



The Community Gives Back to JYMS



On a sunny September 5th, 8th graders at JYMS were given the opportunity to attend CPR training at Four Winds Field. Over 1400 local 8th graders participated in this annual event sponsored in part by EnFocus. Each student received a training device to be taken home after the day was over, a t-shirt, and a bracelet to remind them of their experience.

Cummins Inc. of Mishawaka, known for their state of the art diesel and natural gas-powered engines closed up their local shop on 9/11/19 in order to come to JYMS as a part of their community outreach. Students selected were each given a bike provided by Cummins to be assembled by them along with the help of a Cummins professional. Students were given gloves and safety glasses and shown the right way to assemble their bikes before being given a helmet, and a bike lock. Once their tires were pumped up, the students were off on their brand new set of wheels. Thank you Cummins Inc. for this wonderful opportunity.

See page 7 for more community involvement.



John J. Young Middle School

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



Dear Jaguar Community,

It is hard to believe that Fall is already here!

JYMS hit the year running with many opportunities for students to get involved. New to JYMS this year is soccer for both boys and girls! Other activities so far in this fast-paced school year have included athletics (football, volleyball, cross country, cheerleading), PTSA back to school dance, joining academic teams (Lego Robotics, Spell Bowl, Fluid Power, etc.), and Drama Club, practice to name a few.

At JYMS students are also making discoveries and gaining knowledge that will benefit them throughout their life. We have a newly renovated fitness room to use in Physical Education class and after school Fitness Club. Students have brand new machines and dumbbell weights to learn how to exercise safely and properly. Students also gained beneficial knowledge during Mass CPR training at Four Winds Field and building bikes with Cummins Sales and Services. In this newsletter, you can see what other discoveries are taking place in your student's hallway.

As you all know SCM is now using Skyward as our new information system. Thank you for your patience as we transition into Skyward. We will continue to fix glitches as they come up in this inaugural year. You are encouraged to use Skyward to monitor your student's grades and attendance. Please contact our office if any contact information for your student needs to be updated.

Join us on October 3rd for Student-Led Conferences. Take advantage of going over your child's academic progress and meeting your student's advisory teacher.

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 (8:25 on Wednesdays) for those eating breakfast, otherwise, students may enter at 8:00 am (8:40 on Wednesdays). 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 school or after school during the cold winter season.

Go Jaguars!

Mike Fisher, Principal



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.

<https://www.facebook.com/JohnYoungMiddleSchool/>
<https://twitter.com/scmjohnyoung>

Visit us on our new website at MishawakaSchools.com/jyms



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

100 HALL

As we are delving into the year, homework and projects are being assigned and students' schedules are piling up. We will continue to hand out pink slips to students who may be missing any work. The first pink sheet will only inform students that they are missing something, we are expecting students to take initiative to check Skyward independently to find their missing assignments and take ownership of their own grades. The second week is a parent contact home and a hallway detention to give students an opportunity to make up work here in school. If a student continues to have missing work three weeks in a row, they will receive a "hallway detention" as well as a referral. If all work is made up and no additional work is missing week after week, they will begin a new pink sheet cycle. They will return to a clean slate so to speak.

Please remember that there is always a teacher in the hallway that stays after school until 4pm for homework room.

Coming up this month:

English: We will be learning about literary elements in fiction as well as non-fiction and writing an informational essay.

Math: In math, students will be learning about inequalities followed by proportions. The first Take Home Quiz of the year will be assigned on October 4 and due three weeks later on October 25. Students may turn the quiz in early as many times as they like in order to make corrections for full credit, but October 25 is the absolute last day they can be turned in. Please encourage your student to work on it early and often so they can earn a perfect score before October 25!

Science: We started the year learning about the measuring language of Science - The Metric System. We practiced using tools in the lab; meter sticks, triple beam balances, and graduated cylinders. We will be using our skills throughout the year as we complete labs. We will soon be exploring the basics of Chemistry. We will start with the structure of an atom and move up from there. We will be learning about the bonding in molecules and compounds. We will even be creating a 3-D model of an atom, molecule, and compound. Keep in mind, you should never trust an atom, they make up everything!

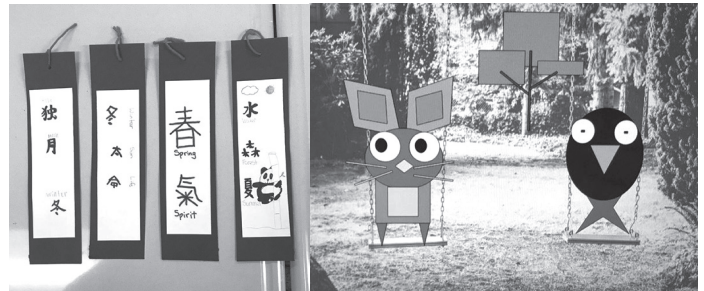
Social Studies: We will be learning about Ancient Civilizations and honors classes will be researching their NHD topics.

