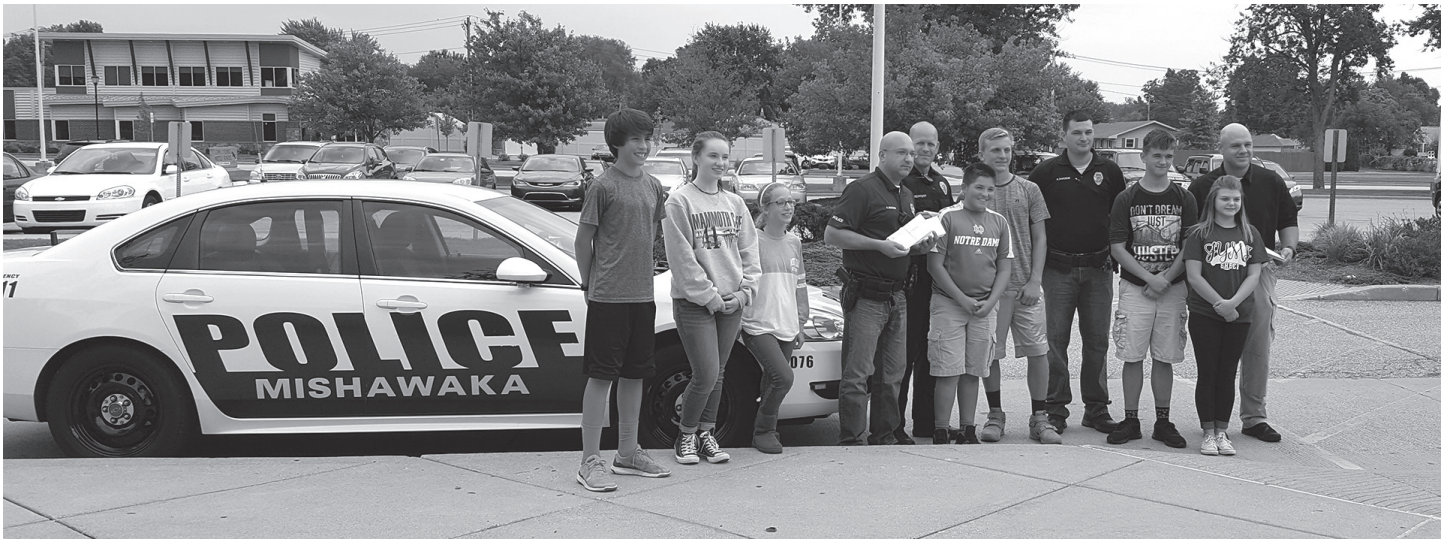




8th Graders Thank First Responders

September 23rd, 8th graders from Ms. Schwitz and Miss LaForest's classes completed a letter writing unit by presenting Thank You notes to local police and firefighters. John Young would to thank you as well!



(Troy Crooks, Tori Tiller, Bria Swank-Mason, Officer Madison, Captain Reppert, Nathan Granados, Tyler Ackerley, Officer DeVreese, Isiac Morton, Skylar Milewski, and Sergeant Nowacki)



(Firefighter Goodson, Captain Mishler, Chance Conlee, Firefighter Thibodeaux, Aislin Bailey, Firefighter Mason, Firefighter Ponsler, Bria Swank-Mason, Firefighter McIntire, Arran Szeltner, Firefighter Hiatt, Julie Alberts, Isaiah Turley, and Chadd Tanner)



1801 North Main Street
Mishawaka, IN 46545

phone [574] 254-3600
fax [574] 258-3021
www.mishawaka.k12.in.us

Equipping Students to Excel

Dear Jaguar Family,

It is hard to believe autumn is already here!

It has been a fantastic start to the school year filled with many opportunities and experiences for our students. The fast paced school year has included athletics (football, volleyball, cross country, cheerleading), a pep rally, PTSA back to school dance, joining academic teams (Lego Robotics, Spell Bowl, Fluid Power, etc.), Erase Meanness Day, and Five Star to name a few activities.

