

**Subject:** JLS Middle School PTA Newsletter

**From:** JLS eNews Editor (jlsenews@gmail.com)

**To:** sthomas237@sbcglobal.net;

**Date:** Sunday, December 13, 2015 4:42 PM

PANTHER TRACKS – JLS PTA eNews SUNDAY, DEC 13



Dear Scott

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Please join us in welcoming Jamey Boccio as our new Attendance Secretary. She joins the JLS front office staff with strong knowledge of the JLS community. Please remember the best way to communicate absences, arrange for early pick up or notify us of a medical appointment is via email at [jlsattendance@pausd.org](mailto:jlsattendance@pausd.org)

JLS's first Film Festival was a huge success. About 150 attended the festival. 15 short video clips produced by JLS students were shown, in addition to the recent Pixar movie "Inside Out." The festival started by a ukulele performance by the Ukulele Club. Subway sandwiches, popcorn, chips, cookies, lemonade, and oranges were served.

Good work by Jaime Buddle's Leadership Class, JLS Student Council and the JLS PTA who all helped to put this on. Many thanks to all the parent volunteers and JLS staff who helped out.

Attendees were asked to participate in the Giving Tree, or make a donation of food or small items which will be sent to a homeless shelter in Menlo Park and a poor school in Haiti. There was also food donations to a homeless shelter in Menlo Park.

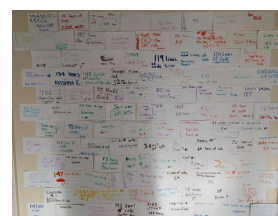


A big **Thank you** to the JLS Indian parent volunteers in helping to make the JIS Staff Appreciation Holiday Luncheon a huge success. Special thanks to organizer Kala Lansberg and and Paul Sakuma.

**Congrats** to the JLS students who wrote 21,535 lines of code during this week's lunchtime Hour of Code activities!

We wish you all a very happy last week of school before we break for the holidays. Enjoy a restful and pleasant two weeks off and we look forward to seeing you all in 2016!

<b>Lost &amp; Found Items December 14</b>
Minimum Day December 18
Classes Resume January 4
Connections Coffee January 6
PTA Exec Board Mtg January 7



## GIVING TREE AT JLS! EXTENDED!

JLS is hosting the annual Giving Tree Drive where you can help a child over the holidays by purchasing a gift for them. Visit the area outside the counselors' office to pick up a card with a present listed for a certain child. You can then purchase the present, new, sealed and not wrapped, and set it under the Giving Tree with the note card attached.

Online donations through our [Virtual Giving Tree](#) are accepted until January 5.

More information  
 Family Giving Tree Sobrato Center for Nonprofits  
 606 Valley Way  
 Milpitas, CA 95035  
 (408) 946-3111  
 email: [elf@familygivingtree.org](mailto:elf@familygivingtree.org)  
[vgt.familygivingtree.org](http://vgt.familygivingtree.org)

The JLS Giving Tree Drive is organized by Jaime Buddle's JLS Leadership Class.

Thanks for bringing hope and joy to those in need.



## Middle School Bike Skills Classes

Middle School Bike Skills classes are being offered for students 11-14 years old (and their parents) at Mitchell Park Community Center: Sun, Feb. 21; Sat, March 19 & Sat, April 23. Each day is a separate class. [CLICK HERE](#) for info and to register. Classes are taught by League of American Bicyclists Certified Instructors, offering high quality instruction and a road ride for on-bike supervised practice. These classes fill up fast.

## National Anthem

The JLS Choir (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) will be singing the National Anthem at the Stanford Men's Basketball game on January 21st! Stanford will be playing Arizona, so it should be a big game!

In addition to being a great performance opportunity for the Choir, it is also an amazing fundraising opportunity! If you would like to come and support the choir and watch the game you can order tickets through JLS! Simply [click here](#), order your tickets, and bring/send in a check! Ticket orders will not be processed until payments are received.

## Boys and Girls HOOPS!

The 7th and 8th grade Boys and Girls Basketball team schedule has just been announced. There are ten teams. You can view the schedule, scores and standing from the league website:

[www.teamsideline.com/Find/](http://www.teamsideline.com/Find/)

Select State: CA

Name: JLS

Pick the JLS team you are interested in. Check out the home schedules teams!

