



Thomas Jefferson



Jaguar Journal

February 2006

From the Presidents...

Dear TJ Families:

Happy New Year! We hope your new year is off to a wonderful start. The PTA has started it off with a bang. First of all, we would like to congratulate Mary Mottonen for receiving the Volunteer of the Month award for District 15. Thanks Mary for all you do for the kids.

The PTA has been very busy planning activities for the new year. We started off with the "Beach Party" Sock Hop hosted by the Family Rec Nights Committee. It was great to see so many of you there. The kids had a blast dancing to the music as well as playing volleyball and basketball. The parents seemed to enjoy the time catching up with friends.

The Ways and Means Committee is very busy organizing the fun fair, which is on February 4th. They have so many fun activities planned for the kids including a cake walk being run by all your favorite TJ teachers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact a Ways and Means chairperson.

The Hospitality Committee will be hosting Morning Munchies with Mom in February. This is a great time to spend a relaxing morning with your kids before the hectic day begins. On February 14th, the Room Reps will be hosting Valentine's Day parties in each classroom. This is always a very exciting day for the children.

Hopefully, you all received the flyer a few weeks ago about the change of date for the Multi-Cultural Fair. It will be on April 7th, so mark your calendar, it promises to be a spectacular event.

Once again, we would like to invite you to our next PTA meeting on February 21st at 7:15p.m. We would also like to thank the PTA board members and volunteers for all of their dedication to the kids.

We hope to see you at the February PTA events.

Linda and Karen

Dates to Remember

February

- 2/4 Fun Fair 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m.
- 2/6 ITBS/COGAT/LAGRAMOS Grade 2
- 2/7 Morning Munchies w/Mom 7:45-8:15a.m.(A-J)
- 2/8 School Store
- 2/9 Morning Munchies w/Mom 7:45-8:15a.m.(K-Z)
Market Day Orders Due
- 2/13 Market Day Internet Orders Due
- 2/14 Valentine's Day Parties
- 2/16 Market Day Pick-up 5:15-6:00p.m.
- 2/17 Non-Attendance Day *No School*
- 2/20 Presidents' Day *No School*
- 2/21 PTA Meeting 7:15p.m.



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everychild.one voice.



Taylor's Tales CONGRATULATIONS

Mary Mottonen was awarded District 15 Volunteer of the Month for January. We are very proud of Mary's accomplishments. All of us at TJ benefit from her time and energy!

Thank you to Karen Lemme and committee for putting together the annual TJ Soc Hop!

IT'S A WRITER'S WORLD

"I CAN"

By Jacqueline Guzman, 4th Grade

- I can do all my math facts.
- I can make my goal in reading.
- I can be respectful.
- I can be smart.
- I can read the maps.
- I can skate on ice.
- I can listen well.
- I can swim in the pool.
- I can be kind.
- I can be generous.
- I can be trustful.
- I can do writing.
- I can climb.
- I can do my homework.
- I can believe in myself.
- I can be cool.
- I can.

BOX TOP COMPETITION

A big THANK YOU goes out to the parents and students who collected over 7000 Box Tops throughout November and December.

Thank you to Jackie Kramp and Maria Cudney for clipping and counting all of the Box Tops. We could not have done this without you!

The Winning Classrooms

First Place - Mrs. Skoog's AM Kindergarten

Second Place - Mr. Brents' 6th Grade

Third Place - Mrs. Landerman's 1st Grade

Second Grade Iowa Test of Basic Skills or Logramos assessments will be given February 6th- 15th.

To enable your child to perform at his/her best, make sure they get 8 to 9 hours of sleep and eat a nutritious breakfast.



Sixth Grade D.A.R.E. Graduation
Friday, January 27th at 1:30 pm.

Mary Taylor, Principal



A View From My Office

*Mike Fagerholm
School Social Worker
963-5439*



Neither my wife, Allison nor I enjoy going to the grocery store. I don't know why that is, we just don't. Because of that fact, over the years we have developed the wonderful compromise that we both will do the shopping together. So each week we take our dastardly trip to the local grocery store to buy the necessities that will carry us over to the next Saturday.

Over the years, we have agreed upon our various roles and duties that we will perform, once we get to the store. My wife heads for the produce area, while I take a number at the deli counter. On a recent Saturday, I waited patiently at the counter, holding the number 29 on my ticket. The numbers crept up slowly until the lady behind the counter yelled "28." "Hurray!" I thought to myself. "It won't be long now." But the number seemed frozen on 28...28...28.

