

Jaguar Express

Jones Lane Elementary School * 15110 Jones Lane * Gaithersburg, MD 20878 * (301) 840-8160

Jones Lane Elementary School
PTA Newsletter

Volume 24, Issue 3
December 2009/January 2010

From the President - Mrs. Becky Wolfe

WELL I FINALLY got the chandelier cleaned and all the light bulbs replaced. You know the one I'm talking about, right? The one that hangs in the front hallway so high up you can only hope one of your neighbors has bought the ladder to reach it. It's been bothering me for so long. Seeing it look so dingy and just hoping that the last bulb didn't burn out so I could still see to go upstairs at night. Don't worry. It looks great now!

You might be wondering why this is relevant to the JLES PTA. First, I was thinking of all the things I have been grateful for this year. Besides a clean light fixture, the PTA volunteer hours have been through the roof this fall. Give yourself a pat on the back if you have been a part of this effort.

Second, everything old is new again. Like dusting off the chandelier, our programs are changing and renewing themselves. Thanks to our parents who have suggested and brought us new ideas like the Holiday Shop held during conferences. We hope to develop other programs like a spelling bee, a spring talent show and a new recycling program. Programs we currently provide are being

looked at so they can be refreshed as well.

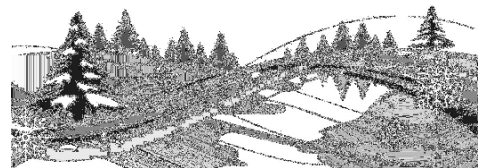
This takes new thinking. Sometimes the newer JLES parents of our younger grades feel that they can't be part of the committees that are already established. **Crazy Talk!** We need you especially to step in and take over the numerous positions so that when us "old timers" leave the school, the PTA programs can be carried on. Ask any chairperson about joining their committee or contact DJ McKenna (a PTA mom with young ones) to see how you can help on one of our new projects.

Finally, like those light bulbs, I will need to be replaced. This is the final year I can serve as JLES PTA President. I want you all (that means you too, Dads) to start thinking about serving on the PTA board. We need new faces to keep our lights shining brightly!

OK. Enough with the chandelier analogy already! If you missed the last PTA meeting, we had Rachel Carson **Principal Larry Chop** and ELC Coordinator **Bonnie Dickman** as guests to answer questions about moving the Early Learn-

ing Center to Jones Lane ES. This county program is for special needs children. We discussed the addition of more portables and test scores. More importantly, we talked about how to help the children transition to a new school and the parents feel welcomed to our Jones Lane community.

Attendance at PTA meetings has been pretty low lately. **WHY?** Send me your suggestions on motivating you to attend at rebecca@rebeccawolfe.com.



From my Family to Yours,

*Happy Holidays and
a Safe and Healthful New Year!*



Next PTA Meeting

February 2, 2010

Jones Lane All Purpose Room @ 7:00 PM



Principal.....	Carole A. Sample	PTA Secretary.....	Gabriela Silberstein
PTA President.....	Becky Wolfe	PTA Treasurer ..	Donna Brown
PTA 1st V.P.	Nyota Desai	Newsletter Editor.....	Becky Loftus
PTA 2nd V.P.	DJ McKenna	Web Editor	Farrah Beard

Visit us on the Internet at: <http://www.jlespta.org>

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Si desea que este boletín sea traducido al español, por favor llamar a la señora Chilo Bonilla al 301 926-8020.

Principal's Report



Mrs. Carole A. Sample

It is hard to believe that December is already here and the holiday season is now upon us! With the new year just weeks away, this is a perfect time for us to stop and reflect upon our accomplishments thus far even as we look ahead to where we have to go to meet our school improvement goals for the 2009-2010 school year. We have done a lot in a short time but we still have much more to do before the school year ends next June. As always, we have kept our focus on teaching, learning, and positive behaviors. This year, based on school data, we also made math an academic focus for this school year. Our teachers are all taking part in a quad-cluster math professional project on increasing math discourse in instruction. We are seeing positive results in the classroom al-

ready. We thank all of you, our Jones Lane parents, for the continued support of our staff and for your total commitment and dedication to the education of our precious children.

