



Jaguar Express

Jones Lane Elementary School * 11510 Jones lane, & Gaithersburg, MD 20878 * (301) 840-8160

Jones Lane Elementary School
PTA Newsletter

Volume 25, Issue 1
October 2010

From the President — Tracy Husted

Welcome to the first edition of the 2010-2011 JLES PTA newsletter. I hope you and your family have a wonderful start to the new school year and that everyone is settling in nicely with their new teachers and friends. I want to extend a special welcome to all the families and staff that are new to Jones Lane and the JLES PTA. I am happy that so many of you have joined the PTA, and I want to remind you that it's never too late to join if you haven't already!

As the weather begins to change from summer to fall and the leaves begin to show their changing colors, I am reminded that this has been and will continue to be a year of change for Jones Lane and the JLES PTA. We have several new PTA Board members, many new chair people for our committees, and a lot of new members. The school has undergone staff changes and

has welcomed the Elementary Learning Center with its staff and students, and there have been some changes in locations, schedules, and procedures from past years. While change can be difficult, it also brings new opportunities. You may be able to get involved with a new activity or event at school, your children can make new friends, and we can all learn from the changes. If you have any questions about how to get involved, please contact a PTA Board member, your child's teacher, or the Room Parent for your child's class.

Along with the changes at JLES, many JLES-sponsored programs and activities have continued and are well underway for the new school year. We had a fun-filled Back-to-School Picnic, raised funds through the Believe Kids program, and are sponsoring a Scholastic Book Fair. And there is lots more planned throughout

the school year. Just in the next few months we will have our class Halloween celebrations, the PTA "Reflections" arts contest, Holiday Shoppe, and Bingo Night. Check the JLES PTA calendar (in the directory or on the JLES PTA website) for dates and contact information. We'd like to see more of you at our monthly PTA meetings! These meetings are a great way to find out about upcoming PTA-sponsored events and activities, get an update from Mrs. Sample, and have input into the decisions made by the PTA. Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00 -8:15pm in the All-Purpose Room. Please note that the November PTA meeting will be on Wednesday, November 3rd, since there is no school on Tuesday, November 2nd. I hope to see you there! The JLES is excited about our new and ongoing programs and what promises to be an eventful, successful school year for all of our children!

Next PTA Meeting
Wednesday, November 3
Jones Lane All Purpose
Room
@



Principal.....Carole A. Sample	PTA Secretary.....DJ McKenna
PTA President.....Tracy Husted	PTA Treasurer.....Kevin Matthews
PTA 1st V.P.....Nyota Desai	Newsletter Editor.....Michele Campbell
PTA 2nd V.P.....Amanda Rosenbloom	Web Editor.....Farrah Beard

Visit us on the internet @ <http://www.jlespta.org>

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Jones Lane Students Are Respectful, Responsible & Ready to Learn

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



Principal's Report—Mrs. Carole A. Sample

Welcome to a new school year and the first publication of The Jaguar Express for 2010-2011. We are off to a great start and we thank our parents, staff and students for making the beginning of this year so very successful. I want to take this opportunity to welcome all our new students and families to Jones Lane Elementary School. We also want to send out a very special welcome to the students, staff members and families of the special education learning center. We are very happy to have you join us here at the best school in the world. We have the best students, staff members and parents. There is no place like Jones Lane Elementary School.

We had a terrific turn out for our annual Back-to-School Nights and we thank all our parents for coming out for this event and for volunteering your service to our school this year. I am pleased to report that the children have all transitioned well to their new classes and new teachers and they are off to a fantastic year of learning.

I want to also thank all our parents for your continued cooperation in making the drop off -pick- up routine for car riders run so safely and smoothly. From time to time there are a few glitches that occur in this process so we ask parents to please stay apprised of the latest driveway updates in the Principal's Newsletter. Please remember that car riders are dismissed only after the last buses are called. For this reason, parents who are picking up students in cars should not enter the driveway before 3:10

in the afternoon. This will help avoid back-ups in the driveway and on Jones Lane. I want to thank all of our parents for working with us to keep our students safe and allow the buses to drop off and pick up our students in a timely manner.

