

MANHATTAN JR. HIGH NEWSLETTER
RON PACHECO – PRINCIPAL
Wednesday, September 30, 2009

SAFETY REMINDERS FOR BICYCLE RIDERS- FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Students riding bicycles are reminded to follow the "Rules of the Road" when traveling to/from school. Please remember that all traffic signs and rules apply to bicycles as well as motorized vehicles. Of special concern is the intersection of Rt. 52 and Foxford Dr. (by Berkots). Students must follow the directions displayed on the traffic signal whether walking or riding a bicycle. Parents please help reinforce safety rules with your children and we will do the same at school. Students, please remember bicycle riding to school is a privilege that may be revoked if procedures are violated. Thank you, for your cooperation.

DISTRICT BUDGET

Parents interested in viewing the school district budget may do so by visiting the school district website at www.manhattan114.org

STUDENT ABSENCES AND OFFICE HOURS

All parents/guardians are required to report their child absent from school. Calling 478-6090 anytime can do this, recorder is on 24 hrs. Reports by students will not be accepted. Please state your name, child's name, and a reason for the absence. Failure to report a child's absence will result in an unexcused absence. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday. If your student is absent more than 2 days you may request homework.

SCHOOL MEDICATION POLICY

Just a reminder to parents/guardians: Manhattan School District 114 policy states that any medication prescribed by a licensed physician requires the physician's written order, signed by the physician as well as the parent/guardian. Any over-the-counter (OTC) medication such as Tylenol, Advil, cough drops/syrups also require an authorization. All required forms are available in the nurse's office. All meds must be brought in by a parent/guardian and must come in original container labeled with student's name.

DENTAL EXAMS

All Illinois children in kindergarten, second and sixth grades are required to have an oral health examination. A licensed dentist must complete these dental exams and he/she must sign the examination form. Each child shall present proof of the dental examination by May 15, 2010. The examination must have been completed within 18 months prior to the May 15th deadline.

The dental examination forms are available in the nurse's office. The state has also provided "Waiver" forms for families who may have difficulty obtaining a dental examination at this time. If you are unable to obtain the required dental examination at this time, please contact the nurse's office.

SUBSTITUTE NURSES

If you know anyone who is a nurse and would like to sub at any of the schools please have them contact the business office at Wilson Creek, their phone is 815-478-4527.

MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE

All 6th graders are required to have a current school physical on file with the Nurse. If you have not done this, please do so immediately. Any 6th grader without a completed physical signed by a licensed practitioner, by October 15, 2009, will be excluded from school. Please call the Nurse at 815-478-6090 with any questions.

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

2009-2010 MJHS Cross Country

Coach: Ms. Gorney

Managers: Nick Marchio, Hannah Burkhardt, Josh Wilkey

This year we have a really large and talented group of runners - the largest in MJHS history! There are 3 managers and 41 runners, grades 6-8.

Girls: Samantha Bullock, Angela Burklow, Maura Dauzvardis, Marisa Foglia, April Hooper, Julie Keagle, Sammy Kestel, Jessica Lee, Taylor Martinez, Lisa Meister, Alexis Moreno, Yasmin Pantoja, Sami Perillo, Michele Prebe, Alexis Rodgers, Heather Wirth, Sarah Zarnowski

Boys: Kyle Barna, James Bourell, Ben Brandau, Matt Burke, Ryan Champlin, John Ciesla, Ben Coutcher, Ryan Dauzvardis, Dylan Dozier, Kyle Filkins, Christian Gabriel, Patrick Gabriel, Jarret Gmazel, Austin Healy, Tony Kestel, Tommy Kolacki, Scott Neumann, Ronnie Pacheco, Shaun Palgen, Mike Patrick, Mark Sargis, Justin Silberman, Zack Stevens, Zach Wendt

Although the end of the season is quickly approaching, the Demon Cross Country team still has several more meets! Cheer us on as we race to qualify for the State Meet in October!

BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

The 6th grade team: Madison Bajarunas, Katie Flores, Becca Gorman, Kayla Howard, Jenny Healy, Niamh Igoe, Rebecca Kahney, Lauren Kara, Toni Leitshuh, Cora Likins, Lilli Newtoff, Zoe Perillo, Abbey Rose, Daisy Saucedo, Nicole Wilson, Kim Bernhard.

The 7th grade team: Mike Albrecht, John Christel, Brandon Filafusi, Dylan Love, Jacob McNulty, Nick Olson, Matt Ryl-Kuchar, Timmy Sarhage, John Skiniotes, Joey Zemen.