As we prepare to close out this year and begin anew in 2010, we want to make sure that our focus remains on our shared vision of continuous academic achievement in a positive school environment for all our students. Please encourage your children to keep reading and practicing math facts when they have free time during the winter break to keep skills sharp. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students can also practice reading and math skills by working on **Study Island** at home on a computer. We have signed up for this service for another

year. Study Island can be accessed by going to the Jones Lane Elementary School website. Students will need to use their individual passwords in order to sign on and practice. While these practice skills will help students stay current in learning, it is also important that you allow them to take time to rest, relax, rejuvenate and reconnect with family and friends during this special time. Enjoy every moment!

On behalf of the Jones Lane staff members, I would like to wish all our families a wonderful holiday season and the very best in 2010!

Volunteer of the Month - Ms. DJ McKenna

The PTA would like to recognize **In Su McCue** as our Volunteer of the Month this month. In Su organized the first Holiday Shop at Jones Lane. According to **Becky Wolfe**, In Su "came forward with the idea, did all the research including contacting other schools to get their input, and then ran the whole thing while having 4 parent/teacher conferences in two different schools. It makes me tired just thinking about her energy!" While we don't have fundraising totals as of yet, the Holiday Shop was a big hit with all the children that shopped there. We would also like to thank all the volunteers that worked with In Su to staff the Shop (helping with the shopping, wrapping, escorting children, handling money, and supervising). I know the children learned a lot about the joy of giving and the value of a dollar!

Thanks also to **Dixie Williams** and **Michelle Kelly** for a wonderful Bingo Night this year! Everyone had a great time, and there were lots of winners—always a plus!

I am still collecting hours for November, so if you helped with Bingo Night (selling candy, handing out Bingo boards, Bingo Caller, Middle School helpers), please email me your hours (dj2kevin@comcast.net). Remember to log in & out on the computer in the office when you go in to the school to volunteer—and please use your full name (first and last name).

Happy Holidays!

Volunteers

Be sure to **Sign in and Out** of the computer in the office when volunteering. Also, click "volunteer" and not "visitor".

MCCPTA requires us to submit our volunteer hours on a monthly basis so I need those at-home hours! Please e-mail me at dj2kevin@comcast.net, or leave them in my mailbox.



From the 1st VP - Nyota Desai

* Attention All PTA Chairs *

Please contact me if you need any assistance with your Committees. Also, please provide committee updates for PTA reporting. The PTA truly appreci-

ates the efforts of all the Chairs for their continued commitment to the school and its students. We hope you enjoy your well deserved Winter Break and look forward to renewed enthusiasm in the New Year!



Faculty News

Kindergarten

During the month of December, students will listen to many versions of The Gingerbread Man. We will compare and contrast the stories, make predictions about the different versions, retell the beginning, middle, and end of the story through words, drawings, and writing. Our family project this month is the students' opportunity to decorate a gingerbread person and write an original account of this timeless tale. During writer's workshop, students continue to use their knowledge of letter sounds and sight words to write complete sentences. We get lots of practice in using capital letters, leaving spaces between words, and using punctuation at the end of each sentence. Adding detail to our drawings helps our readers understand the ideas we are working to express. Guided reading books will continue to come home for homework, usually with a writing prompt. **Please continue to read at home with your child every day.**

Math News

Students continue to explore number

representation, ordinal numbers, counting to 31 and beyond, making sets, more, less, equal, and odd and even numbers. We practice thinking about numbers in many ways and we are learning that even numbers have partners and odd numbers do not. Our kindergarten math zones/centers reflect the Unit 2 math curriculum objectives and give students several differentiated opportunities to investigate math concepts in concrete ways.

Social Studies and Science

Both the teachers and students are exploring our new social studies and science curriculum. We have enjoyed learning more about our weather and changing seasons. And on our recent field trip to Summer's Farm, students learned about different types of seeds and the plant life cycles of pumpkins, wheat, and soy beans. In social studies, we are learning more about our families, our nation, and our world through biographies, art, and videos. In addition, our Time For Kids magazines provide addi-

tional enrichment on a variety of topics including current events, animals, and the environment.

The Kindergarten team wishes your family a peaceful holiday season and a very happy new year!



