

DOLPHIN DIGEST

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1
SPRING 2011



James River Elementary School's Writers Club



*The Dolphin Digest
is a new publication
at James River
written by the new
Writers Club.*

4TH GRADE WRITERS BLOSSOM

February 2011 James River Elementary 4th graders had an opportunity to join the newest club in the school . . . the Writers Club. 15 students signed up to participate in the piloted program hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Sponsors Mrs. Chappell and Mrs. van Leliveld met with

students after school each Monday in February as students explored different aspects of writing. Students conducted interviews, wrote sport stories, book and movie reviews, created cartoons and more. Articles were pulled together to create the first edition of the Dolphin Digest publication. In addition, all par-

ticipants began writing and illustrating their own book.

Club sponsor, Mrs. van Leliveld hopes to continue this club in the fall of 2011 when these students are 5th graders. The club helped each participant build on their strengths as writers and discover the author that lives inside.

Numerous Staff New to JRE

Meet Dr. Barreau by Heidi

Dr. Barreau is the principal of James River Elementary School. She started working here in July 2010. It's great to hear that she loves working at James River. Before she was an assistant principal, Dr. Barreau was principal at Aber-

deen Elementary School before coming to JRE. She also taught 7th and 8th grade students and special education. Dr. Barreau was an Assistant Principal at Easterling Primary School in South Carolina, Magruder Elementary in Williamsburg, VA, Tabb

Middle School, and Dare Elementary both of Yorktown, Virginia. Dr. Barreau has a little boy names Jean Michael. She does not have any pets, but she will get some gold fish. This is the story of the best principal ever!



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MRS. WILLIAMS

BY ANNA

Mrs. Williams is a Kindergarten teacher at James River Elementary School. She was born in Virginia and has lived here for 42 years. Mrs. Williams has been a teacher for 21 years. She taught 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade before coming to JRE to teach Kindergarten. The grade she taught the longest was 3rd

grade. She chose to teach Kindergarten for her first time because she said it would be a “Neat Change”. Her favorite subjects to teach are reading and writing. Mrs. Williams’ favorite books are “I’ll Love You Forever” and “Oh the Places You’ll Go”. She likes “I’ll Love You Forever” because she reads it to her three children. She likes “Oh the Places You Will Go” because

she likes rhyming books and likes the way it says life has its ups and downs, but it’s always exciting.

Mrs. Williams says she is a “Soccer Mom” because she takes her kids to their practices and games for her free time. She also likes to read and play games with her family. For extra-curricular activities, she enjoys walking and working out with weights. Mrs. Williams’

special talent is ballet because she danced for 20 years and was in competitions. Mrs. Williams has 2 dogs that are named Alex and Jack. She also has 2 cats named Smokey and K.C. These are some of the interesting things about Mrs. Williams.



MRS. HALL BY ALEJIHA

*22 years with Williamsburg
James City Schools...*



Hi! My name is Alejiha James and I interviewed Mrs. Hall. Mrs. Hall works in the office with two beautiful ladies and it is very busy some-time. She enjoys meeting a lot of nice parents and children. Mrs. Hall used to work at D.J. Montague Elementary. She

opened D.J. in 1989 and worked in the office until 2011. She worked for Principal Walk for 18 years and Principal Fudge for 2 before coming to James River.

Mrs. Hall has a black lab named Sam and her favorite color is turquoise. Her favorite book is Follow the

River. This book is about two pioneer women that escape from Indians and walked from Ohio to Virginia. In her free time, Mrs. Hall enjoys spending time with her daughter. They enjoy shopping and going out to eat dinner. Welcome Mrs. Hall.

MRS CHAPPELL BY REID



Enjoys teaching children to write for a purpose.

Mrs. Chappell likes to teach and thinks some of the fun parts of teaching are planning the day and seeing the different ways the students come up with to solve a problem. She enjoys teaching “The Writers Club”. She thinks that instead of telling kids how to write,

(capital letters at the beginning of a sentence) it’s more of teaching them to write for a purpose. She thinks teaching Visions is exciting and likes to create the activities with the kids.

Mrs. Chappell has been teaching for 20 years now. She used

to teach at Newport News and DJ Montague. She has three sons she used to teach. She says when she taught them, they said she graded them harder than the rest of the students (which she admits is true) and she became a better teacher.

*Mrs. Harmon
dances the . . .*



Zumba!

MRS. HARMON BY SANAA

Today I just interviewed Mrs. Harmon from second grade. Mrs. Harman has three sons. Jack is 13, Max is 11, and Noah is 8. She also has a dog named Cooper. The reason she came to Williamsburg is because of her husband's job. She used to teach kindergarten

at another school. Her favorite part of teaching is when the students understand what she's saying. Working with the second graders is fun because they have a lot of good questions. Mrs. Harmon loves playing with her children at her house in her free time. Her

favorite book is Mrs. Smith's Incredible Story Book. She likes the book because it shows how a book can come to life. Her extra-curricular activities are reading, photography, scrapbooking, and dancing Zumba. Mrs. Harman likes it here at JRE.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BY OLIVIA

St. Patrick died on March 17, 461 A. D. making March 17th Feast Day in Ireland. St. Patrick was 16 when he was captured to become a slave. St. Patrick was a slave for six years until he escaped. Then he came back and became a Christian missionary. St. Patrick was also

the patron saint in Ireland. On St. Patty's day all of the adults usually wear small bunches of shamrocks on their jackets and hats. The highest record of leaves on a shamrock is 14. Each leaf of a clover means something: first is hope, the second is faith,

the third is love and the fourth is luck. Children wear orange, green, and white badges, and women/girls wear green ribbons in their hair. In Chicago, they dye the river green. The Irish flag is green, orange, and white.