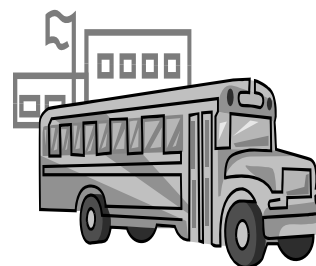
This year marks the fifth year of all-day kindergarten classes and the adjustment period for our kindergarten students each successive year continues to go seamlessly. I am happy to report that they are all adjusting well, especially to our lunch schedule. Our kindergarten students have lunch first this year and they have all learned the routines very well. They can get through the lunch lines in record time now, with a little help from their friends. Thanks



also for working with the children to help them learn their individual lunch account numbers. We are hoping that soon they will be able to put in their numbers without any help. I want to especially thank the parent volunteers who have been so helpful for the first weeks of school in the kindergarten classrooms and in the cafeteria. We could not have transitioned so well without all of you. Now we are working on

fostering independence with all our kindergarten students now. They are doing a great job!

Each year brings a renewed commitment to teaching, learning and our shared vision of academic achievement and excellence for every student. During the 2009-2010 school year, we made significant increases in the overall Maryland State Assessment (MSA) scores for grades 3-5 and on the Terra Nova 2 scores for our second graders. We also made tremendous gains in the scores of our smaller population groups of students. In addition to these achievements, we successfully completed our second year of PBIS behavior management implementation and we look forward to another successful year in 2010-2011. This school year, we will continue to stay focused on the MCPS strategic goal of increased achievement for all students in every group as well as the new Seven Keys to College readiness and careers recently rolled out by our superintendent. To accomplish this, we must continue to work together to make success for all students and eliminating the academic achievement gap a top priority. We cannot consider our school as high achieving if all student groups are not succeeding academically. I am pleased to inform you that our overall MSA scores from last year showed that we made progress in the achievement of **all** our students in **all** groups. This is quite an accomplishment and could not be achieved without the total commitment of all our stakeholders (students, staff, and parents).



These assessment results reflect the hard work and dedication of the entire Jones Lane school community. We will continue to work hard to assure that this achievement momentum continues. On behalf of our staff and students, I want to let you know that we are all excited and ready to continue our hard work and continue to improve this year. I know that we can count on the support of our parent community in this effort.

I will provide a message in this publication three times this year. You will hear from me again at mid-year (in December or January) and finally at the end of the school year. In the interim, I will continue to keep you informed every two weeks through the Principal's Newsletter.

Thanks again to the entire Jones Lane Elementary School family for a great start to this new school year. I invite you to stay involved and informed as we work together to assure the academic success of all our students. Let's keep the enthusiasm and the momentum going for the entire school year.





Volunteer News—Amanda Rosenbloom

Did you know? Last year, 175 MCPS schools reported 523, 774 volunteer hours!

Whether you like to volunteer on a weekly basis or can only give a few hours of your time during the year, all help and effort is greatly appreciated!

FAQ about volunteering:

1. How do I get involved? If you haven't already filled out the volunteer info sheet located in the PTA packet you received on the 1st day of school, please do so and return it to your child's teacher—it's not too late! This tells us what you're interested in helping with. Can't decide? Choose "misc." and let us call upon you as the need arises.

2. How do I volunteer in my child's classroom? Every teacher sets up their own system as to what works best for them based on their individual needs. Please speak to your room parent and/or teacher regarding specific needs.

3. May I bring my preschool child with me? Preschoolers are unfortunately not allowed in instructional settings with students as the distraction is detrimental to teaching and learning. However, there will be other opportunities during the year at the teacher's discretion when they are welcomed into the classroom for special presentations.

4. What should I do if I am unable to be at school at my assigned time or I can no longer volunteer for something I signed up for? As soon as you are aware, please contact the teacher via school and/or contact the chairperson responsible for the event. Teachers plan their schedule according to the time you agreed to help, so if possible please keep to your assigned schedule.

5. Why is it important to sign in/sign out every time I'm up at school? There are many reasons this requirement is necessary: verification of volunteer service, liability purposes, location of volunteers in case of emergency and recognition of volunteers for awards.

I'd like to volunteer, but I can't offer my services on a regular basis. Can I still volunteer? YES! You may be a special activity volunteer who is involved with special projects, such as helping with a PTA event, assisting with one field trip or doing work from home. **Everything from 1 hour to 100 hours is needed to make all of our projects possible!**



PLEASE NOTE:



HALLOWEEN PARTIES on 10/29 1:30-3:00 p.m.—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for a variety of tasks—you don't have to be present to help! Please speak with your room parent ASAP! A suggested voluntary donation of \$8 is asked of each student as well for both the Halloween and Valentine's Day party—please send this in.

