

THE FALCON FLYER

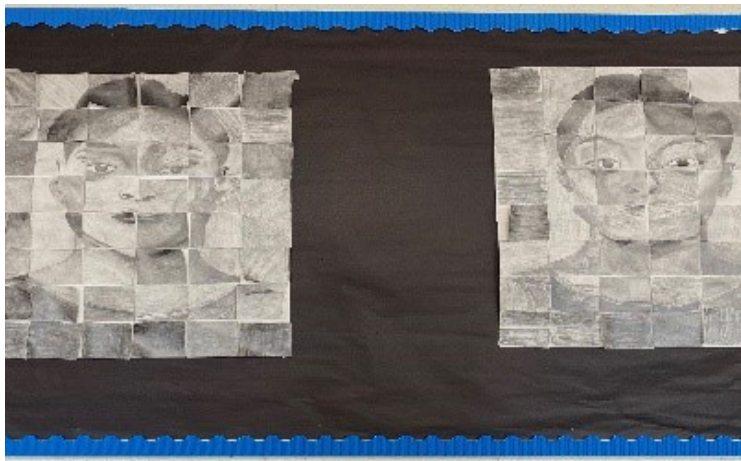
JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GREAT KINDNESS CHALLENGE WEEK

Jefferson Township Public Schools celebrated the Great Kindness Challenge Week. The week gave every educator and student an opportunity to model and focus on kindness practices that engage the entire school community in the social-emotional learning process. Our school communities recognized the week by incorporating various activities and theme days. Staff-to-staff kindness activities gave staff members an opportunity to extend a compliment, kind message, or silly statement to make each other smile or laugh.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART

Last month eighth-grade art students collaborated "at a distance". In order to do so, Ms. Strathern printed a large image of a modern-day icon, measured a grid onto the image, labeled it with a letter and number coordinate, then cut out each square. Each student received two squares and tried to replicate the value shown in their portion of the image. After students finished shading their squares, they used a coordinate map to place the squares in the correct position to reveal the large-scale image of Serena Williams. (below) Following, students enjoyed having a discussion on the similarities and differences which impacted the look of the final product. The activity taught collaboration in a variety of ways, such as through communication, dividing roles and tasks, and working towards a common goal. The students used a similar method to create a replica of "The Great Wave" by Hokusai which is hanging in the JTMS hallway. (right)



NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT

Ellen T Briggs School: During the Great Kindness Challenge each classroom decorated their classroom door, which was judged by Mayor Wilsusen. (top)

Orthodontist Dr. Harte presented a dental health program for the Briggs School community. Dr. Harte was informative and funny and involved our students during the assembly. (center)

Arthur Stanlick School: Mrs. Keyser is leading the One School One Book reading program. Every family has received a copy of *Friendship According Humphrey* and our students and staff will participate in activities based upon each chapter of the book over the next few weeks.

Cozy Lake School: Our community will be participating in the "Hit The Books" initiative sponsored by the New Jersey Jackals baseball team. Students who read the required amount of books will be rewarded with tickets to attend a game. The team's mascot Jack the Jackal will make an appearance at Cozy Lake School on May 20th.

White Rock School: The second-graders presented a Virtual Winter Concert. Students worked very hard to present this program to the community. A great deal of appreciation goes to Mr. Rothstein for organizing the event. (bottom)

Middle School:

Sixth-graders are busy learning about earthquakes, studying types of stresses and faults, seismic waves, and earthquake safety. Soon they will spend a few days putting their knowledge to work as a virtual seismologist and will attempt to determine the epicenter of several real-life earthquake events. Students will take careful measurements, interpret information from several graphs, and input accurate data, to succeed at the program and correctly locate the epicenter.

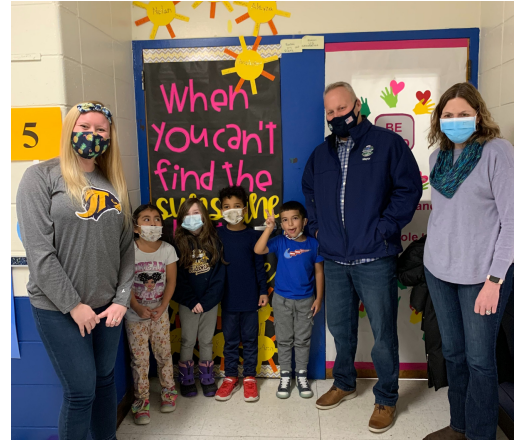
Seventh-grade math is focusing on percentages, percent of a number, calculating sales tax, tips, commission, and simple interest. Students enjoyed an activity that allowed them to create a wish list of items they could purchase from Amazon.com. Students choose seven items to purchase and then calculated the subtotal, sales tax, and total cost, including shipping. There was a \$500 spending limit; students needed to make sure their total cost would fit within their budget.

High School:

The National Honor Society collected eighty pairs of shoes to donate to persons in need. Since September, 212 pounds of food have been collected and over \$450.00 has been raised for the Community Foodbank of New Jersey.

An Elective and Advanced Placement (AP) Fair was held during the lunch periods. Information, handouts, and representatives were available for the many electives and AP classes offered.

AP English Literature students have been working hard analyzing Siddhartha using their personal journals for the unit.



NEWS AFFECTING OUR WORLD

The War in Ukraine

The links below to various websites and educational resources related to the current war in Ukraine have been curated by Mr. Devine, Supervisor of Social Studies, Fine Arts, Technical Education, and the STEM Academy. They may be used for families that are seeking more information about how to discuss these events in a meaningful way to the extent that you feel is appropriate.

NYT Article "How to Talk to Kids About Ukraine"

Choices Program @ Brown University

PBS News Hour (Current as of March 1, 2022)

History of Ukraine Conflict (Full Interactive Lesson Plan)

Ukraine Invasion Document Analysis

Visual Maps & Graphs Explaining Ukraine

United Nations Educational Resources- Ages 6-18

BBC Article "Ukraine or the Ukraine?"

NYC DOE Resource Guide (PACKED with links & updated daily. Includes mental health resources as well)

COVID-19 Updates

The Center for Disease Control and the New Jersey Department of Education no longer requires masks on school buses. Effective Monday, March 7th, masks will be optional in all of our classrooms and on all of our district transportation for students and staff.

Additionally, after consulting with the Local Health Department, Jefferson Township Public Schools will no longer require any student or staff member to quarantine after travel outside of the immediate area.

I am happy to announce these additional steps as we move toward a more typical school year. We will continue to follow the guidelines from the New Jersey Department of Health in consultation with the Local Health Department and make adjustments to our COVID-19 protocols and procedures as we are able.
