

J.B.S. Press



March, 2014

a “Short” report

by Mrs. Short, Principal

Students and staff enjoyed February’s FriendSHIP week. Students made friendship pledges and went on a scavenger hunt for friendship qualities. Winners of the scavenger hunt were: Ethan Hollis, Olivia Evans, Larkyn VanWeinen, and Caitlyn Davis.

Mrs. Amber Skene, Instructional Assistant, organized a week-long service project where students were encouraged to make bracelets to contribute to the Loving Bri Fund. This Fund collects rainbow loom bracelets to send to Project HOPE. Project HOPE wraps these bracelets around iTunes cards and puts them into Hope Bags and delivers them to hospitalized children.

After students were done with their lunch, they were allowed to make the loom bracelets. Due to the cold weather, indoor recess also was a time many students made bracelets. We couldn’t have done this project without help from our volunteers: Mrs. Kelly Munden, Mrs. Marna Guenin, Mrs. Jill VanWienen, Mrs. Rachel Nickels, and Mrs. Rachel Hilligoss. Many students chose to make bracelets at home during their free time and then brought them in. As a whole school, we created and sent 260 bracelets to the Loving Bri Fund.

Mrs. Skene said, “After speaking with many of the students about their creations, they were all very excited to see the end result. They all had fun doing this and know that they will bring a lot of smiles to children.”

The Indiana Academy has opened registration for its Spring 2014 Saturday Adventure Programs. They will be hosting programs for students in first through eighth grades. These programs encourage students to dig deeper into their education and enhance their critical thinking skills. To learn more about their Spring programs, visit their website <http://www.bsu.edu/academy/youth/>

The first week of March has been designated in Indiana as School Social Work Week. It is a time where contributions made by social workers to the educational process are recognized. School Social Workers work with children, families, school staff, and the community to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed. Services include working with students on personal and academic issues, consulting with parents on a variety of topics, training for parents, school staff, and the community, classroom lessons, and sharing their knowledge of community resources to help students and families. J.B. Stephens would like to thank Mrs. Christy Harpold for her dedicated service to the students, families, and staff of our school. If Mrs. Harpold has helped you or your child this year, please take time to send her a note of thanks.

March is Disability Awareness Month at J.B.S. This year's theme is "Dream to Dare." Each grade level will be learning about a different disability and learning about how to support those with disabilities. We are learning about the Power of Words when it comes to ways to describe a person with a disability.

Some tips to use when writing or speaking about people with disabilities:

1. Always use people-first language. Refer to the person first and not his or her disability. Do not say "a disabled person." Instead, refer to "a person with a disability."
2. Never group individuals together as "the mentally retarded," which puts the focus on the disability and not the individual.
3. Avoid emotional and sensationalist words. People with disabilities are not to be pitied or to be thought of as courageous or inspirational. Their disability does not define their personality.
4. Be sensitive in choosing words. Do not judge. Treat everyone as a person deserving respect and dignity.



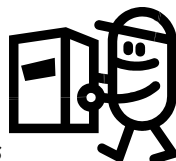
Volunteers are needed to help with Kindergarten Round-UP April 15 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. If you are interested, please contact me.



Math Minute
by Mrs. Cooney, Math Coach

Help your child know they need perseverance to problem solve. One of my favorite quotes is from Albert Einstein: "It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer."

Look for books with a focus on math. Sir Cumference and the First Round Table by Cindy Neuschwander is a clever look at geometry. Cute names - the son's name is Radius - and clear diagrams will teach your youngster about shapes and geometric relationships.



Collections at School

*General Mills Box Tops
*Target Points
*Pop-tabs
*Marsh Points (Code #28577)

*Tyson Labels
*Campbell's Labels
*Paper in the Arbitibi Recycling Bin

Library News



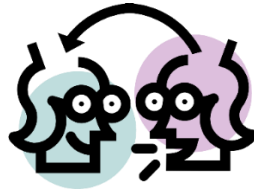
by Mrs. Jaeck, Library Assistant

We had our second book fair of the school year during the week of Feb. 10-14. We made \$3910.57 and used some of that money to buy several new, exciting and fun books to add to our school library. I would like to thank all the families that came out to the book fair on Family Night and to the 4 lucky winners: Katlyn Garner, Brayden Trusley, Liam Taylor and Carmyn Smith.

