

December 19, 2014

THE LANTERN

Ms. Kimberly Cousins, Principal

Mrs. Karyn Andersen, Assistant Principal

Ms. Karen Snidow Administrative Assistant

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, December 22 - Friday, January 2 - Winter Break - No School

Monday, January 5 - Students and Staff return to school

Tuesday, January 6 - Channel 6 Weather Assembly - 2nd Grade - 1:30-2:30pm

Monday, January 26 - Grades 2nd and 3rd - Charlotte's Web - 2:25pm

SEASON GREETING

Enjoy this wonderful holiday break with your family and friends. Relax, have fun, create wonderful memories and stories to be shared. We look forward to a happy and healthy start to a brand new year.

Love and peace be with you. See you in 2015!

From you JBW Administration Team:

Ms. Kimberly Cousins, Mrs. Karyn Andersen, Ms. Karen Snidow

DREAMBOX SUPPORT

Have a little down time? Want to brush up before returning to school in January? Jump into Dreambox and practice some math skills. Here are a few reminders to keep you moving along:

- 1: Make sure you complete the lesson, no matter what. If you do not complete the lesson, it will not count and it will not see what you mastered or need for support. The next lesson will adjust based on your struggles and mastery.

2. At home, use the Practice Lessons - green. These are skills that you've learned and are now developing into mastery, great for fluency.

3. Parents, this is for the kids. No one wants to see a child struggle. But when adults assist children with the problems in Dreambox it never adjusts to what students can demonstrate independently, it will keep getting more challenging. It's okay to not know how to solve the problems, take a guess, complete the lesson, and it will adjust based on performance. If there is too much help the child will become frustrated with each additional lesson. It is good to take a guess, take chance, when you're not sure what to do. If you are in practice lessons, no major support should be necessary, practice for fluency and mastery!

JB Watkins students are showing that they are consistently using Dreambox. We check data records weekly and can see the growth in each student, class, and grade level. We see student confidence growing daily. If you haven't spent much time here, now is a wonderful time to get on board, start a new routine. Keep up the great work. Enjoy taking a break for the holidays. You'll be back here soon enough....

2015 CHINESE NEW YEAR ART EXPO REGISTRATION BEGINS IN DECEMBER

Attention: 3rd grade, 4th grade and 5th grade students,

J.B.Watkins is going to partner with Barnes and Noble, which is located at the Chesterfield Town Center to display our Chinese New Year Sheep Ornament in February. Please bring in your awesome Sheep Design to Ms. Youman after the holiday. The deadline is 1/15/2015. This event will coincide with their book fair. A portion of the proceeds will go back to our school program.

YES, it is a Sheep (Yáng). (Meeaaa Meeaa Meeaaa)

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Here are the design guidelines and registration details:

1. Create a hanging SHEEP ornament, which cannot be bigger than 3 x 3 x 3.
2. It must be appropriate for the Chinese New Year Celebration which is "The Year of The Sheep."
3. No color restriction. No materials restriction.
4. Must be your original design and NO PURCHASED ITEM from store.
5. It can be a 2D or 3D project.
6. Please label your design with grade level, your classroom teacher when submitting your finished product.
7. Select one of the following **Chinese Symbols** and write on a 5x8 piece of paper in a creative way, separately. Attach it to your ornament for submission.
 - a. (Gentle and Peace) 和平(**hé píng**)
 - b. (Kind and good nature) 善良(**shàn liáng**)
 - c. (Gregarious, living in groups and social) 群居 (**qún jū**)

Result:

- 1.) All entries will be displayed at the school in February.
- 2.) Your fellow students (by grade level) will choose the top 3 best designs.
- 3.) The top 3 contestants of each grade level or the top 9 designs will receive a small gift. The result will be shared on our morning announcement and displayed at the Barnes and Noble Book Store in February 2015.

WAIVER INFORMATION

The School Board regulation that governs student enrollment waivers has changed. This [link](#) will take you to the new regulation pertaining to waivers.

Primary requirements for a child-care waiver include (refer to [Regulation 4040-R for other requirements](#))

*The child-care provider must be **physically** located within the attendance area of the requested school.

*If transportation is provided from the provider to the home school, the waiver will be denied.

*The child-care provider must sign and attest truthfully to the certifications in the appropriate waiver form.

Waivers are valid for one academic year only and must be renewed annually. **All students who have an approved waiver for the current school year must reapply for the 2015-16 school year. The due date for completed waiver forms to be submitted to the principal of the HOME elementary school is April 15.**

If a waiver is approved, the parent/guardian is responsible for providing transportation to the non-home school. Among other reasons, waivers may be denied for unacceptable academic performance and may be denied or revoked for:

*unacceptable behavior at either school or

*unacceptable attendance (including unacceptable late arrivals or early dismissals) at either school

Again, information about the new waiver regulations is available [here](#). The forms necessary to apply for a waiver are available [here](#).

