



Jeffrey Trail Middle School—Monthly Newsletter

Happy New Year!! We are ready to get 2017 started off with a BANG here at JTMS!! This month we have a number of great activities to both engage and celebrate our students. Our lunch time Flag Football Tournament will be concluding next week, then we will begin our Advisement Capture the Flag Tournament. Other great activities this month include a cookie decorating activity, chili cook-off, a special soup and sandwich lunch, the WINGS recognition lunch and the introduction of Friday lunchtime music. Our aim is to provide opportunities for all students to become engaged both in and out of the classroom during their time with us. Below are updates of our most active academic organizations that meet both on and off campus throughout the year.

- ◇ Science Olympiad participated in its first Invitational on December 7, at Ladera Vista Middle School. We had 30 students participating on two teams earning first and third place overall. Our team also received 54 individual medals in the competition.
- ◇ Math Counts is in the process of determining which of our 30 member team will represent JTMS in a February competition to be held at UCI.
- ◇ The Speech and Debate Team competed in its first tournament of the year at Buena Park Junior High School in December. Every competitor won at least one round of debate with one team finishing 12th out of 124 teams.

Mark your calendar!

- Jan. 6** **Make-up ID Card Photo Day**
- Jan. 10** **Spelling Bee (Library 5:30)**
- Jan. 16** **No School (MLK Day)**
- Jan. 17** **Parent Education Night (MPR 6:30)**
- Jan. 19** **Soup and Sandwich Lunch**
- Jan. 20** **Progress Report Cards posted**
- Jan. 31** **PTSA Meeting (MPR 12:30)**

“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.”
- Franklin D. Roosevelt

R.A.P. (Report from the Assistant Principal)

Happy New Year! As we enjoy this journey through the school year, we have a couple tips to continue to keep all of our students at Jeffrey Trail safe and happy: As part of your W.I.N.G.S. program, we want to respect each other and the school. This may look like picking up our trash at lunch to maintain a beautiful campus, touching or picking up only the food items we intend to purchase in the lunch line, being kind and courteous in hallways, slowing down and waiting to enter doorways, and keeping our hands and feet to ourselves. Please talk with your student about these positive school behaviors.

Sights and Sounds

Check out our new bike rack! You probably actually can't see it as it is behind the existing bike enclosure, but we have a new 50 bike capacity rack thanks to our PTSA! You should no longer see bikes parked in random spots around the front of school.

Looking Forward

Due to an oversight in our school calendar, it has been discovered that we had only accounted for 179 days of instruction. State law mandates that each student attend school for 180 days. To account for this discrepancy, **February 17 will be added as a minimum day.** We apologize for any disruption to family plans that this may create, we hope that the notice is soon enough to minimize any negative impacts on student and family schedules.

Counselor Corner

Hello JTMS Parents! Attached are some good resources from the Irvine Family Resource Center (IRFC) to help with positive technology use and digital citizenship.

[Family Agreements: Elementary](#)

[Family Agreements: Middle School](#)

[Family Agreements: High School](#)