



JACKSON
Elementary

JAGUAR PAUSE

BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

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FEBRUARY 26, 2010

Jackson 2009 Partners In Education: Boutte Tree, Inc. • Castle Painting • Coke CCE • Chick-fil-A – Northside Parkway • Hamilton Land Services • Northside Youth Organization • Outback Steakhouse • Peachtree Presbyterian Church • Publix – Chastain Square • Swoozies • The Park Tavern • Super Target—Perimeter Center Willy's Mexicana Grill

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

It has been quite a week at Jackson. Last Friday's assembly with Dr. Jane Goodall was certainly a once in a lifetime event. She is a remarkable lady and we were honored to have her visit. She was impressed with our school and especially with our students. Special thanks to Mary Mapes for making it happen. Mary was instrumental in bringing Roots and Shoots, Jane Goodall's service organization, to Jackson several years ago. We are fortunate to have Merrimac Penman taking over the leadership of that program and helping spread it to all students at all grades. Both Mary and Merrimac have a wonderful group of parent volunteers to ensure Roots and Shoots thrives at Jackson. "To whom much is given, much is expected". Jackson students are learning life long lessons through their involvement in Roots and Shoots. Please check the Atlanta Public Schools web site for a great video of the event www.atlanta.k12.ga.us Click on the gallery photos.

This week began with our IB Evaluation visit. We had 3 visitors, one from Canada, one from Mexico, and one from Colorado Springs. All three work in IB schools and were here to assess our progress and status as an IB World School. While we will not get an official report for several weeks, our exit conference was quite positive. They were impressed with our students and our staff and complimented our instructional programs. They recognized the very positive relationship we have with our community and found our parent support to be exemplary. Everyone worked hard to prepare for the visit and I believe we showed Jackson to be the outstanding school it is. I must give special thanks to our IB coordinator, Ms. Alexis Schneider, for ensuring we were all prepared for this successful evaluation visit. Thank you all for your support as we went through this process.

We still have many things on the horizon. Fathers and Friends breakfast for 1st grade is on Friday and next week begins our Wellness Week. The week will include our Anatomy Fair for 5th graders and end with our Walk for Diabetes on Friday, March 5th. Hopefully we will begin to see more of the spring-like weather soon! Enjoy!

PTA CORNER

Hello Jackson Families! A huge thank you goes out to **Mary Mapes, Merrimac Penman, and Karen Roman!** We really appreciate their hard work to bring Dr. Jane Goodall to Jackson last Friday. It was a very exciting event and the children were captivated by the stories they were told. Check the APS website for Thomas Phillips' interview with Jane Goodall and clips of the event.

Thank you also goes to **Abby Green and Jennifer Cooper** for a fun filled Disco Bingo night!

Next week is Wellness Week. Please ask your children about the information they heard from Whole Foods and our Wellness Committee as well as the activities they participated in like Boom Box Boot Camp and the Anatomy Fair (5th grade). Wellness week will end with the Juvenile Diabetes Walk on Friday. -*Marianna and Jennifer*

JACKSON WALK TO CURE DIABETES

Just one more week until Jackson students hit the pavement to walk to cure diabetes on Friday, March 5. The competition for sneaker sales is hot at both campuses. Colorful sneakers are lining the hallways, and the class that raises the most money through sneaker sales wins a Chick-Fil-A party from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). If you haven't purchased your sneakers yet, there's still time. Sneakers, for just \$1 each, will be on sale all week in the school stores and at Jackson Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A on Tuesday, March 2.

Why are we walking? For the more than three million Americans with type 1 (juvenile) diabetes including our own Jackson students -- Cassidy Hragyil (4th) and Molly Cann

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar 5 Jackson Walk To Cure Diabetes
Mar 12 Early release
Mar 19 Jackson Jottings Submission Due
Mar 24/25 Spring Musical
Mar 26 Grandparents/VIP Day

(2nd). These children and their families live with the disease every day, and they would love nothing more than to find a cure.

According to Molly, "Diabetes is a disease where your pancreas doesn't work. I have to prick my finger over 10 times a day. Would you please help and donate some money for this disease? If you will, I would be the most happy little girl in the whole entire world!"