Health/P.E.- PE/Health: In our upcoming Health unit we will be studying The Respiratory System and Tobacco/Vaping. Going over the vaping epidemic as many deaths have been linked to vaping recently. In Physical Education we are finishing fitness

testing. We will be going into our brand new \$30,000 fitness room. Super excited that our students have this facility to use. Look for a skating permission slip to come home as we will be having a skate program come to John Young in November.

7th Rotation (World Languages): Learning German, French, and Spanish.

Pictures of World Language extra credit projects:



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: Classes completed their first 3 week unit of the 6 weeks by covering The Health Triangle. Students learned how the state of their Physical Health, Mental/Emotional Health, and Social Health all contribute to their overall wellness. Students also learned effective ways to manage stress and deal with emotions. 7th graders also participated in the Physical Education portion of Healthy Lifestyles class, where they completed fitness testing and goal setting to help contribute to their own healthy lifestyle.

Beginning on November 4th, 2018 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.

The fee for this unit is \$10. This fee includes delivery and pickup of the skates, knee pads, elbow pads, and wrist guards for at least 5 days of skating during normal Physical Education class.

The permission slip and money should be turned in to your Physical Education Teacher NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 4th.

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

English: We have been taking the HMH beginning of the year reading test, reviewing plot, character development, theme, and identifying grammar needs with Noredink.com. We have also discussed the importance of reading and have chosen books from the library. It is expected that students read 20 minutes a day. Additional information will be coming home soon. In the coming weeks, we will continue to analyze characters, conflict, and the structure of different forms of writing including poems, informational and drama.

Science: We completed our Measurement unit and will continue to use the metric system in class.

We are then moving into our introduction to the scientific method. We will be designing paper airplanes in groups. Each group will be making a plane to compete in 4 events (accuracy, distance, beauty, and tricks). After we complete our airplane project we will then move into the basics of chemistry. We will be discussing matter and what things are made of. This topic will include properties of solid, liquid, gas and plasma. All assignments are to be turned into canvas and then will be entered into Skyward.

Social Studies: We've made it through the gauntlet that is prehistoric man, and now we'll move towards the ancient river valley civilizations and start learning about the earliest recorded laws and history.

Math: I would like to thank the parents for getting the supplies. The students will be working on proportionality, integers and then moving into equation work. Please 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.

Healthy Lifestyles: We are learning about the components of health. Physical, Mental/Emotional, and Social Health, and how balancing each aspect creates a balanced and healthy life, leading to overall wellness. Students will also learn about how we respond to emotions, how they affect our health. We will learn about various coping strategies, as well as how to express ourselves in a healthy way.



In Physical Education we will be working on Fitness testing and building overall fitness levels. Students will also be bringing home roller skating forms to be returned for our skating unit coming up in November. Forms and money will be due back at the beginning of October.

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

400 HALL

Last year we began implementing the new school slogan of Jaguars ROCK, meaning we expect students to... be Respectful, be On-time, Care for others, and Keep engaged. This year we expect students to continue meeting these guidelines in the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, as well as before and after school while waiting for doors to open or waiting for their rides. We have high expectations in the 400 hall and look forward

to guiding students as they complete the last stage of their middle school journey before they move on to high school.

English with Mrs. Kowalewski: In the coming months we will be finishing up reading the book *Boy, Tales of Childhood* by Roald Dahl and students will also be writing their own autobiographies. After that, we will begin reading the novel *Life of Pi* as we prepare for students to write an argumentative essay on coming of age. As we read our books this year, we will focus our attention in a few areas. First, we will learn about the cultural, historical, and social background of the book. Next, we will shift our focus to the necessary literary vocabulary needed to help us analyze our readings. Finally, we will use reading strategies to identify aspects of the literature we are currently studying.

Math with Mr. Kreinbrink: We completed our first unit on rational and irrational numbers as well as rational number operations. Next, we will begin to explore the properties of integer exponents, operations with numbers in scientific notation followed lastly by Pythagorean Theorem. The students are working hard to achieve their goals and improve their math skills moving forward into next year.