Faculty News *(Continued)*

1st Grade

During December and January, our reading instructional focus will be to continue to read for information. Students will use non-fiction text features to help them find and gain information from their texts. The first graders will identify and use common text features such as headings, illustrations, table of contents, indexes, charts, and captions. We will also be reading to perform a task and the students will read and write simple directions.

We will continue to work on phonics and phonemic awareness. The children will practice blending one syllable words and will segment words into individual sounds. We continue to study blends, common rimes (Ex: -ill, -ate), and high frequency words to aid our reading and writing.

Eric Carle is our author study this quar-

ter, so we will enjoy reading and analyzing his creative books.

We will be learning how to write informational paragraphs and books. These informational books will include non-fiction text features. We will identify and use standard English conventions such as sentence structure, punctuation, grammar, and capitalization to communicate clearly.

In Social Studies, we will have fun studying many cultures and traditions connected to the winter holidays.

Unit two in math includes measurement and number sense and operations. The main focus in measurement is to recognize that objects have measurable attributes. We make comparisons and select an appropriate unit of measurement. Addition and subtraction

concepts will be extended. Students will learn the order property and that addition models can be used for subtraction.

Please encourage your child to read, write, and practice math over the long winter break so skills are not weakened or forgotten. Books make great gifts! Writing thank you notes or writing letters to relatives are wonderful ways to practice writing. Math facts can be practiced while riding in the car going to Grandma's and Grandpa's house! Thank you for encouraging your child in these areas.

We wish you all a safe and joyous holiday season!



2nd Grade

November flew by quickly and the cold weather reminds us that winter is here! Our second graders are looking forward to a busy, rewarding December. Refer to the MCPS parent math newsletters that are sent out at the beginning of each unit that describe in detail the topics that will be covered in your child's math class. Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Brown will be completing Unit 2 which includes Geometry. Ms. Barnes will begin multiplication and division strategies. The weekly timed basic facts quizzes are continuing. Practicing with your child for only a few minutes on a daily basis can truly help them to be speedy and accurate! Flash cards can be easy to make for this!

During our Reading and Writing block, the students are becoming skillful at writing paragraphs. Our focus this quarter is "Writing to Inform." We are

currently reading non-fiction books, identifying text features and writing detailed paragraphs about what we have learned. The students are also enjoying an assortment of holiday/winter poetry. We are all excited about sharing holiday and family traditions with our classmates! The children have been assigned an "at home" project which involves creating a poster describing a special family holiday tradition. We can't wait to hear what special things you and your family members participate in at different times of the year. Please come by to visit and take a walk through the 2nd grade hallway to admire these creative posters.

Our second science unit for the year has arrived. Students will enjoy classifying various liquids and observing how they behave under different circumstances. They will learn that a liquid is something that flows and takes the

shape of its container. We thank you in advance for the "at home" experiments that accompany this fun unit.

Thank you for encouraging your child to read for at least 15 minutes every day. Many second graders are working hard to accomplish the monthly reading goals for our Reading From A-Z program. Please remember that students should be reading books on their reading level for this program. Thank you for all your support at home and help in the classroom. Reminder: We have already begun to prepare students for the TN2 and will continue teaching test-taking strategies in January. All second graders will be tested in March. Keep an eye out for some "at-home" practice activities.

**Happy Holidays
and Happy New Year!**



3rd Grade

During this quarter, students are reading to be informed and reading for literary experience. The children are learning the organizational patterns of cause and effect and sequencing to better understand the author's message. Students are also using webs to increase their understanding of vocabulary and literature. They are asking questions before, during, and after reading in an effort to increase comprehension.

Third graders are also writing to inform. When writing nonfiction, students become keenly aware of their audience and purpose for writing. The students are learning techniques necessary for good paragraph writing. Six writing traits are being introduced to the third graders. The traits include, **ideas, organization, sentence fluency, voice, conventions, and word choice.** Students

are learning that each trait plays an important part when evaluating writing.

Writing Brief Constructed Responses (BCR) continues to be incorporated into our assignments. Students are learning to answer questions using details and examples from the text to support their answers.

Unit 3 in math begins with investigating various models and structures for multiplication and division. Students will work with arrays and comparison problem structures. Problem solving is an integral part of this unit as we explore examples of multiplication and division in real world contexts. A mastery of the multiplication facts will help to ensure success in math as we progress to more difficult concepts in Unit 3. Mrs. Durr's math group will be finishing up

Unit 2 and moving on to Unit 3 on fractions/decimals.

