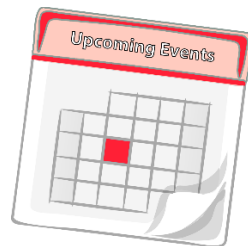


# JETSTREAM

A South-Western  
City School  
jcses.swcsd.us

“Providing the keys to unlock the future”

J. C. Sommer Elementary  
3055 Kingston Ave., Grove City, Ohio 43123  
(614) 801-8350



## October Highlights

- 2-6 Book Fair
- 4-6 VIP Breakfast
- 10 -6:00PM- PTA Meeting - Art Room
- 19 - 6:00 PM PTA Skating Party
- 20 - No School for Students
- 23 - Yearbook Art Contest Begins  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade ELA Test Part 1
- 24 - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ELA Test Part 2
- 27 - COSI on Wheels sponsored by PTA
- 31 - Picture Re-take Day

## November Highlights

- 7 - 1<sup>st</sup> grade OSU vision screening
- 8 - Report Cards Go Home
- 14 - 6:00PM PTA Meeting-Art
- 22-24 - No School

## December Highlights

- 1 - Mother/Son Party
- 11 - 15 PTA Holiday Shop
- 12 - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade IOWA Testing  
6:00 PM PTA Meeting - Art Room
- 13 - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade IOWA Testing
- 21 - Winter Break Starts(Return to  
School 1/3/18)

As always please check the web site for our most current calendar.



## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LINE & REMINDERS**

**614-801-8356**

**PLEASE call and let us know if your student will be absent. You may call anytime, this is a 24 hour hotline.** We need to verify where each student is and your phone call will save us valuable time.

---Please help us stress the importance of being at school every day and being on time. When students are late, they miss important information, work, and routines that put them behind the rest of the day. Being late to school not only puts your child behind, but it disrupts the rest of the classroom. Your help in getting your child to school on time is greatly appreciated.

---Students that wish to eat breakfast at school need to arrive by 8:00 a.m., to assure they have time to eat and are not tardy to class.



### **Principal's Perspective**

We will continue this year teaching social skills to our students. One big way that you can help us is by modeling and using our "J.C. Way" expectations and language at home with your son or daughter. We are working with our students on becoming the best people that they can be. Our "J.C. Way" is our vehicle to get us there. I am including the "J.C. Way" in this newsletter so that you can have a copy.

This school year is off to a great start, and we are enjoying getting to know your children and watching them grow. We value the partnership we have with you as parents/guardians and know that together we can make your children the best young people possible.

Respectfully,

Elaine McLaughlin

# The J. C. Way

## **Be Safe:**

Be safe physically and emotionally  
Maintain a non-threatening environment  
Give put-ups and appreciations  
Keep hands and feet to yourself

## **Be Responsible:**

Do what you are supposed to do  
Keep on trying  
Use self-control  
Think before you act  
Be accountable for your choices  
Clean up after yourself

## **Be Respectful:**

Treat others how you want to be treated  
Accept differences  
Use good manners  
Be considerate of the feelings of others  
Deal peacefully with anger

## **Be Honest:**

Be honest with self and others  
Do what you'll say you'll do  
Have the courage to do the right thing  
Take ownership of actions and words

## **Be Caring:**

Be kind  
Be compassionate and show you care  
Express gratitude  
Forgive others  
Help people in need  
Strive for growth  
Always try your best  
Ask questions  
Make all you do worthy of pride  
Continually working on your challenge areas  
Move forward academically and socially

## Parking Lot Issues and Reminders

PLEASE remember these simple rules so everyone can get through the lot **SAFELY** and **QUICKLY**

In the **MORNING**-----

1. **DO NOT GET** out of your car, this causes backup in traffic flow. If you need to get out of your car please park in the lot.
2. If you are here before 8 AM and not dropping your child off, please pull around, pass the curve, to the playground fence.
3. While you are waiting in the line, please use that time to have your child gather their things and say your good byes so when it is your turn your child is ready to exit the car. For your child's safety **HAVE YOUR CHILD EXIT ON THE CURB SIDE OF THE CAR.**
4. Pull up as far as possible so other children can get out of their vehicles and the line continues to move. **PLEASE FOLLOW DIRECTIONS FROM STAFF MEMBERS DIRECTING TRAFFIC.**

In the **AFTERNOON**-----

1. **DO NOT GET** out of your car, this causes backup in traffic flow.
2. Please keep your child's name in the window of your vehicle all year. This helps in having your child ready when you pull up. And, Mrs. Seibert will not always be there 😊
3. Please do not park behind cars that are parked in our parking lot.

