



RAMS - RESPECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS, ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE, MAKE GOOD CHOICES, & STAY SAFE

# The RAMS Report

January 25, 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear TJ Families,

Welcome to 2019! I hope our Thomas Jefferson Community had a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a healthy start to the new year.

Last month, the theme of our newsletter was TIME. I took some time to discuss the importance of time with family and valuing time whether it be with family, friends or valuing my time with my teachers and students in Thomas Jefferson School. This month, I would like to put a spotlight on the word, LEADERSHIP. Many times when we think of the word, leadership, we think of a captain or someone leading a group of people through a journey or challenges-ultimately to a victorious ending. Instead, I would like to value the students of Thomas Jefferson School and how we are working hard to groom leaders among our students. Some of our students are born with a hunger for leadership while for others, we work in pointing them toward that direction and providing leadership opportunities. We know that all of our students have the potential to lead, learn and grow. These leadership opportunities that our students have taken part in are making our daily morning announcements, introducing assemblies and leadership roles in such programs as band, theatre and on our sports teams. We have a peer mentorship program where our 8th graders mentor students in our Multiple Disabled program. We have had students make presentations at Board of Education meetings and students create after school extra-curricular clubs. Our student government leads different programs throughout the school year, as well. Under the guidance of Mrs. O'Brien, our 8th Grade Language Arts teacher, our entire 8th grade class recently supervised and ran a school-wide dance, with a 60's

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## MHRD - FCCLA PROM SHOP --- TOMORROW!!



*If your child is in need of a dress for Prom or for Formal, be sure to check out the Prom Shop TOMORROW!*

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## ROCKAWAY BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY



*Be sure to check out the upcoming events for kids of all ages at our local library.*

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*Outsiders* theme, where our students led such activities as the snack stand, security, 60s dances, games and hallway monitoring. Our students of all grades are capable of leading in one capacity or another. We continue to provide these opportunities for them, and we encourage them to take part. Please help support us by encouraging your kids to take part in these great leadership opportunities. Ask your child what he/she led in Thomas Jefferson School!

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, we hosted motivational speaker, Fabian Ramirez, at our school to speak to our 7th and 8th graders about bullying, making good choices and being self-advocates. Fabian connected with our students by talking about some of his own experiences growing up, with his family, friends and in school. He stressed the Golden Rule-treat others the way you would want to be treated, seeing the good in people and forming positive relationships.

I am proud to announce that both our Boys and Girls Basketball Teams have qualified for their respective County Basketball Tournaments. Their first-round matchups will have the boys facing Delbarton on Friday, January 25th at 4:30pm at Mackinnon Middle School in Wharton. On Friday, January 25th at 6pm, the girls will be facing the winner of Riverdale vs. Harding at Memorial Junior School in Whippany. Come out and support our Manly and Lady Rams! You can find more playoff information on the Thomas Jefferson Rams Athletics Facebook page.

And now for a few notes from the health office - Please continue to stay healthy as we are now in flu season. We are working hard to keep classrooms and buildings disinfected and clean, as well. If you send in any student health related information, please have it sent directly to our school nurse, Mrs. Linda Savercool. We depend on Mrs. Savercool to take the best care of our students (and staff at times!), and she will disseminate any health information to any other staff who need to know, as well.

A few other upcoming January events include:

- Tuesday, January 29th, Report Cards are issued.
- Friday, January 31st, Cap and Gown pictures.



And finally, I am extremely honored to announce the Governor's Educators of the Year award winners from Thomas Jefferson School. Our well-deserved winners were: Support Professional of the Year, Jean Swanick and Educator of the Year, Antonia Zangara. The Governor's Educator of the Year program is a state-mandated program which follows strict criteria and procedure in collecting nominations and then following a scoring rubric to select the winners. We are extremely proud to announce Mrs. Swanick and Mrs. Zangara as this year's winners for Thomas Jefferson School. They are *true leaders* in our community!

As the winter weather continues, please stay safe, stay warm and stay in the loop on school happenings! We appreciate your involvement in the Thomas Jefferson Community.

Warm Regards,  
David Waxman

## UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES



**January 29<sup>th</sup>**  
Report Cards Issued  
BOE Meeting



**January 31<sup>st</sup>**  
Cap and Gown Pictures for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

**February 13<sup>th</sup>**  
HSA Meeting 7:30am



**February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>**  
SCHOOL CLOSED – Winter Break

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
Newsletter Posted



## MHRD - FCCLA PROM SHOP

On Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, FCCLA is holding a Prom Shop from 9am-12pm at Morris Hills High School. They will have 200+ dresses available, long dresses that are appropriate for the prom, but also shorter dresses that are better suited for an 9<sup>th</sup> grade formal. All the dresses are FREE and this event is open to the public.

If you have any questions, you can reach the club advisor, Ms. Lembo, at [dlembo@mhrd.org](mailto:dlembo@mhrd.org) or by phone at 973-664-2300.



## FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

It is cold and flu season - If your child has a fever of 100 degrees or higher they MUST be kept home until they are FEVER FREE for 24 hours. If a child has PINK EYE - they MUST be on the ANTIBIOTIC for 24 hours prior to coming back to school. If a child vomits or has diarrhea, they MUST stay home and not return to school until 24 hours have passed with NO vomiting or diarrhea.

Any illnesses or injuries must be reported to the school nurse. If a student is absent from school - due to Flu/strep/Pneumonia/pink eye or any other contagious disease you must make the nurse aware of the situation.

If a student needs crutches/brace/cast during school, you must contact the nurse via email at [lsavercool@rockboro.org](mailto:lsavercool@rockboro.org), so I can make arrangements and inform the proper teachers.

If you would like your child to have cough drops at school a parent note must accompany the cough drops to the Health Office where I will administer the cough drops as needed. (Students ARE NOT allowed to carry cough drops OR ANY MEDICATION ON THEM IN SCHOOL). If a child needs ANY OVER THE COUNTER medication such as Tylenol, Advil or Motrin an Order from your Primary MD must be brought to me.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 973-625-8603 x 305 or [lsavercool@rockboro.org](mailto:lsavercool@rockboro.org).

Mrs. Linda Savercool, RN, BSN, CSN



## ROCKAWAY BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY



February 2019 calendar events for Rockaway Borough Public Library

All events held at Rockaway Borough Public Library, 82 East Main Street, Rockaway, NJ, (973) 627-5709.

### Baby Time

Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> ~ 10:30am-11:30am.

Ages 6 mos.- 36 mos. *Registration preferred. Walk-ins welcome.*

*Theme: Heart Painting Keepsake*

### Winter Storytime

Weekly program continues Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

11:00am – 11:30am. Ages 2 and up. *\*Advance Registration is required.*

*Themes: Hibernation, Valentine's Day, National Muffin Day, Tell a Fairy Tale Day*

### Juniors Valentine Card Workshop

Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm-4:30pm. Ages 10 and up.

*\*Advance Registration is required. Program limited to 8.*

### Saturday Storytime

Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> ~ 11am-11:30am. Ages 2 and up.

*Theme: Love. \*Advance Registration is required.*

### Pajama Storytime

Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> ~ 6:30pm-7:00pm. Ages 2 and up.

*\*Advance Registration is required. Theme: Valentine's Day/Chinese New Year – Year of the Pig*

### Juniors Coloring Club

Thursdays, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> ~ 3:30pm-4:30pm. Ages 10 and up.

*\*Advance Registration is required. Program limited to 8.*

### Board Games & LEGO

*Combined evening of fun! Play games or build LEGO! Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm-7:45pm*  
All ages! Fun for the whole family! Bring your friends! All board games and LEGO provided by the library.

