

**Subject:** JLS Middle School PTA Newsletter

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

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

**Date:** Sunday, May 1, 2016 5:15 PM

## PANTHER TRACKS – JLS PTA eNews Sunday, May 1



Dear Scott



During **JLS Staff Appreciation Week**, we will be hosting a Cinco De Mayo luncheon for our wonderful JLS staff on Thursday, May 5 in Science wing room 730.

Please contact: Ana Perez-Hood  
[aperezhood@pausd.org](mailto:aperezhood@pausd.org)  
 to help us out during this great event! **Gracias!**

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Student Store Open Friday 5/20
Staff Appreciation Week May 2-6
Final Latte Cart May 3
Many Faces of JLS Potluck May 4
Staff Appreciation Luncheon May 5
Dance May 13
8th Grade Night in the City Promotion Party June 2

**Hey, 8th graders! Have you bought your ticket to the promotion party: Night in the City?** Come celebrate with your classmates your final day of middle school.

This is not just your ordinary dance/party.

Did you know that there will be:

Catered Food (including In-N-Out burgers), a Chocolate Fountain, Dancing and a fabulous DJ, Carnival Games, a Photobooth and Tattoo artist

The party starts right after the promotion ceremony on Thursday, June 2nd and goes until 10:30pm. Tickets are \$30 per student. Scholarships are available.

Invitations were sent home but you can also [find them here](#) . Print the invite and send the completed form with payment into JLS.

We need volunteers to help make this event awesome! [Sign up to volunteer here.](#)

Questions? Contact Michelle Carillo @ [whirlcar@gmail.com](mailto:whirlcar@gmail.com) or Pam

Markevitch: [pamiyam@aol.com](mailto:pamiyam@aol.com)

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## PROOF OF IMMUNIZATION!

6th grade parents have not all turned in Proof of Immunization! Please do so ASAP!

[Click here](http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-222School.pdf) for details on the immunization requirements: <http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-222School.pdf>

## FINAL LATTE CART STAFF APPRECIATION BREAKFAST!



Our last Latte Cart Staff Appreciation Breakfast of the school year is **TUESDAY, May 3.**

Needed breakfast items include: fresh fruits, muffins, scones, coffee cake, croissants.

Please sign up at [www.tinyurl.com/JLSLatte](http://www.tinyurl.com/JLSLatte)

Please bring all items to room 40 (just next to the Staff Lounge outside the breezeway), between 7:15am and 8:30am. To make it more convenient for those who cannot come in the morning, any non-perishable items may be brought to the JLS main office on Monday, May 2, between 7:30am and 4pm, labeled 'Latte Cart.'

Thank you to all the parents who donated food items to the JLS Latte Cart Staff Appreciation Breakfast this school year.

Ivan Hom ([ihom627@yahoo.com](mailto:ihom627@yahoo.com))  
 Patty Sakuma ([pattyau@aol.com](mailto:pattyau@aol.com))  
 Paul Sakuma ([psakuma@aol.com](mailto:psakuma@aol.com))

## MANY FACES OF JLS POTLUCK!



We hope you can contribute a dish from your home country to the "**Many Faces of JLS**" potluck on May 4. [Sign up here](#), find your country and add your name. The "table lead" will contact you as the date draws near to decide with you what dish to provide.

Or, you can sign up for serving, set-up, clean-up, or Hydration team member - or be a Table Lead!

The "Many Faces" potluck is one of two large JLS PTA events that bring the community together, and it is the same night as the JLS Open House. So help out if you can, and grab some dinner at the potluck before you head to your student's classrooms to review your student's learning and accomplishments.

Questions, or for more detailed information, contact [Barbara Stroud](#).

## SCRATCH DAY AT GUNN!

Scratch Day @ Gunn 2016

Come visit Gunn High School's third annual Scratch Day! Learn how to program in a fun, safe environment.