**KINGSTON AVENUE** is NOT a drop off point for car riders or walkers. It is for bus drop off only! We have seen children dropped off and run across the street between cars and buses. Please consider the safety of your child and everyone else's children.

### Collection and Payment for Charged School Meals

It is important for children to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day. The procedure below, required under the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act, will be used in the event that a child neither has a lunch nor the funds to purchase a lunch at school:

1. When a student has three (3) meals charged in succession, an automated call will be made to notify the parents of the meal debt.
2. When a student has five (5) meal charges in succession, a member of the Food Service Department will make a personal call to parents to work on a resolution of the meal debt.
3. Upon further charged meals with no resolution, the school office will be engaged for assistance in working with parents to find a resolution to the meal debt.

Parents may pay for school meals, view their child's account balance and make automatic payments online via the PayPAMS system. More information on PayPAMS can be found on our Web site at <https://goo.gl/FWIO9t>.

## **J.C. SOMMER STUDENT AMBASSADORS**

When students enter the doors of our school this year, they are greeted by smiling fourth grade students who have been selected to serve as Student Ambassadors. In addition to offering a friendly greeting, ambassadors may help students with doors, give directions or gentle reminders to walk safely in the hallway. They also assist in the cafeteria during breakfast, helping younger children with milk cartons and breakfast supplies. If a new student arrives, a Student Ambassador will be available to give a tour of the building and introduce the new student to teachers and staff. We are excited to have this group of student leaders this year. Thanks to the following students for being a great example of the students at J C Sommer:

Kora Roberts  
Brady Corbin  
Anthony Wells  
Jenna Stephenson  
Rachel Roose  
London Haskins  
Khloe Hall  
Abrielle McConnell  
Vicky Thompson

Kevin Rock  
Izzy Brockmeyer  
Mady Brockmeyer  
Lauren Jennings  
Abbie Light  
Avery Crawford  
Vande Holser  
Rylee Harlor

## A NEW WAY TO RECOGNIZE STUDENTS

Recognizing the efforts and achievements of students is important to all of us at J.C. Sommer Elementary. Noticing positive and constructive behaviors helps to reinforce these actions and encourages children to strive to meet their academic and social goals. This year teachers and staff in our school will be recognizing students who have done something commendable by sending Jet Mail to these students and their families. Families will receive a Jet Letter announcing the occasion and students will receive a certificate naming a particular behavior or accomplishment that the adult believes is noteworthy. We encourage families to celebrate this event with their children in some special way and to continue to support our students in all the ways that they are striving for growth here at J.C. Sommer.

Following is the list of students who were recognized this month.

Colton Legg	Boston Nirider	Savannah Ford	Ellie Andrews
Dominic Austin	Liam Benson	Maggie Smythe	Maci Williams
Bryson Whitaker	Emily Bortner	Mark Lewis	Sebastian Clarey
Liam Benson	Ryan Hubbard	Joel Foster	Julia Allen
Lexi Antry	Kemron Birchfield	Braden Rodriguez	Olivia Reber
Jayden Estep	Skyler Burris	Sophia Crow	Carson Gould
Lucas Topping	Brooklyn Cress	Madison Malone	Ella Pearson
Sophia Johnson	Mashall Wolfe	Morgan Yount	Addison Allmon
Owen Cooper	Jace Kendall	Bridget Johnson	Austin Mohler
Rylee Harlor	Aubrielle MacConnell		

## Student Council

We are currently in the process of holding elections at JCS for Student Council Representatives. Watch the next newsletter for our elected students.

