

**Subject:** Fwd: JLS Middle School PTA Newsletter

**From:** Scott Thomas (sdthomas237@gmail.com)

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

**Date:** Sunday, December 11, 2016 10:40 PM

Scott (650) 440-0928 cell

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** JLS eNews Editor <jlsenews@gmail.com>

**Date:** December 11, 2016 at 12:27:27 AM PST

**To:** [sdthomas237@gmail.com](mailto:sdthomas237@gmail.com)

**Subject:** JLS Middle School PTA Newsletter

**Reply-To:** [jlsenews@gmail.com](mailto:jlsenews@gmail.com)

PANTHER TRACKS – JLS PTA eNews

Sunday, Dec 11



Dear Scott

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Site Council Meeting Dec 12th, 3:30 PM
PTA Sponsored Staff Lunch Dec 13th, 12:00 PM
Connections Board Meeting Dec 14th, 7:00 PM
Minimum Day ( End of 1st Semester )

Dec 16th, 1:00 PM

Winter Break , No School

Dec 19th - Jan 2nd

## Easy Fundraising for JLS !



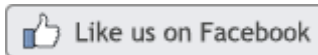
We would like to remind you that you can do your holiday shopping and help fundraiser for JLS at the same time. Please take a moment to update your information at **eScrip.com** and verify that your contributions are going to

**JLS (Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School, Group ID # 130315138).**

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.

You can click [here](#) to go to the school website to **get more detailed information on how to support JLS by shopping online at the fundraising page** or click [here](#) to go to the PTA page. Thanks a lot for your support to JLS!



## JLS 8th Grade Promotion Party Event Chair Needed!

**Already have over 50 parents volunteered to help, Food Chair, Entertainment Chair, and DJ lined up!**

8th grade parents, if you'd like your student to have a fabulous promotion celebration on June 1, 2017, please sign up to be Promotion Party Event Chair! The 8th grade class needs a point person to lead the charge. The Event Chair will coordinate between JLS Staff and Committee Chairs (very experienced volunteers already in place), organize, and delegate to help make the event a success and run smoothly. Enthusiasm for making sure your student has a wonderful Promotion Party, willingness to help tie the pieces of the puzzle together with strong organizational skills, and a party attitude are all that's required! 7th grade parents are encouraged to join this collaborative adventure so you'll be ready to roll when your students are promoted! 7th and 8th grade parents always work together to make each year's Promotion Party a success.

We need you! Contact Julia Jacobsen, JLS PTA President 2016 - 2017:  
[juliacjacobson@gmail.com](mailto:juliacjacobson@gmail.com)

### **JLS Choir at Stanford Basketball !**

The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade JLS Choir students will be performing the national anthem at the Stanford Men's Basketball Game on **January 12!** If you would like to attend, and sit with the choir please order your tickets from Ms. Fitzhugh [here](#). You can send in payment to Ms. Fitzhugh any time before the game. Please note, ordered but unpaid tickets will not be processed.

### **Sign-Up: Help Put Together Panther Pride Awards!**

Two Helpers needed to put together the packets.  
For December, the helpers needed on Wed, Dec 14 at 10:30 am.  
Click [here](#) for the Sign Up and the detail.

### **Lost and Found!**

Lost and Found is again piling up. All items will be out on tables by the front office beginning Monday, Dec. 12, **until Friday, Dec. 16**. Anything remaining at the end of the school day on Friday will be donated. Please remind your student(s) to check these many tables of belongings. We have lots of sweatshirts, jackets, water bottles, etc.

### **PAUSD / PTAC News**

Palo Alto CAC's 2nd Annual Holiday Tea  
Mon, Dec 12, 8:30 - 10 AM, Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Rd

Join the Palo Alto special needs community for a morning off. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, delicious holiday treats, and social time with other parents of children who face extra challenges. The guest speaker, Elizabeth Darby, a teacher in the district for over 20 years, will give us practical tools and strategies for better managing holiday stress.

