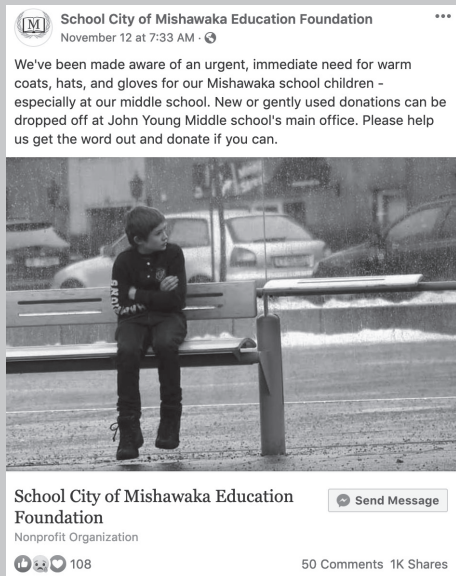




## Jaguar Pride Newsletter

December 2019/January 2020

# Mishawaka Community Shares the Warmth!



The power of social media, news media, and a giving community.

November has seen record cold weather already and our JYMS counselors quickly that they had been handing out coats at a much quicker pace this year than expected.

A brief mention to Jane Wright, the Executive Director of the Mishawaka Education Foundation led to a Facebook Post. Twenty-four hours after the MEF's post there were already 12,000 likes.

Calls for sizes most in need started to come in and donations of jackets of all sizes, hats, gloves, and even some brand new boots started Wednesday and have been steady ever since. Many donations have been from community members who do not have students in our school system.

Whatever sizes we do not have a need for here at JYMS will be shared with the additional eight schools in our district. Nothing will be wasted.

Thank you to the Mishawaka Community for sharing your warmth with our students.



**John J. Young Middle School**

1801 North Main Street • Mishawaka, IN 46545  
574.254.3600 MishawakaSchools.com



## Office Staff is Here to Help

### Office Contacts:

Kelly Kincses, Principals Secretary	254-3600
Jennifer Addison, Attendance Secretary	254-4926
Norma Bauernfeind, Student Services Secretary	254-3616
Attendance Line (voicemail only)	254-3615
Becky Stayton, Nurse	254-3602
Cherie Smith, Counselor (7th grade)	254-3618
Laurie Schalliol, Counselor (8th grade)	254-3617

## Social Media

Please "like" our Facebook page for current events, last minute updates, and positive things happening at JYMS.



John Young Middle School



#scmjohnyoung

Visit us on our website at [MishawakaSchools.com/jyms](http://MishawakaSchools.com/jyms)

Dear Jaguar Community,

November snow made it feel like winter break should have been here already, but WINTER BREAK will start on December 21st. The semester ends Friday, December 20th.

Our 7th graders are adjusting well to middle school. Many students are taking advantage of what middle school has to offer. Students have begun to discover their talents in drama, music, academics, WAKA, intramural clubs and athletics. If your child is not involved in some activity, please encourage him/her to do so. Trying new activities and learning activities by putting yourself out there is a large part of the middle school experience.

The 8th grade class will begin their last middle school semester before high school. Parents, please stress to your students how this semester can be critical for opportunities in high school. Performance in the classroom and ILearn can dictate classes for students 9th grade year. Throughout January our 8th grade class will work with the Mishawaka High School transition team. Students will be introduced to high school graduation requirements, elective classes and our Early College Program. Parents will have an opportunity to learn about these items when Mishawaka High School will host their Parent Night January 16th. Please save the date!

As both our 7th and 8th grade students are exposed to many learning opportunities, we try to incorporate our positive behavior with our school motto "JAGUARS ROCK":

**R**espectful  
**O**n Time  
**C**are for Others  
**K**eep Engaged

Currently, we are near the end of our "ROCK CHALLENGE" competition amongst hallways. Our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) team has been monitoring weekly progress in Attendance, Work Completion, and Behavior. The winning hall will be rewarded with pizza and a movie on December 20 (including a prize drawing for students). This challenge has promoted improvement in all three categories for JYMS! Great job students! Keep it up and finish strong! Good luck the rest of the way!

I would like to leave you with one other important reminder about drop-off and pick-up times. JYMS does not open until 7:40 am for those eating breakfast, otherwise, students may enter at 8:00 am. Students are also required to be off school campus by 3:30 pm unless they are in a supervised activity. We do not have supervision before 7:40 am or after 3:30 pm for students, so please have rides in place for your child. We do not want your child to have to wait outside before or after school during the cold winter season.