## Our Summer Reading Program Reaped Rewards

**We celebrated our summer reading with a GIANT PIZZA! Last year we had 55 students participate and this year we had 89 students! Way to go Readers!!! We hope to have even more students join us next year. Keep reading and have a great year!**

Rachel Elder	Taylor Lloyd	Katelyn Hayes	Jack Laemmle
Camden Ross	Katie Weiss	Adison Menke	Harmeni Treece
Myricol Treece	Mark Lewis	Isaac Miller	Fiona Seese
Ava Zimnox	Lilly Pearson	Dominic Goodman	Luke Masa
Claire Bullett	Maci Williams	Ella Adams	Bailey Cutlip
Jack Hicks	Katie Turner	Ellie VanValkenburg	Ella Robinson
Jack Thomas	Abbey Bapst	Johnny Davis	Ryan Hubbard
Cole Zimnox	Ryland Gregory	Zachary Longfellow	Sage Ford
Colton Swincher	Trey Wills	Gabe Cramblet	Henry Ciocca
Cami Radcliff	Cade Ross	Lucy Macklin	Jacob Saxton
Lilly Frazzitta	Emmy Kreuser	Hayden Gaines	Kameron Birchfield
Lexi Antry	Madison Malone	Regan Bradhurst	Matthew Hursey
Cayla Moody	Vincent Agriesti	Danielle Hamilton	McKenna Miller
Abby Pearson	Diesel Lotz	Addison Scott	Ella Weimlinger
Brooklyn Cress	Serenity Vickers	Aaden Little	Talon Gerke
Clay Bullett	Sylvia Heiby	Danica Ocheltree	Ella Pearson
Julie Jarvis	Ryley Hubbard	Laurian Joreski	Kylee McConnell
Lydia Miller	Emma Antry	Olivia Crow	Shay Jackson
Lilly Francis	Addison Allmon	Owen Cooper	Jocelyn Ross
Christina Susi	Kylea Williams	CJ Royal	Marshall Wolfe
Grant Radcliff	Leila Todd	Kingston Williams	JT Boyce
Addy Moore	Natalie Sanchez	Mason Holt	Abrielle McConnall

Enjoy the following pictures from our pizza party. Thanks Mrs. France for organizing this wonderful affair.



**1st graders**



**2nd graders**



**3rd graders**



**4th graders**

**As always keep reading!!**



## How Important is Reading at Home?

If your child reads 5 minutes at home each day, that totals 900 minutes for an entire school year. Your child will be exposed to 282,000 words and perform in the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on reading tasks. If your child reads 20 minutes at home each day, totaling 3600 minutes for the school year, he/she will be exposed to 1,800,00 words! This will put your child in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in reading when compared to his/her peers. Please encourage your child to read nightly in order to reach the goal of becoming a successful reader and a life-long learner.

## Tips for Listening to your Child Read

1. What can I do when my child stops at a hard word?

**Say....**

"That's a hard part, you found it!"

"What can you do to help yourself?"

"Try something"

"Go back and reread."

"Think about the story, what would make sense?"

"What's the biggest first part you know?"

"What word would sound right?"

"Could it be.....?" (suggest a word)

**\*\*Always have your child reread the sentence when he/she has worked on a word. This will help keep the meaning even when solving words.**

2. What can I do after a mistake has been made?

Let your child read on. He/She will either notice the mistake or not notice it.

If the mistake doesn't make sense, use one or more of tips listed under number 1.

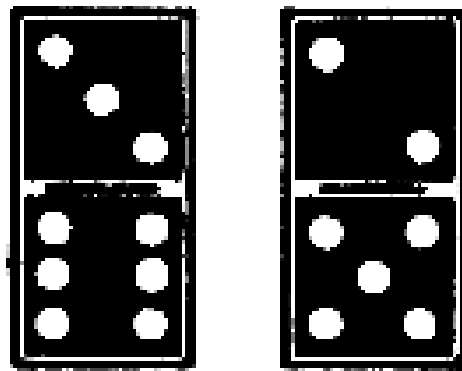
**\*\*Wait for your child to finish reading a whole sentence before pointing out that something tricked him/her. Sometime he/she will notice the mistake and reread.**

# MATH IDEAS

## Quick, Easy, and Correct

Whether your student is busy subitizing, unitizing, or decomposing, his goal is to solve the problem in the most efficient manner. I often describe efficiency to students as solving a problem in a quick, easy, and correct way.

For our kindergarteners, it is recognizing that I don't have to count all of the dots on a ten frame. If the top row is full, then I know that there are more than 5 dots so I can start counting at the number 5 and "count up" the dots in the bottom row. Same as with "6".



Student: "7,8,9"   Student: "5, 6, 7"

For our older students, efficiency is being able to analyze a problem and decide which strategy to use so that they can mentally solve the problem with as little effort as possible. Adults usually use a traditional algorithm, so here is a peek at some other strategies. For example: Two addition strategies that students learn are called Friendly Numbers and Place Value.