Applied Math with Mrs. Price: We are working with a new program called Ready Math. It is a set of lessons that work on a weekly basis. Each lesson focuses on a key component and has students working alone, with a partner, and as a whole group to think and break down problems. There are six steps to this program: make sense of the problem, solve and support, discuss, compare, connect and reflect, and apply. In the coming weeks, we will be working on integers, exponents, square roots, rational and irrational numbers, operations, and scientific notation.

Science with Miss Richard: Students began the year by reviewing some of the scientific measurement tools and techniques they learned in the 7th grade before beginning their dive into chemistry. Our first focus will be on the history and organization of the periodic table, then we will look more closely at atoms themselves. We will discuss the differences in the structure of atoms, molecules, elements, and compounds before learning how we model these things and how they interact with each other.

Social Studies with Mr. Stoner: For the coming months, we will be learning about the original 13 colonies. We will begin by analyzing which ethnic groups made up the different colonies and what life was like for these first people to make a settlement in North America. As we move forward in the study of our nation's history, we will start to see the tensions rise between the colonists and Parliament back in Great Britain. We will see how this tension resulted in the American Revolution, and we will begin to study some of the main events of this war between the United States and Great Britain.

Healthy Lifestyles with Mr. Calderone: We have already wrapped up our fitness testing and volleyball units in our three-week physical education rotation. In health, we are

currently studying basic health and wellness. We will explore what makes up our health triangle and total wellness as an individual. Students will also learn about the decision-making process and how to set and achieve goals. We will finish up our health rotation discovering first aid, safety, and emergencies.

TCU Lab with Mrs. Williams: 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 of 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 November 1st.

500 HALL

Our students have all seemed to finally settle in to the Eighth Grade. This is an important year for them as they prepare for High School. **Strong Work Habits, Self-Advocacy, and Taking Responsibility for their Own Education** are some of the few skills/behaviors we try to instill throughout the eighth-grade year. Hopefully, you will see some of this at home, too.

We have **ZAP** (Zeros Aren't Permitted) each Thursday after school. This is for any student struggling with homework and needs help, but it is also a requirement for students who have missing assignments. Parents/Guardians are notified on Wednesdays through email or phone (if no email address is listed) if your student is required to stay after. Each student assigned ZAP will also receive a notice during ninth period Wednesday.

Art: Students have learned drawing essentials such as using value, shading, and texture to create the illusion of form. They 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.

Health: We have been learning about decision making, goal setting, and CPR/First aid. These skills are crucial to learn as students are faced with tough decisions daily. As an entire 8th grade, we have learned CPR and practiced in the health classroom to ensure that they understand the importance of acting quickly in a life saving situation.

PE: we will be entering our unit of mass games. In this unit, students will be immersed in several different types of games and activities that are designed to get as many students moving and involved as possible. Your student has also been sent home with a SkateTime permission slip. If your child wishes to partake in this unit, the slip must be signed before October 4th and returned with \$10 to cover the rental fee of the skates

and equipment. We will be skating starting on November 4th. If your student opts to not partake in the skating unit, they will have another task to do over the period of the 3 weeks

English: We have been working on literary elements and the writing process. We have new textbooks this year that are consumables. Please remind your student that if the book is lost, he/she will have to purchase a new one as we do many assignments in the book itself. Part of our new textbook adoption is the online Ed Program. The students are finally getting used to going to HMH online and using the resources available to them. If you ever want to know what is happening in class, you are welcome to look at my lesson plans. You can find them online in the 500 Hall Website. Ask your student how to get to this site and be sure to bookmark it!

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! In Honors classes we have already begun discussing History Day and students are in the process of selecting topics!!

Several students in our hall represented Student Council and NJHS at an event titled "Bullying: Truly a Health Issue." They attended four different sessions in the all day conference at the Century Center in South Bend. Each session discussed choices teens make and how these choices impact people all around them.



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

600 HALL

English: We are moving toward learning MLA format and writing papers utilizing evidence that is properly introduced. We will do an escape room to learn the types of plagiarism, work together to create an outline, and eventually write a paper that puts it all together. For our honors kiddos, they will use their knowledge of MLA from English class to help them with their History Day projects.

Math: Students are beginning to use their background knowledge of the order of operations, exponents, and rules of integers to solve and analyze new content over the Laws of Exponents.

Social Studies: We are currently working on the pre-colonization of America. Starting with the Crusades, sea-faring explores, and the first interactions between Europeans and the Natives of North America. We have already gone through and learned the fifty States and Capitals, and had great success with that unit.

