

# JAMES S. EVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

747 OLD ROUTE 9N  
WAPPINGERS FALLS, NEW YORK 12590  
(845) 298-5240  
FAX (845) 298-5232  
JANET WARDEN, PRINCIPAL



MAY/JUNE 2013

## PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

It is hard to believe that there is only about eight weeks of school left. The students in grades 3-6 took the ELA and Math tests in the month of April. The tests were based on the new common core learning standards.

I would like to congratulate Puneet Dhaliwal; she was awarded the Rotary student of the month. Puneet exhibits exceptional character and high academic achievement. Congratulations to Puneet and her family. Also, many of the students participated in the Dutchess County Regional Science Fair and All District Music Festival. Four of our sixth grade students are being honored by the NYS Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation. All their names are included in the newsletter, congratulations to all of them. Also, Evans won the Battle of Books for the second year under the direction of Mr. Hobart, we celebrated a lot here at Evans!! We are so proud!!

We will be very busy the next two months, please review the calendar of events so you can plan accordingly. I also included information on the importance of reading over the summer. Reading levels can regress over the summer if students do not practice this skill. Your support is necessary to make sure to include reading as part of your summer.

Please join Mr. Pochintesta and myself on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Evans for the Budget Presentation. He will be discussing the budget for the 2013-2014 school year. He will also be discussing the Capital Improvement Project. The budget vote is on May 21<sup>st</sup>; visit the district website for polling information.

Respectfully,  
Janet Warden

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CONGRATULATIONS	2
PEER MEDIATION	2
BATTLE OF THE BOOKS	3
PBIS	4
ART IN THE PARK	4
GYM NEWS	5
SUMMER READING	6

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- May 5th - Fundraiser - Evans Night at Sonic
- May 8th - Budget Meeting 7PM with Mr. Pochintesta
- May 8th-10th - Plant Sale
- May 15th - PTA Meeting 7PM - to include nominations...please try to attend to vote officers for pta in for next year....
- May 21st - SEPAC Meeting - Academic Strategies - Forum for parents 7PM
- May 21st - BUDGET VOTE
- May 23rd - Spring Concert WJHS 7PM
- May 27th - No School Memorial Day
- May 30th - Kindergarten Orientation Parent Meeting 6:30 -7:15PM
- June 7th - 6th Grade All Sport trip, rain date June 10th
- June 13th - Kindergarten Graduation - 9:30AM Mrs. Cardoso & Mrs. Sheremeta - 2PM Mrs. Konstantinou & Mrs. Whitehouse
- June 14th - EVANS DAY, rain date June 17th
- June 18th - Half Day, Sixth Grade Graduation 9:30AM
- June 19th - Half Day, Awards Assembly Grades 1-3 @ 9:30AM & Grades 4-5 @ 10:15AM students only
- June 20th - Half Day, Talent Show - Students Only, Last Day of School for Students
- July 3rd - Evans Night at the Renegades Game 7PM
- August 21st - Fundraiser - Evans Night at Sonic

**CONGRATULATIONS EVANS!!!**

**54<sup>th</sup> Annual Dutchess County  
Regional Science Fair Student Finalists**

Madison Boschulte, Michael Friary, Sydney Boschulte, Thomas Schaff, Aidan Wright, & Ava Zorilo



**Southeastern Zone of the NYS Association for Health,  
Physical Education and Recreation Recipients**



Brendan Beahan, Ashley Sossa, Chloe Cacace, & Benjamin Varco

**All District Music Festival participants**

Karla Machado, Madison Boschulte, Jazmin Espinoza, Steven Albon, Chloe Cacace, Dionna Manso, Angellina McLees, Ashley Sossa, Hayley Swint, & Jalen Thompson



**PEER MEDIATION**

The Peer Mediation group was happy to push into all of our kindergarten and 1st grade classes this month to help our students understand how we are all alike and how we are all different. Using a creative group activity, our Mediators helped our younger students learn more about their classmates and also to understand it is okay to be different than everyone else.



