



# New Vestibule Provides More Secure Environment



*JYMS students enjoy our new cafe style table and chairs in updated lobby.*



*Secretary Kelly Kincses greets parents in the new secure vestibule.*



*Area for parents to wait for their child to exit the building.*

JYMS is excited our vestibule, office and foyer is almost complete! Door "A" is now operational and should be used by all visitors at JYMS. Our new vestibule allows us to provide a more secure environment for our students and staff. Remember ID is required by all visitors who enter JYMS. We are still waiting on our new security camera monitors for the

vestibule area. These new monitors should be installed over the next few weeks.

Our waiting area has been upgraded as well. JYMS has new comfortable furniture for parents and students. I know the students are pleased with the cafe style tables and chairs.



**Dear Jaguar Family,**

2018 is here and the school year of change continues at JYMS!

We are excited to announce demolition of the old office area and construction of the highly anticipated TCU Innovation Lab at JYMS will begin February 1st! Please note our new office area will be more securely located just inside the "A" door.

The new TCU Innovation Lab will allow our students to build upon their 21st Century Skills: Collaboration, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Communication. The new lab will contain such things as, 3-D printers, robotics, computer coding, and a state of the art production studio. Students will have the opportunity to explore and pursue their interests. We want them to discover a love for learning.

Another project that is nearing completion is the upgrade and installation of new security cameras at JYMS. These cameras are crucial and will compliment our new security vestibule to provide a safe and secure learning environment for our students. Please remember, a driver's license is required to enter our building and will be scanned to receive a visitor badge.

"Change" has been the theme of the school year. We want to thank students, parents, teachers, and staff for having a growth mindset and adapting nicely to changes that have already taken place. Students have made significant strides using their Cub books as a learning tool. Students and parents have adjusted to the Wednesday late start schedule, which is giving our teachers valuable time for professional development. Students, parents, and teachers continue to learn and utilize our new student information system, ALMA

(please note with ALMA all report cards will be e-mailed to students and parents). The change has not been perfect but we are learning and making improvements as glitches occur. Our goal is to master these new changes and make JYMS the best learning experience for your child. Again, thank you for your growth mindset and patience during this school year of "Change"

I would like to leave you with an important reminder about drop off and pick-up times. JYMS does not open until 7:45 a.m. for those eating breakfast otherwise students may enter at 8:00 a.m. Students are also required to be off school campus by 3:35 p.m. unless they are in a supervised activity. We do not have supervision before 7:45 a.m. or after 3:35 p.m. for students so please have a ride in place for your student.

**Please make note of these important dates:**

February 21 – NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) Inductions

February 26 thru March 9 – ISTEP Part I Test Window

March 21 - Snow Make-Up Day for Students

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
Becky Stayton, Nurse	254-3610
Cherie Smith, Counselor (8th grade)	254-3605
Laurie Schallioli, Counselor (7th 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](http://MishawakaSchools.com/jyms)

# 100 HALL

## What's going on in the 100 Hall?

We are continuing to send home red slips to students who may be missing any work, however, we are no longer holding after school detentions on Mondays. We are expecting them to take more initiative this term to check Alma independently to find their missing assignments. Red sheets will only inform students that they are missing something. If a student continues to have missing work three weeks in a row, they will receive a referral and office consequence.

Please remember that there is always a teacher in the hallway that stays after school until 4:00 p.m. for homework room.

Term 3 is underway and school supplies are running out! Please talk to your student and ask if there are any materials they specifically need. Also, if you are willing and able, teachers need pencils (cheap wooden ones are perfect!), kleenex (it's that time of year), and blue or black pens. Thank you for making sure your student is prepared for class!

### Coming up this month:

**English-** We will be focusing on informational text, phrases and clauses, and argumentative writing. We will then move into a novel study.

**Math:** 7th- Percents. Honors- Geometry.

**Science:** Continue Earth Science and layers of the Earth.

**Social Studies:** Continuing study of Asia and human rights.

**Health/P.E.:** P.E.- Basketball, floor hockey, and group games rotations. Health- Sex Education introduction.

### Important dates coming up:

- Term 3 Independent Reading Project (English) due March 12th.
- "Dream Vacation" project (Enrichment) due March 15th.

## 2017-18 Yearbook

It's time to order your 2017-18 JYMS yearbook. Preserve the best memories of the year with a full color yearbook! Stop by the main office to get a form and return it with payment of \$25 by April 20. You can also order online at [www.derbyphoto.com](http://www.derbyphoto.com), keyword: John Young

# 200 HALL

Please check out the 200 hall's 2017-2018 website: [sites.google.com/Mishawaka.k12.in.us/200-hall](http://sites.google.com/Mishawaka.k12.in.us/200-hall). This website has general information to stay updated on what's happening in the 200 Hall and in each of your student's classes. In math, students have been working hard to prepare for ISTEP. They have practiced using percentages to determine markup and discount as well as percent change. Students have also extended their understanding of geometry to include circumference and area of circles along with surface area and volume of cylinders. These are important functional skills that have real life applications.

