

J.B.S. Press



November, 2013

a "Short" report

by Mrs. Short, Principal

We were very pleased with the way our students returned to school after fall break. They were focused and ready to get back to school. We appreciate you keeping your parent/teacher conference appointment(s) or contacting us if you need another time. Our teachers offer much insight into your child's learning and social development. I encourage you to listen closely to their suggestions. Mrs. Harpold, school social worker, and I are always available to discuss your concerns or offer advice, as well.

FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT IS COMING! Bring the family on Thursday, November 14 from 6:00-7:30 for a wonderful evening of reading activities for you and your family. See how your child spends the "Reading Block." Find out ways to help with reading skills at home.

The Daily Reporter features weather drawings by local elementary-age students daily. They are in need of more drawings. Drawings should be vertically oriented. On the back of the drawings, please be sure to include your child's first and last name; our school name; and the date. Drawings may be brought to the Daily Reporter office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is also an after-hours drop box next to the doors on the south side of the building. Drawings may also be mailed to them at 22 W. New Road, Greenfield, IN, 46140.

Please feel free to email Karen Crawford at kcrawford@greenfieldreporter.com or call her at 477-3224 with any questions about these weather drawings.

J.B. Stephens Dismissal Policy/Non Bus Riders

(Enforcement to begin 11/18/13)



Keeping Children Safe

Here is a new school policy to help us keep students safe when they are getting in their cars at the end of the school day:

- All children who are regularly picked up will receive two 4”X11” chartreuse papers and 2 chartreuse wallet cards with their last name printed on them. The large paper must be displayed on a car’s dashboard during pick-up. The wallet-size paper must be available if needed for inspection by the outdoor supervisors.
- When parents/guardians call in for an occasional pick up, the child will receive a chartreuse paper from the office. The child must show this paper to the outdoor supervisors before the child is allowed to leave.
- If a driver comes without the proper documents, they must park and go into the office for an ID check against the PowerSchool data base for approved contacts, or the school will call the parent/guardian for verification.
- Parents may request additional “name” papers for a babysitter or additional emergency contacts.
- Students will wait for their car under the overhang until dismissed by the supervisor.

If you walk to pick up your child at the end of the school day, please follow the following procedures:

- Persons picking up should use the sidewalks and crosswalks, not the grass.
- Please have your wallet card available to show to the supervisor. If you are unknown to the supervisor and do not have your wallet card, you will be asked to check in at the front office for verification.
- Wait along the sidewalk, avoiding the area under the overhang.
- Students who normally have someone walking up for them will be dismissed first from the school.
- Students should wait for their pick-up person under the overhang until dismissed by the supervisor.

NOTE/PLEASE READ: All handicapped spaces are to be reserved for those in need. They are NOT to be used to wait on or drop off a child. Even if your car has a tag, if the person getting in or out of the car doesn’t need the accommodation, please do not use that space. We have a few very fragile children who have had to wait up to 15 minutes, while their parent waits for a handicapped space. If you or your child doesn’t need it, don’t occupy that spot. If you have a condition keeping you from easily getting out of your car, please drive around the circle.



Math Minute

Sometimes children get math problems wrong simply because they haven’t lined up the numbers correctly. Try this. Have your child work problems on graph paper, using one box per number. Once s/he gets used to this system, s/he’ll be able to transfer her lining-up skills to regular paper. You can also try having the child turn a lined paper sideways, so the lines make columns for their numbers.

READING TIP: Try to read to your child(ren) every day. Aim for 10-15 minutes of bedtime reading for a peaceful end to the day. Consider read-alouds while waiting for dinner to cook or right before you check over your child's folder.

Library News



by Mrs. Jaeck, Library Assistant

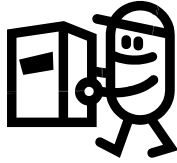
Children are allowed to check out books every time they come to library, but if they haven't returned the book from the previous week, the book they check out stays in the classroom until it returns. Let's work together, and keep those library books coming in on time!