Need unreported June/July/August/September hours from all chairpersons and volunteers!

Anyone have an older laptop you're looking to donate? We're looking for a new one for the check in desk in the front office.

Thank you to all those who helped out with Kindergarteners the first week of school, to **Megan Ellis** for her work on the directory, to the hospitality committee for PTA meeting snacks and staff meeting goodies, and to those who signed up to help with the Book Fair!

Any questions: please contact Amanda Rosenbloom, Volunteer Coordinator, at: hamandad@aol.com.

Special Thanks—Tara Kavadias

Thank you to the following families for their volunteering efforts for the Back to School picnic:

Ms. Cornblatt, Ms. Czworka, Winter, Sesay, McCabe, Nickel, Levy, Saks, Newlands, Muma as well as **Mr. Stockman** and **Mr. McFarland** for their assistance with setting up and breakdown. If I forgot anyone, I apologize...these names are from my final list, but I know we had others step up to the plate during the event. Our weather held out and we had a great Welcome back for all of our returning as well as new families to Jones Lane ES!





Faculty News

Kindergarten



It's hard to believe we are in the month of October already! The Kindergarten students are settling in to the routines of school and the classroom. This will be a dynamic year of growth and learning. It is a year filled with fun, adventure, and many new challenges. Your child may come home exhausted from all that thinking! There is so much to learn and we work hard to make every minute count!

Now that reading assessments are complete, we have hard data regarding the reading abilities/needs of our students. From this data, students will be placed in small groups to learn and develop specific reading skills. While teachers are working with reading groups, the other students will be rotating through independent reading centers. Activities at these centers are designed for practice and reinforcement of literacy skills. Students will work independently or with a partner during center time.

During the first quarter, we will continue to work on pointing to each word as we read familiar books, focusing on high frequency words in poems and books, discussing when we use a period, and practicing other concepts of

print. We will explore letters and the sounds they make in the beginning, middle, and end of words. In addition, we will focus on the difference between letters and words. As we read, we will make predictions about what we think will happen in stories and then go back and confirm if we were right. When reading a book at home with your child some important discussions might include the characters in the story, the setting, and retelling what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.

Kindergarten students are also learning a lot about writing! We have begun to do some independent writing using words we know, letter sounds, and pictures. We are focusing on beginning sentences with an uppercase letter and writing with lowercase letters, using spaces between words, and ending with a period. Most importantly, we are rereading what we have written! Writing journals do not come home with students but will be shared with you at parent conferences. Other writing activities will come home as they are completed.

In math, it's Data! Data! Data! The students are working on collecting,

interpreting, analyzing and generating questions through data we collect as a group. The students organize and display the data using tallies, bar graphs, pictographs, and Venn diagrams. Data is collected daily with our lunch counts and question of the day, and data collection will continue throughout the year. Other math objectives this quarter include: identifying, copying, extending, and constructing simple patterns using concrete objects; sorting by a given attribute (color, size, and shape) and describing likeness; learning and using the sorting rule; and identifying positional words (top, middle, bottom, above, below, between, before, after, left, and right).

In science we have been working on our Weather unit. We have learned about rain, clouds, wind, and weather tools. We had so much fun making rain sticks and observing the clouds outside. In social studies, we have been learning about rules at home and rules at school. We have also been studying American symbols, American Leaders, and American holidays.

WOW! A lot is going on in Kindergarten! We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

KIDS FUN FACTS

Have you ever wondered why the leaves change color in Autumn?

Inside a leaf there are millions of little packages of color in green, yellow and orange.

- The green packages are called chlorophyll
- The yellow packages are called xanthophyll
- The orange packages are called carotene

In the summer, the green chlorophyll packages are very, very busy. The green packages in the leaves catch sunlight and, using it for energy, they change water from the ground and a special gas from the air ("carbon dioxide") into sugar ("glucose"). This sugar is the food for the tree. All summer long the green chlorophyll produces food for the trees. Because the green chlorophyll is so busy, the green color covers up all of the other colors in the packages. The green packages of chlorophyll in the leaves need the water from the ground to do their job. The water is soaked up by the trees roots, travels up the trunk and enters the leaves through tiny tubes in the leaf's stem.





