

James Monroe Report

January Highlights From the Principal

Golden Tray Lunch Time Program

This month, James Monroe kicked off a new lunchtime procedure where children are acknowledged for positive behaviors in the lunchroom, as well as walking in the halls during that period of time.

The rules that are in place have all been established to make this time relaxing for all who are eating. Because of the positive changes that have taken place, children are now able to talk to their friends in a normal conversational tone, without having to scream to be heard.

In addition, no classes that are in session are disturbed by classes passing in the hallway, and a routine has been established for sitting, throwing away lunch, and most importantly, being respectful to the lunchaides and food service providers.

Overall, the positive behaviors are now being observed throughout the school day. All of the classes are enthusiastic about their participation, and look forward to finding out how their class did at the end of each week. The winners of each lunch period get to display one of the "golden trays" beautifully decorated by Mrs. DeCoite until the next week's recipients are announced.

At the end of the year, points will be tallied and all classrooms which have the highest total will have a pretzel party.

Go Giants Day

Today James Monroe was painted in red, white, and blue as all sports fans wore their team jerseys to support Hands of Hope Food Pantry. Thanks to your generosity, almost \$500 was raised, and will help feed many families in need.

Toy Story

This month, tryouts for the upcoming play took place and all parts were cast. Over 200 students are participating in this year's performance of Toy Story, which will take place at Edison High School on March 30th under the direction of Mrs. Tufaro and Mrs. Romeo, with music provided by Mr. Peccarelli. Stay tuned for more information.

Upcoming Events

Families Beading for Love

James Monroe will be hosting an event where you and your child can make a key chain or bracelet to raise money for the wonderful non-profit organization Portable Play House. The money will go to St. Peter's Hospital in New Brunswick, where long term and terminal cancer patients will be able to make their own bracelets, necklaces, and key chains. Please join us on Feb. 8th between 6-8 pm for this worthwhile endeavor.

Conferences

If you have not done so already, now is the time to schedule a meeting with your child's teachers to talk about their developmental progress and ask any questions you have about the curriculum in place. Conference days are Feb. 14, 16, and 21.

Scholastic Book Fair

Our second Book Fair of the year will take place on Feb. 13, 14, 15, and will be open during evening conferences on the 14th. It will once again be co-chaired by Mrs. Tufaro and Mrs. Wieand.

January 2012

K-1 A	Miss Butvilla	Hazel Guevara
K-1 P	Miss Butvilla	Theresa Lie
K-2 A	Mrs. Branz/Miss Speckin	Shawn White
K-2 P	Mrs. Branz/Miss Speckin	Christopher Eagle
1-1	Mrs. Milton	Nithin Sriram
1-2	Mrs. McCann/Mrs. Heitmeyer	Mareena Yu
1-3	Mrs. Altman	Akshay Vadul
1-4	Mrs. Lin	Spoorti Chetty
2-1	Mrs. Rommel/Mrs. Said	Dennis Babynyuk
2-2	Mrs. Murphy	Halle Lechelt
2-3	Mrs. Weinfeld	Katherine Fallon-Reusch
2-4	Mr. Pedersen	Evan Tibok
3-1	Mrs. Pontoriero	James Tutalo
3-2	Mrs. Romeo/Mrs. Pattie	Tanya Sharma
3-3	Mrs. Sheehan	Nevada Pidgeon
3-4	Mrs. Banos	Cara DeMaio
4-1	Miss Capone/Mrs. Weber	Brandon Dominguez
4-2	Mrs. Brown/Miss Mass	Luis Alonso
4-3	Mrs. Bell	Simran Gholap
4-4	Miss Bonner	Amanda Bastian
5-1	Mrs. Schwarz/Mrs. Fuentes	Anna Bispo
5-2	Miss Healey/Mrs. Kahn	Glen D'Gracia
5-3	Mrs. Bermingham	Upasna Parikh
5-4	Miss DuHamel	Nadyeh Alaboura

Fun Time!

**Each month the Peaceful People are treated to Fun Time. January Peaceful People will celebrate on Tuesday, February 7th in the small gym during their recess time.
A fun time for all!**

Schools Closed: February 17th, 20th

1:30 Dismissal: February 14th, 16th, 21st

**EVERY FRIDAY IS SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY
DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR
JAMES MONROE T-SHIRT OR SWEATS!**



ATTENTION

When you call our main number 732-452-2970,
please listen to the prompts and dial correctly.

Here is a listing of all our prompts:

- #1 = Absence Mailbox - Leave child's name, spell last name, give teachers name and reason for being out. This is also where you request homework and how it will get home to your child. Please call before 10:00 AM.
- #2 = School Closing - As soon as we know, we immediately update this message. DO NOT CHOOSE "0" for the main office.
- #3 = School Events - Updated as needed.
- #4 = The Nurse - Mrs. Levine
- #5 = Guidance - Mrs. Bennett
- #6 = Child Study Team - Mary Ellen Kaulius, Sarah Brennessel, Lauren Campanile
- #7 = Principal - Mrs. Zapotichny
- #8 = Latch Key
- #0 = Main Office - for all other calls not related to one of the above.

Due to chronic phone problems, you can also email the office at:

Evelyn.Hook@edison.k12.nj.us
Nancy.Cameron@edison.k12.nj.us



VERY IMPORTANT

The District's new "School Messenger" system is now in operation. It is now more important than ever that we have the correct phone numbers to make sure that you are contacted for important events...especially school closings. Please notify the office if your phone numbers change.

It is also important that your child knows how they are getting home during an emergency early dismissal. On days such as this, Latchkey and all after school activities are canceled. Many of our Latchkey students do not know what their emergency plans are, and neither do their teachers because it was not disclosed on the school Emergency Forms. Your children need to know, their teachers need to know, and so does the office. Waiting at school is NOT an option as the school staff leaves, too.

In the future on emergency early dismissal days, you will be able to pick your child up between 12:00-1:15 PM. Come into the office to sign them out, and then wait in the lobby for them. No child will be dismissed after 1:15. They must wait until the 1:30 dismissal.