A great job by our Mediators and our kindergarten and 1st grade classes!!!!

## EVANS WINS ANNUAL WCSD BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

This year, Evans once again competed in the WCSD “Battle of the Books” competition. The Evans team won five out of six rounds, clinching the victory for the second year in a row. Our dedicated team members through much time, commitment, and extraordinary effort have made all of us proud. Way to go Eagles! The competition is open to any fifth grade student that wishes to participate.

Please look below for a list of books that were used in this year’s competition.

**The 100-year-old Secret** by Tracy Barrett

**A Ballad of the Civil War** by Mary Stolz \*

**Edgar Allan’s Official Crime Investigation Notebook** by Mary Amato

**First Light** by Rebecca Stead

**Leonardo da Vinci** by Diane Stanley \*

**The Little Prince** by Antoine de Saint-Exupery \*

**Midnight Magic** by Avi \*

**Punished!** by David Lubar

**Starry Messenger** by Peter Sis \*

**Where the Mountain Meets the Moon** by Grace Lin \*



\* = Common Core Title

Please urge your child to sign up for the Summer Reading Program at the Grinnell Public Library. In addition to a reading program, Grinnell offers many fun educational programs. Keep your child reading to prevent the “*summer slide*” and to improve their reading skills. Check out the Grinnell website for more information. I will send home an events schedule as soon as I receive them.

Congratulations to the following Battle of Books participants:

Shala Torres, Sydney Boschulte, Magdalena Moranda, Haley Hormel, Alexanderia Abarca, Ava Zorilo, Victoria McMahan, Christopher Munoz, Aidan Wright, Makayla Farrisi, Alexis Merchan Bermeo, Shannon Thomas

## PBIS CORNER

We are starting on new incentive in order to encourage positive bus behavior. In order to achieve this and help re-motivate our students, we will be doing the following:

- Conducting bus presentations to remind students of the expectations.
- Implementing an incentive : Once a bus obtains 500 "Eagle Bucks", the students will participate in a reward, a kickball game with ice pops.

Please help to review the bus expectations with your child/children:

### To Be Responsible:

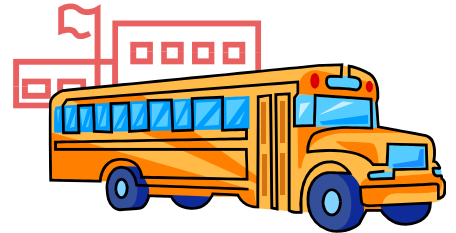
- ◊ Stay seated in our assigned area
- ◊ Report any problems immediately
- ◊ Do not eat or drink on the bus

### To Be Respectful:

- ◊ Using a voice level 2 (only those next to them should be able to hear them)
- ◊ Listen to the bus driver
- ◊ Use appropriate language

### To Be Safe:

- ◊ Keep hands, feet and objects to themselves



## PTA AND BUILDING NEWSLETTER, STAFF BULLETINS



Join us for the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Festival of the Arts in Mesier Park located on Route 9D in Wappingers Falls! This wonderful event is open to the public from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, May 18, 2013 with an inclement weather date of Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

There will be artwork up for viewing from all 15 schools in the Wappingers Central School District including drawings, collages, paintings, prints, fiber arts, computer media projects, metal-work, photography, hand-built and thrown pottery, sculptures and an array of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional work.

There will be a variety of art-making activities for the public starting at 12 noon and ending at 3:30 pm. Children and adults can participate and have a lot of fun! Come over to the R.C.K. section where Empty Clay Bowls will be for sale!

Musical events will be occurring all day in the Gazebo area. There will be Choral groups from many different WCSD schools as well as instrumental presentations. Students and families are welcome to come and listen to these talented students!

Join us for this yearly honored celebration of the Arts at Mesier Park!! It will be a great time so we hope to see you there!!

