

The Hornet's Buzz

Jackson Township Elementary

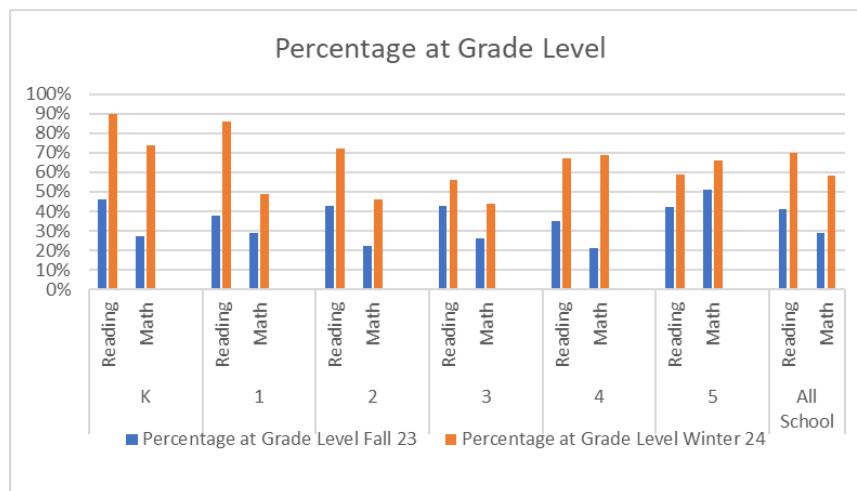
A Note from the Principal

January 2024

Dear Parents:

We have had a great start to the second half of our school year! Students were excited as they arrived back at school on January 4th, and were eager to get started.

The IReady Winter Diagnostic assessment began on January 8th. The IReady assessment is administered three times per year to every student. We place a lot of value on the winter assessment as it provides real-time data showing us how much growth each student has made since the Fall testing session. All students are assessed in the areas of reading and math. Results from this assessment have been shared with you. As a school, we have seen a tremendous amount of growth in learning since school began in August (see the chart below). I expect the Spring assessment will show a great deal more growth!



As you know, we have experienced three school closings due to the weather. During these snow days, teachers did professional development and students were able to have time to play in the snow! Any further school closings will require e-learning. We can have up to three of those. Past these three e-learning days, any further closings will result in have to make the time at the end of the year – tacking on make up days.

Winter is a great time to shut the TV off and sit down with your children and read to them. I encourage you to read at least twenty minutes per day to your child. Talk with your child about the story or have them re-tell it. If you have pre-school age children in the house, read to them as well – the earlier you start, the better. Have them point to and identify letters, numbers, pictures, colors, shapes, etc. Let them handle the book. I assure you that the time you spend reading to your children will have a huge pay off in their ability to be successful in school. *You are your child's best teacher!*

Stay safe and warm!
Brad Ennen
JTE Principal

Benefits of Daily Attendance

One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. In fact, research has shown that your child's attendance record may be the biggest factor influencing her academic success.

By attending class regularly, your child is more likely to keep up with the daily lessons and assignments, and take quizzes and tests on time.

There are other benefits as well:

Achievement: Students who attend school regularly are more likely to pass reading and math assessments than students who don't attend school regularly.

Opportunity: For older students, being in school every day gives them a chance to learn more about college and scholarship opportunities, and to take the important exams they need to build a successful academic record.

Exposure to the English language: Regular school attendance can also help students who are learning English by giving them the chance to master the skills and information they need more quickly and accurately even in other subjects!

Being part of the school community: Just by being present at school, your child is learning how to be a good citizen by participating in the school community, learning valuable social skills, and developing a broader world view.

The importance of education: Your commitment to school attendance will also send a message to your child that education is a priority for your family, going to school every day is a critical part of educational success, and that it's important to take your responsibilities seriously including going to school.

What you can do

As a parent or guardian, it is possible to plan ahead in order to limit your child's absences, make school attendance a priority, and help your child from falling behind if it is necessary to miss a day of school. You can do this in the following ways:

Help your child get to school on time every day. Babysitting, problems with a car or late bus, and the weather are not permissible reasons to miss school. Frequently coming to school late may also be noted on your child's permanent record, and will make it difficult for your child to stay caught up with the first lessons of each morning. Teach your child how to set and use an alarm clock, and keep the television turned off in the morning.

Follow the school's guidelines and attendance policy, and report excused absences immediately. At the beginning of the school year, review the school's rules and make sure you understand whom you need to call if your child is going to be absent.

Check homework. Check each night to see that your child understands and completes the day's homework assignments.

Take an active role. Stay involved with your child's daily experiences at school by asking how the school day went, and then listening carefully to what your child shares with you both the successes and struggles. Make it a point to meet your child's teacher and friends.

Locate potential sources of anxiety. If your child frequently appears upset or reluctant to go to school and cannot tell you why, schedule an appointment with his or her teacher or school counselor to talk about possible sources of the anxiety.

Keep updated on school events and announcements. Read the school documents that your child brings home and take note of important announcements and dates, such as back-to-school night and parent-teacher conferences.

Try to limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to medical appointments or illness. If possible, avoid scheduling doctor's appointments during the school day. Allow your child to stay home only in the case of contagious or severe illnesses.

Students who miss days, weeks, or months of school at a time will have a difficult time passing their courses and catching up to their peers. For older students, prolonged absences may make it very difficult to graduate from high school.

Schedule family events with your child's school schedule in mind. Plan holiday celebrations or family trips during weekends or school vacations. In the case of family emergencies or unexpected trips, talk to your child's teacher as far in advance as possible and set up a way that your child can work ahead or bring important homework on the trip.

Plan ahead. Encourage your child to prepare for the next school day by laying out clothes the night before and helping to fix lunches.

Promote good health. Make sure that your child eats a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, and has opportunities to exercise every day through a sports team or playtime outside.

Create a restful environment. Finally, make sure that your child can relax before bedtime by doing something quiet like reading rather than do something stimulating, like watching television. Ensure that your child gets enough quality sleep ideal amounts range from 8 to 12 hours. Getting enough sleep will help her get up on time, be refreshed in the morning, and feel ready for a full day of learning ahead!

By making your child's school attendance a priority, you will be taking an important step in supporting your child's school success, and setting a good example. Remember every day counts!

January Birthdays

Aiden Beckett	Lola Moody
Cole Braswell	Skylar Parrish
Owen Burk	Braydon Presslor
Oliver Deno	Braxton Rodgers
Ajay Johnson	Gabriel Rodgers
Reid Keller	EmmaLynn Roe
Evan Killion	Makayla Rohr
Destiny Matthews	Makennah Stone
Zane McBroom	Blakely Sutherland
Harper McCullough	Brantlee Wallace
Marleigh McLin	Remington Wise

Schedule of Events

Feb. 19	No School-President's Day (snow make-up day if needed)
March 25-29	Spring Break
April 1	Students return



CHARACTER CORNER

Each week, your child will be introduced to a **Character Quality**, which is part of the JTE Character Education Program. *Parents are encouraged to discuss these qualities at home and suggest ways your child can model these qualities.* The qualities for February are:

Honesty. Honesty means to be truthful and fair.

Perseverance. Perseverance means working hard without giving up.

Thriftiness. Thriftiness means careful use of time, money, and other resources to avoid waste.

Creativity. Creativity means having imagination and inventiveness.