The 8th grade team: Colin Carrasco, Kyle Forsythe, Seth Gajdoras, Nick Koerner, Ryan Murray, Andrew Ruswick, Adam Sargis, Ean Schultz, Mitchell Severson, Brad Skiniotes.

GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

The 7th grade team: Megan Barjarunas, Jenifer Cambron, Emily Coleman, Kassidy Henry, Alicia Hrvatin, Nina Torres, Julianna Torres, Bridgette Wood, Amy Zarnowski, Nicole Zyla.

The 8th grade team: Harleigh Bailey, Rebecca Bencsik, Yesinia Chavez, Pratilina Corbin, Caitlin Doyle, Madison Kestel, Erica Manzella, Marlee McCabe, Hannah Richardson, Samantha Wisniewski.

TEAM BUS SAFETY WEEKS OCTOBER 19-23

Bus Drivers will review and practice evacuations of school buses on school property. Please take this time to remind your child about the bus rules found in the handbook or the www.manhattan114.org web site. Thank you, Nancy Popp-Transportation Coordinator.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Fire Prevention Week is Oct 4 - 10. We highly encourage all families to join our support of the efforts of the fire department and other agencies by showing concern for fire prevention. It would be appropriate for all of us to check around our homes for possible fire hazards. We need to check smoke detectors and fire extinguishers. Also, it would be a good time for all of us to review or develop plans for escape in the event we were ever faced with this danger.

NO SCHOOL

There will be no school on October 9 for teacher institute day. There is no school on Monday, October 12, in observance of Columbus Day.

END OF THE 1ST QUARTER

October 23 marks the end of the first grading period. Report Cards will be sent home with students on October 30. The envelopes from progress reports and report cards must be sign and returned.

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Guardians will be receiving letters to set-up conferences. Please call immediately to set-up your conference. If you do not receive a letter and would like a conference, please call 478-6090 by October 23 and we will be happy to set one up for you.

An Introduction to Ms. Jennifer O'Neill the Reading Specialist at Manhattan Jr. High School

I am very excited to be the reading specialist here at Manhattan Jr. High School. I attended Governors State University in Matteson for my undergraduate degree in elementary education as well as for my master's degree in reading. This is my thirteenth year teaching. I taught fourth grade for one year in Palos, language arts at Gompers Jr. High School in Joliet for eight years, and was the reading specialist at Summit Hill Jr. High for three years. I truly enjoy working with junior high students and am excited to help develop the role of the reading specialist here in Manhattan.

All of the students have been assessed in the area of fluency and comprehension in their language arts classes. I will be working with the students who were below average range on the assessment but who do not already have an individualized education plan. I will be working with small groups of students when their class comes to the library each week.

I encourage you to stay connected to <http://readatmjhs.blogspot.com/> for strategies that you can use at home with your child. I also encourage you to contact me here at Manhattan Jr. High School. You can reach me through email at joneill@manhattan114.org or can call me at (815) 531-3229.

ORCHESTRA CONCERT

The Fall Orchestra Concert will be Thursday, October 15th at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to hear the entire string department perform!

BAND NEWS

On September 18, the 6-8 grade band members performed pre-game with Martino Jr. High and the Lincoln Way Central's Marching Knights. The kids played well and had a great time. Congratulations on a job well done!

There are several upcoming band events for the month of October. On Saturday, October 3 seven Jr. High Band students will be auditioning for the Illinois Music Educator's Honor Festival. Good luck to Emily Tanis, Frankie Kestel, Pam Swartz, Randy Pratl, Jonathan Melton, Joseph Onesto, and John Christel as they audition for this prestigious group! On Wednesday, October 21 we will be having our Band Booster Meeting at 7:00pm at the Jr. High. All band parents, grades 5-8, are encouraged to attend. The band will be having their fall fundraiser from October 19-30. We will be selling Joe Corbi's pizzas, pies, cheesecakes and several other items. Please be sure to see a band member if you are interested in supporting the band. Finally, on Tuesday, October 27 we will be having another performance with Lincoln Way Central. More information will follow as the date approaches. Please mark your calendar with these important upcoming events. Thank you.

READING CLASS

Starting on Tuesday, October 13, all of the 8 graders will be presenting research speeches in their reading classes about a topic they have selected about the Holocaust. This speech will wrap-up the Holocaust Unit the 8th graders cover, and this speech teaches the students how to locate good sources, how to integrate research into a speech, and how to create a proper works cited page.

WASHINGTON DC TRIP NEWS

There will be a mandatory parent/student meeting prior to our trip. We will be going over rules, expectations and answering any questions. There must be a parent present with each student. If you have a conflict please let me know. mgrifford@manhattan114.org. The meeting is Tuesday, October 20th at 7:00pm in the MJHS Commons.

