

DATES TO REMEMBER:

WED., MAY 4
PTA Mtg. 9:00 a.m.
Open House
6:00—8:00 p.m.

THURS. MAY 5
Student Non-Attendance Day

FRI., MAY 6
Student Non-Attendance Day

WED., MAY 11
Board of Ed. Mtg.
Sundling—7:00 p.m.

School Nurse Appreciation Day

FRI., MAY 13
MJ Family Bingo Night

MAY 16-20
Scholastic Book Fair

WED. MAY 18
Waste Free Lunch

MAY 19 & 20
Moms and Muffins

TUES., MAY 24
Market Day Pick Up

FRI., MAY 27
District 15 Ed. Foundation
Movie-a-Thon

MON., MAY 30
Memorial Day
NO SCHOOL

WED., JUNE 1
Bus Driver Appreciation Day

FRI., JUNE 3
6th Grade Carnival

Marion Jordan School
100 North Harrison St.
Palatine, IL 60067
Office: 847-991-5500
Absentee: 847-963-5501

Interim Principal
Jennifer Grosch

Assistant Principal
David Kerkemeyer

PTA Co-President
Mary Kay Aronson

PTA Co-President
Alison Silver

Editor
Beth Anderson
luddyandbeth@yahoo.com



Jordanaire



MAY 2011

Exciting Activities Still to Come

It's hard to believe the end of the school year will be here in just one month! Now is the time we scramble to sign up our children for summer camps to keep them from chanting "I'M BORED!" We also need to remember the importance of saving time in the family schedule for relaxing, outdoor fun, sleeping in late and summer outings!

Even though the school year is nearly over, the MJ calendar remains full as many exciting end-of-year events are planned for May! The PTA is also "setting the stage" for next year, and we are still in need of many people to step forward to fill committees.

As we all know, these committees cannot go forward without the help of parent volunteers. Please consider teaming up with some of your friends and/or neighbors to take the challenge next year! **We promise you'll have fun doing it.**

The PTA Board and Marion Jordan School will soon say goodbye to some families whose children are "growing" on to junior high. We will truly miss all of you, especially the parents who have spent so many wonderful years serving on our MJ PTA committees and giving of their time and talent! We wish you and your

children all the best in junior high.

Our school has been very busy preparing for Teacher Appreciation days, Family Bingo Night and the Spring Book Fair! The children enjoyed showing how much they appreciate all that the staff here at Marion Jordan does during Teacher Appreciation days. Once again, the Book Fair Committee is hard at work planning the Spring Buy One-Get One-**Free** Book Fair. No doubt we will all be able to find some great books for summertime reading

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Principal's Note

Dear Marion Jordan Families,

Rain, rain, GO AWAY!! I have seen enough rain this month to last me a good long time. Weather like this poses challenges for the students at

school as well. Without their daily recess, a much needed opportunity to stretch their legs and grab a breath of fresh air, it can be challenging to persevere through a rigorous academic day. In spite of the dreary, gray days, I am con-

tinually impressed by all that your students accomplish each day. I hope that you will be able to join your child in celebrating all of his/her successes at our annual Open House on

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Exciting Activities *(Cont. from Page 1)*

during the May 13-20 sale. We can't forget to mention our final PTA sponsored family event of the year.... **FAMILY BINGO NIGHT** on Friday, May 13!! Gather the kids and join us for what's sure to be a fun filled evening!

Remember to save the date May 19 and 20 for Moms & Muffins with your children

at MJ. We anticipate seeing lots of Moms enjoying breakfast with their kids before their busy day begins!

The PTA Board is getting ready to close out the year with our final changeover meeting on Wednesday, May 4 at 9:00 a.m in the resource Center. We will be having a light breakfast

beginning at 9:00 followed by our changeover meeting scheduled for 9:45. At this meeting we will also be installing our new officers for next year. Please consider **joining us**; we would love to have you!

