



Jameson Elementary School

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Dear Parents,

November 6, 2020

What a week! Between Covid and the election, it struck me while on the playground that walking up a slide backwards seems a good metaphor to how some of us might be feeling at the end of this week. I hope you are all well and ready to enjoy some excellent weather over the next few days.



Teachers are reporting that they've had productive conversations with parents regarding student performance. We have another night of conferences coming up on **Nov. 10th from 3:30- 6:30. Please reach out to your child's teacher to schedule a conversation if you have not done so already!**

We need your help! The funding we receive from the State is based on the percentage of students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch. Therefore, each year we ask every family to complete this application for eligibility for free or reduced lunch prices whether you think you are eligible or not: <http://rsu23.schoollunchapp.com>.

Through the Fresh Fruits & Vegetables Program, we will be sending home kiwis and pears on Tuesday with every student.

There is no school this Wednesday, Veteran's Day. There will **not** be a Tuesday night work packet sent home this week.

On November 16th we will be welcoming Briana Costello as our school based clinician contracted through Spurwink. If you think your child needs additional support, please contact Tracy MacLaughlin, our guidance counselor, tmclaughlin@rsu23.org or at 943-2891 and she will help to make the connection.

If Jameson receives a red determination in the weeks ahead and we need to go remote, here is our plan: [JES Remote Learning Plan](#) ALL classes begin with synchronous introductions and mini-lessons **to allow students to transition to independent learning for the remainder of the block (if necessary)**. The students may not be working directly with the teacher online for the entire time frame outlined here. Thank you to those of you who have signed the **Device Agreement Form** that was sent out last week. This form allows us to send the student iPads home and will help us to be ready if we go RED.

How to Prepare for the Technology Piece:

1. In preparation for going RED, teachers will continue to deliver lessons and assignments through SeeSaw.
2. Please make sure you know how to send and receive messages through SeeSaw and view your child's work through the SeeSaw Family Account.
3. Zoom will be used for the morning meetings and classes. Please let us know if internet connectivity is a challenge so we can help.
4. Importantly, please make sure that we have correct phone numbers and email addresses for you. Call Beth Walker to update at 934-3707.

Although it might seem far off given the amazing temperatures this week, here is [Superintendent Suttie's Snow Day Letter](#) which explains where you can find cancellation information. *If we can anticipate having a snow day*, teachers will send home hard copies of lessons as we have been doing for our Wednesday work to date.

If you need help with resources for the upcoming holidays, please contact our guidance counselor, Tracy (mentioned above). She can also help with accessing the following resources if needed.

Fall Resources for Families

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

- **OOB Salvation Army**
- **York County Shelter Program (5 Swetts Bridge Rd., Alfred, ME *Just off Rt. 4*) 324-1137**

Area Food Pantries

- **OOB Community Food Pantry** -155 Saco Avenue - 937-8094
Open Mondays 2:00-7:00, Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00-12:00
- **Salvations Army Food Pantry**- 2 Sixth Street - 934-4381
Open weekdays, except for Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00
- **York County Shelter Program** - 5 Swetts Bridge Road, Alfred- 324-1137
Open Tuesdays and Fridays 12:00-3:00 (drive through pick up just off Rt. 4)

York County Community Action Heating/Fuel Assistance

YCCAC offers a wide range of fuel and energy assistance programs so you can be warm, safe, healthy, and secure in your home. And, their weatherization services can even help you save money! Go to <https://yccac.org/heat-energy-fuel/> for more information about HEAP Heating Assistance, Weatherization Assistance Program or the Electricity Lifeline program.

COVID-19 Rental Relief Program

On Monday, MaineHousing announced it is reopening its COVID-19 Rental Relief Program

for October and November for renters who cannot afford to pay their rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Depending on the availability of funding, the program may also include December rent.

This program expands upon MaineHousing's previous rent relief programs by allowing both previous and new applicants to apply for a maximum of \$1,000 per month toward their rent payments.

Renters may apply for October and November rents beginning November 2 by visiting the [YCCAC COVID-19 Rent Relief Program](#). Applicants can apply by calling 324-5762, Option 9, or by clicking the [Online application](#). If funding remains available, applications for December rent will be accepted beginning on November 23, 2020. Applications are on a first-come, first-served basis and are managed by Maine's Community Action Agencies.

Following a successful application, YCCAC pays the landlord/property management company directly. Landlords/property management companies agree to postpone the balance of the payment, not forgive it, when they agree to participate. They also agree not to evict for non-payment of rent for the month(s) for which the funds are applied. Please allow at least 2 weeks for processing time. For questions please call 324-5762 option 9 or rentrelief@yccac.org.

Additional eligibility requirements and information can be found at mainehousing.org/covidrent.

Since its creation in April, the COVID-19 Rental Relief Program has supported an estimated 14,000 renter households across Maine.

Toys for Tots

Registration opens on November 1, 2020 and closes on December 8, 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's Toys for Tots campaign will be different from previous years. Please be patient and understanding while we work to provide the same level of support and dedication in these trying times. To apply for toys go to <https://saco-me.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.aspx?nPageID=100&nPreviewInd=200> on click on the tab that says "Request a Toy"

Bruce Roberts Toy Fund

This program serves children in need from infancy through age 18 who live in York as well as other Maine counties. Parents or legal guardians may seek assistance by downloading, printing and filling out the 2020 Toy Fund Non-Group Application. The application is attached at the end of this message. Send completed applications to the address on the form For more information visit pressheraldtoyfund@mainetoday.com

The ABSOLUTE DEADLINE this year is November 30, but people are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.