



Thomas Jefferson Middle School

February Curriculum - Grade 6

Learning together to understand and improve ourselves, our futures, and our world.



Student Services Updates

We are rounding the corner to the end of 3rd quarter and students have submitted Course Request Forms for 7th grade. While there are new concepts still being taught in preparation for next year, we hope students have been inspired by taking a glimpse into the upcoming year. One of the most important selections students made was determining their World Language. Beginning in 7th grade, World Language is a high school level course which not only offers the opportunity to earn high school credit, but also meets the requirements for high school graduation. For families who are planning long-range please note, American Sign Language is not currently an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma language. Which simply means, if your child is planning on applying to the [Washington-Liberty High School Pre-IB Diploma](#) program, at this time they will need to select an alternate language. Please contact me for more information.



TJMS Student Services Newsbites

Return to School Information

TJMS Return to School (RTS) Town Hall Meeting

This Live Event will take place Tuesday, March 2nd at 7:00 PM.

[Questions about "RTS"? – please complete this google form.](#)

Please mark your calendars to join us. Please use this link to attend the meeting on March 2nd at 7:00 PM: [TJMS](#)

[Return-to-School Town Hall](#)

Hybrid/In-Person Model Return Dates:

- Grade 6: Week of March 9
- Secondary Special Education: Week of March 9
- Grades 7-8: Week of March 16

[Link to the Middle School Hybrid/In Person Model Information Page](#)

Arts

In 6th grade Band students are working on differentiated and progressive "Band Karate" checkoffs using the SmartMusic Notation Software. They are also using the SoundTrap Digital Audio Workstation to compose and remix music. They are also starting to learn how to play "Blinding Lights" just for fun!

In 6th Grade Orchestra, students are making excellent progress with a variety of solo pieces. We continue to develop our reading skills and technique in order to play with a smooth, full tone. Music vocabulary is emphasized at all times. Students are writing IBMY Process Journals to develop their independent practice skills and music vocabulary.

In 6th grade Chorus, students are participating in the South Arlington Choral Pyramid Project. In place of a 7th/8th grade chorus live performance at Wakefield HS, students will contribute to a virtual performance with Wakefield choral students and other elementary middle schools in the Wakefield pyramid.

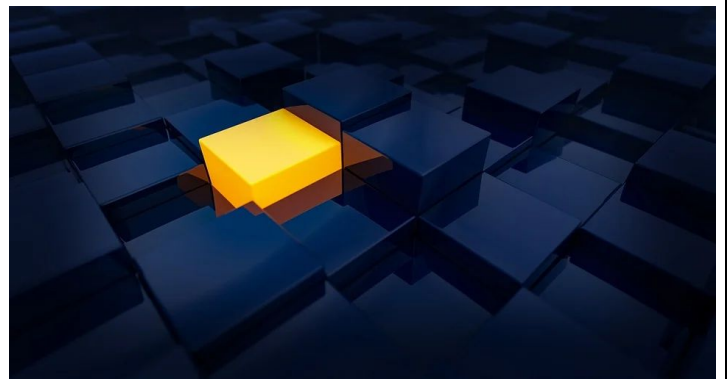
In 6th grade Drama, students began their drama class developing their creativity. We just completed our first project. All the kids made iMovie trailers. Ask your student to show you their iMovie trailer.

In 6th grade Arts, the new semester brings new students. We are starting off with a unit that doesn't require any extra materials. Students are learning to photograph their work, and assembling found object art. They are modifying this in the Digital art app Autodesk Sketchbook, and practicing giving each other feedback. This gives students plenty of time to pick up the art packet from school (Monday -Friday 7:30 to 3:30). They will need it soon!

Design

In Technology Education, students are working on board drafting. This traditional technique allows us to invent and innovate using the design process later in the semester. We will explore drafting each letter neatly and cleanly on a blueprint and work on orthographic, 3 view and isometric drawings.

In Design technology, students are working on "Internet Scavenger Hunts: where the students will use clues given to them to find various answers around the internet. They will work on search skills, putting technical terms into their own words, and manipulating multimedia layouts.



In Design FACS, students have been learning how to choose healthy foods for nutrition and wellness. We will finish the semester by considering the responsibilities involved in staying home alone and caring for young children.

Individuals and Societies (Social Studies)

In **History**, students are learning how perceptions of change differ among people who are affected by them. Students' understanding will be demonstrated while exploring changes in technology, business and labor, and population in the 20th century.

Language Acquisition (World Languages)

Introduction to French students continue being comfortable hearing and using basic French statements. We are laughing, singing, and reading short stories.

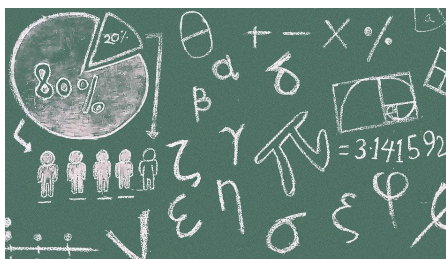
Intro to Latin students are learning about the early history of Rome, and making comparisons to modern America. We are also practicing our Latin vocabulary through online games.

Language and Literature

In **Reading**, students are learning that readers analyze character relationships and their broader connection to group relationships in society in order to develop an awareness of social issues. Students will be exploring fiction books that connect with real world issues, and will be participating in book clubs.

In **English**, students are continuing in the Children's fiction unit and are also about to embark on the 100 day writing challenge. From March 1- June 8, every student must participate at one of the levels: Required, Reward, or Centurion. Families, ask your students about this exciting activity. Students, challenge yourself to write every day!

Math



In Math 6, students are working to understand that Using reasoning and logic, students will identify and justify ratios and proportional reasoning with

representations. They will have an upcoming summative test on ratios and proportions.

Physical and Health Education

In physical education students are working on fitness plans and workout routines focusing on the different health related components of fitness: cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance and flexibility. Nutrition will be the next health unit on the Health Physical Education rotation.

Sciences

Science 6: Students have just concluded a unit on Energy resources, and we are moving on to a brief BUT FUN study of Chemistry. After our Chemistry unit test in mid-March, we will begin our investigation of Weather just before Spring Break.

From the Library:

The Library has been preparing for our **2021 Battle of the Books**. Throughout March in TAs, students will learn about 16 fantastic books and vote for their favorites.

- Read our weekly Library Buzz Newsletter in Canvas! Here's the link to our [February 22, 2021, issue](#).
- If you have any questions please send Ms. J Miller, Ms. Wall, or Ms. Rosegrant a Canvas message or email us!
- TAB Club has virtual author visits scheduled on March 15 at 11am and March 22 at 1pm. Check in Canvas for more information.

Return to School information:

- All students will continue to search and put holds on books through Destiny Discover. Library staff will deliver books to students' classes or have books available for pickup throughout the day for distance learners.
- TAB Club will likely change meeting days to Mondays to handle concurrent learning.

Updates/Reminders

Parent/Guardian Canvas accounts are available that allow you to:

- See every course their child is enrolled in
- See all content in the course, including their child's submissions, grades*, and feedback for any assignments graded in Canvas
- Adjust their notifications and frequency communicate with teachers via the Inbox

[More info and tutorial here.](#)