

MANHATTAN JR. HIGH NEWSLETTER

RONALD PACHECO - PRINCIPAL

www.manhattan114.org

October 29, 2009

NEW WAY TO ACCESS SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION:

Call your child's school phone number (Manhattan Jr. High – 815-478-6090), or the district phone number (815-478-6093). Then, press 5 to hear updated information about school closings.

Parents have other options to receive information on whether our school will follow PLAN A: School is closed or PLAN B: School will begin one hour later than usual. These options are as follows:

1. Listen to WJOL Radio (1340 AM), WGN Radio (720 AM), WBBM Radio (780 AM), CBS Channel 2, NBC Channel 5, ABC Channel 7, WGN Channel 9, Fox Channel 32 and CLTV Cable.
2. By touch-tone phone call 312-222-SNOW. You will be prompted to enter our main phone number 815-478-4527.
3. Access the website www.emergencyclosings.com. Once connected, search for Wilson Creek School for information. Parents can sign-up to receive an e-mail notification through this website.

EARLY DISMISSAL: If it becomes necessary to close school during the day, an announcement will be made on WJOL (1340 AM) radio. Our school will attempt to contact Wilson Creek, Anna McDonald, and requested Manhattan Junior High parents, only in the event of an early dismissal. Make sure your child has proper instructions as to what to do!

PARKING LOT AND BUS SAFETY

Parents who are picking up or dropping off students are asked to enter the parking lot through the west driveway. Please avoid parking in front of the school when school buses are present and obey the stop arms on the buses. Thank you for your cooperation.

EXPLORE TESTING

All eighth grade students took the Explore test the week of October 19. Results from the explore test are used by Lincoln-Way for scheduling purposes for next year.

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences are on November 9, 2 - 9 PM and November 10, 8 - 1 PM. If you need to set-up an appointment, please call 478-6090.

STUDENT ID's & LANYARDS

The main office has lanyards (with safety feature) with the Manhattan logo for \$2 for any interested student. Wearing a lanyard is highly recommended to prevent misplacement.

CHANGE OF INFORMATION

It is **very important** that parents notify the school office at 478-6090 with any changes in home, work, emergency phone numbers and email address changes. Valuable time can be saved in emergency situations if information is kept up to date. Thank You!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

School will be dismissed early on Wednesday, November 25, at 1:30. There will be **NO SCHOOL** on Thursday, November 26 or Friday, November 27. On behalf of all faculty and staff, we wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2009-2010 BASKETBALL TEAMS

6th grade boys basketball team: Casey Dobczyk, Steve Likins, John Skiniotes, Mike Madej, Philip Rinaldi, Chad Tucker, Jimmy Wisniewski, Zach Bennett, Brendan Flynn, Marc Schaefer, Justin Silberman, Kyle Filkins, Eric Ramos, Keis Coulter, Mitchell Kwasigroch, Nick Podgorny, Michael Boyles, Jarrett Gmazel, Brandon Porter, Mark Sargis.

7th grade boys basketball team: Connor Campbell, Ethan Cook, Brandon Filafusi, Brett Martinez, Jake McGrath, Jake McNulty, Luke Newtoff, Matt Ryl-Kuchar, Jon Spesia, Jason Stricklin, Sean Studer, Joey Zemen.

8th grade boys basketball team: Jesse Cambron, Zack Doerrer, Tony Kestel, Ryan Murray, Alex Parks, Sam Printy, Andrew Ruswick, Matt Roseen, Adam Sargis, Mitchell Severson, Brad Skiniotes, Parker Young.

Manager's – Dylan Love, Adam Lillie

MJHS CROSS COUNTRY

The MJHS Cross Country team ended their hard-working season by qualifying for the IESA State Finals meet in Normal, Illinois on Saturday, October 17th. Fourteen runners and six alternates qualified to participate in the 2-mile race and proudly represented Manhattan Junior High School against the best runners in the state. After winning the Class A Sectional Meet at Beecher one-week prior (for the FOURTH consecutive year in a row), the boy's team ran a strong race in Normal and placed 18th. The runners were Tony Kestel (8th Grade), Ryan Champlin (8th Grade), Ben Brandau (8th Grade), Tommy Kolacki (7th Grade), James Bourell (7th Grade), Patrick Gabriel (6th Grade), and Christian Gabriel (6th Grade). The alternates were Kyle Barna (8th Grade), Scott Neumann (8th Grade), and Mike Patrick (8th Grade). Two runners, Ryan Champlin and Tommy Kolacki, ran their best 2-mile race time ever!

The girl's team placed second at the Class A Sectional Meet at Beecher, only one point behind the first place team! At the State Meet, they also ran a strong race and placed 23rd. The runners were Angela Burklow (8th Grade), Taylor Martinez (8th Grade), Julie Keagle (8th Grade), Marisa Foglia (8th Grade), Yasmin Pantoja (6th Grade), Sammy Kestel (6th Grade), and Alexis Rodgers (6th Grade). The alternates were Maura Dauzvardis (8th Grade), Samantha Bullock (7th Grade), and Michele Prebe (8th Grade). Three runners, Taylor Martinez, Julie Keagle, and Yasmin Pantoja, ran their best 2-mile race time ever!

