



## Fourth Grade Newsletter Tuesday September 10, 2019

*Mr. Ledyard, Ms. Cole, Mr. Gold, Ms. Jensen, Ms. Buscher, Ms. Hunter, Ms. Quirin Pavetto,  
Ms. Yedwab, Ms. Spence, Ms. Young*

### **General News**

\*If your child attended Janney as a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grader and took the PARCC assessment, individual PARCC score reports will be sent home via THT folders on Tuesday, 9/10.

\*Janney will host its first Community Night of the school year on **Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**. We are thrilled to welcome **Dr. James Gordon** from the **Center for Mind-Body Medicine**, who will engage with our community around self-care routines and support in response to everyday stress and trauma. We'll experience meditation, movement, music, and more with him, and learn how to use them to reduce stress and enhance resilience. His widely-acclaimed [new book](#), "The Transformation: Discovering Wholeness and Healing After Trauma" will be on sale. For more about The Center for Mind-Body Medicine, please visit <https://cmbm.org>.

We all struggle with managing everyday stress and often do not have enough time for proper self-care. This is a great opportunity to learn self-care routines as we begin the new school year. Free childcare will be offered via JAC

for Janney students attending this event. Please let us know if you plan to take advantage of the child care by signing up [here](#).

\*Principal Lutz will share the slides from her Back-to-School Night presentation in the upcoming Tuesday newsletter.

\*PE teacher Mr. Kovacs will be on paternity leave beginning September 9 through the winter break. Your child most likely met Ms. Caryn Solomon this week in PE class as she will be teaching PE in Mr. Kovacs' absence. Ms. Solomon has experience teaching and coaching elementary and middle school and we are lucky to have her on staff. Please say hi and welcome to Ms. Solomon to Janney when you see her at arrival and dismissal!

**\*Kids Ride Free SmarTrip Card for SY 19/20 are now available.** Students that travel on bus and metro to school, can request a Kids Ride Free Smartrip Card. To Request a Kids Ride Free SmarTrip card, e-mail [ann.beumel@k12.dc.gov](mailto:ann.beumel@k12.dc.gov), with the subject: Kids Ride Free SmarTrip card

In the email include –

- Students name,
- Grade and teacher
- student ID, if known.

### **Reading**

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Back-to-School night last week. As we discussed that evening, an important part of Reading Workshop is to have students read a "Just Right Book." A Just Right Book (JRB) is a book about which a student can talk and write successfully, showing a full understanding of the text and being able to think beyond the text to grow their own ideas about what they read. These are the building blocks to the abstract thinking that is required of readers in the upper elementary grades. Please ask your children how they identify whether or not a book is just right for them.

This week, we will continue to practice the routines and procedures of Reader's Workshop, as students practice the independent reading and partner shares that, with the mini-lesson, make up Reading Workshop. Next week, we will introduce the reading log to students. They will practice with it at school before being expected to bring it home. We will include more information about that in next week's newsletter.

As always, we are so grateful for everything you do to support the reading lives of your children.



**Fourth Grade Newsletter**  
**Tuesday September 10, 2019**

*Mr. Ledyard, Ms. Cole, Mr. Gold, Ms. Jensen, Ms. Buscher, Ms. Hunter, Ms. Quirin Pavetto,  
Ms. Yedwab, Ms. Spence, Ms. Young*

**Math**

At the end of last week students began classifying triangles by their sides (scalene, isosceles, and equilateral) and by their angles (acute, obtuse, and right). We also discussed attributes of quadrilaterals. This week, we will focus on classifying other two-dimensional shapes based on their presence or absence of parallel or perpendicular lines and presence or absence of angles of a specified size. We will also explore symmetry in two-dimensional figures.

**Writing**

In writing, we continue with our launch unit this week. Writers will add more writing territories to their brainstorming list. Writing territories are topics and ideas that students are interested in writing about this year. In addition, we'll choose a couple of ideas from our writing territories to quick write in class. Ask your child: What are some of your writing territories? What did you decide to quick write about in class?

Since we will be using computers for much of our writing this year, please ensure that your student spends time practicing typing. Students can access Typing Agent for free through their Clever account (visit the Digital Communications website on the Janney website for links).

**Social Studies**

This week we will really dive into our unit on Native Americans. We will start with a general overview of all the tribes by first learning about where each group lived in the United States. Students will also infer how the climate of an area may have impacted the culture of a particular Native American group. Later in the week, students will be assigned a specific region and will begin research on the following questions:

- How did the **geography** influence how Native Americans in your region lived?
- How did the **climate** influence how Native Americans in your region lived?
- **What other factors** influenced how Native Americans in your region lived?

**Upcoming Dates**

**September 12:** Hopes & Dreams field trip to Lincoln Memorial  
**September 13:** Room Parent Meeting (8:10am)  
**September 24:** Portrait Day  
**October 11:** Parent-Teacher Conference Day  
**October 14:** NO SCHOOL (Columbus Day)