In social studies, we are focusing about map skills. Students will learn how to read a map. We will also focus on continents, countries, cities, and oceans.

In science we are focusing on the sound unit. Students will learn vocabulary words including volume, pitch, vibration, and frequency. This unit utilizes a hands-on approach to problem solving. The scientific method provides the structure for all lessons.

Thank you for your continued support as we move through our curriculum. The partnership we have formed enhances the education of each child.

4th Grade

The first marking period went by very quickly. It has been exciting to see the growth in the students' work. It was also great to talk to all the parents during conferences. Communication is important to ensure success.

We are working through the fourth grade units in math. We are finishing the unit on the concepts of multiplication and division and fact families. The students will benefit from basic facts practice at home on a continuing basis. The more comfortable the students are with these facts, the easier other concepts in math will be. Our next unit deals with common fractions and decimals.

Fourth graders are reading many different types of text from narration to exposition. Encourage them to read at home. Take the time to talk about what they are reading. Ask questions which require a complete and detailed answer. This is one of the skills we are working on at school.

This time of year is one of great excitement and anticipation for children. One of the things we enjoyed was our trip to the Baltimore Museum of Industry on December 15. This trip tied into our social studies unit on immigration. The students experienced working at different jobs requiring different skills. They

also worked on an assembly line.

The students are working on research of Chesapeake Bay animals. Their final project will be a written report describing their particular animal and the impact of it on the Bay. They will also create a visual project to show their animal in its habitat.

We hope to harness the energy of the season and keep the focus on instruction at school. **The fourth grade team wishes everyone a safe and relaxing winter break, and a happy 2010!**



Faculty News *(Continued)*



5th Grade

Reading: Fifth grade continues our focus on poetry this quarter. We will also begin our Junior Great Books shared inquiry discussions. Students will continue to participate in literature circles or book clubs to discuss books they have chosen as a group. We will also continue to meet in small groups to work on specific skills and strategies as well as in large groups to read and analyze poetry. Parents can help children strengthen their reading skills by encouraging them to complete their nightly homework assignment of 30 minutes of reading. Signed Take Home Reader (THR) logs are due every Friday.

Spelling/Word Study: We continue our study of words that contain Greek and Latin roots, exploring the connections between their meanings and spellings.

Writing: Students continue to write in their writers' notebooks, tools that real writers use to gather ideas for writing and experiment with craft. This quarter, we are exploring poetry, and students will eventually create an anthology of their poems. Parents can help by encouraging students to write in their notebooks at home a few times a week.

Math 5: Students will soon finish unit 2 on geometry. Unit 3 focuses on fractions, decimals, and percents, as well as computation with large whole numbers. We will begin our unit with a study of decimals, which includes naming them in standard, word, and fraction form; comparing and ordering decimals; rounding decimals; and estimation and computation with decimals. After students work with decimals, they will learn concepts related to fractions and percents.

Many of our students have been practicing their basic facts and have shown a great improvement. However, some are still struggling with this important skill. Not being able to recall basic facts significantly impacts students' ability to quickly and accurately solve problems in class. Our third unit relies heavily on computation skills. Parents can help their children by reviewing basic facts daily. If students have access to the internet, there are numerous links for math games on the Jones Lane home page.

Math A: Students are learning how to multiply and divide decimals, fractions, and mixed numbers. They are applying these skills to word problems. They will

also be comparing, ordering, and describing rational numbers in equivalent forms.

Math B: Students are continuing in Unit 2. Students are currently working on solving algebraic inequalities. The unit test was on December 16. Unit 3 will cover geometry, including many kinds of lines, triangles, and angles.

Social Studies/Science: We continue our study of the Revolutionary War in social studies. Our next focus will be the creation of the new country. In science, we have begun our unit on electricity and magnetism. Students will discover the relationship between magnetism and electricity and have the opportunity to participate in many hands-on activities, including building circuits.

Other: We would like to remind parents that the fifth grade grading policy states that missing work is only accepted until the Thursday following the Friday you have been notified via the "Friday Folder" that work is missing. Therefore, please review your child's Friday folder each week. Missing work will seriously impact students' learning as well as their grades.

