Sept. 14, 2015

Dear Parents,

We’ve had a wonderful start to our school year! Students participated in several activities to help build a strong sense of classroom community. This week, students will complete their “personalized puzzle piece” and share it with their classmates on Thursday. Our “Team 104” puzzle will proudly be displayed in the hallway for everyone to enjoy.

My students are mastering classroom procedures and routines that support student learning. This begins early in the morning, when they enter the building at 7:15. Children take care of their morning routine, so they’re ready to begin class work at 7:25. Thank you for sending your child to school on time, as this helps create a calm, smooth transition for your child.

***This Week:***

**Language Arts** - Students will continue to practice reading strategies. They will also work on the skill “citing text evidence” to support their answers. Their first vocabulary test and spelling test will be on Thursday. Since the story, (“Winn Dixie”) was carried over from last week, students should be quite familiar with these vocabulary words and definitions.

Students will meet Mark Tatulli this Friday. He is an author, artist, animator, and television producer.

**Math** - Continue unit 1, “Geometry”: lines, line segments, rays, and angles. Students will receive their on-line passwords for XtraMath and IXL, to practice their basic facts and current math lessons, respectively.

**Social Studies -** in fourth grade, focuses on states and regions in the U.S.A. This week, students will learn about different types of maps. They will also learn about the wide variety of landforms in America.

**MAP reading test –** will be given on Thursday morning. The MAPs test is given three times during the year: fall, winter, and spring.

**The art teacher** – has requested each child bring a smock (an old shirt) to school, so school clothes will be protected from paint, clay, markers, etc.

**Color-a-Thon Fundraiser –** Everyone is encouraged to participate and join in the fun! Please check out this brief clip regarding our *COLORFUL and exciting* fundraiser: <http://shop.schoolathon.org/EventIndex.asp?EID=181355>

(A packet about this *amazing and colorful event* was sent home recently.)

The class that raises the most money through donations will get an ice cream party with Mr. Johnson. They will also give ideas and vote on the next Spirit Day theme.

**Vigeo and Shoparoo –** are fun and easy ways to help support Jeffery Elementary. Please visit the Jeffery website for more information.

**Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar:**

**\*Sept. 18th, Friday –** Spirit Day theme: “This year will be the brightest!” Everyone is encouraged to wear *neon* colors. It’s a great way to remind people about our Color-a-Thon fundraiser.

**\*Sept. 21st, Monday –** Picture Day. Order forms were sent home today.

Have a wonderful week.

Sincerely,

Ms. Flaherty