



Jefferson Middle School
Be a Part of the Pride

February 2, 2012

Subway Super Students Congrats goes out to: Eric Wakeland-Brian Housh- and Captain Heather for being a Subway Super Student. These students bring academics to a 'higher' level by exhibiting academic achievement at its best. Each recipient is awarded a certificate for a free 6" sub from Subway.

Smile-O-Grams were issued to the following students for Outstanding Leadership at JMS. Congrats goes out to: Cameron Cloe and Makaylynn Eakle. These recipients were awarded a certificate and card for a free 8" pizza at Pizza Man.

Panther Paw Recognition: Congrats goes out to: Baylee Moore-Izaq Toney and Hollie Johnson for Panther Paw Recognition. The Panther Paw recognizes students for Trustworthiness, Caring, Fairness, Respect, and Responsibility. These recipients were awarded a certificate and card for a free 8" pizza at Pizza Man.

Pizza Hut: Star Pupil Pizza Hut Award In recognition of academic achievement and being good role models Pizza Hut is awarding all qualifying students a free single- topping personal pan pizza. The coupon may be used in both Pana/Shelbyville restaurants. Congrats goes out to: Kyndall Jones-Kyle Gordon-Rachael Welburn-Madelyn Zahradka-Grayson Beyers-Charis Hadley-and Carlee Phillips.

Time for Kids: Students are participating in receiving a free year long subscription to 'Time for Kids' which is a weekly magazine featuring current event stories and geographical information from around the world. Students are encouraged to complete the booklets and return them to school.

Presidents' Day: No School on Monday, January 20th in observance of Presidents' Day!

Lifetouch: Lifetouch will be in our building for spring pictures on Tuesday, February 21st

Home Portal for Parents: Parents will be given an opportunity to attend the first of two training sessions on Tuesday, January 31 and Thursday, February 2nd with the launch date of the portal to be Wednesday, February 1st. This web based tool will provide parents with an at a glance awareness of grades-attendance and lunch balance. Information was sent home with report cards on January 13th in regard to a username and password in preparation for the launch.

Choices for Life: Steffan Campos, educator with The Choices for Life program began the 8 session class on Tuesday, January 17th. This class will focus on helping students through some of the most important decisions in their life. Parents were provided a consent form which gives them the opportunity to opt out of the 8 session class.

Young Artist Showcase: Congratulations goes out to Tyler O'Rear-who placed BEST in the show at the Young Artists' Showcase 2012 in Decatur on Sunday, January 8th. Tyler's piece of art was chosen among 500 entries. Thanks to Mrs. Nichols for giving our students the opportunity to be recognized for their talent.

BINGO: As part of PBIS: A BINGO Game concept was implemented on January 10th. Students will be recognized for EXCELLENCE in the classroom as they put their name on a post it note as they chose the letter and number on the poster sized bingo card. Every Friday, a letter and number will be called and the student whose name appears on that square will be awarded. Ex. Awards: Go to the front of the lunch line-Pick the game during recess- and additional non-monetary rewards. **TEACHER DRAWING:** As A THANK YOU for their dedication to teaching...Each week a name will be drawn from the teacher bag and at the end of the month all four names will be placed into the bag for a chance to win. Thanks to the PBIS team for their continued effort in making this program so successful!

PBIS: Tier 2: Four staff members have volunteered to be on the tier 2 PBIS committee and attended a workshop in Vandalia on Wednesday, January 25. Many ideas were presented as staff will begin to think about the next level of PBIS. Thanks to Gayle Perry-Meleah Brinkoetter-Lisa Mayhall and Susan Maziarz for attending and volunteering for the next step.

Tags of Achievement; (homework incentive program) **Tags of Achievement** (tags) were distributed to qualifying students for the 2nd nine week grading period on Thursday, January 19. Students received a mini tag with a Panther Paw for not having more than 5 late/missing assignments for the nine week grading period. **Congrats** go out to these students who are making an academic difference!

Awards Day Luncheon: Students were recognized on Friday, January 20 for perfect attendance and academic achievement. These students were recognized during lunch and awarded with an 'honor roll' Panther Paw zipper pull.

Box Tops: Jefferson MS is once again enrolled in the Big G Box Tops for Education program for the second semester. Students are encouraged to save the box tops from cereal, Yoplait Yogurt products, Pillsbury, Betty Crocker, Old El Paso and Ziploc. The program will pay 10 cents per qualifying box top and the school benefits from this program. Thanks to **Mrs. Maziarz** for taking care of the box top program.

The Danger-Zone, (Bus Safety): On behalf of Jesse White, Secretary of State, an Intermediate presentation was presented by Ted Randall and Toby Tire on the recipe for school bus safety. An 8 minute video reviewed the Danger Zones on a school bus and the importance of following the rules while riding the bus followed by Toby Tire leading them in a question-answer format. In conclusion, students were encouraged to visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com to play the new, interactive Toby Tire online game.

So Many Exciting- Learning Experiences are Happening at Jefferson MS and the students are generated by their accomplishments:

Biomes: Mrs. Maxedon invited her classes to think about settings in various areas of the world. Students explored the world's biomes and attended to details and differences. They discuss types of animals and how these animals and organisms interact. In conclusion, as a family project, student researched and created a visual display of a biome. Great projects and I applaud the students and families for the detail that went into each of the biomes.

Science Study Session: Mrs. Schutt gave students an opportunity to have a study session from 3-4:15 p.m. on Thursday, January 26 in preparation for a test that was going to be given on Friday, January 27. Dominant-Recessive traits and additional test material was reviewed via the SMART Board with activities in preparation for Friday. Many students took advantage and parents provided transportation for them.

I am anxious for the results and benefit of this study session. **Thanks** to Mrs. Schutt for the giving of her time to assist the students in an effort of success.

100 Days of School: Sixth grade students have been using number graph/decimals/fractions to count the number of school days. Students put the skill to use and celebrated the marking of 100 Days of School with activities that centered on the number 100 and culminating with having an ice cream sundae. **Thanks** to Mrs. Perry for organizing and the staff for assisting in the event...Mr. Schuster does not want a job at any facility that requires scooping ice cream!!

Abraham Presidential Library and Museum: Fifth grade students will have the opportunity to travel to Springfield, IL on Friday, February 10 to visit the Abraham Presidential Library and Museum. During the month of February there is no student charge for students but they were given an opportunity to purchase a school kit. **Thanks** to Mrs. Berner for the planning and fifth grade team for giving our students this experience.

ISAT: An ISAT pre-test was given in reading-math classes and data has been collected with reviewing the weak areas to be addressed as **ISAT** prep begins in the areas of reading and math. Staff members are preparing the students using variety of techniques: **SRA-STUDY ISLAND-ISAT COACH** and many other skills that will assist them in preparation for the March testing dates. **I continue to applaud staff members for doing everything possible to prepare our students.**

Hockey Unit: **Mr. Lipe** is presenting a **hockey unit** in PE class. The students are skill building in a variety of areas from learning to be safe players to keeping their eye on the puck.