1st Grade

Our first graders have done a wonderful job of adjusting to being in school this year! Most are working hard to follow classroom rules and routines and have embraced the school-wide PBIS program. The students really enjoy earning "Paw Tickets"!

In Language Arts we are working on the grade one foundational skills that are needed for reading and writing success. One of these skills includes developing oral language. We retell important details in a story and learn to express our ideas.

The students are taught reading through small group instruction that meets his/her individual reading needs. We are reading for literary experience which involves reading stories and poems. We are learning comprehension strategies that good readers use "Before Reading", "During Reading", and "After Reading",



Reading". Reading to be Informed is another instructional focus for the first term. We are reading informational texts and articles and identifying text features. These text features help us to better understand the text.

In Writer's Workshop the students are learning that writing is a process of communicating meaning. It is thinking made visible! We are learning the stages of the writing process such as generating ideas, sharing those ideas with a buddy, writing a rough draft, revising, editing, and publishing the piece.

Unit one in grade one math includes learning important math vocabulary as well as skills such as locating whole numbers on a number line and identifying a number that is one less, one more, or between two other numbers. The concept of addition and subtraction are modeled and we are finding sums and differences using different counting strategies. First and second grade skills are taught,

as appropriate. The basic math strategies are taught and then extended to challenge the children with high math ability.

Our first science unit is Constructions. Students will learn about building sturdy constructions and will be encouraged to describe their observations and discoveries. Our first field trip is on December 15th. We will travel to the National Building Museum in Washington, DC where we will construct our own city! More details will be available in November.

In Social Studies we are learning about rules and laws and why we have them. Important symbols and leaders of the United States are also discussed.

As you can see, we are very busy in first grade! Thank you for your support as we continue to navigate our way through the first grade curriculum!

2nd Grade

The Second Grade Team is extremely excited to begin the 2010-2011 school year! We have enjoyed getting to know our new students. Back-to-School Night has come and gone quickly, but we hope you were able to join us to learn about each unique classroom. Each month in the PTA Newsletter we will be discussing different topics to better inform you about second grade.

There is a great deal to cover in second grade. Each day the students begin with an Early Bird. This is an activity that complements the units of study we are doing throughout each of the subjects. We have begun Reading Initiative. The children are actively reading and writing each day. Mrs. Terrell works with second graders from each class as a reading initiative teacher. We have a 60 minute block for math daily. Our students eat lunch at 12:45, so don't forget to pack him/her a healthy snack each day! The rest of the day is packed with D.E.A.R. time, specials, science, and social studies.

Your children are responsible for two fold-

ers this year. The red **Homework Folder** is used Monday-Thursday. The children are expected to write down their daily assignments on the assignment sheet (**which always stays in the folder**). Please assist your child by reviewing the homework and checking to make sure it is completed each night. Except on rare occasions, spelling and math homework is assigned every night. Please note whether your child received a "paw print" for good behavior or a "try harder" for behavior that needs to be improved upon. It is important to initial each "try harder" to ensure parent-teacher communication. In addition, all students are expected to read at least 15 minutes every night and complete a writing assignment in their Home Journal. Please ask your child's teacher if you need appropriate books for reading. On Friday students will be bringing home a blue **Friday Folder**. This includes all corrected assignments. Please spend time looking over the work with your child. At times

there may be work in this folder that needs to be completed or fixed by the student. The children should return the folder on Monday with parent initials on the attached parent/teacher communication sheet (Friday Slip) and return any corrected pieces of work (if needed). Please keep all other papers at home.

We look forward to an exciting year. Thank you for all of your support at home!





3rd Grade

Third grade is off to a wonderful start! We enjoyed meeting many parents at Back-to-School Night. Thank you all for helping us to establish daily routines and responsibilities with the third graders!

Some of the math skills we will introduce this quarter include place value, addition and subtraction, and data analysis. We continue to emphasize the importance of memorizing basic addition and subtraction facts so that students can apply them in problem solving and computation with greater ease. Please continue to practice basic addition and subtraction facts at home with your child. The data analysis unit includes concepts using patterns, organizing and displaying data using tables, pictographs, and bar graphs. Math homework is assigned on a regular basis to reinforce these concepts. In addition to the above concepts, Mrs. Durr's math class will also study geometry in the first unit. The students in

this math class should continue working on their multiplication facts.