However, the most important activities are taking place in the classroom. Our staff is taking on a growth mindset, and we want to encourage our students to do the same. The growth mindset will help our students gain confidence to achieve success as they encounter new learning opportunities in middle school. Our staff is incorporating student-centered and project base learning (PBL) activities to help our students develop 21st century skills (Creativity, Critical Thinking, Communication, and Collaboration). Here are a few highlights of PBL activities thus far at JYMS:

- Students learned about brain anatomy and actually dissected sheep brains in Project Lead the Way.
- Miss LaForest's English class created and took part in a courtroom experience. There were several events that previously took place such as reading and discussing "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allen Poe, breaking up into small groups to complete several activities and finding textual evidence that would support if the narrator had a mental illness or if he was a calculated killer.
- Students in our practical skills class and the JRC were given a challenge to find creative uses for plastic bottles. Students have to produce a video that teaches someone how to make their invention out of plastic bottles and also show the invention in use.

Congratulations to our middle school students who achieved academic success at progress report time. We are

proud of you! I want to encourage all students to "Work Hard and Be Nice" to continue being successful as we finish the first grading period. The grading period will end October 14th.

I would like to thank the many parents who play an active role in their child's education. I encourage all parents to get involved. Please continue to communicate with your child's teachers and take advantage of Infinite Campus to monitor your student's progress. Please note our Student-Led Conferences taking place October 20th and teachers will be present as your child guides you through their progress and goals for this year.

Though it seems so very far away, we will soon be preparing for the start of next school year. For current eighth graders, Mishawaka High School counselors will begin going over the course offerings starting November 28th. Mishawaka High School will also have an "Open House" and introduce dual credit opportunities to the class of 2021. This event will happen November 30th. Eighth grade parents please mark on your calendars for this opportunity to see what MHS has to offer.

Go Jaguars!

Mike Fisher
Principal

Office Staff is Here to Help

Office Contacts:

Kelly Kincses, Secretary	254-3600
Norma Bauernfeind, Secretary	254-3602
Attendance Line (voicemail only)	254-3615
Shawn Yeoman, Nurse	254-3610
Cherie Smith, Counselor (A-G)	254-3605
Suzy Karbowski, Counselor (H-M)	254-3616
Laurie Schalliol, Counselor (N-Z)	254-3617
Tom Moore, Student Success Coordinator	254-3604

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>

Choir

Our JYMS Choir is sounding great. We have an enthusiastic group of singers this year. The date of our Winter Concert is Wednesday, December 7, 2016, with our December field trip following the week after. On these field trips, we will bring our vocal talent to two Mishawaka elementary schools as well as an area retirement home. More details about the concert and field trip will be coming as the dates get closer. We will need parent help on our field trip. Please consider coming along with us and get a background/volunteer form turned in as soon as possible.

Current Intramurals

Art Club, Room 930, 3:25–4:25 P.M. – 10/3, 10/12, 10/17, 10/19, 10/24, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9 (last day)

Glee Club, Rm. 302, 3:30–4:30 P.M. – 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/26, 11/30

GSA, Rm. 816, 3:30–5:00 P.M. – 10/11, 10/25, 11/15, 11/29, 12/13, 1/17, 1/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/18, 5/2, 5/16, 5/30

Soccer, Outside/Inside (weather permitting), 3:30–4:30 P.M. 10/5 (out), 10/12 (in), 10/19 (out), 10/26 (out), 11/2 (out), 11/10 (in), 11/15 (in), 11/29 (in)

Food 4 Kids' Backpack Program

John Young Middle School is proud to announce that we will be offering *The Feeding His Sheep- Food 4 Kids Backpack Program* this year. With the help of The Salvation Army of St. Joseph County and the Mishawaka Food Pantry, we will be able to offer some assistance to children with food insecurities by providing them with nutritious meal components to take home on weekends when other resources are not available. This program will start in January and permission slips will be required for participation. More information will be provided during the Student-Led Conferences held Oct. 20th. Please contact Mrs. Karbowski at (574) 254-3616 if you have any questions.

Food Service

Did you know that JYMS offers breakfast? Every day at 7:45 A.M. students are allowed to come to the cafeteria for a hot or cold breakfast. We have a different item each day and also offer cereal. Breakfast costs \$1.60 (\$0.40 reduced). Milk (if purchased separately) is \$0.45.