[Click here to register boys](#)

[Click here to register girls](#)



More information on Middle School Athletics can be found [HERE](#). **GO PANTHERS!!**

## **JLS Mindfulness & Parenting Workshop**

Announcing a truly special opportunity offered this school year!

JLS "Mindfulness & Parenting" Introductory Evening and Workshop by Dr. Amy Saltzman

Introductory Evening: Wednesday, January 13th 7-8:30pm, JLS Rm 730

6-week Workshop: Thursday, 1/21, 28, 2/4, 18, 25, 3/3 8:30-10am, JLS Rm P70

Materials/Donation: \$30 due at first session. (Scholarships available)

[Sign up here!](#)

You'll find out all about Mindfulness and get a glimpse of Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction at the introductory evening, then during the course of the 6-week workshop you'll learn to apply the practice of Mindfulness to your daily life with children. Please join us! (Questions? Email [junco.minami@gmail.com](mailto:junco.minami@gmail.com))

## **Shop and earn \$ for JLS PTA!**

Donate to the PTA while doing your holiday shopping at Amazon!

Here's how: If you shop online at Amazon.com, be sure to start every time by clicking on [this link](#) - if you do, then at least 4% will be donated to JLS PTA. Amazon advises that in order to ensure JLS PTA receives the proper advertising credits that all shopping sessions be initiated through this active link or make sure your bookmark has the exact url as this active link (<http://www.amazon.com/?%5Fencoding=UTF8&tag=jp009-20>)

Please note items placed in a customer's shopping cart must not exceed 24-hour window to earn the credit.

## **More ways to earn \$ for JLS!**

Did you register on eScrip? When you register your credit cards, debit cards, and grocery cards at [escrip.com](http://escrip.com), many purchases you make with these registered cards will result in donations to JLS! There is no extra cost to you, and every qualifying purchase counts!



Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) today, for new registrations or to update existing cards.

## **Group Selection: Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School PTA (ID# 130315138)**

**Participating retailers include Nordstrom, Gap, Safeway, Piazza's, Mollie Stone, REI, Home Depot and more!**

## **JLS Student Directory - Printed copies!**

We have a limited number of printed directories available in the school office.

This year, we are not printing one copy per family, so they will not be sent home with your child as in years past. But if you would like a copy, please stop by the school office and ask for one!

Thank you!

## **JLS PTA has Vacancies!**

**We need your help!**

Looking for ways to participate? Here are a few jobs for which the JLS PTA is recruiting:

**Student BBQ (May 2016):** recruit and direct volunteers on tasks of grilling and serving food to students. Food and most prep to be provided by PAUSD Food Services staff.

**Advocacy Chair:** work with Palo Alto PTA Council to advance advocacy efforts; inform JLS membership of major advocacy issues and events. More info here: <http://ptac.paloaltopta.org/current-efforts/>

**Ways and Means Chair:** manage all aspects of donation partnership programs such as corporate matching, eScrip, Amazon Smile and Amazon Affiliates, etc. Promote and communicate details to membership to maximize donations.

## HOMEWORK HABITAT

Homework Habitat and late bus service occur during regular (e.g. non-early-release) Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays.

Homework Habitat occurs in the library and runs 3:15-4:25. The late bus will depart from the main parking lot at approximately 4:30. Please note that students who leave campus after school are not permitted to return to JLS to ride the late bus home; they must find alternative transportation.

## JLS Writing Center

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:15 to 4:15

Do you have writing homework or an essay that needs some attention? Check out the brand new (awesome) JLS Writing Center! This twice a week program is held in Room 113 after school and includes a snack (bonus!) and writing support. Laptop access is included! See you there!

## PTA Membership Cards

Calling All JLS PTA Members!

Pick up your membership card at the JLS main office and enjoy "perks" such as discounts at Staples, California Academy of Sciences, Legoland, and more:<http://downloads.capta.org/mem/PerksFlier.pdf>

Next to the membership card, pick up a few Baskin Robbins coupons as a "thank you" for your PTA membership!

## Attendance Email

Email [jlsattendance@pausd.org](mailto:jlsattendance@pausd.org) for your attendance-related information and requests.

