

J.B.S. Press



December, 2012

a “Short” report

by Dr. Hilton, Guest Principal

It has been a great privilege to serve as the Guest Principal at J.B. Stephens Elementary while Mrs. Short is on a once in a lifetime trip overseas. The students, staff, and parents have graciously worked with me as I support the learning process at J.B. Stephens. Yesterday, I enjoyed my first school-wide “family meeting”. This is a wonderful program, which celebrates the students and staff at J.B. Stephens Elementary, and brings a sense of belonging and togetherness to our largest primary school in the Greenfield-Central CSC. The J.B. Stephens staff is comprised of caring, hard-working, and student-centered professionals. They work as a team and I greatly appreciate that I have had the opportunity to experience this first hand. Currently, Mrs. Short is in the beautiful state of Hawaii. We look forward to Mrs. Short’s return to J.B.S. on Monday, December 10, 2012.

This “Short” report has a lot of great information including, J.B.S. news, math and literacy home activities, Winter Break camp for students and more. I invite you to read this report with your student and encourage you to take advantage of the home – school connection opportunities provided.

New on-line store for J.B. Stephens clothing:

<http://www.teamimagestore.com/j-b-stephens-elementary-spiritwear-apparel-store/>.

The store runs through Pay Pal. Items may be ordered any time of the year and may be picked up at Team Image or at school.

Volunteers Needed

More volunteers are needed from 7:45-8:15 on a daily basis. Contact Mrs. Short to discuss this opportunity.

Attention 3rd Grade Parents

Third grade students will be giving parents a peek into their music, art and P.E. curriculum on the evening of February 7, 2013. Mark that date on your calendars.

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 this 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 school.

Generosity is the Character Quality for December

It is very appropriate, that during the month of December, we will be focused on the character quality of GENEROSITY. People often give of their time, resources and talents to other people and causes, during the holiday season. The definition of generosity is “being willing to share what I have.” The key to generosity is not expecting anything in return. A generous person gives without hidden motives or purpose.

A generous person is willing to share what he or she has in order to benefit those in need. Generosity applies to much more than money. Time, energy and talents are also valuable resources that should be given and invested in others. Sharing is an essential part of being generous.

In order to more fully understand the character quality of generosity, we must realize that everything that we own has been entrusted to us by others. Someone else has labored or provided everything that we have and we must use our talents, time, energy and resources wisely.

During this holiday season and always, remember to be generous to others and to worthy causes. Share what you have with the less fortunate. We can show our generosity by putting money in the “kettle” of the Salvation Army bell-ringers, contributing to the Food Pantry, Toys for Tots, or donating to the United Christmas Service. Sing carols for shut-ins, make a plate of cookies for a neighbor or make or buy gifts for your loved ones. We should all give generously, without expecting to receive anything in return. We will, however, receive the warm feelings of joy and satisfaction when we are generous to others.

Generosity Opportunity at JBS



December 5th through December 14th, JBS students and staff will collect personal hygiene products which will be distributed to families who are eligible for the Toys for Tots Christmas assistance program. Many of these items are not covered by Food Stamps, however are greatly needed. Hygiene products may include

shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, deodorant, combs, and brushes. It could even be the travel size from hotels.



A special prize will be given to the grade that collects the most hygiene products. If the entire school collects more than 500 items then Mrs. Short and Mrs. Harpold will surprise the students during lunch with some holiday fun.



IPHONE/IPAD Users/Reading Apps by Technology Department

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

- ✿ All Sight Words – the talking flashcards for all Dolch Words
- ✿ Word Magic
- ✿ ABC Pocket Phonics
- ✿ Beginning Sound Interactive Game (Sound Sorting)
- ✿ Phonics Tic Tac Toe
- ✿ Sight Words 1-100 Kids Learn
- ✿ Sight Words 101-200 Kids Learn
- ✿ Kindergarten Pencil-Pal
- ✿ Letter of the Day
- ✿ Kindergarten.com “Which go together?”
- ✿ Sound Sorting Beginning Sounds
- ✿ Tic Tac Toe Phonics
- ✿ Sight Words-App has picture of an apple
- ✿ Reading-App has a picture of a pocket with a bug
- ✿ Read me Stories
- ✿ ABC Writing

2nd & 3rd Grade

- ✿ Word Mover
- ✿ Sight Words 201-300: Kids Learn
- ✿ Grammar Wonderland
- ✿ I Can Write 2
- ✿ Bluster
- ✿ V.Reader – “What’s That Noise?” – Comprehension

Good for any grade level

- ✿ One More Story (requires subscription. Can be used on computer and iPad/iPhone)
- ✿ WordPop! Volt Free
- ✿ Sight Word Bingo
- ✿ Pop Words

P.T.O. News



by Officers

Thanks to everyone for participating in our fall fundraiser. Pickup will be Dec. 14 from 4:30-6:30 in the cafeteria. Remember those funds pay for field trips, books, activities, and technology for our children!

Thanks for such a good turnout at our "Spooky Buddies" movie night. Hope to see you for "The Polar Express" on December 14th.

SHH! At our December 18th meeting, we will be making treat bags for our wonderful J.B.S. teachers.

Collections at School

Box Tops

Marsh Points

Target Points

Tyson Labels

Pop-tabs

Campbell's labels

Attendance News



by Mrs. Hammons and 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 a pie thrown in Mrs. Short's face if the entire school shows a 97% attendance rate for the month.

