



Volunteer of the Month - Ms. DJ McKenna

The PTA and all of the students that attended Rock Hop would like to thank **Susan Levy** and **Kristen Raymond** for putting on such a great party! Everyone loves Rock Hop—and the parents love that the children get to run around and use up all their extra energy!

Jagfest is coming up—and LOTS of adult and Student Service Learning (SSL) volunteers are needed! Please contact Beth Johnson at beth.a.johnson@comcast.net to volunteer.



Rock-Hop was a great success!

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.



Faculty News

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten students continue to develop and strengthen their academic skills! In reading/language arts, we are comparing and contrasting different versions of fairy tales. They are learning about cause and effect through a variety of literature and daily experiences. Students are also learning about word families and spelling patterns. We continue to increase vocabulary as students learn first grade sight words along with our kindergarten sight words. The kindergarteners are beginning to learn how to identify and differentiate fact from opinion. Each kindergarten class will choose an animal to study. Students will create a list stating the facts and their opinions about their chosen animal. From there, we will learn the fine art of persuasion. Don't be surprised if your kindergartener tries to persuade you to get a new pet or the latest action figure and support that request with some very valid points!

In math this quarter, kindergarteners will

learn about geometric solids, measurement (length, weight, capacity), and time. Students will participate in a variety of experiences exploring, identifying, and differentiating flat shapes from three-dimensional shapes. We are measuring length, weight, and capacity with nonstandard units like paper clips, digi-blocks, and Unifix cubes. In addition, our students will investigate time, specifically morning, afternoon, and night. For enrichment, we will begin to explore telling time with clocks.

Looking ahead, our kindergarteners will be going to the National Zoo in March as a culminating activity for the animals we have studied. This experience is ideal for students to use new vocabulary, state facts, opinions, and persuade their teachers to visit their favorite animal(s). We will learn the length and weight of many animals and find out if some predators hunt during the day or at night. We will have so much to share when we

get back!

In the new science and social studies curriculum, our kindergarten students are observing meal worms as they go through their life cycle. The kindergarten team has found some great books and we should all be experts on meal worms real soon! In addition, some great social study independent readers should be coming home for guided reading during the second semester. They include biographies and books about leadership, school, and seasons. Discussion questions are located in the back of many of these new readers. In kindergarten, we always have fun learning and can't wait to come to school each day!



Faculty News *(Continued)*

1st Grade

Welcome to quarter three! This quarter brings higher expectations in reading and writing for our first grade students. Comprehension strategies are emphasized to increase the students' understanding of what is being read. Predictions are made and questions are asked before, during, and after reading. Students are encouraged to make connections between themselves and the text as well as between two different texts. They practice visualizing descriptive text to enhance their comprehension. When responding to written comprehension questions first graders are being encouraged to elaborate with details from the text. You can help by reinforcing these strategies at home. It is also helpful to have your child retell important details of a selection in his/her own words. Identifying the main idea, or the problem and solution(s) will also enhance comprehension. Students can also

practice identifying real-life problems that they experience and talking about possible solutions to them.

First graders will be studying the characteristics of different genre such as poetry and folktales, including fairy tales and fables. The basic plots of folktales from around the world will be identified and text-to-self connections will be made.

In spelling we will be studying compound words, contractions, and common abbreviations. Children are expected to spell high frequency words (word wall words) and words with specific spelling patterns, correctly, in their writing. We will continue to practice writing with fluency and accuracy.

Don't be surprised if you receive a friendly letter from your child in the next few weeks! Writing letters that

include a date, salutation, body, closing, and signature is a skill that we will learn during writer's workshop. We will also begin persuasive writing that includes stating a position and supporting it with evidence.



Unit three in math includes data collection and the continued study of addition and subtraction strategies. Please help your child by practicing the addition and subtraction facts often. This can be accomplished by using flash cards, games, or computer software.

Thank you for your support at home!
We appreciate it greatly!

2nd Grade

February is here and second graders are working diligently! This is a short month with many great things to celebrate and learn. Second graders predicted whether or not Punxsutawney Phil would see his shadow and many of them were correct! In addition to Black History, Valentine's Day, and President's Day, we will be learning ways to keep our teeth healthy.

