

Good evening Jamerson families, this is your principal, Mrs. Peters, with updates for the week of January 10<sup>th</sup>.

I want to start this weekly call by letting you all know that I was out all last week after testing positive for Covid. I am hoping to be symptom free and to return tomorrow. However, if I still have symptoms, I will be out until I am feeling better. Mr. Hefty and the entire Jamerson team have been doing a phenomenal job keeping everything running smoothly in my absence. We have experienced several staff shortages and also have many students who did not return from break due to Covid in their households. As you know, COVID case counts and positivity rates continue to rise throughout the nation, Florida, and Pinellas County. After what I have felt this past week, I would not want any of our families to experience Covid in their households. As we know it affects everyone differently and can be very serious for some people. Please continue to monitor yourself and your family closely for any sign of potential illness. Students and staff should remain home if they are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID. We need your cooperation and support to ensure that we continue to have a safe and productive school year. Please do not send your child to school if they are feeling ill. We all need to continue to do our part to keep our school family as healthy and safe as possible. Please encourage your child to wear a mask and social distance as much as possible. Remember you can see our number of positive cases by visiting the district site at <https://www.pcsb.org/COVID19Cases>.

Report cards and Winter MAP results will come home with your child on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. This Friday our PTA will be holding their Annual Snow Day. PTA is bringing in 6 tons of snow for snowball throwing, snowman making, snow painting and much more. There will be alternate activities for those students who do not want to play in the snow. In order to participate, student must have a complete change of clothes, including shoes, because they will get wet! This is part of our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports or PBIS system and all student without referrals from January 4 through the 14<sup>th</sup> can participate.

Tomorrow is another Math Monday. We really appreciate your continued support at home to ensure your 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade student completes the 5 at home weekly Dreambox lessons.

For those of you who need this information, the District Application Window opened last Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> and ends on Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

All incoming kindergarten students and outgoing 5<sup>th</sup> graders who want to attend a choice school must apply. If you have an incoming kindergarten student, you must apply even if you have a sibling at Jamerson. To claim “sibling priority” the sibling (cousins may not claim sibling priority) must attend Jamerson next year and live in the same household. You need to choose Jamerson as your first-choice school. You will need the older student’s ID to apply, you can get this from their report card sticker, or you can call the office. 5<sup>th</sup> Graders wanting to attend our feeder schools: Bay Point or Azalea Middle, must choose either as the first choice to receive priority. If you need help during this process, please contact the office or Ms. O’Hare 552-1703 X 2026

I also have important information about prekindergarten programs. Pinellas County Schools offers prekindergarten programs for 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds. PreK programs help build a strong foundation for academic success as well as social and emotional development. The application period for Pre-K for 3-year-olds and VPK is Jan. 18 through Jan. 31. During the application period, families can apply online for programs next school year at [reservation.pcsb.org](https://reservation.pcsb.org). Pre-K 3 is for children who will be 3 years old by Sept. 1, 2022. VPK is for children who will be 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2022. Parents interested in VPK also need a Certificate of Eligibility from the Early Learning Coalition before they finalize the enrollment process. The district is also planning a virtual info session about PreK. Learn more at [www.pcsb.org/early](https://www.pcsb.org/early) or call 727-588-6513.

For all the latest information you can view our website or find us on Facebook.

Thank you for partnering with us to ensure your child receives the best possible education. Have a wonderful rest of your evening! We know it will be another amazing week at Jamerson Elementary.