Counselor's Corner – Ms. Jen Ehlers

Happy Holidays! Many thanks to the families who chose to participate in our 10th annual Take-A-Flake program! I am proud to be part of such a generous community. All gifts will be distributed the week before Winter Break.

This month, school counseling lessons have focused on friendship skills. Primary grades learned about what makes a good friend, while upper-grades learned more about the effects of gossip and cliques. We will continue to discuss kindness, caring, and friendship through

the month of December. All grades will focus on using appropriate responses to teasing using DEBUG strategies and Simon's Hook Strategies. In addition, we will talk about bullying prevention.

DEBUG Strategies:

1. Ignore
2. Walk or move away
3. Talk friendly
4. Talk firmly
5. Get adult help

Simon's Hook Strategies for Dealing with Teasing:

1. Move away
2. Distract or change the subject
3. Laugh or make a joke
4. Do little or nothing (ignore)
5. Agree

Thank you for continuing to support our efforts to create a positive social climate at Jones Lane. **May you have a wonderful and restful holiday season!**



Health Room - Ms. Maryam Barati

Keeping Kids Healthy and Fit

Motivating Kids to Get Fit

With childhood obesity increasing at staggering rates, parents and caregivers must play an active role in protecting children's health. Eating healthy foods is a key factor in maintaining their overall well being. But, this has to be balanced with regular physical activity.



Children who are physically active on a regular basis will reap enormous benefits. Studies have shown that they:

- Are less likely to become overweight
- Have a decreased risk of developing type 2 diabetes
- Have reduced blood cholesterol levels and lower blood pressure
- Have higher self-esteem and reduced incidences of depression and anxiety
- Are more likely to build strong bones and muscles
- Are more attentive in school

Now that we know why children need to be active, it's time to get them up and moving. Here's how:

1. **Focus on fun.** You don't have to call it "exercise," just consider it an activity. Find out what your child likes and encourage it.
2. **Limit TV and computer time.** The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends no more than "two hours of daily media exposure" for children ages two and older. When they are watching or clicking, make sure they take breaks and move around.
3. **Schedule play dates.** The key word here is "play." Have your child get together with a friend and play a game of tag, race down the block or kick a ball around.
4. **Get fit as a family.** Create some funny dance moves. Put up a net and shoot hoops. You could also visit a zoo, play miniature golf or enjoy other activities where a lot of ground is covered on foot.
5. **Choose fitness-oriented gifts.** For your child's next birthday, consider giving him or her a jump-rope, mini-trampoline, hula-hoop -- something that will encourage movement.
6. **Be a model of fitness.** It's much easier to motivate kids to be active, if you lead an active lifestyle. Whether you follow a structured fitness program or are lucky to get in some morning stretches, let them see you moving. It will likely inspire them to do the same.
7. **Encourage walking or biking whenever feasible.** This is easy to accomplish if you live near stores, libraries or other places you visit regularly. If you live in a remote area, establish a safe route to tour on bike or on foot with your child.

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/special/article-motivatetomove.html>

Faculty News *(Continued)*



Art – Mrs. Wolf

Kindergarten students have been working with leaf identification, and looking at texture with crayon rubbings in Art. The second day of the leaf lesson included the introduction of the color wheel, and using warm & cool colors with watercolor. Upcoming lessons will feature Eric Carle & The Busy Spider with a resist and collage.

First grade students are completing their "Bug on a rug" projects utilizing repeating patterns, counting, measurement, creating yarn "fringes," 3-D paper insect collages and watercolor. Future lessons will be creating clay rattles, jungle paint-

ings, learning about Henri Rousseau, and practicing brushstrokes similar to Claude Monet's.

Second grade students have been completing their Claude Monet-style tempera paint water scenes, adding a 3-D Japanese bridge, waterlilies and frogs. Upcoming lessons will include symmetrical name designs and clay coiled pots.

Third grade students have recently finished learning about printmaker Chuck Close, and using their fingerprints for a bare winter tree painting on a fallen-leaf tissue collage background. They will

also be using symmetry and pattern for name design resists with watercolor, and whimsical Oaxacan (Mexican) animals in clay.