During the first quarter, the children are reading to be informed and reading for literary experience. They are learning to make connections with their own lives and the world in an effort to fully comprehend what they read. Various texts are read to the students to support our reading curriculum. Students are also writing for personal expression. Learning about sounds and patterns in writing is important, and we have started using sound explorations as part of our spelling curriculum.

We are studying Economics and Geography in social studies. The children are becoming familiar with natural, capital, and human resources. Expository reading and writing are an important part of this unit. Students are also learning about the elements of a map

and how to interpret a map by using the key, compass rose, and map scale. In science, students are becoming familiar with fingerprints and chromatography as we use the scientific process to solve mysteries in the Crime Lab unit.



Please note that Study Island student logins and passwords have been sent home. This website is a valuable online tool to help with reading and math. Please encourage your child to use this resource at home.

We have experienced a positive beginning, and we are looking forward to a wonderful year as we work together for the success of every student.



4th Grade

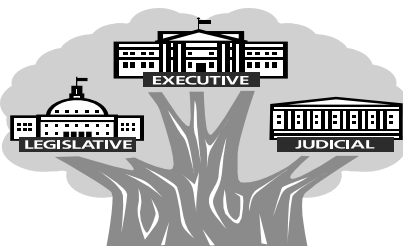
The fourth graders are off to a fabulous start. Most of them are focused and well prepared for all the work we have asked of them already.

In math we are finishing Unit 1. We have already covered numeration, place value, and data analysis. Fourth graders are expected to be able to read and interpret graphs, and to create data displays such as graphs and line plots. The last part of Unit 1 is geometry.

We are all very excited about our science unit on ecosystems. Thank you for sending in all the two liter bottles. We used these to create ecocolumns which are terraria and aquaria connected. In this way we can observe the interaction of land and water environments. The arrival of guppies, snails, crickets, and isopods was anxiously anticipated by every fourth grader!

In social studies, we are taking advantage of the upcoming elections to talk about

government. The fourth graders have read and discussed the rights and responsibilities of citizens of the United States. Ask them about the roles of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.



They should also be able to tell you about the levels of government (local, state, and federal) as well. We will be visiting our State House in Annapolis for our first field trip on October 20. Be on the lookout for the permission slip.

We are in the process of implementing our 4th grade reading/language arts curriculum in our reading classes. The first genre unit is on fables and fantasies. You should have received a note informing you about your child's reading teacher. Fourth graders should know how to pick a "just right" book for independent reading. They have learned how to write a good book recommendation and reading response. Have them share the criteria with you.

It was great to see so many of our parents at Back- to- School night. The emphasis you all put on education has great benefits for our students. We are looking forward to meeting with you during conferences scheduled for Thursday afternoon, November 11, and Friday afternoon, November 12. Please contact your child's teacher to schedule your conference if you have not already done so. Here's to another exciting and wonderful year at Jones Lane ES!



5th Grade

Reading: Fifth graders are continuing our genre study of historical fiction. Students have also begun meeting with their book clubs to discuss literature. Another focus for October is reading a variety of informational texts. Please encourage your child to read 30 minutes every night and record the reading in the daily THR log. Please sign these and remind your child to return them every Friday. In addition, you can help your child by reviewing the "Word a Day" vocabulary with him/her on a regular basis.

Spelling/Word Study: Students are currently exploring English words that contain Greek and Latin roots. Each week, they are presented with a new root along with ten words that contain the specified root. Students have shown great enthusiasm as they've been finding many of the studied roots in their reading.

Writing: Students continue to write for personal expression in their writer's notebooks. As they choose a piece to publish, they will be learning craft techniques and revision strategies. You can help your child by encouraging him/her to write in his/her writer's notebook a couple times a week at home.

Fifth Grade Math: Math 5 is will soon finish our first unit on number theory and mathematical relationships and will begin Unit 2 by the end of October. In this unit, students will analyze the characteristics of geometric shapes. They will also examine properties of plane and three-dimensional figures. Students will use tools, such as protractors and compasses to draw and measure geo-

metric figures. Parents can help their children by encouraging them to practice their basic facts on a regular basis. Flash cards, online math games, and just quizzing children in the car, waiting in line, and while making dinner are just a few easy ways to practice.

