



# Jones Monthly Update

## Growth Mindset

Again this year we are going to be talking a lot about having a Growth Mindset. We will work hard to ensure that students understand that their brain is a muscle and with hard work and perseverance, their brain can become stronger. Let's review just exactly what having a growth mindset means.

### What is it?

We used to think that our intelligence was fixed, meaning we were either smart or we weren't. Scientists have proven again and again that simply is not true. Our brain acts like a muscle – the more we use it, the stronger (and smarter) our brain becomes.

### Is your mindset fixed?

A person with a fixed mindset may do these things:

- Avoid challenges
- Give up easily
- Ignore feedback
- Become threatened by other people's success
- Try hard to appear as smart or capable as possible

### What does a growth mindset look like?

A person with a growth mindset may do these things:

- Embrace challenges
- Give their best effort
- Learn from feedback
- Become inspired by other people's successes
- Believe their intelligence can change if they work hard

## eLearning Day

We will be having an eLearning day on Thursday, October 25 due to Parent Teacher Conferences being held that day. Students will need to complete activities on line as they have before. Your child's teacher will be sending home information explaining how to access you child's assignments in the upcoming weeks. All assignments and Parent Verification forms will need to be completed by Tuesday, October 30.

## Late Start Wednesday

Our next *Late Start Wednesday* will be Wednesday, October 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.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

### SAVE THE DATES

Parent Teacher conferences will take place on October 24 from 4:30-7:00, and on October 25 from 8:30-3:00. More information about signing-up for conference times will be sent home on Monday October 1. Watch for your student to bring home a note.

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*Don't count the days; make the days count. Muhammad Ali*

## PTO News

*Next Meeting* - Our next meeting is on Tuesday October 16 at 3:30PM or 5:30PM. *Grandparents' Day* - Please be certain you returned your RSVP for Grandparents' Day on October 8. We are looking forward to making the day special! We are still in need of volunteers. If you are available please let us know. *Class Parties* - A \$5.00 donation is being asked of each student to help with the cost of the parties. If you would like to volunteer at your child's party, be sure you have completed a background check.

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

## Circle the State

Circle the State with Song is a wonderful festival in which the top 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade singers from each school in Northwest Indiana learn 7 songs and perform them on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at Hebron High School in Hebron, Indiana. Beginning in January we will have practices every Saturday morning at different elementary schools in Portage to work on these songs. Your child MUST have all the songs learned and memorized by the day of the festival, so extra practice outside of school is necessary.

There are fees involved in Circle the State for t-shirts, music, and the expert clinician on the day of the festival. If your child is interested in this wonderful experience, Mrs. Duncan will have auditions in the month of October during music class. If your child is chosen, a note will go home with them with all of the information needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact [rebecca.duncan@portage.k12.in.us](mailto:rebecca.duncan@portage.k12.in.us)

## Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day will be on October 8, 2018. AM PreK Grandparents will participate from 9:30 - 11:15. PM PreK Grandparents will participate from 1:00 - 2:45. Grades 3,4,5 Grandparents will participate from 9:00-10:40, Grades K,1, 2 from 1 2:45-2:25. Grandparents can begin check-in no earlier than the time listed. They will be escorted to the gymnasium where their grandchildren will perform a song starting approximately 15 minutes after check-in. They can accompany their grandchildren to their classroom to meet their teachers, visit the cafeteria for a snack, visit the book fair, and get their picture taken. Please send in the RSVP to let us know how many grandparents will be attending so that we are prepared. If you do not have an RSVP, your child may pick one up in the office.

## Class Halloween Parties

All grades will have their Halloween parties on Wednesday, October 31 from 1:45-2:45. All students are invited to bring their costumes to school that day. Please do not color your child's hair, put on face paint, or send in play weapons that may go with their costumes. The students will be parading through the cafeteria beginning at 1:45, and will be returning to their classrooms for a treat provided by the Jones PTO. You are more than welcome to join us in the cafeteria so that you can see your child dressed up. If you plan to take your child with you at 3:05 dismissal, and this is a change to your normal plan, you will need to send a note with your student *in the morning* to notify the office.

## Important Dates

- October 3 Late Start Wednesday
- October 8 Grandparents Day
- October 8 11 Scholastic Book Fair
- October 16 PTO meeting
- October 22 Student Picture Re takes
- October 24 Parent Teacher Conferences
- October 25 eLearning Day
- October 25 Parent Teacher Conferences
- October 31 Class Halloween Parties