



**JACKSON**  
Elementary

# JAGUAR PAUSE

BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

WWW.WTJACKSON.ORG

SEPTEMBER 23, 2011

**Jackson 2011-12 Partners In Education:** Big Frog Shirts • Castle Painting & Remodeling • Chick-fil-A • Coke CCE • elimilice • Hamilton Land Services • Imperatori Family Karate • Learning Express • Menchie's • Mighty Jumps • Nancy G's • NYO • Outback Steakhouse • Peachtree Presbyterian Church • The Park Tavern • Starbrite Window Cleaning • Swoozies • Tacos & Tequilas • West Stride Shoes • Willy's Mexicana Grill • Zoe's Kitchen • 1800GOTJUNK

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

This school year has presented a series of challenges that require both skill and patience on the part of all of us. I realize the publicity surrounding the "leveling" process that APS goes through annually, coupled with the negative ramifications of the CRCT scandal, have taken their toll on our collective psyche. Please know that we at Jackson are having a wonderful school year, enjoying your children and practicing our craft. To do so at our best we need your help.

Our teachers are committed to engaging your children in stimulating instruction every day. They are also committed to communicating your student's progress with you and keeping you involved in this academic process. Please be mindful that your need to communicate with the teacher can have an impact on that teacher's time with students. Most questions are not emergencies. While teachers are expected to respond to e-mail and other requests for conferences within a reasonable amount of time, classroom interruptions must be kept to a minimum. After hours communications should be restricted to emergencies, as teachers need private time to reflect and enjoy in order to be their best during the school day. Please do not interrupt a teacher's instructional time. Time spent with you is time denied to a student. Some teachers are running themselves ragged trying to ensure that every phone call and e-mail is returned with detailed answers to your questions.

Please review the student handbook for policies on absences. If you chose to take your child out of school early, or take a short vacation during school time, do not expect the teacher to pull together missing work in advance. There will be time given to complete missed work upon the student's return. To stop instruction to gather classwork and/or homework in advance is not the best use of our teachers' time and I have asked that they not do it. If you can keep those types of occurrences to a minimum, we will all benefit. Take a deep breath, enjoy the beautiful colors of nature, and relax. Our teachers are fine and your children are doing well. This will be a fantastic year for all.

## PTA CORNER

Hello Jackson families! Thank you to all of the parents who attended the PTA General Meeting last Wednesday, where we heard a guest speaker on parenting with love and logic and approved the budget for the 2011 - 2012 school year. We would also like to thank all of the parents and teachers who have joined and supported the PTA through the Annual Fund; your generous support is essential for Jackson to continue to prosper. By joining the PTA, you are also a member of North Atlanta Parents for Public Schools (NAPPS), and we invite you to join us for this month's meeting on Wednesday, September 28 at 12:00pm at Garden Hills Elementary. Grab your lunch and join us for an hour to hear what is occurring within our district and beyond. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

We enjoyed seeing so many of you at Movie Night last Friday evening, and hope that you and your families enjoyed Pero's pizza and 'Rio' as much as we did. We are very appreciative of the efforts that **Marci Richardson, Clodagh Swennumson** and all of the volunteers put into the evening to make it such a success.

By now, all of you that are members of the PTA should have received your 2011 - 2012 directory. We would like to thank **Moira Denton** for all of her efforts in producing this must-have; it is the go-to source for all of our families. Inside, you will find a copy of the school calendar, your class listings, all of our Partners for Education, PTA Committees and Chairs and the school policies. Please remember, however, that the directory is strictly for the use of Jackson families and teachers and cannot be used for solicitation.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Sep 23 Patron Party  
Sep 28 Picture Day (Main)  
Sep 28 NAPPS Meeting @ Garden Hills 12pm  
Sep 29 Picture Day (Primary)  
Oct 7 Deadline for letters to the troops  
Oct 7 Kindergarten Skate Night  
Oct 10-11 Fall Break  
Oct 18 4th Grade After School Movie  
Oct 22 Fall Festival

There have been several questions regarding how Jackson is addressing lice and so we would like to review the process that has been put in place. Whenever lice is identified (typically by the parent letting the teacher know), the teacher then notifies the class and the office that a case has occurred within the class. **Elimilice**, a new Jackson partner, is then contacted to visit the classroom to perform complimentary head checks on the remaining students. This partnership aids Jackson in trying to break the lice cycle and allows for head checks to occur in the most expedient and least intrusive to instruction manner. If a child is identified to have lice, the parents are notified. There are several treatment options available to choose from, and we encourage you to choose the one that makes the most sense for you and your family. If you do choose to utilize Elimilice as your treatment option, please call ahead to make appointments as they are providing services to schools and families throughout the area. We strongly encourage you to continue to perform head-checks at home as well as the only way to rid ourselves of this nuisance is to be persistent. If you do find lice, please do not hesitate to contact your teacher.