Math A: Math A concluded Unit 1 and completed the first assessment. Students have begun Unit 2, which focuses on decimal and fraction applications and connections. In addition to your child's homework, please encourage him/her to practice his/her basic facts on a daily basis at home.

Math B: Math B concluded Unit 1 and is working on Unit 2. Unit 2 consists of adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing integers. Students will also work with solving one step and two step equations involving variables. They will also solve problems involving exponents. The 2nd Unit test will be right before winter break.

Science/Social Studies: Students are focusing on force and motion in their first Science unit. They had many exciting opportunities to experiment with objects to observe motion, gravity, friction, and other physical properties. Students have begun the first unit in Social Studies, where they are learning about colonial settlements and the events leading up to the Revolution.

Other: Please review your child's Friday

folder each week. If missing or incomplete work is listed, please have your child complete the work before the Thursday following the Friday folder, as missing work will seriously impact students' grades.

We are looking forward to two field trips in October. First, we will visit Strathmore Hall for a concert and second, to the Seneca Schoolhouse Museum, which ties in with our study of American history. Please make sure your child brings in signed permission slips and money before these trips.

Soon, you will be receiving notification about the parent-teacher conference date and time you signed up for at Back-to-School Night. If you were unable to attend, or you didn't sign up that evening, your child's teacher will be notifying you about available dates and times.



In addition, please have your child take advantage of *Study Island* at home by going on www.studyisland.com. This website allows your child to master the standards specific to their grade. Students can use their school username and password to log on.

Art

Welcome to the 2010- 22 school year! It seems as if it was a long time ago, when students in Art began the year with self-portraits. Kindergarten students practiced drawing their faces with mirrors and including facial details, while students in grades 1-4 completed 3-D portraits with hands holding a favorite (or imaginary) book cover!

We are lucky to work with Paulette Koehn, art teacher from Darnestown ES, join us this year on Tuesdays to teach 1st & 3rd grade, and two Learning Center classes.

We then continued on to a geometric/ organic/ symbol lesson with the artist Stuart Davis. Students worked on an autobio-

graphical collage while including symbols for their age, favorite numbers, age, and interests.

Students in 5th grade extended this project with a "blacktop paper sculpture". 5th graders also created wire sculpture portraits and practiced contour drawings of their faces and hands.

3rd 4th and 5th grade students are currently working on a few lessons in the spirit of *Hispanic Heritage month*, which include Amate bark paintings and Peruvian carved gourd drawings.

Kindergarten students are working on a resist drawing of a spider web, and paper

sculpture collage spiders.

Learning Center students have worked with Harold & the purple crayon line drawings, self-portraits, cutting & gluing practice with shapes & lines, paper sculpture techniques, Amate bark paintings, and various methods of secondary color-mixing with Mouse Paint and the Story of Blue & Yellow.

1st grade students are working with various paper sculpture techniques and creating a mask. Future lessons will include color-mixing and "Bug on a rug" patterned collages.





Music

Kindergarteners are learning to use their voices in a variety of ways, and matching motion with the music. They are also learning how to use the classroom rhythm instruments and playing the steady beat. First grade is focusing on using the voice to sing high, medium and low sounds, and singing many new songs. They are learning to classify the classroom rhythm instruments as wood, metal, rattle, or membrane, and playing the steady beat. They are also discussing how we use music at home, at school, and in the community.

Second grade is learning to match pitch as they sing, and to demonstrate good posture and breath support. They are beginning to read and play simple rhythm patterns with the classroom instruments. Second grade has also had an introduction to the families of the orchestra; strings, woodwind, brass, and percussion. This will serve them well as they go on a special field trip in November to see the National Philharmonic Orchestra play at the Strathmore Concert Hall. Please look for more information to come from your

classroom teachers about that field trip.

Third grade has already had many singing experiences, including call and response songs and rounds. They are becoming more familiar with the families of the orchestra, and learning the names of the orchestral instruments. Fourth grade and fifth grade are reviewing music reading skills and using those skills as they learn new songs. They are learning the names of all the instruments of the orchestra, and classifying them by method of sound production.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Physical Education



Welcome back to another year in Physical Education. I am pleased to inform you that **Mr. Joon Lee** will join me as a part time PE teacher beginning this year. **Mr. Lee** will be joining us on Thursdays.

