



Updates From School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is difficult to believe that the first part of Term 1 has ended and that Winter Break is nearly upon us. Thank you to the many parents, guardians, and students who attended our virtual meetings to discuss the Progress Reports. This was an important opportunity to discuss student learning and achievement, and to develop goals and plans as the year progresses toward the 1st Term Report Cards. Your involvement contributes to your child's success and communicates your interest in their learning.

I would also like to say thank you to our staff members who offer a wonderful variety of learning opportunities, and to our students who have worked so hard over the past three months. We are fortunate at JPPS to have so many students, parents and staff members who work extremely hard to make our school such a wonderful place for our students. We value this partnership and look forward to celebrating our achievements together. Thank you for your being such an amazing group of partners in education!

A GLIMPSE INTO CLASSROOMS

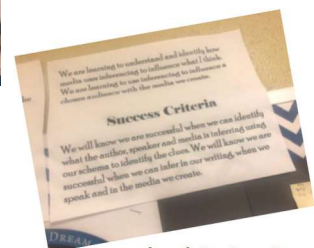
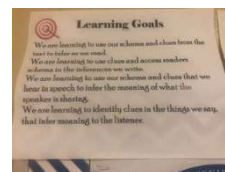
As this year is different than any other and we cannot welcome you into the building as we normally would, we wanted to give you a glimpse into classes and the school through our "Updates from School". We hope that you will enjoy seeing what we have been up to! 😊 We are encouraging our students to share their learning, and therefore, you will note that the majority of this section and the character corner is written by students!

Learning How to Inference

In inferencing we look at the pictures to find clues and we use our schema to find out what is happening in the picture. Also in inferencing we did, "What



am I?". In "What am I?", we had clues that our friends wrote and we had to guess if it was a human, an object or an animal by the clues that they gave us. We also looked at stories that only had pictures or certain words, such as "Dude" and "Yo! Yes"? and we use the clues from the pictures to figure out what they were trying to tell in the story. - Zara



had to try to

Science Food Chains

In Science we have learned about food chains and sick food chains. We have made a project on food chains and learned of the order of the type of animals in the food chain. We have also learned what causes sick food chains and the food chain of the wolf of the east is a sick food chain. - Kirill



Physical Education Fun!

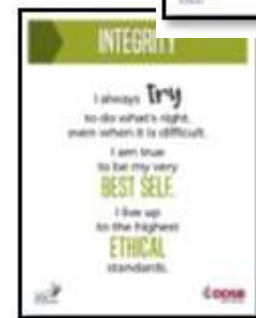
In physical education we do all sorts of fun games and activities. We like to play inside or outside, summer or winter, no matter what the weather- we like physical education! We sometimes do Just Dance when it is cold or wet outside, or when the gym is already being used. We are learning games we have never played before. No matter what game we play, everyone is good at one game or another. Some of our favourite games are "pamplemousse" and ones that we have made up that keep us socially distant! We like a lot of other games too! Our physical education teacher is really good at playing soccer but he can play other sports really well too. Even if we are not feeling well, we still want to participate in physical education! Even though we have to be social distanced and follow all the new safety guidelines, we still love to play games in physical education. This year it is different and we have learned to be creative and still have lots of fun! By: Alina, Charlotte and Emmerson

CHARACTER CORNER

The character trait for this month is integrity. We often talk about how showing integrity is doing the right thing....even when no one is watching!



INTEGRITY IS CHOOSING COURAGE OVER COMFORT; CHOOSING WHAT IS RIGHT OVER WHAT IS FUN, FAST, OR EASY; AND CHOOSING TO PRACTICE OUR VALUES RATHER THAN SIMPLY PROFESSING THEM. Brené Brown



At JPPS, the significance of individual importance is greatly valued. In a virtual assembly, we read "The Important Book" by Margaret Wise Brown. This book highlights the value of independent importance. We were then asked to write about what makes us individually important in the general format of "The Important Book". Below are a few fine examples of what some of the students came up with. - Parsa

The important thing about me is that I am sporty and creative.
I like to play soccer
I like to play baseball.
I like to workout.

I like to run.
I like to code.
I like to make electronics.
I like to make crafts.
But the important thing about me is that I am sporty and creative. - James

The important thing about me is that I am imaginative.
I am Iranian.
I love doing math.
I like reading in my spare time.
I appreciate nerd culture.
I can play the violin.
I am a professional swimmer.
I am a film admirer.
But the important thing about me is that I am imaginative.- Parsa

The most important thing about me is that I am awesome!
I am also kind
Funny
Hardworking
Sensitive
Understanding
And caring
But the most important thing is that I am awesome! - Lena

The important thing about me is that I am *hardworking*.
I am *devoted* to what's important.
I *dance*.
I have *friends and family*
I like *reading*.
I have *a style*.
I have *confidence*.
I am *organized* and need *routines*.
But the most important thing about me is that I am *hardworking*.- Minta

The important thing about me is that I am unique.

I always look for the good things in someone or something.
I am a very active person.
I will be there for you when things are bad.
I love music.
I am a good friend.
I love animals (especially dogs).
I am happy go lucky.
But the important thing about me is that I am unique.- Jessica

GROWTH MINDSET

At JPPS, we work very hard to always have a growth mindset. Having a growth mindset means to be positive and believe that if you don't know how to do something "yet", you can still learn. Believing in yourself and persevering also show that you have a growth mindset.

"Hey, I heard about this group called the Mindset Monsters," said Corrine.

"The word is it is about nurturing a healthy mindset in our daily lives," shared Jasmine.