We hope that you all have a great week, and we look forward to seeing you all out and about at all of the fun, upcoming Jackson Events. *Kerri Griggs and Jamie Hubbard*

## LIGHTS, CAMERA, AUCTION!

We are shining a spotlight on our patrons this Friday night at 7:00 with a fantastic patron party. Let's take some time to celebrate the many generous families that make Jackson the school it is today. Special thanks to **Claire and Jason Zintak** for hosting this event at their home, and to **Lea Smith** and **Angie Holmes** for organizing the party of the season!

Are you looking for a way to get involved in the auction? The easiest way is to donate a bottle of wine to our first ever "instant wine cellar" raffle. At 11:00pm on 11.11.11 we will draw the lucky winner of all the wine donated. Don't stock your cellar, we'll do it for you! Please drop donated wine at **Carolyn Wade's** house - 10 Putnam Drive 30342

## 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS

You never thought the moment would arrive, but it's right around the corner...your child will soon be "graduating" from elementary school! Now it's time to move on up to the big leagues. That's right...your child is about to take on the excitement of middle school! The Sutton Liaison team is busy putting together information that will assist you on your journey to middle school. Here are some program dates you should put on your calendar:

Oct 12<sup>th</sup> - 9AM Sutton Middle School Tour (see attached)

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> - 7-9PM Sutton Prospective Parent Party

Oct 25<sup>th</sup> - 9- 10:30AM Prospective Sutton Parent Coffee at Jackson main campus cafeteria

A **Sutton Cougar Corner** link has been added to the Jackson website and will provide additional information for you!

## LOST AND FOUND

Monthly, all items that have been left at school will be collected and delivered to a local shelter or facility in need. Please be sure to label all of your child's clothing, lunch box and backpack so that there is a chance for these items to be reunited with their rightful owners. Please also be sure to check the Lost and Found before the end of each month to make sure that your child's belongings are reclaimed. At the main campus, the Lost and Found is located at the base of the stairs heading into the cafeteria, closest to the hallway heading towards the gym. At the Primary campus, it is located under the stairs heading up to the first grade hall, closest to the front of the building. Please contact Kerri Griggs ([kerrigriggs@me.com](mailto:kerrigriggs@me.com)) or Jamie Hubbard ([jamie\\_hubbard@comcast.net](mailto:jamie_hubbard@comcast.net)) with any questions or concerns.

## FALL FESTIVAL

There's no better way to kick off the season than with Jackson's very own Fall Festival! Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 22 from 9 am - 1 p.m. and enjoy lots of fun "tricks" and fun "treats" including:

- \* Cookie and Cupcake Walk
- \* Gem Mining and Geode cracking
- \* Sand Art
- \* Pumpkin decorating
- \* Bake sale and apple dipping from our very own 5th graders
- \* Tattoos and face painting
- \* Pony rides and petting zoo
- \* Inflatables galore and much more!

And don't forget the wonderful Fun Run! 3rd - 5th graders will run 1/2 mile and K - 2nd graders will run 1/4 mile down Coronado and back featuring the one and only DJ Willy WOW as the Master of Ceremonies!! Make your plans now to be at Jackson on Saturday, October 22 for a morning of Fall fun!

Want to volunteer?? Please email Ashley Gelber at [ash-rawls@bellsouth.net](mailto:ash-rawls@bellsouth.net) Questions? Please email Paige Perdue at [paige@perduegroup.com](mailto:paige@perduegroup.com) or Ania McBreen at [aniamcbreen@comcast.net](mailto:aniamcbreen@comcast.net)

## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Jackson's Outdoor Classroom at the Main Campus includes edible organic gardens, a pollinator garden and bird watch area, a science garden and the nature trail, which features an actual classroom area and stage, nestled in the woods behind the playground. The National Wildlife Federation has recently granted Jackson's Schoolyard Habitat Certified Wildlife Habitat Status. It's easy to see how our beautiful campus is being improved by the hard work of our

students, teachers and parent volunteers as Jaguars learn about the natural world around them.

If you or your child would like to take part in Jackson's Outdoor Classroom and Gardens, please let us know!

