



Jones Monthly Update

Growth Mindset - Ways to Help Your Child

- **Talk About It** – Talk with your child about his or her day, but guide the discussion by asking questions like: Did you make a mistake today? What did you learn?, What did you do that was difficult today?
- **Praise the Process** – Instead of saying, “You’re so smart.” praise effort, goals setting, persisting through challenges, or being creative. You can say something like: “Wow! You must have worked really hard on this.”
- **Encourage Failure** – Your child needs to know that failure can (and often does) happen and it is okay. Remind your child that each time they fail and try again, their brain is growing stronger. Don’t step in to prevent your child’s failure – this is how she learns to persevere in the face of challenges.
- **The Brain Can Grow** – Remind your child that his or her intelligence is not fixed. Remind them that when things are difficult, their brain grows if they persist through challenges. Each time they learn something new, their brain is making new connections. Your child needs to know this is possible.
- **Help Them to Change Their Dialogue** – The way you child talks to himself makes a huge impact on his mindset. If he says, “This is too hard.” Help them change that to “I can’t do this yet, but will keep trying.” Give them the words to say when they are feeling defeated by modeling it yourself.

Late Start Wednesday

Our next *Late Start Wednesday* will be Wednesday, December 5. There will be a 30-minute delay in bus arrival that morning. Breakfast will begin at 8:45. Student arrival is at 9:10. The start of the school day is 9:25.

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Morning Drop-Off

We have many parents that drive their children to school each day. As a result, we have vehicles backed up on McCool Rd. When dropping your child off please do it as efficiently as possible. Please drop your child off and continue on. If you would like to watch your child walk into school, please park and walk them up to the building.

Don't limit your challenges. Challenge your limits.

PTO News

Next Meeting - Please join us at our next PTO meeting on December 18 at 3:30PM. We'd love your input. There will be snacks and your children are welcome to attend.

We have discount cards for sale for a discount! Two cards for \$10.00 - these cards expire April 30, 2019. You can purchase them in the office. Save money at businesses throughout our community!

Panera Fund Raiser - Please help support the PTO by eating out at Panera on Thursday, December 13 from 4:00 - 8:00PM. Give the attached flyer to the cashier when you place your order.

Stay Informed! Like & Share the PTO Facebook Page, *PTO at Jones Elementary School*.

The Jones Spell Bowl team competed November 15 at Washington Township School and came in an impressive 5th place. All team members did a great job and Caddick McKee had a "near perfect" round and received special recognition.

Congratulations, Spell Bowl Team. Your school and coaches are very proud of you!



Our school is now 1-1 with devices. This means that each student has a dedicated iPad (grades K - 2) or ChromeBook (grades 3 - 5) for exclusive use during the school day. Your student needs to have a pair of working headphones. Please ask your student if his/her headphones at school are working. If not, inexpensive replacements are available at *Dollar Tree* or *Five Below*. Headphones are recommended for small children because earbuds will not remain in their ears.

Talent Show

Our talent show this year is going to be by audition only . Interested students will need to speak with Mrs. Kentaft to get the audition forms. These forms will include detailed information for parents, audition tips, and parent permission slips.

The parent permission slip must be signed and turned in to Mrs. Kentaft (our K-2 Music teacher) before the student may sign up for an audition time. Audition information and forms will be available starting December 10.

We encourage any student, at any grade level, to come join us and audition. Make sure to pick-up the packet before classes go on Winter Vacation, so you can prepare your material. Deadline for sign-ups is Wednesday January 9.

3rd, 4th and 5th grade auditions will be on Monday, January 14 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM.

K, 1st and 2nd grade auditions will be Wednesday, January 16 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. Students will be notified by January 18 if they have a slot in the talent show on Thursday, February 28. A schedule of rehearsal times will be sent home at that time.

Please remember, if students do not sign up for an audition time they will not be allowed to audition. Posters with more detailed information and tips for auditioning will be posted at school. Any questions can be emailed to lesley.kentaft@portage.k12.in.us.

Donuts with Dads

We would like to thank all of the family members and students who attended our recent event. We had 383 people in attendance on a very snowy morning. We would also like to thank Meijer for donating a gift card which helped us purchase all of the donuts. Moms, we will make sure to recognize you in the spring.

Student Council News

Jones Student Council Food Drive - Your Jones Student Council thanks our school community for your generosity! Close to 3,000 non perishable food items were collected in this year's drive. The NWI Food Bank and Nativity of Our Savior Food Pantry were so grateful for our donations. We helped many, many families in our community have a happy Thanksgiving holiday!

Jones Student Council Sponsoring A "Mitten Tree"!

The Jones Student Council would like to help children in need keep warm this winter! Please consider donating *NEW* winter mittens, hats and new socks of all sizes to decorate our Mitten tree. Donations will be accepted the week of December 10 - 14 and will be given to homeless shelters in the area.

Important Dates

- December 5 Late Start Wednesday
- December 10 thru 14 Student Council Mitten Hat Sock Tree
- December 13 PTO Panera Bread Fund Raiser meeting 4:00 8:00PM
- December 18 PTO Meeting 3:30
- December 24 thru January 4 No School Winter Holiday Break



Silly Safari visit