From the Assistant Principals

Colder weather is on the way. Please make sure that students do not wear coats and jackets in the classroom. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Please remember that all students need to be off school grounds by 3:30 P.M. unless they are in a supervised activity.

Homework Policy for Absent Students

If a student is absent from school they are expected to make their work up upon return. If they miss three or more days the parent may request the homework through the office on the third day. The teacher then has 24 hours to gather work. The parent may pick the work up from the Main Office between the hours of 7:45 A.M. – 4:15 P.M. If you have questions regarding this policy please contact the office for clarification, 574-254-3600.

Library News

The library is off to a great start this year! Many students have been in and checked out books and magazines. Several students are coming in after eating lunch and reading, or playing chess and checkers. We are getting to know lots of students!

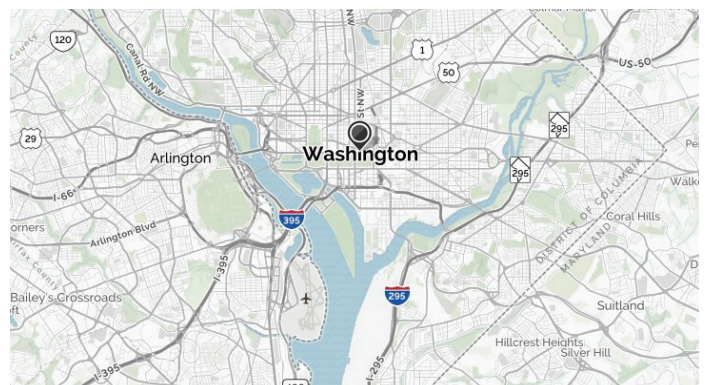
The beverage cart is open for students to purchase a hot cocoa, hot apple cider, or hot tea for \$1.00. Hot beverages can be purchased at 7:30 A.M., during morning homework room, and after school from 3:15–3:30 P.M. The proceeds from this fundraiser enables us to purchase prizes and gifts for our JYMS students. Just a reminder, after school homework room begins at 3:30 P.M. and ends at 4:30 P.M. in the library.

Robotics Update

In November, the two Robotic teams will be competing in regional competitions for spots at the State level. We have qualified before, but this is the first time that we will have two teams competing.

Spend Spring Break in Washington, D.C.

There is a Washington D.C. trip available this year. The trip is from March 31 – April 3. There will be a parent meeting Wednesday, October 5 for any parent/student interested in finding out more information about the trip. Forms for the trip were handed out Wednesday, September 28. If you need an additional form you can get one in the main office or from Mrs. Reisdorf in room 106. You can also e-mail Mrs. Reisdorf at Reisdorfs@mishawaka.k12.in.us if you have questions.





Twenty-First Century Scholars Last Chance To Enroll – Your 8th Grade Year

Indiana started the Twenty-First Century Scholars in 1990 to ensure that every student can afford a college education. Income-eligible 7th and 8th graders who enroll in the program and fulfill a pledge of good citizenship are guaranteed to receive up to four years of undergraduate

If you attend a private or an independent institution, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a public institution. If you attend a participating proprietary (private career) school, the state will award a tuition scholarship equal to that of Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana.

As a Twenty-first Century Scholar, you can get help finding free tutoring, a mentor and a part-time job, and once you get to college, students who are Twenty-first Century Scholars receive support to finish their college degrees.

But **first** you **must** apply. 7th and 8th grade students and their parents **must complete the application by June 30, 2017**. Don't wait! Apply today at: www.scholars.in.gov If you encounter problems applying, please contact the Scholars Helpline at (888) 528-4719 or Scholars@che.in.gov

You will need to have your student's Social Security Number and parent or legal guardian's Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) on hand. You will also need 2015 gross income amounts for all members of the household with you and a valid e-mail address available. (If you apply on or after January 1, 2017, you must use 2016 gross income amounts)

2016–2017 Income Guidelines

Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
2	\$29,637
3	\$37,296
4	\$44,955
5	\$52,614
6	\$60,273
7 or more	For each additional person add \$7,696

The scholarship amount may be reduced depending on the availability of funds and the availability of the student's family to contribute to college. If you have general questions or need to access the Internet, please notify Ms. Schalliol, Twenty-First Century Scholars Coordinator, at 254-3617.

