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Cougar Tracks

Jarrell Elementary Newsletter - December 8, 2025



Dear JES Community!



The holiday season is here! Our students have been working hard and spreading cheer throughout the halls. This month, we're celebrating learning, kindness, and community. There are some exciting events coming up at school and in our community. We hope you have a chance to enjoy some of them.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with your questions, concerns, or suggestions!

With gratitude,
Lara Hutchinson

Pr



👁 259



Wednesday, December 10

PTO Meeting 5:30 p.m. JES Library

Thursday, December 11

Holiday Choir Concert

Kindergarten 8:30

1st grade 9:15

Wednesday, December 17

School Board Meeting 6:30

Thursday, December 18

Last Day of the 9 weeks and the semester

Friday, December 19

Student Holiday



Please feel free to join one, a few or all of them!



Jarrell Elementary New DAYS!

Monday

Deck the Halls 1


*Wear your
christmas lights
and bells*

Tuesday

Have a Very Merry Texas Holiday! 2



Wednesday

Mele Kalikimaka 3


*Wear Hawaiian Attire
and/or Accessories*

Thursday

Here Comes Santa Clause 4


*Santa Hat,
and Santa Shirt*

Friday

Sweater Weather! 5



Polar Express Day 8


*Wear your
pajamas*

Smooth as velvet, Christmas Mad or Plaid! 9



Chillin' with my Gnomies 10


*Match with a
friend or group*

Baby it's cold outside! 11


*Rock your favorite
holiday scarf &
socks!*

Merry Mismatch 12

*Wear mismatched festive
socks, accessories, or
festive colors that clash
in the best way!*

Merry Grinchmas 15


*Wear Your Grinch,
Who, or Max Attire*

Calling all Santas Helpers 16



Christmas Hair Don't Care! 17


*Christmas hat,
hair, or
headband!*

Holly Jolly Holiday! 18


*Wear something
sparkly and/or
bright!*

LOOKING AHEAD!

HOLIDAY

Friday, December 19th - January 5th

Monday, January 5

Student Holiday

Tuesday, January 6

1st Day of the new semester and 9 weeks

Jarrell Elementary Calendar

[Click here for more events!](#)



259

UIL MEET

February 7, 2026
Saturday Morning: 9 - 1
@ Jarrell Elementary School

Please contact your Campus UIL
Coordinator for more information:

JES: Blythe Ray
IES: Jamie Golla
DCES: Julie Woods



PRIMARIA JISD

CONCURSO UIL

7 de Febrero de 2026
Sábado por la mañana: 9 - 1
@ Jarrell Elementary School

Para obtener más información,
póngase en contacto con el
coordinador de UIL de su campus:

JES: Blythe Ray
IES: Jamie Golla
DCES: Julie Woods

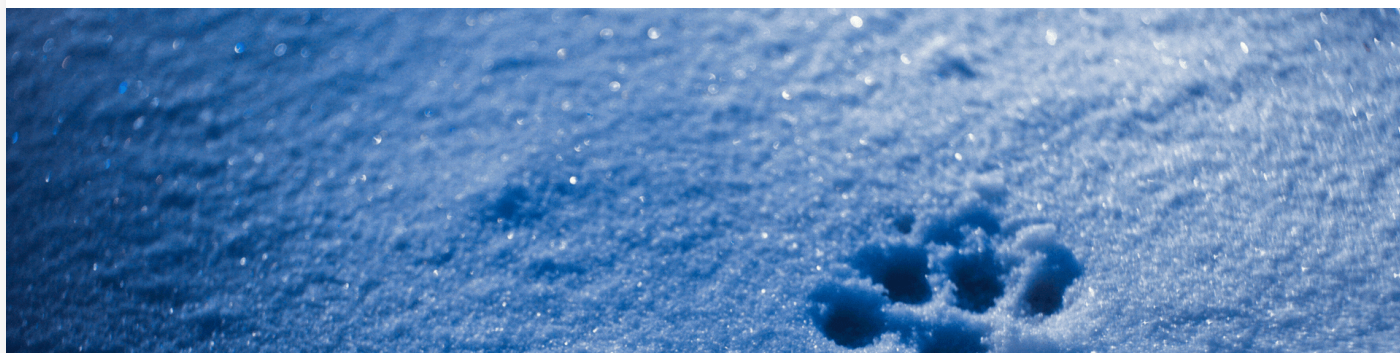


ATTENDANCE

DAILY GOAL 98%

Last week's ATTENDANCE 94.7%

We are doing great this year on ATTENDANCE! We appreciate your making sure your students are here everyday! It truly matters, and it is making a difference in their success!



