

JEFFERSON SCHOOL

PARENT

NEWSLETTER

Jefferson Elementary Provides an Excellent Education for All.
COMMUNICATING TO CONNECT HOME AND SCHOOL

Upcoming Dates: **October**

8	NO SCHOOL in observance of Columbus Day
11	PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
12	Walk Day – Walk for Education
15-18	Fall Book Fair/Taffy Apple Sale
16	Book Fair Family Night
26	End of 1 st Quarter
27	Market Day
31	Classroom parties

From Mrs. Seaburg's Desk

The DeKalb Community's Big Read Project has invited all of our schools to participate in an activity to support the BIG READ Project. While the adults in the community are reading Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury, they are asking that all schools participate in a couple of ways. All students are asked to read a total of 451 books at each school from October 1-31.

- Students can read by themselves, read with a parent, or have someone read to them.
- Thermometer slips are returned to school to add to our total BIG READ COUNT.

Students can also draw a picture about their favorite book in a special "book frame." Drawings must be returned to Jefferson by October 10 to be posted at the DeKalb Public Library. Classroom teachers will have the drawing forms and thermometer slips which will be sent home with students.

We had an *awesome* turn out for our Open House last Thursday! Thank you all for coming. Have a great week!

NO SCHOOL October 8, 2007

There will be no school next Monday, October 8, 2007 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday.

Missed the Chance to Order School Pictures?

Our picture day was on September 27. If your child was absent, or if you missed the opportunity to order a package, you will have the opportunity to have his/her picture taken on our retake day which is scheduled for Tuesday, November 6, 2007.

Bus Reminders

If your child is a bus student, you must notify the office by note or by phone if your child will not be riding on a certain day. *Your child WILL be put on the bus if we do not receive a phone call or note from you.* Please note also that non-bus riders may NOT ride a school bus to a friend's house after school; and bus students must ride their assigned bus home, they may not ride another bus to a friend's house after school.

Important Attendance Information

Jefferson Elementary School considers attendance to be very important and vital to a child's education. Our district's educational program is built on the premise that regular attendance is vital to a student's success in school. Seeing that a student maintains regular attendance requires a cooperative effort by the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) and school personnel. The student who is frequently absent misses social interaction, class instruction and discussion, even though written work is made up. It is for this reason that attendance and tardy notices are sent out to keep parents informed.

- An absence is considered excused under Section 26-2a of the Illinois School Code for **illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency or situation approved by the school principal.**
- In addition, DeKalb School District will only allow a total of five (5) excused absences due to a vacation/out of town reason. The absences need to be approved at least one week in advance. Any vacation days over the five (5) day maximum will be unexcused and will count towards truancy totals.
- If a student has a medical or dental appointment during the school day, they need to return with a note from the physician's office.
- Truancy referrals are made when a student reaches nine (9) unexcused absences.
- **Two (2) tardies equal one (1) unexcused absence. Arriving late or leaving early may count as tardies as well.**
- The State of Illinois considers absences at or above 10% of the total days enrolled to be excessive. The only exception to this rule will be if a note is provided by a doctor stating that there is a chronic illness, which will cause your child to miss numerous days of school.

We will send out notices mid-quarter and at the end of the quarter in regards to excessive absences or tardies.

Please feel free to contact Mrs. Seaburg with any questions or concerns at 815-754-2263.

Community Information for 10/01/07

(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)

The Art Attack – School of Art is offering a variety of art-themed workshops for artists of all ages and experience. See the flyers in Jefferson's pamphlet rack for a listing of all that is offered this fall at the Art Attack, 215 W. Elm St., Sycamore, IL, 815-899-9440. You may also visit them on the web at www.sycamoreartattack.com

Laidlaw Education Services is now hiring school bus drivers in DeKalb! Must be at least 21 years old and be able to pass a background check and drug test. Call 1-888-416-5627 or visit www.laidlawgreatjob.net. Media code is 745. Job code is LFT8S. Laidlaw Education Services in DeKalb is located at 2652 Wagner Court, DeKalb, IL.

DeKalb Girls Basketball Traveling Team 07/08 tryouts will be held on Sunday, September 30th from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. on Monday, October 1, 2007. Tryouts are for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders who attend Huntley, Clinton Rosette, DeKalb Grade Schools and St. Mary's School. If you cannot attend the tryouts on the scheduled dates but you are interested in the program, contact Mike Pittsley at 815-756-4748 to make accommodations.

Marlyn Majors Drum Corps, Baton Unit, Color Guard and Flags & Rifles: Register now for beginner, intermediate or advanced skill level lessons. See the flyers in Jefferson's pamphlet rack or contact Marlyn @ Marlyn Majorette Studio, 206 W. State Street, Sycamore, IL 60178. Phone: 815-895-4166.

Salvation Army Martial Arts: Thursdays from 7:15-8:15 p.m. at the Salvation Army Martial Arts Studio, 830 Grove Street, DeKalb. Everyone is welcome, regardless of age, experience (or lack thereof). Cost is \$10 a month for current students and \$15 a month for new students. Pick-up a flyer for schedule and registration form. If you have questions, please contact Shannon Marbutt at 815-766-0603 / senseishanmar@verizon.net or visit the website at www.salvationarmymartialarts.com.

Hogwarts School of Science and Technology will present Orientation Day. Dear First Years, if you are the proper age of 9 to 11 years, Hogwarts School of Science and Technology would like you to attend orientation day on Columbus Day, Monday, October 8th from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. This year, the day is being held in Russell Woods Forest Preserve, which is located one mile west of Genoa, Illinois. Science and technology will be shared through the creative instructors whom have been hired. Professor Hiss will share his love of reptiles and amphibians. Botany instructor, Professor Thorn, will cover plants and even Mandrakes. Mad Science and chemistry will be taught with caution and clever tricks. Trekking will be made simple with new GPS teachers, Mr. and Mrs. Lostalot. Hogwarts School will cover snacks and lunch for the day. Registration fee is \$20 for each child attending. Please see Jefferson's pamphlet rack for information and registration forms.

Mardi Gras After School Team Bowling Sessions. Mardi Gras Lanes is pleased to offer your child **an after school program**. This is a supervised activity that children look forward to each week. It is a great way for them to "hang out" with their friends outside of the classroom. Bus transportation is provided by Laidlaw Transportation on behalf of Mardi Gras Lanes. League bowls every Thursday immediately after school beginning September 20, 2007. Bowling is \$7.00 per week. For more information, contact Angie or Bob at Mardi Gras Lanes at 756-9411. See the bright pink flyers in Jefferson's pamphlet rack for more information and registration form.

Six-Week Parent Education Class. Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C) Parent Education Program presents a six-week Parent Education Class beginning Tuesdays, October 2 – November 6, 2007 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Brooks Elementary School, DeKalb. The parenting program is offered in a relaxed, supportive environment. The program is designed to enhance family communication and relationships, while building on the parenting strengths of each participant. This program is FREE of charge. Free child care is available. Registration is required. Please register by September 26th. Call Esther at 815-758-8149, ext. 237. See the yellow flyers in Jefferson's pamphlet rack for more information.

Sylvan Learning Center. Help end the homework frustrations. Call today to see how Sylvan can help. 815-787-4139 or visit www.educate.com. Flyers are available in Jefferson's pamphlet rack.

Kishwaukee Family YMCA

Flyers for their Fall 1 Sports Leagues are available in Jefferson's pamphlet rack. For more information call 815-756-9577 or visit their website at www.kishymca.org

Please see pamphlet rack outside of the Jefferson School Office for more information on these events.

Note: Community activities are not sponsored by DeKalb District 428.