The MCPS math curriculum is systematically organized into five different units. Please discuss with your child the different topics they are learning in class. A parent letter is sent home at the beginning of each unit so that you too can be aware of the unit focus, vocabulary, and content maps with essential questions and indicators. All of the students are working in flexible groupings in their homeroom classes. Before we begin each unit, the children take a pre-assessment and the teacher

is then aware of the concepts that need to be reinforced or enriched for each specific student. We appreciate all the help you give your child at home by making sure your child understands and completes his/her daily math homework. Please visit the JLES website for additional resources to reinforce the skills we teach in class.

The children have done a wonderful job searching through articles and on the internet to research penguins! We have been working with Mrs. Tsai to learn the AGOPP strategy to help us write informational reports.

We will be taking the Terra Nova 2 National assessment this spring. Later in the year there will be a packet sent home in your child's backpack full of practice activities. We certainly want our students to be prepared so please spend some time completing this

packet with them. Look for further information on testing dates in the principal's newsletter. Remember that it is important that all students eat a healthy breakfast and get a good night's rest on testing days.

Our "Reading From A-Z" reading program is a yearlong program and is going strong. Please continue to help your child choose "just right" or appropriately leveled books as many of our second graders are reading chapter books now! We hope everyone is reading daily and discussing what they have read with an adult! Thank you parents for your continued support at home! Keep up the great job!





3rd Grade

We're excited about our plans for February and the new marking period! As part of the reading curriculum the third graders are "Reading to be Informed" and "Reading for Literary Experience." They are learning strategies that good readers use to understand informational text. In our writing curriculum students are "Writing to Inform" and "Writing to Persuade." The six writing traits continue to be emphasized to students as they evaluate writing pieces.

In math classes, we are focusing on geometry, fractions, decimals, percents, and probability. In the first part of the unit, students explore and describe two-dimensional figures. Terms such as polygons, right angles, pentagons, and octagons are used to classify figures. In

the second part of the unit, they will analyze and classify three-dimensional figures. Please continue to review math homework and basic facts at home to assure future success and to reinforce these skills.



In science we continue to study sound. The students are learning about frequency, vibration, tension, and sound waves as they attempt to explain why the pitch of a sound is high, medium, or low. We are producing and observing vibrations during this unit. We will soon be making sounds using stringed instruments. Our next unit in the spring will be Plant

Growth and Development.

In social studies, we continue our study of map skills. Students will research about a city and report facts about that city. After this, we will be studying about cities of the past.

March 8th, 9th, 12th, and 15th the third graders will be taking the Maryland School Assessment (MSA). Please try not to schedule morning appointments on these dates. In addition, try to make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast. Thank you for your support!

4th Grade

The fourth graders are working hard as they enter the second half of the school year. Now might be a good time to ask students about any school supplies they might need to be replenished. We continue to stress putting papers in the appropriate folders. Organizational skills are very important to being successful.

Math unit 3 deals with fractions, decimals and probability. This would be a good time to show your fourth grader how money is written using a decimal point. The tenths place correlates to dimes and the hundredths place correlates to pennies. Conversations and hands-on experiences about math really help solidify the concepts. As always, practicing basic facts, particularly multiplication and division, will help with these concepts.

We are anticipating our new science

unit on matter. Be prepared to ask a fourth grader to tell you what matter is and in what forms it can be. We've been reading to be informed using our science texts.

We are working on our social studies unit on Native Americans. Students will practice researching, note-taking, and citing sources. They will be finding information at school and using this information to create a poster or a model. Ask a fourth grader about the physical characteristics of the region he/she is researching and how the people there used the resources to meet their needs. Be on the lookout for displays of our work in the near future.



Faculty News *(Continued)*

5th Grade

5TH GRADE MATH: This month, we will finish our third math unit on decimals and fractions and begin our fourth unit on data and statistics. Students will learn to display and analyze data in a number of ways. Parents, please encourage your children to practice their basic facts every day.

MATH A: We have finished Unit 2 and are beginning our unit on Geometry. This unit includes angle measures, bisecting angles and line segments, and graphing transformations. Please encourage your children to continue practicing their basic facts daily.

MATH B: We have finished Unit 3, taken the Unit Test on Feb. 11 and have started evaluating proportions and percents in Unit 4. If your child is in Math B they should be able to calculate the tip the next time you are at a restaurant. Also, we are reviewing reading, writing, rounding and ordering decimal fractions.

