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See Jane Speak: Dr. Jane Goodall Recognizes Jackson Elementary for Outstanding Community Service.

ATLANTA, GA – Dr. Jane Goodall, PhD, DBE, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute, U.N. Messenger of Peace, famed primatologist, humanitarian and Dame of the British Empire, will visit Warren T. Jackson Elementary School on Friday, February 19 to recognize the school's outstanding participation in Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots, the institute's global environmental and humanitarian youth program. Also in attendance will be students from other area schools who are members of this program. Her visit will encompass a school-wide assembly of all Jackson students, faculty, volunteering parents, as well as many Atlanta dignitaries.

Dr. Goodall will address the audience with a speech honoring the enormous contribution that Roots & Shoots members have made to improve their community. She will also encourage students to never forget their ability to affect change, emphasizing her creed: "Every individual matters. Every individual has a role to play. Every individual makes a difference." A video highlighting her renowned accomplishments and worldwide Roots & Shoots efforts will be presented, along with a student-produced video depicting their numerous achievements with Roots & Shoots.

Jackson was the first school in Atlanta to become affiliated with Roots & Shoots in 2002. Each grade at Jackson has its own service group, where students create and execute various initiatives ranging from local support efforts to broader global outreach. Some examples of student service endeavors include collecting toys for Scottish Rite Hospital to help promote Joey's Toy Box, a charity that ensures children going through chemotherapy (and other treatments) receive toys to help ease their struggles. The children also formed teams to help with Atlanta's recent flood victims, pulling out wet carpets and manning a pizza tent. This fall, students collected a thousand pounds of books for the Galing Foundation, a charity that supplies books to indigent children in poverty stricken countries. Examples of Atlanta organizations touched by Jackson's efforts include the Shephard Spinal Center, Atlanta Women and Children's Shelter, Atlanta Food Bank, the Atlanta Humane Society, Chastain Park Conservancy, and many others.

Mary Mapes, one of the original Jackson parents who initially connected the school with this international organization, continues to serve as the point person to help other schools initiate their own Roots & Shoots programs. The Jackson model has been used as a footprint for area schools including: Marist, Westminster, Morris Brandon, and Church of our Savior.

"What a fitting legacy for Dr. Goodall's life's work," Mrs. Mapes commented, "that children of all ages at Jackson, and now other schools, are so actively engaged in causes that benefit animals, the environment and humanity."

For more information, visit www.janegoodall.org <<http://www.janegoodall.org>> <<http://www.janegoodall.org>> or www.rootsandshoots.org <<http://www.rootsandshoots.org>> <<http://www.rootsandshoots.org>> .

(The Jackson Elementary visit is not open to the public. There will be a fund-raising reception honoring Dr. Goodall's Atlanta visit that evening at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, from 5:30-8:00. Tickets: \$95. For more info on this event, contact: Alicia Zarillo at azarillo@janegoodall.org or 703-682-9288.)

Warren T. Jackson Elementary School, a member of the Atlanta Public Schools System, has earned top-tier recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School, a Georgia School of Excellence, and an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School. It is also the only Atlanta school to earn Platinum designation two years in a row for outstanding CRCT test scores.

Located in Buckhead, Jackson Elementary promotes a progressive balance of challenging academics together with advancing a child's character education. Through a variety of action-oriented programs and events (often philanthropic and ecological in nature), Jackson students are encouraged to go beyond the norm and become inquirers both in the classroom – and in the world at large. For more information, visit www.wtjackson.org.