

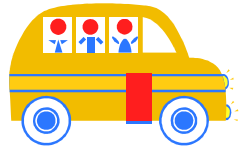


# ST. JOHN'S LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL OFFICE 410-313-2813

www2.hcpss.org/sjles

September 28, 2007



## DATES TO REMEMBER

October 1	Coat drive begins
October 5	Interim progress reports issued
October 5	Sally Foster orders due
October 15	Spirit Wear sale begins
October 17	Market Day pick-up – 6-7 PM
October 19	NO SCHOOL – MSTA Convention
October 26	Family Fun Bingo – 6:30 PM
October 26	Spirit Wear orders due

## *NEWS FROM THE ADMINISTRATORS*

**MRS. JAGODA & MRS. SARRO**

### **Breakfast for Our Bus Drivers**

On Tuesday our bus drivers were treated to a delicious breakfast prepared by our PTA volunteers. There was everything from blueberry french toast to egg casserole. This annual event is an important one since it starts off each school year with a welcome to the people who safely transport our students to and from school. Their job is not an easy one when you think about 40 plus students, all talking and enjoying their ride while the bus driver attends to the rules of the road and what is happening on the bus. As parents ourselves thinking about driving our own children, we can only understand a small picture of what this is like.

The bus drivers shared how much they enjoy their job and that they are committed to keeping our students safe. Overall our students are doing a wonderful job of keeping safe on the bus.

The drivers shared that students standing or getting out of their seats is the rule broken most frequently. Children who are standing are more likely to be hurt in a bus accident. The bus rules are found below so that parents can review them as a family.

1. Follow directions from the driver the first time they are given.
2. Stay in your seat at all times while the bus is in motion.
3. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
4. Keep hands, feet, legs, arms, personal property and your voice to yourself.

5. No eating, lighting combustible materials, drinking or unacceptable language at anytime on the bus. Please remember that only buses are allowed in the front parking area between 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM and 2:30 -3:30 PM. This is for safety reasons. We have already had a near miss with a parent pulling onto the lot while our buses are on site. Your cooperation is more than just important, it means the safety of our students.

### **The First Jaguar Club Date**

All of our students participated in our first Jaguar Club of the year this week. In the future, attendance in clubs will be dependant on a student's ability to follow our school's three behavior expectations – Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Ready to learn.

This month our theme was school spirit and club activities reflected this. Students were encouraged to dress in our school colors, blue & gold (yellow) or spirit wear. Each teacher on the team came up with an activity and students could choose which club they wished to attend. There was fun for everyone.

### **Halloween Ahead**

The month of October signals time to prepare a costume for those families who participate in Halloween activities. We provide an alternative activity for students who do not take part in the Halloween parade and party. SJLES has an annual Halloween parade. As you think about a costume, we ask that you refrain from blood and gore, as well as toy weapons. You will hear more about Halloween in future newsletters.

## **SCHOOL NEWS**

**Reminder:** If a student arrives at school after 8:45 AM, a parent or guardian must go to the front office to sign them in. Thank you.

**From the Health Room:** Vision and Hearing Screening will take place at the school Oct. 22, 23, and 24 with re-screening Nov 11. Screening is for all Kindergarten, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and new students to HCPSS. Please remember to have your children bring and or wear their glasses on these days. Kindergarten will be sending home practice cards and/or practicing the screening process with their students. Letters of referral to an eye doctor are sent only if the child has difficulty with the screening process and only after the Nov. 11 re-screening date. Thank you to the PTA for organizing volunteers to assist.

**PALS: Parent Assisted Learning at School:** We are looking for some PALS! Parent Assisted Learning at School (PALS) is an award-winning program that began at SJLES last year. The goal of PALS is to increase reading fluency and comprehension through one-on-one sessions with a child. Parent volunteers are trained in a specific reading technique called "Fluency Training." This is a wonderful, easy to follow technique to help children read and comprehend at a higher level. Parents are then matched up with a student who will benefit from this type of one-on-one reading approach. The time commitment is as little as a ½ hour a week for 6 weeks. At the end of the 5th week we will ask you how you are enjoying the program and if you would be interested in continuing for a second 6 week period. We will continue in 6 week intervals until the end of the school year. Parent volunteers will work with the same student each week until the end of each session. If you would like to volunteer for more time during the week, you will be assigned one more student for an additional 1/2 hour.

Our first "Fluency Training" sessions of the year will be: October 9th, 2:30-3:00 PM  
October 10th, 9:00- 9:30 AM

The training sessions will be held in the Computer Lab near the Media Center, and will be lead by our Reading Specialist, Mrs. Paula Stehle. You only need to attend one of these two sessions. Following the training you will be asked to let us know what days/times you are available to volunteer. We are hoping to have our PALS working with students the week of October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We're looking forward to another exceptional year of reading success! Please contact Mrs. Emily Rice by e-mail if you are interested in volunteering at [therices@cavtel.net](mailto:therices@cavtel.net)

**Still Wanted!** Are you looking for a job to keep busy during the day for a few hours? Need a little extra cash, but only want to be out of the home while the children are at school? SJLES has a job for you! We are looking for individuals that will substitute for our current Lunch /Recess Monitors on days when they are absent for either the entire 3 hour shift or a portion of the shift. Please call 410-313-2813 for more details and to get your application process started! Candidates must be 18 years old, available between 10:30 -1:30, M-F. Salary: \$10.70/hour.