READING: Students continue having

in-depth conversations about books in their book clubs and through the Junior Great Books program. This quarter, we are concentrating on the genre of non-fiction as we embark on our feature article study in writing workshop. We are looking at text features and other structures that convey meaning in feature articles. We are determining the "big idea" in a feature article. Another genre we will study is the play. We will learn how plays are structured, looking at dialogue and stage instructions. We will use strategies to understand the plot and determine the theme in plays.

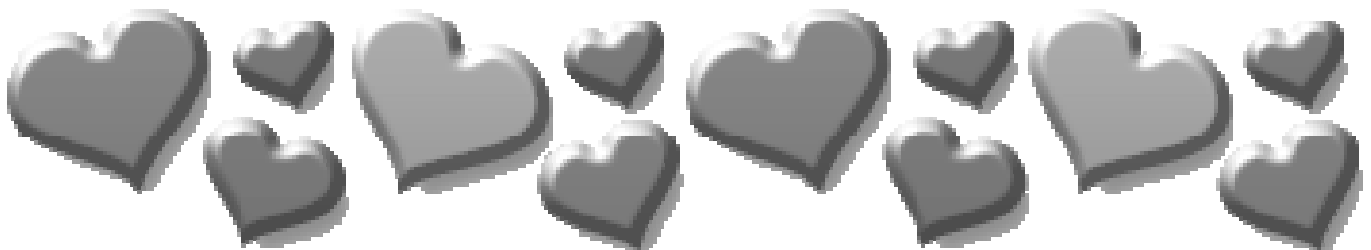
WRITING: During the third quarter, students will create a feature article on a topic that interests them. Students will ask questions about their subjects and then conduct research to find the answers. We will study the author's craft in published feature articles in preparation for crafting our own articles.

SPELLING/WORD STUDY: In preparation for the upcoming state tests, we will be studying test-related vocabulary.

SCIENCE: We are beginning our astronomy unit. Students will learn about the special properties of Earth that make life as we know it possible. They will also learn about the characteristics of other celestial bodies. Please make sure your children are observing the moon on a nightly basis and recording their observations on their moon observation worksheet.

SOCIAL STUDIES: This quarter we will study the Revolutionary War and how the United States began as a nation.

HUGS AND KISSES: Thank you for your participation in the Fifth Grade Hugs and Kisses! The Fifth Grade Class is sold decorative packages of Hershey's Hugs and Kisses for Valentine's Day and all proceeds will go towards the annual fifth grade field trip.





Counselor's Corner – Ms. Jen Ehlers

It's hard to believe, but we are already in the third marking period! Your student should be settled in to his/her classroom and learning many new skills. This is a good time of the year to assess how your child is feeling about the school year and what changes might be beneficial for the remainder of the year. This is also a time of year some students—and teachers—report feeling “stressed out,” especially with the upcoming spring testing schedule.

Stress on Kids:

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), in their book, Solve Your Child's School Related Problems, note that children each have their own threshold for tolerating stress. Children in elementary school often have a difficult time defining stress and how it impacts them, though it is there nonetheless. They tend to be less able to describe their emotions and concerns. Additionally, they are still learning coping skills to use when they are faced with a stressful situation (ex., math unit test). We often see it in the child who has frequent headaches, chews endlessly on

pencils, bites his/her nails, goes to the health room frequently, or performs well on classroom assignments but poorly on tests.

NASP notes that stress in elementary-aged children usually is the result of:

- something new and unfamiliar
- not knowing what to expect in a situation with an element of unpredictability or suspense
- an expectation of an unpleasant outcome
- all major developmental hurdles, such as going to school, school performance, and relationships with friends at school

As parents and teachers, our job is not to remove all stressors from a child's life, rather it is to help them learn how to cope effectively with the stress they are experiencing. NASP suggests that the three most important things parents can do are:

- Model for your child: show him, through your actions, how you cope with a stressful situation. Tell him how it made you feel (frightened,

pressured) and how you resolved the situation—whether you handled it well or not.

- Talk about how you handled stress badly, acknowledging your mistakes, showing your child how you learned from them instead of denying things were your fault and remaining upset over them.

Set realistic goals for yourself and your child. Help children prioritize goals and responsibilities.



When students do become stressed, I try to teach them to use good coping strategies. These include taking deep breaths, counting backwards, exercising, thinking of a pleasant place, and body relaxation. Yoga can be an excellent tool to help children (and adults) learn to calm down the body and the mind.