399 + 451 would be decomposed into:

Hundreds (300 + 400 = 700)

Tens (90 + 50 = 140)

And ones (9+1 =10)

The place value sums are then recomposed into:

$$700 + 140 + 10 = 850$$

While using this strategy, a student can arrive at the correct answer but it is awkward because of the new hundred and ten that is created. In this case the Friendly Number Strategy is much more efficient:

$$399 + 451 = (399+1) + (451-1) \quad 400 + 450 = 850$$

By subtracting 1 from the 451 and then adding it to the 399, the student creates two very "friendly" numbers that are easy to add mentally.

So it is important not only for your student to understand a wide variety of strategies but also for them to understand when to use each strategy so that their work is the most efficient.

## GIANT EAGLE

Shop. Scan. Support our School. Apples for the Students started again on October 1. This program is a great way for our school to earn funds for our schools overall educational needs. Is your Giant Eagle Advantage Card registered? Now's the time to check. All you need is our school code 5678 to verify a card or register a new card.

1. Visit [www.gianteagle.com/AFTS](http://www.gianteagle.com/AFTS).
2. Enter your Giant Eagle Advantage Card number (which appears under the bar code)>
3. Enter the school code. 5268
4. Done! Please encourage your extended family and friends to register too.

# Changing Weather

A quick reminder that with the changing weather, we will go outside for recess if the temperature is above 20 degrees. Please dress your children appropriately.

## Inclement Weather & Calamity Days

We understand that the decision to keep schools open or close them in bad weather has a big impact on our families and staff. We also know that our students are better served - both academically and socially - by being in school. Please know that the safety of our students and staff is always our top priority in any decision of this sort.

## **WHO MAKES THE DECISION?**

The superintendent of schools is responsible for the final decision, based on the factors listed below and recommendations from key staff members.

## **WHEN IS THE DECISION MADE?**

We make every effort to make our decision by 5:30 a.m. or earlier so we can notify radio and TV stations and post the decision on our Web site ([www.swcsd.us](http://www.swcsd.us)), Facebook and Twitter. If we wait longer to announce a closing, our buses are already on the road and many parents will have already left for work, leaving their children at home unsupervised.

## **HOW ARE PARENTS AND THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED?**

Parents will receive a telephone call and/or e-mail through our parent notification system when the decision is made to close school. Please make sure your emergency contact information is up-to-date through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal (Contact Preferences) to receive your notification.

We will also continue to notify the media of all school closings. Parents can check our Web site for closing information ([www.swcsd.us](http://www.swcsd.us)) and/or sign up for Facebook or Twitter notification through the Web site. Many of our local television stations have immediate notifications that can be sent to your e-mail, cell phone or home phone.

Given the fact we have approximately 20,685 students, we ask that you not call the school or the district offices, unless it is an emergency.

## **HOW DO WE MAKE OUR DECISION?**

The decision to keep schools open or close schools in bad weather is based on a careful analysis of various factors including:

Information on road conditions from the transportation staff and local police departments. Careful consideration is given to the most dangerous roads and intersections in the district. Your street may look clear, but travel elsewhere in the district may be very dangerous. The opposite is also true.

The amount of snow and ice that has accumulated.

Whether the conditions are worsening or improving.

Building conditions such as whether the buildings have electricity, heat and water.

Parking lot and sidewalk conditions. We keep in constant contact with our maintenance and custodial staff to make sure our school locations can be safely cleared.

Temperature and wind chill. We do not publish a specific temperature or wind chill at which schools will be closed as different sources can report different air temperatures. In most cases, schools can remain open even when air temperatures fall below zero.

Weather predictions. We prefer not to make our decisions based upon weather predictions, which are not always accurate. Sometimes, this is unavoidable due to the nature of the weather in our part of the state or what other area school districts are doing. We share information with other local school districts and check their status. This does not mean that South-Western Schools will automatically be closed if Columbus City Schools are closed.

### **WILL WE HAVE A TWO-HOUR DELAY?**

The district has studied a two-hour delay as part of the decision to keep school open or to close. As we studied this option we involved a variety of staff, community, and parents. Based upon the vast differences in the 119-square mile geographic areas of the district, it was determined that in those rare cases when a two-hour delay would be an option it would be more appropriate to close school for that day. Part of this reasoning is based upon those situations in which a two-hour delay would eventually become a school closing. Students may be left without child care, care givers outside the district may not be appropriately prepared for the change, a student may be left at a bus stop for an extended period of time waiting for a bus, or an individual may not receive word of the change.

