

The Green and Gold Gazette

Pep Rally

By: Erika Nelson

Students rushed excitedly into the Jefferson Middle School (JMS) gym on September 13th for the first pep rally of the year. As students entered the gym, they heard the Jefferson Middle Schools Band playing music, which escalated the excitement in the students. Teachers directed 7th grade students to the left side of the bleachers and 8th graders to the right. Mrs. Trine started to get everyone quiet. She announced the teacher of the year, which was, drum roll... Mrs. Colson!!! Mrs. Trine and Mrs. Colson exchanged hugs and got pictures while students cheered enthusiastically. Then Mrs. Trine announced the Employee of the Year, our wonderful bookkeeper Ms. House.

To decide who was the most spirited, Mrs. Trine did a spirit competition. The goal was to scream and cheer as loud as possible. Screams and yells abounded on the 8th grade side, but 7th grade just couldn't get as loud. Mrs. Trine handed the spirit stick to Amelie W., who ran around the gym. Everyone was cheering and happy, but the 7th graders weren't as happy, knowing they did not win. But all that matters was that they all had a good time.

Next, the 7th and 8th graders competed against each other in a series of three games. The first game involved shaking ping pong balls out of a tissue box that was tied around one person's waist. 7th and 8th tied, with five ping pong balls left in the tissue box. Next, 7th and 8th graders lined up in front of the basketball hoops and handed them a meter stick to spin around and then attempt to shoot the basketball into the hoop. This game was very intense and exciting. 8th graders won this one. Last but not least, 7th and 8th graders were challenged to musical chairs. This game was hilarious. People were cheering loudly on the side lines. The 8th graders won this game as well.

Finally, the last, and most important event that occurred was Ms. Rousseau announcing who will end up getting pied in the face. The crowd went silent as Ms. Rousseau announced that Mrs. Trine would be the one getting pied. She threw her hands up in surprise because she thought that it would be Mr. Scull, but no, it was her. She put a trash bag over her head and body and put on goggles. The crowd booed her saying she was cheating. She ignored their cries and continued suiting up. She then sat in a chair and Mrs. Colson, because she was awarded Teacher of the Year, got to pie Mrs. Trine. The crowd counted down and then BOOM!! She got pied in the face. The crowd cheered with laughter and joy. After this, everyone got escorted out of the gym and back to their 7th periods. Everyone was talking about this event for days, saying how fun and good it was. Even though 7th grade didn't win, everyone still had an amazing time.



Spirit Week

By: Mena Hutton

This year's spirit week consisted of five days in which a ton of students dressed up. The first day was USA day and tons of students dressed up in red, white, and blue as well as teachers who dressed up patriotically.

The second day was Country vs. Country Club and a ton of people dressed up like cowboys and cowgirls and others dressed up as if they were in the richest country club in the state.

The third day was Winter in September, everyone was dressed in their most festive holiday clothes, and others were dressed up as if it were snowing.

The fourth day was Green and Gold day. The 7th graders wore green, while the 8th graders showed their school spirit in gold.

The fifth and final day of spirit week was Tacky Tourist day and tons of people dressed up in their tackiest outfit, which consisted of button down shirts, swim shorts, and others were wearing sunscreen and hats.

