

THE LION'S PRIDE

SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

JAMES JOHN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A Note from Ms. Ragaisis,

As a part of Portland Public Schools, James John Elementary embraces a shared goal that students are prepared for success at the next level. Our objective is that every student, by name, meets or exceeds academic standards and is fully prepared for college, career and participation as an active citizen.

Three checkpoints occur during the K-5th grade school years. The first is that students enter first grade with the skills and habits to be ready to read. The second also relates to reading. We expect that, by the end of third grade, all students will be able to read to learn, to gather information from the reading material and to be able to understand and apply that knowledge. Lastly, the fourth and fifth grade years build on those skills and help prepare students for middle school.

Although our teachers and other staff are committed to working hard to provide quality, challenging instruction, we can't do it alone. Your support is necessary. The first step to success in school is good attendance. We can't teach children who are not here! We have already noticed a few students missing several days of instruction. With around 174 days of school, every day is important in helping each and every child reach those checkpoints.

Regular school attendance is a state requirement and parents are held accountable. When attendance becomes a problem, our staff will communicate directly with you to discuss ways to improve attendance. Letters will be sent, meetings will be required and other resources, such as our School Police Resource Officer and/or the Department of Human Services may be contacted for support. In every instance, our motivation is to help you get your child to school each and every day, ready to learn.

Love, care and concern for your children create an environment where James John students can thrive. With a warm, nurturing and safe school, we can then focus on the serious business of instruction. We are determined to have our students meet and exceed all the checkpoints. Please join us as partners in this work. When our combined efforts help our students, we will celebrate their success together. This is our challenge for the year.

GO LIONS!

Much respect;

Samantha Ragaisis
Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2016

- 26th –SUN School begins
27th – Parent Night with author Trudy Ludwig
5:30 – 7:30
30th – Spirit Day!
school colors

October 2016

- 5th – Walk To School Day
@ 7:45 at St. Johns Community Center
5th – Picture Day
11th – Burgerville Night
5:00 – 8:00
14th – Statewide Inservice
no School
18th – PTA Meeting
6:00 – 7:30
19th – late opening
@ 10:00
28th – Spirit Day!
mustache day
29th – JJ grounds clean up
9:00 – 11:00



Children's Advocate & Best-Selling Author Trudy Ludwig Coming to Speak to James John Elementary School Parents!

On Tuesday evening, September 27, you are invited to attend Trudy Ludwig's special parent presentation: "Understanding Our Kids' Online & Offline Social World: Friendships, Cliques & Power Plays." The talk will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This presentation is for adults only. Free refreshments and childcare will be available.

For more information about Trudy, her books, and other resources on the topics of friendship and bullying issues, please visit the author's website: www.trudyludwig.com.

News from the Parent Group

Thank you to everyone who attended our PTA meeting on Tuesday. We had a wonderful turn out and it was great meeting so many new people. Our next meeting will be October 18th!

Next Tuesday from 5:30-7:30 bestselling author and child advocate Trudy Ludwig will be giving a presentation on understanding our child's online and offline social world in regards to friendships, cliques and power plays. Her presentation last year was phenomenal and we are excited to have her join us again. Childcare will be provided.

Want to be a volunteer in your child's class or help at school? Make sure that you have completed your PPS background check at <https://volunteer.pps.net>. Once approved, you will not need to do this again for 3 years.

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