## **PTA NEWS**

**Vocelli Pizza Fundraiser Disastrously Successful!** A big THANK YOU to all the families who participated in the fundraising event Wednesday evening. The owner and young staff of Vocelli's appreciate the patience and good humor our families demonstrated as they waited for their meals to be prepared. Their apologies extend to families who were unable to get their orders because of the wonderful, overwhelming response to our fundraiser. To thank us for our support and enthusiasm, our friends at Vocelli have increased our net percentage of sales from 15% to 20%. Additionally, **two** reward pizza parties will be given to the two classes who had the greatest participation: And the winners of the pizza parties are.....Mrs. Lowney's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and Mr. Esposito's 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes. Congratulations and thank you all for supporting the PTA's programs for students!

### **Earn Cash For Your School!**

#### **Giant A+ Bonusbucks #01001:**

If you have not had a chance to register yet, please sign up online or return your forms to school with your child. You can add as many Bonus Card numbers as you wish. So feel free to **ask extended family members, neighbors, friends, co-workers and local business owners** to designate our school by providing you with their card number, or you can provide them with the SJLES code: **01001**, if they wish to do it themselves. The fastest method is to **register online** at <http://www.giantfood.com/aplus>. You can also **drop off the form at your local Giant**, or return it to me and I will enter the details for you. **Please remember to include the first 3 initials of your last name on the form. You cannot be registered without it.** There is nothing else to do! You simply do your shopping at your local Giant store as usual, and we will earn cash for our school!

#### **Escrip/Safeway #6570193**

Please take a moment to sign up on the website at <http://www.escrip.com>. In addition to Safeway, there are many other participating eScrip merchants. You can also register your credit or debit cards online, join the Rewards Dining and Hotels Network, shop online from [escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and a percentage of your purchase will go to the school. Some of the participating merchants include Kelsey's Restaurant, Shannon's Saloon, Jordan's Steakhouse, Target, Eddie Bauer, Linens 'n Things, Macy's and many more. Go to <http://www.escrip.com> for further information on how to receive credit for our school from these and other merchants. Please also encourage family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and local business owners to also sign up and support our school.

#### **Remember, even if you designated last year, you must re-designate again this year for our school to receive credit.**

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Giant/Escrip Program Coordinator, Jacquie Ross, at [jacquieross@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquieross@hotmail.com) or 410-750-6277. Thank you!

**COAT DRIVE:** Coats needed! As the weather gets cooler and you start to dig up last year's coats, please do not discard the ones that are too small. The St. Johns Lane PTA will be having a coat drive throughout the month of October to make sure that all Howard County children in need have a coat to keep them warm. On October 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a bin placed outside the front office and we would appreciate coats of all sizes. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Don't Miss Out!** Our Sally Foster orders are due on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The date is approaching quickly so please take a look at the catalog and send in your order to help support the programs delivered to the children of SJLES. Sally Foster is our largest annual fundraiser and your support is absolutely needed to help make sure we can meet our program goals for the year! Please encourage friends, neighbors and family to also support your child's school. Drawings begin Monday for those who have sold 10 items or more so submit your entry forms which were included with your Sally Foster packet. Let's really show our SJLES spirit and make this a great year of programs! The more we all participate, the more we can do for the children throughout the year. Thanks for your continued support!

**Reflections Program:** It's time for the annual national PTA-sponsored program which encourages children to express themselves artistically using the theme "I Can Make a Difference by...."! Look for a flier in your child's folder soon, or go to [www.mdpta.org/documents/Reflections07-08.pdf](http://www.mdpta.org/documents/Reflections07-08.pdf) for details. Let us know, using the cut-off at the bottom of the flier, that your child wants to participate by October 5th, 2007. Entries must be submitted to SJLES (details on where to follow) by November 12th, 2007. If you have any questions, please contact Emily Rice @ 410-461-7915 or Sarah Hoppers @ 410-480-9571.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Farm-City Family Walk:** Come join Howard County families on September 29<sup>th</sup> at Clark's Elioak Farm on Route 108 for a FREE Family Walk through a local farm. Introduce your family to the history and importance of farming in Howard County while having fun, enjoying physical activity, nutrition education, special booths and activities along the way! Registration begins at 8:15 AM, walk begins at 8:30 AM, Last walker admitted at 9:30 AM. The Petting Farm opens at 10:00 AM (there is a fee) For more information, contact Becky Ramsing at 410-313-5170 or [bramsing@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:bramsing@howardcountymd.gov)

### **MENU**

**BREAKFAST:** Every day there is a variety of cereals, breakfast breads, fruits and milk.

**LUNCH MENU**

**Cheese pizza will be offered daily**

**MONDAY**  
 Baked Potato Bar  
 w/Chili and Cheese  
 Pepperoni Pizza  
*Assortment of:*  
 Salads, Fruits and  
 Steamed Broccoli  
 Milk

**TUESDAY**  
*Tacos:*  
 Soft or Corn Tortillas  
 Chicken Salad Plate  
 Chicken Salad Sandwich  
*Assortment of:*  
 Salads, Fruits and  
 Whole Kernel Corn

**WEDNESDAY**  
 Popcorn Chicken w/Roll  
*Burgers:*  
 Plain, Cheese or Veggie  
*Assortment of:*  
 Salads, Fruits and  
 Green Beans  
 Milk

**THURSDAY**  
**School Spirit Day**  
 Cheese steak Sub  
 Chesapeake Chicken  
 Sandwich  
*Assortment of:*  
 Salads, Fruits and  
 Sweet Peas  
 Milk

**FRIDAY**  
 Chicken Nuggets w/Roll  
 Cheese Salad Plate  
*Assortment of:*  
 Salads, Fruits and  
 Vegetable Soup  
 Milk

Milk and an assortment of salads and fruits are served with each meal.