you current on school news and relay information about your child.

**Absence reporting:** E-mail [JFEattendance@everettsd.org](mailto:JFEattendance@everettsd.org) using the e-mail address we have on record.

**Early dismissals from school:** When checking your student out early, please remember to have photo ID.

**Have you signed up for HAC?** This is where you can find your student’s attendance and update your contact information. Please see the office for more details!

### News from the Gym

What is cardiorespiratory endurance? It’s the ability of the heart and lungs to supply oxygen to muscles during long periods of physical activity, and it’s also one of the five components of fitness that your child will be learning about this school year. We might think of long-distance runners having great cardiorespiratory endurance, but there are many ways that your child can build and strengthen their endurance. Walking, jogging, riding a bike, jumping rope, swimming, hiking, team sports and low-intensity dancing are all great ways to train the heart and lungs to work more efficiently. Consider your child’s interests and natural skills when encouraging exercise. Movement-based activities are a great way to develop healthy exercise habits and to have fun!

<b>Friday PE/Gym Rotation</b>		
<i>Please remind your student to bring their PE shoes on their scheduled days.</i>		
<b>December 7</b>	<b>December 14</b>	<b>December 21</b>
Weitkamp	Clark	Hanson
Adams	Graham	Lobdell
Dinneen	Wright	Nielson
Schmieder	Agustin	

***Ms. Rowe, Gym teacher***

### News from the Music Room

This month in music, we will continue to learn more key concepts. In grades 2-5, we are writing our own music and refining our work as we learn more about notation. We are introducing more instruments, including xylophones, and soon 4th and 5th graders will be assigned a class recorder! If you are interested in purchasing a recorder for your child, I have included some links on the recorder page of my website:

<https://www.everettsd.org/Domain/3260>

Once again, don’t forget to mark your calendar for our concerts. Our concert at the Everett Civic Auditorium will be Monday, April 15, for grades 1 through 5. Our Kindergarten Spring Sing will be held Thursday, May 30.

***Ms. Branch, Music teacher***



### News from the Library

Did you know that we check out about 150 books a day? That means we should check in that many each day. Remember to bring your library books on your library day Monday through Thursday. Keeping our library organized and looking nice is a lot of work for all of us who use the library. We often use the library for meetings before and after school, but that is not the time for books. Students, please do not go through the shelves looking for books unless it is your library time. Finally, I hope you are enjoying those library books. Your parents are welcome to come see the library with you right before or after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays. You can show them how we take care of our library.

**Mr. Schmeckpeper (Mr. Pepper), Librarian**

### Tech News from the Computer Lab

We live in a world surrounded by technology. We know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works. But only a tiny fraction of us are learning **how** technology works. Only 35% of all high schools teach computer science. That's why our entire school is joining in on the largest learning event in history: The Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week (December 3-9). More than 100 million students worldwide have already tried an Hour of Code. Our Hour of Code is making a statement that Jefferson Elementary is ready to teach these foundational 21st-century skills.

**Mrs. Klujber, Technology teacher**

### Greetings from the Reading Room!

First, I am thankful for all the families who support their child's reading! By reading and talking about books at home, you are helping your child to further develop as a reader. As gift-giving season approaches, be sure to include a great book or two for the readers in your home. Did you know that kids are out of school for 16 days over winter break? That's a long time, and especially for new readers, it's too long to go without reading. Thank you for continuing to encourage your child to read at home regularly.

**Janet Erickson, ELA Coach**

### Math News!

**Winner Winner Turkey Dinner:** Congratulations to Ms. Branch's class for receiving the Math Challenge trophy for this month. They had a participation rate of 100%!

Remember teachers and parents: The math challenge can be done at home or at school, and if your student needs assistance, we would be happy to help. I want to thank the parents and students, as well as the teachers, who have approached the math department and asked for advice or help with completing this wonderful opportunity! I have been invited to several classes to talk to the kids about it, and I look forward to more visits.



This month's new challenge is based on a turkey pictograph and is due December 19<sup>th</sup>. Happy calculating!

*Continued on next page ...*



*More math news from the previous page ...*

**Words of Wisdom:** We are on another round of academic words. These words are introduced schoolwide during morning announcements and through classroom activities. Academic language is not only important for reading, but it is also necessary to familiarize young children with the vocabulary they will encounter and use throughout their school years and career. This week's word is *interpret*. The monthly math challenge asks students to *interpret data from a pictograph*, with varying levels of difficulty. This pictograph is also a bulletin board in our front hallway (pictured on previous page), so stop by and see it if you can!

**Word problem ... no problem!** When starting a word problem or math scenario with your child, here are some tips:

1. Encourage your child to think of questions ("I wonder \_\_\_\_" or "I wonder what is the amount of \_\_\_\_") and share them while reading the scenario. Challenging word problems are best tackled when read at least three times.
2. Although annotating a problem can be helpful, encourage your student to do more than "circle the numbers" and "underline the question." A good strategy would be to have them list the amounts, values, and/or numbers and then discuss how those things relate to each other, as well as similarities and differences.

**Example:** Graham has half the number of candies as Bill. Bill has three times what Jo has. Jo has six.

**Make a list:** Jo has 6, Bill's quantity is worth three of Jo's or three times Jo's, Graham's value is half as many as Bill or is  $Bill \div 2$ , but it doesn't tell us the number of candies.

**Some discussion:** When it says three times, how is that different than the number 3?

Whose amount can be counted right now or measured (Jo)? Whose amount relates to Jo's?

3. Although wanting to start right away and write things down shows motivation, oftentimes thinking and discussing the problem for several minutes while taking notes can be more beneficial.

