



# Thomas Jefferson Middle School

## *IBMYP September Newsletter*



### Learner Profile Attribute of the Month: **BALANCED**

As IB learners we strive to be **balanced** by taking classes in all eight subject areas. We encourage our students to balance academic work with after school activities, social clubs, and sports.

Our top balanced learners are for the **Dolphins - Delaney**

**Loughney, Dragons - Aria Merrill, Eagles - Ankita Koirala, Gators - Tessa Muldowney, Monarch - Eyuel Berhanu, Owl - Mira Meeks, Penguins - Roman Zawadski, Phoenix - Sofia Dopazo, and Stingrays - Jawan Sbeitan.**

Source: <https://pixabay.com/en/sunset-mountain-balance-top-1757593/>



### Written Curriculum

At Jefferson we have a balanced and rigorous written curriculum for all students. This month we highlight Math and English Language Arts (ELA). In year one (6th grade) Math units begin with integers, in year two (7th grade) we learn about real numbers and rational number sense. In year three (8th grade) we learn about expressions, exponents and proportional reasoning.

In English Language Arts our units begin with an introduction to fiction, in year two we learn to read like a writer and in year three we learn about stories that define us.

See units for every subject for every [grade-level here](#).

### An IB Policy explained: **Academic Honesty**



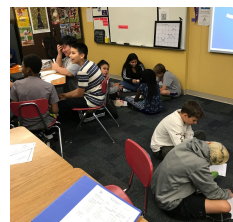
At Jefferson we have an academic honesty policy for all students and staff. We expect our students to be **principled**, which means “act with integrity and honesty.” We want all students to be knowledgeable, creative and independent learners. Specifically we want students to do their own work and give credit to the original source.

Students cannot cheat, copy, plagiarize, or collude. Please read the full [Academic Honesty Policy here](#).

Source: <https://pixabay.com/en/chinese-characters-background-676647/>

### MYP Classrooms & Authentic Assessments

Teaching and learning at Jefferson is usually student centered. From Reading to Robotics students are actively engaged in learning activities. We strive to collaboratively create inquiry focused lessons that help students build skills they need to succeed on challenging assessments. For example, students work in reading workstations to analyze stories, students design tools to be 3-D printed, and Math students try to discover patterns with numbers.



Source: Photo of Mrs. Larson's class with Mrs. Detweiler's gifted lesson.

### Community Project

The Community Project is an opportunity for 8th grade students to put our mission statement into action: “Learning Together to understand and improve ourselves, our futures, and our world.” They choose a goal, community need and global context to help make the world a better place.



Students will investigate, plan, take action and present on service they choose to complete. The deadline to set a goal is October 5 and the form to complete it is in 8 Grade TA Canvas. Learn more about the [Community Project here](#).

### Global Events

This month Jeffersons students and staff recognized three international events. First, all Arlington Public Schools recognize Hispanic Heritage Month with student leaders and a harvest festival, [read more about it here](#).



We recognize [International Day of Sign Languages](#) under the theme “With Sign Language, Everyone is Included.” We make sure to provide translation services and videos with subtitles. Finally, we recognize the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival! Zhongqiu Jie Kuaile! [Learn more about this festival here](#).

### Jefferson in the community



All Jefferson students are expected to engage in service learning. For 6th and 7th grade students this means that they need to choose two [areas of interest](#). Then students must participate in service learning hours in each area. Many service opportunities will be offered at Jefferson, such as working in the community garden. Learn more about [Service Learning here](#) and [our calendar is here](#).

Source: [twitter.com/RachelPayne](https://twitter.com/RachelPayne)

### Upcoming dates/Service needs

- Every Tuesday at 5pm volunteering at Phoenix Bikes to repair bikes, 909 S. Dinwiddie St ([full details here](#))
- Every Wednesday at 6:30pm volunteering at AFAC to bag chicken, 2708 S. Nelson St, ([full details here](#))
- Coordinating a Food Bus contact [Mr. Malinosky](#)
- 8th graders finalize Community Project Goal Oct 5
- [Service Learning Calendar is here](#)