

# JAMES S. EVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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JANET WARDEN, PRINCIPAL



FEBRUARY 2013

## PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,  
We enjoyed two musical concerts in January, congratulations to all the students in grades 4-6 that participated in the concerts. I was highly impressed with the talent under the direction of their dedicated teachers, Ms. Garcia and Mr. Trainor.

Congratulations to Haley Hormel! She received the award for Rotary Student of the month. Haley, her family and Ms. Breneman attended a luncheon in her honor. Haley received this award due to her exceptional character and work ethic.

We also had our first parent literacy night at Evans. The students watched the movie, The Lorax while the parents went “back to

school” to learn about our reading programs and ways to promote literacy. It was a huge success, we plan to have similar events in the future.

I continue to have safety in the forefront of my priorities. We have conducted a safety audit, a lockdown drill and a buzzer system is being installed. Our safety team continues to meet to evaluate all our procedures with the help of local law enforcement.

Respectfully,

Janet Warden

## STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Congratulations to Haley Hormel! She was awarded the Rotary Student of the Month. She is an exceptional Evans Eagle! She exemplifies good character and is consistently a hard worker.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

- February 15th - Superintendent Conference Day - No School
- February 18th - President's Day - No School
- February 19th - PTA Meeting 6 PM
- February 22nd - 4th, 5th, & 6th grade Winter Dance 6:30-8:30pm

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

NEWS FROM THE NURSE	2
6TH GRADE POEMS	2
LITERACY NIGHT	3
CITIZENSHIP CLUB	4
PBIS	4
PTA	4
COMMON CORE	5
SEPAC	6
STARS	6

## NEWS FROM THE NURSE

Cases of laboratory confirmed influenza have been reported at our school. Several other schools throughout the county have experienced clusters of influenza as well. The New York State Department of Health reports that influenza is widely circulating throughout the state including Dutchess County.

Influenza is one of several respiratory illnesses circulating in the community, particularly among school age children. Other infections currently circulating in the community include mycoplasma pneumonia and strep throat. Pertussis (whooping cough) cases have also been on the rise in the county. We would like to take the opportunity to remind parents of the following Dutchess County Department of Health recommendations to prevent communicable diseases:



particularly for influenza and Pertussis

- Keep children with fever at home while the fever is present and for 24 hours after fever is gone without the use of anti fever medication such as Tylenol or ibuprofen
  - Remind your children to properly wash their hands ( 20 seconds of scrubbing hands with soap and warm running water) after using the bathroom, before eating and before common activities such as gym and computer class
  - Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the bend of the elbow not your hands
- Remind your children not to share food or drinks

- Keep your children's immunizations up to date

You may also call the Dutchess County Department of Health Communicable Disease Control Division at 845 486-3402 if you would like additional information.

## POEMS FROM 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

### Free Verse

Fall has gone away  
 Winter is here, hip, hip, horray  
 Sledding down hills, and snowball fights  
 And no more mosquito bites  
 All the leaves fall off  
 And everyone is sick going, ugh, cough, cough  
 But Winter is a time for joy and cheer  
 Santa even comes, with all his reindeer



By Nikki Forcelli

### Different but the Same

Animals

Cute, Dangerous

Loving, Raging, Amazing

Fur, Claws, Hair, Nails

Laughing, Smiling Caring

Unpredictable, Emotional

Humans

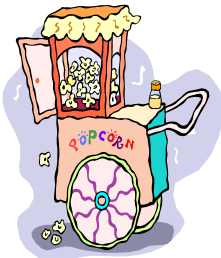
By Anthony Aguilar

## LITERACY NIGHT

Friday night... movie... popcorn...perfect. What? The Lorax?

Oh, I get it. It's a kid's movie. We'll just kick up our feet and relax and read a book or talk ... What? We have to go to school and learn? Yup!

