



JAPHET SCHOOL FAMILY SERVICE NIGHT

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JAPHET SCHOOL'S KIDS FOR PEACE IMPACT FAMILY SERVICE NIGHT

** Students made Peace Packs for children in Sierra Leone, cheerful cards for soldiers in active duty, and fleece blankets for shelter animals*

Clawson, MI – Japhet School's chapter of Kids for Peace delivered more than two-dozen hand-tied fleece blankets on December 13 to be used by animals that are in the Royal Oak Animal Shelter. This service project, their own idea, is one of three charitable activities that the service club organized on behalf of their school. The whole community was invited to participate.

With the help of parents and teachers, preschool through eighth-grade students filled more than 40 backpacks, called “Peace Packs,” for children who live in Sierra Leone. Each backpack was stuffed with school supplies and a personal letter. The canvas backpacks were hand-painted by Japhet students. Japhet students also created and wrote cheerful greeting cards to soldiers in active duty, thanked them for their service, and wished them happiness while enduring the holiday season overseas.

Kids for Peace is an international organization based in California. Schools and other organizations launch their own chapters, and Japhet School began its chapter in 2015 as an after-school opportunity for its students. It meshes nicely with the school's mission to integrate character education with academics— a unique attribute of the school for which it has been nationally recognized.

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The service projects that Japhet's Kids for Peace organized this year were mostly completed during Family Service Night in November, a holiday tradition at Japhet School. The annual event, currently in its 10 year, was paired with a Spaghetti Supper served by seventh- and eighth-grade students. The students cook and serve the meal to families before they move to service stations in classrooms. This year, more than 100 meals were served.

About Japhet School

Founded in 1973, Japhet School is an independent school, serving children in the metropolitan Detroit area in preschool through eighth grade. Its mission is to nurture and prepare each child for life by integrating character education with a strong academic program. The school provides small classes of fewer than 18 students in each, which enables teachers to challenge students with academic material that is appropriate for their intellectual readiness, regardless of age or grade. Integrated with strong academics is Japhet School's national award-winning character education curriculum, which builds a peaceful community within the school and creates leaders with integrity. Japhet is a National School of Character: it was the first school in Michigan -- and the first independent school in the country -- to receive this award. Japhet School is located in Clawson, Michigan, at the corner of Crooks and Normandy roads. To learn more about Japhet, visit www.japhetschool.org.



Sofia and Lisa Shields of Royal Oak, daughter and mother, enjoy a plate of spaghetti before delving into service projects at Japhet School.

(High-quality image attached)