Scratch <http://scratch.mit.edu> is a program developed by MIT to teach children computer science in an easy, interactive way by creating their own games and apps-introductory CS courses at Harvard, Berkeley, and even Gunn use Scratch as a first language.

Every year, over a hundred universities and schools around the world host Scratch Day to introduce students to computer science. Scratch@Gunn will take place on May 14th, 2016, 10:00-2:00 at Gunn High School, room N-215 (computer lab). It will be supervised by Gunn CS teacher Mr. Joshua Paley.

The event is free, and students of all ages are welcome: Scratch Day is the perfect introduction to programming for middle schoolers. We have enough computers for everyone, but you can bring a laptop if you prefer. Snacks will be provided.

Find more details and registration, visit <http://day.scratch.mit.edu/events/1369/> > (there are a limited number of spots!). Feel free to contact Kartik Chandra <[hardmath123@gmail.com](mailto:hardmath123@gmail.com)> if you have any questions.

## JLS YCO SUPPLY DRIVE!



The JLS YCS (Youth Community Service) Club is asking for the JLS Community's help in collecting items for the Palo Alto Downtown Street Team.

**The drive runs from May 2 - May 13.**

In an effort to help collect supplies, the YCS Club has organized a contest among the different JLS teams.

Here is the point system for the contest:

- Pencils: 1 point
- Pens: 2 points
- Notebooks: 5 points
- Erasers: 2 points
- Highlighters: 3 points
- Granola Bars: 2 points

All supplies must be new. Used supplies will not count for points. The YCS goal is to collect 50 kits. The winning team will win Krispy Kreme donuts.

The Palo Alto Downtown Streets Team is an organization that helps homelessness by

restoring the dignity and rebuilding the lives of unhoused men and women.

The YCS and JLS PTA are co-sponsors for this drive.

## **SPRING SPORTS!**



JLS Spring Sports games including Boys Volleyball, Tennis, Wrestling, Track and Field are ongoing. Come out and support your teams!

[CLICK HERE](#) for the schedule! Or check it out in the Breezeway. GO PANTHERS!!

## **Advanced Authentic Research (AAR)!**

Palo Alto Unified School District's Advanced Authentic Research (AAR) program would like to invite you to its inaugural Celebratory Showcase poster presentation! This poster presentation is an opportunity for AAR students from Palo Alto and Gunn High Schools to share their research and final projects, which they have been developing over the year.

We welcome the JLS community to come meet and connect with student presenters and their mentors. This is a wonderful opportunity for all JLS students and parents to experience an academic high school program at work.

Enjoy light refreshments and compelling student work on Monday, May 16th, 7:00 p.m. in the JLS Cafetorium. To RSVP, please email: [aar@pausd.org](mailto:aar@pausd.org)

## **JLS: The Musical!**

It's not quite Broadway, but it's the next best thing... JLS: The Musical! is coming to town! Join us for a night of fun songs, silly acting, and good-natured jokes about a place we all love called JLS.

Last summer, choir teacher Angelina Fitzhugh and English teacher Kari Nygaard teamed up to write an original staff-student musical for JLS. This spring, drama teacher Chris Mahle is brave enough to produce it, and more than 30 staff members are crazy enough to participate. A list of featured staff members is included below. Additionally, there are approximately 30 student actors, 20 student stage technicians, and about 30 JLS Choir students who will be involved in the performance.

We will be performing one night only: Friday, May 6 at 7:00 pm. Tickets will be available at the door for a suggested donation of \$5 per ticket. (There will also be a preview show for students at 2:00pm on Friday, May 6; however, the audience will be limited to only the 7th period students of the teachers who are performing in or helping out with the show. Believe it or not, we have so many staff members involved that it adds up to almost 400 students in the audience.)

One night only! Don't miss out! We hope to see you on Friday, May 6.

## **CALLING ALL SPECIALISTS FOR R.O.P.E.!**

Calling for specialists!

Do you know of an artist, a sports coach or professional athlete, an author, architect, or musician in the community who can donate some time to listen to 4-5 short project presentations and give directed field-related questions and comments?

