

**MANHATTAN JR. HIGH NEWSLETTER**  
**RON PACHECO – PRINCIPAL**  
**Friday, September 30, 2011**

**WEBSITE**

You can check out our website: [www.manhattan114.org](http://www.manhattan114.org) for menu's, activity calendars, directions to away games.

**PARENTS**

If you **haven't** sent in your email address please do, so we can start sending you the newsletters and other important information. Please email me your new info at: [gjohnston@manhattan114.org](mailto:gjohnston@manhattan114.org)

**STUDENT ABSENCES AND OFFICE HOURS**

All parents/guardians are required to report their child absent from school. Call 478-6090 anytime 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 2 days or more you may request homework.

**SIGN UP HOMELOGIC**

To sign up for Home Logic, send a email to: [homelogic@manhattan114.org](mailto:homelogic@manhattan114.org) with your student's full name, grade and a 5-character password. Then in a couple of days you will receive a confirmation with your user name, password and the Home Logic web address. Any questions please contact Mrs. Leppin at [homelogic@manhattan114.org](mailto:homelogic@manhattan114.org)

**RUN FOR PALESH 5K**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Run for Palesh was held on Sunday, September 25, 2011, in honor of the late Mr. Palesh who lost his battle with cancer over three years ago. Even the rainy weather could not stop the masses of people from coming out to celebrate the life and lessons of this beloved teacher. Thanks to the 423 race participants who registered, the entire Manhattan school district, and all of the volunteers. Without everyone's support and time, this event would not have been the great success that it was on Sunday. It was an emotional, humbling experience to see everyone out for this year's Run for Palesh.

The race results are available at <http://manhattanathleticboosters.shutterry.com/>. Congratulations to the top three overall female medal winners: Jenna Diers, Jessica Litman, and Jennifer Rojek. The top three overall female runners were David Kulbeda, Pete Slattery, and Nathan Coppens. A big round applause goes out to Keygan Balaja, Cara Champlin, Nicole Uranin, Hilary Gansauer, Debbie Flynn, Diane Milosevich, Brenda Martin, Philip Rinaldi, Brad Skiniotes, Tony Uranin, Rich Bogda, Bob Champlin, Cayse Mersch, and John Pascarella for winning their age/gender category. We hope to see everyone out at next year's Run for Palesh!

**NO SCHOOL**

There is no school on Monday, October 10, in observance of Columbus Day.

**END OF THE 1ST QUARTER**

October 21 marks the end of the first grading period. Report Cards will be ready October 28.

**PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parent/Guardians will be receiving letters to set-up conferences by October 15 if a teacher requests a conference. Please call immediately to set-up your conference. If you don't receive a letter by Oct 19 that means teachers don't need to see you. If you would like a conference, please call 478-6090 by November 4, and we will be happy to set one up for you.

### 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

### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Parents, we are excited to have our school added to the Box Tops for Education program.

Please go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and register for our school. It is free!!

We also ask that you save your box tops and send them to Manhattan Jr. High. This is a great way during the tough economic times to get free money for our school.

Once you are registered, we can also earn money from on line orders. Many stores have teamed up with Box Tops for Education to give a percent of the purchase back to the school.

The only way for our school to receive this money is if you shop through this web site. For example:

I am going to purchase shoes from Famous Footwear. I would go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).

Under the EARN tab Click "Shop Marketplace" find Famous Footwear and click "shop and earn" Famous Footwear will earn Manhattan Junior. High 7%.

This will be a great way to help your school while you also get some Christmas shopping done.

We are very excited and hope you will help us to exceed our goal of \$500, that Box Tops for Education has set for us.

### MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE

All 6<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> grader without a completed physical signed by a licensed practitioner, by October 15, 2012, will be excluded from school. Please call the Nurse at 815-478-6090 with any questions.

Vision/Hearing Screenings will be conducted during the month of October.

### 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, 2012. The examination must have been completed within 18 months prior to the May 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

**Coach:** Mrs. Smith

**Boys:** Codi Cabay, Connor Christensen, Nate Coppens, Ryan Dauzvardis, Joey Deloian, Jake Dryja, Christian Gabriel, Patrick Gabriel, Jarret Gmazel, Austin Healy, Nick Healy, Ryan Holl, Austin King, Vince Manzella, Ryan McWilliams, Ronnie Pacheco, Zach Paymaster, Vinnie Perillo, Philip Rinaldi, Justin Silberman, James Simnick, Gehrig Simon, Tommy Williams, Dylan Wischover, Jimmy Wisniewski, Tommy Zivat

**Girls:** Erin Albert, Grace Allpow, Kayla Bogda, Jenna Diers, Camryn Dorencz, Jade Espinoza, Amanda Flynn, Katie Forsythe, Megan Forsythe, Maddy Greenwood, Amanda Hartmann, Sammy Kestel, Jennifer Lee, Jessie Litman, Emily Loranger, Cara Menzyk, Sydney Monday, Lily Repiscak, Zoe Richardson, Alexis Rodgers, Hannah Schroeder, Sara Tucci.