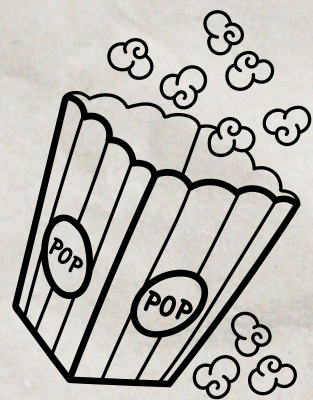
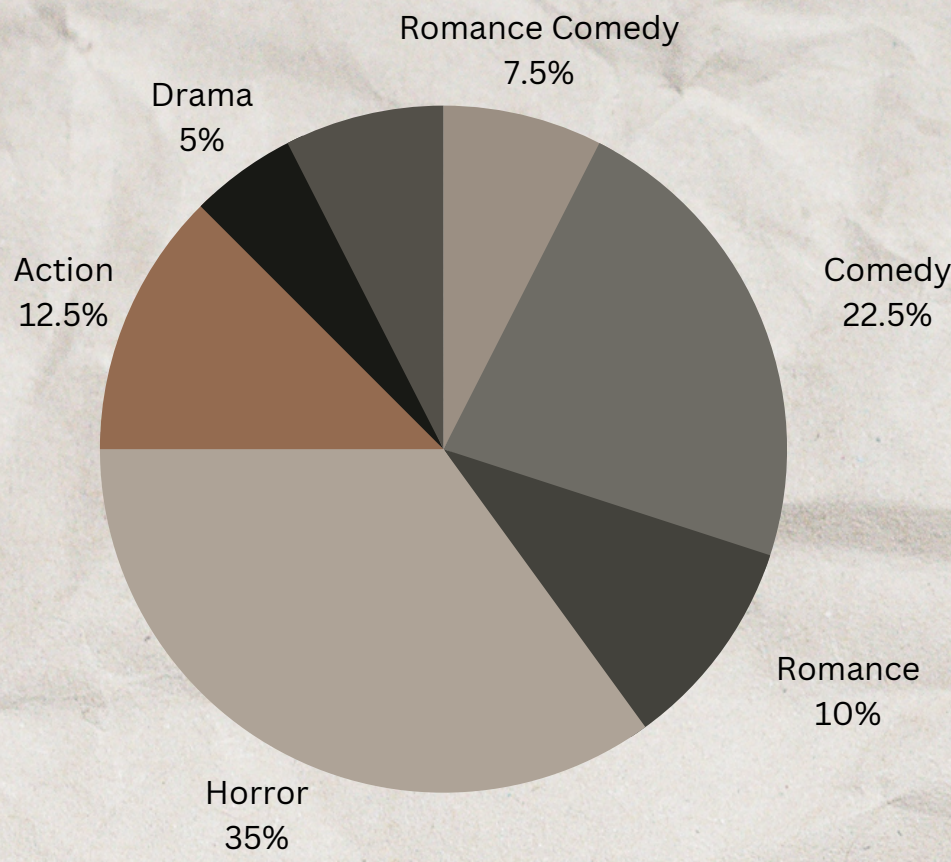
When we asked SGA how they came up with the days they said "We just used our imagination and chose the best ideas."



Question of the Quarter

By: Rochelle Newberry

Favorite Movie Genre

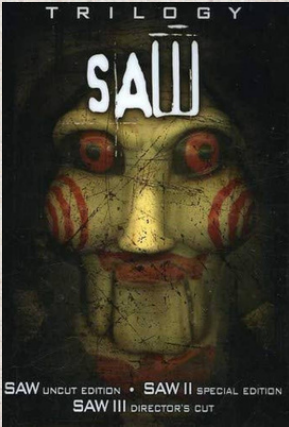
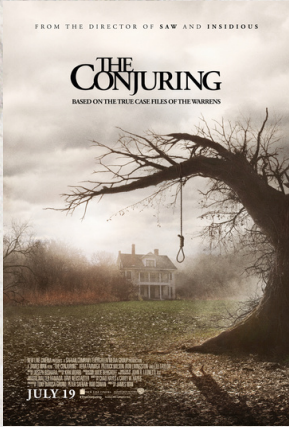


Why do you like horror movies?

- Erika Nelson: The suspense, gore, and the overall scariness.
- Josselyn Gonzalez: I like the action of it.
- Jonah Raucci: I like horror movies because I like being scared.
- Pele Reeves: They’re very thrilling.

