A New School Year Begins!!!!

Principal's Message.

Happy New Year! The beginning of the school year always marks a time of promise and possibility, and 2019-20 is no exception! With a talented staff and a supportive community, our students are poised to reap the benefits of this extraordinary partnership. All of our efforts directly support the positive experience of our students, and our goal is to provide a phenomenal environment in which all students at Jacques Memorial School can flourish, achieving academic excellence, becoming emotionally and physically stronger, and grow their talents. Students and staff have hit the ground running, practicing routines and establishing expectations so that learning can be seamless for the remainder of the year.

Jacques Memorial School is very fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated staff. We are indebted to our returning staff members, and welcome those who are new to our schools. Our new staff includes several new Kindergarten teachers; Meredith Ritter just recently earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and Sociology from Keene State College. Stacy Stanley who has served as both a second grade and kindergarten teacher for over ten years at the Simonds School in Warner, New Hampshire. Shannon Nunez recently taught fourth grade at the Dr. Norman Crisp School in Nashua for nine years.

Lisa Palance and Shannon Cote will be supporting students as the newest members of our Title One team. Bringing their talents from Heron Pond and joining the Jacques team, we welcome Helene Bureau and Jennifer Crawford as new special educators.

There are several new positions at Jacques as well. Kim Kelliher will support students as our new reading specialist. Tracy Holland will be supporting families and students as our new school Social worker. Chris Joy will be working to support behavior needs of students as our new Mental Health counselor at both Jacques and Heron Pond. As our new Media Generalist, Andrea Wyka will enhance instruction by integrating technology and helping to instill a love of literacy in our students in our school library. Shari Shaw will be sharing her talents and passion as our new music teacher.

It was great meeting many of you at our Annual “Meet and Greet” and “Ice Cream Social Events at Jacques Memorial. Parents and Guardians are invited to attend our annual Open House events scheduled for Kindergarten students on Tuesday, September 24th and First grade students on...
**Jacques Hours:**
Office Hours: 8 AM - 4 PM  
School Hours: 8:25 AM - 2:45 PM  
AM Preschool: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM  
PM Preschool: 12:15 PM - 2:45 PM

**Dates to Remember:**
- September 23th - October 4th - NWEA FALL Benchmark
- September 24th - Kindergarten Open House 5:30 - 7:30
- September 26th - First Grade Open House 5:30 - 7:30
- September 23rd - 27th - PTO Book Fair
- September 27th - Picture Day
- September 30th – Safety Procedure Parent Night 6:00 PM to 7:00PM at Heron Pond

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**Brunch with Mr. O and Miss B!!!**
October 8th, 9:00-10:00  
JMS Library

Ever want to know what is happening at Jacques? This is the time to join us to find out! Topics: How to help my child at home? What's my child doing in school? Time to ask questions!

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**Scholastic Book Fair!**
There will be a PTO book fair for all students on Monday, September 23rd in the Cafeteria. Keep your eye out for a flyer in the coming days!! The book fair will be open to all visitors at kindergarten and first grade open houses.

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Thursday, September 26th from 5:30-7:30pm. Classroom teachers will be on hand to provide information about the curriculum, expectations, communication, and how you can support your child’s education. Our school goal is to see 90% of our families at this event. I hope you can attend!

A very special thank you to the PTO for providing the special ice cream treat for our students and families and for donating backpacks, water bottles, lunch boxes and school supplies for our students for our summer “Meet and Greet” events. What a great way to welcome our students!

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your principal. I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children.

-Tim O’Connell  
Principal

**Learning in Action . . .**

**Title I Summer Camp**
The Milford Title I Program held another successful summer session with over 70 students participating in Blast Off to Kindergarten and Title I Summer Camp for rising first through fifth grade students.

Nineteen eager Kindergarten students participated in a two-week “Blast Off to Kindergarten” program, funded by the Title I grant. This fun summer program for some of our youngest learners provided instruction in pre-academic and school readiness skills development. As the Class of 2032, Kindergarten students spent time learning school routines, exploring letters, and learning the names of their classmates while engaging in a fun book titled, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. Students also practiced social-emotional school readiness skills such as making new friends, socializing during snack time, and taking turns. Together, teachers and students got excited about our journey to become good readers while visiting the Jacques school library. All students received a special gift of two books: Chrysanthemum and The Kissing Hand to enjoy and to add to their collection.

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Kona Ice to Celebrate the End of Summer School
Over 50 children participated in our two-week Title I Summer Camp for rising 1st through 5th grade students. The Title I Summer Program, funded by the Title I federal grant, provided instruction in both reading and mathematics to support maintenance of academic skills during the summer months. Students explored several topics through thematic units, including Colors, Eric Carle author study, Wild Weather, and Mars Mission 2019.

Kindergarten Screening/Parent Orientation

Our Kindergarten Screening/Parent Orientation took place on August 28th and 29th. While students were screened and enjoyed some play time in small groups, parents attended an orientation. Parents met and spoke with Tim O'Connell, Jacques Principal, Leslie Brigagliano, Curriculum/Title 1 Coordinator, Sue Burns, School Counselor, Tracey Holland, School Social Worker, and a few of our fabulous Kindergarten teachers. On September 3rd, the Kindergarten students and parents returned for our annual ice cream social and met their K teachers.

Questions? Please feel free to connect with me if you have any questions or concerns. While it is important to connect with your child's teacher first, I am available to all parents.

Leslie Brigagliano, Curriculum Coordinator/Title 1 Coordinator
603 673-4035 ex 4035

**JMS Welcomes New Reading Specialist**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Kim Kelliher and I am the new Reading Specialist here at Jacques. I have always loved literacy and can remember some of my fondest memories as a child helping my mom set up her elementary classroom and enjoying the cadence in my Dad's voice while he read to me. This love of literacy from early on, paved the way for my future goals. As I enter my thirteenth year in education, I hope to instill that same love of literacy in the students here at Jacques.

