

# The Eagle Express



Jan. 2020

A. W. James Elementary School  
400 South Blvd. / Drew, MS 38737  
Telephone (662) 745-8892  
Ms. Barbara C. Akon, Principal  
Mrs. Christine Bennett, Secretary



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## Let's Talk!!!!

Welcome back from the holiday break!!! I trust that everyone is relaxed and rejuvenated! Welcome to the New Year - 2020! Best wishes for a very successful, happy and healthy New Year. The month of January is a great month for observing student achievement and maturity. All the great instruction and learning experiences from the first few months of school seem to make sense to students and the results are amazing! They now know about doing their personal best and learning from mistakes. There is an incredible excitement in the air as teachers, students and parents anticipate the second semester of this school year.

As your principal, I am committed to continuing the tremendous mission and vision of our school. I am thrilled to be part of a dynamic staff of dedicated, talented, caring and committed educators and am excited to be working with our wonderful and brilliant students. Our teaching and support staff is committed to providing caring and safe learning environments that educate the minds along with encouraging the hearts and spirits of our students. Communication between home and school is valued. Our monthly school newsletters are available via webpage and teacher created newsletters and school status communications including, e-mails, phone calls, notes, progress reports, grade level meetings, etc. are available so that parents may have the needed information to support their child in his/her current school experience. Parent -Teacher conferences will be held after report cards are picked up, focusing on the first semester of progress for the year. We will receive report cards very soon and we will have conversations about how we may improve instruction and learning.

And finally, the last reminder is regarding school attendance. Our daily attendance is monitored by the State of Mississippi. Our goal is to maintain high student attendance rates—this includes minimizing the amount of tardies each day. It is very important to plan doctor visits after school or at a time when your child is able to return to school in a timely manner.

Again, have a happy and prosperous New Year! 2020 is our year!!!!

Barbara C. Akon  
Principal



## Mission

To provide a clean, safe,  
and orderly environment that is  
conducive to student  
achievement and growth.



## Vision

We envision our school as a "Successful"  
or (above rated) school. We hold ourselves  
accountable for implementing,  
with fidelity teaching and learning  
processes that will enable all students  
to achieve academic growth.





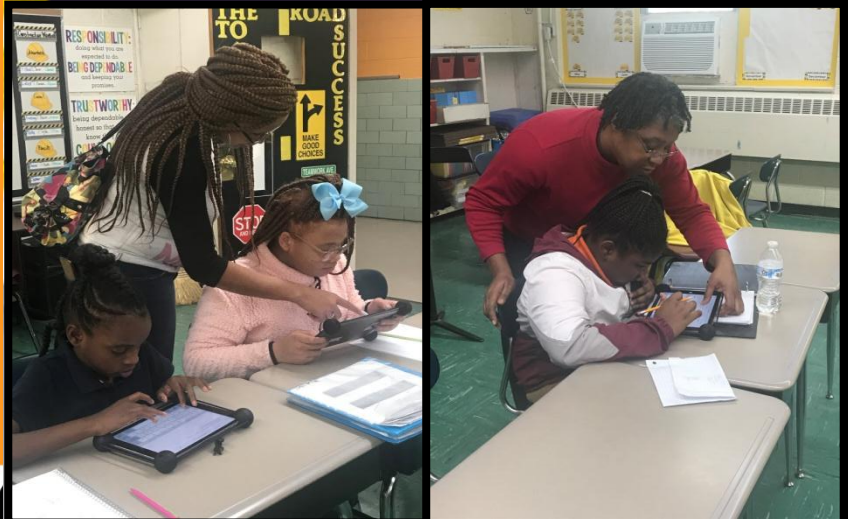
Welcome to our newest crew member  
Stephanie Davis from Shaw, MS.



We're glad  
you chose  
to join  
our team!



As the 1st semester came to an end, 5th grade math teacher Shirkethia Walker took advantage of her LPS data to offer further assistance to students in need. In an effort to help her help her students, she extended the invitation to parents so they could see firsthand how to provide assistance to their children. Thanks to those parents who chose to take part!

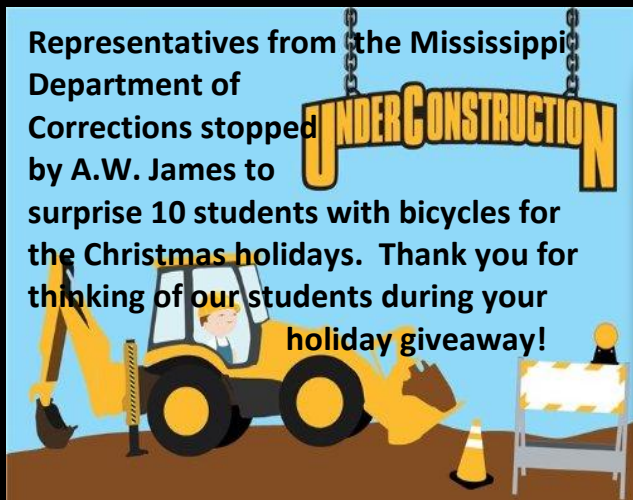


Above, for every 15 items sold in our Horizon Popcorn Fundraiser, students were able to draw cash of \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$100 from the representative's money bag. Our top sellers were Preston Lewis and Faith Woodard. Thanks to all of our students for your hard work and dedication! Below, we showed our appreciation for those students who sold 7 or more items by rewarding them with a pizza celebration. You deserved every slice!





Representatives from the Mississippi Department of Corrections stopped by A.W. James to surprise 10 students with bicycles for the Christmas holidays. Thank you for thinking of our students during your holiday giveaway!



Above, thanks to our Exceptional Education Assistant, Brenda Mickey, the gifts kept coming in. Through her connection with Marie Genres of Des Moines, Iowa, students in grades Pre-K -5th were able to receive a free book from Scholastic to read while at home during the holiday season. Thank you Mrs. Mickey for blessing our students. Below, representatives from the Sunflower County Sheriff's Department popped in to spread the magic of Christmas to 3rd grader Bre'Aysia Amision and 5th grader Anjaliyah Phillips. To top it off, Harvey Burchfield, the Mayor of Drew brought in gifts from the city for several families from our yearly angel tree. What a wonderful way to put a smile on children's faces! A world of thanks to all those who gave this holiday season!





# CONSTRUCTION ZONE

The best gift before going home for the holidays was the wonderful program presented by our 1st and 2nd grade students. We take this time to say thanks to our teachers and students for an outstanding performance!



Word of the month

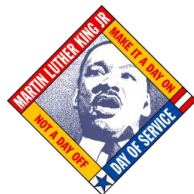
**Courage**

Courage is the ability to do something that frightens one.



**Jan. 1st**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**



**Martin Luther King Program  
Jan. 17th**



**Jan. 23rd**



**School Level  
Jan. 15th**



**Jan. 20th**



**Feb. 2nd**



**Feb. 14th**



**Feb. 17th**



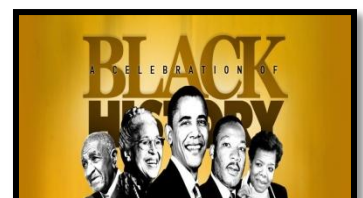
**Jan. 13th-17th**



**Jan. 22nd**



**Feb. 10th-14th**



**Black History Program  
Feb. 21st**