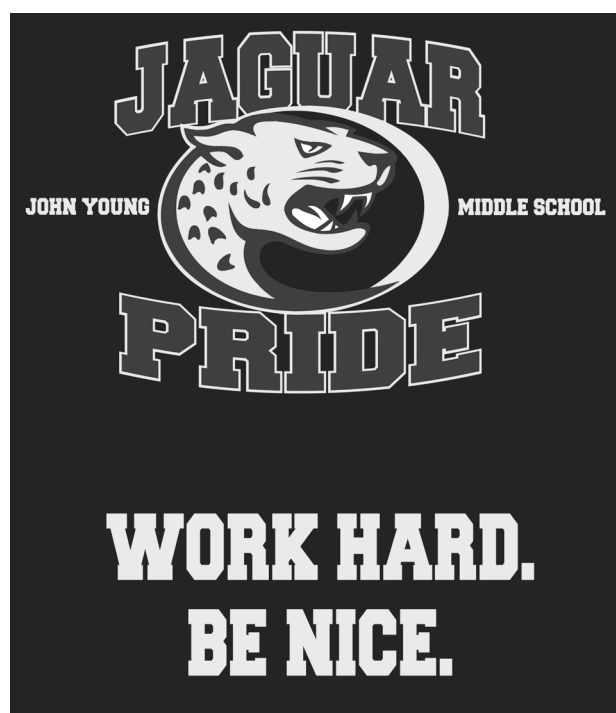


Coming October 27th

Each day is full of choices - decisions we all have to make. Whether it's deciding to skip breakfast or finish your homework, each decision, no matter the size and weight of them, has the power to influence you in both positive and negative ways. Unfortunately, the ability to choose what's best for us is often clouded by the way we view ourselves. Instead of asking, "Is this worth it?" we let others control our decisions, giving in to the pressure to participate in negative behavior like using drugs & alcohol in an effort to appear "worth it" to those around us.

Camfel Productions' WORTH IT! is an interactive experience designed to teach students to stand up to bullies, to avoid negative influences, and to make decisions that will expand their opportunities.

WORTH IT! demonstrates to the students that the choices they make today will directly affect their future. They will be taught to take control of the decisions they make, and that through perseverance and self-discipline, they can make the right choices - choices that will lead them to success in school and in life.



Exciting Things are Happening at JYMS!



Top: Mr. Rendall and Mr. Namisnak getting wrapped in toilet paper at the pep rally, Left: Mr. Solfronk and students dissecting brains in PLTW, Right: Football players entering the pep rally



Jaguar Athletics

MHS Family and Lap Swims

Family Swims began September 12, 2016. The format of the Family Swim Program will be the same as last year. The diving boards will be closed during Family Swims. Family Swims, which are recreational, will be Mondays only from 6:30-8:00 P.M. on the following dates:

Family Open Swim Dates:

October 10, 17, 24, 31 November 7, 14, 21, 28

December 5, 12, 19 January 9, 23, 30

February 6, 13, 27 March 6, 13, 20, 27

As in the past, Wednesdays will be used for Lap Swims. During Lap Swims there will be no recreational use of the pool. The Lap Swims will be from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Lap Swim Dates:

October 5, 12, 19, 26 November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

December 7, 14, 21 January 11, 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22 March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Family and Lap Swims at MHS are restricted to residents of The School City of Mishawaka Corporation. The swims will be from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on the dates above. The cost is \$1.00 for adults and \$0.50 for students, children, and senior citizens.

Important Note

A parent or guardian must accompany children who are not students at MHS. Family Swims are not intended to be used for Group Outings. Groups should contact the school to make arrangements for pool time.

For further information contact the Mishawaka High School Athletic Department at 574-254-7331.