Little Free Library
December 2025 Newsletter



Fun Fact: A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens, was first published in 1843. The first Little Free Library was created 166 years later.

As falling leaves give way to winter winds, our Little Free Library overflows with precious stories of Christmas cookies and snowy days. Join Amelia Bedilia, Flat Stanley, the Magic Treehouse kids and many other wonderful characters as they go on frosty adventures.

Also, JES would like to give a nod of thanks to our families who are donating books to our Little Free Library. Your generosity makes our library even more special.

We hope you will stop by the Little Free Library and take a book,
leave a book, or trade a book.

Pequeña Biblioteca Gratuita
Boletín de diciembre de 2025



Dato curioso: Cuento de Navidad, de Charles Dickens, se publicó por primera vez en 1843. La primera Pequeña Biblioteca Gratuita se creó 166 años más tarde.

A medida que la caída de las hojas da paso a los vientos invernales, nuestra Pequeña Biblioteca Gratuita rebosa de preciosas historias de galletas navideñas y días nevados. Acompaña a Amelia Bedilia, Flat Stanley, los niños de la Casa Mágica del Árbol y muchos otros maravillosos personajes en sus aventuras heladas.

Además, JES quiere dar las gracias a las familias que donan libros a nuestra Pequeña Biblioteca Gratuita. Su generosidad hace que nuestra biblioteca sea aún más especial.

Esperamos que pasen por la Pequeña Biblioteca Gratuita y se lleven un libro,
dejar un libro, o intercambiar un libro.



Middle of Year Assessments

Your student will be taking Mid-Year Assessments over the next few weeks as well as when we return in January.

December 8th and 9th - 4th and 5th grade - District Based Assessments

December 11th and 12th - 2nd and 3rd grade - District Based Assessments

Please encourage your child to do their very best on these assessments. The data is used to determine next steps to ensure your child has mastered all necessary skills.

Stay Tuned for more information about iReady Middle of Year Assessments in January.

Cold Weather Guidelines

Take a minute to check out our district cold weather guidelines. This may help in sending your student to school appropriately dressed for outdoor recess.

Due to the varying temperatures throughout the day in Texas, we already have an abundance of jackets, hats and sweatshirts in our lost and found. Please stop by and check it out!

If your family could use assistance with cold weather clothes, shoes, hat or gloves, please do not hesitate to reach out to our counselor, Brittany Bui. We have lots of resources available to support.



Pre-K

This week in pre-k we will introduce the terms imagination, real and make-believe. We will look at several fairy tales, understanding that they are make-believe and that they have common story elements. In math, we will be learning the length, height, or width of one object can be compared to another by aligning both objects at the same starting point. We will be exploring measuring tools,

Kindergarten

[NEWSLETTER](#)

1st Grade

Math

Our first graders will be taking an assessment on Module 2 on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday, we will begin Module 3 with the ordering and comparing length measurements as numbers. Students will use centimeter cubes laid alongside the length of objects as they learn that the total number of cubes laid end to end with no gaps or overlaps is the length measure of that object. Students will measure and compare sets of three items using centimeter cubes.

Reading

On Monday, students will take an assessment over unit 5 on Astronomy: space exploration. We will begin unit 6 on Tuesday about the history of the Earth. We will learn about the geographical features of the earth's surface and the inside of the earth and characteristics of its various layers.

Skills

We will continue with unit 4 in skills. Students will continue reading from our reader with a fictional character, but the information in the book is factual, making it an informational text. The reader will include new text features that are often part of informational texts, such as headings within each chapter and a simple picture glossary at the end of the reader. Students will learn to use these text features to locate key facts and information to help with answering questions on activity pages for each story. Students will be decoding words with r-controlled syllables and identify the meaning of words with the affixes -s, -ed, and -ing.

Social Studies:

We will be able to describe how technology has affected the ways families live. We will also identify the contributions of scientists and inventors such as Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and Garrett Morgan.

2nd Grade

In Skills we will be introducing these sounds and spellings 'y' > /y/, /i/, or /ie/ and 'ow' > /oe/ or /ou/. We will learn grammar rules by will reviewing singular and plural nouns, show possession using -s, nouns and action verbs.

