

THE JEFFERSON JOURNAL

★☆☆ News from Jefferson Elementary School ★☆☆

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that we are on the unceded lands of the Spokane Tribe. The Spokane people shared this place with other tribes through their relations, resources, history, trade, and ceremony. We thank the caretakers of this land, who lived, and continue to live here since Time Immemorial. This land holds the knowledge, culture, and spirit of "The People of the River."



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Good Day Jefferson Community,

Today's Principal's Corner continues our look at learnings taken from Jo Boaler's **Mathematical Mindsets**, specifically looking at the making of mistakes and the amazing impact that struggle has on growth in the brain. You see, every time the brain makes a mistake, a new synapse is grown. We do not even need to know that we made a mistake for this to happen. And, you guessed it, researchers have discovered that brain activity was greatest for students with growth mindsets following errors.



Now do not get me wrong, I am not advocating for students to fill their days making errors during math class. Instead, here at Jefferson, we are working hard to provide students with rich contexts for mathematics investigations that require students to think deeply and solve complex problems. By doing so, students develop flexibility in their thinking and learn to savor the challenges of the real-life problems laid before them.

Interestingly, in studies of highly successful people in general, those with the greatest success made the most mistakes while on the path to greatness. Jo Boaler, in **Mathematical Mindsets**, notes findings by Peter Sims, a writer for The New York Times. He found, in general, that "successful people:

- Feel comfortable being wrong
- Try seemingly wild ideas
- Are open to different experiences
- Play with ideas without judging them
- Are willing to go against traditional ideas
- Keep going through difficulties" (Boaler 14)

This sure sounds like what Jefferson is all about as our mathematics journey continues.

Make it a great day,

Brent A. Perdue (he, his, him)

Principal brentp@spokaneschools.org

CALENDAR

February 28

Group Picture Day
Unicycle Club, 3-4pm

March 1

Leadership Club,
3:05-3:45pm

March 2

Unicycle Club, 3-4pm
Multicultural Club, 3-4pm

March 7

PTG Meeting, 7:00pm, in
person and on Zoom

March 9

STEM Expo, 5-7pm

FEBRUARY 27TH, 2023

4TH GRADERS TAMING THE RECORDER

Jefferson 4th graders have been learning how to read music through taking up the recorder. Learn more about how Mrs. King's



beginning musicians make connections when learning to read this new language in an interview with Bella, Dottie, Daniel and Oak posted on Jefferson's social media pages (www.facebook.com/jeffersonselementaryspokane and www.instagram.com/jeffersonselementaryspokane).

6TH GRADERS HELP BRING SCIENCE TO LIFE FOR JEFFERSON PRESCHOOLERS

Ms. Mahoney's sixth graders were guest science teachers in preschool recently. The question Jefferson preschool scholars investigated was what would happen when a Skittle gets wet.



THE PTG SCOOP

- It's never too soon to start thinking about next year. The majority of the PTG Board members will be transitioning away in the 2023-2024 school year, and their roles will need to be filled. Could you step in? Earlier planning opens the door for possible mentorship. Please contact PTG with questions!
- 5th and 6th Grade Parents: You should have received an email from the Memory Book Committee (via your child's teacher) regarding submitting permission forms and photos. PLEASE get these needed items in soon if you haven't already.
- The next PTG Meeting will be Tues March 7th at 7pm in the Library and on Zoom. See you there!

MULTICULTURAL CLUB JOURNEYS TO THE MAC

Multicultural Club visited the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture last Thursday. Exhibitions included Beadwork and art from Ubuhe Women, multimedia art addressing persistence of stereotypes of Native Americans, and Mexican dancing masks.



DEMONSTRATING CLASS PRIDE

Congratulations to Mrs. Rothstein's 4th Grade for recently filling up the 60 spaces on their classroom PRIDE poster!



FROM YOUR

Jefferson Scholar & Family Handbook

(located on the Jefferson Website in the “Students” dropdown menu or click [here](#))

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (page 11)

Washington State law prohibits harassment, intimidation or bullying (HIB) in our schools. The law and Policy and Procedure 3207 defines harassment, intimidation or bullying as any intentionally written message or image—including those that are electronically transmitted—verbal or physical act, including but not limited to one shown to be motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, mental, physical or sensory handicap, or other distinguishing characteristics when an act physically harms a student or damages the student’s property; has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s education; is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school. Schools are required to take action if students report they are being bullied, and any district staff member can take the report. Individuals who believe there has been a violation of policy are encouraged to contact their building administration or HIB/Student Civil Right Officer, Jodi Harmon 354-5901.

Procedure 3207 provides the reporting and investigation process. Further information and compliant forms may be found on the Spokane Public Schools website, www.spokaneschools.org and selecting — Parents & Students — Quick Access Center — Bullying & Harassment.



STEM EXPO SERIES COMING SOON

On March 9th, 5:00-7:00pm please join us for Jefferson's first STEM EXPO! There will be over 40 exhibits, demonstrations and guest speakers that would love to talk all things STEM!

Are you and your young scholar curious about what STEM looks like at Sacajawea or LC? Come talk with some student scientists and engineers about what they are doing to help the community.

There will be scientists and engineers of all ages sharing their passion and how they use their passion to make the world a better place.

There are still some tables available. Jefferson would love to have you present if you have a hobby or a STEM related profession. If interested , please contact Melissa Percy at melissape@spokaneschools.org or Kate Kearney at mkkearney@gmail.com.

There will also be a Student STEM Expo on Thursday, April 13th, from 5-7pm.

Don't miss out! The March event will focus on adult scientists in our community. Then, the April event will see our own Jefferson Patriots' STEM projects, with community members who take part in the March event being invited back to join in the celebration of STEM being presented by young Jefferson scientists!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK, FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

Family and community members are encouraged to like Jefferson on Facebook (www.facebook.com/jeffersonelementaryspokane) and follow Jefferson on Instagram (www.instagram.com/jeffersonelementaryspokane) to keep up on the latest happenings and to see many more pictures of events than can fit in an issue of The Jefferson Journal.