Athletic Reminders to your Cell Phone

Get all your important athletics information, right to your cell phone! Get the latest up to date game and practice schedule changes, athletic cancellations as well as pertinent information relating to any elementary, middle school or high school athletics! This is a one-time set up and easy option to cancel at any time.

John Young Middle School Athletics: Simply text the number 630-608-6843. In the body/message of your text, type: **@jymsat** you will get immediate response indicating that you are signed up.

Mishawaka Cavemen Athletics: text 630-608-6843, type **@mhsathl** you will get immediate response indicating that you are signed up.

Elementary Athletics: text 630-608-6843, type **@mhsathlet** you will get immediate response indicating that you are signed up.

Mark Your calendar!

Student-Led Parent Teacher Conferences October 20, 2016

John Young Middle School will be holding student-led conferences on October 20, 2016. These conferences will help provide an opportunity for your student to reflect upon his/her successes during the first grading period and to provide you with examples of what he/she have learned in each of the academic areas. We emphasize that these are student-led conferences and the advisory teachers will be attending mostly as an observer. The advisory teacher will be there to help guide you through the conference and give direction.

The conferences are scheduled for 15 minutes with your student's advisory teacher. We view this as an extremely positive opportunity for our students to emphasize their strengths and acknowledge their weaknesses with you in attendance. Students will be able to plan for their approach to the next semester. Please make every effort to be part of this conference. This is an opportunity to open up or improve lines of communication with your child about his/her education. We strongly encourage you to be a positive part of this conferencing process.

We look forward to seeing you!

**WORK HARD.
BE NICE.**

Parent Pointers

Calendar

Middle School
Parents
still make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 2016						1 Plan to do something for a neighbor in need. Community service is important for kids' self-esteem.
2 Plan to get some exercise with your child every day this month.	3 Ask your child to tell you about the similarities and the differences between her classes.	4 Set a technology curfew. TVs, computers, tablets and phones must be turned off for the night at a certain time.	5 Encourage your child to find out when teachers are available to give extra help.	6 Find quotations that will motivate your child. Post a favorite one on the mirror he uses.	7 Encourage your child to invite friends over for pizza and a movie. Make sure you learn their names.	8 What are your child's special interests? Help her find books in the library about these topics.
9 Have a family picnic. Let your child plan and prepare the meal.	10 Remind your child how important it is to turn in work. Just one zero can bring down a grade an entire letter.	11 When helping your child with schoolwork, be positive, even if he gets discouraged.	12 Ask your child to add two four-digit numbers. Can she figure it out on paper before you can with a calculator?	13 Write your child a note of thanks. "It's such a help to me when you do the dishes. Thank you!"	14 Does your child need more responsibility? More time to talk? More privacy? Ask what he thinks.	15 Encourage your child to research possible future careers. What skills and education are required for each?
16 Learn a new word at breakfast. Challenge family members to use it three times during the day.	17 Help your child manage homework without actually doing it for her.	18 Remember that the key to getting your child's respect is showing your child respect.	19 Praise your child when he studies hard. This encourages him to keep it up.	20 Spend a few minutes talking with your child at bedtime. This is a relaxing time for conversation.	21 Talk to your child about people she admires. Discuss the reasons why she admires them.	22 Take a walk with your child and use all five senses to observe the world around you.
23 Give your child a hug today.	24 Play board or card games as a family tonight.	25 Consider setting a minimum study time. This can prevent rushing through homework.	26 When your child is studying for a test, set a timer for 10 minutes. Many short reviews are better than one long one.	27 Point out an example of prejudice to your child. Talk about ways to deal with intolerance.	28 Notice whether your child is completing homework on time. Praise his responsibility.	29 Encourage your child to read during quiet times at home. Before bed is a perfect time to read.
30 Do a crossword puzzle together.	31 Take a walk with your child today.					