**Managers:** Olivia Ramirez, Sarah Rushing, Amilia Westergaard, Heather Wirth.

### BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

**7<sup>th</sup> gr. Team:** Tyler Dunne, Greg Dziubek, Justin Burke, Sam Stencel, Noah Davis, Shane Kelly, Nick Boeckman, Brandan Glennon, Nate Davis, Adian Piwnicki, Isaac Chavez.

**8<sup>th</sup> gr. Team:** Isaac Hopper, Tyler Krzebiot, Brandon Landaverde, Mitchell Kwasigroch, Ben Gulik, John Skiniotes, Mark Sargis

### GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

**6<sup>th</sup> gr. Team:** Raquel Chavez, Lauren Schultz, Kate Honan, Kate Figlewski, Lexi Filafusi, Jenna Keagle, Bekah Wirth, Kristina Dalpolo, Haley Corbett, Hannah Falejczyk, Amber Evans, Jolie Boros, Emily Jones, Erica Boggs

Come check out our home games at Anna McDonald. Most games start @ 4PM.

**7<sup>th</sup> gr. Team:** Yasmine Chavez, Elayna Cheney, Cassiday Fitzgerald, Marissa Grynevich, Alana Hamilton, Kimberly Heimer, Ally Jendras, Lauren Jordan, Rae Lucas, Skyler Whitlow.

**8<sup>th</sup> gr. Team:** Brianna Fasano, Becca Gorman, Kayla Howard, Lauren Kara, Zady Koerner, Toni Leitshuh, Cora Likins, Lili Newtoff, Abbey Rose, Daisy Saucedo, Caroline Torkelson, Nicole Wilson.

### CHEERLEADERS FOR 2011-12

The cheerleaders for this year are: Shannon Mance, Heather Wirth, Natalie DePaula, Kayla Leggero, Kiley Kovac, Gianna Munoz, Bella Miller, Courtney Jage, Cassie Sutter, Heather Wildlacki, Anna Sarsfield, Kalisa Judge, Lauren Klickner, Sam Mitchell, Emily Karalus, Alyssa Elberson.

### STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Student Council has already been quite busy this year from helping our new 6th grade students move into their lockers before the start of school, to hosting a "Meet and Greet" to 11 new students to our district, to welcoming parents and helping out at Back to School Night in September, and to having students sign a banner to give to our area's WWII veterans. We have also held Student Council elections and are thrilled to announce the following students as our Student Council representatives for 2011-2012.

**6th Graders:** Steffanie Sestak, Abigail Sutter, Noah Davis, Jimmy Liappias

**7th Graders:** Anna Ramirez, Faith Bothwell, Joe Kasch, Yvette Camargo

**8th Graders:** Livi Deloian (Student Council President), Maddie Barjunas, Bella Miller, Cole Stencil  
The next big activity that Student Council will be involved in will be Red Ribbon Week which will be held during the last week in October. Our next newsletter will be filled with lots of news about what we did that week for Manhattan Jr. High. Student Council co-sponsors, Mrs. Kozlowicz and Mrs. Nass are excited to be working with such a great group of students.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

Two activities that will be held on Fridays during the students' homeroom period will be underway soon. HANDS TO HEARTS will meet monthly to make crafts for the senior citizens in Manhattan who participate in our local park district's senior luncheon program. When we are not making crafts, there will be a CHESS CLUB for students, both novice and more advanced players, who just

want to play the ultimate strategy game of Chess. These activities are free and are open to any student, with parent and homeroom teacher permission, of course. In the coming months, students will also be given opportunities during homeroom to enjoy an ANAMIE DRAWING CLUB and ORIGAMI CLUB as well. Stay tuned for more info!

### GRIEF AND LOSS

The Joliet Area Community Hospice will be hosting a free four session program called Family Journey for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one. Each of the sessions will include a presentation by a staff member related to grief and loss. Group discussion and support will follow the presentation. There is a support group for children and teens that is held concurrently with the adult program. All four groups will be held from 7 - 9 PM at Joliet Area Community Hospice, 250 Water Stone Circle in Joliet. The groups will be held on Thursdays, October 6, 13, 20, and 27. Registration is requested. For more information or to register, contact Mary Ann Burns at (815) 460-3282 or mburns@joliethospice.org

### COMMUNITY CORNER

Each month several community agencies and/or websites or books, of interest to parents will be highlighted. Please let our social worker, Mrs. Nass, know if you would like to see specific resources in this newsletter. Of course, you may call her anytime at the school's main number with specific requests.

