




September 2018

Welcome parents to our first edition of our new monthly newsletter! Our goal to provide the JFS parent-community with the information you need to know for the upcoming month. In an attempt to simplify and make parent-life easier, we are partnering with the school to give you one, consolidated update each month. Please also keep an eye out for a link to join our new **Bloomz group** (a mobile app for all JFS communications), so that you have another means to stay connected with fellow parents. 

In the meantime, this all couldn't happen without the contributions and efforts of the JFS community. For additional information on ways you can help, please take a moment to read through this newsletter.

Key Dates This Month

9/10	TK/K Begin Full Day
9/13	1:00 PM Back to School Orientation for Parents
9/14	Constitution Day for 5th graders
9/21	5:30 PM Movie Night
9/25	Drama Program Begins
9/26	8:05 AM PTA General Association Meeting
9/27	NO SCHOOL (Teacher Inservice Day)

Principal's Message

What a great start to the 2018-19 school year. Thank you parents for supporting your children during these first few days of school. It is sometimes hard to make all the adjustments in routines and schedules. We appreciate your efforts to help your children arrive to school on time ready to learn. This year, I am joining together with our wonderful PTA, which I hope ALL of you have joined, to try to keep our communication stream predictable and in one place. Please look for these monthly messages from me here on the PTA Newsletter. Additionally, our teachers are beginning their 'Bloomz' communication app and we hope all parents will sign-up (more information at Back to School Orientation).

**Music Orientation and Registration information was provided to 5th and 6th grade students on August 30th. Please consider signing-up your child, it's a valuable opportunity to provide a life long skill in playing a musical instrument.*

Program Highlight Drama & Performing Arts

This year JFS PTA presents MULAN. The after school drama program will start on **September 25, 2018**. Please look out for a flyer and participation form in your child's folder this Friday. Questions?? Feel free to reach out to:

Linley: linley31@gmail.com,
Meenal: meenaw@gmail.com
Sonali: bahetisonali@gmail.com



MATH OLYMPIAD: VOLUNTEER TO TEACH MATH

We are looking for parent volunteers who can teach math concepts for Math Olympiad. The class will be after school hours from 2:15 PM in JFS to train JFS kids (4th-6th Grade) for Math Olympiad. Interested parents please reach out to Nanitha Yamani, Math Olympiad Chair at ynanitha@gmail.com. Our hope is to find the right volunteer. Without a volunteer to teach, we will conduct just Test Only Math Olympiad Contests once a month and no classes will be held. More details about Math Olympiad <https://www.moems.org>.



Support JFS STEAM Lab and other PTA Programs

Last year, JFS achieved a BIG milestone! We launched an on-site STEAM program and STEAM lab which will benefit all grade levels for years to come. STEAM is an important program to further enhance our school's curriculum in **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math**. With a STEAM program and a lab, teachers now can easily integrate STEAM into their curriculum. It was a dream come true. Without the strong support of so many parents, school staff, and a financial grant from the district, this program would not have been possible.

Why is STEM education so important? It is important because it pervades every part of our lives. STEAM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators. Additionally STEM careers are the fastest growing as compare to other non-STEM careers. And STEM degree holders overall have a higher income even in non-STEM occupations. By exposing students to STEM and giving them more opportunities in school to explore STEM-related concepts, we hope to spark an interest in pursuing a STEM career in our students.

Building upon our success from last year, this year our goal is to raise **\$100,000**. The majority of your pledge would go towards tools and supplies for the lab and the *instructional coaching* (an instructor) needed for a successful STEAM program. The remaining funds raised will go towards supporting our teachers with a supply fund to help stock their classrooms, updated technology (i.e., replacement Chromebooks), and enrichment programs such as Math Olympiad, Drama, etc. Without parent support and donations, the school is at the risk of losing all these wonderful programs.

To date, we are only 10% of the way there. Please consider making a donation. We also encourage all donors that work for companies that match employee charitable giving to please submit for match (for a list of known matching-programs, please visit our website: jfspta.org). Thank you all so much for your continued support to our school, and funding these much needed programs, grants, investments, and events.



**Donate Today via Paypal or Credit Card > <http://bit.ly/steamlabatjfs>
Complete PTA Membership Form > <http://bit.ly/2M0r9ia>**

[suggested donation amount per family is \$150 or more]

PTA Contact

Do you have general questions about PTA programs, events or wish to get involved? Please feel free to reach out to us via email at: jfspta2220@gmail.com. For more info, please visit: jfspta.org.

Follow us on Facebook: **JFS Parents**

This newsletter was put together by parent-volunteers like you! We'd welcome your feedback.