

James H. Law Elementary School \*T.E. A. Recognized 2008\*



# OWL EXPRESS

12401 S. Coast Dr., Houston, TX 77047

Office (713) 732-3630 Fax (713) 732-3633

Math, Science & Technology Magnet Programs

**Calendar of Events**

- May 4 – 8**  
Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 5**  
Cinco de Mayo
- May 6 – 12**  
Nurse’s Appreciation Week
- May 15**  
Law Support Staff Appreciation Day (Custodians and Food Service Providers)
- May 16**  
Pre-K & K Pre-Registration
- May 19**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Math Re-Test
- 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> - Field Trip to the zoo
- May 21@ 6pm**  
Law VIPS Appreciation Dinner (Parent Volunteers, HISD Bus Drivers and Private Bus Drivers, Crossing Guards)
- May 21**  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade Awards Program @ 8:30 a.m.
- May 22**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Awards Program @ 8:30 a.m.

**Principal’s Note**  
**SUCCESS**

Success is a very personal thing, but I think most people would agree that true success is about being fulfilled in life. It’s that feeling of deep satisfaction that starts in your soul and radiates through your being. The end result is true happiness and peace of mind. I would think that there is no greater feeling to look back toward the end of your life with a “smile in your heart,” knowing that many of your dreams came true, and that you made a positive difference in the lives of others.

It is my sincere hope that you will find following ideas to be useful to your life:

- Discover your personal definition of success
- Discover your core existence, or your reason for being
- Set clearly defined goals
- Never waiver in your belief that you can achieve them
- Manage your attitude
- Persevere when adversity strikes...and it will
- Learn to take risks and embrace change
- Keep kindness in your heart...always
- Love and be loved
- Make a difference whenever, wherever, and however, you can.

**YES**, life truly is a journey, and here’s wishing you the very best on yours. Find your own personal **SUCCESS!**

*Hannah Mose Harvey, Principal*

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**A Message from Ms. Brigham**

Ms. Brigham is happy to announce that she is retiring at the end of this school year. It has been a privilege and pleasure to service the students at James H. Law for twenty years. What was most rewarding was the fact that I was able to teach and watch the children grow into productive citizens in my neighborhood. Ohhh, but the icing on the cake was to actually teach some of my ex-students’ children. What a joy!

I will be looking forward to servicing Law students as a professional tutor next school year.



**May 25**  
 Memorial Day Holiday  
 No School

**May 26**  
 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grades Award  
 Program @ 8:30 a.m.

**May 27**  
 PK and K Grades Award  
 Program @ 8:30 a.m.

Classroom Celebrations  
 @ 1:30 p.m.

**May 28**  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotional  
 Ceremony @ 8:30 a.m.

EARLY DISMISSAL  
 12:00P.M

**Last Day of School**

**LAST DAY FOR YMCA  
 IS WEDNESDAY, MAY  
 27<sup>TH</sup>**

**TRAFFIC SAFETY  
 ISSUES**

\*Follow the Speed Limit  
 in the school zone.

\*Lower your car stereos  
 in the school zone.

\*Do not get out of your  
 car and leave your car  
 parked in the middle of  
 the street to stop the flow  
 of traffic.

\*Please move cautiously  
 through the school zone  
 and do not stop the flow  
 of traffic.

\*For safety reasons,  
 students are **NOT**  
 allowed to be dropped off  
 or picked up in the  
 teachers' parking lot.

**Parental Involvement**

**Mr. and Mrs. Fontenot**, Parents of Law ES, and the founders and organizers of **The Literacy Enrichment Center Books for Boys Campaign**, are on a crusade to partner with many businesses to assist Law with stocking the library with books for our children to read in an effort to **increase literacy** at Law.

As parents of growing young boys, Mr. and Mrs. Fontenot are keenly aware of current research that shows that boys and girls approach books and reading in vastly different ways. While research has shown that most girls prefer fiction and read for pure pleasure, it has also shown that most boys gravitate toward non-fiction and read to obtain information they can apply directly to their lives. Boys read to find out more factual information about the things they're interested in. They would especially like to help expand our school library's selection of books that will attract boys to reading (books that are on the kinds of things boys like). Research has shown that the better readers are, the better their test scores.

"Hats off" to Mr. and Mrs. Fontenot, true examples of what it means to have **"Parents as Partners in Education."**

**Class News**

**Pre-Kindergarten**

We celebrated Cinco De Mayo on 5-5-09 with lots of food, fun, and activities. Students and staff will dress in Mexican cultural attire as well.

**Bilingual Kindergarten**

Our kindergarten students celebrated a feast regarding Cinco de Mayo at Law. Students learn about its history by making some art expositions, reading stories, wearing Mexican attire and eating delicious Mexican foods and desserts prepared by their moms.