Fourth & Fifth grade students have been finishing up their glaze on their wonderful ceramic "Wild thing" pinch pot creatures. We looked at Maurice Sendak's detailed pen-and ink drawings and "rough draft" sketches from his books. Future lessons will be to name designs with watercolor, pattern & symmetry, Claude Monet landscapes, and jaguar drawings for the yearbook with 5th grade.

Music – Mrs. Julie Wright

Kindergarteners are learning about contrast in music, high/low, fast/slow, loud/soft, and using symbols and pictures to describe what they hear. First graders are also studying contrast in music. They are learning musical symbols for simple rhythm and pitch patterns, and are studying patriotic songs.

Second graders are learning movement sequences and simple dances that match different styles of music. They continue to read and play simple rhyth-

mic and melodic patterns with the classroom instruments. Third graders are learning proper playing technique with the xylophones. They are performing folk songs and dances from many different cultures. Third graders have received a survey about recorders. If your student wishes to borrow a recorder from the school, please make sure you put the student's name on the survey. Recorders will be purchased in January. Fourth and fifth graders are playing and conducting music in meters of two,

three, and four, and learning traditional folk dances. They are singing and playing contrasting parts, and creating movement to demonstrate understanding of musical characteristics. Chorus and instrumental students are making final preparations for the Winter Concert on January 14, 2010, 7:30 pm.



Winter Concert
Thursday, January 14, 2010
7:30 PM

Physical Education - Ms. Darlene Botsford



Keeping physically fit in the cold winter days is easier than you think. Your family might

want to try some of the following and I'm sure you can think of others:

- ice skating
- sledding and playing in the snow
- family walks or hikes
- exercise videos, geared toward children
- family football or soccer games over the holidays

During physical education class, stu-

dents in Kindergarten and grades 1 and 2 are continuing the practice of throwing and catching. Kindergarten is using a variety of light weight objects to toss and catch to themselves while, 1st graders learn to throw underhand and 2nd graders learn to throw overhand. Students in grades 3, 4, & 5 will begin lessons involving striking objects with body parts; such as volleyball skills. These students have now completed the President's Challenge Fitness Test. Based on their results each will complete a homework assignment that will help them set personal fitness goals while creating a movement plan. This assignment will take place during the 3 weeks of De-

cember leading up to the winter break.

Updates:

The President's Challenge Fitness test is now complete and the results will be sent home later.

The Winter Lights Walk was a beautiful way to enjoy a night out with friends and family. Thanks to all the families that participated.

Jump Rope For Heart, will be held in February, look for more information to come home in January.

Happy Holidays to All!



Media - Mrs. Tsai

Black Eyed Susan Book Award - This year, **Mrs. Reynolds** has been on Dayline talking about the Black Eyed Susan (BES) Book Award. The students have learned about the program and all the nominees. Please encourage your child to read the books. They need to either read or be read to from at least 8 out of 15 picture books and 3 out of 10 chapter books. They will keep a log and vote at the end of April for their favorite books. Check the Jones Lane web site for more information. After winter break, we will have a BES poster contest. Stay tuned!

Instruction- We have been enjoying our Promethean board and several online resources. Kindergarteners and first graders learned about fiction/story elements and nonfiction. They learned about text features and identified facts from informational texts. They also gathered animal information from *Pebble Go*, one of the new online resources. Students enjoyed reading the online text. Seasonal and holiday books will be introduced and read. Second grade learned text features and presented their Chat and Chew Book Reviews in the media center. Students are creating a slide show using *Pixie*, a multimedia program for their favorite parts of the books. They will start animal research after the winter break. Third graders learned to use the *Study Island* program and finished learning about Cynthia Rylant's life and her books. Now students are using online resources to summarize what they learned about an animal. They will learn about author Verma Aardema, her biography, work, and folktales. Students will identify the characteristics of folktales and listen to read-aloud stories and compare the differences and similarities of various versions. Fourth graders are doing Chesapeake Bay animal research. They reviewed the AGOPPE research model, note taking skills, and gathered resources using nonfiction books, encyclopedia and online resources. The Native American research will be next. Fifth graders finished their historical fiction and poetry unit. Students used *Columbia Granger's World of Poetry* to find their favorite poems. They also used online resources to gather information about the Revolutionary War. Text features, note taking skills, and citing resources were reinforced. They are learning about electricity. Students use Activotes to assess their progress.