Christmas Assistance



by Mrs. Harpold, Social Worker

Hancock County families who are in need of Christmas assistance will once again be helped through the United Christmas Service (UCS), a division of the United Way. Greenfield-Central Schools, along with several other community agencies, will be able to refer families with whom they are familiar. The referral process began on October 28th and will continue through November 26th. Parents will be asked to complete an application, (found on the J.B. Stephens website), and return it to me, Mrs. Christy Harpold, school social worker. This application will require information on each member of the household, such as name, gender, birth date, ethnicity, social security number, school attending, clothing sizes, and reason for need. As many families as possible will be helped, either by Direct Assistance, (a restricted voucher system which can only be spent on food, clothing, and/or toys), by the Donor Program, (which matches the families with the greatest need to a donor group), or by a Clearinghouse Group, (which will provide assistance according to their program guidelines). United Christmas Service will assist as many families as possible; however, no one is guaranteed assistance. If your family is in need of Christmas assistance and you need a paper copy of the U.C.S. application, please contact Mrs. Harpold at 462-4491.



Collections at School

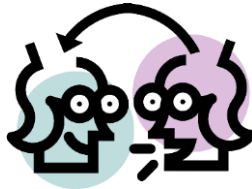
Box Tops
Marsh Points (Code #28577)

Target Points

Tyson Labels

Pop-tabs
Campbell's labels

Conscious Discipline Tip



Our school uses the concepts of *Conscious Discipline*, which is a program created by Dr. Becky Bailey. It is based on brain research and centers around keeping children safe.

The seven principles of *Conscious Discipline* include:

1. Composure
2. Encouragement
3. Assertiveness
4. Choices
5. Positive Intent
6. Empathy
7. Consequences

ENCOURAGEMENT: We try to encourage our students by helping them feel that we are all in our J.B.S. Family together. We give students opportunities to contribute to the welfare of others, which in turn builds their own self-worth. We let children know how they “see” others is what determines who they are. We want children to know we are all unique. We work on giving effective praise, which relies on describing, not judging, to children. We believe children need encouragement, especially when they have made “poor” choices.

If you wish to know more about techniques to encourage your children, contact Mrs. Short of Mrs. Harpold. If you are a Facebook user, I encourage you to “like” *Conscious Discipline*.

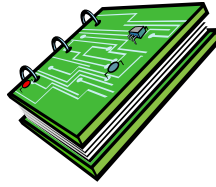
P.T.O. News



by The Officers

We have cancelled our November meeting, since it is the day before Thanksgiving break. We look forward to hearing from our Title 1 teachers and Mrs. Harpold, social worker, at future meetings. Next meeting is Tuesday, December 17. Please watch for the notes with details.

Focus on the JB\$ Family Handbook



Except for kindergarten families, there were no paper handbooks distributed this school year. The handbook is located online at our website: jbs.gcsc.k12.in.us. If you need a paper copy, contact the front office at 462-4491. Below are excerpts from the handbook.

EMERGENCY EARLY DISMISSAL

While such dismissals are infrequent, it is important that every child knows what he/she is expected to do in such cases. Arrangements should be made in advance with a friend or neighbor if you work or are frequently away from the home. In case of early dismissal, calling the school for arrangements is strongly discouraged. Having students call home or your workplace in cases of early dismissal is not an option. An early dismissal form should have been completed during July registration. If the information on that form changes during the school year, please let the office and your child(ren)'s teacher(s) know.

PARENT CONCERNS

If a parent is concerned about an academic or behavior problem, it is very important that they contact the school so the problem may be solved. It is best for the parent to first contact the teacher. No problem can be solved without the combined efforts of the parent and teacher. If a parent still has concerns, the second step would be to contact the school principal.