In November, Mrs. Smith's class won the bronze medal (special seating at lunch); Mrs. Kuntz's class the silver medal (popcorn), and Mrs. Crafton's class won the gold (extra recess).

Here are the results of the November attendance contest for the school:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Monthly Attendance Percentage</u>
Mrs. Ahonen	96.88
Miss Batton	96.70
Mrs. Bladen	94.19

Mrs. Carson	96.77	
Mrs. Crafton	98.52	GOLD
Mrs. Hammons	94.11	
Mrs. Jacquemin	97.75	
Mrs. Johnson	97.00	
Mrs. Kuntz	98.02	SILVER
Mrs. Leininger	96.69	
Mrs. Martinez	97.50	
Mrs. Matthias	97.60	
Mrs. Olin	95.91	
Mrs. Parker	96.60	
Mrs. Rizzotte	95.73	
Mrs. Sexton	95.80	
Mrs. Smith	97.96	BRONZE
Mrs. Steeno	96.20	
Ms. Stout	94.58	
Mrs. Trapp	96.36	
Mr. Vogel	93.51	

GOLD = Extra Recess
 SILVER = Popcorn
 BRONZE = Special Seating at Lunch

School wide 96.4%



Attendance Note: Please call the school's main line, **317-462-4491**, to report your student's absence. Our classroom teachers are extremely busy teaching and are not always able to forward your messages to the office at the beginning of the school day. We will greatly appreciate your diligence with this timely notification.

Math Morsel

Fraction Games



Does your child realize that fractions are everywhere? Next time you see a sale price ($\frac{1}{3}$ off), tell time (quarter after 9), follow a recipe ($\frac{1}{2}$ cup), or read a road sign ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile ahead), tell her, "There's another fraction!" Playing card games is a great way to help your youngster practice comparing and adding fractions. Have her make fraction cards (see directions below), and then use them to play these games together.

Make fraction Cards

Making a set of fraction cards will help your youngster understand how fractions represent parts of a whole.

Gather index cards, a pencil, and crayons. On each card, have your child write a fraction and draw a circle to represent it. He could make cards for $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, and so on through 5ths, 6ths, 8ths, 10ths, and 12ths.

To draw fractions, have him trace around a round object (a jar lid, a large button) so the circles are the same size. Then, he can divide each circle into an equal number of slices based on the bottom number (the denominator) and color the number of slices in the top number (the numerator). Example Write $\frac{3}{6}$, divide the circle into 6 slices, and color 3 slices.



Fraction War. Shuffle and deal the cards into a stack for each person. Players turn over their top cards at the same time, and whoever has the highest card takes the cards in that round. If there is a tie, each person turns over another card. Keep playing until one person has captured all of the cards.

Fraction Race. Deal each player five cards. On the count of three, each person races to put her fractions in order from smallest to largest. Have your child check the results by comparing the fraction pictures on her cards.

Fraction One. The object of this game is to get as close to 1 as possible without going over. Deal everyone a card. On each turn, a player must decide if she's going to draw another card – depending on whether adding another fraction is likely to put her over 1. When all players are happy with their hands, they turn over their cards. The person who comes closest to 1 (or equals 1) wins that round.

Mark Your Calendars



December 8	Market Day Pick-up – Café	10:30-11:30 a.m.
December 10	Yearbook Picture Day/Candid Pictures	
December 14	P.T.O. Fundraiser Delivery - Cafe	4:30-6:30 p.m.
December 14	P.T.O. Family Movie Night/FREE	7:00-8:30 p.m.
December 18	P.T.O. Meeting	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
	Program: Making Treat Bags	
	Child Care Provided	
December 21	FULL DAY OF SCHOOL	
Dec. 24-Jan. 7	NO SCHOOL/Winter Break	
January 8	FULL DAY OF SCHOOL	

Have a Language Rich Home *Newspaper Learning*



With thousands of words in every issue newspapers are a great way to build your youngster's skills. Grab a paper and try these activities.

Matching Game

Have your child cutout several photographs and their captions separately. Mix them up. Matching the captions and the photos will improve her reading comprehension.

Scavenger Hunt

List items in the newspaper (car ad, crossword puzzle, weather forecast), and ask your youngster to find and circle each one. She'll build research skills as she looks through the pages.

ABC Order

Together, find the names of 5-10 countries, states, and cities in headlines or stories. Let your child copy each one onto an index card and arrange the cards in alphabetical order. This will help her practice spelling and learn about geography.



YMCA Winter Break Camp

SCHOOL IS OUT, BUT WE ARE IN!

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

FOR HEALTHY LIVING

FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FOR RATES OR TO REGISTER

Call us at (317) 577-2070 or visit our website at www.indymca.org/classes-programs for more locations!

- ✓ Activities include arts and crafts, games, cooking, science, guest speakers, and more!
- ✓ Available 6:30am to 6:00pm*
- ✓ Attend ANY location!
- ✓ Don't forget to pack a lunch, two snacks, and tennis shoes.

**Camp will close at 3:00pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and it will be closed all day on Christmas and New Year's Day.*

2012/2013 WINTER BREAK CAMP

Benjamin Harrison YMCA 12/21-1/4

McCordsville Elementary (Mt. Vernon) 12/24-1/4

Weston Elementary (Greenfield) 12/24-1/7

New Palestine High School (Southern Hancock) 12/24-1/4