While waiting in "deli purgatory," I looked around to see if I knew anyone at the store. One curious fellow, who probably had the number 28, was figuring out the meat or cheese he was going to buy. I know I recognized him because he was like a local semi-celebrity in our somewhat small town. I approached him and said, "You were the stand-in double for Chris Elliot when they made the movie "Groundhog Day" in Woodstock. "Yes" he replied. "And you were the unfortunate guy that my son, Matt had a car accident with about 3 winters ago." "Oh, was that your son?" he asked. "Yes" I said.

Our conversation continued and this man told me what a fine young man my son was. He told me that the car accident on that wintry day was pretty much unavoidable because of the new fallen slick snow. As Matt made a turn at a corner, his car slide into this man's vehicle, grazing the side. When the police arrived, Matt had already exchanged insurance information with this man and they were talking about what it was like working with Bill Murray on a movie set. Matt had been a little nervous about the accident, but this gentleman put him at ease and made him realize that it was no big deal. He even took pictures from his wallet and showed Matt some pictures of him and Bill Murray.

This man was a kind and friendly person. He never once got upset or mad at the fact that my son had hit his car *that was less than 6 months old*. He told me that he could see that Matt was a good kid and that he wasn't driving recklessly. He picked up his packages of meat and cheese and we shook hands. I thanked him for treating my son in such a kind and understanding manner. He said that he was a dad too and he knew that things like this happen once in a while. As he walked away, I was happy that if Matt had to have an accident, that he was lucky to have hit this gentleman's car. He made me want to be a little more patient, a little more friendly, and a little more tolerant of others. "29!" the lady behind the counter said.



Adventures in Reading (AIR) for 3rd and 4th is underway! Sign-ups for 1st and 2nd grade AIR will begin soon.

WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF DONATED

BOOKS!! Please consider donating your used AIR books so we have books for every AIR student to read! We especially need the following books: House on Maple Street, The Bravest Dog Ever (Balto), Henry & Mudge and the Forever Sea, Toad for Tuesday, and Case of the Cool-Itch Kid. (Please drop books off in the PTA room, or send them in with your student.) THANKS!!

Call Lisa Bohn (847/963-1081) or Lynette Rubin (847/359-8807) with questions.



The Multi-Cultural Fair

Friday, April 7th
6:30 - 9:00pm

We are looking for entertainment with an international flair, country exhibits and food samples for our Food Court. We are in need of a variety of cultures to make this event a success! If you are interested in sharing your heritage with T] students and their families, please contact Sharon Gregory at (847) 202-8492.



Hospitality Committee will be hosting:
“Morning Munchies with Mom”

Tuesday, February 7th, 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.
Last names starting with A thru J ONLY

Thursday, February 9th, 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.
Last names starting with K thru Z ONLY

Come enjoy each others company with bagels, donuts, juice and coffee.




TJ PTA MARKET DAY


Debbie Duffy (847)496-4352
Jana Stevens (847)358-0766
Janeen Brazier (847)496-4163


We'd like to thank everyone who supported our December and January Market Day sales and hope that you enjoyed your cakes and holiday meals. We'd also like to send a special thank you to all the 4th grade and 5th grade volunteers, who helped to make the Market Day pick-up a success. In December, we earned approximately **\$499 in profit for the school!** In January we earned approximately **\$399 in profit for the school.**

What's happening at Market Day in February?

 **Cookie Dough Bonus Days!** — Our school earns a minimum \$2 profit on all cookie dough purchases. The more we sell, the more we earn and the closer we get to provide those special programs for our students. With eight delicious flavors to choose from, you're sure to find a tasty selection that will support T.J.

 Also, you will receive a *free treats recipe book with the purchase of 3 tubs of cookie dough.*

 Prices are slashed for the stuffed chicken creations. Bring home the chicken... bring home the savings.

 **The Family Reward program offers you a way to save.** Don't forget, if you ordered \$35 or more last month, you received a \$3 off Coupon with your receipt to use towards one of the featured items. Bring it back in February and SAVE!

This month we had 63 orders!

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February order forms are due by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 9th.

Don't forget, you can also order online at Marketday.com.

All Internet orders are due by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, February 13th.

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Tasty Chicken Fajita Tortilla Soup

This tasty soup features Market Day Seasoned Chicken Breast Strips and Supersweet corn.

Prep. Time: 10 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes
Servings: Makes 8 servings

Ingredients

- 5 corn tortillas
- 2 tsp. olive oil
- ½ c. chopped green pepper
- ½ c. chopped onion
- 3 garlic cloves
- 1 14.5 oz. can tomatoes for chili, undrained
- ½ tsp. ground cumin
- 1 48 oz. can chicken broth
- ¼ c. chopped cilantro
- 3 c. thawed Seasoned Chicken Breast Strips
- 2 c. thawed Supersweet Corn

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Brush one side of each corn tortilla with oil. Cut into triangles and place on a baking sheet. Bake 10 to 15 minutes or until crisp.