Mary Kay Aronson
Alison Silver
MJ PTA Co-Presidents

Principal's Note *(Cont. from Page 1)*

Wednesday, May 4. Your children have much to be proud of and I am sure they will be thrilled to take the opportunity to show off their accomplishments. Be sure to stop by the multi-purpose room to see the Art Fair. Work inspired by our own Mrs. Swiatowy and created by our very own students will be on display fully matted and framed. You may purchase the matting/frame with your child's artwork in it and take it home with you that evening. Please know that all of the art work is owned by the artist that created it and will be sent home with its creator before the end of the school year in the usual fashion. The presentation is a service offered for you to purchase should you wish to do so. Thursday, May 5th and Friday, May 6th are non-attendance days for stu-

dents. Staff will be present on both days to grow and learn professionally and collaborate with colleagues. We hope you enjoy the extended time with your children at home.

Lights, camera, action! The Marion Jordan Movie-A-Thon will take place on May 27, 2011. This school fundraiser will support the District 15 Educational Foundation, which in turn supports our students with the award of mini-grants to staff. The Movie-A-Thon will also support the purchase of additional SMART-boards for our classrooms. This advanced and engaging technology enhances the wonderful learning opportunities available to our students. We know the kids will enjoy their time at the movies and we thank you in advance for

your support.

As we begin the process of wrapping up this school year and simultaneously begin our planning for next year, I want to thank everyone for their words of welcome as I join the Marion Jordan community on a full-time, permanent basis. I appreciate all of your kind words as well as your ideas and suggestions for future opportunities for the school. Marion Jordan is a wonderful, child centered learning community within which great things are happening. I am honored and proud to join in the capacity of your school principal.

Warmly,
Jennifer Grosch
Interim Principal

May 11 is School Nurse Appreciation Day

National School Nurse Appreciation Day is Wednesday, May 11th. The Marion Jordan PTA will take this opportunity to show our appreciation to our favorite school nurse, Mary Ellen Toriumi. Mary Ellen provides the best care possible to the students at MJ and always has their best interest in mind. I hope you will take the opportunity to have you and your child show their appreciation as well to Nurse T. Cards, pictures, flowers and/or a “thank you” will mean a lot to a very special member of our Marion Jordan staff.

“School Nurses in every community touch the lives of children by addressing their health needs while in school. It is the goal of every School Nurse for children to enter the classroom in optimal health and ready to learn. When children miss school due to illness and other factors they are excluded from the learning process. The presence of a school nurse in the school setting assures the management and attention to health conditions such as: asthma, diabetes, violence, depression, allergies, poor dietary habits, and other current day problems.

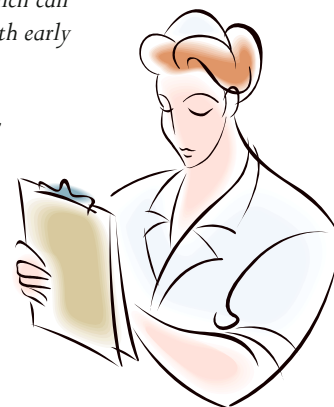
School Nurses also serve on the front

line of defense for identification of vision, hearing and growth abnormalities, communicable disease and mental health conditions, which can be treated more effectively with early intervention.”

– National Association of School Nurses

Thank you, Mary Ellen!

Susan Rogers
Health and Safety



Join Us for Moms & Muffins May 18-19

It is time once again for our Annual Moms & Muffins event on May 19th and May 20th. The MJPTA Dads’ Committee invites all of our MJ moms (or Dads if Mom is unavailable) to enjoy a delicious breakfast of muffins, coffee, juice and milk with your child(ren) and fellow Marion Jordan families.

Families whose last name begins with A-M are invited to join us on Thursday, May 19th from 8:00-8:40am. Families with a last name beginning in N-Z are invited to join us on Friday, May 20th from 8:00-8:40am. If you are unable to attend on your assigned day, please feel free to join us on the alternate day. We ask only that you include this

information with your RSVP to Dave Hotchner by May 13th.