Science: October and November should be fairly exciting for our 8th-grade science students! We have had a great start to the year with the scientific method and the Metric System and we have started chemistry. We have some awesome labs coming up involving slime, sodium, and water, and many more. They should be coming home with the knowledge of the periodic table as well as some chemical and physical changes to talk about. Also, be sure to ask them about our periodic table on the ceiling! .

Health/PE: In the month of October, Healthy Lifestyles class will be finishing up a 3 week P.E. unit covering flag football, badminton, and whiffle ball. As we move back in the health classroom, students will be learning about handling emotions and stress, suicide awareness, and a variety of emotional disorders. In the last week of October, we will transition back to our 3 weeks of P.E. rotation and will be in our roller-skating unit. Permission slips will be going out to students mid-September and will be due October 4th!

Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS): Students will be exploring many different areas of 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.

From the Library

Welcome everyone to the 2019-2020 school year! Many of the students have been in the library and were given a short tour, and were told our procedures. It was great to meet our new students and to see our returning students. Students are allowed to have two books checked out for three weeks. Books may be renewed one time for an additional three weeks. If a book becomes overdue, the student that has that book checked out, will be sent a reminder email. We are excited to see the students checking out library books to read!

Homework Room is held Monday thru Friday in the library beginning at 7:30 am until time for breakfast at 7:45 am or for the morning bell at 8:00 am.

Mrs. Plonski & Mrs. Hembrecht

The ROCK Climb Challenge

For the next 10 weeks, each hallway team will be competing in the "Rock Climb Challenge". During this challenge, each hallway team will be monitored weekly for "Rocking" at JYMS in the areas of: attendance (including tardiness), behavior, and completing assignments. The hallway team with the most points earned in these combined areas at the end of the competition (Dec. 13th) will be rewarded with a pizza party, movie, and prize drawings on December 20th. The hallway with the most improvement from the first grading period will win a doughnut party. Ask your students if they are "Rock"ing at JYMS!

JYMS Attendance Procedures

Parents, please note that **Unexcused Absences** are being closely monitored this year. 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 correct **ph# 574-254-3600, opt 1** for Attendance for any attendance related needs including illness and early dismissals.

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

3rd Annual 8th Grade D.C. Trip

This year our 8th graders will be traveling to Washington D.C. May 27th – June 1st. I have found no better way to teach my students history than to take them to D.C. I have seen students stand in respect and awe at the Vietnam Memorial, shake hands with veterans at the WWII Memorial, and look in wonder at the Declaration of Independence at the National Archives. I work each day in the classroom to bring the lessons of our country's history to life, but there is nothing like discussing the issues facing our nation while standing on the steps of the Supreme Court, Capitol Building, or dozens of other inspiring places we will visit on our trip to Washington, D.C. I take your students so they can better understand what it means to be an American and a citizen living in this nation.

The organization we have chosen to travel with is WorldStrides, the largest and most experienced student travel organization in this country. Nearly 50 years of experience and an outstanding safety record have built a solid foundation of trust for millions of parents just like you.

This year students will have the opportunity to do a number of fundraisers to help them raise money for their trips, as well as working with WorldStrides and their Gift of Education fundraising. Scholarship funds are available as well through the PFLAG program.

Questions? zbrzeznyb@mishawaka.k12.in.us

Brian Zbrzezny

MHS Alumnus Tom Irions Gifts JYMS With Weight Equipment



It's fitting that Tom Irions' most recent donation to School City of Mishawaka was for top-of-the-line strength and conditioning equipment for John Young Middle School students. This gift came just one year after gifting Mishawaka High School nearly \$100,000 for the world-class Irions Strength and Conditioning Center.

Irions says, "I hope this builds success in kids' lives, not just in sports. They'll see the results, working on their bodies, staying in the gym, and staying out of trouble. It's more than just building better athletes, it's about developing lifelong healthy habits."

excerpt from MHS Alumni October 2019 Newsletter





John J. Young Middle School
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1801 North Main Street
Mishawaka, IN 46545
[574] 254-3600
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Non-Profit Organization

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John Young Dates to Remember

View/download entire calendar on our website at
MishawakaSchools.com/jyms

October

- 3 No School JYMS & MHS
Student-Led Parent Conferences, 12:00–7:15 pm
- 9 Student Picture Re-take Day (morning only)
- 18–21 Fall Break, No School
- 28 Fall Sports Awards, 6:00 pm

November:

- MHS Food Drive to support SCM Families
- 1 End of 2nd grading period
- 5 No School, Recess Day
- 27–29 Thanksgiving Break

December:

- 4 Orchestra Concert
- 11 Band Concert
- 12 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–Jan. 3 Winter Break, No School

