

# August

## Newsletter



### Important Dates

**Virtual Open House  
Presentations**  
August 26 in Google  
Classroom

**Picture Day**  
Sept. 2  
[www.lifetouch.com](http://www.lifetouch.com)  
Code:EVTXXQVQ2

**Labor Day Holiday**  
Sept. 6

### School Hours

School Day - 8:00-2:50  
Before Care - 7:00-7:30  
After Care - 2:50-6:00  
Office Hours - 7:30-3:15

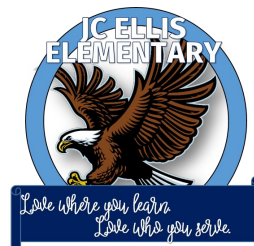
### From the Principal's Desk..

Welcome to another year! Our theme this year is Ellis: Under Construction. We will be constructing new learning and a new building. There are many new faces on campus and we are so excited to welcome them all to our Ellis community.

This school year will continue with many of the same safety protocols and procedures in place. Even with masks and social distancing, our goal is to provide the best education possible for each and every student. While we know there will be obstacles and challenges beyond our control, we will focus on and celebrate our students' successes.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we keep moving forward.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Kendrick  
Principal



Follow us on Social Media

Facebook: JC Ellis Elementary

### Contact Information

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Child Care: 504.484.4109  
Child Care Director: Anna Dennis  
Email: [Anna.Dennis@jpschools.org](mailto:Anna.Dennis@jpschools.org)

## Administration & Office Staff

Principal - Lisa Kendrick  
Assistant Principal - Nicole Morris  
Secretary - Janis Anderson  
Clerk - Shawnzell Brown  
Account Clerk - Malcolm Byrne  
Plant Manager - Kiva Barrow  
Cafeteria Manager - Annette Lawrence  
Child Care Director - Anna Dennis

## Support Staff

Plant Staff - Ronald McGinnis, Earl Gooden, Tholover Felix, Dwayne Moore  
Cafeteria Staff - Sharlene Jones, Carrie Lee, Denise Lewis, Josselin Perdomo, Gerald, Reaux, Katrina Tyler

## Faculty and Staff

PreK - Katie Broyles & Karla Rodriguez  
Kindergarten - Hayley Naquin, Christine Robert, Lauren Smith, Sayra Yanez  
1st Grade - Kim Catalanotto, Dawn France, Melanie Harmon, Tiffany Stutzenbecker  
2nd Grade - Megan Dunbar, Christine Pyburn, Ena Romero, Joyce Vicario, Lillian Villere  
3rd Grade - Stacy Busot, Annie Fogg, Maryanne Martin, Virginia Omorotionmwan  
4th Grade - Yaye Ba, Kristin Bertucci, Elena Mancha, Jamie White, Caitlin Wilson  
5th Grade - Yaye Ba, Kristin Bertucci, Peggy Castle, Carey Fornaris, Debbie Irizarry  
6th Grade - Kathryn Crider, Christian Pohlman  
7th Grade - Patrice Ariatti, Janet Miscavage  
8th Grade - Rita Hemstreet, Patti Terranova

PE - Lauren Le Blanc, George Ryan, Christine Ohordorff  
ESL - Sydney Barbier, Jill Grana, Beth Seaton  
Master Teacher - Monique Gutterrez  
Special Education - Johanna Gourley, Amy Marr, Lisha Ryan, Laurie Stauder, Patrick Walker, Dawn Yero  
Paraprofessionals - Bernette Burger, Anna Dennis, Latasha Dotson, Sondra Everson, Jan Hamer, Sheila Hunter, Missy Munch, Karla Rodriguez, Shantrell Mason  
Social Workers - Amanda Delchamps, Jennifer Hartwell  
Speech - Meghan Simoneaux  
Nurse - Ashley Reynolds  
Talented - Heather Weathers, Liann Cooper, Edward Rockvoan  
Pupil Appraisal - Hazel Benitez



## Reminders

### School Supply Fee-\$20

Payment can be made at  
[www.schoolcashionline.com](http://www.schoolcashionline.com)

### Donations

If you would like to donate a school supply fee for a family in need, please click on the donate option on

[www.SchoolCashOnline.com](http://www.SchoolCashOnline.com)

### Student Progress Center (SPC)

Log in to see your child's grades, attendance, and communication. Email your child's teacher if you need the PSN to log in.



Superintendent Dr. Gray and School Board President, Mr. Nugent, welcomed students back to school on the first day.

## Grade Level News

### 1st Grade

In math, the students have been working hard in module 1-sums and differences to 10. The students are making significant progress towards fluency with addition to 10 and will soon move on to subtraction to 10. We have been working on the process of having the students compose and decompose numbers, they have been describing "put together" situations with number bonds and counting on.

In ELA we will be reading fables and learning about the human body this month. We will learn about the skeletal, digestive, circulatory, nervous, and muscular systems. In our skills unit, we are continuing to practice our letter sounds, identifying

nouns, and tricky words. We will also add in the student readers this month and begin fluent reading and comprehension.

In Social Studies, we have learned about communities and changes in communities. In Science, we are studying parts of animals.

### 2nd Grade

**ELA:** For the month of August in ELA, we have been reading many fiction stories and some fairy tales in class. The students are answering comprehension questions and going back in the text to look for evidence. We have been making predictions, identifying characters and setting, as well as practicing spelling dictated words. Your child has also been given a Reading Screening to see where his/her reading level is currently. The teacher will share your child's reading level information once all tests have been completed. Please make sure to read with your child daily at home to reinforce reading skills.