We are looking for a few good men, to help serve breakfast on those mornings. If you are interested, please contact Dave Hotchner at (630) 258-6056 or david_hotchner@hotmail.com or Doug Jayes at (847) 494-6330 or djayes@jayescleaning.

Bus Driver Appreciation Day June 1

On Wednesday, June 1 the Marion Jordan PTA will be recognizing our bus drivers and showing our appreciation for getting our children to and from school safely. Please join us in showing your own appreciation for your bus driver. You could suggest your child draw them a picture or write them a note, pick them flowers from your garden, or bake them goodies. Small gestures such as these go such a long way.



Stock up on
summer
reading at
the spring
Book Fair!
All books are
Buy One,
Get One
FREE!

Book Fair Carnival May 16-20

Step Into Summer Savings at Scholastic's Spring Book Fair Carnival!

We are very excited to once again be running our spring Buy-One-Get-One-Free Scholastic Book Fair. This is **NOT** a fundraiser! We are passing our book fair profits along to you, our families, in the form of savings on the great selection of titles available from Scholastic books.

Take advantage of the Spectacular **BUY-ONE-GET-ONE-FREE** opportunity to load up on summer reading and maintain your student's reading fluency. Research shows that reading just four to six books during the summer can keep kids from backsliding before school resumes in the fall.

Our theme this season is "**Book Fair Carnival**". Stop in between May 16th and May 20th between the hours of 8:00 am and 3:30 pm to see what is available. The book fair will also be open the hour prior to our "Bingo Night" family event on May 13th and during "Moms & Muffins" on May 19th and May 20th.

Your child's class will be visiting our Scholastic Book Fair on either May 16th or May 17th. Each student will complete a "Student Wish List". Adult volunteers will be on hand to help the younger students. We are asking families to:

- Spend some time with your child(ren) looking at their "Wish List(s)".

- Visit our Fair to make your selections in person, or complete the Wish List order form and send it back to school.

Build Better Classroom Libraries

Teachers will also be filling out their own "Wish Lists". Many parents find this a good opportunity to help the teacher add books to their classroom shelves, or save the books for end-of-the-year gifts. Whatever you choose, the teachers appreciate all that you do!

**Book Fair Carnival
YOUR TICKET
TO READ!**

Book Fair Volunteers Needed

Please help us make our Spring Carnival Scholastic Book Fair a success! We will be setting up the Book Fair on Friday, May 13th between 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you could give us a hand for an hour or two we would greatly appreciate it!

During the sale, two hour shifts run Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m.

and 3:30 p.m. We are happy to coordinate your hours with your child's class preview schedule.

Finally, we will need the help of a couple of volunteer "carnival barkers" before "Bingo Night" on Friday, May 13th and during "Moms & Muffins" on Thursday, May 19th and Friday, May 20th.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kelly Reynolds at 847-359-0464 or tomkellyreynolds@aol.com. As always, thank you for your generous support.



MJ is Reading for the World Record this Summer

Research shows that children who read four or more books over the summer can avoid learning losses and perform better on reading comprehension tests in the fall. That's why Scholastic is working with Marion Jordan to make reading a fun summer activity with the Read for the World Record Challenge.

In conjunction with our May Book Fair, MJ students will be invited to join the team of kids from across the country attempting to set a summer reading world record. The world record attempt begins May 1 and concludes August 31, 2009. The top 20 schools with the most minutes read will be featured in the *2012 Scholastic Book*

of World Records.

Students will receive Read for the World Record instructions, plus a personal reading log at the May Book Fair. Here are a few simple ways to coach your child to become a record-breaking reader:

- Go over the booklist with your child and talk about books she/he might enjoy.
- Visit the Book Fair with your child and check out his/her teacher's summer reading recommendations.
- Encourage reading throughout the summer with library visits, story time at home, and conversations about books. Let your

child see YOU reading.