Childcare will not be provided, but younger siblings are welcome. Spanish-language translation will be available. Jointly sponsored by the Palo Alto Community Advisory Committee for Special Education and the Palo Alto Council of PTAs. Please contact [mich\\_higgins@hotmail.com](mailto:mich_higgins@hotmail.com) with questions or for more information.

El Segundo "Tea de la Estacion" del CAC de Palo Alto  
Lunes, 12 de Diciembre a las 10:00am en el Centro Comunitario Lucie Stern

Únase a la comunidad de necesidades especiales para una merecida mañana libre. Disfrute una taza de café o de té, deliciosos pasteles navideños y tiempo para socializar con otros padres de niños que enfrentan desafíos extras. Nuestro conferencista invitada, Elizabeth Darby, profesora en el distrito por más de 20 años, nos dará a conocer herramientas prácticas y estrategias para manejar mejor el estrés durante las festividades.

No se proporcionará cuidado para niños, pero los hermanos más jóvenes son bienvenidos. Estará disponible traducción para el español. El evento está auspiciado conjuntamente por el Comité Asesor para Educación Especial de la Comunidad de Palo Alto y el Consejo de PTAs de Palo Alto. Por favor entrar en contacto con mich\_higgins@hotmail.com para preguntas o mayor información.

### **Special Education Review Board Study Session**

December 13, 2016 from 8-10 am ,  
Board Room at the District Office, 25 Churchill Avenue in Palo Alto.

We invite you to join us, live in the Board room or on line for this important meeting, and watch for further announcements for additional community meetings to be scheduled this spring.

Parents, faculty, and community members will have an opportunity to learn more about this important work and how we plan to implement the recommendations.

All materials for the Board Study Session are available [here](#) for the meeting.

### **Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD) and Special Olympics Northern California**

Basketball Tournament, 9.30AM - 12PM, Mar 15 (Elementary) & Mar 22 (Secondary),  
Terman Middle School 655 Arastradero Rd., Palo Alto  
Track & Field Event: TBD, Gunn High School 750 Arastradero Rd., Palo Alto

PAUSD and Special Olympics Northern California have joined forces together in a new Special Olympics Schools Partnership program. Through sports, the program aims to provide opportunities for PAUSD special education students and their peers to work together as teammates and to create inclusive opportunities in the school community. More info: <https://www.pausd.org/explore-pausd/news/pausd-partners-special-olympics-schools-program>

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

Come volunteer with this year's JLS PTA! Taking part in our programs and events brings you closer to your student's JLS experience, while working with dedicated and interesting parents. There are many different types of jobs, ranging from short-term easy support events and tasks, to longer-term and even year-round positions. We welcome whatever level of time and talents you can contribute, and we promise you'll have fun. Please visit the JLS PTA website, [jlswp.paloaltopta.org](http://jlswp.paloaltopta.org) to see a full list of the JLS PTA events and open positions, and fill out the form to indicate any interests you may have. This is not a commitment! We will contact you with more information which will help you decide if you would like to join us.

Questions? Contact Julia Jacobsen, JLS PTA President 2016-2017:  
[juliacjacobsen@gmail.com](mailto:juliacjacobsen@gmail.com)

### Stay Connected all Parents of JLS- subscribe to Weekly JLS eNews!

Please subscribe to the JLS CLASS list. This will ensure that you will receive the weekly JLS eNews during all of the years your student is at JLS and also any separate communications that are sent only to EACH grade of JLS parents. To be included in the JLS Class list, sign up [here](#).

### Attendance Procedure for Taking Your Student Out of School Early!

Health Appointments- Parents should make every effort to schedule appointments outside of school hours. However, if not possible, parents are urged to consider varying the times of day during which health appointments are made in order to avoid missing the same class consistently. If a student must leave during the day for any reason please either call (650-856-5179) or email the Attendance Office ([jlsattendance@pausd.org](mailto:jlsattendance@pausd.org)) the day before the scheduled appointment, or before first period on the day of the requested early dismissal. **Please note that messages must originate from the parent email address on record in Infinite Campus.** The student will then receive a "Permit to Leave" pass and meet you in the Attendance Office at the designated time. If a student returns to school the same day, they are required to report to the Attendance Office before returning to class to provide verification of the health visit.

