



John Johnson Elementary

January

January 8, 2018

Happy New Year and welcome to the second semester at John Johnson Elementary! JJE's students and their families overwhelmed us in December with their generosity. Our teachers and staff were delighted with your gifts and expressions of holiday wishes. PTO honored our staff with a wonderful breakfast on Thursday when we returned as we participated in planning and staff development. We are fortunate to have such a great group of students and parents. Your support helps with our special projects, but more importantly, supports students as they succeed in their educational journey.

Report Cards

Report Cards will be issued Thursday, January 11th. You will keep the report card, but please sign and return the report card envelope on Friday.

Good Grades Celebration

This special event will be held on Thursday, January 25th at 5:30pm and 6:45pm. Kindergarten and 1st Grade will attend from 5:30pm-6:30pm and 2nd through 4th Grades will attend from 6:45pm-7:45pm. This is a night of celebration to honor all students who made A's or A's and B's for the first semester. Students and 2 guests will be treated to pizza, chips, a cookie, and a drink. Many thanks go out to the Decatur County Schools Foundation for providing funding for this event. If your student qualifies, an invitation will be included in the report card envelope.

Georgia Parent Survey

We are in need of the parents of John Johnson students to take the Georgia Parent Survey. This survey is required by the State, and we are asking each parent to take a few minutes to fill out the survey for JJE. The web link is below, and we have also posted it on our website for your convenience. It can only be taken online using the web link. If you need help or need access to a computer, please come and use our Parent Resource Center located in the JJE media center. We thank you in advance for helping with this very crucial survey for JJE.

Weblink: <http://gshs.gadoe.org/parents>

Arrival and Breakfast

Remember that students are "Late at 8!" , which means that students must be in the classroom when the bell rings. Our on-air announcements are completed by 8:00 so that instruction can begin promptly. Breakfast is available and free for all students. Students wishing to eat breakfast at school need to be here by 7:45 in order to have time to eat and be ready for class to begin at 8:00.

Students should not be dropped off out front until 7:30. If you arrive early, please wait until the bell rings before exiting the car. An adult or safety patrol member will help with this.

Dismissal

Please make sure that you have made arrangements to pick up your students on time after school. Our dismissal time is 3:15 for walkers and 3:20 for car riders. If your student is going home a different way than usual, please make sure that you have sent a note to the teacher. It gets very confusing for teachers and students if a note is not written. Thank you in advance for your help with this matter.

JJE Yearbook

Our yearbook sales will begin in January. The yearbook is a great memory keepsake and is a popular fundraiser for our school. The order form will be sent home soon, so be looking for it to come home with your child.

Parent Involvement

The Parent Involvement Resource Center, housed in JJE's Media Center, contains many brochures and resources for parents. We also have a computer available for checking the Parent Portal and accessing educational websites.

Lost and Found

We have lots and lots of coats, jackets, sweaters, etc. in our lost and found here at JJE from first semester. We have bagged them up and will be donating them on January 19th. If your student lost a coat or jacket, please have them check before January 19th. We would love for all our students to have their warm coats, but they are taking up lots of space in our hallway.

McKinney Vento Program

If your family lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and is forced to live in any of the following situations:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (example: evicted from home, etc.).
- In a motel.
- In an emergency or transitional shelter.
- Have a primary nighttime residence that is not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for humans (car , park, or campsite)

Then your children may have the right to:

Enroll in school without proof of residency, immunization, school records, or other documents.

Choose between their school of origin or the school zoned for where you are currently living, when feasible.

Receive transportation to school.

Attend school and participate in school programs with children who are not homeless. Children cannot be separated from the regular school program because they are homeless.

Receive all the school services available to other students.

For more information you may contact Tia Williams at 229-248-2842

Cell phones and Electronic Devices

We know that lots of our students received cell phones and electronic devices including Gizmo watches for Christmas. We want to remind you that on page 10 of the JJE Handbook, it states that cell phones, beepers, or other electronic devices are not allowed on the school campus. Please know that we encourage you and your students to abide by this policy. It is in place in all the elementary schools in Decatur County. Thank you so much for your assistance with this matter.

Georgia Milestones Information

The GMAS will be given to 3rd and 4th grade students on April 16th, 17th, and 18th. Please add these dates to your calendar . It is important for our students to be here to take the assessment with their classmates.



FITNESSGRAMS

As a part of your child's P.E. program, all schools throughout Decatur County will be participating in the state-mandated FITNESSGRAM fitness assessment. The FITNESSGRAM is a comprehensive fitness assessment for youth which measures health-related fitness.

