



St. John's Lane Elementary School

July 2007

Better Together
Old Friends, New Friends, Always Friends

Building A New Learning Community

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year. We have finally arrived on our journey to becoming a brand new learning community, or school family. It has been a pleasure meeting students and parents over the past months. I want to thank each of you for everything that has been done during the transition months.

The theme for this year is found at the top of this newsletter. There was a tie for the two themes so combining them made perfect sense. In fact, the theme is very much like the way that students from 3 schools are coming together to form the new student body of SJLES. Better Together – Old Friends, New Friends, Always Friends captures the feelings and hopes of staff, students, and parents.

There is much work ahead for everyone as we build this new school. We know that everyone is up to the challenge and is enthusiastic about this exciting

opportunity. We need everyone's help in making SJLES the very best school it can be and we are positive that we can count on your support. We are so very lucky to have you as part of our school family.

I want you to know that Mrs. Sarro and I are here to assist you in any way that we can. Communication is important so don't hesitate to contact us with questions, concerns, suggestions, or even a compliment. The Feedback Box is in the front office if you want to use one of our Feedback Forms, or you can send an e-mail, note, call, or drop by.

Let's make this a year of wonderful learning and great memories for everyone!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jagoda

Principal

More Fun to Come

What are you doing on August 21, 2007? Between 1:30 and 3:30 you will see two school buses with some very excited SJLES staff on them coming to your neighborhood. We will be making stops along the student bus routes of our students to wave and say hello. In August we will send an E-School Newsletter to let you know where the stops are.

Everyone is wondering who will be his or her child's teacher for this year. On August 23rd at 3:00 PM, the class lists will be posted near the school entrance. The Open House for students in 1-5 will be on August 24th at 2:00 – 3:00 PM. A special Orientation for Kindergarten students will take place on August 23rd from 10:30 – 11:30 AM.

We will be decorating our halls for our Open House with special Friendship Quilts. A post card addressed to the school was included with this newsletter. One side is blank. That is the side where we need our students to color a quilt square. Try to cover all the space on the card. Mail the postcard back to the school.

The staff is already working on School Spirit Days for this year. We need to keep the energy and excitement going. You'll hear about these plans through our school newsletter so that your child doesn't miss out on any of the fun.





New Lunch Prices

Child's lunch \$2.25

Milk only \$.50

Breakfast \$1.50

Adult's lunch \$3.90

First Day of School at SJLES

What does the first day of school look like at SJLES? It is exciting!

Parent volunteers and staff members will greet students arriving by bus and will give students a tag with the bus number on it as they exit the bus. This way you and your child will know the bus number. There will be plenty of staff members to help with finding classrooms if students need help.

Car riders will go to the horseshoe loop at the end of the largest parking lot. We ask that cars pull all the way around the loop so that 8-10 cars can release students at one time. This helps to keep the traffic moving and limits any backups on St. John's Lane. Staff members will

be on duty in the loop to help. **Drivers should not exit their cars for any reason while in the loop.** Students should only exit cars on the passenger side by the sidewalk for safety reasons.

If you need to get out of the car, please park in one of the parking spaces. We really appreciate your help.

A special note for students who walk to and from school. These students will be dismissed from the Art Room doors.

Be patient with staff, students, and other parents during the first week of school as everyone gets used to the new routines. We all want everyone to be safe.

Kindergarten Information

Since our kindergarten students are all new to our school, we will be assessing them prior to the first day of school. Please call the school at (410) 313-2813 to set up a day and time for the assessments. The assessment will take only 15 minutes. A few parents have indicated that their children are reading a little bit already and these assessments will take 20 to 30 minutes.

Most students enjoy working one on one with a staff member and the process is very non-threatening.

The assessment results will help us as we form class groups so that teachers will have three instructional levels in their classes. If you are not able to come for the assessment, your child will be temporarily placed in a homeroom class for the first week of school to allow us to complete the assessment process and assign the appropriate class.

On August 23rd at 10:30 AM when you come for the Kindergarten Orientation, the class lists will be posted in the front hallway so that you will know who your child's teacher will be.

Our School's Vision -

***Excellence
Begins With
Me***



Building a New
Learning
Community
Together
Students, Staff, and
Parents

Lunch/Recess Monitor Needed

We have an opening for a Lunch/Recess Monitor. Hours are approximately 10:30-2:00. This is a great way to work and still be home for your children before and after school. Please call Mrs. Sarro, Assistant Principal, at (410) 313-2813 to discuss the details. The rate of pay is \$8.70 per hour.

Upcoming Dates

Back to School Nights

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

September 10th K - 2

September 11th 3 - 5

School Closed

Aug. 31 - Professional Development Day

Sept. 3 - Labor Day

Sept. 13 - Rosh Hashanah