Physical activity should be a part of a child's daily routine. As you may already know your children only have PE one day per week, so I need your help! Anything you can do as a

family to help increase fitness will not only benefit your children, but yourself as well. You make the best role models for your children. Some of you already made the first step by participating in the annual **International Walk your Child to School Day**, on October 6th. Congratulations to all the families who participated in this fun event. Special thanks go out to **Mrs. Fuster** and **Mrs. Freedman** for helping to organize walking groups from their neighborhoods. Another way to encourage healthy fitness habits is to sign your children up for the annual **Halloween Young Run**, to be held on Sunday, October 17, 2010. Informational flyers were already sent home or you can log onto, www.halloweenyoungrun.com for more information.

The first marking period began with the major objective of "learning how exercise affects the body". This concept is taught to all grade levels in one format or another. Activities such as finding our pulse (K-2), to measuring and calculating heart rate (3-5) are just some of the ways to accomplish this. Students in grades K-2 are polishing up on their loco motor skills while participating in activities that force them to develop spatial awareness skills. Students in grades 3-5 have already pre-tested the **President's Challenge Fitness Test**. They still have a few more weeks to practice at home. In class these students are currently practicing ball skills with the feet and hands with emphasis on the following:

grade 3, dribbling grade 4, passing grade 5, shooting.

The main goals of the PE program are to expose your children to a wide variety of activities, to make those activities safe, and to encourage all to participate without the fear of failure. Please encourage your children to participate unless they are injured, in which case I will need a note with **specific** instructions as to what your child can or can not do. Please remind them to wear appropriate clothing on PE day, **sneakers** are a must! If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at the school. Let's make it a great year!



Counselor's Corner

Counselor:

Welcome back to school! It has been wonderful seeing all of the children's faces back in the building. We've had many changes over the summer and I'm sure it is going to be another exciting year!

Jones Lane Jaguars are continuing PBIS. It is exciting to see the way our students are working so hard at making good choices! Students will continue to earn yellow tickets as an acknowledgement for positive behavior choices. Students may then use these tickets to buy items from their classroom teacher, specialist, or from the weekly prize cart. Donations to the prize cart are always welcome (new or gently used stuffed animals are a big hit!). If you have suggestions, feedback, or questions, please e-mail me.

I will meet with all classrooms on a monthly basis this year. Our first lesson of the year reviewed my role ("to help students solve problems") and to review the DEBUG steps for problem-solving. The DEBUG steps are:

1. Ignore
2. Move away
3. Talk friendly
4. Talk firmly
5. Get adult help

September also helped us all look at the ways we can show responsibility in school. The primary grades discussed why we have rules and how to be a good listener. The upper grades discussed homework and persistence.

In October, we will focus primarily on respect. Classes will focus on self-respect and making healthy choices for ourselves. We will celebrate Red Ribbon Week from October 25th through 29th. During this week, we will have a school-wide focus on drug use prevention. Look for upcoming information on different dress-up/spirit days, as well as questions you can discuss at home. Remember, the best prevention starts early and often!

Lastly, JLES will again be participating the Help the Homeless Walk-a-Thon during the Halloween parade. Please look for the permission slip to come home with your child. Last year, we raised over \$3000 for The Dwelling Place—a shelter for battered women. With increasing economic strains, our support is all the more necessary!

If you are interested in participating in the Guidance Advisory Committee (GAC) please let me know. Our first meeting is October 27th at 3:30pm.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please call me at (301) 840-8160 or Jennifer_S_Ehlers@mcpsmd.org. I look forward to a wonderful year!





Health Room — Maryam Barati

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL

When your child is sick, keep him/her home from school. This not only benefits your child but other children and staff in the classroom at school.

WHAT ARE IMPORTANT SIGNS OF ILLNESS

Some important signs of illness are:

- 1. A temperature of more than 100o orally
- 2. Nausea or vomiting
- 3. Stomachache
- 4. Diarrhea
- 5. Pale or flushed face
- 6. Headache
- 7. Persistent cough
- 8. Earache
- 9. Thick yellowish discharge from nose
- 10. Sore throat
- 11. Rash or infection of the skin
- 12. Red or pink eyes
- 13. Loss of energy or decrease in activity



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHILD HAS ANY OF THESE SIGNS?

