

January 4, 2008

Notes to HJCS Parents

Happy New Year!

The New Year Brings New Activities to HJCS

Sincere best wishes to all our HJCS families for a healthful and happy New Year! We at school are enthusiastic about the new directions we will be heading in as we enter 2008, and we hope you will want to be involved in several of them. To describe a couple:

School Banking to Begin Mid-Month

Something that we think is very important is teaching young people that it is never too early to start saving money. We are beginning an exciting new program in conjunction with First Niagara Bank, and on Monday we will be sending home information and paperwork that will allow your child to open his or her own bank account!

After the paperwork is returned, students will be able to make deposits to their account here at school on Wednesday mornings. This program will begin on January 23rd. We are very excited about this new opportunity and hope that families take advantage of this banking program to start teaching children the value of money.

Be on the lookout next Monday for this valuable information coming home in your scholar's Life's Work folder!

Student Recruitment for 2008-2009 Commences Soon

Believe it or not, now is the time we start planning for next year's classes, so the campaign for new students begins in earnest in a week or so. We expect to enroll 75 youngsters for next year's Kindergarten, and if we have openings in next year's First Grade, we will fill them as well. We also plan to add a few students to the new Second Grade, but they will need to attend a short summer program to learn about our school, its expectations, and our routines such as wall cards and Proactivity.

In February we will send you a form on which you can indicate whether you plan to send your scholar back to Henry Johnson (we surely hope you do!), and your responses will let us know how many openings to plan for in next year's First and Second Grades. This will also be the time for you to indicate whether you have other children you want to attend HJCS. Siblings of current students are automatically enrolled for next year!

For now, though, we would appreciate your help in getting the word out about HJCS. If you know of families who might like to send their Kindergarten, First, or Second Grader to our school next year, please ask them to call the school to request an application (432-4300). You will also begin to see mailings related to our school and hear radio spots encouraging attendance at our Open Houses for Parents of Potential Students. These are scheduled for:

Thursday, Jan. 31, 9 am-11 am and 2 pm to 4 pm

Thursday, Feb. 13, 6 pm-8 pm

Saturday, March 8, 1 pm-3 pm

These are drop-in sessions intended to give guests a view of the school (and students on 1/31) and an opportunity to ask questions. Informational packets will also be provided.

We hope you feel you want to share the good news about Henry Johnson Charter School, and we thank you for your help!



THIS WEEK'S NORTHSTARS:

Remi Martin, Yasin Sidig, TyJa'h Bolton, and Tiera Wilmot

Photos to Welcome the New Year—



Top Three Rows—
At today's assembly, Mr. Banner and Mrs. Caplan lead Kindergartners in reciting "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" and showing us the animals and people Brown Bear saw!



Near right and lower right—
First Graders and Kindergartners stand to recite our "Declaration of Excellence." At upper right, First Graders give Kindergartners the New Sandpaper Cheer (ask your scholar!). At left and below, students in 1A take the lead in doing the wall cards as Ms Petruska looks on with pleasure.

