

Jonesville Middle School Parent Newsletter

October 2009

The faculty and staff of Jonesville Middle School are committed to inspiring and empowering all students to reach their best in a positive, nurturing learning environment.

Dear JMS Parents,

It is hard to believe the first grading period of this school year is over! I hope you are pleased with your student's academic achievement; if not, it is my hope that you will contact us so that we can work together to ensure that your student's achievement improves before the end of the first semester.

It is very important that there is an open line of communication between the school and your home. All JMS teachers and administrators can be contacted via email or telephone (770-258-1778). Parents can also access the JMS website as well as the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

We look forward to working together for our students' greatest success.

Proud to be a RED DEVIL,

Dana A. Harman
Principal

JMS and AYP

JMS students met expectations for performance in reading, English language arts, and math on the CRCT last spring; as a result, we made AYP! When our students meet and exceed academic expectations this spring, JMS will be removed from the state's NEEDS IMPROVEMENT list. It is important that all of our students continue to work diligently in the classroom every day to make sure we achieve this goal.

CRCT Online Practice

The Georgia Online Assessment System (OAS) is available to all JMS students. I encourage students to regularly take the practice exams to familiarize themselves with the content as well as the format of the CRCT. The student **user name** is the **10-digit GTID number** that parents use to access Infinite Campus; if you don't already have that number, your student can get it from his teachers. The student **password** is

the child's birthday (mm/dd/yyyy). The website is www.georgiaoas.org Our students are already using this website in class; they have all the necessary information.

Study Island is another fantastic computer resource for our students. If you have Internet access in your home, your student may log on to the Study Island website for more CRCT practice. Your student will know the website address and his user name and password.

Attendance

Attendance in school is vital to a student's education. Please make every effort to have your student attend school all day every day; tardies to school and check-outs negatively impact your student's overall attendance. **Just a reminder, students are not allowed to check out after 3:00 PM.**

JMS Athletics

The Red Devil football team plays against Bremen Middle School this week in the first round of the playoffs. The game begins at 5:30 at Bowdon High School. We encourage everyone to come out and support our players, coaches, and cheerleaders!

The Red Devil softball team had a good season as well. They played deep into the playoffs and finished the season with an overall record of 6-5. CONGRATULATIONS LADIES!

The Red Devil golf team improved throughout the season. Jess Rogers, Austin Carroll, Trent Maxwell, Levi Holt, Stewart Teal, and Brantley Henderson did an excellent job of representing JMS.

The cross country team is still competing and basketball and wrestling start soon. Encourage your children to get involved at JMS!

Clubs

Club Day is the second Friday of each month. All clubs held introductory meetings in September; if your student wants to join a club, he/she must have your written permission. Parent consent forms have been sent home, but there are extra copies at the school if needed. Students are not allowed to attend October club meetings without parent consent.

There is a list of clubs offered at JMS in the parent/student handbook.

Reading is FUN at JMS

Our goal at JMS is to encourage students to read for enjoyment! Every Tuesday, everyone participates in D.E.A.R. time; D.E.A.R. stands for "Drop Everything And Read!" We read our favorite books and magazines for 20 minutes. Please remind your student to bring his/her book every Tuesday.

We have also redesigned our Reading Counts! program at JMS to encourage students to read for pleasure outside the classroom. Students who read two books on their own and complete the necessary

documentation for their teachers will be rewarded.

Peer Tutoring in Math

As part of the JMS School Improvement Plan, peer tutoring will begin second nine weeks. Our math teachers have already sent home permission forms; students will work together to improve their math skills and prepare for the CRCT. If you would like more information, please email your student's math teacher.

Dates to Remember

10/16---Club Day
10/19---Academic meet at TMS
10/20---D.E.A.R. time
10/27---D.E.A.R. time
10/29---FBLA Breast Cancer Walk
10/29---Fall Festival and Dance (JMS Athletic fundraiser)
11/02---Academic meet at CMS
11/09---Academic meet at BSMS
11/10---MIDTERM PROGRESS REPORTS
11/16---Academic meet at VRMS
11/23---THANKSGIVING holidays begin
12/03---JMS Spelling Bee
12/08---System Academic Competition
12/18---Last day of first semester