**Owl News**

**April 18, 2017**

**Parents—It is time for Jefferson’s annual Basket Raffle. As part our International Celebration on April 28th, baskets will be raffled off ($1.00/ticket) during the entertainment part of our celebration. The Owls will have two themed baskets: Summer Fun and Cooking. All TAs will be collecting items for the baskets up to April 20th. Please send baskets items to school with your child. Thank you!**

**Social Studies**: In Social Studies this week we will explore how the US expanded from the Atlantic to the Pacific and the effects of this growth. Owls will be doing a self-guided exploration, open note test and project. This will take us into next week. We also have a quiz on Wednesday.

**English:** English students will use a writer’s checklist to edit and revise their fiction story.  Completed fiction stories should be turned in by Tuesday, April 25.  Classes will also be reviewing figurative language and applying their knowledge to write poetry.  We are in the final two weeks of the April Poetry Challenge.  Students should post at least ten times during the month of April.

**Reading**: This week in reading class we will begin our unit about reading in the math content area.  During this unit, students will practice skills that will help them while reading in math class.  Math texts normally include more information per sentence and per paragraph than any other type of text.  In addition, there are often graphics that must be read in conjunction with the text.  In this unit, students will focus on reading closely in order to decipher which information is most relevant and how the information relates.

In the next several weeks students will also review some of the key skills and strategies that will appear on the Reading SOL in June.  While reviewing these skills, students will be grouped according to need and there will be several differentiated assignments to complete.  Students will have to listen closely to directions and stay organized in order to be successful.

**Science**: Our Weather and Climate test will be on Tuesday, April 25. Study guides went home on Tuesday. We will be reviewing in class throughout the week. Planetarium trips are on THURSDAY of this week! Students were informed of their departure time on Tuesday. **NEW 4th Quarter Policy in Science:** Late work will only be accepted for one week past the due date!

**Dolmans Math 6**: Students will review integers, coordinates, inequalities and sequences on Tuesday. They will take their unit test on Wednesday, April 19th. We will then take 3 days to review material before taking our quarter 3 benchmark assessment April 25th – April 28th. While this assessment will not count as a grade, it is meant to be a mock SOL and will help to determine the math placement for next year.

**Dolmans Math:** Students will begin their unit on transformations (translations, reflections, rotations and dilations) on the coordinate grid.

Please join us as TJMS parents connect, relax, and discuss the joys and challenges of parenting young teens.

April’s meeting will be held Thursday the 27th in the Evening from 7:00PM – 8:00PM.

We meet in room 230. Just stop in the main office and they will guide you.

 Ms. Katcher, our school social worker, hosts the meetings and always brings relevant topics (along with delicious snacks) and offers important parent skills for discussion. This coming meeting will be a continuing conversation about Positive Communication! If you are interested in joining us or simply want to learn more about Parent Chats, please e-mail Ms. Katcher at christine.katcher@apsva.us .

It will be great to be together!!