If your child has any of these symptoms when it is time for school, it is best that he/she stay home. Most childhood illnesses are over soon and no cause for worry. But, if the symptoms are severe or persist for more than 24 hours, you should contact your private source of medical care. Children sometimes use illness as an excuse to miss school. On the other hand, some children force themselves to go to school even though they are sick. There may be times that your child does not show signs of the above-noted symptoms but may be ill. It is up to you to be alert to your child's health and to decide when it is best to send him/her to school.



WHEN MAY MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER AN ILLNESS?

Generally, your child may return to school when he/she is free of signs of illness. However, there may be times when it is necessary for your child to see your source of medical care before returning to school. Please call your school nurse if you have any questions regarding a specific condition.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF MY CHILD BECOMES ILL AT SCHOOL?

If your child complains of being sick or does not look well after he/she reaches school, we will contact you. Therefore, it is important that you provide the school with up-to-date information and phone numbers to call in case it is necessary to contact you.





Committee News

BINGO NIGHT

Bingo Night is coming up! Please bring the entire family for a fun filled night on Friday, November 19th, 7:00 pm—9:00pm at Lakelands Middle School. Food will be provided by Potomac Pizza. For additional information, contact Kathy Quinlan at (301) 526-4862.



COMMUNICATIONS

If you want to join the JLES yahoo group, please send an email to Nan Ropelewski at nanrope5@hotmail.com.

Safe Kids Zone — Tip of the Month



Parents, remember getting all dressed in your costume to go trick-or-treating? Pure spooky joy right!!!! To keep it fun, everyone needs to stay safe. Here are 13 helpful tips to make sure your kids have a healthy and happy Halloween:

- **Have adult supervision.** Accompany your kids if you don't think they're old enough to trick-or-treat on their own.
- **There is safety in numbers.** If they're old enough to trick-or-treat without an adult, tell your kids to stay in a group.
- **Map out your plan.** Designate a route before your kids begin trick-or-treating, and make sure they stick to it.
- **Take the long way 'round.** Have your kids trick-or-treat in areas where there are a lot of people around. They should also avoid taking short-cuts through alleys and parking lots.
- **Try tick-or-treat-friendly homes.** Ensure your kids only visit houses with lights on. And, you might also suggest the houses they visit have some sort of Halloween decoration on the porch.
- **Stay outside.** Make sure your kids don't go inside someone's house. They can get their candy from the porch.
- **Remain visible.** Dress your kids in a bright costume so others can see them. If their costume is dark, have your kids wear reflective strips or carry a glow stick or flashlight.
- **Remember, shorter = safer.** Goes without saying but just in case you forget, ensure your kids' costumes aren't so long that they can trip over them.
- **Don't cover the face.** Instead of masks, have your kids wear make-up so they can see better.
- **Quality-check treats.** Check your kids' candy before they eat it. Throw out any candy that is not in its original wrapper or looks like it has been tampered with.
- **Say "no" to strangers.** Tell your kids to never accept a ride or go anywhere with a stranger.
- **Obey the law.** Encourage your kids to follow all the regular rules for walking around. That includes looking both ways before crossing, obeying all traffic laws and using cross walks and crossing lights where available.

Have a great time! Finally, make sure your kids have tons of fun and get lots and lots of candy.





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

To submit Newsletter articles, email in Word format to:

Michele Campbell, michcampbell29@aol.com
 240-552-0682

JLES PTA CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Oct 21	Math/Curriculum Night	6:00 pm
Oct 25	SIP Team Meeting	3:30 pm.
Oct 29	Halloween Parade & Class Parties	1:45pm
Oct 29	End of First Marking Period	
Nov 1	No School—Professional Day for Teachers	
Nov 2	No School—General Election	
Nov 3	PTA Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Nov 5	Reflections entries due	
Nov 10	Individual School Portraits	
Nov 11	Early Release—Parent Conferences	12:35 p.m.
Nov 12	Early Release—Parent Conferences	12:35 p.m.
Nov 11-12	Believe Kids Distribution	PM Flow
Nov 11-12	Holiday Shop	PM Flow
Nov 15	JLES Staff Meeting	3:15 p.m.
Nov 19	Bingo Night	7:00 p.m.
Nov 24	Early Release—Thanksgiving Holiday	12:35 p.m.
Nov 25-26	No School—Thanksgiving Holiday	



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