Please note that messages must originate from the parent email address on record in Infinite Campus. You can still contact the attendance office at 650.856.5179

## Gunn Chamber Singers Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 20 at 5:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, Palo Alto

JLS families are especially invited to take a peek into Gunn's music program and join the Gunn Chamber Singers for a festive evening of holiday songs. All proceeds will go toward the scholarship fund for the Gunn Choir trip to New York City this spring. Tickets are \$10 general admission and will be available at the door or in advance from any member of the group. Questions? Contact E.J. Hong ([ej@ejhong.com](mailto:ej@ejhong.com)) or Liz Matchett ([lizmatchett@yahoo.com](mailto:lizmatchett@yahoo.com)).

## Palo Alto Animal Services Offers \$15 adoptions

We believe there's someone for everybody. That's why we are offering \$15 adoptions for all animals this holiday season! So stop by Palo Alto Animal Services to meet your new best friend. (Each adoption includes a raffle ticket to win a 1/4 size stuffed Koko the Gorilla!)

For a list of available animals, and adoption hours, please go to [cityofpaloalto.org/animalservices](http://cityofpaloalto.org/animalservices)

## Sixth Annual MLK Jr. Family Day of Service Co-sponsored by Youth Community Service and the City of Palo Alto

Mon, Jan 18th, 11 AM - 2 PM, King Plaza at City Hall, Palo Alto

Join YCS and its partners in celebrating the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and his teachings on community and service. This annual event includes speakers, local performing groups, activity tables, a children's reading corner and art projects, face painting, and information about local

service opportunities. Food vendors will be present. Student volunteer opportunities are also available. This is a rain or shine event. Location may change due to possibility of rain. Check website for updates. For more information visit [www.youthcommunityservice.org](http://www.youthcommunityservice.org) or call 650-858-8019.

**CA - South Bay Orange Walk**

Sun, Dec 13th, 11:30 AM, Lytton Fountain @ University & Emerson, Palo Alto

Join a walk in memory of all victims of gun violence. Participants will gather at Lytton Fountain and walk through downtown Palo Alto. **DON'T FORGET TO WEAR SOMETHING ORANGE-** the color of the Gun Violence prevention movement.

**City of Palo Alto Jingle Jam Middle School Dance**

Fri. Dec 18th, 6-9pm, Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto

The City of Palo Alto is hosting the 2015 Jingle Jam middle school dance for all Palo Alto middle school students grades 6 - 8. There will be music, food for purchase, games, prizes, and more. Tickets for admission are \$3, with free admission for all LEAP (Learning Enrichment After-School) Members, and will be sold at Lucie Stern and Mitchell Park Community Centers. For more information, dance rules, and more visit [cityofpaloalto.org/LEAP](http://cityofpaloalto.org/LEAP), or call 650.329.2390.

**Free Winter Registration for Learning Enrichment After-School Program (LEAP) Now Open**

Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Rd. Palo Alto

The City of Palo Alto's Learning Enrichment After-School Program (LEAP) provides a fun, engaging, and safe space for middle school teens to be after the bell. We provide homework help, games, arts and crafts, and more for all students that attend a Palo Alto middle school. Winter registration is free.

For more information and to register, visit us online at [cityofpaloalto.org/LEAP](http://cityofpaloalto.org/LEAP), stop by the Mitchell Park Community Center, email [LEAP@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:LEAP@cityofpaloalto.org), or contact Amal Aziz (Recreational Coordinator, Youth & Teen) at 650-329-2390

**Join your grade's Parent Network!**

Organized by the JLS PTA, Parent Networks provide grade-specific information and regular meetings to foster a supportive and collaborative parent community. **TO JOIN**, contact the below coordinators:

6th grade coordinators: Claire Kirner, Valerie Sabbag

7th grade coordinators: Lisa Barkin, Nirmala Patni, Stephanie Compton, Rebecca Thompson

8th grade coordinators: Aviva Saitz, Patricia Stayte

**Would you like  
your employer to  
DONATE to JLS?**



Notify your employer of your donation to the JLS PTA, to activate their Corporate Matching Program. And **THANK YOU** for taking this extra step to contribute JLS Middle School!  
JL Stanford Middle School PTA tax id 94-6174779

480 E. Meadow Drive  
Palo Alto, California 94306

**Forward this email**



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*Try it FREE today.*

JLS Middle School PTA | 480 E. Meadow Drive | Palo Alto | CA | 94306