The Connections 8th grade R.O.P.E. (Rite Of Passage Experience) program needs a few experts of their fields to give critical feedback and question our fabulous 8th grade presenters.

Presentations will be on May 20th. We need specialists from 1-2pm or 2-3pm. Non-JLS parents preferred. No grading or instructing necessary.

Please see your JLS Parent Network email for more details and contact Carrie Mousseau atdr Carrie md@gmail.com with expert name suggestions or questions.

## **Want To Be More Involved at JLS Next Year? Consider helping the JLS PTA!**

**Studies show parent involvement with the school leads to their student's improved learning. The JLS PTA has many ways - big and small - to participate! Here are a few of next year's opportunities:**

**Jump Start Day and First Day assistance (forms, PE uniforms, etc)**

**6th Grade Parent Networks co-chairs**

**6th Grade Panther Camp**

**Staff Appreciation Events**

**Dance Chaperones**

**Community Service Day chaperones**

**Science Fair, Book Fair helpers**

**Co-chairs for Back-To-School Pizza Dinner (September 2016)**

**Co-chairs for Many Faces Potluck (May 2017)**

**8th Grade Promotion Party Committee**

**Special Education Inclusion Rep**

**Advocacy Chair**

**Ways and Means chair**

**And many more! [Click here](#) to indicate your interest in any and all tasks and we will contact you with more information.**

**See you next year!**

## **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.

## **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

## **Community News**

**Palo Alto High School Journalism Summer Camp**

August 1-5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for rising 8th and 9th graders  
 After a hugely successful debut last summer, Paly's distinguished journalism program will be returning again with its second year of Camp MAC (Media Arts Center). Led by students of Paly's nationally recognized journalism program, Camp MAC introduces campers to journalistic skills through interactive and collaborative workshops while building friendships across schools. All proceeds support Paly's Media Arts Boosters Program. For registration, prices, and more information, visit <http://paly.io/campmac> or [contactpalyjournalismcamp@gmail.com](mailto:contactpalyjournalismcamp@gmail.com)

**Palo Alto Friends Nursery School Fiesta  
 Sat, Apr 30, 11 AM - 2 PM**

Go on over to Palo Alto Friends Nursery School for Fiesta! A fun event for the whole family! Games, prizes, silent auction, food, live music (including children's musician Andy Z), artists' booths, and more. All proceeds benefit the Friends Nursery School scholarship program. This event has been happening annually for 30 years. Don't miss it!

**Art Center Drive Dedication, Spring Family Day  
 Sun, May 1, 2 PM, Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd., Palo Alto 94303**

Help celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Art Center beginning May 1 at the kickoff for this milestone with the dedication of an "Art Center Drive" commemorative sign and the celebration of free Spring Family Day, both beginning at 2 p.m. Palo Alto Mayor Pat Burt will be on hand for the unveiling of the new sign, and the Spring Family Day will feature spring-themed artmaking activities for the entire family. Both events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit the Art Center's website [<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/csd/artcenter/default.asp>].

**8th Annual Palo Alto World Music Day  
 Sun June 19), 3 - 7:30 PM, University Avenue (closed to traffic)**

The City of Palo Alto has declared Sunday June 19 as World Music Day. World Music Day is a free music festival that takes place in cities around the world every year around the Summer Solstice. 50 professional and amateur musical groups will perform a wide variety of musical genres: jazz, pop, rock, classical, world music, choral, etc. All performances are FREE and open to the public. This is a fun and unique family event not to be missed. The organizers are also looking for musicians and event volunteers from our community, including students from our schools. Info: [www.pamusicday.org](http://www.pamusicday.org)

**Paly Cheer & Dance Little Vikes Summer Camp  
 August 1 -5, 9 AM - 3 PM for K-8th grade and 9 AM - 12 PM for 3 and 4 year olds**

Campers will be taught cheerleading motions and technique, cheer jumps, stunts, gymnastics, sideline cheers, dance technique and a dance routine. There will also be games and crafts. Morning and afternoon snacks will be provided. All campers receive a t-shirt and pompoms. Campers should also wear athletic shoes and clothing. Sunscreen is also recommended, as some of our sessions will take place outside. Go to <http://www.palycheer.net/little-vikes-summer-camp.html> for more information. Questions: Contact Hilary McDaniel at [hmcdaniel@pausd.org](mailto:hmcdaniel@pausd.org).