At this time, the district has determined that it will make the decision to stay open or to close based upon the conditions that exist first thing in the morning. While this could ultimately close school for an additional day, we believe that it is safer for students and staff than the alternative. Therefore, at this time, the district will not use a two-hour delay as an option.

### **WILL SWCSD CLOSE SCHOOL IF CONDITIONS WORSEN?**

Please remember that for the safety of our students and staff, we cannot reverse an early morning decision to keep schools open - even if weather conditions worsen. This could endanger many of our students as our parents rely on the information and leave for work.

If we close schools early and send students home, many return to unsupervised bus stops and empty houses. While we make every attempt to avoid early dismissal, if conditions worsen during the day or we lose power and/or heat, we may be forced to close school early, dismissing the high school students first. In the event of such a decision, we will notify parents through our Parent Notification System of the change. We also urge you to pay close attention to local radio and television stations, and Web sites for timely updates. Students will not be able to use school telephones to make arrangements, so please have an emergency back-up plan in place in the event of an unexpected dismissal.

Please know that we do our best to keep our students and staff safe during inclement weather. There is no perfect decision for everyone. We hope this explanation helps everyone understand the process that our staff members and superintendent use to make the safest possible decision for everyone.

### **Television Stations**

**WCMH (NBC-4)**

**[www.nbc4i.com](http://www.nbc4i.com) (text and e-mail alerts available through sign up)**

**WSYX (ABC-6)  
Sign up)**

**[www.abc6onyourside.com](http://www.abc6onyourside.com)(text message alerts available through**

WTTE (Fox-28)

[www.myfox28columbus.com](http://www.myfox28columbus.com) (text alerts available through sign up)

WBNS (Channel 10)

[www.10tv.com](http://www.10tv.com) (e-mail alerts available through sign up)

ONN (Ohio News Now)

[www.ohionewsnow.com](http://www.ohionewsnow.com) (e-mail alerts available through sign up)

**Web sites** [www.columbusmessenger.com](http://www.columbusmessenger.com)

[www.swcsd.us](http://www.swcsd.us)

[www.dispatch.com](http://www.dispatch.com)

[www.thisweeknews.com](http://www.thisweeknews.com)

**Social Media sites**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/swcsd](http://www.facebook.com/swcsd)

Twitter: @SWCSD

## TALKING TO STRANGERS

It's that time of year again! Cool weather signals the time when people tend to offer children shelter from the cold and it also means it's time to remind our children of various safety issues.

Please take time to talk with your child about strangers and dangerous situations. A good rule of thumb to reinforce is: Say No, Go, Yell and Tell. If your child feels they are in a dangerous situation, they should say no, run away, yell as loud as they can, and tell an adult.

Children need to know that strangers can be men or women, young or old. They can have any color skin. Some are tall and some are short, some are thin and some are heavy. Some strangers can speak different languages. Most strangers are nice, but some strangers are mean. Because you don't know if someone is a good stranger or a bad one, you should not talk to anyone you don't know.

Here are some rules for staying safe that you can share with your child:

1. Never take rides from strangers. A stranger may offer you a ride or stop you to ask a question. They may even call you by name. That can be a trick. No matter what a stranger says, never go near a stranger's car.
2. Never take gifts from strangers. A stranger might offer you a gift. Never take gifts or candy, food or drinks from any stranger.

3. Always go straight home after school. Hanging around on the playground or at the bus stop are unsafe practices and could result in a dangerous situation.
4. Always let your parents know where you are. When playing away from home, let your parents know where you are. Never play in deserted areas and always stay in groups and don't take shortcuts through wooded areas.
5. Always get help if there is trouble. If you are grabbed or touched by a stranger, run and scream and tell your parents or another adult right away. If you see a stranger grab a friend or someone approaches you, remember as much as you can about what that stranger looks like. If the stranger is in a car, write down the license plate number of the car and remember the color and type of car. Know safe places you can go like a police or fire station.
6. Never open the door to a stranger. If you are playing at home alone and someone knocks at the door or rings the doorbell, never open the door to someone you do not know.
7. Never tell anyone on the phone you are home alone.
8. Avoid walking anywhere alone. Use the buddy system.

Web site resources:

Nation Crime Prevention Council [www.mcgruff.org](http://www.mcgruff.org)

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)