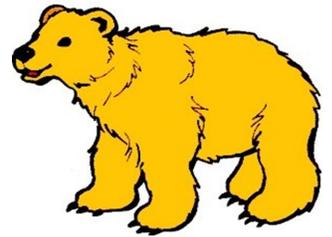


The Bearzette



Johnston Elementary School
Engaging...Empowering...Enriching

Fall
2017

Message from the Principal

Hello JES Family and Friends!

Hope you and your family are off to a great school year! We are excited and filled with much anticipation about this year and are looking forward to wonderful things!

One of our big initiatives is beginning the process of implementing the 7Habits of Highly Effective People into our school. This comes from a book called *The Leader in Me* by Dr. Stephen Covey, and it outlines 7 habits that we can teach our children to help them improve themselves as well as improve ways to work with one another. There is a book entitled *7 Habits of Happy Kids* that explains the habits in kid-friendly terms. Some of our teachers have shared this book with their classes and the kids have loved it! We are implementing these habits through direct instruction, an integrated curriculum approach, and through modeling. The students have responded very well to this and are really beginning to understand the different habits and how they can use them in their daily lives to become leaders here at JES and at home.

I strongly encourage you to learn more about these habits and ask your children about them. I am sure they will be able to tell you what they mean and how they are applying them to their lives!

A few reminders:

Students eating breakfast must be here by 7:25 in order to be in the café, eat, and be back at their home-room in a timely manner.

If you are in need of speaking or meeting with your child's teacher, please know that we will ask you to make an appointment with them. We are not allowing parents to walk to their child's teacher's classroom for any reason unless an appointment has been made.

Please watch your child's tardies and absences. We have new district and state tardy and absence policies we are following. All tardies and absences are reported to the district Truancy Department, and they may be contacting parents about these concerns if they become chronic.

AP Notes - Mr. Butler

Dear JES Families,

I am honored to have the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Kevin Butler and I have the awesome privilege of being your assistant principal at Johnston Elementary School. Having had the opportunity to work at JET Middle School, Merriweather Middle School, Strom Thurmond High School and now JES, I must admit that Mrs. Martin and faculty/staff have created a special place for our children to grow and receive a quality education.

I am very confident that the JES staff will continue to meet the intellectual, physical, and emotional needs of our children. Collaboration between families, JES and our students will ensure we have a successful school year. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to call our main office.

Let's have a great 2017-2018 school year!

Nurse's Nook

Research shows that students who skip breakfast have shorter attention spans and don't do as well on tests. Make sure your child gets up in time to have a nutritious breakfast either at home or at school. JES café serves breakfast from 7am - 7:25am. If running late to school, make sure your child gets fed at home.

Ms. Dixie, Nurse

"Art" We Having Fun

Students are "fall"ing in love with art as we begin a new season of art work. We will be learning about organic shapes in nature that coincide with the season. Our Johnston Elementary School Super Leaders will be geared up for Halloween as we learn about what it takes to be a super hero and how to create Super Hero Pop Art.

Ms. Amick

Guidance

September was Bullying Awareness and Prevention Month!

In October, we will focus on Drug Awareness in celebration of Red Ribbon Week (10/23-10/26) with fun school wide activities as well.

Ms. Freeman

Campbell's Scoop

Reading is all around us! It's football season, so help your little sports fan read the sports page of the newspaper or ESPN on line. Let your best chef make a grocery list for ingredients for pecan pie, then help you follow the recipe. Show your shoppers how to compare the sales papers to find the best deal on an item they wish to purchase. Reading is all around us...what did YOU read today?

Mrs. Campbell

The Computer Lab is back on its regular schedule. Mrs. Dorn is looking forward serving every student at Johnston Elementary. MAP tests are all completed, Peach Academy is in its third rotation, and most students are out of IP in Success Maker. Kindergarten has started working on Reading Eggs and Math Seeds. Child Development classes will begin working on the computers September 27th. They will start on Reading Eggs by mid October.

It is very important for our students to become accustomed to using a computer/mouse since state testing is now done on-line. If you have a desktop at home, please encourage you child to use it when playing educational games on web-sites such as

www.funbrain.com or
www.abcya.com

Keep the Beat

This Fall exciting things are happening in the Music Department at JES! Our fifth grade students have started Piano Academy and will present a min-concert to parents in October. 4th and 3rd graders will follow shortly after with sign-ups to learn how to play piano! Our Chorus and Recorder Ensemble have started rehearsing for our Christmas Program! Watch for us in the community as we perform in the Johnston Christmas Tree Lighting and the Edgefield County Christmas Parade. You will be sure to be delighted with the wonderful talents on display of singing, acting and recorder playing.

Mrs. Rucker-Naidu

Bear Den Cafe

The JES lunch Bunch so enjoyed our Grandoarents !!!! Grits for Grands was A great success. We welcome parents and Grandparents any time . We love sharing their children.

Mrs. Sandy Mims

Lit Bit - Mrs. Kaltz

Without doubt, reading with children spells success for early literacy. Putting a few simple strategies into action will make a significant difference in helping children develop into good readers and writers.

Through reading aloud, providing print materials, and promoting positive attitudes about reading and writing, you can have a powerful impact on your child's literacy and learning.

Here are a few quick tips to foster a love of reading:

- Invite your child to read with you every day.
- When reading a book where the print is large, point word by word as you read. This will help the child learn that reading goes from left to right and understand that the word he or she says is the word he or she sees.
- Read your child's favorite book over and over again.
- Read many stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite the child to join in on these parts. Point, word by word, as he or she reads along with you.
- Discuss new words. For example, "This big house is called a palace. Who do you think lives in a palace?"
- Stop and ask about the pictures and about what is happening in the story.
- Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, song books, poems, and information books.

Try these tips as we all know that reading well is at the heart of all learning.

News from the Library! - Ms. Holmes

This year the Library is attempting to raise the awareness of how important it is to take care of books. Most every-day a book is returned that has been scribbled in, damaged by food/drink, smudged with fingerprints, etc. Please help us by encouraging your child to take good care of ALL books!

We are having our Fall Book Fair right now! Profit from the fair will purchase additional resources for the library.

On October 20, K – 2 students will be treated to a special visit from the Gamecocks. Each student will receive a book to take home. Then on November 8th, we will host a "Cocky's Reading Night" and once again students attending will receive a book to take home. We will send home more information about this later...

Many of you received DISCUS bookmarks at registration in the gym. Don't forget that DISCUS is provided by the State of SC to assist students with high quality online resources. Encyclopedias and other databases are available for homework help and personal research. To access from home, you will need the user/password of discuss17/explore!

Fall Dates to Remember:

Oct. 19 - Fall Family Night

Oct. 23 - 27 - Red Ribbon Week

Oct. 26 - Parent/Teacher Conferences until 7pm

Oct. 27 - Parent/Teacher Conferences until 12pm

Oct. 30 - 31 - Fall Break

Nov. 1 - Picture MakeUp Day

Nov. 8 - Veteran's Day Program

Nov. 8 - Cocky's Reading Express Family Night 6-7:30 pm

Nov. 12-17 - American Education Week

Nov. 22- 24 - Thanksgiving Holidays

Dec. 4 - 8 - Jingle Shop

Dec. 14 - Christmas Program 6pm

Dec. 15 - 1/2 Day - PJ Day