The FITNESSGRAM physical fitness assessment measures aerobic capacity, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, and body composition. We ask that you encourage your child to participate with his/her best effort and to the best of his/her ability. The FITNESSGRAM assessment is a measure of good health as opposed to athletic ability. Each student will be assessed using the following assessment components:

PACER

Push-up

Height/Weight

Curl-up

Back-Saver Sit and Reach

Trunk Lift (if the student is short one component of the first 5 in the HFZ)

Students in grades K-2 will only participate in the height and weight assessments. Third graders will only participate in height and weight assessments but will practice other assessment protocols. Students in grades 4-5 will participate in all five testing protocols.

For fourth and fifth grade students, a confidential FITNESSGRAM report will be provided for each student to take home in the spring. This report will include your child's scores and information on the FITNESSGRAM Healthy Fitness Zones. The Healthy Fitness Zone represents the level of fitness needed for good health. The information on this private report will not be displayed or made public.

Upcoming Events:

January 11- Report Cards Issued

January 15- MLK, Jr. Holiday- No School

January 25- Good Grades Celebration- for all invited students

January 26- Top Dawg

February 6- PK registration- students must be 4 by September 1, 2018

February 15- 4 1/2 week progress report

February 16- Winter Break- No School

February 19- President's Day- No School

Grade Level Information

Pre-Kindergarten

The unit of study for Pre-K during January is Imagine It/Make It. We will also be discussing the Winter season. Lysol wipes are greatly appreciated during this time of the year to cut down on sicknesses in the classroom.. If you have not sent in snacks for the class lately, please consider doing so. There are 22 students in the class.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten students will be celebrating the 100th Day of School on January 23rd with lots of fun activities. We will be eating a special snack and participating in a 100 balloon pop.

We will also be completing a STEM project called "Designing Walls".

Please continue to study your child's sight words and SRA words each night. We will continue to work on becoming fluent readers each day.

Don't forget about our Book It Program. Keep reading every night!

1st Grade

We are so excited to start 2018 and our second semester of first grade! Please remember to check with your child to make sure that they have all their school supplies (crayons, glue sticks, pencils, and scissors) to start off the New Year. Since we have started taking assessments online, it is imperative for your child to have working headphones. Please ask your child or look for a note from your child's teacher. The school has headphones for sale for \$1. In Social Studies, we will be focusing on Lewis and Clarke, Ruby Bridges and goods and services. In Science, we will be working with magnets, and talking about the energy source of light and the impact of light to create shadows. In Math, we will work on measurement and shapes and their attributes. We will continue to have weekly Grammar and Spelling tests in Reading. We can not emphasize enough the importance of reading daily with your child. Our reading goal for each month continues to be 10 books. We are looking forward to a successful 2018! Please email your child's teacher(s) for any questions or concerns.

Guidance Corner

Guidance classes on Friday continue to explore the 17 job clusters Gov. Deal wants Georgia students to know. Expose your student to a variety of opportunities to give them choices for their particular career. There's a big world of opportunities waiting for them to enter. We want to give them information that will help them make a wise choice.

2nd Grade

We are very excited to begin the 2nd semester. We will begin working on the following content:

Math: Measurement and Time

Science: Physical properties of object and matter

ELA: Describe how words and phrases (e.g. regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, and song.

Social Studies: Georgians and Civil Rights

****Remember to study for weekly Math and DOL quizzes.****

3rd Grade

We will be very busy 2nd semester. In math, we will be studying area, perimeter, fractions, geometry, time and elapsed time. In addition to these new areas, we will continue with mastering our multiplication facts and word problems. As we continue our reading journey, please encourage your child to read to you and visit thinkcentral.com for weekly practice in Journeys. The reading fluency test requirement is 115 words correct in 1 minute. ILearn.com, istation.com and mobymax.com are great resources to be used at home.

4th Grade

Fractions will be the focus in math this month. We will begin with fraction equivalence and extend learning by ordering fractions. Students will learn how to compare fractions with different denominators as well as different numerators. As you know, math quizzes are every Friday, and students have math homework every night of the week.

This month 4th graders will analyze the challenges faced by the framers of the Constitution. They will identify the major leaders of the Constitutional Convention. Please review notes in the SS section of your child's binder each night.

In Science, we will learn about light and explore optical engineering. Students will use their knowledge of the properties of light to design a lighting system for the interior of a model ancient Egyptian tomb. We will continue reading our stories in Journeys and focusing heavily on writing to prepare for the Georgia Milestones test.

21st Century

21st Century After-School program will start back on Monday, January 8, 2018. The YMCA will service JJE on the following dates: January 8, 22, and 29. Please make sure the students have tennis shoes on the days listed.

We will not have after school on January 15th due to the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Please make sure you are on time for dismissal in the afternoon. Dismissal time is 5:30pm. If you child is enrolled in the after school program, they must attend morning and afternoon.

Healthy Tip: **Drink More Water**

Make water the drink of choice at meal times, and keep juice and sweet drinks as occasional treats. While juice has valuable nutrients and gives a concentrated energy boost for active, growing bodies, kids should go for water first when they are thirsty, not sugar-sweetened drinks.