Go Jaguars!

Mike Fisher, Principal

# 100 HALL

## Coming Up:

**English:** We will be learning about literary elements in fiction as well as non-fiction and working on an Independent Reading project.

**Math:** In math, students will be learning about slope and slope-intercept form before winter break. After the holidays, the 100 hall students will work on rational vs. irrational numbers before transitioning into our unit on geometry.

**Science:** We will have finished the structure of an atom right before Thanksgiving break. We discussed states of matter and how Thermal Energy is what determines the state of matter, by causing the atoms and molecules to change the way they move.

December and January, we will be working on learning the rock cycle and identifying different types of rocks. We will learn different properties and how one rock, over a long time, can transform into a different type of rock!

**Social Studies:** Gen Ed is focusing on geography and the variances of continents and countries within.

Honors is continuing with NHD research and will be beginning NHD projects soon.

**Health/P.E:** Skating unit

**7th Rotation (Construction):** Safety procedures.

Please visit our Facebook page - JYMS 100 Hall

# 200 HALL

Parents should now have access to Skyward (our gradebook) where you can see details about each assignment in all classes. Many classes use Google Classroom, please contact your student's teacher in order to gain access to this resource. Also if we do not have a current email address, please notify the office with this information so that you will receive report cards and other important information.

**Math:** Students are developing their understanding of negative numbers by modeling integer addition and subtraction on a number line, and then extending this knowledge to include multiplying and dividing integers as well as simplifying and solving equations/inequalities. These skills will be relied upon heavily in future math courses. We will also deepen their understanding by talking about ways negative numbers are used in everyday life (banking/finance, temperature, elevation etc).

**Science:** The students are learning the metric system and practicing using it to measure length, mass, and volume. Students are also working to learn the steps to the Scientific Method and how to problem solve like a scientist.

**Healthy Lifestyles:** Beginning on November 4th, 2019 our Physical Education classes will be participating in an in-house skating program. The skates will be delivered directly to the school. Due to insurance purposes, we will be exclusively using Skate-Time's skates. Students cannot bring skates from home for this unit.

**Social Studies:** Students are learning about the basics of Geography. We started looking at what Geographers do and the tools they use. The class then moved on to the Physical world and the way in which the earth came to be, the forces upon it. We will wrap up by discussing the land and water. We will then delve into the human world, looking at population, culture and economies including the religions of the world. During this time, we discuss the formation and the development of religion over time. This is not an attempt to influence, persuade, or in any way change your child's belief in religion, but rather an attempt to see the cause of conflict between cultures in the world.

**English:** We have all received a new textbook for this year, and the kids get to write on, and annotate it! Pretty soon, we will be diving in, and they will be responsible for the book and the work that goes along with it. The students have learned skills such as vocabulary, misplaced modifiers, comma usage.,

**TCU Lab:** Our focus continues to be employability skills (being responsible, working with others, being respectful, being on time, handling materials appropriately, etc.). This makes up 50% of our overall grade. Remember that this is a 12-week rotation, so our last day off the lab will be November 1st.



# 300 HALL

Hall students have been working hard on the Rock Climb Challenge, as well as hallway incentives to improve our attendance, keep students on time for class, and get assignments in on time. Students who have made this their focus have been able to participate in "Popcorn and a Movie", as well as other various hallway incentive activities. We have also enjoyed recognizing students doing the right thing by handing out pebbles to be spent in the JYMS store, as well as Star Student awards. We are proud of our 300 Hall students for their hard work.

**English:** We are currently writing informational essays. The essays are on topics that each student chose for themselves. They will complete research and learn to properly cite. We are also beginning to read *The Outsiders*. We will have a number of ongoing reading assessments while reading the novel. We have completed our first Airways test, to further align with state standards, and will have another two this marking period.

**Healthy Lifestyles:** Students have just concluded learning about The Skeletal/ Muscular Systems. They have also learned the importance of keeping those systems in great shape through physical fitness. Many of our students have enjoyed getting acquainted with our new JYMS Fitness Room and learning proper techniques that will contribute toward life-long fitness. Students are also participating in a Roller Skating Unit, where they are learning to skate for the first time, or are improving their current roller skating skills as a great life-long fitness activity

**Social Studies:** Students are currently learning about the Middle Ages around the world from the Black Death in Europe to the samurai of medieval Japan. Next, we'll be moving towards colonization and imperialism.

