The Eagle Express

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

April 2021 April 2021

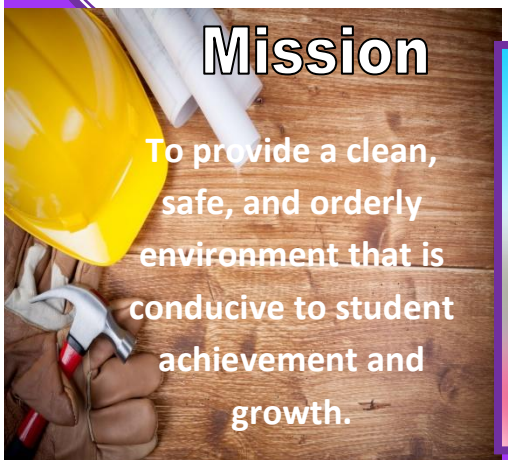
Let's Talk!!!!

April is coming in with turbulence, surprises, hope and changes. Many changes are happening with our children's education. Students will begin in person school on Monday, April 12th, 2021. We are excited to see our children and we want to assure students, parents and the community that we are following guidelines to keep children, teachers and staff safe while at our school. Some parents opted to continue with virtual school. If you chose that option, your child may not have the same teacher that he/she has been having throughout the year. Because virtual school is being phased out and the majority of the students are in the building, the District is planning to place some teachers to teach virtually in an effort to serve all of the students with the best instruction. Whichever option you chose, virtual or in-school, your choice will remain intact for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year (June 11, 2021) and your child will be educated by a competent, certified and qualified educator.

Students in grades PK, Kindergarten and 1st grade will be dropped off at the East end of the building between 7:15 and 8:00 a.m. After 8:00 a.m. parents, please bring – BRING – your child to the main entrance door so that they may have a temperature check and YOU can sign them in school. Do NOT allow students to walk to the main entrance door without an adult.

Students should wear uniforms. Our dress code remains the same. Navy shirts or Orange shirts and Navy pants or Khaki pants. Navy blue or Khaki skirts and jumpers may also be worn by girls. No shoes with toes out, no athletic slides, cute slides, etc. are acceptable. The entire foot must be covered. No large jewelry is acceptable and students are not allowed to head gear such as hoodies, caps, bonnets, etc. ALL students are REQUIRED to wear a mask. This is a part of our safety plan and we want everyone to stay safe. We expect to end our school year on a positive note. Please help us to keep everyone safe. Coronavirus shots are available, we encourage you to take yours.

Barbara C. Akon
Principal



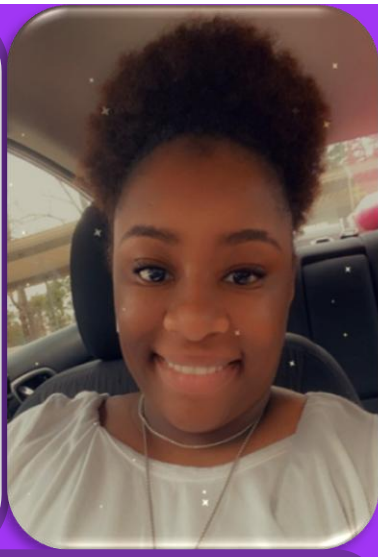
Congratulations!

Parent of the Month

Zesley Pegues is the proud mother of Kindergartner Zamora Pegues. Ms. Pegues has mastered the art of balancing work and supporting her daughter in the world of virtual learning.

We Will Miss You

The A.W. James faculty and staff send well wishes to our beloved Courtney Jackson who served as our Life Help Therapist. Ms. Jackson recently accepted a position in another location and will be truly missed.



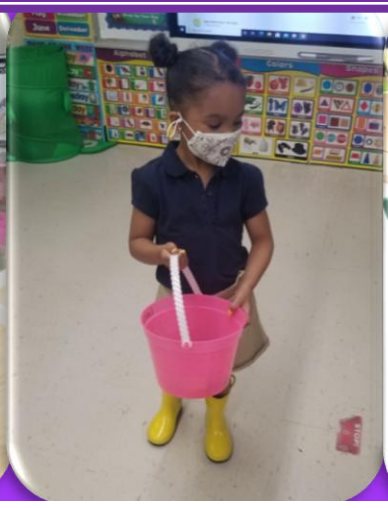
3rd Grade ELA teacher, Annie Bowen is leading the way for Danny Dollar Academy. Danny Dollar Academy is a revolutionary financial literacy program created for elementary students to learn the basics of finance, entrepreneurship, and economics. The program is based on the best-selling children's book Danny Dollar Millionaire Extraordinaire: Lemonade Escape. The program is sponsored by Atmos Energy, NextGen Personal Finance and MS Council on Economic Education.

During Read Across America Week, students were asked to grab their hats and read. In order encourage participation, students were asked to wear red and blue on Monday, wear crazy socks on Tuesday, wear wacky colors on Wednesday, and grab a friend and dress up as twins on Thursday. We appreciate all of our students who participated in this event.

Pre-K teacher, Amanda King and her students are participants of the GHMBC, Growing Healthy Minds, Bodies and Communities preschool curriculum. This program is piloted through the University of Mississippi. The program emphasizes social-emotional learning through the integration of yoga/mindfulness, gardening/nutrition, anti-bullying/anti-bias, and physical activities to support the wellbeing of children in Mississippi.

From the Aeroponic Tower Garden to the plate, students sit down to enjoy a salad filled with the lettuce grown in their Tower Garden. The class grew a healthy supply of lettuce, dill, basil and kale.

Students in Ms. King's Pre-K class were in search of the golden egg as they participated in an Easter egg hunt. Raegin King found the golden egg in group A and Kai'Lani Allen found it in group B. After the hunt, students came together to see who had collected the most eggs and reveal all the prize money they found. Several eggs were filled with monetary surprises.



Ms. Ida Cannon Attendance Officer

When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating. When students attend school consistently, they are more likely to succeed academically.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

During our Read Across America celebration, Friday was all about the parents. Parents were asked to wear their favorite college t-shirt, jersey or school shirt. Those who participated received a token of appreciation from our parent liaison, Susan Rash. We certainly want to thank our parents who took part in the celebration and sent in photos to show their support for the event.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Apr. 1st

Apr. 2nd

Apr. 4th

Apr. 5th

KRA
Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

Apr. 20th-28th

Apr. 21st

Apr. 22nd

Questar

MAAP Assessment
May 3rd-12th

May 9th

May 31st