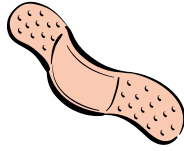
STUDENT DRESS CODE

How students dress for school has a direct effect on how well they behave and how well they feel about themselves. This influences learning. Students attending elementary school are expected to dress according to weather conditions and according to clothing that properly fits the student without causing interruptions in classroom activities or causing a safety hazard for students or staff. Shorts and skirts are not to be shorter than mid-thigh length. Tops are to be long enough that the midriff area is fully covered at all times. Loose fitting mesh tops, tank tops, short shorts, biker shorts, or other extreme articles of dress are NOT acceptable school wear. Any clothing advertising drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products will not be allowed to be worn. Rude or suggestive messages on clothing will not be permitted. Hats, caps, or bandanas must be removed inside the school, except for designated school pride days.

An easy way to determine if a student's appearance is appropriate is to remember the 4 **D**s:

- Damaging** – You should not wear any clothing or accessories that could damage school property.
- Dangerous** – You should not wear any clothing or accessories that could cause a dangerous situation to you or anyone around you.
- Distracting** – Your appearance should not distract you or others around you.
- Drug Related** – You should not wear any clothing or accessories that display any kind of alcohol, nicotine product, illegal drug, or anything else that indicates the use of these things.

Nursing Notes



by Mrs. Atkinson, Health Assistant

Thanks for sending in the cups and socks. The clinic is now in need of fall and winter clothing for both girls & boys.

If you included a medical condition when you filled out the online registration forms, you also need to fill out forms for me in the clinic. Please refer to the Health Policies in the J.B.S. Handbook, beginning on page 8, or call me at 462-4491, ext. 202 for more information.

Music Notes



by Miss Teaters, Music Educator

My name is Miss Teaters, and this is my first year teaching music at J.B. Stephens Elementary. Last year I started my teaching career at Eden Elementary as their Music and Art Educator. I've had a wonderful year so far here at J.B. Stephens Elementary, and I look forward to the rest of this school year.

All students in grades Kindergarten through Third have been working hard on learning songs for our Veterans' Day Program. Each grade will be performing the songs, "Oh, I Love America," and "America, The Beautiful." The Veteran's Day program will be on November 11 from 9:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. We encourage any Veterans to come and join us on that day.

Character First!



by Mrs. Harpold, School Social Worker

The Greenfield-Central School Corporation uses the Character First! Program to share ideas about good character with students and families. During each school year, the traits of respect, responsibility, truthfulness, punctuality, generosity, self-control, obedience, dependability, compassion and orderliness will be discussed, role-modeled, and expected at all elementary schools.

PUNCTUALITY



“Being on Time”

Punctuality is a very important character trait. It allows one to be on time, to be prepared for unexpected delays, to do work ahead of time, to keep a daily schedule, and to not fall into the trap of “just one more.”

The benefits of punctuality are illustrated by the following examples:

Punctuality begins the minute one gets up. By allowing plenty of time in the mornings, a **calm start** to the day is possible. Children are able to eat breakfast, get dressed, and get into the car/bus for school, all **without rushing**.

When students arrive on time for school, they are showing they are ready to begin their job of learning for that day. They have **plenty of time** to enter the classroom, put their coats and backpacks away, greet their friends, and be seated.

Students can show punctuality by completing their homework on time. By doing their work as it is assigned, students have a better chance to **do their best work** and **eliminate stress & worry**. Doing work ahead of time is always a good idea.

Some of our students keep an assignment book or listing of homework. By doing this, students & parents can **plan** the nightly homework schedule to allow plenty of time to complete each task.

Establishing the habit of punctuality now will set the stage for future success in school and career. Help your child practice the character trait of Punctuality.

Attendance News



by Mrs. Short

Each month, there are three ways for students to receive incentives for their good attendance. Students who do not miss a day of school all month receive a donut hole/fruit snack; individual classes win prizes for their first, second and third place finish for the month; and all students get to see Mrs. Short, (and other staff members), wear pajamas for a day if the entire school shows a 97% attendance rate for the month.

