

JWE Glossary of Terms

Here at James Williams Elementary we have several words that may be unfamiliar to those of you new to Wrangler ways! Here is a Glossary of those terms.

JWE - Short for James Williams Elementary School.

Dr. James Williams – Former long-time KISD School Board member and local prominent dentist for whom JWE is named after.

Wranglers – JWE’s official school mascot.

Spirit Fridays – JWE students and staff wear their Wranglers Gear each Friday to show their Wrangler spirit.

Wrangler Gear – Wrangler Spirit Wear is available for children and adults of all ages; order forms will come home in the first day packet and may be found at the PTA website, www.jwepta.org

Pony e-Press – Weekly, emailed PTA newsletter which will keep parents updated on upcoming events at school – the Pony Express is a must-read each week! The Pony arrives in your email each Wednesday. Register at www.jwepta.org and you’ll automatically receive the Pony e-Press.

JWE Communications Folder – A maroon, plastic folder that each child at JWE must have for sending home graded papers and other important information on Wednesdays. Folders will be included in the pre-packaged school supplies sold in the spring; they also may be purchased from the PTA at the beginning of the year.

Wednesday Folders – Each child brings home a “JWE Communications Folder” on Wednesdays, and the folder contains all of the graded papers from the prior week, and many other important communications from JWE.

VIPS - Volunteers In Public Schools – KISD’s volunteer program which is in place at each school.

LASSO - Linking Adults and Students in Self-Discovery Opportunities -

An annual one-day event for each grade level each year where volunteers “teach” fun hands on learning experiences to students. The subject matter is based on grade level curriculum, and the themes are: Kindergarten - Fall Festival, 1st Grade – Our Body and Health, 2nd – Texas History, 3rd – Metric Olympics, 4th – Native Americans, 5th - Pioneer Days (Colonial America).

Eureka Science - Eureka Science is a PTA funded, parent/teacher run science program that gives each student (Kindergarten through 5th grade), hands-on science experience. This specially written program for Katy ISD is supplementary to the science lessons that are taught and reinforces the classroom curriculum.

MVP - Math Volunteer Program – A program where volunteers work with students 1-on-1 for a half hour each week to reinforce math concepts and skills.

RSVP - Reading Support Volunteer Program – A program where volunteers read 1-on-1 with students for half an hour each week in an effort to improve their reading literacy and fluency.

F.I.S.H. – *Fourth/Fifth Investigating Science Horizons*: This club is open to eligible Fourth and Fifth grade students who have strong interests in a broad spectrum of Science topics as well as a passion for being good stewards of our environment. F.I.S.H.’s logo is: “Livin’ Green!”.

Masterpiece Art - This program provides student exposure to artists and some of their better known pieces. Masterpiece Art introduces students to artists like Marc Chagall and Jackson Pollock. Parent volunteers present the material to students during Art Class and our creative art teacher, Luanne Humphrey, helps the children create their own piece of art, representative of the artist's work.

Great Composers - The Great Composers program celebrates the musicians who have created master works of music. Parents facilitate a lesson that teaches all about the life and work of one of our many great composers. All materials are provided for our volunteers to present a dynamic lesson for our students.

Reflections – The National PTA program that offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition.

RDR – Read, Deed & Run, an after school program offered to 4th and 5th grade students which focuses on fitness, reading and giving back to the community.

Wrangler Chorale – This is JWE's 5th Grade Choir - it is open to all 5th Graders who are interested in participating; practices are held before school in the mornings.

Ranch Hand Round Up – A program designed to connect and enhance the social skills of all JWE students.

WRC – Wrangler Reading Challenge – A program led by the JWE Librarians.

Howdy Partners – Each class has a male and female Howdy Partners that officially welcomes new students in the classroom to JWE. The Howdy Partner takes the new child on a tour of the school, to meet Mr. Lee, and sits with them at lunch to help them become comfortable with their new environment.

Workbaskets – Each classroom at JWE has a green laundry basket outside of the classroom. Each Homeroom Mom keeps a rotation of volunteers who will assist teachers by cutting out items, stapling together items, doing projects – various at school and at home items to help the teacher. Contact the Homeroom Mom in your child's class if you would like to be included on the rotation.

Book Fair – The JWE Library holds a Book Fair each fall and spring both as a fundraiser for the library, and to promote reading for children.

Response to Intervention (RTI) – RTI is a multi-tiered proactive approach to meeting the academic and/or behavioral needs of struggling students.

Istation - A computer program that delivers individualized reading instruction and intervention.

ISIP - An online assessment of early reading skills that is administered to Kindergarten thru 2nd grade students.

Curriculum Corral - Rooms 1 & 2 currently house JWE's collection of leveled book sets, professional books and other literacy resources to aid teachers in the delivery of a balanced literacy curriculum.

Aerospace Academy (W.I.S.E.) – Fifth grade students go through a selection process to be chosen to participate in the W.I.S.E. Program (Williams Interplanetary Space Exploration), an after school activity for students when they learn about space and prepare for a mock space mission to Mars overnight at JWE.

Fifth Grade Party – Each year in May, a fun-filled party is held for 5th Graders only as a way to say “Goodbye to JWE”!

Hoe-Down – The PTA’s Spring fundraiser, this is an event your family won’t want to miss! Hoe-Down is an evening event for the whole family and includes dinner, entertainment, games for the children, a basket raffle and silent and live auctions.

PTA General Membership Meetings –General membership meetings will be held throughout the year. Meetings begin at 6:45pm and most will be held in the gym. All PTA members are encouraged to attend the meetings!

<http://schools.katyisd.org/jwe> - The address of JWE’s official Katy ISD website

<http://www.jwepta.org> – JWE PTA’s official website – go here to join the PTA, sign-up for the Student Directory, order your child’s Class Shirt and sign-up to volunteer for various volunteer opportunities at JWE.

More Helpful KATY ISD Terms

Academic Support- A special reading and math program offered by Katy ISD for students meeting district requirements for extra help in reading and math.

ESL - English as a Second Language- a program offered by the State of Texas and Katy ISD to aid students who are new to the English language helping them transition to English use in the classroom.

504 - A federal program for general education students. If the student has a disability that is found to be substantially limiting him/her from a major life activity, the student can receive accommodations in the classroom.

Challenge - The Katy ISD program for qualified elementary Gifted and Talented Students that meets once a week for instruction.

OLC - The Outdoor Learning Center- An outdoor classroom setting where students learn about nature and early Katy Life. Students take field trips to the OLC.