



S.Y. Jackson
Elementary School

Jaguar Times

February 2022

Greetings Wonderful S.Y Community!

I can't believe we are already in the month of February and have officially passed the 100th day of school. I feel like the school year is going by so quickly, especially with last month being such a blur with Covid on the rise and the alarming cyberattack. They say when it rains, it pours, however, here at S.Y we have continued to thrive in many ways despite it all. Our students continue to make progress towards grade level expectations, our amazing teachers continue to go above and beyond, and our community continues to support our school. We recently received new promethean boards and document cameras for classroom teachers, which has made a positive impact on student learning. This was all possible because of our fabulous PTA who purchased over thirty document cameras and two promethean boards. Thank you PTA for always finding ways to support our staff and students!


I also wanted to take a moment to thank our staff, students and community for such a warm welcome back to school after my return from maternity leave. When I pass the halls, visit classrooms, or out on duty, students always run up to me to ask how little Zoë is doing. I am just truly grateful to be a part of this amazing school!

Stay safe and healthy,

Crystal



SYJ PTA SPOTLIGHT



Roses are Red
Violets are Blue
We can't do what we do
without you!

Thank you for helping our students,
teachers, and staff feel the love of
our school community!

~SYJ PTA

New Mexico
PTA
everychild.one voice.

SYJ PTA SPOTLIGHT

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our PTA is starting off 2022 with a great advantage – money to spend! Due to the unprecedented success of the Jog-a-Thon, we're in a position to fund several more programs and Initiatives this year. At the meeting last week, PTA members voted to increase staff reimbursements for classroom items, fund a biography project in the Library, and contribute to supplies for campus maintenance. If you'd like to help decide how to allocate our remaining funds this year, make sure to attend an upcoming PTA meeting! Also remember that you can choose SY Jackson as your charity recipient when you shop through Amazon Smile and at Smith's – every dollar helps us support our staff and students. Thanks for all you do for our school community!

SAVE THE DATE

PTA Meetings 2021-2022
Once a Month,
Thursday at 7:30 pm, Virtual

FEBRUARY 17
MARCH 10
APRIL 21
MAY 12



Thank you for your generosity in providing items and gifts for SYJ families for Christmas!



Sarah Krzyzanowski syj.president@gmail.com

Pauline Baca syjackson.jogathon@gmail.com

Sara Robbins syj.vp.programs@gmail.com

Lauren Moore syj.treasurer@gmail.com

Thao Le syj.secretary@gmail.com

PTA membership:

<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/sy-jackson-elementary-school>



Yearbook

The yearbook staff is looking for photos from school events, classroom activities, programs, or kids having fun with their friends.

Please send any pictures or yearbook questions to:

SYJacksonYearbook@gmail.com

Website to order a yearbook:

<https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=101533675805141>



Box Tops

Hi SY families,

I know a lot of us have "App fatigue", but I hope you'll consider downloading the Box tops for Education App to help financially support our school. After downloading the app, you'll register your account, designating SY Jackson as your school recipient. Then each time you buy grocery items with the Box tops label, simply open the app, click the SCAN button, and take a picture of the receipt. Our school gets \$.10 for each item. Thanks so much and feel free to email me with any questions.

Yvonne Corcoran
PTA Box tops Chair
yvonne.corcoran@yahoo.com



Sock Hop



It's a Date!

FRIDAY, MAY 13
SYJ will be celebrating
its big 50th anniversary
with a '50's Sock Hop!

If you are interested in
planning this fun event
or looking into SYJ
through the decades,
contact

syj.president@gmail.com



CAMPUS CLEAN UP



SATURDAY MARCH 12, 2022
8 AM - 12PM

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE WORK
TOGETHER TO CLEAR AWAY WEEDS
AND LEAVES AROUND THE CAMPUS.



**REGISTER
HERE**



CLICK ABOVE TO REGISTER
AND FOR MORE INFORMATION

ALL STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE WILL EARN A PAW CHARM
AND THE 3 CLASSES WITH HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF
PARTICIPATION WILL EARN A PIZZA PARTY!!!



**S.Y. Jackson
Elementary School**



Cub Scout
PACK
409



Reflections

SY Jackson Elementary 2021-22 Reflections Winners

Dance Choreography

(Intermediate)

1st Place: Madalena Nix, 4th Grade

Film Production

(Primary)

1st Place: Claire Bryant, 2nd Grade

(Intermediate)

3rd Place: Aeden Wood, 5th Grade

2nd Place: Nathan VanGoethem, 5th Grade

1st Place: Coral Orton, 5th Grade

Literature

(Primary)

1st Place: Katelyn Edwards, 2nd Grade

(Intermediate)

3rd Place: Jacob Wing, 5th Grade

2nd Place: Ian Howe, 5th Grade

1st Place (Tie!!):

Adair Probasco, 5th Grade

and Gideon Nix, 5th Grade

Music Composition

(Intermediate)

1st Place: Jonathan Little, 5th Grade

Photography

(Primary)

