

# JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THUNDERBIRD NEWS

OCTOBER 2020

## Halloween Update:

Treats are being provided by Montrose County for all students.

Classrooms will have Math and STEM centered activities.

No Costumes Please.

## *\* IMPORTANT INFORMATION\**



Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held Monday, October 19th; Wednesday, October 21st; and Thursday, October 22nd. Dismissal on Wednesday, October 21st is 2:10pm. Early release on Thursday, October 22nd is 12:05pm for all students. There is no school on Friday, October 23rd. School resumes on Monday, October 26th.



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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9 *No School (Teacher work day)
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22 *Half Day	23 *No School
P/T Conference Week				
26	27	28	29	30

Dear Johnson Elementary Families:

Your support and trust during our first months of school is immensely appreciated. I recognize that every family has made adjustments to their routines and to accommodate our new safety procedures. Having your child to school on time is a great help and a wonderful positive start to their day.

Our staff have worked tirelessly to make our morning screening procedures as efficient as possible for your children. Even though this process is new to us all, we are in the groove and it's all about learning once your children have started their day.

School is definitely different this year. First, we have all been thrown toward an evolution of stronger safety procedures to protect everyone's health. Secondly, we are all expanding our technology use. Consequently, our students are experiencing new ways to demonstrate learning through technology. Whether your child is learning from home or coming to school for in-person learning, technology is a big part of the school day. We aim to create a nice balance of technology tools and concrete student activities.

As we wrap up the first quarter of this school year, it's important to highlight the many positives that we are experiencing as a result of our new plans.

- Students entering their classroom first thing in the morning provides wonderful time to ease into the learning day. Teachers get an opportunity to engage with students on a personal level.
- Outdoor eating for our students has been a positive! The tables and umbrellas were purchased by our PTC. Thank you, Johnson families, for your participation in fundraising events for our school.
- Grade level lunches - the lunchroom is a much quieter place and our students are experiencing positive social encounters with their peers.
- Grade level recesses – the number of reported peer conflict that occurs during lunch recess has dramatically decreased.

Finding the silver lining requires us to look for the silver lining. Please don't mistake my positive comments as indifference to our present health crisis. Everyone at Johnson Elementary remains committed to the health and welfare of every person who learns and works in our school.

Please feel free to call us if you have questions now or in the future.

Yours in lifelong learning,  
~Cheryl Gomez

## Hello Thunderbird Families!

I just wanted to take a quick minute to introduce myself. My name is Meghan Waschbusch and I am the new Dean of Students at Johnson Elementary School. Most recently, I was a teacher at Centennial Middle School. In fact, I taught at CtMS for 12 years so I recognize many siblings here at Johnson.



When I am not at school you may see me out coaching my son's soccer team or running with my dog. I love to be out on the field supporting our Thunderbird athletes and I love to be in the building supporting our Thunderbird learners. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns about JES.

Meghan Waschbusch M.Ed, EdS  
Dean of Students

# Physical Education



Happy Fall from JES PE!

We just want to tell all of our Thunderbird families how grateful we are to have your child here at JES! It is most enjoyable to interact with your child and watch them learn here at school.

We have been in school for a month now and the students have shown great strides in their efforts to maintain their physical fitness and well-being. The students have been introduced to some new physical fitness activities/routines that allow them to take greater ownership of their learning both in and out of the P.E. setting.

For the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students, our current units of learning are centered around kicking and dynamic catching. We have been playing various games that are team based and focus on individual skill development both cognitively along with psychomotor development.

We will then move into throwing of various objects(e.g.) Frisbee and then move into game play- ultimate Frisbee.

For k-2 students we have been focusing on spatial awareness, coordination and simple introductory fitness offerings to allow students an understanding of how to stay healthy with exercises. We will start using manipulatives more as we move into 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, this will foster “crossing the midline” to improve students’ coordination and cognitive development. An example will be throwing a ball towards a target.

As the Fall weather approaches please make sure your child is coming to school prepared to learn comfortably outside by bringing a lightweight jacket and proper footwear for your child to have an enjoyable learning experience in P.E.!

Yours in Learning,

JES PE DEPT  
BBBBBBBRRRRRRRAAAAHHHHHHH!