## ORIGINAL WORKS

Jackson is thrilled to be teamed up with Original Works – the #1 art based program in the country – to offer a very special program. This program allows you to have your child's very own artwork reproduced onto a selection of nearly 30 quality products. These products range from magnets, mugs and mouse pads to t-shirts, tote bags and tiles. The wide selection of professionally produced, full color products offers something for everyone, and they make memorable gifts that will be delivered before Winter Break. Your child will be creating their artwork in school, using the regular art curriculum as the basis for their work of art. You will then have the opportunity to order whatever products you wish with your child's own artwork featured on each and every product. Additional product and program information will be sent home soon. Any questions can be directed to Shawna Lassiter ([shawnal@bellsouth.net](mailto:shawnal@bellsouth.net)) or Lynn Mahan ([mahans1234@comcast.net](mailto:mahans1234@comcast.net))

## 2ND GRADE ROOTS AND SHOOTS

The 2nd Grade Roots and Shoots students partnered with Jackson's Outdoor Classroom Committee to plant some cool season vegetables. The event was kicked off by Paula Guilbeau from Heirloom Gardens who explained to the kids what it is like to be a farmer. The kids then planted a variety of lettuces (arugula, spinach, kale), radishes, carrots, turnips and green onions in the gardens in the front of the school and the science garden. Fun was had by all and we cannot wait to eat those yummy veggies! Thank you to Rebecca Harrigan and the Jackson Outdoor Classroom Committee as well as the Green Think Co-Chairs for partnering with Roots and Shoots!

Do you have a great idea for the next 2nd grade Roots and Shoots event? Please contact Ania McBreen [aniamcbreen@comcast.net](mailto:aniamcbreen@comcast.net) or Moira Denton [moira\\_rochester@yahoo.com](mailto:moira_rochester@yahoo.com) - we would love to hear your ideas!

## TEACHER APPRECIATION

The Teacher Appreciation Committee thanks **Caribou Coffee** (Northside Parkway) for donating a Coffee Bar for the Primary Campus Staff on Friday, September 9th. A big thanks also goes to **JuJuBee's** (Chastain Square) for donating fresh frozen yogurt to the Teachers and Staff during their September staff meeting on Tuesday, September 13.

## THANK YOU TO THE TROOPS

Now is your chance to say thank you to our troops! **The Bert Show on Q100** is collecting letters of thanks so every single soldier stationed or deployed outside the United States can receive a letter of gratitude on Thanksgiving Day. We want to give our troops a "Big Thank You" with a little taste of home this Thanksgiving.

In 2007, Bert Show listeners successfully wrote 375,000 letters to troops all over the world! This year, they need our help to express a BIG THANK YOU to 400,000+ U.S. soldiers. With fewer than two months to mail these letters, we need to start writing letters now! Let's show them how much the Jackson Elementary community appreciates their sacrifices and contributions! Even the younger Jackson students, who cannot yet write, can show their appreciation through a nice picture. The deadline for letters is **Friday, October 7**, so let's all get to work! See the attached flyer for instructions.

### 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](mailto:jaguarpause@yahoo.com). PLEASE be mindful of our deadline. There may be some occasions when we simply CAN-NOT 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](http://www.wtjackson.org) and click on "contact us" to subscribe. For grandparents, please send your email address [jcooperga@aol.com](mailto:jcooperga@aol.com).

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

Next publication: October 7, 2011



***LETTER-WRITING GUIDELINES – Please read and follow these carefully***

-Each letter should be heartfelt, handwritten, original, and free of any political statements. The purpose of the letter is to express thanks to the military personnel currently deployed outside the United States. The show will eliminate messages that are political in nature or that do not reflect a positive message in the spirit of Thanksgiving.

-All letters must be on 8.5” x 11” paper or smaller.

-Do not use glue, tape, staples, cardboard, glitter or otherwise attach anything to the paper.

-Decorate using crayons, pencil, etc.

-Use both sides if you like, but use one page per letter only.

-Do not send cards or photographs.

-Feel free to include your mailing and email address, and you may get a response.

-Individual letters should NOT be sealed in envelopes.

-Do not send anything except letters. They cannot accept donations of any kind, and they should not be included or attached to letters.

-Feel free to turn in multiple letters. Your child may write a letter as part of a classroom exercise, but you can also write letters at home. *Parents and teachers* are invited to send in letters too!

**\* There will be a special mailbox on-site at each campus for letter drop-offs.**



***All letters must be turned in by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7!***

If you have questions, please contact Hannah Morris, Philanthropy Committee Chair, at [hbmorris225@gmail.com](mailto:hbmorris225@gmail.com).



**2011- 2012**  
**TOUR DATES**

**Sutton Middle School**

***Come Take a Tour  
Of Your Neighborhood Middle School!***

**September 14**

**October 12**

(Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.)

**November 16**

**December 14**

Tours include an information packet, a group interview with Principal Audrey Sofianos, and a guided tour of the school.

**January 18**

**February 8**

**March 7**

**April 11**

**May 9**

**Summer Tour -**

**Reservations required:  
Call Jennifer Miller, 404-802-5600**

**June 6**

Visit our website! [www.suttonmiddleschool.org](http://www.suttonmiddleschool.org)  
4360 Powers Ferry Road, Atlanta 30327

