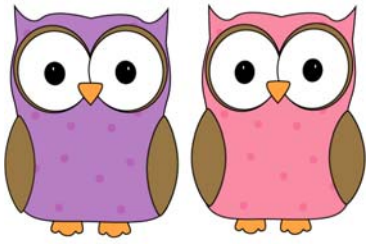
September 2016

Volume 1, Issue 1

# Owl Observer

**Sixth Grade Owl Team**
**Thomas Jefferson Middle School**



**Important Dates:**

Back to School Night—9/20

Music Parent Information Night—9/26

Photo Day— 9/30

Middle School Conferences— 10/07

Columbus Day— 10/10

Middle School Early Release— 10/19

1st Quarter Ends—11/07

Teacher Work Day—11/08

Veterans Day—11/11

Report Cards Issued—11/18

Thanksgiving Holiday—

11/23-25

Middle School Early Release— 12/2

Winter Break— 12/22-1/2

The 6th Grade offers Homework Club from 2:30—3:30 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays starting the week of 9/19

## *Welcome, Owls!*

Welcome to the Owl team at Jefferson. We are delighted that your student is a part of our team, and we are very excited to begin the school year. We look forward to getting to know all of the students on the Owl team. Your Owl teachers are:

| | |
|---|---|
| **English** | Ms. Brown and Ms. Lanman |
| **Math** | Mr. Dolmans, Ms. Yaffe, Mr. Gildea, and Mr. Carter |
| **Reading** | Ms. DeFelippi and Ms. Lanman |
| **History** | Ms. Miller |
| **Science** | Ms. Workman |
| **Instructional Studies** | Ms. Yan |
| **Special Ed. Resources** | Ms. Lanman, Ms. Lopez, and Ms. Yan |
| **Additional TAs** | Mr. Rodriguez, Ms. Sheperdson |
| **Counselor** | Ms. Pennington |

## Parent Involvement

As a parent, you are an important part of your child's personal and academic development. Research has shown that parental involvement is one of the most critical factors in affecting a child's success in school. Your participation and support is vital if we are to achieve the goals set for this year. Please use this opportunity to review this edition of *Owl Observer* with your child.

We will be inviting our Owl parents to join us throughout the year on various field trips and to participate in various team activities.

The first opportunity for participation is Jefferson's Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at 7 PM where you will get a chance to hear about our curriculum plans for the year. Please join us! We look forward to meeting all Owl parents that evening.

## Contact information!
**Any Questions, please contact us!**

**Thomas Jefferson Middle School**
**125 South Old Glebe Road**
**Arlington, VA 22204**
**703-228-5900**

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## Owl Supplies
Coming prepared to school is essential to the success of each student. Your child will need many tools this year, and the Owl team is asking that all students have the following supplies:

- One 3-inch three ring binder
- Durable pocket folder for homework to do
- Lined, three-hole notebook paper
- A pencil case/pouch for the binder
- Eight tab subject dividers
- #2 pencils
- Ballpoint pens—blue and black
- Two highlighters
- Two boxes of tissues for TA
- Colored pencils
- Glue Stick
- Good quality eraser

*Things you should have available at home . . .*

- Dictionary/Thesaurus
- Colored pencils, pens, markers

## No Homework?

Each Jefferson student will be **required** to use an **assignment notebook sheet** on a daily basis until iPads are distributed! These were given to **all** students the first week of school. All students on the Owl team are expected to write down each night's homework on their assignment sheets. If the students have been assigned no homework in any class, they will be instructed to write "no homework" in their assignment notebooks for that class. A blank spot in the assignment notebook is a signal to you that your child is not writing down all of the required assignments posted by his/her teachers.
When all students have received their iPads, we will be moving to using a google calendar.
The google calendar is linked through the team web page: jefferson.apsva.us/owls-team/

## Team Expectations
* Be on time.
* Bring a positive attitude!
* Be ready to participate and join in.
* Come prepared with
    * Supplies
    * Completed work
* Know when it is your turn to talk and offer up useful information, and when it is time to listen to a peer or teacher!

## Online Grades
Your student's grades are available online. Please use your Parent Vue account to access the grades. If you have any questions, please talk to your student first. If you need additional clarification, please contact the teacher.

## Owl Activity Dues!

**The Owl team will be collecting $25.00 from all students. This money will be used for a team t-shirt, educational field trips, team-building activities and supplies for activities.**

## Student Led Conferences
**You will receive information very soon about scheduling your student-led conference. Conferences will be held during the day on Friday, October 7, 2016. An online scheduling tool will be available to you to schedule your student-led conference. Look for this important information soon!**