Welcome to the James S. Evans Kid's Night Out sponsored by the School Leadership Team (SLT). Our first annual Literacy Night was an overwhelming success. Over one hundred parents and children attended the enlightening event. The children enjoyed a movie, popcorn and each other's company,



while parents attended workshops led by Evans teachers on a variety of topics. Mrs. Sheremeta taught a workshop on Reading Levels: What are they? How do we get them? & How to pick a just right book. Mr. Clarke taught a workshop on Compre-

hension & Higher Level Thinking.

Ms. Langer and Ms. Tsontos taught a workshop on Lan- guage Compre- hension and

Processing. Mrs

Giammichele taught a workshop on Family Reading and Motivating Children to read. Lastly, Ms. Longenberger

taught on workshop on Foundations Overview. Thank you to all of them for providing essential information to our parents.

"I didn't know learning could be so much fun. It wasn't this way when I went to school," observed one parent. "I have a totally new respect for how hard my child works every day," uttered another parent leaving a workshop. "We feel we know more about how to help our child at home now," commented several parents to teachers as they walked down the hall to meet up with their children.



In the end, a good time was had by all. And as the last family was seen exiting the building, Mrs. Warden could be heard saying "We need to have another "back to school" night, maybe one all about math."

## PEER MEDIATION

The Peer Mediation Club at Evans helped celebrate "No Name Calling Week" during the week of January 22nd. Our Mediators pushed into 2nd and

3rd grade classes and read them stories about getting along with our peers. They also used this time to work with these classes to develop plans on how to avoid

name calling and what to do if they overhear any negative name calling. Great work Peer Mediators!!!!

**NO NAME CALLING**

## CITIZENSHIP CLUB

Citizenship Club worked hard as they sponsored The March of Dimes in January. Our First Annual Dress Up day was a great success! Everyone who dressed up on Friday January 18<sup>th</sup> donated a dime to The March of Dimes. Citizenship Club would like to thank our gym teacher, Mrs. Versace, who



donated 10 dollars! Do you know how many dimes that is?

The month of February we will adopt The American Red Cross. Look for many other fun themed days during the month of February! The goal for this donation drive is to raise 100 dollars for this great organization. With 100 dollars our school can

have a lighted block on the soon to be built American Red Cross Legacy Wall. This wall will be constructed in the lobby of The Mid-Hudson Civic Center and all who donate will have a personalized donation block engraved with their name or group on it. Let's make our school have a place in history on the American Red Cross Legacy Wall.

## SPREAD SOME LOVE!!!



Citizenship Club wants you to spread the love this Valentine's Day. All you have to do is buy a handmade Valentine for just 10 cents. These Valentines will be sold in the Cafeteria during lunch time on Thursday February 14<sup>th</sup>. All money raised will go to the American Red Cross.

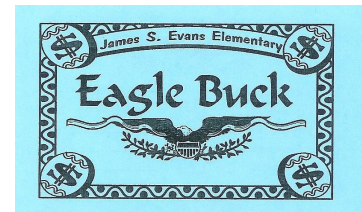


## PBIS CORNER

Hello from PBIS!! We are continuing to work on the final hooray parties. The students are working diligently to collect Eagle bucks, they are now eager to collect the

Golden Eagle Bonus Bucks. These can be received when a student is caught displaying one of the six pillars – Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and

Citizenship. Keep up the wonderful work Evans Eagles!!

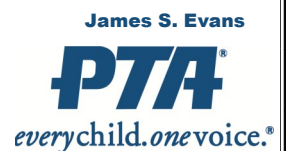


## PTA CORNER

We are thrilled with the turnout from the Rainforest Show that was held at WJHS on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Understanding Wildlife presented a dynamic educational and entertaining production for our community. We hope that you

were one of the many families that were able to join us. The children are still talking about the talking parakeet and touching the snake and alligator. We were excited to see so many faces from our community. If you would like

to be a part of our team, we would love to have you. Memberships are still open. We would love to see you at our next meeting February, 19<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. We hope to see you there.