- 1) [www.illinois hardest hit.org](http://www.illinois hardest hit.org). This is the official website in Illinois that has a free application to help with mortgage payment assistance. This program is a joint venture by the Illinois Housing Development Authority and the U.S. Department of the Treasury. This program offers mortgage payment assistance to households that are struggling with income loss due to unemployment or underemployment, but are working to regain sufficient income to keep their home. Eligibility requirements and the free application can be found on this website.
- 2) [info@namiwillcounty.org](mailto:info@namiwillcounty.org) (815) 731-9103 This organization serves individuals with mental illness and their families in Will County, NAMI- Will County hosts a number of support and education groups throughout each month that focuses on their needs. The full listing of resource and support groups can be found on their website or by calling them directly at the above number.
- 3) [commonsensemedia.com](http://commonsensemedia.com) - this site is filled with invaluable information for parents. It gives parents advice and reviews of movies, games, apps, and more. They have lots of resources for parents on the issue of cyberbullying as well.

### BAND NEWS

**October 1:** Good luck to the following band students who will be auditioning for the Illinois Music Educator's Association Honor Band festival to be held at Riverside-Brookfield High School on Saturday, November 5: Kaitlyn Forsythe, flute; Austin Healy, trumpet; Brett Hyink, trombone; James Lipinski, tuba; Cole Stencel, tuba; Robbie Piarowski, percussion; Eddie Moustis, percussion.

**October 17-28** will be the Band's fall fundraiser. More information will be coming.

**October 19:** Band Booster Meeting 6:00pm in the band room. Sign ups for Secret Santa will take place at this meeting. Be sure to attend to ensure you get the times you want to work.

### ORCHESTRA + CHOIR NEWS

Formal photos will be taken during rehearsal time on Monday, October 3rd. Orchestra should wear their formal to school, and bring a change of clothing. Choir will change into their formals at 2:00. With 60 kids in choir, we may run a little over with time. The photographer has sent out an orange pricing sheet. Please turn your money and form in on the 3rd.

October 27 is our fall "Sing And String" concert at 7:00 p.m. at the junior high. Everyone is invited to come and listen to the musical talents of our hard working students.

## GREEN TEAM

### **Green Team needs your help!**

The MJHS Green Team is collecting empty Frito Lay bags and aluminum pop tabs as part of its Terracycling Recycling program. This great program allows us to turn trash into cash. Please send empty Frito Lay bags and pop tabs to Mrs. Senka's Classroom! Thank you!

## LIBRARY NEWS

The library has been a busy place. Many classes have used the computer lab in the library for classroom activities and research. Students are also checking out many books and finding the library a good place to read. There are many new books available for students to check out, including books for the "Battle of the Books." A date for Battle of the Books has not yet been determined, but based on last year's battle, I'm sure there will be many participants. A Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the library October 3 – 7. Look for an email soon asking for volunteers to work at the book fair.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Oct.	3	GBB @ Home vs. Peotone 4PM
	3-7	Fall Book Fair
	4	CC Conference Meet @ Hickory Creek 4:15PM BVB 7 <sup>th</sup> Conference Tourney @ Summit Hill 4PM 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Home vs. Hickory Creek 4PM 6 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Hickory Creek 4PM
	5	BVB 8 <sup>th</sup> Conference Tourney @ Summit Hill 4PM Athletic Booster Mtg. 7PM
	6	BVB 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Semi finals @ Summit Hill 4PM 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Home vs. Martino 4PM 6 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Anna McDonald 4PM Orchestra/Choir Booster Mtg. 7PM
	10	No School – Teacher Institute
	11	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Oakview 4PM 6 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Liberty 4PM Open Gym 2:30 – 4PM
	12	Open Gym 2:30 – 4PM
	13	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Home vs. Homer 4PM 6 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Wilson Creek 4PM
	14	Women's Club Dance 7 – 9PM
	15	CC State @ Normal IL 9AM
	17	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Bourbonnais 4:15PM BBB Tryouts 2:30 – 4:30PM
	18	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Troy 4PM 6 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Orenic 4PM BBB Tryouts 2:30 – 4:30PM
	19	Band Booster Mtg 7PM
	21	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter Donkey Basketball 7PM @ MJHS
	25	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Home vs. Summit Hill 6 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Hilda Walker 4PM
	26	Cross Country Award Night 6PM
	27	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Martino 4PM 6 <sup>th</sup> GBB @ Spenser Crossing 4PM Fall Sing & String Concert 7PM

28 Report Cards Ready  
29 PTO Dance @ MJHS 6:30 – 9PM  
31 Happy Halloween