ATTENTION 7 GR. PARENTS

SAVE THE DATE! We will be having an informational meeting on Wednesday, November 12 for any parent interested in receiving information on a trip to Washington DC that is offered to 8 grade students. We will be meeting in the library at 7pm. This meeting is for parents only. Your student will be talked to about the trip during their study hall.

PTO EXPO

The PTO will once again be hosting their Home Based Business Expo during the Parent Teacher Conferences Monday, Nov. 9th from 3pm-8pm at Wilson Creek School. Do you own a home-based business, or know someone who does? If you would like to participate, we will be accepting applications on a first-come/first-serve basis. If interested, please call Janet Major at (815) 478-7712, to determine your first-come basis. When calling please leave your name, type of business and phone number where you can be reached. All callers will receive a return phone call within 24 hours to let you know first-come basis. Phone calls will only be accepted until Oct. 16th, to allow enough time for further preparations. The cost for participating: \$15.00-Table Fee, \$10.00-each additional table, \$10.00-Raffle Prize Item.

HANDS TO HEARTS PROGRAM

Each month Mrs. Nass will provide an opportunity for interested students to make a craft project during their lunch/study period. All craft projects will be given to our seniors in Manhattan who attend the monthly luncheons sponsored by the Manhattan Park District. This coming month, on Friday, October 2nd, students will be making autumn foam wreaths. The sign-up sheet is on the main counter in the office area. Deadline for sign-ups is Wednesday, September 30th.

CHESS CLUB

Any interested students, from beginner to advanced, interested in playing chess during their lunch/study are invited to sign-up with Mrs. Nass. Chess club will meet on Fridays beginning October 9th. All interested students must sign up by Friday, October 2nd. There is no fee and the club is non-competitive. If you love to play chess, this club is for you!

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The winners of the Student Council election are: 6th grade – Courtney Jage, Sydney Cumbo, Savanna Kotschi, Isabella Miller, 7th grade – Nina Torres, Brandon Filafusi, Matt Burke, Mary Kate Cullen, Delaney Shepherd, 8th grade – Jesse Cambron, Rylee Schimmel, Sean Murray.

ORCHESTRA NEWS

Formal photos will be taken on Monday morning, October 5th during rehearsal time. Please come dressed to school in your formal attire. Bring a change of clothes for school. There will be no rehearsal on Tuesday, October 6th.

The fall concert for grades 4-8 will be Thursday, October 15th. All are invited to this free evening of beautiful music!

The boosters will have their meeting Thursday, October 8th starting at 7:00 p.m.

CHOIR NEWS

Formal photos will be taken Tuesday, October 6th during rehearsal. Please bring your dress shoes and accessories.

Boosters will have their meeting on Thursday, October 8th starting at 7:00 p.m.

GREEN TEAM

The Green Team is collecting aluminum op tabs. Please send to school!

PARENTS

ONLY if you haven't sent in your email address or it has changed, please send in. Please fill out the attached form with your address information. If it has not changed please don't fill out the form:

STUDENT NAME: _____

MOM E-MAIL: _____

DAD E-MAIL: _____

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct.	1	GBB @ Home 4PM
	5	7 th BVB Tourney @ Martino 4PM
	6	6 th GBB @ Home (Anna McDonald) 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Home 4PM 8 th BVB Tourney @ Martino 4PM CC @ Summit Hill 4:30PM
	8	6 th GBB @ Mokena 4PM 7 & 8 GBB Mokena 4PM
	9	NO SCHOOL – Institute Day
	10	CC Sectionals @ Beecher 8 AM
	12	NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day
	13	6 th GBB @ Hilda Walker 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Summit Hill 4PM
	15	Orchestra Concert 7PM 6 th GBB @ Nelson Ridge 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Martino 4PM
	16	Family Movie In The Gym – 6:30-8:30 PM Movie – Seventeen Again PG13 Concession Available
	17	CC State @ Normal 9AM
	19	7 & 8 GBB @ Bourbonnais 4:15PM
	20	6 th GBB @ Oakview 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Liberty 4PM BBB Tryouts 2:30 – 4:30
	22	6 th GBB @ Hickory Creek 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Hickory Creek 4PM
	23	End 1 st quarter Early Release 12 PM
	26	6 th GBB @ Wilmington 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Wilmington 4PM
	27	6 th GBB @ Home (Anna McDonald) 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Home 4PM
	28	Cross Country Awards Night @ 6PM
	29	6 th GBB @ Orenic (Troy) 4PM 7 & 8 GBB @ Troy 4PM
	30	Report Cards Sent Home