

# JEFFERSON SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER

*Jefferson Elementary Provides an Excellent Education for All.*

Mrs. Merri-lynn Seaburg, Principal  
COMMUNICATING TO CONNECT HOME AND SCHOOL  
Tel.: (815) 754-2263

## Upcoming Dates:

### January

15	<b>Rescheduled</b> PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
21	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – NO SCHOOL
24	Family Night – Celebrating a World of Diversity, 6:00-7:30
22-25	Spirit Week
28	Report cards sent home with students
28-Feb. 1	Take Your Family to School Week

### *From Mrs. Seaburg's Desk*

We're off and running! Our first week back was a busy time, as we welcomed several new students. Additionally, we anticipate a couple of more students to start school at Jefferson this week.

Mr. Seaburg and I had a fabulous family weekend in Indiana with our Lafayette group. We had swimming lessons, youth basketball, and then Charlie, Sam, Mr. Seaburg and I went to the Purdue basketball game and watched Purdue beat Ohio State; it was fabulous! If you're looking for some good family times, be sure to mark down January 24. That is the night for our next Family Night. We have multicultural experiences, music, dance, and food planned from 6:00 – 7:30. Plan on joining us it will be great.

Although it seems like spring, it really is January, so please make sure your children are dressed for the weather. Even if the sun is out, mittens and gloves are often necessary. Have a great week!

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 21, 2008 – NO SCHOOL**

There will be no school on Monday, January 21, 2008 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Please be sure to mark your calendar!

### **CELEBRATING A WORLD OF DIVERSITY: Jefferson Elementary Multi-Cultural Family Night**

Our Multi-Cultural Family Night Celebration will take place on Thursday, January 24, 2008 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Our PTA will provide dinner from 6:00-7:00 p.m. We have many members of the community participating in this wonderful event. The DeKalb Public Library will provide a display of multi-cultural books for you to read with your children, there will be information for upcoming events taking place at the library, and opportunities for families to register for library cards. At 7:00 p.m. we will join together in the gymnasium to enjoy music and dance performances. Performances will include our 5<sup>th</sup> grade drummers, an African dance troupe from Columbia University in Chicago, and musical performances by some of our own Jefferson families. We look forward to having you join us for a night of FAMILY FUN!!!!

### **Skyward's Family/Student Access and E-Mail**

We are moving to a new e-mail notification process for Jefferson which works through our Skyward Student System and Family Access. We will use this for event and meeting reminders and updates, emergency school closings, etc. In order for the e-mail notification system to work efficiently, we will need to add your e-mail address to our student system (if it has not already been added).

We have approximately 276 families at Jefferson, and so far we have 106 e-mail addresses in our Skyward Student System! (You may have received several e-mails already, as we have been testing out the system). We will be testing out the system once more today. If you don't receive the e-mail and would like your e-mail address added to your contact information, please e-mail Melissa Smith at:

[Melissa.smith@dist428.org](mailto:Melissa.smith@dist428.org)

You may also add/change the e-mail address by logging into Family/Student Access on the DeKalb District 428 web page. (You will need to know your login name and password to do so) Or complete the form attached to this newsletter and return to the school office. Please call or e-mail the school if you have any questions.

### **Family Access**

If you haven't checked out Family Access via the District 428 website, you should! This is a great place to make sure all of your contact information is correct, check your food service balance, payments and purchases, see your children's schedules, attendance, grades, missing assignments, etc. Family Access also offers e-mail notifications when your food service balance is below \$15.00. (Be sure to click the box if you would like to receive this e-mail notification and "save"). Family Access is constantly updating and changing, so check back frequently! If you would like more information on accessing your Family Access via the website, or if you need your user name and password, please complete the form in today's Monday Mail and the information will be e-mail to you.

### **Guest Reader Volunteers Wanted!**

If you (or someone you know) would be interested in sharing your time as a "Guest Reader" at Jefferson, we would love to have you! Please read and complete the form in today's Parent Newsletter. The form may be returned to the school office. Thank you!

### **Martin Luther King Celebration 2008!**

The Martin Luther King Celebration 2008 will take place on Monday, January 21, 2008 at DeKalb High School from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. The Artist and Writer Reception will be held from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the DeKalb High School Media Center. Meet the judges, see the art, read the essays and enjoy food and entertainment before the Celebration performance. The Performance will be held from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the DHS auditorium.

Questions? Please contact Beth Campen at 815-758-6880 or email [bethcampen@yahoo.com](mailto:bethcampen@yahoo.com).

### **Personal Items at School**

As a reminder, students should not be bringing personal items to school unless they are for school projects or show and tell. All other items will be confiscated and returned to the parent. Additionally, the school assumes no responsibility for these materials. Cell phones must be turned off during school hours and kept out of sight. The school is not responsible for loss or theft. It is advised that phones not be brought to school.