**Math:** The students will be working on Integers and Equations for the month of December. After the break, we will be working on percent and Geometry. Please continue to encourage your students not to give up if they hit a snag with their homework. We are taking notes in class and there will be an example of how to do most of the problem. Students need to get into the practice of using their resources like their notes. The students will be having homework 2 to 3 nights a week.

**Science:** We have started a new unit which is an introduction to Chemistry. We are starting with States of Matter (solid, liquid and gas), then doing the Law of Conservation of Mass and followed by Atoms, Elements, and Molecules. Check my canvas page for the last assignments and see how to do them. The final quiz for the Basics of Chemistry will be before Thanksgiving break. After Thanksgiving, we will be doing our Rocks and Minerals units. After Christmas break, we will move into Plate Tectonics.

**Construction:** Students are learning construction safety, how to use tools properly, and how the manufacturing process works.



# 400 HALL

**English with Mrs. Kowalewski:** [kowalewskij@mishawaka.k12.in.us](mailto:kowalewskij@mishawaka.k12.in.us)  
In the months of December and January, students will be reading their second book of the year, *Life of Pi*. This is the first year this book is being taught at JYMS, the students and I are very excited! Before reading a book we always research the relevant cultural, historical, and social background information to help us better understand the characters, plot, and theme throughout the book.

As we read we will be analyzing essential questions for comprehension. We will also be analyzing character development for all main characters, as well as learning new vocabulary. *Life of Pi* is an incredible story of survival, perception, and coming

of age. It is a story that is sure to stay with these students for the rest of their lives.

**Math with Mr. Kreinbrink:** [kreinbrinks@mishawaka.k12.in.us](mailto:kreinbrinks@mishawaka.k12.in.us)

**Applied Math with Mrs. Price:** [pricea@mishawaka.k12.in.us](mailto:pricea@mishawaka.k12.in.us)  
We are working on solving equations and inequalities in math class. Our next unit will be functions and slope!

These skills will carry over with the students as we deepen our knowledge of algebraic thinking. The time and effort students put forth this year will make their first year of high school a much smoother transition for them.

**Science with Miss Richard:** [richardc@mishawaka.k12.in.us](mailto:richardc@mishawaka.k12.in.us)  
In Science we've been talking about the structure of atoms

and the organization of The Periodic Table. We will wrap up the first semester with an introduction to chemical reactions and being sure students have their first 100 vocab cards made! In January we will jump into our Life Science unit where students will learn about reproduction and the passing of genes from one generation to the next. Expect questions from your students about their family history during this time!

**Social Studies with Mr. Stoner:** stoners@mishawaka.k12.in.us  
In my 8th Grade U.S. History class we are going to be studying the American Revolution and the aftereffects it add on the citizens in the United States. We will be doing a combined class centers project with Mr. Zbrzezny's class over different aspects of the American Revolution in the library. So far the school year in Social Studies has had a great time. Can not wait for continue fun with our nation's history.

**Healthy Lifestyles with Mr. Calderone:**

calderonejo@mishawaka.k12.in.us

We are bringing roller skating to JYMS. Students will be learning the basics of this leisure activity that is slowly being forgotten

about. For safety, students must wear the provided wrist guards and knee pads. Students that failed to return permission slips and/or money will be given an alternative assignment while we get through this unit. Upon our return to Health we will be learning about drug awareness and educating the students on the different types and effects of each drug. We also will discuss teen drug addiction, peer pressure, and refusal skills. We will end the grading period with a project over our drug unit, which in years past have turned out fantastic.

**Art with Mrs. Anderson:** andersond@mishawaka.k12.in.us

The 400 Hall has just started in Art classes where they are learning drawing essentials such as using value, shading, and texture to create the illusion of form. They have been drawing for fifteen minutes every day in order to develop skills, and are currently doing Trompe l'oeil illusion drawings. Prior to this, students wrote a story idea including characters, setting, and plot and created a book cover to illustrate their story. This was part of learning that art is a visual language and artists use the elements and principles in order to effectively communicate.

# 500 HALL

Congratulations to our Fall Sports teams for such a successful season. Our Cheer Squad won the Big 11 competition for the first time in the history of John Young Middle School! Congratulations to the following 500 hall cheerleaders: Briella Buchmann, Lilly Deeds, Sophia Hoover, Mariah Juarez, and Arreanna Standridge. We are now in the midst of Winter Sports. Good Luck to our Basketball Players, Wrestlers, and Cheerleaders. Go Jags!!

