

MARY F. JANVIER  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

December 2015  
Journal



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# The Janvier Journal



## Mr. Kobik's Corner

December has arrived and 2015 is quickly drawing to a close! During the initial portion of this school year, our children have accomplished so much and December is a great time to reflect on past achievements while planning to move ahead in the new calendar year. The practice of goal setting is an important component in the measuring of growth and our children continue to show that they are developing academically and socially. Our children have developed their understanding of mathematical and literacy concepts with an emphasis towards building their reading comprehension skills. The use of learning centers, guided reading instruction, and the incorporation of technology has promoted student engagement with curricular content and enhanced our children's motivation towards understanding presented concepts. Additionally, many students have been recognized through our various character education programs that promote student focus towards the recognition of their ability to make good choices that foster a cooperative spirit and the importance of respectful behavior as they move throughout their day. You will notice in this edition of the *Janvier Journal*, articles that inform you of grade – level classroom

activities, updates from Special Areas classes, and information from our PTA. With the upcoming Winter Break in mind, the opportunity for learning never takes a vacation. For example, playing board games can be used to reinforce counting and math skills, your child may continue to develop their writing ability by creating a news article based on information garnered at a family gathering, or allowing your child to help prepare a meal can lead to an increased understanding of measurement skills. All of these activities combined with your support will enhance your child's confidence and encourage their understanding of the active role that they can take in their own learning. The entire Janvier staff continues to appreciate the support that you have shown towards our school and we wish all of you a healthy and happy 2016!



## Notes from the PTA

The PTA had a busy start to the school year. We kicked things off with the Scholastic Book Fair and moved right into our Family Movie Night. Building on those great events, we led into the Halloween parade and party. We were able to help obtain lots of food for Franklin Township families during our Harvest Basket Collection. Many families showed their love for Janiver by supporting our Spirit Wear fundraiser, which will likely run again in the

Spring. Last week, the students shopped for their loved ones as part of the Holiday Shop, which is always fun and exciting. The PTA thanks you and your family for your support and we look forward to an amazing remainder of the school year with your help because together We Are Janvier!

The PTA meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the All Purpose Room.

“Like” Janvier PTA on Facebook, to keep up to date on important information.



## Computer Literacy

What amazing learners we have in our computer lab! In First and Second Grade, we just finished our unit on Internet Safety. For the remainder of the year, we will be integrating Science into our curriculum. As we learn how to use Microsoft Word, Publisher, and PowerPoint, our First Graders will also be learning about the weather and growing plants, and our Second Graders will focus on the weather, seasons and life cycles. Our Kinder-

garteners have been learning about community helpers, digital tools, and have begun word processing skills. They have been doing a tremendous job! I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Ms. Graff

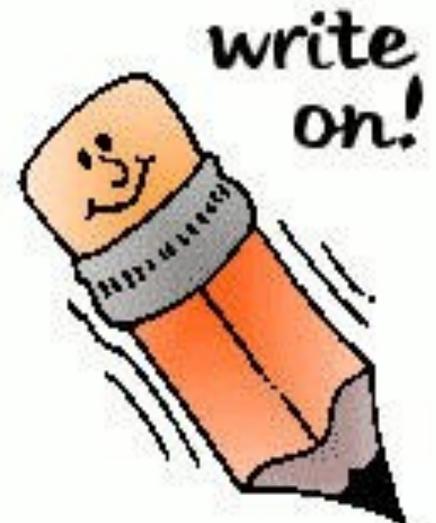


## Second Grade Update

The Second Graders have been working hard on many skills this month! In Math they are skip counting big numbers up to 1,000! In Language Arts they are trying to determine the author's purpose for writing a story. Also, the children will be writing stories! A good idea for a gift could be a journal or cool notebook so

your child can be writing everyday at home too!!

