

Jeffrey Clark

Hornet Family Updates

“When families and schools work together, children feel supported, capable, and ready to grow.”

October 2026

School Attendance:

Every Day Counts. On Time. Every Time!

Welcome to October! Now that our classroom routines are officially in full swing, we are diving deep into foundational reading, math, and science concepts. Because our daily lessons are hands-on and build step-by-step upon the previous day's work, consistent attendance is the single best way to set your child up for school success.

Notes on the Morning Bell

Our school doors open early, but the morning bell rings and doors close exactly at 8:40 AM. When a student arrives even a few minutes late, they miss our critical morning routines and soft start, as well as the start of instruction. Let's aim to beat the 8:40 AM bell every single day!

Reporting Absences

We know that illnesses happen. If your child must be absent due to a sickness or family emergency, please remember to notify the school. You can call our Main Office at (856) 423-0412 to report their absence.

At-Home Tips for Smooth Mornings & Great Attendance

1. Prep the Night Before: Lay out clothes, pack backpacks, and place them right by the front door together before bedtime.
2. Build a Predictable Bedtime Routine: Young children thrive on consistency. Moving screens out of the bedroom and establishing a relaxing book-and-bed schedule ensures they wake up feeling rested and ready.
3. Use a Visual Checklist: Children respond wonderfully to tracking their own success. We have provided a printable morning routine checklist ([CLICK HERE](#)) that you can stick to your refrigerator! Let your child check off their morning goals as they prepare to catch the school bus or drive to school.

If your family is facing barriers getting to school on time—such as transportation challenges or morning routine stress—please reach out to us! We are a team and are always here to help connect you with school and community resources.



School Information

A monthly newsletter is shared electronically prior to the start of each new month. Most school correspondence is also sent electronically. If you find you are not receiving messages, please contact the main office for assistance.

A paper copy of the monthly calendar and the lunch menu will be sent home on green paper in student folders at the start of each new month. Links for the lunch menus and calendar are listed below.



[October Calendar](#)



[Preschool Lunch Menu](#)



[B-2 Lunch Menu](#)

Breakfast/Snack/Lunch Information



Classrooms are tree nut and peanut free. Preschool snacks and lunch should be free from tree-nuts and peanuts. B-2 snacks should not contain tree-nut or peanuts as they are consumed in classrooms.



All of our students eat snack during the day. Please plan on sending a nut-free snack each day with your child.



School lunch can be purchased for \$3.60. Feel free to set up your My School Bucks account to pay for your lunch online! Breakfast can be purchased by 11:00am the day before by clicking [here](#).

Staying Healthy Through Chilly Weather

Fall brings cooler temperatures and seasonal bugs. We want to keep our classroom healthy and full of life!

Help us prevent germ spread by practicing these habits at home:

- The 20-Second Wash: Practice singing the "Happy Birthday" song twice while scrubbing hands with soap and warm water.
- The "Vampire Sneeze": Teach your child to cough or sneeze directly into the crook of their elbow rather than into their hands.
- Knowing When to Stay Home: To protect all of our little learners, please keep your child home if they have a fever over 100.4°F, have vomited within the last 24 hours, or have a severe, hacking cough.

Preschool Flu Shot Deadline: November 30th

All preschool students must receive their annual flu shot before November 30th. In addition to the flu shot, all students must be fully up-to-date on their required childhood vaccinations.

Please plan ahead and schedule an appointment immediately. State regulations are strict, and families who do not submit updated immunization records or proof of the flu shot by the deadline risk their child being excluded from attending school.

Tips for Meeting the Deadline:

- Schedule Now: Pediatrician calendars fill up incredibly fast during October and November. Do not wait until the last minute to secure an appointment.
- Need Assistance? If you are having trouble getting an appointment with your child's regular pediatrician, or if you need alternative clinic options, please reach out directly to our School Nurse. They can provide recommendations for local health departments, walk-in clinics, and community resources to make sure your child stays compliant and in school. Feel free to [click here](#) to access the Gloucester County Free Flu Shot Clinics Information.

