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# Jackson Davis Elementary School

May / June 2010

## From the PTA President

Dear JDES Families,

Hello again! Only a few more weeks of school and an end to my time as President of the PTA. By the time you read this the fabulous Spring Carnival would have taken place. Hope everyone had a great time! If it rains and the carnival is the 14<sup>th</sup>—I'm sure it will still be fabulous! Angela and Karen and the entire Carnival committee did a fantastic job. We appreciate it so much.

I wanted to take the time to thank all the volunteers who help make Jackson Davis a great school. I thank everyone on the board for doing their jobs to the best of their ability. I really do appreciate all those people who have helped me as President of your PTA. I had an excellent Executive Board to help me along the way. I especially want to thank Caroline Elliott, who is one of the unsung heroes of the PTA. She has always gone above and beyond the call of duty to work behind the scenes to get things done!

I wish lots of luck to Beth Chancy, Joanna Dore, Ruth Wicks, Michelle McBane, Laura Manning, Jimmy Manning and Sutessa Ukrop in serving as your Executive Board for next year. It is not easy being on the Board, but it is very rewarding.

I wish all of you farewell and good luck if you are moving on to a different school next year. We will be welcoming new families to Jackson Davis but will miss those of you going away. Have a great summer!

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

## 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

## Classroom News

### Kindergarten

The year is flying by before our eyes. Our kindergartners are reading and writing more each day. Their growth is amazing. During April, we have learned about halves and fourths, more and fewer, and joining numbers together and taking items away in preparation for addition and subtraction.

We planted seeds and it has been exciting to see them sprout and grow into plants. This went along with our unit on plants and their life cycles. The lifecycle of the butterfly and how people change and grow are being studied now. To enhance this unit we took a trip to the Metro Richmond Zoo. The weather was beautiful and the children had a wonderful time.

### 1st Grade

The first grade classes enjoyed visiting Maymont Park at the end of April. We saw lots of animals and beautiful flowers! We are continuing to work with money in order to become more proficient with counting and identifying coins. We will be studying measurement next. We finished our units on matter and the water cycle and will be studying plants and conservation in science.

This month the first grade will begin to review all that we have learned this year in preparation for the Henrico Assessments in June. In order to help prepare your child for these tests, please see that he or she gets a good night's sleep, eats a good breakfast each morning, and arrives to school on time each day.

We can't believe the year is almost over. We look forward to seeing each child's success as the year comes to a close.

The First Grade Teachers

### 2nd Grade

The second graders enjoyed spring break and came back ready to work hard for the rest of April. In language arts students enjoyed reading stories like *Hedgehog Bakes a Cake* and *The Pine Park Mystery* from our reading book. With these stories, students worked on reading and following directions and recipes, prefixes and suffixes, and understanding the problem and solution of a story.

In math we worked on learning to count money up to \$2.00, measurement in both customary and metric units, perimeter, and area. In science, students learned all about matter. Students particularly enjoyed the hands-on exploration to understand mass and volume.

We are all looking forward to our learning adventures in May. We will learn all about plants, resources, economics, and probability. The students will also enjoy a few more stories in our reading book, as well as, read lots of passages, novels, and poems to review skills of inference, cause and effect, sequencing, and main idea versus details. Some students will even participate in his/her first book report!

The Second Grade Teachers

### 3rd Grade

Third graders enjoyed their field trip on Friday, April 30 to Tredegar Iron Works and a walking tour presented by Richmond History Walks. Everyone, including our chaperones, learned a great deal about the old mills of Richmond, how to read a grid map, and the importance of the James River. We even got to view the Christopher Newport cross and find many examples of simple machines. Thank you to all our chaperones for their supervision and assistance.

Our Accelerated Reader Program will end at the end of May for points

to count for personal goals. Many students are very close to their third grade goal of 100 points- so let's all keep reading.

Our big review push is here. All students received a letter and calendar for review in science and social studies. It also gave many great websites that are safe for your child to access at home. Three of our four tests will be online so it is important that students spend time reading on a computer screen and knowing how to scroll and mark answers. Students also received a workbook for science and social studies written by experts in Henrico County. These blue and white books need to be in school each day for over review lessons. We are reviewing specific skills in math. Most homework that will come home will contain mixed practice activities.

As always, thanks to everyone for their help and support. Please feel free to contact one of us if you would like a conference before the year is over or need further information regarding our up-coming state SOL tests.

S. Eller, P. Pakinson, K. Tucker, and S. Worfolk

### 4th Grade

It's hard to believe that the year is almost over, but time flies when you are having fun! We've been busy going on adventurous field trips and completing exciting activities. A BIG shout out goes to all chaperones for helping with the VCU Market Day field trip. Your help was and is always appreciated!!!

All of the fourth grade students worked hard with their partners to create a product for the field trip to VCU's Market Day. They had a blast practicing their bargaining skills and coming up with innovative marketing ideas. They also enjoyed shopping and spending the money they made.

The year is winding down and so is the curriculum. We will be spending the next month finishing and reviewing this year's material in order to be prepared for the upcoming SOL's and Henrico Assessments. Parents, you can help your child prepare for their assessments by reviewing their flash cards and reading over their VA Studies blue book and their science review book. Student notes are also a good study tool. Be on the lookout for more information, especially about specific test dates!!!!

The Fourth Grade Team

### 5th Grade News

It's hard to believe that we are quickly approaching the end of the school year. Students have worked very hard and performed a wonderful 5th grade musical. The 5th graders will be heading to Pamplin Park in April and we would like to thank the PTA for their help with the cost of this trip. The 5th graders will also be graduating from the D.A.R.E. program in June. All students have new shirts for this graduation, thanks to the generous donation from the PTA. As we get closer to the end of the year, we will begin to focus our attention to finishing up the 5th grade curriculum and will start our cumulative review. Students should begin to review for their Spring SOL tests.

Thank you,

5th Grade Teachers

#### 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.