



James Madison Primary  
Sept. 2010 Edition

## Welcome Back!

Welcome to the James Madison Primary (JMP) School! We hope that your experience at the school will be memorable, enjoyable and rewarding.

The Homework Folder is a welcome gift from the JMP PTO for each of our students. The Daily Planner is a welcome gift for our second graders. This will help them organize their incoming/outgoing assignments and notices.

Please take time to read all of the enclosed papers and return any forms required as soon as possible. Please note the following forms in the welcome packet:

1. PTO membership
2. Opt Out
3. Birthday Wishes Sign
4. JMP directory/Schedule of Events
5. Google Group E-mail sign-up

-Jennifer Decker and Cindy Bonito  
JMP PTO Co-Presidents

## Parking Lot Safety

Please be **extra cautious** at drop-off and pick-up time in the parking lot. If everyone takes it **slow** and is **courteous** enough to let one person merge when necessary we can avoid many potential accidents and injuries to our children.

It is also very important to note that, for security reasons, all exterior entrances to the school are locked promptly at 9:00am. Therefore, if you arrive at 9:00 or later you **cannot** use the drop-off lane. You **must** park and escort your child to the office for sign-in. Think of how frightening it would be for your child to realize he/she has been locked out of the building.

## School Spirit Days

Friday is School Spirit Day at JMP. The PTO sells active wear bearing the JMP logo with our school colors navy and white. You will receive an order form in your child's folder shortly. Samples will be available to look at and some inventory will be available for purchase at [Back-to-School night on Sept. 21](#) so bring along your checkbook or cash!

## BOX TOPS

We hope that you have been diligently saving Box Tops for our school over the summer. Please enlist the help of neighbors, friends and family to collect as many box tops as you can. Box Tops are a great way to give back to your school at no cost to you. When you shop online, please check out the Box Tops market place (<http://www.boxtops4education.com>).

## JMP PTO

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) coordinates many enrichment programs, raises funds for supplemental educational materials and experiences, and supports school and social interaction.

The Edison school district's budget is focused primarily on instructional expenses. Therefore, funding is generally not available for additional activities. As a result, to benefit our school children, the JMP PTO conducts fundraisers to sponsor these additional activities.

The mission of the JMP PTO is to promote open communication and understanding among parents and staff of JMP school. Our purpose is to enhance and maximize the education of every child while aiding them in achieving their highest potential.

But as you can imagine, to achieve these goals we need **active** participation. We need monetary donations and most importantly donations of your time. When parents get involved in their children's education, grades go up, children feel positive about themselves and they become better socially developed.

Volunteering doesn't mean a huge time commitment. Whatever your time schedule and interests we have a need of you!

## What Does the PTO Do?

Coordinate educational experiences as the Summer Reading Program and various assemblies.

Provide funding for student-centered activities, such as class trips, Field Day, and Pumpkin Patch.

Provide gifts to school such as supplemental classroom books and games, recess equipment, Welcome Packet planners/folders, and other school equipment.

Bring the JMP community together with our evening family events such as Fun Nights, Bingo Night, Movie Night, Restaurant Nights and Theatre Week.

Help to promote cultural awareness through our Diwali, Lunar New Year and Thanksgiving Feast events.

Provide opportunities for the students to learn about purchasing products and giving to others such as Book Fair, Holiday Boutique, and Plant Sale.

Coordinate Teacher Appreciation week to recognize the dedication of our teachers and staff.

## PTO Meetings

PTO meetings are generally the second Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in the JMP library. We welcome you to attend. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions, comments, suggestions or concerns. Our e-mail address is [jmppto@gmail.com](mailto:jmppto@gmail.com).

### **Payments**

When sending in payments for any of our fundraisers or events, please put your payment in a sealed envelope with your child's and teacher's name. If you are returning a form with a payment, please staple your envelope to the form or enclose the form in the envelope. Please do not use paper clips.

### **Giveback with Target**

You do your regular shopping and the PTO gets a donation, how easy is that? If you use your Target credit card to shop at Target anyway than why not take advantage of the super givebacks for our school!

For Target, just visit [www.Target.com/tcoe](http://www.Target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate JMP number 72692 as your school and Target will donate 1% of every REDcard credit card purchase at Target to our school.

### **GOOGLE GROUP**

The Google e-mail group is a great way to be informed of JMP school and PTO events. Sign up at [www.jmpschoo.com/PTO](http://www.jmpschoo.com/PTO).

Sept. 7 - First Day of Kindergarten  
Sept. 13- Summer Reading logs due  
Sept. 21st - Back to School Night  
Sept. 29- Family Social  
Oct. 14- PTO meeting 7:30pm

### **Summer Reading Program**

As you are aware, the PTO sponsored a Summer Reading program in June 2010. Please have your child bring in the Summer Reading program logs to their teacher by Sept. 13, 2010. All reading logs must be signed by the parent and the name of the child must be printed clearly.

A prize will be awarded to each child who reads 10 books during the summer. In addition, there will be a raffle for a \$15 Scholastic Book Fair gift certificate for those children who read 20 books or more. One gift certificate will be awarded for three students in each grade level (grades 1 and 2).

### **2010-11 PTO Executive Board**

Introducing the JMP PTO Executive Board Members!

**Co-President - Jennifer Decker**  
**Co-President - Cindy Bonito**  
**Vice-President 1 - Suzanne D'Amato**  
**Vice-President 2 - Ami Parikh**  
**Vice-President 3 - Swati Sadarjoshi**  
**Treasurer - Maureen Sattan**  
**Recording Secretary - Oruj Qureshi**  
**Corresponding Secretary - Bhairavi Kanakia**

Thank you in advance for your upcoming year of service to our school and our kids!

### **Newsletter Ads**

Please patronize the businesses who advertised in the JMP Primary Press. For more information, please email [jmppto@gmail.com](mailto:jmppto@gmail.com) Attention-Newsletter. Rates are:

\$50 for Half-page ad  
\$25 for Quarter-page ad  
\$10 for Business card sized ad