1st Place: Blake Lindblom, 1st Grade

(Intermediate)

3rd Place: Santi Marquez, 5th Grade

2nd Place: Zoe Jordan, 5th Grade

1st Place: Kyle Brunton, 5th Grade

Visual Arts

(Primary)

1st Place: Duke Oliver, Kindergarten

Visual Arts

(Intermediate)

3rd Place: Brooklyn Brennan, 5th Grade

2nd Place: Payton Oliver, 5th Grade

1st Place: Julia Merrill, 5th Grade





Teacher Feature

Meet Suzanne Balthaser

What an honor to be asked to introduce myself to you all in this month's Teacher Spotlight! My name is Suzanne Balthaser and get to teach POP with Mrs. McCallon to our awesome students. I am truly blessed to have worked in the SY Jackson Gifted program for the past 35 years. (Yes, that is the right number!) My oldest daughter was just 8 months old when I started teaching here. All three of my own children attended SYJ and are so excited about our Blue Ribbon Status.

Before SYJ, I taught gifted kids at Onate and Acoma Elementary School. The Fall semester of 1987, Acoma brought on a new 3rd grade teacher named Jack Vermillion. Yep! We met a long time ago.

I arrived at SY Jackson in August 1988 and the rest is history! Mrs. Sleeter and I started our SYJ journey at the same time. She was so confident, self-assured, and just plain awesome that I thought she had always worked here. Mr. Jim Franklin was our Principal. He would tell jokes on the intercom at recess time; and, at Christmas, he made sure Santa visited each classroom to pass out candy canes.

Before Mr. Vermillion arrived, we had two other principals—Dr. Alan Holmquist (his wife was my middle school Spanish teacher!) and Amy Hinkle-Silva. I can honestly tell you that, of all the principals I have been honored to work with, Mr. Vermillion is, by far, my favorite. In fact, he is the BEST!

When I first came to SYJ, there was no Kindergarten Wing. The school building actually ended at the walls of Mrs. Weeks and Mrs. Hiner, the library, and Ms. Cappel, and Ms. Huerta. There was a breezeway with a stand-alone building that housed what is now the Computer Lab and Steam Lab. Those rooms were used as classrooms. Students walked outside to get to the Cafeteria (which is now our Gym). There were portables and I taught up in the portables. During my first 7 years at SYJ, I changed classrooms every single year. That was pretty crazy!

When I first started teaching here, instead of a pool party, there was a fifth grade dance to celebrate their graduation. Believe me, the pool party is WAY more fun!

On SYJ's 25th Anniversary, we held a celebration in the brand new SYJ Cafeteria and Mr. S. Y. Jackson, himself, attended with his family! It was really cool!

SY Jackson has changed physically and made additions over time to adapt and make our school even better. The one thing that has not changed about SY Jackson is that it remains the very best Elementary School in APS. We have awesome students with amazing families. SYJ is not just a school. We are a family. I treasure every minute I have had here.





Character Counts

Below are the Character Counts names for the pillar of RESPONSIBILITY.

Kindergarten

Carson Evans
Navika Yadav
Lilia Paul
Hadley Cumber
Violet Rogers
Vivienne Gatchell
Jaxton Bland
Ariana Taylor

2nd Grade

Mila Taylor
Landon Jones
Charlie Brandenburg
Westin Salvino
Desmond Aitken
Liesl Brunton
Adele Koehler
Cole Konkolics

4th Grade

Whitney Peer
Mason Cata
Amira Emerson
Lilly Holmes
Lauren Nunez
Scarlett White
Anna Balantine
Anthony James

1st Grade

Elaina James
Zander Fout
Cassius Romero
Caris Henning
Samuel Schmehl
Brooke Iverson
Rowan Underwood
Benjamin Rojo

3rd Grade

Emma Walraven
Kody Malherbe
Aubrey Douglas
Diana Mai
Mikayla Iverson
Bassel Almutairi
Quentin Wilson
Myah Brown-
Sandoval

5th Grade

Payton Oliver
Landon Phillips
Timothy Daniels
Elise Grillo
Kailee Tietjen
Emery Brannin
Peyton Maness
Cayden Arnold



Trustworthiness Respect Responsibility Fairness Caring Citizenship



Character Counts

Below are the Character Counts names for the pillar of FAIRNESS.

Kindergarten

Hugo Lavender
Kathryn Little
Dean Altamirano
Makayla Montoya
Cossette Harmon
Krishna Velumuri
Lily Hauserman
Felix Hamblin

2nd Grade

Marley Barnes
Owen Indahl
Jettie Dufault
Rhone McBride
Kei'Lano Tsosie
Lillianne Joiner
Liam Altamirano
Alia Shook

4th Grade

Kaylee Grosso
Liam Smith
Lilly Holmes
Lilla Bellinger
Cameron New
Henry Didonna
Keylani Roddy
Eli Hlad

1st Grade

Jonae Morehead
David Carey
Amberlee Fliss
Kaeden Schafer
Stella Robbins
Hunter Gear
Taylor Reyna
Zachary Allen

3rd Grade

Oliver Widner
Bethany Merrill
Owen Winter
Jadon Anton-Williams
Zoey Lovato
Koen Tietjen
Melody Hicks
Logan Levy

5th Grade

Emily Rowan
Jacob Wing
Rylen Cumber
Caleb Alderete-Chavez
Olivia Rule
Nathan Vangoethem
Yuri Mori
Nolan Gallegos



Trustworthiness Respect Responsibility Fairness Caring Citizenship



Library News

Happy New Year!