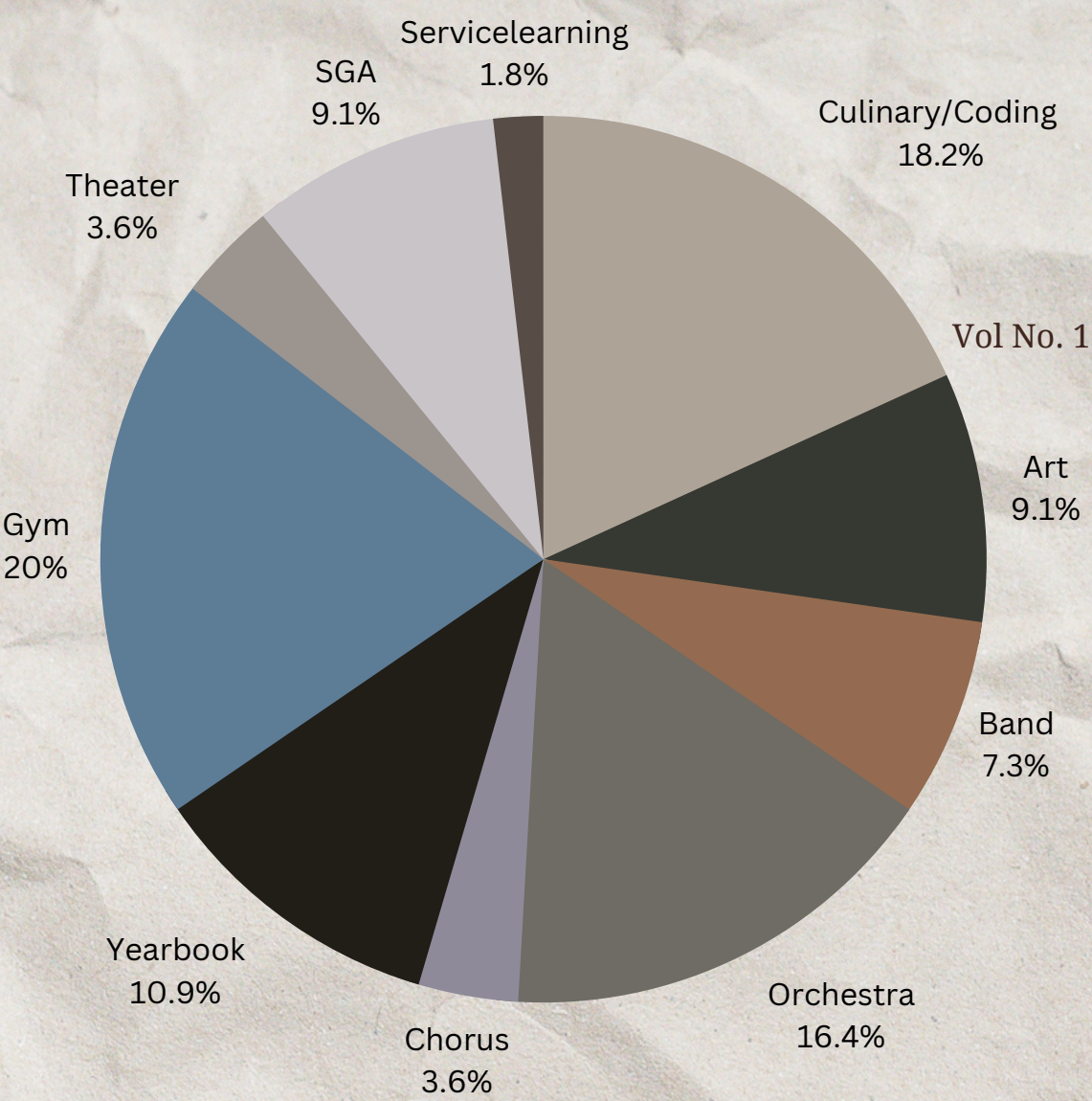
Favorite horror movie?

- Sadie Hesse: Barbarian
- Joshua Levine: Nightmare on Elm Street
- Adrienne Findley: The Conjuring
- Lexi Miller: The Saw movies
- Jarrett Wilburn: It 2
- Aiden Edwards: Chucky or Conjuring



Favorite Electives

By: Camden Nickerson and Troy Wallenburg



Since gym was the winner, we interviewed the three gym coaches to get their thoughts.