I would also like to give a BIG thank you to Marj Jack, Marna Guenin and Danielle Dillon who volunteered their time and helped during the book fair week.

Be on the lookout for those new and exciting books on the shelves in the library! Thanks again for all your generosity.....happy reading!!

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

This month we are practicing “empathy.” Before a child can practice empathy, s/he needs to understand his/her own emotions. Four feelings children can define are sad, mad, glad and scared. We want to teach children that no matter their emotion, they are safe in feeling it.

Empathy is understanding what another person feels. Empathy gives insight into another person’s thoughts and actions. When an adult empathizes with a child, it makes the child realize the adult cares about their ideas and feelings. When adults show empathy, they teach children to recognize and accept their own emotions. In turn, children will begin to show empathy to others. Empathy is a skill we want our children to be able to do.

Between 6-9 years old, children are able to appreciate situations from another's perspective and to show empathy. If you wish to know more about techniques to show empathy, contact Mrs. Short or Mrs. Harpold. If you are a Facebook user, I encourage you to "like" *Conscious Discipline*.

Want to borrow a copy of the *Conscious Discipline* book? Please ask!!!

P.T.O. News



by The Officers

We know you are tired of fundraisers, but we decided to offer high quality chocolate bunnies as a service to any parents who wanted a spring treat for their children. Orders will be taken until March 14.

We will not have a March meeting, but need good attendance at our April 22nd meeting, so we can select our fundraisers for next year. Please note the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

READING TIP



by Mrs. Dudley, Literacy Coach

Parents can now view their child's completed tests on Pearson Success Net via the parent link. By using their child's log in information on www.pearsonsuccessnet.com they can log in and click on the parent link in the upper right hand corner of the screen. From there, they can click on "test progress" and will be able to see all of the assessments that the child has taken, back to the beginning of year. The parent can then click on "view results" next to the test they wish to look at, and they will see all of the questions that were on that test, along with a green dot or red X. The parents can now click on any of the questions that were completed by the student and view the question.

Market Day News!



by Mrs. Atkinson, Chairperson

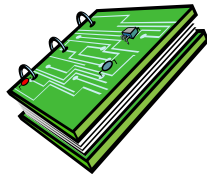
Classroom Contest: The classroom that has the most Pie orders for the month of March will be allowed to wear their PJ's to school.

Grandparents' Week



We have set aside April 21-25 as a time to invite children's grandparents to visit them at school. This is the same week as our Young Author's celebration. Students will be able to share their books with their visitors. If your child's grandparents are unable to attend, your child will be paired with another child to share books. More specific information will be sent before spring break.

Focus on the JB's 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.

SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

Class time will not be set aside for birthday parties. However, you may bring in a "take home" treat for your child to share with classmates. These treats need to come to school packaged in such a way as to be easily handed out. These need to be at school before the end of the day, so they can be distributed just before dismissal. Invitations for parties may not be distributed at school.

TEACHER REQUESTS/CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Upon the recommendations of the current classroom teachers, student assignments are made each spring. Parents certainly have an interest in their child's education and sharing in the classroom assignment is welcomed. In early spring, **(by May 1st)**, parents who wish to have a particular assignment must write a letter to the office of the principal requesting at least two choices and stating the reason for their special request. Although requests will be considered, it may not be possible to fulfill them and properly balance classrooms.

Following the creation of a student roster, no students who have been assigned to a teacher will be changed to another class unless enrollment dictates the need to do so.

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.

We will be learning about the character trait of Dependability in March. Dependability means “doing what I promised.” The five statements that describe dependability are:

“I will keep my word”--- Doing what I say I will do is important. It helps others be able to trust me. I feel good about myself when I do what I say I will do.

“I will be careful what I promise”--- Only promise something if you are sure you can do what you say you will do. If you are unsure of your ability to meet a promise, you can always say “I can’t promise anything, but I will try.” It is better to be honest up front than to over-commit and cause problems later on.

