

# JACOBS SCHOOL BLUE NOTES

## February 17, 2022

### A Note from the Principal

The Monday following February vacation our flexible mask policy will begin. With few exceptions, students and staff will be free to choose whether to wear a mask in school. Tomorrow morning, students will watch a video that Mr. Shaw and I created to understand what flexible mask-wearing looks like in our school and *the two places where students must still wear masks: in the nurse's office and on the school bus*. Throughout the video, we reinforce that it is a personal decision for everyone, and each of us is to support and respect those decisions. We remind students to be kind and not to question, tease, or make judgments if students or teachers choose to wear/not wear a mask. We also tell students that they will continue to use hand sanitizer when they enter and exit the building, before and after lunch, and specialist. We will keep the number of students at each lunch table small and social distance when possible. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Ms. Keegan at [kkeegan@town.hull.ma.us](mailto:kkeegan@town.hull.ma.us) or me at [ccappadona@town.hull.ma.us](mailto:ccappadona@town.hull.ma.us) if you have any questions.

We will kick off our much anticipated **Read-a-Thon** on March 4. We have 753 acts of kindness. The Reading Pirate asked students to complete 1,000 Acts of Kindness to help him return. Students are encouraged to do things for their families over vacation to reach our goal.

JASPER is Returning! The Jacobs After School Program for Enrichment & Recreation is making a long-awaited comeback! We will soon be seeking out teachers of enrichment activities, so stay tuned.

A couple of reminders—all Lost & Found items will be donated over February vacation, and the Wednesday following vacation is a district-wide early release. Jacobs dismissal will be at 1:00 that day.

The Jacobs office will be closed on Thursday and Friday of next week.

I hope everyone has a wonderful vacation.

~Mrs. Cappadona

### Mark Your Calendar!

Feb 21—Presidents' Day, No School

Feb 22-25—February Break

Feb 28—School Committee 6:30pm @ HHS

Mar 2—Preschool Open House

**Mar 2—Early Release 1:00 (Car riders 12:50, Buses 1:00)**

Mar 4—Read-a-Thon begins!

Mar 11—End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester

Mar 16—Early Release 12:15

Mar 24—90 Minute Early Release 1:45

Mar 24—Parent/Teacher Conferences

## RAD & KIND!



This RAD Pirate is a self-taught paper whisperer!

Kairi's amazing Origami figures have become sought-after prizes in the Pirates Gold Treasure Chest. Thank you for sharing your talent, Kairi! Send photos of RAD Jacobs Pirates having fun in their Core Value T-Shirts or school colors to Mr.

Shaw at [kshaw@town.hull.ma.us](mailto:kshaw@town.hull.ma.us)! They'll be featured in our next Spirit Day slideshow and maybe right here in the Blue Notes!

### Community Resource Information

## Understanding Trauma Workshop

This is a two-session workshop for grandparents and other relative-caregivers presented by the Riverside Trauma Center. The virtual sessions will take place on March 2 and March 9 at 9:30. Discussions will focus on different aspects of trauma, its impact on you as a caregiver and on children, toxic stress, strategies to build resilience, and more. Please see the below link for more details and information on how to register: <https://tinyurl.com/traumaseries>

## Preschool Open House

If your child will be 3 or 4 years old by the first day of school, please [make an appointment](#) to visit our Preschool Open House on Wednesday, March 2. (Current Jacobs Preschool families need not attend.)



Where will you read during Read-A-Thon week?

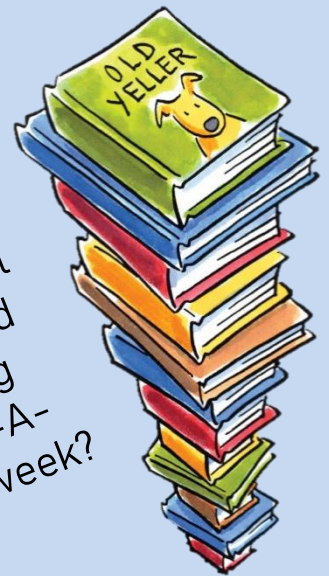
## Cold Enough for You?

The Jacobs School has a supply of new and lightly used winter coats. If your child is in need of a coat this winter, please contact Dr. Maureen Rosenplanter at [mrosenplanter@town.hull.ma.us](mailto:mrosenplanter@town.hull.ma.us) or call 781-925-4400 x1228.

## Help (Still) Wanted in the Library!

We have a few classes still in need of volunteer librarians. A typical library shift is two to three hours every two weeks and on-the-job training is provided. If you are able to pitch in please email Amy Hyde at [ahyde@town.hull.ma.us](mailto:ahyde@town.hull.ma.us) for details.

How many books will you read during Read-A-Thon week?



## ***New and Improved! Health Notes from Ms. Keegan***

In accordance with DESE and DPH our district is updating our COVID-19 Testing Program. Beginning February 21 we will be shifting to the new at-home testing option. If you signed up for the program, test kits were sent home in your child's backpack today. Please test your child on each and every Thursday beginning February 24. In addition to this new at-home antigen test option, we will continue with symptomatic testing as needed during the week.

As part of this shift in the program, we will **discontinue Test and Stay and contact tracing for in-school close contacts**. This means that if your child is a potential contact in school, they may continue to come to school and do not have to quarantine. This new at-home testing opportunity is voluntary and only those who opt-in will receive tests.

***If you haven't already done so, we strongly encourage you to opt-in RIGHT NOW!***

### **COVID-19 Testing Programs in our Schools:**

1. At-Home Rapid Antigen Testing on Thursdays (NEW [Opt-in Form](#))
2. Symptomatic Testing (If you have not yet signed up, [click here](#))

Individuals should not participate if they have tested positive for COVID -19 within the last 90 days. If you have any questions please contact the school nurse.

**Please see the attached updated COVID -19 protocols which will take effect February 21.**