In **Science**, the students are working hard to understand how scientists use evidence found in rock strata to determine earth's geologic time scale. Some activities that students are doing to learn this are card sorts, online lessons, and independent research about an era that they choose to investigate. After we study earth's geological time scale students will begin looking into the convection currents that occur in earth's mantle that cause the tectonic plates to move in three ways: convergent, divergent, and transform. The students will be challenged to understand that the landforms created at plate boundaries are determined by the type of movement that occurs there.

In **English**, the students just started the award winning novel "The Lions of Little Rock", by Kristin Levine. This novel is about a young girl, Marlee Nisbett, who is in the 7th grade at a middle school in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1958 - the year after the Little Rock Nine went to Central High School. Tensions are high due to the Governor (Faubus) disagreeing with integration and closing all of the high schools. The middle schools remain open, so Marlee thinks she's starting an average school year... It turns out to be anything but average!

Marlee has a hard time talking, and is shy. That is, until she meets the "new girl", Liz. She is confident, outspoken, and not afraid to stand up to bullies. But, Liz carries a heavy secret. The students will learn that Liz's mom wanted her to have the best education possible, so she was "passing" (that is, she is African-American, but is light-skinned enough to play it off that she is white) in this middle school. Racial tensions rise, some students and parents begin to attack Liz (after she is kicked out of the school), but Marlee realizes that her skin color doesn't change the fact that Liz has become her best friend. Students will discuss themes, historical events, and vocabulary throughout the novel study.

In **Healthy Lifestyles**, we just started playing floor hockey. Kids did drills to practice and now we are playing games. We also are continuing to go in our fitness room to work out to try to improve fitness test scores. In Health we will be starting our Growth and development unit. A parent letter will be

coming home with more information. We also will be taking our kids on a field trip to see the movie "Wonder" about a boy with facial differences who, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, and becomes the most unlikely of heroes. This will open up a discussion with our kids about bullying and how our actions have reactions and consequences.

In **Social Studies**, students will explore Ancient India through model reading of informational text. We will read about the invasions and rulers of the region, culture and making of a civilization. We will explore the Harappans, their contact with other civilizations, their achievements and the effects of migration of people. Students will then explore the "Origins of Hinduism", learning how the people became distinct groups in India, the influence of the Aryans, and how Hinduism and Jainism developed as religions.

Finally students will explore the "Indian Empires" to learn that the Mauryan Empire unified most of India and about how the Gupta rulers promoted Hinduism in their empire.

# 300 HALL

Our team is preparing for the ISTEP.

We've been working hard on written expression in all our classes.

Please encourage your child to get plenty of sleep and be at school on time.

We're also excited to announce another field trip. We'll be attending the musical "Fiddler on the Roof" at Bethel College on March 22nd. The cost will be \$7.00. More information and permission slips will be coming home in February.



Snap & Read is a new Chrome Extension that on all student devices. We were lucky enough to have a "student professional development" with Mrs. Stockstell.



Coach Bolinger joined us to introduce lacrosse to all of our 7th grade students. They LOVED IT!

# 400 HALL

In **Social Studies** students are studying and examining the United States Constitution. Students had to memorize and recite or write the preamble of the Constitution. Students have been working hard to identify the parts of the Constitution and learn more and more about how the United States was founded. They started with the preamble and are making their way through the amendments.

In **English** with Mrs. Kowalewski, students are finishing reading Tom Sawyer. They have worked hard for a few months now to read a difficult book and analyze the plot, characters, and many other aspects of the book. They will continue to work on their writing and reading throughout the rest of the year.

In **Science**, students have been collecting data and determining what traits are passed down through genetics and what traits aren't. Students interviewed peers, teachers, parents, and family about things like hair lines, handedness, ear lobe detachment, and many more traits. They then analyzed the data and came to conclusions about the information. While collecting data students were engaged and interested in finding what traits everyone had and what Science and genetics could tell them about each other and their families.

February and March marks the start of ISTEP season. 8th graders begin ISTEP testing March 2nd and have three days of testing. Students have been working hard in their classes to try their best in order to improve their scores from the previous year. We as teachers have tried to focus our students on a growth mindset when it comes to the ISTEP test. The goal is to improve from where we were last year. In order to do that, students and teachers talk consistently about doing better every day. We do not expect students to get everything correct all the time. The hope is to constantly improve and try to do better every day. As we head toward the end of the year, and the second round of ISTEP testing, encourage students to work hard to achieve growth moving forward.