Spray a Dutch oven with no-stick cooking spray. Add peppers, onions and garlic. Cook 3 to 4 minutes. Stir in Seasoned Chicken Breast Strips. Cook 2 minutes. Stir in corn, tomatoes, chicken broth, cumin and cilantro. Simmer 10 minutes. Ladle into bowls; top with tortilla triangles and shredded cheddar cheese if desired. Makes 10 servings.



Thomas Jefferson “Movie Premiere” Fun Fair

The 2006 “Movie Premiere” Fun Fair is sure to be a hit! Please join us for a walk down the red carpet and a fun filled day of games, prizes, raffles, cake walk and much more!

We are still in need of Volunteers! Please lend us your time and talents by volunteering to help run games, sell tickets, distribute prizes and much more. Please complete the form below and return it to school as soon as possible. Thanks in advance for your support of this great event!



Child's Name (Oldest): _____

Phone#: _____ Teacher: _____

Please indicate your shift choices:

Your Name: _____

___ 1st shift (10:45-12:15) ___ 2nd shift (12:15-1:45) ___ 3rd shift (1:45-3:15)

Spouse's Name: _____

___ 1st shift (10:45-12:15) ___ 2nd shift (12:15-1:45) ___ 3rd shift (1:45-3:15)

TJ Alumni Name: _____

___ 1st shift (10:45-12:15) ___ 2nd shift (12:15-1:45) ___ 3rd shift (1:45-3:15)

I am also available to help ___ set-up the night before and/or ___ clean up afterwards.

___ I am able to donate a cake or baked/purchased goods for the cake walk.

___ I am interested in donating an item for the raffle: _____

___ I would like to be contacted regarding donations.



Folk Art is looking for a few good women and men. Actually, many volunteers are needed for each grade to have a successful and fun hands-on craft project. Please consider helping out. You can help by preparing materials at home or you can help in school the day of the project working directly with the kids.

Some dates are already set and some are approximate with the final date still to be determined.

1st grade - January 27th

2nd grade - May 10th

3rd grade - TBD - week of May 1st - 3rd

4th grade - May 3rd

5th grade and Mrs. Prices' class - TBD - week of March 20th - 24th

6th grade - May 26th

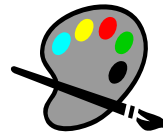
Please don't wait to sign up. Arrangements need to be made well in advance and you don't want to miss out.

Call Tina Burke at 776-5829 or email banit1@comcast.net to sign up or for more info.

Reflections



Congratulations to:
Michael Benson
Laura Croak
Susan Grabowski



Their entries for this year's Reflection program, I Wonder Why, have been sent on to District 37 judging. On February 27th at the NWSC general membership meeting all the work not moving on to district level will be displayed for everyone to see. Please take a few minutes and stop by Sundling Jr. High from 6:30 to 8:00 to view the work on display.

Thanks again to all who participated. It is clear that each of the students has a very special talent, and we appreciate them sharing that with us.

Lisa Weber
 847-358-1585
lisaweber1@comcast.net



Cultural Arts Assembly

**February 22, 2006:
Popeye and Swee'Pea**

Grades 4-6 and AM Kindergarten at 10:00 am
Grades PM K-3 at 1:00 pm

Alex "Popeye" Rothacker, guides his dog, Swee'Pea, as she jumps rope, walks a tightrope and balances a glass of water on her head while walking, to name a few of her stunts. ** A dog is the main performer in this act. If a student has severe allergies to dogs, please see note below!



**** Nobody will be allowed to pet or be near the dog. However, if your child has severe air-borne allergies (such that he/she cannot be in the same room as a dog), please fill out this notice and give it to your teacher, as soon as possible. Thank you!**

Name of Student _____

Grade _____ **Teacher** _____

Internet Safety Is a Parent's Responsibility

The holidays may have brought brand-new computers into many homes. It is amazing how fast kids learn how to use the Internet and other forms of technology. Therefore, it is important for children to know the information they encounter on the Internet could be deceptive or encourage them to explore in ways that might put them in jeopardy.

Parents need to establish boundaries for Internet use. This can be done by writing a contract that outlines appropriate computer and Internet use for their children to sign. The contract should spell out clearly what the consequences will be if the rules are deliberately (not accidentally) broken. The signed contract should be posted in a prominent place near the computer as a reminder.

