

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

Hello wonderful Families of Jefferson Elementary School and Community Partners!

As the leaves begin to change and the air becomes crisp, October brings more than just pumpkin spice lattes and the changing of the season. It's also a special



time of the year known as Disability Awareness Month. This is a month dedicated to promoting understanding, acceptance and inclusion for people with disabilities, and it's a topic we're excited to explore with our young learners.

What is Disability Awareness Month?

Disability Awareness Month is a time when we recognize and celebrate the abilities, talents and accomplishments of individuals with disabilities. It's an opportunity to break down stereotypes, foster empathy and build a more inclusive community.

Why is it important?

- <u>Promotes Inclusion</u>: When we learn about disabilities and the unique challenges people may face, we become more inclusive and compassionate individuals. This awareness helps us make sure that everyone feels welcome and valued.
- <u>Breaks Stereotypes</u>: Disability Awareness Month helps dispel stereotypes and misconceptions. It teaches us that people with disabilities are just like everyone else—full of dreams, potential and talents.
- <u>Builds Empathy</u>: By learning about different types of disabilities and the obstacles individuals may encounter, we develop empathy. Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others, which is a crucial life skill.
- <u>Encourages Friendship</u>: When we embrace disability awareness, we can make friends with people who may have different abilities. This allows us to appreciate the unique qualities and talents that each person brings to our lives.

What Can We Do?

Here are some fun and educational activities that you and your child can do together to celebrate Disability Awareness Month:

• <u>Read Books</u>: Explore children's books that feature characters with

October 9, 2023

CALENDAR

October 9 Late Start 9:30am

Unicycle Club 3-4pm

October 10 Cross Country

Practice 7:30am

Choir Ensemble 3-4pm

Jefferson McTeacher Night 4:30-6:30pm 4647 S Regal St

PTG Meeting 6:30pm, Library

October 11

Cross Country Practice 7:30am

Unicycle Club 3-4pm

October 12 Hearing & Vision Rescreening

1st Grade Field Trip to

disabilities. It's a great way to start conversations about diversity and inclusion.

- <u>Watch Movies</u>: Enjoy movies that showcase the abilities and achievements of individuals with disabilities. Discuss the characters and their strengths.
- <u>Art Projects</u>: Create art projects that celebrate differences. Use colors and shapes to represent the beauty of diversity.
- <u>Interview</u>: If you know someone with a disability, ask them questions (with respect and sensitivity) about their experiences. This can be a powerful learning opportunity.
- <u>Visit a Local Organization</u>: Some organizations and museums offer exhibits or events related to disability awareness. Consider visiting one in your community.
- <u>Discuss Inclusivity</u>: Talk with your child about the importance of including others. Teach them that kindness, friendship and understanding go a long way.

Let's Celebrate Together

At Jefferson, we believe that every student is unique and has something valuable to offer. Disability Awareness Month is an excellent opportunity for us to reinforce the importance of kindness, inclusion, and empathy within our school community.

Throughout October, we will work to help our students understand and appreciate the diversity of abilities. We encourage parents to join in these conversations at home, making this a truly inclusive experience for our young learners.

Together, we can create a world where everyone is accepted for who they are, and October's Disability Awareness Month is a wonderful step in that direction. Let's celebrate the beauty of diversity and teach our children to embrace it with open hearts.

Thank you for your support in fostering a caring and inclusive community at Jefferson.

Happy Disability Awareness Month!

Brent

at Arche

Brent A. Perdue (he, his, him) Principal brentp@spokaneschools.org



Bennet R. Maxwell H. Daniel O.



FROM YOUR Jefferson Scholar & Family Handbook

Camp Reed

Choir Ensemble 3-4pm

October 13 NO SCHOOL Professional Learning Development Day for Teachers



Adelaide B. Sophie H. William W. Sam D. Teddy R. Nora W. Lucille G. Nathan S. Sadie H. Junia K. Cru W. Lula Z. Jaylee S. Mazzy M. Alyssa K. Emme M.





Personal Items -page 17

Personal or valuable items should be left at home. This includes video game players, athletic equipment, trading cards, toys, etc. The school cannot take responsibility for loss or damage of personal or valuable items brought to



school. Jefferson provides playground and athletic equipment for recesses. Please see the Phones section later in this handbook for Jefferson's wireless phone policy.

> <u>Jefferson</u> Elementary



Tuesday October 10, <u>2023</u> 4:30pm to 6:30pm **4647 S. Regal McDonald's**

More Info Below for McTeacher Night

- There are <u>four options</u> for families to support their school. <u>1. Drive-Thru</u>
- 2. Take Out or Eat in the Lobby

3. <u>Mobile order:</u> Curbside pickup at the restaurant using the McDonald's App

QR Code for McDonald's APP ONLY Use for curbside pickup



<u>4. Order Delivery</u> thru UberEats, Door Dash or Grubhub App

A portion of sales from McTeacher Night will be donated directly to your school.



PTG Meeting

Our next PTG meeting is Tuesday, October 10th at 6:30pm in the Jefferson library or on Zoom. We hope to see you there!

PTG Meeting Zoom Link

Previous PTG Meeting Minutes

Access previous PTG Meeting minutes on the Jefferson PTG Website

Gift Wrap Sale

The annual gift wrap sale fundraiser will be held October 30th - November 10th. Please watch for more information coming home soon!



BAND PTG Mobile App Link

Spokane Public Schools complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate in the admission, treatment, employment, or access to its programs or activities on the basis of age, sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, to the use of a trained guide or service animal by a person with a disability, sexual orientation including gender expression or gender identity, or honorably discharged veteran or military status. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/Staff Civil Rights Officer, ADA Officer, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB)/Student Civil Rights Officer and/or 504 Compliance Officer.

The following Civil Rights Compliance Coordinators have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

•Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator: Jodi Harmon, 509.354.7344

•Section 504 Coordinator: Melanie Smith, 509.354.7284

Spokane Public Schools | 200 N. Bernard, Spokane, WA 99201

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