Thank you for your diligence and quick action in keeping our school community safe, healthy, and learning together!

Picture Day Is Wednesday, October 14



Parksdale order Information will be sent home with your student on Thursday, October 8th.



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/teacher conference dates and times are below. More information will be sent on Wednesday, October 7th regarding conference time sign-up.

Tuesday, October 27th from 6:00-8:00pm

Wednesday, October 28th from 1:45-3:30pm

Thursday, October 29th from 1:45-3:30pm

Friday, October 30th from 1:45-3:30pm

Please make sure you are able to log into the portal in order to sign up for a conference. For assistance getting log in information, please contact the Clark main office.

Week of Respect

October 5–October 9



Let's work together to make our schools kinder, safer, and more inclusive places for everyone!

MONDAY OCTOBER 5	WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7	FRIDAY OCTOBER 9
KINDNESS STARTS WITH YOU	POSITIVITY DAY!	TOGETHER WE SHINE
		
WEAR BLUE	WEAR A SHIRT WITH A POSITIVE MESSAGE	WEAR BLUE OR GOLD
Show kindness through your words and actions. Be the reason someone smiles today!	Our words have power! Use your words to encourage, include, and lift others up!	Join our school community in showing we are united for kindness, safety and inclusion!

Next week, we will join schools across New Jersey in celebrating the Week of Respect. This week highlights the importance of treating others with kindness, empathy, and understanding. Students will take part in special lessons and activities that remind us all to value and show respect every day—at school, at home, and in our community.

More Special Events In October

Mental Health Night at JCS

Our first Family Mental Health Night is scheduled for Monday, October 5th at 5:00pm in the Jeffrey Clark Library. We hope you can join us to learn about the "Power of Breathing". Together, we will learn and practice breathing tools and techniques to support our health and happiness!

Fire Prevention Week and Assemblies

We are excited to take part in Fire Prevention Week from October 5-9! Students will learn important fire safety tips during special assemblies and will even have the chance to explore a real fire truck. This hands-on experience will help students better understand how to stay safe and be prepared in case of an emergency.

Early Childhood Advisory Committee Meeting (Preschool Families)

Join us for our first Early Childhood Advisory Committee Meeting In-person In the Jeffrey Clark Library on October 15th from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. We look forward to welcoming all Interested preschool parents to join!

Jeffrey Clark School Fall Book Fair

The Fall Book Fair is almost here! It will take place from October 20 to October 26. The Book Fair gives students and families the chance to explore and purchase a wide variety of books, helping to foster a love of reading while also supporting our school. Families are also invited to attend our Book Fair Night on Monday, October 26, when the fair will be open during evening hours. Mrs. Goodstein and Ms. Martin will also be hosting a preschool mental health night with our Comprehensive Mental Health Specialist, Mrs. Marcionese. The event will focus on self-regulation. We hope you'll join us for both fun events!

Red Ribbon Week

We will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week, a nationwide campaign that promotes making safe and healthy choices. As part of the week, students are invited to take part in our Poster Contest. They can create a poster that shows the importance of living drug-free and making positive decisions. All entries will be displayed, and we look forward to seeing our students' creativity shine!

Trunk or Treat

Mark your calendars for Trunk or Treat on Thursday, October 22! The event will take place in the bus lanes and is presented by our Home & School Association. Families are invited to enjoy a fun evening of decorated trunks, costumes, and candy in a safe, community atmosphere. We hope to see you there!

Halloween Celebrations

We are excited to celebrate Halloween with our students!

- B-2 Parade: 10:00–10:30 a.m.
- Preschool Parade: 10:45–11:15 a.m.

Students will change into and out of their costumes at school. Please note that snack times will be adjusted to accommodate the parades and classroom parties.

If you plan to sign your child out early on Halloween (or any other day), please be sure to complete a Change of Dismissal Form in advance. This helps us ensure dismissal runs smoothly and safely for all students.

We look forward to a fun and festive day! More details and Information will be shared closer to the date!