Jamey Boccio, Attendance Secretary ([jboccio@pausd.org](mailto:jboccio@pausd.org)) / 650-856-5179

### Home Work 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 eNews Publication Guideline

If you want to publish an announcement relevant to JLS, send an email to [JLS.eneews@gmail.com](mailto:JLS.eneews@gmail.com). JLS eNews is a publication of the JLS PTA. Our PTA has a noncommercial policy, which states that we do not associate with any commercial activities of other organizations including, but not limited to, the promotion of their goods and services. Only submissions from nonprofit organizations will be considered for placement in the eNews. Announcements relevant to other schools in the PAUSD district can be sent to [eneews@paloaltopta.org](mailto:eneews@paloaltopta.org) For more detail, please click [here](#).

### Community News

Calling all Goodwill donors!

Sun Dec 11, 9AM - 2PM, Hoover Elementary School, 445 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto

Please bring any used items you no longer need to our Goodwill Donation Drive and enjoy a fresh pancake breakfast hosted by local Boy Scout troops and the Hoover PTA. We must fill the truck so we'd appreciate any contributions you can make to the drive and Goodwill staff will be on hand to issue tax receipts. For questions: [hhooverpta@gmail.com](mailto:hhooverpta@gmail.com)

DIY Holiday Crafts

Tue, Dec. 20, 4:30 - 6:30 PM, Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Rd

Teen Tuesday DIY Holiday Crafts! Join us for DIY crafts that you can give to friends and family just in time for the holidays. Bring your creativity and we'll provide all the supplies. Keep all your creations.

**Afternoon Adventure: Winter Craftertoons**

Wed, Dec 21, 3:30 - 5 PM, Mitchell Park Library 3700 Middlefield Rd.

Join us for an afternoon of crafts, snacks, and winter themed cartoons. Please register for this event on the library website.

**Harry Potter Yule Ball**

Fri, Dec 30, 6:30 - 8:30 PM, Rinconada Library, 1213 Newell Rd., Palo Alto

Ring in the New Year with a Harry Potter-style Yule Ball! DJ Kevin will be spinning great tunes all evening. Formal attire is encouraged but not required. Please register for this event on the library website.

**Visit the Art Center over the holidays!**

December 26 through Friday, December 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m

This year, the Art Center will be open the week between Christmas and New Years.

Visit Tuesday, December 26 through Friday, December 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Check out our current exhibition The Butterfly Effect: Art in 1970s California and create your own 1970s poster in our nook! For details, visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org/artcenter](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/artcenter) , email [artcenter@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:artcenter@cityofpaloalto.org) or call 650.329.2366.

**'Twas the Night Before Christmas, 2016**

Sun, Dec 11, 1 pm & 4 pm,

Woodside Performing Arts Center, 199 Churchill Av., Woodside CA

Dancers Repertory Sun Theatre presents 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, a delightful dance-theatre event that will enchant audiences of all ages! Based on the Clement C. Moore poem, the show includes Santa and his magical sleigh, prancing reindeer, dancing mice, twirling toys, and a cast of over 80 children and adults. Palo Alto students will be performing this season! Don't miss this delightful holiday tradition! Ticket prices are \$15 child/senior and \$25 for adults; all seats reserved. More information at <http://www.twasthenight.org/>

**It's a Wonderful Nutcracker!**

December 11 and 16-18 ,

Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Rd., Atherton CA

Menlowe Ballet, the premier professional ballet company on the peninsula based in Menlo Park, presents its encore presentation of the full-length story ballet, It's a Wonderful Nutcracker. Conceived by Artistic Director Michael Lowe, It's a Wonderful Nutcracker is set to the original beloved Tchaikovsky score and updated with inspiration from the 1940's Frank Capra film, "It's a Wonderful Life", bringing the two most heralded holiday classics together on one stage. With all the magic of a traditional Nutcracker, this heartwarming contemporary version is packed full of surprises you won't want to miss!