• **Visit the Scholastic Summer Challenge website:** www.scholastic.com/summer to learn how to get started. It's a kid-friendly, safe, online community where students can join a record-setting team, log reading minutes, and enjoy games and activities geared for all ages.

We encourage you and your family to participate in the Read for the World Record Challenge and make reading a big part of your summer fun this year!

Alison Silver
Book Fair Committee

MJ Students are encouraged to "Read for the World Record" this summer. Instructions will be passed out at the spring Book Fair.

Annual ATEN Recycling Drive May 20

John G. Conyers Learning Academy will hold its eighth annual Assistive Technology Exchange Network (ATEN) computer electronics and durable medical equipment recycling drive on **Friday, May 20**, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the east parking lot of the school, which is located at 2800 Central Road, Rolling Meadows.

ATEN is a program of United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Chicago. Its mission is to increase access to computers and assistive technology for students with disabilities throughout the state of Illinois. This year's event offers two ways for residents to

participate and support children and adults with disabilities.

Donate used computer electronics—PC Pentium or higher, Apple G3 or higher, printers, keyboards, computer mice, monitors, modems, hard drives, 3.5 disk drives, CD-ROM drives, software (originals only), peripherals, power cords and cables, fax machines, and cell phones. (Televisions will not be accepted.)

Donate used, durable medical equipment—canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, standers, and therapeutic equipment.

Over the years, this student-driven recycling event has yielded more than 75 tons of computer and medical-related equipment that has been recycled or refurbished to benefit children and adults with disabilities. would educationally benefit from the use of a computer. All donations are tax deductible.

For additional information, contact Don Sommerville, school social worker, at 847-963-3427 or sommervd@ccsd15.net. Companies with a large number of computers to recycle can call for a pick up.

New Principal Named at Sundling

Community Consolidated School District 15 has announced that Jason Dietz, principal at Edgewood Middle School in Highland Park, will serve as principal at Walter R. Sundling Junior High next year.

Mr. Dietz has been the principal at Edgewood Middle School for the past two years. Prior to that, he served as associate principal at Thomas Middle School in

Arlington Heights for three years, and as the assistant principal at Fremont Middle School in Mundelein for two years. He began his career in education at Fremont Middle School in 1998, serving as a fourth-grade teacher for three years, then as a sixth-grade social studies and science teacher for three years before accepting the school's assistant principal position.

Mr. Dietz holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from National Louis University, and a master's degree in general administration from Northern Illinois University. His appointment is effective July 1, 2011.

For more information, contact Deputy Superintendent Jim Garwood at 847-963-3202 or garwoodj@ccsd15.net.

Board Seats New Members

The District 15 Board of Education seated three new members and elected new officers during its April 27 special and organizational meetings.

Robert Ingraffia, executive director of the North Cook Intermediate Services Center, administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Board members Manjula

Sriram, Scott Herr, and Gerard Iannuzzelli. Once seated, the new Board elected new officers for the upcoming year, voted to appoint Timothy Millar to serve as President of the Board of Education, Scott Herr to serve as Vice President, and Peggy Babcock to serve as Secretary.

Before the Board reor-

ganized, Superintendent Scott Thompson presented plaques to outgoing Board members Gerald D. Chapman, James G. Ekeberg, and Sue Quinn in recognition of their contributions to the District. Mr. Thompson also recognized former Board member Mark J. Bloom, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Stock Up on MANNA Cards Now!

The **final two deadlines to purchase Manna Gift Cards** are **Friday, May 13th** for distribution on May 17th, and **Friday, May 27th** for distribution on May 31st.

Don't miss this opportunity

to purchase gift cards for graduation gifts, first communion gifts, wedding presents, Father's Day gifts, coach gifts and your other summer activities. The convenience of having these cards in your wallet or glove compartment is wonderful!