Our **National History Day Open House** was a great success. Family members and friends enjoyed all of our students' presentations. National History Day® (NHD) is a non-profit education organization that offers year-long academic programs for more than a half-million middle and high school students around the world. Each year students are challenged to conduct original research on a different theme. This year's theme is Conflict and Compromise in History. The largest NHD program is the National History Day Contest that encourages students to conduct historical research on a topic of their choice. Students enter these projects at the local and affiliate levels, with top students advancing to the National Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park. Good Luck to all of our participating students!

In **Science**, January was a very busy month as JYMS students complete their Science Fair project. Special thanks to Tracey

Ackerley for all her hard work in organizing the event. January is also the kick off for the Fluid Power Action team at JYMS. Six teams of four students will design engineering projects while competing against 30 other teams from the area. Daman Products Inc. sponsors the event for local students. After six weeks of work, the teams will compete at Bethel College in March.

**REMINDER:** We have a Homework Room 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 e-mail or phone (if no e-mail address is listed) if their student is required to stay after.

## 600 HALL

**Math:** Learning to analyze scatter plots relating to real world scenarios

**English:** Identifying media propaganda and persuasion techniques to prepare for argumentative writing

**Health/PE:** Working on building muscle in fitness room

**Science:** Anatomy of a cell/cell analogies

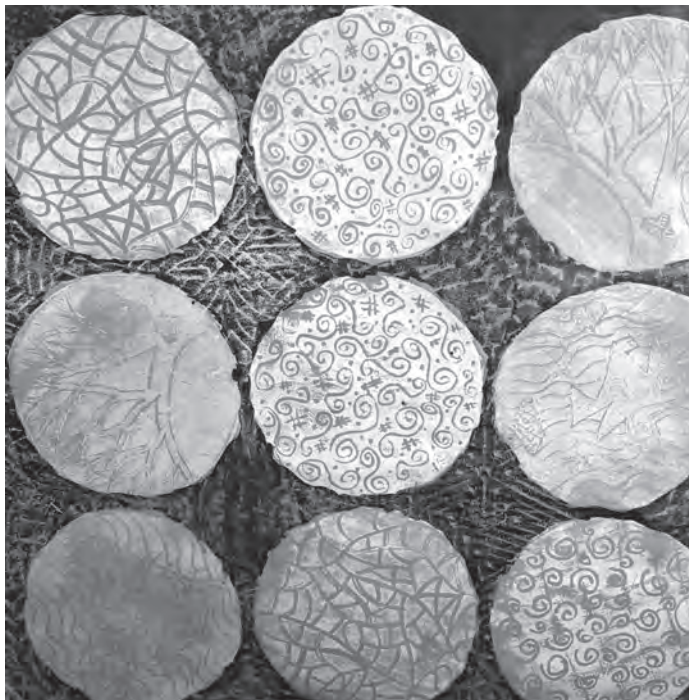
**Social Studies:** De-constructing the constitution

**Announcements:** Congratulations to our hall for winning the hallway decorating contest!

Website: [www.jagteam600.weebly.com](http://www.jagteam600.weebly.com) & Miss LaForest's website [www.claforest.weebly.com](http://www.claforest.weebly.com)



*Pictured above: Students in Miss. LaForest's English class identify different types of print ads*



Congratulations to **Tori Trzkowski** who won a Silver Key Award at Scholastic Arts Competition for her Printmaking piece entitled, *Nine Stages*. The Award Ceremony will take place on Sunday, February 4th. It will be located in Convention Hall A inside the Century Center. The Junior High Awards will be held at 1:30 p.m.

## News from F. A. P. A. (Fine Arts, Practical Arts)

**Read 180 and Math Lab:** In the land of Read 180 and Math Lab, 15 students graduated from the program. Students have achieved their goals to accomplish all the requirements for completion of the class. They were able to choose an elective from the offered FAPA classes. It is always exciting to see the progress students are making on a daily basis.

**Choir:** We are working on songs for our March field trips. Information and permissions slips will be out in February. We will need parent chaperones.

7th graders are learning a song to help memorize the US states and capitals, and 8th grade is singing "The Preamble" song. What a great way to learn social studies facts.

**Music:** New students in music this semester! In addition to learning new music content, students are working on how to manage and increase self-efficacy in the classroom. Our classroom does not operate on a list of rules, instead we follow one creed: You are free to choose but you are not free from the consequence of your choice. Please practice reinforcing positive choices at home!

Throughout this course, students in general music will be learning to play piano in addition to

studying music theory. For assessment, students record their best performance of required pieces on their laptops and share the videos on Google Classroom. Ask your student to share their latest performance at home! You may also want to listen to the unique music students have composed and recorded using the *Incredibox* and *Soundtrap* online music mixing programs.

**Practical Skills:** New semester, new students. Students are exploring the world of Twitter, creating a class Twitter page, and learning all about the entire concept of Tweeting.