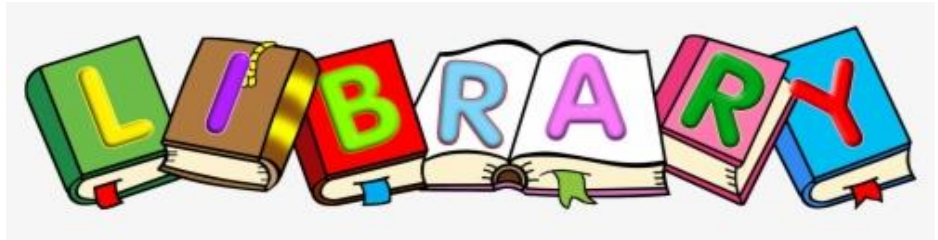


In the library we've been reading many Caldecott and Sibert award contenders and trying to predict which might be the winner. The actual awards were announced on January 24, and there are some wonderful books that have been recognized by the American Library Association. I'll be ordering many of them for the S.Y. Jackson library, but for students/families who want quicker access to them they're available through the public library, too.

I'd like to congratulate two of our 1st graders who have completed the Caldecott Club challenge by reading 100 Caldecott books! Way to go Ethan Beisner and Mila Mutidjo. Their names will be added to our wall of fame plaques and we'll celebrate their achievement during library class. If your student is interested in completing the Caldecott Club challenge there's more information on the library website: <https://syjackson.aps.edu/library> and recording forms are available in the library.

Please help students remember to return books to the library each week so they're able to continue checking out and reading books that they are excited about. Overdue and missing books can impact registration when students progress on to middle school, so it's a good idea to get ahead of it now. Students can see what they have checked out by logging into Classlink, going to the APS Libraries folder, and clicking into Follett Library Catalog.

Happy Reading!
Mrs. Bowdoin





Greetings From The Health Office

As you may have heard, the [NMPED COVID-19 Response Toolkit for NM Schools](#) was recently revised. The biggest change is isolation time for COVID-19 positive individuals has decreased from 10 days to 5 days after symptom onset, as long as symptoms are improving and fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medication. Generally, this decreases quarantine time of unvaccinated individuals within a household in which there is a COVID-19 positive individual to 10 days (previously 20 days) as long as no other household members test positive.

We appreciate everyone's diligence working to keep our students healthy. With community spread of COVID on the rise, it is important to remember to continue doing daily screenings of your students prior to sending them to school. Be on the lookout for possible symptoms of COVID-19 infection:

TWO SYMPTOMS & COVID IS SUSPECTED

- Chills • Rigors • Myalgia
- Headache • Sore throat • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea • Fatigue • Congestion or runny nose



ONE SYMPTOM & COVID IS SUSPECTED

- Cough • Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing • Olfactory disorder • Taste disorder
- *If you notice any of the following symptoms, contact 911 or your provider immediately: Confusion or change in mental status • Persistent pain or pressure in the chest • Pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone • Inability to wake or stay awake*

If your student exhibits the symptoms, please keep home and have them tested for COVID-19 prior to returning to school. Please notify the school of any positive COVID test results.



Greetings From The Health Office



Free COVID-19 testing is available for APS students at the Berna Facio Professional Development Complex located at 3315 Louisiana Blvd NE from **January 3, 2022 through June 2, 2022**, from 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. No appointment is necessary, but pre-registration is required and can be done by clicking on this link: [Berna Facio Covid Testing](#) or scanning the QR code below

Test to Stay: If your student is exposed to COVID-19 at school and they are not fully vaccinated (2 Pfizer vaccines given 3 weeks apart and greater than 14 days since last vaccination), then they are eligible to participate in the Test to Stay program. This program provides free COVID-19 testing done during the school day at school. Pre-registration and more information about this program is available at: [APS Test to Stay Program](#). Students who are exposed outside of school are not eligible for the Test to Stay program and must quarantine at home.

If you are interested in getting your student vaccinated against COVID-19, you can find more information at [APS COVID Shot Clinics](#)

If your student has been vaccinated against COVID-19, the Health Office is requesting that you email a copy of their COVID vaccination card to vittow@aps.edu or lynne.thomas@aps.edu. The COVID-19 vaccination is NOT a required vaccine and parents are not required to provide the school with these records, but it does help us identify whether or not a student needs to quarantine or participate in the Test to Stay program if they are exposed to a COVID-positive individual at school.

Thank you for helping our students stay healthy!

Lynne Thomas BSN, RN
SY Jackson School Nurse