In Math we will be learning to use and explain the totals below method using words, math drawings, and numbers. We will also solve and create two-step word problems within 100.

In Science we will be learning to measure, record, and graph weather information, including temperature. In Social Studies we will be learning about holidays around the world.

This week in Reading we will continue our unit on light and sound. We will read informational text about color and sound. We will use the text to determine key ideas, synthesize new information, and use text evidence in our responses. We will also continue learning about adverbs. In Math, we will multiply a two digit by one digit number using various strategies. We will also determine the area of a rectangle by multiplying rows by how many in each row. In Science, we will identify various types of energy such as, light, sound, thermal, and mechanical. In Social Studies, we will continue our study of adapting and modifying the environment. It's going to be a great week in third grade!

4th Grade

In ELAR, students will continue reading *Treasure Island*. They will pay close attention to the characters and the changes they undergo, make inferences, and summarize chapters.

In Social Studies, students will continue exploring the accomplishments and motivations of significant Texas empresarios.

This week in Math, students will begin exploring the basic building blocks of geometry—points, lines, line segments, rays, angles, and parallel and perpendicular lines. We will be using visuals, hands-on activities, and real-world examples to help students understand how these geometric ideas form the foundation of many shapes and designs they see every day. You can support this learning at home by helping your child spot geometry in everyday items. For example: the corners of a picture frame show angles, the edges of a book make great examples of line segments, notebook paper lines or railroad tracks illustrate parallel lines, and street intersections often form perpendicular lines.

In Science, students will continue to explore how energy is transferred in different ways—through moving objects, water waves, and sound. They'll investigate and identify how energy moves and changes form in these everyday examples.

5th Grade

ELAR

We will use textual evidence to support the final characterization of Don Quixote and to contrast his character traits with those of others in the story. Students will also explore how the author uses figurative language to bring the text to life. We are also beginning our Poetry Unit. Students will learn the basic elements of a poem's structure, identify tone, and even compose their own apostrophe poem!

At-home learning boost: When reading together or listening to your child read, ask them to describe a character using text evidence or point out an example of figurative language they notice.

Math

We will continue reviewing and practicing adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators, including simplifying and solving word problems. Our Math Test will be on **Friday, the 12th**, so we will spend the week preparing and practicing together.

Science

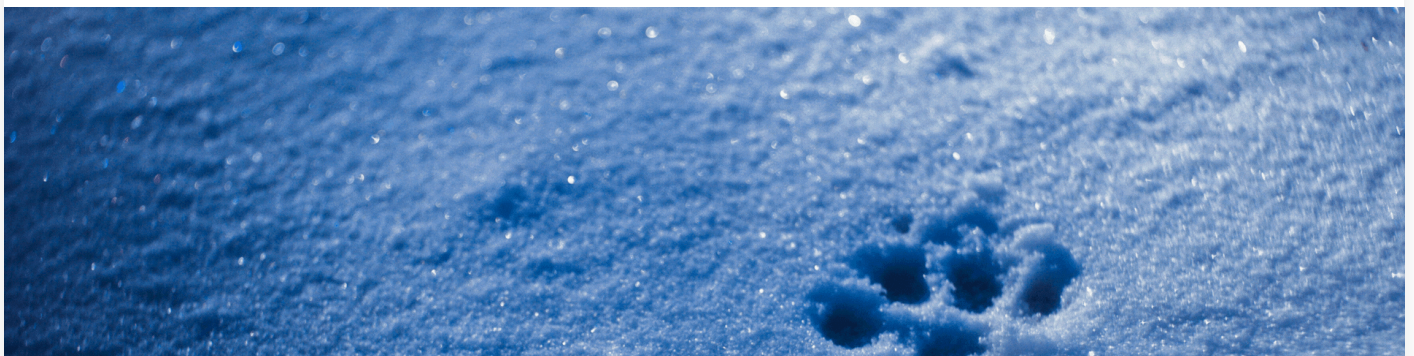
We are continuing our Earth and Space Unit. Students will learn how the sun appears to move across the sky and how this affects the length and direction of shadows.

At-home learning boost: Have your child observe their shadow at different times of the day and describe how it changes. This simple activity helps connect class learning to the real world.

We are excited for another great week of learning and growing. Your kids are working so hard, and we are so proud of them!