## CONGRATULATIONS MRS. VERSACE

Mrs. Versace will be retiring this June after years of teaching at Evans. She is a true professional; she has always promoted healthy living for all her students. She is an integral part of the Evans community. She will be missed by the entire Evans community. Thank you

Mrs. Versace for your dedication to the students and community at Evans. Be sure to come out to the Renegades game on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and watch Mrs. Versace throw out the first pitch!



# Happy Retirement

## GYM NEWS

This month in the gym, children completed their fitness unit. Children in grades 3-6 completed a mile run while students in Grades k thru 2 ran a 10 minute jog. We have now moved on to a rhythms unit. Children have been participating in ribbon routines, folk dance or square dance depending on the grade level. We will be starting gymnastics in the gym in the middle of May. The children are all excited to be able to climb the rope, cargo net and the obstacle course. For safety reasons, it is important for children to wear short sleeve shirts that can be tucked into shorts or slacks. Jeans are not appropriate for gymnastics because of the zippers and the small metal fasteners. Please remind your child to wear the proper clothing so there are no injuries.

The final two units will be track and stranger danger or ab-

duction prevention. Students will watch age appropriate films, have stories read to them and have discussions regarding how to keep safe if a stranger approaches them. Please reinforce safety rules with your children for safe play in the summer months.

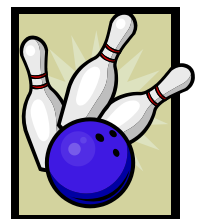
Evans Eagles Sports Club is wrapping up this month with 36 children participating. Intramurals are concluding this month with bowling and floor hockey. Bowling is conducted at the Hoe Bowl Lanes in Wappingers. The children love not only the bowling, but the "Glow Bowling", too. We are having a round robin tournament in floor hockey. The students are very enthusiastic and play quite hard. I want to thank all of the parents who have supported the intramural program and the Evans Eagles Sports Club. The benefits of physical activity, teamwork and competition will help

the students not only in their school years but in their lives as well.

Evans Day will be held on June 14, rain date June 17. Evans Day is an all day activity day for the Evans children. I will need volunteers for the day as all the children participate for the whole day. Be on the lookout for volunteer slips as they will be sent in the near future. Just a note, younger siblings cannot attend Evans Day if you are volunteering.

Finally, thanks to the PTA who have generously provided funds for intramural awards and for Evans Day over the years. The children look forward to Evans Day all year and they love the intramural awards. Thanks for everything!!!

Rosie Versace-Pinczes  
PE teacher



## The Importance of Summer Reading



Why is reading in the summer important? Is it something teachers just say because they think they are supposed to? Is it something that parents encourage as one thing for children to do in the summer?

As a teacher, I encouraged reading in fall, winter, spring, and summer. Reading can open so many doors and offer so many great opportunities for learning and enjoyment.

Here are a few things I have recently found concerning the importance of summer reading:

“The benefits to readers in a summer reading program include encouragement that reading becomes a lifelong habit, reluctant readers can be drawn in by the activities, reading over the summer helps children keep their skills up, and programs can generate interest in the library and books.” ([ALA Library Fact Sheet](#))

“Children who don’t read over the summer tend to lose literacy skills while children who do read during the summer actually improve their reading ability. Summer learning losses accumulate over several years and are an important contributor to the achievement gap.” ([State Library of Iowa](#))

“The body of existing research demonstrates the critical importance that the early development of summer reading habits can play in providing the foundation for later success.” ([New York State Library](#))

“The number of books read during the summer is consistently related to academic gains. Children in every income group who read six or more books over the summer gained more in reading achievement than children who did not. The use of the public library during the summer increases vocabulary development.” ([State Library of North Carolina](#) quoted in the [State Library of Iowa](#) site)

“If children read one million words a year, at least one thousand words will be added to their vocabulary. (One study found this could easily be accomplished by letting children and teens read any format reading material they wanted, including comic books and teen romances.) (That’s an average of 2,868 words per day!)” ([State Library of Iowa](#))

Article written by Melissa Edwards on Big Universe Reading Cite