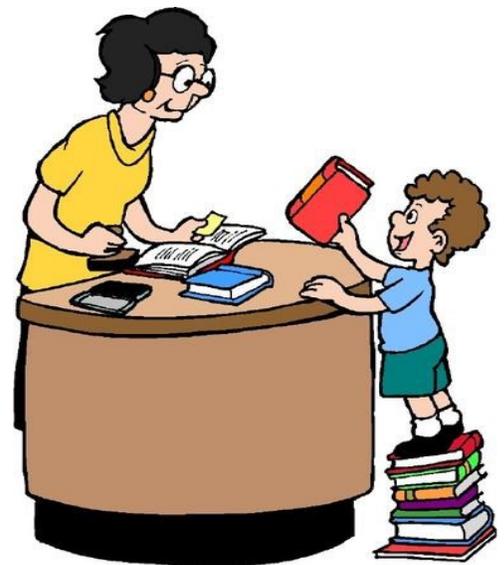
Submitted by the Second Grade Teachers



# Happy Holidays From The Library

What a wonderful time we have been having in the library this year! I hope you and your family have enjoyed reading the library books the children choose each week. You can make reading even more fun by completing the Six Flags Reading Contest that was sent home in November. Each child who reads 6 hours and returns the form will receive a ticket good for free admission to Six Flags in Jackson, NJ. The library subscribes to free e-books that can be

accessed on any computer at [www.tumblebooks.com](http://www.tumblebooks.com). Type in the username: **janvier** and the password: **books**. Books make terrific holiday gifts. Their enjoyment lasts long after the season is over. You might want to consider the books listed in this newsletter as you plan your holiday purchases. Listed below are some grade level appropriate selections in order to help you get started. Happy Reading! Mrs. Monaghan, Library Media Teacher



Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade
Max and Ruby Series	Frog and Toad Series	Magic Treehouse Series
Clifford Series	Henry and Mudge Series	Geronimo Stilton Series
Biscuit Series	Amelia Bedelia Series	American Girl Series
Fly Guy Series	Junie B. Jones Series	Ready Freddy Series
Books by Eric Carle	Arthur Series	Clementine Series
Nursery Rhymes	Books by Mo Willems	Ramona Series
Books by Dr. Seuss	Books by Dr. Seuss	Books by Dr. Seuss
Books by Mercer Mayer	Fly Guy Series	Roscoe Riley Series

## What's Happening in Art Class

Our amazing Janvier Artists just finished their unit on shape, and created beautiful Native American artwork. Kindergarteners used many shapes to create colorful dried corn, First Graders used symmetry and shape to make totem poles, and Second Graders used shapes with figure drawing in order to create a Native American woman. Now the Element of Art we're learning about is color! Our artists are having a lot of fun experimenting with primary colors. Kindergarteners learned about a

famous artist named Mondrian, and are creating an artwork in his style using line, shape, and the primary colors. First Graders used pastel techniques in order to create "glowing" primary color lights, and Second Graders have been painting a cardinal in a snowy scene. Soon we will be using primary colors to create new colors!



# Kindergarten Celebrates the 50th Day of School

We have been in Kindergarten for over 50 days! Can you believe it? On November 19th, we celebrated the 50th day of school. It was a fun-filled day for all. The students came dressed in 1950's attire. There were a lot of exciting activities planned. Enjoy-

ing popcorn and root beer floats were a BIG hit! The students participated in a hula-hoop contest as 50's music played. They also completed the writing assignment, "I wish I had 50..." and counted to 50 by ones and tens! We are 50 days smarter!



## First Grade Holiday Activities

It's the most wonderful time of the year! The First Grade classes are excited to celebrate the holidays in a special way! We are switching to other classrooms to complete holiday related crafts and activities. It will

be a fun day for both students and teachers! We would like to wish you and your families a joyous holiday season!

Submitted by the First Grade Teachers



WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?		
Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
❖ Scores in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.
<p>If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.</p>		
<p><b>WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.</b></p>		