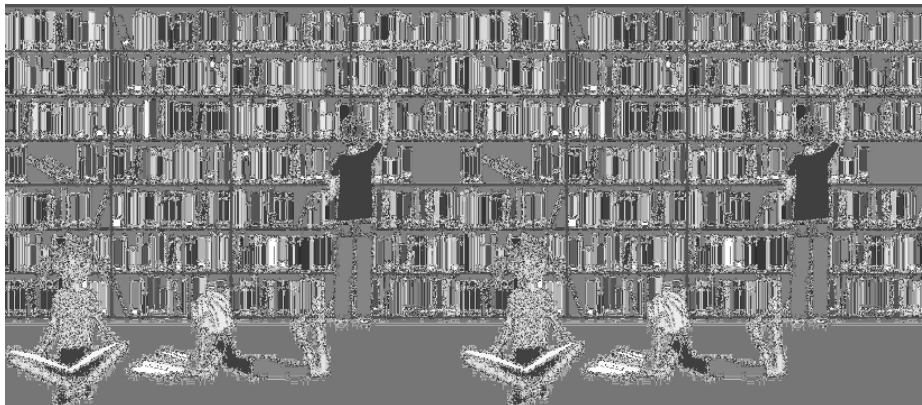
Dayline TV Show- Dayline TV Crew #1 did a wonderful job broadcasting our live shows. I want to thank all the parents of Crew 1 members for their support. Dayline Crew # 2 started their shows on December 4.



Dayline Crew 1 Members

Jessica Fisher,
Grace Segreti,
Laura Wagner,
Peter Vaka,
Wyatt McCabe,
Alekhandra Grcic,
Jessica Van Valkenburgh, and
Will Husted

Great Thanks to the **Ropelewski** and **Mesri** families who donated books to our media center. Special gratitude goes to our wonderful library volunteers who helped during November and December. Without your support, the media center could not run smoothly.



Committee News

REFLECTIONS— Did you ever wonder what **BEAUTY IS...?** The following students displayed their creative interpretation by participating in the 2009 Reflection Program. Their entries were showcased on Dec. 1 at a reception for their family and friends just before the PTA meeting. Entries which were forwarded to the next level of judging will find out the results in the spring. We look forward to next year's competition "Together We Can."

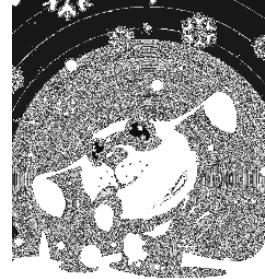
Congratulations!

FILM PRODUCTION
Primary: **Fiona McCue**

LITERATURE
Primary: **Ellie Nickel*, Meera Sunil***
Intermediate: **Daniel Wolfe***

PHOTOGRAPHY
Primary: **Nush Gai*, Jacob Moldvay*, Savannah Moldvay***
Intermediate: **Alex Jin*, Daniel Wolfe*** (2 entries)

VISUAL ARTS
Primary: **Zoe Bell*, Ketan Desai, Brian Dwyer, Lauren Dwyer*, Erin Helgerman*** (4 entries)
Intermediate: **Sofee Desai***



*Participant will move on to the County level

BINGO NIGHT— Bingo Night 2009 was a huge success! The kids and adults certainly seemed to enjoy all the fun games and prizes. Thanks to everyone who volunteered. Your help is certainly appreciated. A special thanks to **Mrs. Sample** and **Mr. Hill** for kicking off the night, and calling our first round of games.

YEARBOOK— Please send yearbook pictures to **Evelyn Wagner** at evelynwagner@comcast.net.

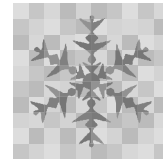
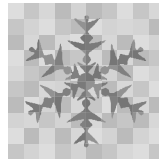
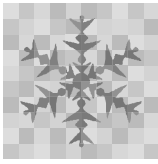
THE JAGUAR SAVINGS BANK— The Bank is open for business! The Jaguar Savings Bank is a partnership with M&T Bank. JLES Students may make deposits in any amount on Tuesdays during the morning announcements. Also, additional deposits and all withdrawals may be made at any M&T Branch. If you would like more information about the Jaguar Savings Bank please contact the PTA coordinators, **Jaimee Gniadek, Chuck Abene** or **In Su McCue**.