"But what about it makes it so good?" asked Faith.

"They share words and thoughts of kindness and inspiration to promote a healthy mindset," replied Corrine.

"But how do they do it?" wondered Faith.

"By posting inspirational and positive quotes on windows and mirrors throughout the school using bright colours such as blue, orange and pink," explained Jasmine.

We are such a cool team- it is our job to inspire people to be kind and do what they love. We hope that through our messages we develop a community of kindness.



BLACK STUDENT ALLIANCE AT JPPS

Our BSA began meeting as a group in October 2020. We are a small group that consists presently of 7 students and 7 staff members. We meet for an hour once a week to talk, listen and plan. Our mission is to bring awareness, to share and celebrate the positive impacts of others in our school, our community, our country and throughout history. The BSA is also a safe place for students to share and discuss topics of interest with staff to facilitate and support.

A few things our BSA students are working on so far include:

- Creating age appropriate Community Circle prompts to share with classrooms teachers
- Planning to lead Community Circle through a virtual platform in primary and junior classes
- Highlighting impactful black people in the world today and people who have made a positive impact throughout history through: weekly announcements, recorded public service announcements to share in classes, bulletin boards and through school social media accounts. This will continue year round, rather than just during Black History Month
- Building the BSA by sharing and inviting others

Staff from our BSA are working together to share with the school. Here are a few things we are working on:

- Cocreating a survey about culturally responsive literature
- Collecting data about identification
- Beginning Community Circles in classes
- Using the power of the Read Aloud
- Supporting the creation of and sharing of weekly public service announcements from the students of the BSA
- Collecting resources for students to use
- Collecting resources for staff to use
- Sharing learning and information at staff meetings

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

FEED THE NEED

Once again this year we will be supporting Feed the Need Durham. We will be collecting non-perishable food items from December 7th-December 14th. In order to ensure safety

for all, students will be asked to deposit items in a class bin which will then be "quarantined" for 72 hours. Our pick up is scheduled for December 15th and it will take place outside (i.e., no visitors will be allowed into the building). We want to thank you in advance for your support of this initiative!



STUDENTS IN NEED FALL AND WINTER FUNDRAISER

We have had some requests from families about how they can offer support to our school community and the larger community this holiday season. Please see the flyer attached to the email with regards to the Students in Need fundraiser. This fundraiser is organized by the DDSB and all the funds raised go directly to support students in our district.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

With winter right around the corner, parents are reminded to listen to the following radio stations for up-to-date information on school closures due to inclement weather. When buses are cancelled in the morning, noon and afternoon transportation will not operate.

Students who are dropped off by parents in the morning will have to be picked up again by parents at dismissal time (2:30 p.m.)

If your child will not be attending school due to a bus cancellation, please leave a message on the Safe Arrival Line: 1-844-350-2646 or login the Parent Portal before 7:50 am in the morning.

Websites: **Julie Payette PS is located in Zone 4**, DSTS encourages families to subscribe to automated notifications on school bus delays and cancellations, for more information please visit www.dsts.on.ca

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

In case of an emergency, the school may need to contact parents. For this reason, it is imperative that you report any and all changes in your home, work or cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses as soon as possible to the office. It is also just as important to keep "emergency contacts" up to date.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. The students should plan on going outdoors for recesses, some physical education periods and for outdoor learning opportunities, except in extreme conditions. In these cases, indoor recesses and lunch hours will be necessary. Please remember to have all clothing labeled with your child's name.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Coming back to school and getting into a regular routine after the holidays can sometimes be met with a range of emotions and morale. It is not uncommon for children to feel:

- stressed or anxious about returning to class
- sad or upset that the break is over
- excited to see friends again

These feelings are shared by children and adults alike! Talking about the days ahead can help, as well as reminding yourself that it doesn't take long to get yourself and your children back on track when everyone works together.

PARKING LOT

A reminder that our parking lot remains closed to all traffic except buses at entry and dismissal. We have seen an increase in parents arriving before the buses arrive and then leaving while the buses are trying to depart. The buses are on a tight schedule and each time a car is added to the line trying to exit the school, it delays our buses. As such, we would respectfully ask you continue to adhere to the expectation that vehicles entering and exiting the lot is only allowed once all buses have cleared. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this.

RECESS

Recess continues to be a challenge for many of our students as they are limited in what they can do outside. We continue to work on providing them with different ideas of games that they can play at recess. We are looking to create classroom bags (large IKEA bags) which would be assigned to each homeroom. The homeroom class would be responsible for their bag and would be able to use the equipment outdoors within their cohort. They would, of course, have to wash/sanitize hands before and after use of the equipment. If you have any large IKEA bags or gently used items such as soccer balls, soft foam balls, scoops, hula hoops, pool noodles etc. that you would like to donate to the school, please call the school to let us know.

ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL

As we make every attempt to minimize outside traffic into our school, we need to ask for your assistance. Please make sure that your child has all of their necessary items each day when coming to school, as access to the school is largely by appointment.

It is essential that your child arrives at school on time and enters the building with their cohort. If your child is late, they will need to enter the building through the main entrance, give their name and class, they will be marked as late and will proceed directly to their classroom.

SENDING THINGS TO SCHOOL

We have received many questions as to whether students are able to bring something to their teacher around the holiday season. If you are thinking of sending something in with your child(ren), we would ask that it be sent by December 14th in order for it to be "quarantined" for a few days prior to the last day of school.

On behalf of the entire Julie Payette staff, we would like to wish all members of our school community a safe and happy holiday season filled with kindness, laughter, good health and joy!

Joyeuses Fêtes!