

JAMES MADISON

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

From the Desk of Mr. Duggan.....June 2011

CITIZENSHIP

As we move into the month of June, we continue our Character Counts program with the focus on "CITIZENSHIP." Numerous school-wide and classroom activities will take place this month which focus on issues pertaining to "Citizenship." This will also include activities related to PBSIS - Positive Behavior Support in Schools.

MAY RECAP

May, of course, means NJASK month at JMI. In anticipation of the testing, our staff created some fun and exciting ways to review and reduce stress for our students. Thank you, Mrs. Dulina, for continuing with our Study Island competition for the second year in row. This provided a fun and valuable way for students to review important skills before the test. Also, on April 29, the entire staff designed and hosted our second annual school-wide NJASK Olympics. Teachers created review games and students rotated classrooms within their grade level to compete. A great time was had by all as we reviewed important skills and strategies.

On May 18, our Student Council sponsored "Crazy Hair Day." There was no mistaking what day it was, once you took a look at our young scholars with their fabulous hair designs.

May 19TH was our second annual "ART NIGHT." This event was hosted by Mrs. Romeo, and many staff volunteered to assist with the various craft stations. Mrs. Romeo turned the main hallway into an art gallery displaying some of our students' finest works. In the MPR, there were several stations with a variety of crafts and art-related activities which students and parents could experience. A very special THANK YOU, Mrs. Romeo, for a fabulous evening.

At the May 23rd Board of Education meeting, third grade teacher, Mrs. Jill Emmich, was acknowledged as JMI's Teacher of the Year for her exemplary service at JMI. We are extremely fortunate to have Mrs. Emmich as part of our instructional team. Congratulations!!

what a time our pre-schoolers had on May 23 when the Happy Tales petting zoo came to FDR. Our students had a chance to interact with a variety of animals, which included a baby cow, goat, bunnies, and others. Our little learners were very excited to have the chance to see some of the main characters from many of the pre-school stories they read in class. Special thanks to Ms. Hanson and Mrs. Kitchell and our PTO for coordinating the event.

The JMI Spring concert took place on May 24th. This is an extremely well attended event because of the large number of students who participate in the performing arts. Our JMI Band, Choir and Orchestra sounded fantastic. (Of course, I may be biased about how we sounded, for I was playing in the saxophone section for two of the songs) I had a great time playing alongside our very talented musicians. Special thanks to Ms. McCarthy, Ms. Liu, Mr. Peccarelli, and Ms. Ford for a great show and a wonderful evening.

Junior Achievement took place on May 26th. On this very special day, over 50 volunteers from five different companies taught Junior Achievement's activity-based programs, consisting of five lessons to grades 3-5. Our students had a tremendous time and the JA volunteers were very impressed with all our students had to offer. A special thank you to Mrs. Dulina for organizing the event!

Our grade 2 parent orientation was held on May 26. I had the pleasure of welcoming our newest group of parents to the JMI community. Mrs. Mateicka, our School Nurse, and Mrs. Dulina, our Curriculum Resource Teacher were amongst the presenters. Our third grade instructional team was also present to meet our parents. Thank you to all of our staff and parents for attending the event.

I would like to thank Aparna Merchant and Shakti Jha, our PTO Co-Presidents, and our PTO board, for all of their hard work and dedication this past year. Our PTO provides for, and supports, many of the programs you hear about at our school. Without the support of our parents and the PTO, many of these great events would not take place. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Michele Cervelli and Heather Galster, our newly appointed 2011-2012 PTO Co-Presidents, and our new PTO board. We look forward to another great school year!

Please continue to check our school webpage for all important school-related information. Special thanks to Mrs. Dulina and Mrs. Taylor for updating the website.

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NOTE: If your child is missing any items of clothing, please stop by and check our Lost and Found. Any unclaimed items will be washed and donated to a local charity by June 24th.

COMING...

JUNE 1-3 Scholastic BOGO Book Fair

JUNE 2 Student Council Picnic

JUNE 3 Gr. 5 Student Orientation

@ JAMS; Safety Patrol Party

JUNE 6 JMP Gr. 2 Visitation to JMI

JUNE 7 Field Day (Rain Date - June 10)

JUNE 8 Student Council "Twin Day";

Gr. 5 "Evening of Recognition" @ JAMS

JUNE 9 Gr.5 Party; Yearbook Signing

JUNE 13 Flag Day Assembly;

Class Parties - 2:00 PM

JUNE 14 1:30 PM Dismissal

JUNE 15 Last day of school; 1:30 PM Dismissal;
Report Cards Go Home

FOR NEXT YEAR...

I will mail home class assignments in the middle of August. Please refrain from specific teacher requests. Given the large number of students at JMI, I am not able to honor any specific teacher requests. Thank you for your cooperation.

BEST OF LUCK TO OUR FIFTH GRADE "GRADUATES"
AS YOU JOURNEY FORWARD ON YOUR ROAD OF
SUCCESS.

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

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~Ralph Waldo Emerson

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Schools Open (Grades PS-12)

Have a happy, safe and enjoyable summer!

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