Q: How do you feel about gym being the student’s favorite elective?

Coach Butler: I think it’s great. I love how kids like getting outside and active. PE was my favorite as a kid also.

Coach Phaneuf: I think that’s awesome. I enjoy teaching something that the kids like.

Coach Freeman: I love that we are the favorite elective. I like how it gives them the opportunity to build relationships with their peers.

We also asked kids why gym was was their favorite

Q: Why is gym your favorite elective?

Mason Hinesley: Because you get your athletics, and it’s a way to be cooperative.

Lexi Miller: Because we get to do fun stuff and we can talk to our friends.



Basketball Team

Get to know the JMS boys basketball team!

By: Aubrey Bailey & Adrienne Findley

We decided to interview the Jefferson Middle School basketball team to get their perspective on this season and some facts about them. The team is a very spirited, fun, and dedicated team. When we interviewed the boys we got some very interesting answers!

Q: What are two words to describe your team?

Oden Joseph: Our team is a very hardworking, courageous group of boys.

Q: How long have you played basketball for?

Elijah Patterson: Five years.

Q: What's your favorite position to play?

Jayden Stanchfield: Most of the time I prefer to play the center(or the big man).

Q: What game are you most excited for this season?

Camden Trout: I would have to say the Madison Middle game.

Q: Who's your favorite professional basketball player?

Miles Normand: My favorite player has to be Lebron James.

Q: Would you rather dunk or shoot a 3?

Tyler Fowks: I would rather probably dunk.

Q: Do you prefer your home or away jersey?

Hunter Congdon: I like the home jerseys better because the white looks really clean.

Q: What do you think your team needs to improve on?

Zion Christian: Play making and dribbling.

Q: What's your favorite thing about basketball?

Zaven Daniels: I like dribbling and shooting 3s.

Q: Why did you start playing basketball?

Ayden Cochran: I started basketball to try something new.



Basketball Team

Lady Hoopers

By: Lana Brodersen and Preslie Villarreal

Meet the girls basketball team! The following are the JMS 2023-2024 team: Gena Walters, Ella Daniels, Alannah Frattin, Alexis Underwood, Zoe Carpenter, Zoe Castaneda, Vivian Santorufo, Analena Chapple, and Maddison Vetlen.

We had the chance to interview the team and here are some of their responses

Q: Why did you choose your jersey number?

Gena, Alannah, Ella, and Zoe Castaneda: I chose this jersey number because it my sibling's jersey number.

Alexis: It is my lucky number.

Zoe Carpenter: It is for my grandfather.

Q:Would you rather dunk or shoot a 3 pointer?

A: 6 players chose dunk, 3 chose 3-pointers

Q:Why did you choose to play basketball?

Ella: My parents played basketball.

Alannah: My whole family plays basketball

Q: What is your favorite thing about basketball?

Zoe Carpenter: My favorite thing about basketball is playing with my friends

Analena: My favorite thing about basketball is sportsmanship.

Maddi: The crowd and going to the games.

Vivian: Competitiveness



Cheerleaders

By: Winter Crown & Aubree Corbin

We joined the cheerleaders at one of their dinners and asked them several questions. Below are their responses.

Q: What is your favorite cheer to do?

Casey: Be aggressive.
Macy: Pump it up.
Winter: Shoot that ball.

Q: Why did you want to join the cheerleading squad?

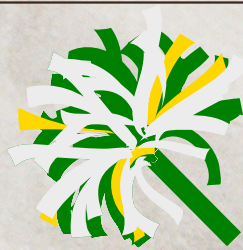
Winter : To get practice for high school.
Syan: I like to be more active.
Frankie: I wanted to get more practice.

Q: Do you still want to be a cheerleader in the future?

Emma: Yes!
Syan: Maybe, but it depends.
Frankie: Yup!!