Over the last twelve years, I have had experience teaching third grade, first grade, and kindergarten in the Manchester and Merrimack school Districts. I also completed my M.Ed. as a Reading and Writing Specialist from Plymouth State University. This experience has prepared me for my current position in which I am able to support students, staff, and families in the area of literacy.

This year the Milford School District has adopted a new literacy program called EL Education and we will continue to use Fundations as our core literacy programs. I will be supporting staff and students using our core programs and collaborating with teachers to determine the needs of our students. Using a model that provides multi-tiered supports, also known as RtI, students will be able to get the support that they need at Jacques in order to succeed. If you are interested in ways to support your child at home please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Kim Kelliher
kimberly.kelliher@nilfordk12.org
673-4434 x 4076
Hello!

My name is Jaime Morin and this will be my fifth year being the school nurse at Jacques Memorial Elementary! I have been a nurse for 20 years and have worked in homecare, skilled nursing facilities and the ICCU; however, I will say I love working with the lower elementary school age group. My goal is to make sure your children feel safe, respected and cared for when they come to see me.

Parent/Guardian cooperation is requested in the following situations:

**When should I keep my child home from school?**

**Fever:** A child with a temperature of 100.0 or more should not be sent to school. Do not send him/her back to school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the help of medicine.

**Common Cold:** Children with heavy cold symptoms and hacking coughs should remain at home.

**Sore Throat:** Children with a sore throat without other symptoms may attend school. A sore throat with white spots present, or with a fever should stay at home. Contact your child's doctor for evaluation. **please do not send cough drops to school with your child. They are considered over the counter medication and may not be given in school without a note from your doctor.**

**Rashes:** If your child has a rash that you can't identify, check with your doctor to ensure that it is not contagious before sending him/her to school.

**Vomiting and Diarrhea:** Keep child home for 24 hours after vomiting and diarrhea have stopped. Consult your doctor for persistent or severe stomach aches.

**Headache:** Unless severe, child usually can come to school

**Eyes:** Any signs/symptoms of conjunctivitis- red, itchy, goopy eyes should be evaluated by doctor. If positive for conjunctivitis, student must be on antibiotic eye drops for 24 hours prior to return to school.

**Injuries returning to school:** If your child is injured and is returning to school with a cast, boot, splint, crutches etc...the school must have a Doctor's note stating the diagnosis and restrictions. Another Doctor's note will be required for your child to return to PE and recess.
Medications: all medications given at school must be given by the school nurse or designated appointee per state law. If your child has the diagnosis of asthma or life-threatening allergy, we MUST have the appropriate forms and medication on file in the Nurse's Office. All prescription medication must be in its original packaging with prescription label attached. Medication cannot be sent in with student; it must be dropped off by a parent.

Other Important Reminders:

1. Please keep a change of clothes in our students backpack at all times. Spills and trips with puddles happen frequently. The health office has limited space for with a limited amount of clothes to borrow.

2. In our school we have many students with food allergies; many that are life threatening. In order to keep all of our students safe I need to ask that if you have signed up to bring food for an in class celebration, or choose to do so at any point that you only send in food that was purchased at a store and it arrives in its original container with the ingredient label attached. If it does contain any major allergen then the students who cannot have the snack may come to my office for an allergy free alternative. If you need any ideas for allergy free snacks feel free to call me at 673-4434, option 2 for my direct line, or email me at jaime.morin@milfordk12.org

Please reach out to me with any questions/concerns throughout the school year!

Be well!

Nurse Jaime

School Counseling News: Say Hello to Kelso and Lily!

Happy fall everybody! School counseling classes are in full swing and we will start to learn about Kelso, the frog, this month! Kindergarten will use Kelso to learn about being respectful, responsible, and other important character traits. First grade will use Kelso and his friend, Lily, to begin learning about how to solve small problems. More information has been sent home about this program so please keep an eye out for it. You can also check out www.kelsoschoice.com for additional information.

This year I have a wonderful opportunity to have a graduate school intern with me, she is studying to be a school counselor. Her name is Audrey Keene and she is a student at Rivier University. She may in the future, see students for support and facilitate class lessons. The students have already got to know her and she is a great addition to our team. If she sees any students, parents will be notified so consent can be given. I will be supervising her throughout her time with us at Jacques. Let me know if you have any questions about this.

Sue Burns, School Counselor
Social Worker Comes to Jacques!

I would like to take some time to introduce myself and explain my role, since it is a new position this year. My name is Tracy Holland and I am the social worker for Jacques. My overall goal is to help students and families have a happy and successful school year. One way I can help is by providing families with resources for food, clothing, housing, insurance, counseling, parenting support, and more. I am available by phone or email if you need help finding resources or just help navigating the various community resources. I will also be providing individual and group counseling to those that are in need of some extra support.

Another part of my role will be working to enhance Social Emotional Learning (SEL) for our students. The district has decided to use the CASEL Social Emotional Framework. Students will gain knowledge in self-awareness, social awareness, responsible decision-making, self-management, and relationship skills. I found this quote from Steve Arnold, Board Member of CASEL that sums up why it is important to focus on Social Emotional Learning. “Social-emotional learning makes kids feel more safe, more willing to take risks, more willing to form meaningful relationships, all of which is shown to have a huge difference in people's growth.” There will be a table at Open House that will provide more information about Social Emotional Learning and provide activities that you can do at home with your kids to help them learn about feelings and coping skills.

I am excited to be working at Jacques and know together we can make this a great year! My contact information is 673-4434 ext. 4005 or email tracy.holland@milford.org.

Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year!

Let's make this the best year yet!