Library

Next week in the library, students will enjoy a fun gingerbread-themed visit! We'll be reading a delightful gingerbread story together and then participating in hands-on gingerbread activities. We're excited to share this sweet learning experience with everyone!



COUNSELING CORNER

December 2025

What's Happening

Hi JES Families

This month we're celebrating joy! Joy is the bright, happy feeling we get from doing things we love, sharing laughter with friends, and noticing the little moments that make life sparkle.

Joy is contagious! When students notice and share joy, they help build a happy, caring, and positive school community. This December, we're encouraging students to spread joy like twinkling lights — small acts of kindness, moments of gratitude, and friendly smiles that brighten someone's day.

We're so excited to help our JES students end the semester on a cheerful note, celebrating the happiness in everyday moments and the special joy of being part of a caring community.

Joy at Home

Model It!

Show joy in everyday moments laugh, smile, and notice the good things around you. Kids learn to recognize joy when they see it modeled in action.

Encourage It!

Notice when your child shows joy, like sharing a laugh, helping someone, or being excited about something they love. Remind them that joy grows when we celebrate small wins, practice gratitude, and spread kindness.

Talk About It!

- "What made you feel happy today?"
- "Who or what brings you joy?"
- "How can you share joy with someone else?"

Let's encourage our kids to notice the happy moments, celebrate the good around them, and spread joy at home, at school, and in our community.



Holiday Gift Support

- Angel Tree - <https://saangeltree.org/>
- Blue Santa - <https://www.cityofjarrell.com/departments/police-department/>
- Brown Santa - <https://www.wcbrownsanta.com/need-assistance>
- Toys for Tots - <https://www.toysfortots.org/programs/holiday-programs/>
- First Baptist Church - Jarrell - <https://www.fbcjarrell.com/>

Holiday Meal Support

- Jarrell Food Pantry - Every 2nd & 4th Sunday of every month from 12pm-2pm, located at the United Methodist Church
- Fresh Food Distribution - the first Saturday of every month from 9 am - 11 am, located at Double Creek Elementary School

Additional Resources

- Coats for Kids - <https://www.jlaustin.org/coats/>

Mental Health Resources

- Bluebonnet Trails - Intake Line: 844-309-6385. Crisis Hotline: 1-800-841-1255 <https://bbtrails.org/about-us/>
- STARRY Counseling Services - <https://starry.org/>
- Lonestar Circle of Care - <https://lonestarcares.org/>

These resources are shared for your convenience. Jarrell ISD doesn't endorse any specific providers, and the list isn't

DISTRICT NEWS



👁 259



2026 YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

OPEN NOW

Coed Ages 5-12
Registration Ends December 29th, 2025
All Practices and Games Held at Jarrell MS
\$60 Per Player

REGISTER HERE



ATHLETICS@SONTERRAMUD.ORG

District Calendar





IMPORTANT Daily Deadlines!

In order for our systems to run smoothly and safely, please observe the following daily deadlines times.

7:30 a.m. The back doors automatically lock, and you will need to drive around and walk your child in to the building. PLEASE DO NOT DROP-OFF STUDENTS AFTER 7:30. ***They must be signed in by a parent or guardian.***

1:30 p.m. ALL transportation changes must be made by 1:30 by emailing or calling Kendra Field or Monica Santos at (512)-746-2170 or kendra.field@jarrellisd.org or monica.santos@jarrellisd.org.

2:30 p.m. Any student checking out early for an appointment must be picked up before to 2:30. Our dismissal process is underway by that time making it very difficult to change.

Observing these cut-off times helps us ensure the safest and smoothest possible processes!

Thank you!



👁 259

Jarrell Elementary School

Please reach out with any questions or suggestions you may have!

[Lara Hutchinson, Principal](#)

[Jaclynne Bizzell, Assistant Principal](#)

[Lupita Viveros, Assistant Principal](#)

[Brittany Martin, Counselor](#)

[Stephanie Garcia, Administrative Assistant](#)

[Terry Kurtz, Registrar](#)

[Kendra Field, Receptionist](#)

[Clarissa Aviles, Nurse](#)

Location: [Jarrell Elementary School, County Road 313, Jarrell, TX, USA](#)

Phone: [512-746-2170](#)

Facebook: [facebook.com/JarrellElementarySchool](#)

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Lara Hutchinson

Lara is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

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