### **After School Dismissal Messages for Students**

Arrangements for transporting, going to another child's house, not riding the bus, etc. should be made *prior* to coming to school. Only *emergency* messages should be delivered to students during the school day. **Emergency messages should be called in to school no later than 3:10 p.m. to ensure we have time before dismissal to deliver the message to your child.**

*As a reminder, whenever dismissal plans change for your child, please notify the school office via a note or phone call, or your child will follow his/her regular dismissal routine.*

## **Community Information for January 14, 2008**

*(Flyers for events/activities listed below are usually available in our pamphlet rack. You may call the school office if you would like us to send a flyer home with your child, or you may stop by school to pick up a flyer)*

**After School Team Bowling Sessions** sponsored by Mardi Gras Lanes will be offered again on Thursdays starting January 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. See the bright yellow flyers in Jefferson's pamphlet rack for more information and enrollment form. Questions? Call Mardi Gras Lanes at 815-756-9411.

**First Student Bus Company is Hiring!** (Previously known as Laidlaw) If you are at least 21 years of age with a good driving record, able to pass a drug test/background check, and looking for part-time employment that works with your family's schedule – First Student would be delighted to have you join their team! No previous experience necessary, professional training with a bonus paid upon successful completion. First Student is currently accepting applications at 2652 Wagner Ct. in DeKalb (south of DeKalb High School, off of Harvestore Dr.) See the flyer in Jefferson's pamphlet rack for what to bring when you apply and additional information.

**Kishwaukee Family YMCA Winter I Sports Leagues.** See the green flyers in Jefferson's pamphlet rack for more information on Youth Basketball for grades Pre-K-6<sup>th</sup>, Instructional Roller Hockey for grades K-6<sup>th</sup> and Youth Roller Hockey for grades 1-9. For more information call 815-756-9577 or visit [www.kishymca.org](http://www.kishymca.org)

**Sylvan Learning Center** - Calling all students to a contest to help your local school. Sylvan is collecting books that will be donated to DeKalb County Schools. In order to do this we are looking for help. We are having a contest to see which student can donate the most books! Prizes will be awarded to the students who can collect the most books. We hope you can help us out. Donations will be accepted *at Sylvan Learning Center* starting November 5th and continuing through January 14th. Currently we are located at 1950 DeKalb Ave in Sycamore and we will be moving in late December to 1715 DeKalb Ave in Sycamore. Thanks in advance for your support! Call 815-787-4139 if you need any other information!

*Please see pamphlet rack outside of the Jefferson School Office for more information on these events. **Note:** Community activities are not necessarily sponsored by nor affiliated with DeKalb District 428.*

January 14, 2008

Dear Friend,

Jefferson Elementary School is committed to life long readers. We are continuing our Guest Reader program and want to share the talents of our parents and community members. Guest readers are invited into our classroom on a monthly basis from 12:45- 1:15 p.m. Morning Kindergarten guest readers time is from 9:00-9:30.

If you are interested in helping children by being a guest reader at Jefferson, please complete and return the form at the bottom of this page or contact Jefferson Elementary at 754-2263, by Friday January 28, 2008.

Sincerely,  
Jefferson's Guest Reader Coordinators  
Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. R. Anderson

-----  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have a classroom preference: yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

Class I would like to read in \_\_\_\_\_ classroom.

Please put a check next to preferred day

\_\_\_\_ Friday, February 8, 2008

\_\_\_\_ Thursday, February 21, 2008

\_\_\_\_ Friday, March 14, 2008

\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, March 19, 2008

\_\_\_\_ Friday, April 4, 2008

\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, April 22, 2008

\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, May 6, 2008

\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, May 21, 2008



# FAMILY ACCESS

Hello,

We are moving to a new e-mail notification system that works through our Skyward Student System and Family/Student Access. In order for the notification system to work efficiently, we will need to add your e-mail address to the information in our Skyward Student System. We will be able to send out e-mail notifications (emergency closings, meeting reminders, field trip reminders, newsletters, etc.) by using this system.

Please note, if your e-mail address information needs to be changed, or added, you may do this at anytime through the Family/Student Access link on the District 428 webpage: [www.dist428.org](http://www.dist428.org) or by calling or e-mailing the school office. If you do not know your Family Access login name and password, please complete page and return and it will be e-mailed to you at the e-mail address you provide.

Parent/Guardian Name(s)

---

---

Student's Name(s)

---

---

---

E-Mail Address:

---

We do not have an e-mail address at this time

---

Please E-mail our Skyward Family Access Login Name and Password to the e-mail address provided above.

X

---

*Parent/Guardian Signature*