GIANT/SAFEWAYCARDS— Don't forget to register your Giant and Safeway Cards for Jones Lane to receive e-script and bonus bucks rewards. **You have to re-register your card every year to the school of your choice.** We will be happy to register for you if you supply your card numbers. Our goal is to have all of our Jones Lane families participate in this easy way to raise money for all of our great PTA sponsored programs. Please contact **Ronda Plante**, rondap1@verizon.net, if you have a question.

GIANT A*Plus BONUS BUCKS -Jones Lane ES Code is 00809
Register online at www.giantfood.com/aplus or call 1-877-275-2758 and designate Jones Lane ES (Code 00809)

SAFEWAY ESCRIP - Jones Lane ES Code is 6522254
Register your Safeway Club Card online at www.eScrip.com

BOX TOPS For EDUCATION— Please don't forget to clip those box tops and send them in to school. This is such an easy way to raise funds for our school. Our first box tops contest of the year was a great success. We collected 5,550 box tops. **Mrs. Tehrani's** fifth grade class won the box tops contest. They sent in **1,070** box tops!!! They are the lucky winners of the ice cream sundae party. Please contact **Ronda Plante**, rondap1@verizon.net, if you have a question.



Calling ALL Jones Lane Jaguars!!!

The Silent Auction Committee is beginning their quest to make this year's event a great one!

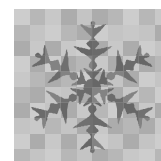
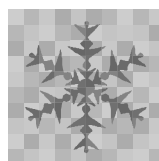
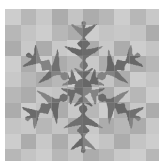
We can't do it without our Jones Lane Family so we are asking for your help! This year we would love to have you join us by donating goods and/or services to the auction. We have many great donations from our local businesses for you to enjoy this year...and would love to have your enthusiastic participation too!

- *Do you have a business that could donate items or services?*
- *Maybe you have a vacation home and would be willing to give a weekend or week's stay?*
- *Possibly some tickets to a great sporting event, or a round of golf from your country club?*
- *Are you a talented painter, photographer, or artist and you could donate lessons or a work of art to be auctioned at the event?*
- *Do you want to create a special theme basket to be auctioned at the event?*

We welcome all donations big and small - Please give some thought to how you can be part of this year's auction!!! The silent auction will be in May 2010.

All proceeds from the silent auction go to support the Jones Lane PTA in providing our children with an enriched learning environment!

Please contact **Katie Czworka** @ kmczworka1@comcast.net
or **Tara Kavadias** @ tarakavadias@yahoo.com with any questions or to make a donation.





Winter Concert

January 14, 2010

7:30 pm

In Gym



Rock Hop

Let's rock the night away! Rock Hop will take place at Ridgeview Middle School on **January 22 from 6:30 - 9 pm**. Tickets for the event will be available in advance, so you don't have to wait in line. Just look for the flyer in your child's backpack in January.

We're on the web!

www.jlespta.org

To submit Newsletter articles,
e-mail in Word format to:
Becky Loftus,
beckyloft@comcast.net
(301)869-7131

JLES PTA Calendar

12/2009— 01/2010

Date	Event	Time
December 24 – January 1	No School—Winter Break	
January 5	No January PTA Meeting	
January 14	Winter Concert in Gym (snow date—1/21)	7:30 pm
January 18	No School—Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
January 22	Rock Hop at Ridgeview Middle School (snow date 1/29)	6:30 - 9 pm
January 25	No School—Professional Day for Teachers	
January 27	Group and Club Pictures	
January 28	Classroom and Staff Pictures	
February 2	February PTA Meeting	7 pm
February 3	Report Cards Distributed	
TBD	Jump Rope for Heart—Look for Details in Backpack	
February 12	Class Valentine's Day Parties	
February 15	No School—Presidents Day	
TBD	Black Saga Competition—Look for Details in Backpack	

Please visit our website to view the most recent calendar updates and information. Also, check the JLES and MCPS web sites for more information and what's new.