**Mrs. Roach, Math Coach**



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Everett, WA 98201  
425-385-4000  
www.everettsd.org

Everett Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

- Affirmative Action Officer – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104
- Title IX Officer – Mary O'Brien, MO'Brien@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063
- ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, rclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250





## The gift of attendance

Absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holiday as families squeeze in a few more vacation days. Just a few missed days here and there, even excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. Put simply, too many absences at any age can affect a student's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation. This holiday season, give your children the gift of an education and the habit of attendance.

## Graduation rates jump to 95.7%

Our graduation rate jumped even higher for the 11th year in a row. Now 95.7 percent of our students graduate on time! Learn how strategic staff actions helped bring the graduation rate from 53 percent just 15 years ago to this year's all-time high. <http://bit.ly/2018gradrates>

## Parent safety tip

Before you take your child to a friend's sleepover or party, make sure you know a few important things first.

- Find out about the friend's "house rules" and who else will be at home, like parents, another adult, brothers, or sisters.
- Ask about what they plan to do during the visit.
- Talk with your child about things that are important to you: no guns, violent TV and video games, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Take this time to review behaviors that are healthy and those that are dangerous.
- If your child does not have his or her own cell phone, be sure to have the telephone number of where he or she can be reached.
- If there is a change of plans, you need to be told.

## Get to know other parents

- Talk with them on the phone.
- Meet them at neighborhood or school events.
- Greet them when dropping your child off.

## Communication is key

Children need and want more independence. Good communication, with clear expectations, helps parents and children trust that what is going on is safe.

Source: *HealthyChildren.org*

## Snow routes are online

School drop-off and pick-up locations may change in an emergency situation. If your child rides a bus to school, please become familiar with the [snow route information](#) on the district transportation department's webpage.

## Family resources

Could you or a family you know use some help? Find information and links to helpful resources on the district's [Parent Tools webpage](#):

- Washington State Library – local and regional information about services and agencies offering help to families in a variety of ways including food, shelter, clothing, childcare, legal services, employment opportunities, and counseling
- Everett Public Schools Kids In Transition (KIT) program – supports homeless children and youth to continue their education
- Help for military families
- Snohomish Health District for Snohomish County community dental resources for children and adults
- United Way of Snohomish County – 2-1-1 is a free telephone number that is your best "first call" to quickly find the right source of help. The information line is staffed by trained operators from Volunteers of America Western Washington who can connect you to a wide range of community services.

## Delayed start or closed schools

If we have to cancel school or delay the start of school, we will use our parent communication system to call in the morning, typically around 5:45 a.m., with a brief message about the reason for closure or delay. We will also use local media and post the message on our website. **If there is no announcement about Everett Public Schools, school is on the regular schedule.** More information and resources for school closures or delays is on the district website under the *Parents* tab.

In cases of inclement weather or other emergencies, please:

- Check your e-mail or phone for district messages
- Listen for media announcements
- View the district's website at [www.everettsd.org](http://www.everettsd.org)
- Watch district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts



## 2018 Christmas House Information Sheet

**Location:** Boys & Girls Club  
2316-12<sup>th</sup> St., Everett, WA  
**Phone:** 425-338-2273  
**Dates:** Nov 29, 30, Dec. 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,  
11, 12, 13, 14, 15  
Tues-Friday, 9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Christmas House provides holiday gifts for qualifying, low-income, Snohomish County families with children aged 18 or younger. We are a privately funded charity, not a government funded program. Gifts may be selected for each child in the household age 18 or younger.

### What to Bring:

- Current photo ID, or passport for yourself
- Proof of spouse/significant other living in household (current ID, passport, birth certificate, current DSHS forms listing the person; marriage certificate)
- Proof of current Snohomish County address (ID; DSHS award letter or printout of benefits less than 90 days old; paycheck stub showing home address; utility bill)
- Proof of children, birth dates and guardianship (birth certificate; DSHS award letter less than 90 days old; baptism certificate; court papers; School District free lunch award letter)
- Proof of household income (current pay stub(s); DSHS award letter less than 90 days old; government pay stubs such as social security or veterans pay; proof of support payments such as child or spousal support)

*Note: DSHS Provider One cards are not accepted at Christmas House.*



For more details, visit:  
[www.christmas-house.org](http://www.christmas-house.org)

*Guidelines will be strictly followed*

### How to Become a Shopper

- There is no advance registration. Admission is by number.
- Numbers are passed out daily starting between **6:30-7 a.m.** until one hour before closing time, or until numbers are gone, whichever occurs first.
- On Tuesday through Friday, 200 numbers will be given out daily. 300 numbers will be given out on Saturdays.
- Registration begins about 8:30 a.m. Shopping begins at 9:00 a.m.
- When you receive a number, you will also be given an estimate of what time the number will be called. If you are not present when your number is called, we cannot guarantee that you will be allowed to shop. Numbers can only be used on the day they are received.
- Persons with disabilities or other documented medical problems can make special arrangements by calling 425-338-2273. A Soc. Sec. disability award letter or a letter from your doctor will be required.
- Only one person per family may enter Christmas House. All other family members must wait outside.
- **No children or infants are permitted inside.**
- There are no public restrooms inside.
- No smoking of any kind on property.
- Cell phones are not to be used indoors.
- Parking is limited. Please be considerate of our neighbors.
- Identification, proof of low-income status, proof of custody, children's birth dates and Snohomish County residency will be required (see list on left). If you do not have proper identification or documentation, you will have to return with the required information.
- Demand for numbers is usually much greater during the first days of Christmas House than during the last days. Quality gifts are offered every day.

October 2018