Q: What is the hardest stunt in cheer?

Casey: Extension.
Macy: Teddy bear.
Winter: Prep/extension.



JMS Teacher of the Month

Dr. Sorensen-August

By: Justin Gregoire

Q: How long have you worked at JMS?

A: Five years.

Q: What is your favorite professional sports team?

A: Orlando Magic

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Cheesecake

Q: What subject do you teach?

A: Math

Q: How did you feel when you were chosen as the teacher of the month?

A: Excited and thankful

Q: Have you worked at any other schools?

A: Yes, I have worked at Jackson Middle, Madison Middle, EFFC, and Nova SouthEastern.

Q: What do you like about Jefferson?

A: The students, we have the best students EVER!!!



Ms. Ingram-September

By: Amelia Bobbitt

Q: How long have you been working at Jefferson?

A; Since February of last year

Q: What is your favorite part about teaching?

A: Seeing students be proud of their art

Q: What college did you attend?

A: I went to the University of Alabama. Then I got my masters at Parsons in New York.

Q: What is something you like about Jefferson?

A: I like that students are excited to try new things.

Q: What inspired you to start teaching?

A: To help students understand how important art is.



Mrs. Turner-October

By: Justin Gregoire

Q: How long have you been teaching at JMS?

A: This is my 6th year.

Q: Why did you become a teacher?

A: I started substitute teaching, and people said I was good at it.

Q: How many states have you been to?

A: I have been to 30 states.

Q: How many National Parks have you been to?

A: I have been to 23 National Parks.

Q: What started your turtle obsession?

A: I've wanted to be a marine biologist since 2nd grade.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: I like to read, photograph, travel, and cook.

Q: Who inspires you the most?

A: My parents inspire me to build strong relationships.

Q: What is your favorite thing about teaching?

A: Building relationships with students and watching them become successful.



New Teachers

Mr. August (Gus) Aydt

By: Oden Joseph

Q: Who inspires you the most to coach basketball?
A: My high school coach who made basketball a fun game for me and taught me all the fundamentals

Q: Who inspired you the most to play basketball?
A: My community and my best friend who went to a D1 school.

Q: Why was your career in basketball cut short?
A: I had an accident and fractured my skull.

Q: How tall are you?
A: I am 6’3

Q: How do you feel your team is connected?
A: I think they are a fun group of guys who try their hardest in games and finish strong.

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: Maitland, Florida.



Ms. Sarah Howell

By: Layla Drake



Q: What's your favorite thing to teach in ELA?
A: I like teaching books.

Q: What's the best thing you've experienced about Jefferson so far?
A: The teachers here are all really nice.

Q: What would the students be surprised to find out about you?
A: I’m a student too, getting my masters

Q: What makes a ‘good day’ at school?
A: When students are all listening and respectful.

Q: How does technology make teaching more simple or difficult?
A: It makes it more simple and you can also save paper

Q: What’s a school sport or activity you enjoy watching?
A: I like seeing the cheerleaders practicing in the morning

Q: What is your first memory from school?
A: Meeting Mrs.Banyard

Q: What's the best thing about being a teacher?
A: Meeting new people everywhere

Q:If you could pass on any wisdom to your students, what would you share?
A:That being nice gets things done better than doing things with an attitude.

New Teachers

Mrs. Sarah Tidd

By: Arrin Delano

Q: Why did you want to teach at Jefferson Middle?

A: I was ready for a change after 17 years at the same school.

Q: How long have you been teaching?

A: 18 years

Q: What other schools have you taught at?

A: Cocoa High

Q: What’s your favorite thing about Jefferson?

A: It's well managed and there are lots of policies and procedures to ensure things run smoothly.

Q: What’s something at Jefferson that is different from Cocoa High?

A: There are more fun events

Q: What made you want to start teaching?

A: I wanted to make an impact on young adults

Q: What is your favorite subject to teach?

A: English

Q: What is your favorite thing about teaching?