If you have questions, you may contact our office or email ccpsinfo@ccpsnet.net

STEAM FAIR

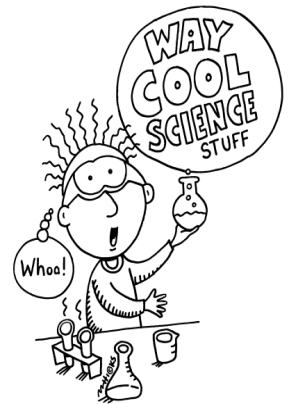
Reminder: STEAM FAIR here at JBW the night of March 12, 6:00-8:30. I have placed registration forms and idea sheets around the school. Have received about 20 back so far!! Keep them coming! Great to start a project over the long holiday break for some..and snow days may be on the way! Talk it up...fifth grade is giving extra credit to all our project participants. Thanks so much for your help. We will meet 2nd week of Jan Chemistry Club and Young Scientist have committed as in years past. Ple you have a great idea/suggestions...or just come to the January planning r with technology activities and new challenges just to name a few!



Science Fair Ideas

- Which paper towel brand is the most absorbent?
- What is the best way to keep an ice cube from melting?
- Does the color of light used on plants affect how well they grow?
- Does the type of potting soil used in planting affect how fast the plant grows?
- Does having worms in soil help plants grow faster?
- Can plants grow in pots if they are sideways or upside down?
- How much weight can the surface tension of water hold?
- Do natural or chemical fertilizers work best?
- What type of grass seed grows the fastest?
- **Parachutes: Does Size Matter?**
- **Do Submarines Need Fins?**
- What grows the largest crystals?

- Does the temperature of coke affect the reaction time of the candy?
- Does sand or salt make ice melt faster?
- At what temperature is water able to dissolve salt/sugar the fastest?
- Which conducts electricity better a white potato or a sweet potato?
- Does the size of the battery affect the strength of an electromagnet?
- **Veggie Power! Making Batteries from Fruits and Vegetables** Do vegetables or fruits conduct electricity the best?
- Which brand of finger nail polish last the longest?
- Does a cloth rag or a Swiffer duster pick up the most dust particles?
- How does friction affect the speed of a skateboard?
- Does the wattage of a light bulb affect the amount of heat it emits?
- What foods do mealworms prefer?
- Which travels faster-a snail or a worm?
- On which surface can a snail move faster-dirt or cement?
- How far does a snail travel in one minute?
- Do suction cups stick equally well to different surfaces?
- What brand of raisin cereal has the most raisins?
- Which dish soap makes the most bubbles?
- With which type of battery do toys run the longest?
- Which laundry detergent works the best
- Can plants grow without soil?
- Does temperature affect the growth of plants?
- Does a plant grow bigger if watered with milk or water?
- Can the design of a paper airplane make it fly farther?
- Do wheels reduce friction?
- What holds two boards together better a nail or a screw?
- Does a ball-roll farther on grass or dirt?
- Do all objects fall to the ground at the same speed?
- How can you measure the strength of a magnet?
- Does the temperature of a magnet affect it strength?
- How much salt does it take to float an egg?
- Does water with salt boil faster than plain water?
- Does on ice cube melt faster in air or water?
- Does the length of a vibrating object affect sound?
- Does warm water freeze faster than cool water?
- How long will it take a drop of food dye to color a glass of water at different temperatures?
- Which materials absorb the most water?
- What materials dissolve in water?
- Which dissolves better in water - salt or baking soda?



- Do different types of soil hold different amounts of water?
- Does the size of the orange determine how much of it is water?
- Do plants grow bigger in soil or water?
- Does it matter in which direction seeds are planted?
- Will more air inside a basketball make it bounce higher?
- Do all colors fade at the same rate?
- What kind of glue holds two boards together better?
- Does the width of a rubber band affect how far it will stretch?
- What gets warmer faster-sand or soil?
- Will a ball bounce higher if it is dropped at a greater distance from the floor?
- Do sugar crystals grow faster in tap water or distilled water?
- Does baking soda lower the temperature of water?
- Does the color of water affect its evaporation?
- Will water with salt evaporate faster than water without salt?
- What type of soil filters water best?
- Which type of water is the hardest?

J.B. Watkins Elementary School
2015 STEAM FAIR (3/12/15)
Science Project Entry Form

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Home Phone# _____

Home E-mail _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

If working in pairs, Name/Grade of partner:

Topic/Title: _____

Parent Permission for this Project:

I give permission for my child to do this experiment.

