

J.B.S. Press



March, 2013

a **“Short”** report
by Mrs. Short, Principal

The first week of March has been designated in the State of 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.

Teacher requests for the next school year are accepted according to the policy in our school handbook, page 18.

We need volunteers to help with Kindergarten Round-UP April 9 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. If you are interested, please contact me.

March is Disability Awareness Month at J.B.S. This year's theme is "Community Connections." Each grade level will be learning about a different disability this month 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.



Nursing Notes



by Mrs. Atkinson, Health Assistant

Indiana University School of Dentistry's mobile dental sealant program is coming this spring to provide dental examinations, personal oral hygiene instruction, sealants and fluoride varnish treatments to any student who does not have regular dental care. Look for information and an enrollment form to come home after spring break.

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.

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.

Grandparents' Week



We have set aside April 22-26 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.

P.T.O. News



by Officers

PLEASE come to our next meeting. It is on a Thursday this month. We need you!

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.

From the January figures, Mrs. Matthias's class won bronze (special seating at lunch); Ms. Stout's class silver (popcorn), and Miss Batton's class won the gold (extra recess).

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

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Monthly Attendance Percentage</u>
Mrs. Ahonen	93.61
Miss Batton	97.01 SILVER (Popcorn Party)
Mrs. Bladen	93.92

Mrs. Carson	92.68
Mrs. Crafton	98.89 GOLD (Recess)
Mrs. Hammons	93.86
Mrs. Jacquemin/Ms. Riggle	95.34
Mrs. Johnson	89.45
Mrs. Kuntz	95.13
Mrs. Leininger	93.26
Mrs. Martinez	95.18
Mrs. Matthias	94
Mrs. Olin	92.70
Mrs. Parker	94
Mrs. Rizzotte	94.41
Mrs. Sexton	92.11
Mrs. Smith	96.78 BRONZE (Special Seating at Lunch)
Mrs. Steeno	96.05
Ms. Stout	95.77
Mrs. Trapp	89.83
Mr. Vogel	91.40
School wide	94 (GOAL 97%)

Mark Your Calendars



March 4-5	ISTEP+ Applied Skills Testing/Grade 3	
March 6-13	ISTEP+ Applied Skills Make-Up Testing/Grade 3	
March 12-14	IREAD-3 Testing/Grade 3	
March 13	Spring Picture Day	
	Pilot Party	2:00-3:00 p.m.
March 14	P.T.O. Meeting	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
	Child Care Provided	
March 16	Market Day Pick-up – Café	10:30-11:30 a.m.
March 18	Snow Make-Up Day/FULL DAY OF SCHOOL	
March 19	Ice Make-Up Day/ FULL DAY OF SCHOOL	
March 25-29	Spring Break	
April 5	Report Cards Available ONLINE	1:00 p.m.
April 8-12	Book Fair BOGO	
April 9	2013-14 Kindergarten Round UP	5:00-7:00 p.m.
April 12	School Carnival	6:00-8:30 p.m.
April 22-26	Young Authors' Week/Grandparents' Visits	
April 24	Administrative Professional's Day/Celebrate Mrs. Kellams	
April 29-May 8	ISTEP+ Multiple Choice Testing/Grade 3	
May 6-10	Teacher Appreciation Week	
May 8	School Nurse Appreciation Day	