They are also learning the fundamentals and expectations of a proper discussion not a debate. They will hold a roundtable discussion with Administration coming and providing the topic.

## End of Year Field Trips

This year, students will need to earn the opportunity to attend our end of the year field trips. Each student must earn a minimum of 7 points before the trip to participate in the outing. Any student that is suspended during the 2nd semester of school will be automatically unable to attend.

### Point Criteria:

- 1 point for no Fs (3 points possible with checks being on 3rd grading period progress report, 3rd grading period report card, and 4th grading period progress report)
- 1 point for NO referrals (behaviors that result in detention or ISS) (3 points possible with checks being on 3rd grading period progress report, 3rd grading period report card, and 4th grading period progress report)
- 1 point for each JYMS Sports/Academic Team involved in 2nd semester
- 1 point for having 1 absence per check for entire semester (3 points possible with checks being on 3rd grading period progress report, 3rd grading period report card, and 4th grading period progress report)
- 1 point for every two hours of Community Service (Max. points 2)
- 1 point for every 10 Be REAL Bucks turned in. (Max points 1)
- 1 point for perfect attendance and effort during ISTEP testing

# Parent Pointers

## Calendar

Mike Fisher  
John Young Middle School



### Parent Pointers Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>February 2018</b>				<b>1</b> Ask your child: "Do you think honesty is always the best policy? Why or why not?"	<b>2</b> It's International Friendship Month. Have your child send a card or letter to a friend.	<b>3</b> Can your child study with music? Some can and some can't. Experiment to figure out which way works best.
<b>4</b> Today is the birthday of Rosa Parks. With your child, learn more about this woman who changed history.	<b>5</b> Read a textbook assignment with your child. Then ask him to tell you about it in his own words.	<b>6</b> Talk with your child about mistakes. What are some ways people can learn from their mistakes?	<b>7</b> Review what your child should do in case of a kitchen fire.	<b>8</b> Have your child write a Valentine's message to someone who is sick or lonely and mail it to that person.	<b>9</b> Be creative in the kitchen. Which family member can invent the greatest-tasting new pizza topping?	<b>10</b> Have your child research careers that interest her. What skills or education are required for each?
<b>11</b> It's the birthday of Thomas Edison. Ask your child to give you three facts about this famous inventor.	<b>12</b> Have your child estimate how many bowls of cereal he can pour from one box. Keep track until the box is empty.	<b>13</b> After your child goes to bed, leave a Valentine where she'll see it when she wakes up tomorrow morning.	<b>14</b> Tell your child one specific thing you love about him today. Try to do this every day.	<b>15</b> Encourage your child to be a gracious winner and a good loser.	<b>16</b> Does your child have homework to do over the weekend? Make sure she schedules time to complete it.	<b>17</b> Ask your child to imagine life 150 years ago. How about 150 years in the future?
<b>18</b> Talk about a familiar place and decide which direction it is from your home.	<b>19</b> Ask your child what he would do if a friend of his stole something from a store.	<b>20</b> Remind your child not to share her passwords with her friends.	<b>21</b> Look over your child's homework. Give compliments and constructive criticism.	<b>22</b> Help your child set priorities when studying. Which is most important? Due first? Most difficult?	<b>23</b> Show your child his baby book. Talk about how special he was—and still is.	<b>24</b> Set aside some time to spend one-on-one with your child today.
<b>25</b> Serve your child's favorite breakfast today just to say, "I love you."	<b>26</b> If your child gets headaches or holds book too close, have her vision checked.	<b>27</b> Encourage your child to combine exercise and reading by listening to an audiobook while working out.	<b>28</b> Listen to a piece of music that has no lyrics. Have your child write his own words to the song.			



**John J. Young Middle School**  
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 [574] 254-3600  
[MishawakaSchools.com/jyms](http://MishawakaSchools.com/jyms)

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## John Young Dates to Remember

### February

2	Sports pictures	3:30 p.m.
5	PTSA meeting	6:30 p.m.
16	PTSA Dance	3:30–5:00 p.m.
19	No School – President’s Day	
21	NJHS Inductions	6:00 p.m.

### March

12	PTSA meeting	6:30 p.m.
16	End of 3rd Grading Period	
21	Snow make up day (School will be in session)	
30	No School – Recess Day	

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

### April

2–6	Spring Break	
13	Spring sports pictures	3:00 p.m.
16	PTSA meeting	6:30 p.m.
26	Spring pictures	8:00–11:00 a.m.

### May

4	May Festival of Fine Arts @ MHS	
7	PTSA meeting	6:30 p.m.
15	Spring Band Concert	
16	Snow make-up day (No School)	
17	Spring Choir Concert	
23	Spring Orchestra Concert	
28	No School – Memorial Day	
30	8th Grade trip to Washington, D.C. (through June 4)	

### June

1	Last Student Day
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