As always, please let me know what I can do to help support your child's learning at JLES.

Health Room - Ms. Maryam Barati

Health Room Note: Have a Happy Healthy Heart!

Guess what's special about February besides Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day and Groundhog Day? Give up? Would you believe it's **American Heart Month**? February is a time to think “Heart Smart” about your child's real heart. Heart Smart choices will help keep the heart healthy for an entire lifetime.

Heart Smart is - Exercising the heart. Kids should have some kind of aerobic exercise every day.

Heart Smart is - Eating healthy foods.



Kids should eat lots of fruits, veggies, whole grain breads and cereals. Instead of meats, try beans, peas or lentils. Instead of frying, try boiling, broiling, baking, or roasting. Instead of whole milk dairy products, try low or nonfat dairy products.

Faculty News *(Continued)*

Art – Mrs. Wolf

Kindergarten students recently completed a “Busy Spider” collage with a web and a watercolor resist painting. Current lessons include overlapping heart patterns with neon paint and looking at Peter Max’s contemporary designs. Upcoming lessons will include clay snakes, Eric Carle’s Greedy Python story, and printmaking practice.

First grade students are also working with ideas from artist Peter Max, heart patterns, overlapping and neon paint. Some classes are painting in the style of Claude Monet’s waterlilies and adding 3-dimensional tag board bridges. Future lessons will include tempera paint snowmen with tints and shade color mixing.

Second grade students completed a

Native American-style clay rattle in the shape of a favorite animal or object. They are currently using primary colors and mixing to create secondary colors, then using those colors to form a “Color wheel creature collage”.

Third grade students are finishing their clay Oaxacan animals to coincide with a social studies unit on Mexico City. They are also using symmetry and pattern for a “2010” painting showing 4 different watercolor techniques: Wet-on-wet, transparent wash, resist, and dry brush. Upcoming lessons will include Island map drawings.

Fourth grade students are beginning their Native American unit in social studies and in the art room. Students have completed clay rattles, and future

lessons will include totem masks, symbolic sand paintings and storyteller figures.

Fifth grade students are learning about pop art and product design with Andy Warhol’s paintings and the humor of the 1970’s “Wacky Pack” stickers (currently making a comeback!) and re-designing a popular game or grocery product. Future lessons will include clay rattles and waterlily/ pond paintings in the style of Claude Monet.



Media - Mrs. Tsai

Black Eyed Susan (BES) Book Award Students were introduced to BES Book Award and listened to book talks and various titles. Students who finish reading at least 3 chapter books and 8 picture books can vote for their favorite books in April. Please encourage your child/children to read the Black Eyed Susan books.

Kindergarteners listened to read-aloud holiday and winter stories. Sequencing of the story was reinforced. They are learning about nonfiction and zoo animals. Soon we will focus on fairy tales and discuss cause-and-effect relationships. **First graders** learned about text features and how to identify facts from non-fictional books. They are learning about weather and water cycle. Folktales and Goods and Services will be next. **Second graders** finished dictionary skills, Wampanoag and penguin research. They had so much fun! Students learned about the AGOPPE research model. They also learned to take notes and cite bibliography. They visited the PebbleGo online resource and gathered information. Fairytales are next. **Third graders** learned about folktales. They read stories from different countries and did book talks. They are learning about author Verna Aardema’s work and biography. **Fourth graders** had an author study on Patricia Polacco. Students read her autobiography, Firetalking, and other books that she wrote. They did “book talks” and visited the author’s website. They also just finished the Native American research. They reviewed the AGOPPE research model and gathered information using nonfiction books, encyclopedia and online resources. Text features, taking notes, and citing resources were emphasized. Next, we will study about author Eve Bunting. **Fifth graders** finished an author study on Chris Van Allsburg. They did some research for their feature articles. The Patrons’ Catalog, locating books, and using printed and online resources are stressed and reviewed. Next, they will learn about the 2010 Olympics and the work of Jean Fritz.

Dayline TV Show- Dayline Crew # 2 did a wonderful job broadcasting the shows. Thanks to all the Crew 2 parents for your assistance.

A big thank you goes to all library volunteers who helped during January and February. Without your support, the media center couldn’t provide quality service. Special gratitude goes to the **Abene family** for their generous book donations.