Some basic rules that might be included in the contract include:

- ❖ If I see or do anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I am on-line, I will immediately turn off the computer monitor and go get my parents or a trusted adult to deal with the situation.
- ❖ I will tell my parents or a trusted adult if a person I don't know or any other on-line resource (e.g., a music download company that requires registration) asks me for personal information such as my name, address, phone number, or asks to meet in person.
- ❖ I will not be rude or mean when chatting on-line. If I receive a message that is mean or rude, I won't respond. I will, instead, tell my parents or a trusted adult.

This process should be the start of an ongoing dialogue on Internet safety. It is important that children feel comfortable talking about all their on-line experiences, both good and bad, with their parents. Threatening to take away computer privileges as a punishment should be avoided; children probably will just find another way to access the Internet, and this time they may not tell anyone about what they are doing there.



YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

CONGRATULATIONS to KIMBERLY BYCKOWSKI from Mr. Brents class. Your design was chosen for this years yearbook cover!

We had many talented entries submitted and it wasn't easy for the yearbook committee to decide. A big "THANK YOU" to all the following participants: Patricia Urban, Melissa Hamby, Sarah Masucci, Tamar Alexanian, Alanna Krivanek, Justine Venegoni, Grace Stapleton, Susan Grabowski, Lauren Zambelli, Karina Bran and Anthony Bosco.



Spotlight on the Board Notes from the District 15 School Board Meeting January 11th, 2005

Spotlight on the Board is a collection of notes taken at the District 15 School Board meetings by Pleasant Hill PTAs' District 15 liaison, Susan Quinn. They are meant to help parents and staff who are unable to attend the Board meetings on a regular basis to keep informed about the issues and plans affecting the district. Below are the highlights from the January "regular" meeting:

- Board debates options for funding \$1.4M in "Urgent" Life/Safety Repairs over next 1-2 years, \$25M over 10 years
- Carlson, Boucher strong proponents of restructuring long term debt
- Keenan, Rowden, Millar oppose restructuring, want to use 2006-2007 funds to cover immediate needs, wait for Facilities report before deciding how to fund remaining repairs
- Board votes 5:2 to approve adding 1 teacher and 1 program assistant to Early Childhood autistic class
Amendment to only hire the teacher was voted down 3:4
- District 15 website has many new documents available for download, including:
- Classroom Teacher's Negotiated Agreement 1996-2006
- School Improvement Plans, by school
- Teacher Salary Schedule
- 2005-2006 Budget
- Student Performance Targets 2005-2010

Full January 11th meeting notes, as well as previous *Spotlight on the Board* meeting notes, can be found at Pleasant Hill PTA's web site: www.phpta.org. Next Board meeting is Wednesday, January 25th, 2005, 7 pm at Sundling Jr. High. Email questions directly to Board members (see www.phpta.org for email addresses) or to Superintendent McKanna (McKannaR@ccsd15.net).



De las Presidentas:

¡Feliz año nuevo! Esperamos que hayan podido comenzar el nuevo año con todo éxito. La PTA empezó con todo. Por empezar, queremos felicitar a Mary Mottonen quien se ganó el premio a la Voluntaria del Mes del Distrito 15. Gracias, Mary por todo lo que haces por los chicos.

La PTA ha estado súper ocupada planeando las actividades para el nuevo año. Comenzamos con la “Fiesta en la playa” presentada por el comité de Noches de Recreo en Familia. Fue bárbaro ver a tanta gente en la fiesta. Los chicos se súper divirtieron bailando al ritmo de la música, jugando volleyball y basketball. Los padres la pasaron bien poniéndose al día con amigos.

El comité de Ways and Means esta bastante ocupado preparándose para la Feria de la Diversión (Fun Fair), que se llevará a cabo el sábado 4 de febrero. Tienen planeadas tantas actividades divertidas para los chicos que hasta incluye una carrera de maestros caminando con tortas. Si quiere ser voluntario, por favor comuníquese con uno de los representantes de Ways and Means.

En febrero el comité de Hospitalidad va a presentar Mañana de Munchies con Mamá. Esta es una buena oportunidad para pasar una mañana relajándose con sus. El 14 de febrero los representantes de las salas van a presentar las fiestas del día de San Valentín en cada aula. Este es un día muy divertido para los niños.

Esperamos que todos hayan recibido el panfleto con la información acerca del cambio de fecha de la Feria Multi-Cultural. Dicha feria se llevará a cabo el 7 de abril, así que por favor marquen sus calendarios ya que promete ser un evento espectacular.

Una vez más quisiéramos invitar a todos a la próxima reunión de la PTA el 21 de febrero a las 7:15pm. También quisiéramos agradecer a los miembros de la PTA y a los voluntarios por toda su dedicación a los niños.

Esperamos verlos en los eventos de la PTA de febrero.

Linda y Karen