**Math:** We are working on Module 1 which is the foundation for students to master sums and differences to 20. Students subsequently apply these skills to fluently add one-digit to two-digit numbers at least through 100 using place value understanding, properties of operations, and the relationship between addition and subtraction.

**Science:** Students will learn about how plants are living things and they require certain factors in order to survive. Plants needs include the appropriate amount of water, air, space, nutrients and light to grow, survive and thrive. They will also learn about the major structures in plants, like roots, stems, leaves, flowers and fruits, and their functions.

**Social Studies:** Students are learning about community, government, and their role as citizens of a community. Students will explore the various communities that they belong to, including family, classroom, school, and local communities. Students will learn more about the purpose of government and the rights and responsibilities of citizens.





## Grade Level News

### 3rd Grade

Our 3rd graders are enjoying The Stories Julian Tells in ELA. Science topics include animal development and survival. Social Studies explores what makes Louisiana unique. In Math, students are working on the properties of multiplication and division using problem solving.

### 4th Grade

**4th Grade ELA:** This month we are kicking off our first ELA unit that focuses on hurricanes. We will read literary and informational texts to learn about hurricanes and their impact on Louisiana. We will also understand how history involves the sharing of memories and the differences between firsthand and secondhand accounts.

**4th Grade Social Studies:** To start the year off, we are diving right into Social Studies by studying map skills as well as the many different kinds of maps. We will focus on how geography can affect where and how people live around the world.

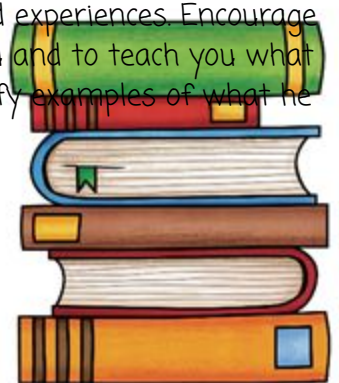
**4th Grade Math:** The first few weeks of school will be spent learning about place value. They begin with large numbers using familiar units (hundreds and thousands) and develop their understanding of millions by building knowledge of the pattern of times ten in the base ten system on the place value chart. They will be able to recognize that each sequence of three digits is read as hundreds, tens, and ones followed by the naming of the corresponding base thousand unit (thousand, million, billion).

**4th Grade Science:** Your child is about to begin a new journey as he or she explores plant and animal parts and animal sense receptors. Your child's mission will be to design a zoo that is organized by animals with the best sense receptors and to describe how having those sense receptors helps animals survive.

As your child works toward this goal, he or she will be exploring many phenomena while learning the following concepts:

- Plants and animals have internal and external structures that help them grow, protect themselves, behave a certain way, and reproduce.
- Animals have sense receptors that include vision, hearing, smell, taste, and touch.
- Sense receptors send information to an animal's brain, which, combined with perceptions and memories, guides their actions.

We will do many investigations in class over several weeks to help your child learn these concepts from firsthand experiences. Encourage your child to share these experiences with you and to teach you what he or she has learned. Ask your child to identify examples of what he or she is learning in everyday life.



## Grade Level News

### 5th Grade

Students have been busy taking diagnostic tests and getting used to their schedules. In math, students are working on reviewing multiplication strategies. In ELA, we are beginning the unit Making of a Scientist. Social Studies topics include a review of government and geography and begin with the characteristics of a civilization. Science will look at interactions in matter.

### 6th Grade

In 6th grade ELA, students will be using Steve Jobs' Stanford commencement speech as their anchor text. We will also be reading other literary and informational texts that describe the role of failure in success. We will discuss how success takes hard work, deliberate practice, and the ability to learn from failures and persevere.

In 6th grade Social Studies, students will learn how environmental changes and geography impact human settlement, early humans, and the development of settlements. We will also discuss the importance of the Agricultural Revolution and the advancement in tools and technology during the Neolithic time period.

In 6th grade math we are using the 4 operations to compute multi-digit fractions and decimals. We have also taken our beginning of the year diagnostic tests.

In 6th grade science, we are learning about Newton's three laws of motion and how force affects our daily lives.





## Grade Level News

### 7th & 8th Grade

7th and 8th grade have been busy building our classroom communities in the newly added Annex 5. All students have been hard at work completing their diagnostic tests.

7th grade ELA scholars started Unit 1 *Written in Bone*. Students will read literary and informational texts about the stories of our past to understand how different texts offer unique historical perspectives and how authors sometimes alter details of history to serve a purpose.

In Social Studies we began our year-long journey to form an understanding of the foundation of the American identity. The beginning of our journey takes us through the fight for independence against the British.

Our 7th grade math students have been working hard studying all about integer relationships and the operation rules, and we keep track of all our work pages in the daily agendas.

In science we have been having a blast using our process skills learning the engineering process through hands-on challenges. This month we will start Physical Science, specifically Chemical and Physical Changes of Matter. I'm looking forward to a fantastic year with everyone!

Our 8th graders jumped right into learning about transformations the very first day back to school. After diagnostic testing, we will be back to translations, reflections, and rotations again.

8th Grade ELA: We have begun reading Jack London's *The Call of the Wild* in 8th Grade ELA. Students are analyzing the meanings of words based on context as well as studying how an author's word choice can affect the mood and tone of a text. Our 8th graders have been having great discussions about the novel in class!

8th Grade Honors: Our Honors 8th grade students are preparing to start reading *The Odyssey* in English I while also completing online lessons in Algebra I. They are looking forward to the challenge presented by high school level courses. This week they have been working on independent research assignments in order to present new information to their peers.