## KEY POINTS ABOUT THE COMMON CORE LEARNING STANDARDS

- The standards establish a “staircase” of increasing complexity in what students must be able to read so that all students are ready for the demands of college- and career-level reading no later than the end of high school. The standards also require the progressive development of reading comprehension so that students advancing through the grades are able to gain more from whatever they read.
- Through reading a diverse array of classic and contemporary literature as well as challenging informational texts in a range of subjects, students are expected to build knowledge, gain insights, explore possibilities, and broaden their perspective.
- The standards mandate certain critical types of content for all students, including classic myths and stories from around the world, foundational U.S. documents, seminal works of American literature, and the writings of Shakespeare

### WRITING

- The ability to write logical arguments based on substantive claims, sound reasoning, and relevant evidence is a cornerstone of the writing standards, with opinion writing—a basic form of argument—extending down into the earliest grades.
- Research—both short, focused projects (such as those commonly required in the workplace) and longer term in depth research—is emphasized throughout the standards but most prominently in the writing strand since a written analysis and presentation of findings is so often critical.
- Annotated samples of student writing accompany the standards and help establish adequate performance levels in writing arguments, informational/explanatory texts, and narratives in the various grades.

### SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- The standards require that students gain, evaluate, and present increasingly complex information, ideas, and evidence through listening and speaking as well as through media.
- An important focus of the speaking and listening standards is academic discussion in one-on-one, small-group, and whole-class settings. Formal presentations are one important way such talk occurs, but so is the more informal discussion that takes place as students collaborate to answer questions, build understanding, and solve problems.

### LANGUAGE

- The standards expect that students will grow their vocabularies through a mix of conversations, direct instruction, and reading. The standards will help students determine word meanings, appreciate the nuances of words, and steadily expand their repertoire of words and phrases.
- The standards help prepare students for real life experience at college and in 21st century careers. The standards recognize that students must be able to use formal English in their writing and speaking but that they must also be able to make informed, skillful choices among the many ways to express themselves through language.
- Vocabulary and conventions are treated in their own strand not because skills in these areas should be handled in isolation but because their use extends across reading, writing, speaking, and listening.



**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD AT ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXCEPT KINRY ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON MARCH 5, 6, & 7, 2013**

**For Daytime Registrations, please note the following times:  
Elementary Schools: 9:30-11:30AM and 1:00-2:30PM**

**This year our evening registration is being divided into 2 nights (please check to see which night registration is being held for your child's school). Please bring in a picture ID so you may sign up for our Parent Portal.**

The first night of registration will be held on **Tuesday, March 5th** from **6:00 - 8:00 pm** at **Myers Corners School** for children who will be attending Oak Grove, Vassar Rd, **Evans ES**, Sheafe Rd or Myers Corners Elementary Schools.

Kindergarten registrations will continue to be held at each elementary school until the end of June. Please call the school to schedule an appointment and ask to have a registration packet mailed home to you. Please make sure all necessary paperwork is filled out and all pertinent information is brought with you when you register your child.

**WCSD Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) Meetings:**

For the 2012-2013 school year SEPAC meetings will be held in our schools!

Each month, a different school will host our SEPAC meetings.

**SEPAC meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.**

*Remaining Meetings this school year:*

February 19, 2013- John Jay HS- Post Secondary Transition

March 19, 2013- Vassar Road ES- IEP/CSE documentation techniques

April 16, 2013- Gayhead ES- Sensory Integration

May 21, 2013- Evans ES- Kid's perspectives on disabilities

June 18, 2013- District Offices- Planning the 13-14 SEPAC year

**Parent Support Groups**

**\*\*\*\*STARS \*\*\*\***

STARS meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month. The meetings are held at district offices.

Morning meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. STARS meetings last approximately 1 hour.

*Remaining STARS meetings this school year:*

February 14, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

March 14, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

April 11, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

May 9, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

June 13, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.