**Physical Education**

Law Elementary School will be holding it's Jump Rope for Heart Celebration on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. This will take place during the students' physical education classes. Please remember to turn in permission slips to participate in this event. You do not need money to take part in this event. Just bring in the signed permission slip. A big "Thank You" goes out to all students and their families who helped to raise money for the American Heart Association! Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated. Mrs. Misher

**Library  
 Congratulations!!**



**Name That Book Contest Winners!!  
 Third Place!!**



|                |                     |                    |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Jared Shanklin | Isaiah Stubblefield | Francisco Carranza |
| Kailyn Elder   | Ryan Nguyen         | Keila Black        |

These students are members of Ms. Germany's second grade class.

**\*Please return all Library Books by May 25, 2009**

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**HISD's Summer Reading Program**

Summer is approaching and that means it is time for HISD's Summer Reading Program – The Millionaire Club. Summer should be fun, with children reading, learning, and exploring new things to keep building on the hard work they did throughout the previous school year.

HISD's Millionaire Club is designed to help children retain the knowledge they gained during the past year. Research shows that children who do not read over the summer are more likely to lose two months of reading skills. The expectation is that each student in HISD read five (5) books between June and August. If all students read five books this summer . . . HISD students will have read 1 million books.



HISD's Summer Reading Program

\*A Reading Packet will be sent home with each student.

\* Students must wear their school uniform daily.

\*Spirit tee-shirt may be worn on Fridays. Note: Uniform colors are navy blue and khaki bottoms, and navy blue, white, or yellow shirts.

\*Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Law Elementary serves breakfast every morning from 7:00 to 7:30 a.m. Please make sure your children arrive on time in order to receive breakfast.

\*State law requires that all school age children must attend school daily. If a student has more than 8 unexcused absences for the school year that child does not meet promotion standards.

Technology



Renzulli Learning System

Our K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade GT students are enrolled in the Renzulli Learning System. This is a program designed to help your child learn more about his/her interests, talents, the ways he/she likes to learn, and the work he/she enjoys doing. The many enriching and enjoyable enrichment activities are designed especially for your child's interest, talents, and educational level. These activities are available throughout the summer vacation.

The Renzulli Learning System Parent's Home page provides a variety of facilities designed to help parents/guardians learn about and follow the work their children are performing within the RLS.



Frequently asked questions:

How do I get to this page?

To access this page, go to [www.renzullilearning.com](http://www.renzullilearning.com)

- sign in through the Parents link from the RLS Home page, or
- from the Home links or buttons found on several RLS Parent pages.

What can I accomplish through this page?

The following options are available to all registered users from this page:

- **My Kids** – provides links to help the user to **inspect** information about their child's use of the RLS, including the child's learning profile, sites visited, and work portfolio. **Note:** Information is presented in read-only format.
- **Enrichment Activities and Descriptions** – offers a summary and overview description for each the 14 enrichment and differentiation activity categories provided with this system.
- **Parent Resources** – links to a number of learning maps, lesson plans and related templates, survey forms and other information designed for parents.
- **FAQs** – Answers to question about the Renzulli Learning System, how it functions, and what it offers parents.
- **Edit Registration** – for changing the User Profile, including User Name and/or Password, and to add or delete one (1) or more children to or from the parent's authorized review list.

**Note:** The user must know each child's RLS User Name and Password before adding them.

- ✓ **Presently the program is only available to GT students.**
- ✓ **For help with user names and passwords contact [bsaleem@houstonisd.org](mailto:bsaleem@houstonisd.org)**

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CONGRATS! Jeremy Singleton, 4<sup>th</sup> grader, in Mrs. McCowan's class was chosen to do the welcome at his church, El Bethel Missionary Baptist Church for their youth program. Jeremy has won many oratorical contests on the local and regional level. Way To Go Jeremy!!

**Healthy, Fun Summer Snacks For Kids**

**\*Frozen Orange**

Ingredients: Oranges and orange juice



Final Product: Frozen orange in orange

Cut tops off oranges and remove insides. Place insides with orange juice into blender and pour mixture into empty orange shells. Freeze.

**\* Push Pops**



Ingredients: Nonfat plain yogurt, frozen blueberries, push-up pop molds

Final Product: Push Pop

Mix 1 cup of yogurt with 2 cups of frozen blueberries in a blender. Blend until smooth. Pour into molds and freeze until solid.

**\* Peanut Butter Banana Bites**

Ingredients: Bananas, peanut butter, crushed whole grain cereal (see above cereals); small whole wheat pretzel sticks

Final Product: Peanut butter banana bite

Cut banana into bite size pieces. Spread peanut butter over each piece and dip in crushed cereal.

Can use celery sticks or pretzels for sticks to put pieces on.



**Health**

**IMMUNIZATIONS CHANGES FOR ALL STUDENTS ENTERING KINDERGARTEN 2009-2010**

On March 5, 2009, the Executive Commissioner on Health & Human Services approved several revisions to the "Immunization Requirements for Children and Students in Texas Public and Private Schools" [Title 25, Health Services, Chapter 97, Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §97.61 and §§97,63-97,77].