# MUSIC



Hi! I am Mrs. Nelson, I am teaching Music here at Johnson until December.

The students are doing great with music! We are learning about and making music in each music class.

Here is the music website:

<https://sites.google.com/mcsd.org/mrsnelsonmusic/home>

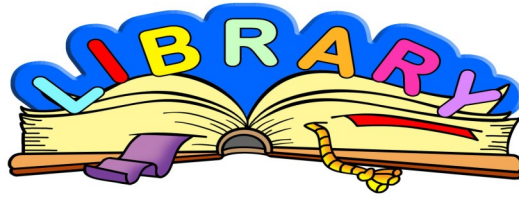
The music and art duffel bags will be sent home at the end of October!

Please email me at [kelsey.nelson@mcsd.org](mailto:kelsey.nelson@mcsd.org) with any questions or comments.

I am enjoying teaching Music to your children!

--Kelsey Nelson





Starting on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be having a virtual book fair! Due to Covid, we are not able to hold our book fair in person. Scholastic has set us up with a Virtual book fair! The school code and link will be posted on DOJO, Facebook, and sent home with your child. There will be many fun books available including two new books from Jeff Kinney, author of “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” and “Awesome Friendly Adventure.” Be on the lookout for new “I Survived,” Baby-Sitters Club and many, many more! Our Johnson community has always been terrific in supporting our library. We look forward to this new virtual book fair!

**THIS YEAR LIBRARY** - This year our library is looking a little different. With the safety measures currently in place, we are delivering books to our students. Kindergarten through 2nd grade will have library books in their classroom for them to use. Third through Fifth grade may request books to check out and take home. It is so important for our students to read! We want the books to be as available as possible for our students. For more information on library this year, please reach out to your child’s teacher. We have many adventures waiting...

Happy Reading!  
Mrs. Whitcomb and Mrs. Katie  
Johnson Elementary Librarian

  
**H**

With Cold and Flu Season coming around the corner, just remember to take care of yourselves and focus on your health!

**E**

Start your day off strong with a healthy breakfast. This will give you energy and help you focus and participate in class. Your school performance is directly related to what you eat!

**A****L**

Drink plenty of water! Avoid sugary drinks such as juices and soft drinks and try and get in three cups of milk daily. Dehydration causes us to become fatigued, have headaches, and sometimes is the reason for stomachaches.

**T****H**

Most importantly, wash your hands often to prevent the spread of germs. Try not to touch your face and mouth as this gives germs an easy entrance into your body.

**N****E**

You can also help fight off illness by taking a daily vitamin. Be sure to eat the correct number of servings of fruits and vegetables, including dark leafy greens. Avoid processed foods and junk food when you can.

**W****S**

Stay healthy, think positively, work hard, and be happy!

~Mrs. Nelly

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

## Mrs. Jaramillo School Counselor



I would like to introduce myself and let you know a little about me. I am a mother of two wild boys who keep me on my toes. I love hockey, dancing, and the outdoors. This will be my 6<sup>th</sup> year at Johnson Elementary School and 17<sup>th</sup> year in education. Previously, I worked as a teacher and now this is my second year as the School Counselor. I am excited and eager to have the opportunity to help support students and families, at Johnson Elementary. I have a passion for helping others in all areas of their lives. I have a Bachelor's of Arts in Elementary

Education through Fort Lewis College, an Associate's Degree in Health and Human Services, and I am working toward a Master of Arts in School Counseling through the University of Denver. I am here for all students and want to ensure that your child has a productive and positive school year.

### What to expect when working with me...

While at Johnson, your child could see me individually, in a small group, or in the classroom. When your student comes to see me, know they will be listened to, heard, and valued. I will seek to get to know who they are as a person and listen to their thoughts, problems, and ideas with an open-mind and open heart. I will allow your child a safe space to share all their concerns, fears, and difficulties. We will focus on strengths and use these strengths to move forward. Together we will identify biggest needs and set goals to promote positive change.

**you matter.**



If you need to talk to me, I can be reached at (970)249-2584 or you can email me at [Marcie.jaramillo@mcsd.org](mailto:Marcie.jaramillo@mcsd.org). Please don't hesitate to contact me.