500 hall will be hosting the Indiana State Police Youth Education Program on December 10. The program is to educate students about the dangers of internet surfing. They will also discuss the dangers of social media and cyber security. We are thankful for Mr. Buras who set this up for us. .

**Family & Consumer Sciences:** students will be exploring many different areas of the FACS standards. We have been working on our sewing projects and will soon be heading into the kitchens to prepare some food products. We have been learning the proper techniques for measuring, the proper names for kitchen equipment, and learning about the verbs or actions within recipes. Other areas of exploration will include nutrients, care of clothing, and maintaining living space. Please consider engaging your students in conversation about these topics and have them practice some of their skills at home.

**Health & PE:** We are currently in our roller skating unit. This is the second year that we have had skating in our curriculum and the students seem to really enjoy it! It is a great activity that all students can participate in regardless of their skating abilities. Students are learning to skate backwards, complete a cross-over turn, and become comfortable changing levels and speed on the skates. In the Health classroom we will be working on drug awareness and conflict resolution, as well as decision-making skills to improve one's health

**English:** We have learned how to write strong thesis statements that will help our students write clear, concise essays. We have also completed at least one novel study that I hope the classes enjoyed reading. During the second semester, we will begin a Hero Unit and also work on how to write an Argumentative Essay.

**Social Studies:** Students can always retake a test to get a better score. Test retakes are offered every day the following week. Retakes are ONLY offered after school. The highest test score is the score put in the gradebook. (If they scored better the 1st time that score stays) The only thing this cost students is their time to retake the test; they have nothing to lose!

Please check our website: <http://bit.ly/JYMS500HALL> for the latest updates on team activities.



## 500 Hall

Students enjoying the Skate Unit in PE

# 600 HALL

**English:** We are moving beyond the basics! We are underway in a novel study of a historical fiction novel, *Chains*, in Honors English and writing our informative essay. Soon, we will be reading *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* in a flipped classroom style where the students teach each other. In general English, we finished our informative outline and are in a coming of age unit and have just started our novel, *Divergent*. It has been a blast!

**Math:** Pre-Algebra and Algebra classes are getting into Functions, Slope and Slope Intercept Form. The goal is for them to be able to effectively connect and apply all of the attributes of linear functions and equations when solving real world problems.

**Social Studies:** In our Social Studies class, we will be covering the American Revolution and the founding of America. We will go into depth on the Battle of Lexington that kickstarted the Revolution and eventually delving into the changes our country went through post-Declaration of Independence. This topic greatly coincides with *Chains*, the novel that students in honors English read.

**Science:** We have been very busy in science class in the 600 hall! We have done element presentations and even hung a periodic table from the ceiling! Each student was given an element and had to create their own squares. Moving forward we are going to be finishing chemistry. Then after winter break we will start looking at DNA.

**Health/PE:** We are currently in our skating unit for PE. We will be switching back to health on the 25th. When we switch back to health, we will begin our drug, alcohol, tobacco unit.

**TCU Lab:** Our second year of TCU Lab has us continuing our successes from last year, and improving even more. The students have done a great job getting going on their own

innovative ideas. Our focus in the lab continues to be employability skills (being responsible, working with others, being respectful, being on time, handling materials appropriately, etc.). This makes up 50% of our overall grade. Remember that this is a 12-week rotation, so our last day of lab will be February 21st.

**FAPA:** L.A. Drama— Mrs. Nevorski

We have finished their Radio Drama Suspense Series that included three episodes and two commercials. Students created properly formatted scripts making them officially become playwrights. Students performed each episode and commercial in front of their peers, Administrators, and Hall Teachers.

We continue to enjoy Stage Days with learning games (that meet our standards) and find ways to make our vocabulary come to life.

We began our Musical Theatre Unit on November 20.







## Practical Skills

Students in Mrs. Barker's class are working with Junior Achievement. Once a week for six weeks students are learning about financial literacy, resume building, and employability skills with volunteers from the community. Each volunteer is a professional in the business world. This program will begin second semester in Ms. Crowell's classroom.

## Delta Math

Mrs. Nickerson's students have been working on evaluating Algebraic Expressions. The students have done very well this year so far. Next week they will be starting combining like terms.