Date:

Do you need electricity for the display? Yes / No

THIS FORM IS DUE NO LATER THAN MARCH 6, 2015.

**Please use the scientific method. Each project should first state a scientific principle or problem; then, explore hypotheses with research and experimentation; and finally state results and conclusions. Guidelines are provided on the J.B. Watkins website.

Happy Holidays!

Beth Losego - Lead Science Teacher

BOX TOPS

Happy Holidays from the Box Tops Team

Due to the busy time of year, we have postponed our Winter Box Tops Collection to Friday, January 23rd. Students: We challenge you. Can you bring just **one** clipped Box Top when you come back to school after winter break? While you may be thinking of making Snowmen, we will be thinking of ice cream and yummy toppings! Remember, the class with the most box tops at the end of the year wins the ICE CREAM party! We doubt you will be bored on break, but if you find yourself twiddling your thumbs between dream box and raz kids sessions, challenge yourself to find one box top. Happy Clipping.

GIFTED

In accordance with Chesterfield County Public Schools' guidelines, gifted referrals for current 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students must be received by Thursday, January 15, 2015. No late referrals will be accepted. If you have any questions, you may contact Karyn Andersen,

assistant principal, or Sarah Spencer, school counselor.

WINTER MESSAGE

Winter is fast approaching and the cold has arrived. The local weather has been unpredictable and unusual the past few weeks making it difficult to know how to dress each morning. Here are some guidelines that we all can use in preparing for the cold days coming so we can all stay healthy and safe.

Winter guidelines:

1. Dress in layers. You may want to send a sweater or light jacket to stay in the classroom. Some areas of the building are colder than others.
2. Coats, jackets will be required for all children when temperatures are **below 45 degrees** when going outside. If they do not have one, they can pull one from the lost and found.
3. Temperatures and/or wind chill below **36 degrees** will require students to have their skin covered - long pants, tights, leggings, long sleeves, coats, jackets, hats, hoods, etc.

When temperatures are dangerously cold we do not take the kids outside. But when it is a bit cold we do give students a chance for fresh air, to run, get energy out and then return. We want all our children to have outdoor recess when safe but we need your assistance to keep them as healthy as possible. Contact your teacher if you have any specific questions. Together we will keep an eye on Mother Nature this winter. BRRR....

Everyone have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. We are thankful for our great JBW family and community.

JB WATKINS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS SHARE THEIR ARTWORK WITH THE WORLD!

Every Watkins' student is now an international internet published art star! You can go online and view your child's work BEFORE it gets crunched or, ripped, and in a book bag by going to the world's largest online art gallery, Artsonia.com.

Thank you to our Artsonia community of students, parents, and their families and friends. We had an incredible fourth year! We held the **#2 spot for Virginia** and finished **in the top 100 in the nation** out of more than 60,000 schools for our outstanding participation. What a way to go!

Anyone can view the school gallery online at: www.artsonia.com/schools/watkins1. You can also go to artsonia.com type in the schools zip code 23114 to find Watkins' display. You can view your child's work by entering your child's specific name and number. **Slips with your child's screen name and parent security code will be sent out soon to families that have not already signed up.** If you do NOT see your child's work in the school gallery or if there is an error please let us know.

COMMENTS ON ARTWORK:

Family and friends can leave online comments about your students' artwork on the website. For safety and privacy, each student's parent must visit the website and review the comments. **You can also Facebook, Tweet, or Pin work.**

ARTISTS' STATEMENTS AND TITLES

Have your child title and write about their artwork. It allows them to practice their writing and keyboard skills. It also lets viewers understand more clearly what your child was learning and creating in art.

ARTIST AWARDS:

Your child can earn awards on the website for participation in the Artsonia. For instance, any artist that has 5 or more comments about their artwork will receive the "Rave Reviews" trophy. These trophies are proudly displayed next to the child's artwork and in your school's gallery.

GREAT GIFTS AND REWARDS FOR WATKINS

In addition, family members can purchase keepsakes imprinted with the child's artwork, with Artsonia donating 20 percent back to our art program. These items make great gifts and will be cherished for years to come. *Christmas is just around the corner!*

Please visit the site and SHARE YOUR PRAISE FOR YOUR CHILD'S WORK. Thanks for your support! Enjoy!

Sarah Matthews sarah_matthews@ccpsnet.net

Bridget McDermott bridgetc_mcdermott@ccpsnet.net

ATTENDANCE

Cold weather and holiday breaks are here. It is important to maintain consistent attendance in school. Repeated or frequent absence does impact student learning and performance, it is also difficult to effectively make up missed learning opportunity. Let's work together to be healthy, timely, and happy so we can all deliver our very best in school.