OCTOBER REPORT

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Monthly Attendance Percentage</u>	
Mrs. Ahonen	96.8	
Miss Batton	95.1	
Mrs. Bewley	96.3	
Miss Bladen	95.82	
Mrs. Clark	94.5	
Mrs. Hammons	97.2	
Mrs. Jacquemin	97.8	
Mrs. Johnson	95.2	
Mrs. Kuntz	97.3	
Mrs. Leininger	97	
Mrs. Martinez	95.2	
Mrs. Matthias	96.4	
Mrs. Olin	97.6	
Mrs. Parker	99.7	GOLD
Mrs. Rizzotte	96.9	
Mrs. Sexton	97.2	
Mrs. Smith	98.1	BRONZE
Mrs. Steeno	99	SILVER
Ms. Stout	97.5	
Mrs. Trapp	92.3	
Mr. Vogel	96	

GOLD = Extra Recess
SILVER = Popcorn
BRONZE= Special Seating at Lunch TOTAL 96%

Physical Education Update



by Mr. Wood, Physical Educator

We are having a wonderful year in the Physical Education Department! The students at J.B. are ALWAYS pumped up to come to P.E. and burn off some energy! (AND THEY HAVE PLENTY OF IT.) It really does bring a big smile to my face to see our students exercising and having fun doing it! We all know that many kids today are glued to the television, computer, video games, iPad, etc., but I am doing my best every day to instill a lifelong enjoyment of physical activity. I encourage you to do the same! Even twenty minutes a day along with the physical activity your child receives at school will go a long way toward reducing the risk of childhood obesity and to developing healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

Your students have engaged in many exciting and challenging activities so far in the 2013-2014 school year. These activities have been focused on enforcing locomotor, (movement), as well as non-locomotor skills. We will start to turn our attention to manipulative skills, (using objects with hands), during Quarter Two. One year-long activity we perform heavily focuses on cardiorespiratory endurance, the 1/4 and 1/2 mile runs. Students in Kindergarten and Grade One run the 1/4 mile version, while Grades Two and Three run the 1/2 mile. We have already completed our Quarter One runs; we will be doing these runs in Quarters Two, Three and Four as well and tracking the data to chart gains in cardiorespiratory endurance! Look for statistics from these runs in future editions of the J.B.S. Press newsletter!

Café Comments



by Mrs. Hudson, Café Manager

If your child has been receiving only a sandwich and milk, it is because there is no money in their account. We are trying very hard not to embarrass any child, but hope you are able to get their account “in the black” as soon as possible. Remember, you may check your child’s balance on the My Payments Plus website: <https://www.mypaymentsplus.com/default.aspx>. You can link to the website from the school corporation’s website, as well. It doesn’t cost anything to look at your child’s account.

LUNCH TIMES (Please post at home; the school receives many calls asking the times.)

Kindergarten 10:25-10:55
First Grade 10:45-11:15

Second Grade 11:25-11:55
Third Grade 11:45-12:15



November 9	Market Day Pick-up – Café	10:30-11:30 a.m.
November 6	Parent/Teacher Conferences	2:45-6:15 p.m.
November 8	P.T.O. Movie* Night/Free Admission/Snacks for Sale	6:00-8:00 p.m.
November 11	Veterans’ Day Tribute/Veterans Welcome	9:30-10:00 a.m.
November 14	Family Literacy Night	6:00-7:30 p.m.
November 18	Techmobile	
November 19	Picture Retakes	
November 26	Dental Program “Seal Indiana”	
November 27-29	NO SCHOOL	
December 5-6	P.T.O. Santa Secret Shop	5:00-7:00 p.m.
December 7	P.T.O. Santa Secret Shop	11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
December 23-Jan. 3	Winter Break	

*Monsters University