## Music

Students in Music Studio have been finding their rhythm through many online activities and through bucket drumming! The students watched a documentary about the original "Chicago Bucket Boys" and why they bucket drum. Up next, the students in Music Studio will complete a composer research project, and play guitar and piano!

## 21st Century Scholars

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents:**  
Your children may be eligible for a college scholarship

Indiana's 21st Century Scholars program offers income-eligible Hoosier students up to four years of paid tuition at an eligible Indiana college or university after they graduate from high school, dependent upon financial need. In middle and high school, Scholars are connected to programs and resources to help them stay on track for college and career success. Once in college, Scholars receive support to complete their college degrees and connect to career opportunities. 7th and 8th grade Indiana students whose families meet income eligibility guidelines can apply to become a 21st Century Scholar. **Applications must be received by June 30 of the student's 8th grade year.**

In return for keeping the Scholar Pledge and meeting the expectations of the Scholar Success Program throughout high school and college, the Commission for Higher Education commits to providing Scholars with up to four years of undergraduate tuition assistance at an eligible Indiana college or university, dependent on financial need.

As a Scholar, you pledge to:

- ✓ Complete the Scholar Success Program, which includes activities at each grade level in high school to help you stay on track for college and career success.
- ✓ Graduate from a state-accredited high school with a minimum of a Core 40 diploma and a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- ✓ Not use illegal drugs, commit a crime or delinquent act, or consume alcohol before reaching the legal drinking age.
- ✓ File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by April 15 as a high school senior and each year thereafter until you graduate from college.
- ✓ Apply to an eligible Indiana college as a high school senior, and enroll as a full-time student within one year of high school graduation.
- ✓ Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards established by my college.
- ✓ Complete 30 credit hours each year you are in college to stay on track toward earning your degree on time.

**Apply online at [Scholars.IN.gov](http://Scholars.IN.gov) and provide:**

- ☐ Student's Social Security Number, date of birth and address.
- ☐ Parent or guardian's Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, if applicable.
- ☐ 2018 gross income amounts for **all members** of the household. If applying after December 31, 2019, use 2019 gross income.
- ☐ A valid email address (free email accounts are available at Yahoo.com, Gmail.com, Hotmail.com, and Live.com).

### 21st Century Scholars Program Income Guidelines (2019-2020)

Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
2	\$31,284
3	\$39,461
4	\$47,638
5	\$55,815
6	\$63,992
For each additional person in the household add \$8,177	

[Scholars@che.IN.gov](mailto:Scholars@che.IN.gov)



1-888-528-4719



## PLTW - Gateway

Automation and Robotics has researched the history of robotics and types of robots. Students have already built mechanisms that work manually; the hopes will be to use these in automated robots. We will finish the course with designing a robot that solves a specific problem, then programming the robots to work automatically.

In the new Medical Detectives unit, students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, dissect a sheep brain, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction.

Computer Science for Innovators and Makers teaches students that programming goes beyond the virtual world into the physical world. Students are challenged to creatively use sensors and actuators to develop systems that interact with their environment.



**John J. Young Middle School**  
an affiliate of School City of Mishawaka  
1801 North Main Street  
Mishawaka, IN 46545  
[574] 254-3600  
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## John Young Dates to Remember

### November:

27–29 Thanksgiving Break

### December:

4 Orchestra Concert

11 Band Concert

12 Winter Choir Concert

13 JYMS Production *Nonsense in the North Woods*  
7:00 pm

14 JYMS Production *Nonsense in the North Woods*  
1:00 pm & 7:00 pm

20 End of 3rd Grading Period/End of 1st Semester

23–31 Winter Break, No School

### January

1–5 Winter Break, No School

View/download entire calendar on our website at  
[MishawakaSchools.com/jyms](http://MishawakaSchools.com/jyms)



**Please do not** use the cemetery or  
local businesses as a pickup point for your  
students, you may be ticketed.

Parents, please note that **Unexcused Absences** are being closely monitored. If a student reaches 10 unexcused absences during the 2019–2020 school year, a meeting with the St. Joseph Probate Court Truancy Officer will be scheduled. Please help us avoid this action by calling your student off sick or sending in doctor notes to cover the time that your student was not in school.

The **phone# 574-254-3600, opt 1** for any attendance related needs including illness and early dismissals.

Jennifer Addison **574-254-3600 ext 4926**, Attendance Secretary