**Free Comic Book Day!  
 Sat, May 7, 10 AM - 6 PM, Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto**

Drop by during the Palo Alto Library's open hours and pick up your FREE comic book! One comic per child/teen, limited quantities available, first come first served. All ages

**April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month**

In California, the law prohibits: Use of handheld wireless phone while driving; Texting while driving; and any use of communications device by drivers under 18. In the first year California's "hands free" law took effect, traffic fatalities dropped 20% (700 fewer deaths) and there were 100,000 fewer collisions.

Mobile device use increases the risk of crashing by 4X. More than 25% of all car crashes result from use of hand held mobile devices. The average text message takes a driver's eyes off the road long enough to drive the entire length of a football field. Safety of our school commute routes depends on each of us driving, walking, and biking safely. Please turn off your devices and share the road attentively.

### **STEAM Lab Saturday**

Sat, May 14 & Jun 4, 2:30 - 3:30 PM. Children's Library, 1276 Harriet St. Palo Alto. Try a new maker project each month! May is an Egg Drop Challenge, June is program your own Lego robot. Grades K-6.

### **BrainVyne and the Gunn Robotics Team**

Fri May 13, 5.30 - 8.30PM, Gunn Robotic Lab, Gunn High School, 780 Arastradero Rd., Palo Alto CA 94306

BrainVyne - LEGO® Camps & Birthday Parties, is proud to offer a fun-tastic evening with the award-winning Gunn Robotics Team (GRT) for your pre-school to middle school children. Kids will build BrainVyne's highly rated LEGO® Zoom creations like chairplane or jet-ski. They will also have a chance to play with GRT's Red Giant Robot, which won the Innovation in Control Award at the 2016 First Robotics Competition.

Have a delightful date night while your kids enjoy pizza between building and playing with robots. A portion of the proceeds from this event will help GRT buy robotics components and supplies.

Reserve a spot now!

<http://www.brainvyne.com/#!/gunn-robotics-team-fundraisers/p2fvv>

### **Teen Writing Club**

1st and 3rd Thurs of the month, 4 - 5:30 PM, Rinconada Library, 1213 Newell Rd., Palo Alto. Share your passion for writing with other teens. Writing prompts, activities, and light snacks provided. For 6th-12th grade.

**Continuing the Conversation** - Parenting our teens as they transition to high school Join us for a casual evening conversation to connect with other parents and discuss our teens' transition to high school in light of Dr. Julie Lythcott-Haim's ideas based on her book "How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success."

when: Tuesday, May 3rd, from 7-8:30 pm

where: JLS library

who: All are welcome, whether you were able to come to Dr. Julie's event or not. We hope to see you there.

hosts: Jin Zhang (jinz01776@gmail.com) and Kirsten Daehler (krdaehler@gmail.com)

**Continuing the Conversation** - Parenting our teens into adulthood Join Brinda Govindan and Maria Daehler, parents of Gunn HS seniors and junior, for a parent-led discussion that builds on the thoughts shared by Mike Riera and Julie Lythcott-Haims in recent parent education events.

when: Wednesday, May 4th, 7:30-8:45pm

where: Gunn HS staff lounge (across from the main office)

who: All are welcome. No need to have attended these talks or read their books to



participate in this conversation about parenting our teens into adulthood.  
hosts: Brinda Govindan (govbria@hotmail.com) and Maria Daehler (mariadaehler@gmail.com)

### 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 Kimer, 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

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