"Each leaf of a clover has a different meaning"

RECIPIE TIME BY OLIVIA

What did the leprechaun find at the end of the rainbow?

This pot of Yellow Jell-O . . .
GOLD!



Items Needed:

- 1 package of yellow Jell-O
- 1 cube shaped cookie cutter
- 1 decorative pot

Directions:

Make Jell-o as instructed. Let it cool in a flat baking pan.

- Use cookie cutter to cut into cubes.
- Place cubes in pot and
- enjoy Gold Jell-O



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Battle of the Books by Julian Montes-Martinez

Battle of the Books started in November and has been fun. Fourth and Fifth grades have been reading all fifteen books in preparation of the Battle of the Books competition at the Williamsburg Regional Library. They had their final meeting on March 10 and

that was when they chose the top five students to participate in the competition. On the team were three fourth graders and two fifth graders. The three fourth graders are Thomas , Jack , and Julian . The fifth graders were Michael and Jack. The first battle was on March

14, 2011. Although they did not win the competition, the team showed a great effort and received fourth place. If you see the five people on the team, say “Good Job!”



Three great books by Dennis, Zach, and Cole

Hey boys and girls! I want to tell you about my favorite book. My favorite book is Goosebumps The curse of Mummy's Tomb by R. L. Stine. I like this book because it's about a boy named Gabe who hates his uncle's daughter Sari because

she is always playing pranks on him. The two go visit a Mummy's tomb where a strange man scares them. This is where the mysterious adventure begin. If you like this book, check out the series GOOSEBUMPS by R.L. Stine.

I recently read the book Brian's Winter written by Gary Paulson and would really recommend it. In this book, a thirteen-year-old boy named Brian survives an airplane crash in the Canadian mountains. He is the only survivor and ends up hav-

ing to spend three whole months by himself. Read this book to discover how he makes it on his own! It is very exciting! Some other titles by Gary Paulson that you might also enjoy are The River, Brian's Return, and Brian's Hunt.



WOW! SOME UNLUCKY CHILDREN

A Series of Unfortunate Events written by Lemony Snicket is an exciting series of books!

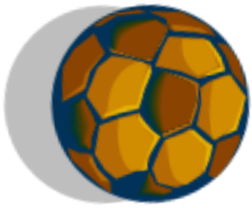
In each of the books, Count Olaf tries to steal the family fortune from the Baudelaire children. The Baudelaire family lost their home, belongings, and parents in an enormous fire. Count Olaf is an evil relative of

the Baudelaire orphans. In each book, Count Olaf creates plans to try and steal their fortune. In one book, he tries to adopt the children and another he tries to trick the oldest daughter into marrying him. All so he can have control over their fortune. The series is full of mystery and secret codes the

children must solve.

If you are stuck on what to read and want something really interesting and suspenseful that once you start reading you won't want to stop, then I definitely recommend “A Series of Unfortunate Events”.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MS. TRACEY BY HEAVEN



**James
River
2011
Soccer**

How do you feel about teaching the students to play soccer? I LOVE IT!

How good is the team?
We are very good!

How many times have you won? Both of our teams have had a successful year.

How do you decide who gets to play? Everyone gets to play, but we are always looking to see who

has great soccer skills and speed.

Where do the kids get the uniforms? WISC (the Williamsburg Indoor Sports Complex) provides them.

Who are the sponsors? Mrs. Lashley, Mr. Howard (Mr. Howard Wallace), and I are the sponsors.

When and where are the games? The games

are on Saturday mornings at the WISC complex.

How long is the season? The season runs from March until May 14th.



MEETING OUR FRIENDS

Interview with Olivia
by Ben

Today in Writers' Club I interviewed my classmate, Olivia . Olivia's favorite subject is art because she loves drawing! She also does gymnastics. Olivia likes to go to her neighbor's house

to jump on their trampoline. Her favorite book right now is Pork Diaries because it is very funny. This is what I found out about Olivia.

Olivia likes to jump on a trampoline

Interview with Jack
By Imani

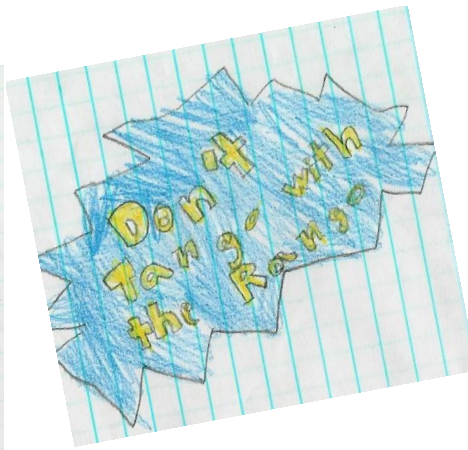
Today in Writers' Club I interview my classmate, Jack . His favorite subject is reading because he LOVES books. He has an extra-curricular activity that he also enjoys, taekwon-do. He also really likes to draw.

This is what I found out about Jack .

**Jack
LOVES
Books!**



Movie Review by McKinely



Are You Looking for a Good Movie? Come See Rango!

A movie about a lizard that ends up in an old town named Dirt. If you're looking for a movie with comedy and old western action, this movie is for you!

COMICS BY JACK



JRE Writer's Club 2011