



ES  
C  
S  
E  
S

Jackson Davis  
Elementary School  
8801 Nesselwood Drive  
Richmond, VA 23229  
Phone: 527-4620  
Fax: 527-4658  
[www.henrico.k12.va.us/  
ES/Davis](http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/ES/Davis)

Newsletter Editor  
Stacy Foster  
967-0512  
[tom313stacy@verizon.net](mailto:tom313stacy@verizon.net)

# Jackson Davis Elementary School

April 2010

## From the PTA President

Dear JDES Families,

The last 9 weeks! It is always a shock to get to this point in the year. I wanted to be sure and thank the Nominating Committee of Sutessa Ukrop, Ruth Wicks and Joanna Dore. They did a wonderful job recruiting an awesome board for next year. Congratulations! Please check with one of them if you would like to help ... there is still time. I want to welcome new members of the board and thank those board members who are continuing their service to Jackson Davis PTA. We appreciate your help.

I also want to thank everyone for supporting the **Dolphin Nights Out**. They have been well-attended and a definite bonus to our PTA budget. Please keep a look out for future events!

The **Spring Carnival** will be May 7<sup>th</sup>. Karen Hargrove and Angela Cordero are in full planning mode with their committee. It looks to be a very, very fun event! Hope you can make it. The Silent Auction is the same night, so please help in any way you can. We are winding down the school year but there are plenty of fun things down the road.

Coming soon, we will have order blanks for pre-ordering school supplies for next year. This is strictly voluntary, you are under no obligation to order. Thanks for your support.

Susan Markel, PTA President  
[president@jacksondavispta.org](mailto:president@jacksondavispta.org)

If you would like to be included in the PTA parent notification system email please send a request to [jacksondavispta@gmail.com](mailto:jacksondavispta@gmail.com) and you will be added to the address book. Thank you!

## PTA Spring Carnival

The PTA will host the annual "Spring Carnival" on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>; 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets and wristbands will be available "pre-sale", and at the carnival. Please join us for a fun time for all ages! There will be inflatable moon bounces, carnival games, craft vendors, food, and so much more!

The **Silent Auction** will be held in conjunction with the Carnival on May 7<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria. Details to come for both events!

## End of Year Testing Schedule

### Kindergarten and First Grade:

May 27: Math  
 June 3: History  
 June 8: Science  
 Reading assessment will be the Spring PALS

### Second Grade:

May 27: Math  
 June 1: Reading Part 1  
 June 2: Reading Part 2  
 June 3: History  
 June 8: Science

### Third Grade:

May 27: Math  
 June 7: Reading \*online  
 June 8: Science \*online  
 June 9: History \*online

### Fourth Grade:

May 27: Math  
 June 2: Reading \*online  
 June 3: History \*online  
 June 8: Science

### Fifth Grade:

May 26 Reading \*online  
 May 27 Math \*online  
 May 28 Science \*online  
 June 1: History \*online

*\*Make up testing will be conducted as time allows with priority given to SOL tests in Reading and Math.*

Chris Stallings, Resource Teacher  
 Jackson Davis Elementary  
 NBCT Exceptional Needs Specialist

## PTA Art Night

Thank you to Mr. Wagner for another wonderful Art Night on Thursday, March 25th! Thank you to the tremendous support from the parents and staff who volunteered to help! Thank you to the Freeman Key Club Volunteers - what a great group of students! Thank you to everyone who came out to support Art Night - it was a huge success!  
 Susanne Borrelli, PTA Art Night Chairman

## Dolphin Night Out

Every Monday order from  
**Pizza Express**  
*(carry out or delivery)*  
 Just mention JDES  
 when you order.

Check to PTA website for  
 updates on our  
 Dolphin Night Out locations

## News From The Spring Book Fair

Thanks to all of our amazing volunteers who so generously donated their time to help make the PTA Scholastic Spring Book Fair such a great success! We were able to meet our sales goals this Spring which will help to benefit the library and the school as a whole. We certainly could not do it without all of you. We are so grateful to those who volunteered to assist the children with their purchases and their wish lists and to those who helped set up and pack up the bookfair. We are lucky to have such dedicated parents in the Jackson Davis family. As always, a special thank you to our awesome librarians, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Ripley for their continued work and support!

Celia King & Mary Smith

## Classroom News

### Kindergarten

The Kindergarten classes have been very busy in March. We started the month with a discussion of "lion and lamb" weather as well as changing seasons. A highlight for many children was a visit from a leprechaun who left behind gold coins and a big mess in our classrooms.

In math, the children learned to tell time to the hour using both analog and digital clocks. We also learned to identify pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters and learned to count money up to 10 cents.

We have introduced most of the letters and letter sounds in Language Arts and we are now concentrating on word families and vowels in the medial positions. Many of the children have mastered their high frequency words and some are beginning to read.

As the month closed out, we turned our focus to Spring and the changes that it brings. Spring fever is definitely in the air and the children are looking forward to a relaxing break. Have a wonderful Spring Break! The Kindergarten Teachers

### 1st Grade

Last month students worked hard to learn all about locating places on maps, identifying cardinal directions and understanding map legends. As a culminating activity, the students were excited to create their own community map. Students also participated in making decorative kites to celebrate and describe spring.

In April we will learn about the water cycle and the three states matter. We will also study various kinds of measurement in math. Happy Spring! The First Grade Teachers

### 5th Grade

Fifth grade students are upon the busiest and most exciting time of their elementary careers. Academically, they have been working hard in all subject areas. In reading we are studying various novels and short stories, learning about authors' purpose and figurative language. In English, the kids made a tremendous effort on both components of the Virginia Writing SOL, showing their development as story composers and editors. In science we are working on matter, atoms, and elements, and in social studies we have made the transition from post-Civil War America to the Civil Rights Movement. This study was complemented by a trip to Tredegar Ironworks and the surrounding area. Fifth graders have also recently participated in an aquatic safety trip to the YMCA. They also continue to learn about resisting drugs, alcohol, and violence with Officer Robertson. The D.A.R.E. officers will be hosting an ice-skating party on April 15, and all of their students are invited to attend. Play practices have begun for this year's musical, *Cruise*

*Vacation*. The students are learning a lot about theater and have been doing an impressive job learning their lines and songs.

Congratulations to all of the fifth graders for their participation in Select Chorus and a successful show earlier this month. We look forward to a strong conclusion to the nine weeks and wish everyone a safe and fun-filled spring break.

**Check the JDES Website for updates on 2nd, 3rd & 4th Grade Updates...**

## Principal's Message

Dear Jackson Davis Families:

As we enter the last 9 weeks of the school year, we look forward to the success that lies ahead.

With the weather warming, it's not too difficult to think of summer vacation. However, we still have plenty of teaching and learning to do before we can relax. I encourage your continued support as your children and their teachers work hard to complete the year's curriculum.

We also look forward to a variety of special events and fun activities that are scheduled, including the PTA Carnival and the 5th Grade Musical, "Cruise Vacation".

Although the end of the school year tends to be busy, I am confident we will remain focused on academics and finish the 2009-2010 school year with great success.

Thank you for your support.

Bryan Almasian  
Principal  
Jackson Davis Elementary School

*If you have any questions, please contact me at 527-4620 or email me at [balmasian@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:balmasian@henrico.k12.va.us)*

---

#### The Mission of the PTA

To support and speak on behalf of the children and youth in the schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children; To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.