



The Egret Express

James B. Edwards Elementary school's weekly Email newsletter

Dates to Remember

January 22: Awards Assembly for 4th and 5th Graders: 8:00am

January 27: Early Release Day

February 18, 19, 22 and 23: Scholastic Book Fair

February 23: Family Reading Night

A Note from Mrs. DiCenzo

Dear Parents,

I wanted to let you know now that I have accepted the position as Director of Education (Principal) for the new Pattison's Academy for Comprehensive Education Charter School that will be opening next school year. I will be leaving at the end of this school year. I am very appreciative of the support you have given me as the Assistant Principal here at JBE. It has been a pleasure watching your children grow and interacting with them. I will miss them very much. JBE is a wonderful school with caring staff and great community support. I will treasure the time I spent here.

Sincerely,

Anne DiCenzo, Assistant Principal

Upcoming JBE Events

Tuesday, February 23: Family Reading Night. We will begin serving pizza at 5:00 pm, followed by a brief PTA meeting at 5:45. Reading Night activities will be immediately after. The Scholastic Book Fair will be taking place in the Media Center. Cookie Dough will be available for sale that evening. Tubs are \$12 and pre-portioned packages are \$14.

Music Night: March 23. Come celebrate Music In our Schools Month at PTA. The second graders will perform a musical called, "Seussical for Kids"; the 5th grade strings students will amaze you with their accomplishments on violins, violas, and cellos, and three of our 5th grade students will sing a few songs they are learning for the state choir of elementary singers. It should be 'music to your ears'!

Science Fair: The committee has been formed and a date will be announced soon.

Staff Appreciation: April 21, 22 and 23. More information to follow.

Art Show and Sale: May 5th, 4:30-8:00 pm. Volunteers are needed during the day of this event to help set up. Please contact Tammy Savage at tamarasavage@gmail.com if you are willing to help.

May Day: May 21 with a rain date of May 28. The theme this year is "Liberty and Justice for All"

Grocery Cards

Just a reminder if you are not already using grocery cards to help JBE. Publix, Harris Teeter and Bi-Lo all offer quarterly kick backs to the school for every dollar spent. (While Piggly Wiggly does not offer the school a kickback, it does support JBE as a business partner.) Pick up a card at the customer service desk or in the front office and have it swiped at the register each time you shop. You can use more than one card if you have students attending other schools such as Moultrie or Wando.

For Harris Teeter shoppers, you MUST go to the customer service desk at the beginning of each calendar year (ie: NOW) to designate your school. Even if you have been using the card previously, you have to designate your school at the start of each year.

A Note From Mr. Simpson-Third Grade Teacher

I would like to organize a book drive to help our classroom teachers build or improve their classroom library. If you are a parent who has books your children are not reading anymore, please let me find a good home for them. Let me know when you plan to bring them to the school so I can make sure they don't stay in the front office for very long. However, we cannot have books in our classroom that are out of date or in bad condition. Please be selective in your donations. If you know of others with older children who may have outgrown their books, please let them know as well. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andrew Simpson

Jump Rope for Heart

Jump Rope for Heart is a rope- jumping special event program. It promotes community service by raising funds to support lifesaving heart and stroke research and educational programs while teaching physical fitness. By participating in JumpRope for Heart, your child will join millions of other children across the country in a meaningful opportunity to learn and help others. Help your child get involved by going to www.americanheart.org/jump and getting started. Your child can set up a web page and you can email friends/family to make secure donations online. Checks can also be made out to the American Heart Association. The event will be held during PE class the week of February

8th-12th.

100 by 100

Attention all 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Our 100th day of school is fast approaching. January 29 at 3pm is the deadline to reach 100 AR (Accelerated Reader) points. All those students achieving this goal will be invited to a special party in the Media Center with Mrs. Pedersen (date to be determined). Grab your books and get reading

JBE School Book Drive-"Gifts for Ghana" and "Board Books for Babies"

JBE is teaming up with the South Carolina International Reading Association (SCIRA) to help promote literacy worldwide. Our school will be accepting donations of gently used and new books for school libraries in Ghana. This is an excellent opportunity to have your child study Ghana as a country and help the children have books to learn about new things and to take many journeys through the words of authors. The SCIRA is also collecting gently used or new board books for babies. These board books will be distributed among local health centers for new mothers. The Book Drive will run from December through February and donations may be sent to school with your child or dropped off in the front office. Let's all try to donate a book and share the gift of reading with children near and far.

Around Town

January 22, 23 and 24: SPROUTS Children's Theater at Creative Spark, "Hansel and Gretel" For more information visit www.creativespark.org/calendar or call 881-3780 to purchase tickets.

January 22, 23 and 24: Charleston Boat Show at the North Charleston Convention Center. For more information visit www.charlestonboatshow.com

January 29 and 30: Motown Mania: Charleston Black Box Theater. For more information, visit www.charlestonballet.com

January 31: Lowcountry Oyster Festival. Boone Hall Plantation 10:30-5:00pm.

For more information visit

www.charlestonrestaurantassociation.com/oyster_festival.php.

South Carolina - Did you know?

Batesburg-Leesville is home to the annual South Carolina Poultry Festival held in early May.

The Board of Public Works in Gaffney built an elevated water storage tank in the shape of peach in 1981.

Every few years Irmo has a sighting of some kind of water monster that inhabits Lake Murray. The monster first "surfaced" in 1973 when residents of Irmo and Ballentine saw a cousin of the Loch Ness Monster. It was described in the Independent News in 1980 as "a cross between a snake and something prehistoric."

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