“I will correct my mistakes”--- We all make mistakes sometimes. Dependable people admit when they have made a mistake and don’t let pride get in the way of making things right.

“I will pull my share of the load”--- Students must do their share of work in their family or classroom. When one person doesn’t do their part, it makes it difficult for everyone else to do their part.

“I will not have a bad attitude”--- Sometimes we spend extra hours to finish our work or miss out on fun because of a promise we made, dependability remembers we made this promise on our own. Having a good attitude makes everything go much better.

To reinforce Dependability, some things to praise children for include: turning in homework on time, following through on something they said they would do, doing things without being asked, admitting to mistakes, doing their chores, paying attention to what is said, cleaning up their own messes, putting books/toys away, remaining calm when a mistake is made, having a good attitude in spite of situations that are not going their way. Life skills such as these are always good to have.

Physical Education Update



by Mr. Wood, Physical Educator

Thank you for donating to the American Heart Association this year during our Jump Rope for Heart event. I will have the totals for these donations published in the April edition of the J.B.S. Press.!

Our students have been working hard through all of the cancellations and two-hour delays. They have put great effort into their third quarter half and quarter mile runs, jumping activities for Jump Rope for Heart, Minds in Motion, and numerous other activities. I am very proud to have such a large number of students that put forth such great effort!

Check out the P.E. award winners from Semester One:

Fastest Classes

K– Mrs. Sexton
1st– Mrs. Bladen
2nd– Mrs. Parker
3rd– Ms. Batton

Most Improved Classes

K– Mrs. Ahonen
1st– Mr. Vogel

Most Improved Individuals

2nd– Kaden Newkirk
3rd– Ashlyn Needy

J. B. Speedsters

Dalton Evanoff– 1/2 mile run in 3:34
Eliza Jensen– 1/2 mile run in 4:02



Mark Your Calendars



March 3-14	P.T.O. Bunny Sale!	
March 7	P.T.O. Movie Night/Free Admission/Snacks for Sale	6:30-8:00 p.m.
March 10-14	Third Grade ISTEP and IREAD-3 testing	
March 14	PTO Flower Bulb Fundraiser ENDS (online orders until 3/24)	
March 15	Market Day Pick-up – Café	10:30-11:30 a.m.
March 24-28	Spring Break	
April 2	Bunny Delivery	
April 11	Report Cards Available ONLINE	1:00 p.m.
April 15	2014-15 Kindergarten Round UP	5:00-7:00 p.m.
April 21-25	Young Authors' Week/Grandparents' Visits	
April 22	P.T.O. Meeting/Fundraiser Presentations	6:30-8:00 p.m.
April 23	Administrative Professional's Day/Celebrate Mrs. Kellams	
April 25	School Carnival	6:00-8:00 p.m.
April 28-May 7	ISTEP+ Multiple Choice Testing/Grade 3	
May 5-9	Teacher Appreciation Week	
May 7	School Nurse Appreciation Day	



SCHOOL MAKE-UP DAYS

Monday, March 17	Related Arts Day/Friday
Tuesday, March 18	Related Arts Day/Tuesday
Wednesday, March 19	Related Arts Day/Tuesday
Thursday, March 20	Related Arts Day/Wednesday

Any future snow days will be made up on March 21. Spring Break is March 24-28.

GC SCHOOL MAKE UP DAYS

On February 26, 2014, the Greenfield Central School Board approved the following guidelines for weather make up days during the 2013-14 school year only:

- **GC will have school on March 17, 18, 19 and 20** as scheduled during the first week of Spring Break for earlier school cancellations this year.
- If necessary, GC will use **Friday, March 21, 2014**, as a make-up day.
- Any additional GC make up days **will add one hour (sixty minutes)** to the end of the regular school day, beginning on March 31, 2014, or on the first Monday following any cancelled school day, at the **rate of six hours for each cancelled school day**.
- In the event of a two-hour delay, that day will not be used toward the make-up schedule because it would not meet the 60 minute replacement.

2014-15 Kindergarten Round UP

April 15	Weston and J.B. Stephens	5:00-7:00 p.m. (Open House format)
April 17	Eden and Harris	5:00-7:00 p.m. (Open House format)