The changes to the requirements were made in order to update the Texas elementary and secondary school immunization requirements so that they adhere more closely to the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). These changes include:

**Hepatitis A Vaccine:** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering kindergarten, statewide, will be required to have 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine.

**Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccine:** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering kindergarten will be required to have two doses of measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

**Varicella Vaccine:** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering kindergarten and 7th grade will be required to have 2 doses of varicella vaccine. A written statement from a parent (or legal guardian or managing conservator), school nurse, or physician attesting to a child's positive history of varicella disease (chickenpox), or of varicella immunity, is acceptable in lieu of either dose of varicella vaccine.

**IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO CHECK IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE**

This is the link for parents (or anyone else) to determine what vaccines their child needs age 0 – 6 [http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/kidstuff/newscheduler\\_le/](http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/kidstuff/newscheduler_le/)

This is the link for catch-up vaccines age 0 - 6 <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/scheduler/catchup.htm>

This is a link for adults and adolescents to use to determine what they need (quiz). <http://www2.cdc.gov/nip/adultImmSched/>

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**Free Summer Meals Available to Children Starting June 4**

Promoting healthy eating habits in children provides them with life-long health benefits. Well-nourished children are better prepared to learn and perform better in both the classroom and on the playing fields.

HISD believes in providing children with hot, nutritious, well-balanced meals all year round. That's why the district will again provide **free breakfast and free lunch to all of Houston's children between the ages of 1 and 18** at more than 200 schools including **Law Elementary**.

There is no paperwork involved and no registration is needed. A child does not have to be enrolled in summer school to receive a free meal. **The only requirement for the child is to be between the ages of 1 and 18.** Adults may also participate in the program by purchasing breakfast for \$1.75 and lunch for \$3.25.

**Children can stop by** any one of the participating HISD schools between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. for breakfast and between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for lunch. The meals will be offered Monday through Friday, beginning on Thursday, June 4, and will continue through Wednesday, July 1.

Questions regarding the Summer Food Service Program may be directed to HISD/ARAMARK Food Services at 713-491-5944.

### Great Expectations

It's time to say good-bye  
Our year has come to an  
end.  
I've made more cherished  
memories  
and many more new friends.

I've watched your child  
learn and grow  
and change from day to day.  
I hope that all the things  
we've done  
Have helped in some small  
way.

So it's with happy memories  
I send them out the door,  
With great hope and  
expectations  
for what next year holds in  
store.

[http://www.alaboon.com/  
end\\_of\\_school  
poems.htm](http://www.alaboon.com/end_of_school_poems.htm)



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**August 24, 2009**

First Day of School for  
the 2009 – 2010 school  
year

## James H. Law Literacy & Title I News Helping Hands Working Together for Student Success The Literacy Corner

### The Literacy Corner

#### James H. Law ES Reads

We want all students to read (or have someone read to them) at least 10 books during summer break. We also want students to write some sort of book summary telling about each book that they have read. Therefore, we are asking that you take your child (ren) to the public library each week so that they may check-out a book. You can assist them with reading it and then completing a book summary. This is a great time to read to / with your child, or have them read to you.

### Good Enough is Neither

All too often "good enough" is where the  
weak hearts stop  
It keeps the very best in each from coming  
to the top  
"Enough" implies just getting by and "good"  
falls short of best  
So "good enough" is average stuff and seldom  
meets the test  
The ones who "shine" and seem to find success  
are those who dare  
To charge right past old "good enough" and  
show the world they care  
Never being satisfied with an average plan  
They work and think and push themselves  
to do the best they can ---  
Remember that the choice is yours and you alone  
choose either  
But those who "shine" are those who know  
that "good enough" is neither.

### Achievement Motivation

- **Clearly communicate to your child (ren) that you value learning** – that you think school is important, and you want and expect them to take it seriously.
- **Model** lifelong learning. Show an ongoing interest in learning new things, making new discoveries, and exploring new topics.
- **Stay in contact** with teachers about your child (ren)'s progress in school. Don't wait for report cards.
- **Encourage motivation** from the *inside out*. Tap into your child's interests and try to connect them to what he or she is learning in school. Don't "pay" your child to learn with money, material things, rewards, or excessive praise; that's motivation from the *outside in*.
- **Learn** along with your child (ren). Go someplace new together and explore. Read the same books and discuss them afterward, or take turns choosing books for everyone to read. Brainstorm a list of questions you're all curious about, and then visit the library to find the answers.
- **Encourage** your kids to do their best at school, but don't expect perfection, and leave room for mistakes.
- If your kids seem apathetic about school or resist going to school, try to find out why. Is school too easy for them, or too hard? **Talk** with their teachers. **Work with** school staff, and **do** what you can to change things.

Parents / Guardians, thank you for your commitment and continued support in the academic lives of our students. Your involvement truly makes a difference. It has been a super year! Have a safe summer. I look forward to seeing you in August, ready for an even better school year!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. A. Moore-Smith  
Literacy Coach