Please make checks payable to MJ PTA. See the attached order form in this newsletter.

Deb Rudman
Manna Coordinator



Online School Supply Sale Starts Soon!

When it comes to buying school supplies are you tired of . . .

- Long lines?
- Hard to find supplies?
- Empty shelves?
- Unnecessary impulse buys?
- Multiple trips to the store?

Marion Jordan has arranged a hassle-free program for those parents that want a little extra time for themselves and their

children this summer. School-Pak, Inc. will provide pre-packaged school supplies for MJ students with online ordering and delivery direct to your home so you can be sure that your supplies will be there when you need them.

With School-Pak, you can enjoy

- Name brand items
- One stop shopping
- Exact items requested

- Competitive pricing

The PTA will NOT make a profit on any purchases you make. We are offering this service strictly as a convenience to our families. Look for additional ordering details in our email reminders in the coming weeks.

Laurie Wood
Back to School Committee

**School-Pak
ordering
information
will be sent via
PTA email
reminders
soon.**

2011-12 Reflections Program

Summer is almost here! For those that like to draw, dance, play an instrument or take photographs in your spare time, why not use the summer break to start working on your entry for next year's PTA Reflection Program. Interested students can start work on the 2011-2012 theme "Diversity means..." during the up and coming summer break.

With such a great, wide open theme, ideas can be expressed limitlessly throughout the cate-

gories. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 at Marion Jordan can submit entries in the following categories:

- Film/video production
- Dance choreography
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts
- Literature

Enjoy your summer vacation, but don't forget the inner artist in you. Start snapping shots, composing music, or drawing

what you think expresses "Diversity means..." to you.

Complete rules, entry forms and additional details will generally reflect the requirements from 2010-2011. PLEASE NOTE: updated documents will not be available in until fall, therefore keep in mind rules are subject to change from those posted in 2010-2011.

Molly Plizga
Reflections Committee

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Last Day of School is June 9

The last day of school for the 2010-11 school year in Community Consolidated School District 15 was approved by the Board of Education at its April 13 meeting.

The last day of school will now be Thursday, June 9, and it will be a half-day of classes for first through seventh grades. The last day for Kindergartners will be Wednesday, June 8.

KUDOS — Mini-Courses Thanks You!

The 2011 season of Mini-courses has now ended. With 250+ children registering for 30 classes over eight weeks, there was something for everyone. We continued to have some old favorites and our most popular additions from last year, just more of them. We also implemented the sticker reminders in the assignment notebook which really helped everyone: students, parents & teachers. All were a success.

A big "Thank You" goes out to all our volunteers — the classes would not happen without them: **Mary Kay Aronson, Kim Ault, Bob Burk, Steve Cox, Josey Crescio, Susan Erickson, Reta Evenson, Deanna Hotchner, Doug Jayes, Rose Jusi, Nancy Kaye, Marie**

Kuechel, Sandy Mitchell, Robin Murauskis, Julie O'Hara, Jeff Perkins, Molly Pligza, Julie Pope, Liz Pusch, Kelly Reynolds, Kathleen Robar, Sudha Saxena, Dawn Schmidt, Carolina Schroll, Linda Seitz, Alison Silver, and Laurie Wood. We hope all of you come back and do it again next year!

We would also like to thank our outside vendors (Lisa Gomez with The Dance Project, Jan Wood with JP Wood Martial Arts, Ron Gad with the Hoffman Estates Police Department, and our Police Dogs from the Palatine Police Department) who contributed their time to teaching our children. **Karen Roiland, Mr. Normann** and the lunch staff for

the additional tables at lunch, all the teachers who thoughtfully reminded our children of their classes, and **Mrs. Swiatowy and Mr. Duffy** for the use of their rooms.

It was truly a pleasure working with everyone these past two years and we look forward to passing all our knowledge and notebook to the next co-chairs!!

Debbie Cox
Kathy Menis
Mini-Courses Co-Chairs