© 2016 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. May be reproduced only as licensed by *Parents Still make the difference!*® Middle School Edition newsletter. 1-800-756-5525

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 It's not that middle schoolers can't read—it's that many don't. Challenge your child to read more this month.	2 Remind your child that there are no stupid questions. If she really wants to learn, she should ask questions in class.	3 Ask your child to select and read a news article to you. Share your opinions about it.	4 Ask, "What do you wish we did differently at home?" Be open to your child's suggestions.	5 Make time to go shopping with your child—just to look. You may learn things about each other.
6 Help your child bake cookies today. Review math skills by doubling the recipe.	7 Help your child take advantage of small chunks of time to study or review.	8 Drive the carpool and just listen. You'll learn a lot about life in middle school.	9 Does your child dawdle during homework time? Have him set a timer to help him stay on task.	10 When your child tells you something important, repeat it to make sure you understood.	11 Have each family member prepare one part of a meal, then enjoy it together.	12 Take your child to a local museum. Learn something new about your hometown.
13 Start having weekly family meetings. Talk about family news and goals. Celebrate successes.	14 Have your child quiz you on a homework assignment. Thinking up questions will help her learn.	15 Let your child overhear you say something good about him to someone else.	16 Ask your child, "If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?"	17 Don't use problems with homework as an excuse to criticize or argue about other issues.	18 Some middle schoolers are embarrassed by affection in public. But they still like hugs at home!	19 Take advantage of time in the car with your child. You can talk privately without interruption.
20 Middle schoolers need time alone with their thoughts and feelings. Suggest activities your child can do alone.	21 Helping kids with homework can be tough. Ask your child's teacher for advice.	22 Teach your child the difference between <i>goals</i> and <i>dreams</i> . A goal is a dream with a deadline.	23 "Because I said so!" may be frustrating for middle schoolers to hear. Explain your reasoning.	24 If your child loses items, make her responsible for replacing them. She'll learn to be more careful.	25 Limit drinks with caffeine at night. They can deprive your child of needed sleep.	26 Enjoy some physical activity outdoors as a family.
27 Do everyday things with your child, such as washing dishes, to gain more time together.	28 Power struggles don't work with middle schoolers. Too much parental control causes rebellion.	29 Ask your child to tell you what the word "success" means to him.	30 Attendance at school is important. Let your child stay home only when it's absolutely necessary.	November 2016		

© 2016 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. May be reproduced only as licensed by *Parents Still make the difference!*® Middle School Edition newsletter. 1-800-756-5525



John J. Young Middle School
an affiliate of School City of Mishawaka
1801 North Main Street
Mishawaka, IN 46545
[574] 254-3600
scm.mishawaka.k12.in.us/young/

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 150
Mishawaka, IN

John Young Dates to Remember

OCTOBER

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 9 | Derby Photography offering Family Photos, 2:00-5:00 p.m. |
| 12 | Fall Sports Awards, 6:00 p.m. |
| 14 | End of 1st grading period
Clubs Choice fundraiser kick-off (sell through 10/25) |
| 17 | Exceptional Learner's Parent Mtg., SRA, 6:30 P.M. "Planning For Your Dependents with Special Needs" |
| 20 | No School for JYMS & Elementaries
Student-Led Parent/Teacher Conferences, 12:00-7:30 P.M. |
| 21 | No School, Fall Recess Day |
| 24-28 | Red Ribbon Week |
| 27 | Camfel "Red Ribbon Week" Production, 8:30/9:30 A.M. |
| 28 | PTSA Dance, Old Gym, 3:30-5:00 P.M. |

NOVEMBER

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1 & 2 | 7th grade Hearing Screenings |
| 8 | No School – Recess Day |
| 10 & 11 | 8th grade Vision Screenings |
| 18 | Progress Reports go home |
| 24 & 25 | No School, Thanksgiving Break |
| 28 | PTSA Mtg., Teachers' Lounge, 6:30 p.m. |
| 30 | MHS Freshmen Orientation, MHS 6:00-7:30 P.M. |

DECEMBER

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 6 | Band Concert, Old Gym, 7:00 p.m. |
| 7 | Choir Concert, Old Gym, 7:00 p.m. |
| 8 | Orchestra Concert, Old Gym, 7:00 p.m. |
| 15 | Sports Awards, 6:00 p.m. |
| 23 | End of 2nd Grading Period
End of Semester |
| 26-31 | Winter Break |

JANUARY

- | | |
|-----|--------------|
| 1-8 | Winter Break |
|-----|--------------|