Help us reach our goal of \$15,000. Ten percent of the money raised will go back to Jackson, and the rest to JDRF whose mission is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research. (www.jdrf.org). Jackson Walk to Cure Diabetes Check list::

- **All week** – Raise money and sell sneakers!
- **Monday, 3/1** - Walk permission slips due to teachers
- **Tuesday, 3/2** – Sneaker sales during Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A
- **Friday, 3/5** – Walk day! 10 a.m. at Primary; 1 p.m. at Main. Turn in all money raised.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR HAITI

4th Grade Girl Scout Troop 3396 is collecting school supplies to be delivered to children in Haiti. The troop will be collecting supplies through Friday, March 12th. Supplies may be dropped off in the large boxes located inside the front and side entrances at the Main Campus and inside the front entrance at the Primary. The Troop has made arrangements to have the supplies flown directly to Haiti and delivered to children's programs. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

JACKSON PR IS ON STEROIDS

There's been a lot of activity lately within Jackson's PR and Marketing committee, and it's time to take a moment to publicize those hard-working parents who've stepped up and delivered off-the-chart efforts for our school.

First, Jane Goodall's visit on the 19th brought a bonanza of press to our auditorium: CNN, CBS, NBC broadcast coverage along with press from Northside Neighbor and APS. Mega thanks to **Heather Cook** for spearheading this effort, along with **Cathy Barshay**, who helped escort press guests to the gym, and **Angie Holmes**, who served as official Jackson photographer for this amazing event. Next, our IB visit this week required a huge amount of new signage, and "video" for our new television in Main's lobby. Collaborating with her media connections from work, **Robin Kahn** researched, wrote, produced and provided exceptional voice-over talent for our AMAZING IB overview video, now airing throughout the day. This piece is thoroughly professional, and we are so grateful to Robin for jumping in and taking it on. Next, parents **Angie and Chad**

Holmes spent a good part of their four-day holiday weekend editing through tons of pictures and news video to create a fabulous 15-minute photo montage, complete with meaningful music selects. We can't thank them enough for this impressive work – also looped continuously. Truly an A - team effort! Finally, thank you to the many parents who quickly shot us PDFs to help make this piece possible.

As Jaguar successes continue to grow, we're always on the look-out for parents who can help us get the word out. If you're a professional in the marketing, PR, advertising, design or news industries, please give back a little of your talent to Jackson. It makes such a big impact in our school, and great impression within the community – especially to our prospective parents. Contact Kelley Thomas at: kelly@pushcreative.net.

BINGO NIGHT

Oh What A Night! Disco Bingo was so much fun! Thanks to all our wonderful WTJ families for coming and supporting our school and shaking your grove thing!

There were such great prizes for our winners and lots of folks were in fun costumes! We couldn't have done it without all of our volunteers!!!! Please help us in thanking: **Cathy Barshay, Lisa Borden, Memory Calame, Sean Coleman, John Cooper, Amy Creasman, Keysha Davis, Meredith Gay, Gail Goldberg, Mark Green, Colleen Hohenstein, Louise Huesken, Tonia Kenny, Karen Lenhart, Reshama and Michael McGovern, Leslie Meshad, Lethea Mitchell, Nancy Patterson, Karen Roman, Samantha Schweizer, Shawne Smith, Michelle Tekin, Nikki Walbridge, Drenna Waldrop, Tiffany Walton, Stephen Weinstein, Cheryl Williams, Lisa Williams, and Jodi Zwerner.** Also we really appreciate **Ann Dodys** and **Lynn Handley** for going above and beyond for us as well! Thank you so much for all you contributed! Also, a big thanks to our alumni for helping with snacks! Fun was had by all! It was a great success with over 480 participants! Thanks again! *Abby Green* and *Jennifer Cooper*

GRANDPARENTS/VIP DAY

Mark your calendars and tell the Grandparents to make their plans to come to our Annual Grandparents/ VIP Day on Friday March 26th from 7:30- 9:00 AM. All students in Kindergarten, 2nd and 5th Grades are encouraged to invite their grandparent(s) or a VIP to join them for breakfast and a morning of fun! The event will take place at both campuses, but is for these grades only. Please be sure to fill out your RSVP form and return it to your child's teacher(s) as soon as possible. Thanks! We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, please contact: Kathleen Eidson kathleen_eidson@mac.com Mary Ann Hammond m_a@bellsouth.net or Jen Woods twoods00@comcast.net

ANATOMY FAIR 2010

The Anatomy Fair will be held in conjunction with Wellness Week on Tuesday, March 2nd from 12-2pm. The fair will be held on the first floor of the 5th grade building and will be a fifth grade participation only event, due to the time constraints of our volunteers. We are so pleased to offer this unique, hands on learning experience here at Jackson for our students.