A: I like connecting with students

Q: What made you want to teach ELA and Yearbook?

A: I enjoy reading and writing and being creative



Mr. Shane O’Leary

By: Toby Van Fleet



Q: What school did you teach at before this one?

A: West Hernando Middle School.

Q: What was it like at West Hernando?

A: It was a small school, multiple subjects, and a fairly rural area.

Q: What grades did you teach?”

A: Band, Chorus, and Music Appreciation.

Q: How long have you been teaching?

A: One year

Q: What college did you attend?

A: Florida State University.

Q: What was it like at FSU?

A: It was like a small fish in a big pond, it was great.

Q: What was your favorite elective in school?)

A: Band.

New Teachers

Ms. Ashley Girardi

By: Lexi Miller

Q: What made you want to become an algebra teacher?

A: When I was in eighth grade I took algebra at Edgewood and I loved the material. Math is also my favorite subject.

Q: What is something interesting you would tell people about yourself?

A: I have a twin sister who also works in the school system.

Q: Would you rather watch a scary movie or a comedy movie? Why?

A: Definitely a comedy movie because I don't like scary movies.

Q: What is your favorite food and why?

A: My favorite food is fettuccine alfredo because my mom made it for me as a kid.

Q: Do you have any favorite sports teams?

A: Florida Gators (UF) is my favorite sports team for football. I've also been trying to get into hockey because my husband is from the states where hockey is big.

Q: What made you want to teach at Jefferson?

A: I came to Jefferson because the culture is really good and Jefferson is very welcoming. It's also a lot smaller than the old school I came from.

Q: What are some of your hobbies besides teaching?

A: Disney is one of my hobbies. Me and my whole family have passes and we like to go during the weekends sometimes. I also like the beaches, especially Jetty Park. I used to work there and watch the cruise ships.



Ms. Lisa Hartley

By: Giana Wehland

Q: Why did you start teaching theater?

A: I started teaching theater because I wanted to share my love of performing with students.

Q: Where did you work before Jefferson?

A: I taught at McNair for 18 years. I taught theater and chorus.

Q: What's one thing you love about Jefferson?

A: I love Jefferson because the students are respectful and fun, always willing to go all in and participate in things.

Q: What's something you wish more people knew about you?

A: Some things that are very important to me are family and God.

Q: What's something you love doing outside of school?.

A: I enjoy reading and singing outside of school. I'm actually in a band.

Q: Did you always want to become a teacher?

A Teaching was not my first choice, my first would have been a performer.

Q: Where were you born?

A: I was born in Sumter, South Carolina.

Q: What's a sport you love doing?

A: I love to travel as well as hiking, bicycling, and white water rafting

New Teachers

Ms. Mariuschka Lovera

By: Ingrid Alvarenga

Q:What is one unique thing you wish others knew about you?

A:I would probably want people to know that I'm a competitive skydiver.

Q:What is your favorite thing about teaching?

A:My favorite thing would be being able to help kids understand and learn something new, especially with Spanish. I find learning a new language fun and interesting.

Q:Does teaching ever make you stressed?

How do you deal with it?

A:It doesn't stress me out as much, but when it does I like to just relax at home and take some time to myself

Q:What is your favorite sport to play or watch?

A:I'm not that interested in sports but if I had to choose a sport it would probably be soccer.

Q:If you had the chance to be talented at something you're not already talented at, what would it be?

A:Maybe be talented at playing an instrument.



Mrs. Laura Saunders

By: Justin Gregoire

Q: Have you worked at any other schools

A: Yes I have worked at Central Middle, Endeavour Elementary, Mila Elementary, Apollo Elementary, Jackson Middle, and Riverview Elementary.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Thai food

Q: What do you like about Jefferson so far

A: I really like all of my students.

Q: Have you ever traveled outside of the country

A: Yes I have been to about 15 other countries.

Q: What made you decide to become a speech and language pathologist?

A: I have a sister with a communication disorder and when I was in college I found out there was a degree in that field. I thought I would be good at that.