Palo Alto students will be performing! Tickets are available at <http://www.menloweballet.org/>

### **Family Holiday Volunteering**

If you're looking for a way to get your family into the holiday spirit by helping others, check out <http://familyholidayhelpers.org>, a non-profit web site created by a mom of two PAUSD students to help families find local volunteering opportunities during the holiday season. There are a variety of local opportunities for families, such as prepping/serving food for Thanksgiving, working a shift at a food bank or holiday warehouse, or donating food or gifts for those in need. Happy volunteering!

### **Ongoing Brain Study on Executive Function Skills**

Looking for children ages 7-11 with a diagnosis of ADHD or with no diagnoses to participate in a study exploring changes in brain function in response to a novel neurofeedback training. Participation involves 6 sessions of neurofeedback training and 2 sessions of behavioral assessments. Contact Lindsay Chromik at [lchromik@stanford.edu](mailto:lchromik@stanford.edu) or 650-724-2939 for more information or to enroll. For general information regarding participant rights, contact 1- 866-680-2906.

### **Ragazzi Boys Chorus Free SingFest Minicamp**

Saturday, January 14, 2017, 9:30am - 1pm, Redwood City

Registration Open: Let your 7-10 year old boy test-drive this 'best choir of the Peninsula' for himself at a free half-day SingFest minicamp. Low-key, no-obligation auditions are integrated into the morning; no previous singing experience needed. Boys offered Ragazzi membership start rehearsing in January, 2017. Beginning groups meet once a week for choral singing and theory instruction. Ragazzi's proven, award-winning program is sequential and performance-based. Ragazzi performs its own concert series, sings the National Anthem at a spring SF Giants game, tours domestically and internationally, and collaborates with other prestigious Bay Area arts organizations. Minicamp is free, but advance registration is required at <http://ragazzi.org/join-us/singfest/>. Can't make it to SingFest but want to audition? Go to <http://ragazzi.org/join-us/book-audition/>

### **Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra (PACO) Opens its 51st Season!**

Dec 18, 3pm Holiday Extravaganza (Senior Orchestra)  
Cubberley Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Rd. Palo Alto.

Admission is FREE except for the Holiday Extravaganza (Adults \$10, 18 & under FREE) Award-winning youth orchestra PACO's Senior Orchestra will open its season with music by Handel, Britten and more. There is something for everyone at PACO concerts from small ensemble pieces to orchestra music as these dedicated musicians present an extraordinary passion for music making! Mark your calendars for the Holiday Extravaganza with guest performers from the Pacific Ballet Academy and Cantabile Youth Singers. More info and complete line-up of concerts on the 2016-17 season brochure or visit [www.pacomusic.org](http://www.pacomusic.org).

### **Make a difference: Tutor Low Income East Palo Alto 5th Graders in Reading or Writing - 8 one hour sessions**

If you've enjoyed helping in your own child's classroom, or just love literacy, please consider tutoring 5th graders at Brentwood School in East Palo Alto (near IKEA). It is a special project to work with low income students from February 6th - March 31st. Volunteers would work in the same classroom one day per week, for an hour either at 9:45 am (reading) or 11:40 am (writing). All Students Matter provides a brief training in January and coordinates all details. You can make a real difference! To sign up, visit [www.allstudentsmatter.org](http://www.allstudentsmatter.org). to learn more contact Keri Tully (keritully@gmail.com).

### **Finals Cram Slam**

Mon & Tue, Dec. 12 & 13, 6-9pm. Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Rd

Stressed on finals week? Mitchell Park Library has you covered. You can study in the library, or drop in at the Teen Center for snacks and emotional support. Lots of games like air hockey, ping-pong table, and video games to help you destress in the Teen Center. There will be calming therapy dogs in the library you can pet to help you decompress before the chaos begins! Open to high school students who are studying for finals.

### **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: Anjani Sarma

7th grade coordinators: Claire Kimer

8th grade coordinators: Lisa Barkin

**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



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

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