Physical Education - Ms. Darlene Botsford

As the third marking period begins let me remind everyone that the gym can get very warm when activity takes place. Therefore, it is important for your children to dress in layers so that some can be removed for comfort. Also, boots are great for coming and leaving school when the weather is messy; however sneakers are still needed for PE class. The first half of

this marking period, students in grades K, 1, and 2 will be learning the benefits of making healthy lifestyle choices. Try to encourage your child to exercise with you and include them when preparing meals. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will learn a variety of dances. Each grade level will learn a different style of dance: grade 3 – line dance, grade 4 – square dance, and grade 5 –

creative dance. Emphasis will be placed on students being responsible for themselves in a social movement setting and seeing how their actions affect the group.

Updates:

Jump Rope for Heart—Dates may be changed due to recent snow days.

The President's Challenge fitness test results went home with the last report card. Please congratulate your child and their efforts, they all worked very hard. 98 students earned a National Award while the following 10 students earned a Presidential Award:

Grade 5

Hayden August-Scriven**
Lauren Bridges*
Wyatt McCabe*
Jordyn Moten
Emily Orr*
Abigail Potter*

Grade 3

Jay Bollinger
Alex Jin
Mica Miller
Kaitlyn Price

*second award ** third award



Music – Mrs. Julie Wright

Last quarter, the kindergarteners listened for contrast in music, and now are learning to read symbols that represent those sounds of high and low, long and short. First graders are learning to read simple rhythms and melodies using standard notation. They are also using instruments to enhance songs and stories.

Second graders are learning to read and play simple rhythmic and melodic patterns, and using instruments to improvise on those patterns. Third graders are now playing the recorder. This is an important preparation for the instrumental program in fourth grade.

They demonstrate their ability to read standard notation, and show proper playing technique and breath support. Students should practice at least 15 minutes each day, in a room that is quiet and free of distraction.

Fourth and fifth graders are reading new melodies and improvising with instruments and the voice. They are exploring the ways different art forms can express an event, emotion, or idea. The chorus had a wonderful time singing at the Winter Concert and already look forward to the Spring Concert on May 20, 2010.

Spring Concert

May 20, 2010



Committee News

YEARBOOK — * LAST CHANCE *

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

by March 1, 2010

REFLECTIONS County Level — BEAUTY IS...? Congratulations to the following Jones Lane Reflection participants that are receiving an Award of Merit at the County Level and will have their work displayed at the County Program in March:



**Jacob Moldvay
Savannah Moldvay
Alex Jin
Zoe Bell
Sofee Desai
Erin Helgerman**



We look forward to next year's competition "Together We Can."

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



International Night

Thursday, April 29, 2009

We are looking for families to participate!!

If you would like to represent your native or ancestral country in a booth,
please contact:

Kate Steinwandel @ katest@comcast.net,
Wendy Putnam @ jtputnam10@msn.com or
Brie McCabe @ Brienne_B_McCabe@mcpsmd.org

Silent Auction is Coming in May 2010

Volunteers and Donations are Needed!

This year we would love to have you join us by volunteering your time and/or donating goods or services to the auction. Students may also volunteer and receive student service hours.

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

Please contact one of the following to volunteer or make a donation:

Katie Czworka @ kmczworka1@comcast.net
Tara Kavadias @ tarakavadias@yahoo.com



Wells-Barnett

**Celebrate
African American
Heritage Month!**



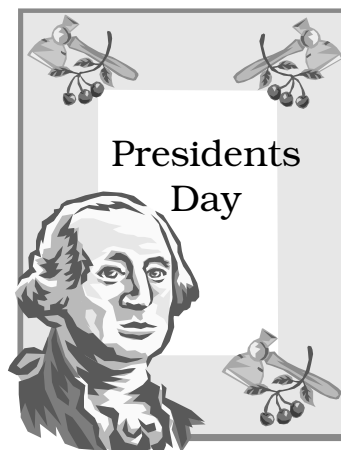
Carver

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

JLES PTA Calendar 2/2010— 03/2010

Date	Event	Time
February 26	Early Release—Grading/Planning Day	
March 2	PTA Meeting	
March 9—March 25	MD State Assessments	
March 26	3rd Marking Period Ends	
March 29– April 5	Spring Break	
April 6	No School—Professional Day for Teachers	
April 6	No PTA Meeting	

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.



We're on the web!
www.jlespta.org