Our goal is to spark interest in and educate the students about the body systems including cardiovascular/heart, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal (muscles and bones), dental and various other areas of the human body.

During the two hour period each fifth grade class will be escorted to the fair, where they will don gowns, gloves, and be divided into small groups. Our Jackson parents with health professional backgrounds have volunteered to work at the various stations. Our health professionals volunteers will combine their knowledge with models, posters, animal and human organs in fun relaxed atmosphere. Imagine the excitement on the kids faces seeing a real human heart, examining it inside and out and learning how it functions in their own body! We do understand that not everyone has the same level of tolerance for this graphic experience (and the smell of formaldehyde) and no child will be required to view a station unless he or she wants to. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns or to volunteer. Reshama McGovern reshamam@mcgoverninc.com Beth Anthony beth.anthony@comcast.net

DR. JANE GOODALL AT WTJ

As you may have heard from your children, the visit from Dr. Jane Goodall last Friday was fantastic. Not only did the kids get to hear Dr. Jane talk about her chimpanzee research, but the kids at Jackson had the opportunity to impress her with the work they have done with Roots & Shoots. Dr. Jane said she was very impressed with our kids, and was inspired to open a branch of the Jane Goodall Institute here in our city because of the incredible welcome she received at Jackson and in Atlanta. We should all be very proud of our kids!

We would especially like to thank the following parents and teachers who helped put together the assembly: **Mr. Hucks, Ms. Hokstra, Fran Grice, Sydney Shippis, Karen Roman, Karen Yanoshik, Moira Denton, Kate Dolan, Leslie Meshad, Melissa Sturgis, Amy Hilton, Cassis Herschel, Heather Cook, Kelley Thomas, Ania McBreen, Colleen Hohenstein, Mellissa Abad, Vicky Bratton, Katherine McQueen, Leslie Roth, Holly Hill, & Terri Bone.** We would also like to thank **Mrs. Hudson** and the Library Staff at the Primary School for allowing us

to use their facilities during our video production. In addition, thank you to **Steve McMillan** from **MCM Communications** for his work on the Roots & Shoots Video and **Marcia Weber** from **Gardens to Love** for supplying the plants for the gym.

Please note a link for the Roots & Shoots Video and the Dr. Jane Goodall Visit will be provided on the Jackson Website for viewing. We will let you know as soon as it is available! - Mary Mapes & Merrimac Penman

RECYCLING CHALLENGE ENDS

Jackson families, we hope that you have got all of your aluminum cans in for the deadline of the Newell Recycle Challenge! Lisa Perlin will be announcing February's class winner of the Recycle Challenge in a few days and they will receive a well deserved pizza party. (Ms. Campbell's 5th grade class won for January with 5119 cans!! Jackson Pearce was an Eco Hero for his help with this!) Jackson students will find out who the school winners of the Newell Recycle Challenge are in a few weeks. BUT, honestly, there really are no losers in this competition because every can recycled helps make life healthier for everyone and every animal!!

Jaguar Pause Submissions

Submissions for the Jaguar Pause are due by 2:30 pm, Monday of the week of publication. ALL article submissions should be emailed to jaguarpause@yahoo.com. PLEASE be mindful of our deadline. There may be some occasions when we simply CANNOT accept your late entry. We appreciate your understanding and your ON TIME submissions.

Would you like to receive the Jaguar Pause by email? For parents, please go to www.wtjackson.org and click on "contact us" to subscribe. For grandparents, please send your email address cbarshay@bellsouth.net.

Questions? Contact Douglas H. Duerr, Editor (404.582.8432 or duerr@elarbeethompson.com).