

# JFK Weekly Newsletter

Friday, March 10, 2023 Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

## Big Change RoundUp

Since 2016, JFK Elementary has participated in WOKO's Big Change Roundup. The Big Change Roundup is the largest fundraiser for the UVM Children's Hospital. The money goes directly to the Children's Hospital and helps to provide thousands of children and families with the highest quality, child-friendly, family-centered care available in Vermont and northern New York.

Each year we have a contest, and the adult(s) that raises the most money wins! Our first two years were hair-dying contests, and Courtney Bryan won both years. In 2018, Andy Schlatter won and got to be a T-Rex for the day. In 2019, Coach B won and spent the day as a unicorn. In 2020, Nurse Liz worked really hard to win and dress up as a tutu-wearing hippo for the day. We were not able to participate in the Big Change Roundup because of the pandemic in 2021. Last year the Super 7 (Savanna Bechard, Amanda Babcock, Peter Lindholm, Sarah Murphy, Manny Robertson, Cheyne Racine, and Grace Holcomb) won and dressed up like SuperHeros!

Last year was our first year doing teams, and it was so much fun we are doing teams again this year! This year our teams are:

1. Elephant and Piggy - Matt Gile and Cathy Burbo
2. Tacos - Kristin Van Fossen, Carlos Spigel, Nayeon Maas, Caitlyn Batche, Daviah Lawrence, Niky Falques, Kiera Manion-Fischer, Laura Niedecker
3. Adams Family - Jess Smith, Erin Hurley, Casey hogan, Stephanie Beland, Angela Moulton, Katie Letourneau, Andy Schlatter
4. Farmer and Farm Animals - Kari Bohlen, Monique Hanson, Siobhan Crosier, Tiffany Demore, Jody Taparauskas, Lisa Goodrich, Mary Carleton, Bev Couture, Elizabeth Wood, Rebecca Viens
5. Sesame Street - Savanna Bechard, Amanda Babcock, Peter Lindholm, Grace Holcomb, Sarah Murphy, Jess Cohn, Adriana Roehmholdt, Cheyne Racine
6. Mike And Sully/Monsters Inc - Kendra Spector and Jesse Halverson
7. Baby Shark - Libby Lane, Meghan Dieterle, Pirawan Ratanapratum, Patrick Cafferky, Keegan Bliss, Maddy DeVeuve

Starting Monday, March 13th, each team will have a bucket in the JFK office. Students vote by putting their change into the bucket of the team that they want to win. The team that raises the most money by April 19th wins and gets to wear their costume to school on April 21st.

This morning, classes learned about the Big Change Roundup during their daily class morning meeting. These expectations were reviewed with students:

1. Students need to ask an adult from home before they bring any money in
2. The buckets will be in the JFK office. Students need to come into the office with respectful voice levels in case Mrs. Casier is on the phone
3. Students vote by adding money to the jar of the team that they want to win!
4. Online fundraising is allowed by students and adults
5. It is perfectly acceptable to hoard money and add it all to a jar(s) last minute
6. Students from any grade level in WSD can add money to the jars. Adults too!

Each year the Big Change Roundup is incredibly fun, and we support a fantastic community resource!

## SnapChat and TikTok

Many of our students have TikTok and/or Snapchat accounts. Legally, you have to be 13 to have a Snapchat and/or TikTok account. While many students use the platforms appropriately, we have had some extremely troubling posts and/or chats come to the school's attention that we have dealt with.

If your student has a device (phone, tablet, computer), it is important that families understand:

1. Your student(s) are legally not old enough to have an account
2. Snapchat and TikTok have chat features. Anyone can chat/text on these platforms
3. Snapchat and TikTok make it easy to connect with strangers, sometimes dangerous strangers
4. Snapchat can have "disappearing" messages which encourage harmful behaviors that students would not do face to face.
5. The content students see on these apps is targeted and is not always helpful to mental health, body image, etc
6. Snapchat Map shares your student's location with other people on the app, even if they are not "friends" on the app. Unless their SnapMap is turned off, anyone can find their exact location.
7. TikTok often has challenges that can be unsafe, encourage property damage, and/or encourage racist and/or homophobic language.

If you choose to allow your student to have access to a device, even if they do not have Snapchat or TikTok, it is important that you:

1. Actively monitor your student while they are on any device
2. Regularly check their device
3. Check their user history
4. Open the folders on their device to see what apps they use.
5. Students often do not text over messenger. Instead, they use other Apps. Be sure to check every folder/app on their phone
6. Have open conversations with your student about their device, apps, the benefits, and the dangers
7. Talk to your student about social media, the impact it may have, and support them in being happy with who they are
8. Take time as a family and off of devices.

Ask us for help. We are always happy to support our students and their families!

## Class Placement for 2023-24

It is the time of year when we start thinking about next year. The adults are beginning the long process of making class lists for next year. One piece of the process involves getting input from our families.

We ask families to give us information about your student(s) that will help us make the best placement for them. Families are welcome to fill out a paper copy of the input form that will be sent home by your student's classroom teacher or fill out [this Google Form](#). The questions are the same. Be sure to put all of the information into this form, even if you think we already know. The adults will be using this information to help us make placement decisions.

Please note that requests for specific teachers will not be honored. As a school, we work hard to create balanced lists for all of our students and classrooms.

## JFK Summer School

I know that summer feels far away, and we have already begun planning for summer school! JFK summer school is open to all incoming Kindergarten - 5th-grade students. This means all children that will be in Kindergarten through 5th grade for the 2023-24 school year.

This summer we will run summer school for four weeks, Monday - Thursday:

- Session A
  - July 10,11,12,13
  - July 17,18,19,20
- Session B
  - July 24, 25,26, 27
  - July 31, Aug 1, 2, 3

The schedule will be:

- Monday's 8-12
- Tuesday's 8-2
- Wednesday's 8- 12
- Thursday's 8-2

We will run summer school in two sessions. All students will either be attending session A (the weeks of July 10th and 17th) or session B (the weeks of July 24th and 31st).

We will be sending home more information, including how to sign up, as we move closer to summer. Parent Teacher Conferences in March will be a great time to talk to your student(s) teacher(s) about summer school.

## Calendar

March 10, 2023

Coffee and Curriculum 8:00 - 8:30 am

March 16, 2023

11 am Early Dismissal

Parent Teacher Conferences

March 17, 2023

11 am Early Dismissal

Parent Teacher Conferences

March 23, 2023

11 am Early Dismissal

*Snow Day Make Up For MHS Parent Teacher Conferences*

April 5, 2023

Kindergarten Screening and Registration

April 14, 2023

Coffee and Curriculum 8:00 - 8:30 am

April 19, 2023

K, 1, 2 Spring Concert 2:00 pm

April 20, 2023

12:15 Early Dismissal

April 24, 2023 - April 28, 2023

No School - Spring Break

May 10, 2023

3, 4, 5 Spring Concert 2:00 pm

May 12, 2023

Coffee and Curriculum 8:00 - 8:30 am

May 18, 2023

12:15 Early Release

May 29, 2023


No School - Memorial Day




## JFK Elementary


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