In addition to the great team performances, one runner ran an exceptionally outstanding race. Angela Burklow (8th Grade) placed an incredible 15th out of 237 runners! She ran her 2-mile race in 12 minutes, 37 seconds. Angela was honored at the Awards Ceremony as she earned a medal and represented Manhattan among the top 25 runners at the State Finals Meet. Way to go, Angela!

Manhattan Junior High School students and staff are very proud of the Demon Runners and we look forward to more successful seasons to come!

MANHATTAN PTO HOME SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA!

If you're looking for Christmas gifts, teacher gifts, something for the office, gifts for the bus driver, your holiday hostess or even a gift for yourself, this is the place to be!

Get a head start on your Christmas shopping at the PTO's Annual Home Shopping Expo! This event will be held at Wilson Creek Elementary, on Monday, November 9th, from 3 p.m. - 8 p.m. There will be great raffles from all vendors!

Vendors include but not limited to:

Avon, Celebrating Home, Chic Boutique, Close To My Heart, Cookie Lee, Creative Memories, Curves, Double Take Photography, Dress A Neck, Gold Canyon Candles, Gram of Gold (gold buying), Great Products 2go, Hand Stamped, Creations by Lisa, Juice Plus+, Lia Sophia, Mary Kay, Miche Bags, Moms Helping Moms, Pampered Chef, Partylite, Reel Art Productions, Silpada, Southern Living at Home, Stampin' Up!, Sunsilks, Tastefully Simple, The, Angel Company, Thirty-One Gifts, Tupperware, Uppercase Living, Votre Vu, What a Charming Idea

This event is open to the public! Please invite your friends.

If you would like more information regarding any of our vendors, please feel free to contact Lori Brown at (815) 478-5119 or thebrowns@earthlink.net.

The PTO thanks you for your support!

ATTENTION 7 GRADE PARENTS

SAVE THE DATE! We will be having an informational meeting on Thursday, November 19 for any parent interested in receiving information on a trip to Washington DC that is offered to 8th grade students. We will be meeting in the library at 7p.m. **this meeting is for parents only**. Your student will be talked to about the trip during their study hall. Computers will be available for registration at the meeting. There will be prize drawings for onsite registration (either online with credit card or with packet registration and check) that night!

HANDS TO HEARTS

Students interested in making a craft for the seniors of Manhattan will have the opportunity to do so on Friday, November 6th during all lunch/study periods. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Main Office.

COMMUNITY OFFERINGS

The Joliet Area Community Hospice will be offering a special family grief support program to anyone who has suffered a loss through death entitled **Help for the Holidays**. This program is a 2 day workshop for ages 5 and up with separate groups for children, teens, and adults. The times and dates for this program are Thursday, November 12th from 7 PM to 9 PM and Thursday, November 19th from 7 PM to 9 PM at the Joliet Area Community Hospice office at 250 Water Stone Circle in Joliet. For more information or to register, call (815) 740-4104 or e-mail mburns@joliethospice.org.

Manhattan Foundation for Educational Excellence

Turn your weekly grocery bill into cash for our schools! Shop at Berkot's (Manhattan) on **November 9th & 10th** and **Nov. 16th & 17th**. Turn in this identification slip with your purchase, and Berkot's will donate 5% of your bill to the Manhattan Foundation for Educational Excellence. Please encourage your family and friends to also participate. Thank you for your support!

USE THIS SLIP ON NOV. 9 & 10

USE THIS SLIP ON NOV 16&17



100 Market Place Manhattan, IL 60442

Store # 315 Checker # _____
Manhattan Foundation for Educational Excellence
Manhattan, IL

Berkot's Community Involvement Days are good for:
Nov. 9th & Nov. 10th 2009 (Mon/Tues)

Total amount of purchase \$ _____
(Excluding tobacco, cigarettes liquor or tax)

Date of Shopping _____

Customer Signature _____



100 Market Place Manhattan, IL 60442

Store # 315 Checker # _____
Manhattan Foundation for Educational Excellence
Manhattan, IL

Berkot's Community Involvement Days are good for:
Nov. 16th & Nov. 17th 2009 (Mon/Tues)

Total amount of purchase \$ _____
(Excluding tobacco, cigarettes liquor or tax)

Date of Shopping _____

Customer Signature _____

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to Hannah Burkhardt (violin) Ryan Dauzvardis (string bass) Jon Melton (tuba) and Ronnie Pacheco (string bass) These students were selected to participate in the Illinois Music Educator's Association Festival on November 7th at Lincoln-Way North. BRAVO!

The Lincoln-Way Choral Fest will be held on Wednesday, November 18 at Lincoln-Way Central. Everyone is invited to come and hear our Demon Choir perform along with Liberty, Martino and the many choirs from Lincoln-Way. The concert is free and begins at 7:00 p.m.

BAND NEWS

On Saturday, November 7th, 2009, Jonathan Melton, an 8th grade tuba player, will be participating in the Illinois Music Educators Association Honor Band Festival at Lincoln Way North High School in Frankfort. Jonathan auditioned for this festival on Saturday, October 3 and competed against several other schools in order to be member of this honor band. This festival will involve over 500 students selected from more than 60 schools throughout the metropolitan Chicago area. Congratulations and Good Luck Jon!

On Tuesday, October 27, the 6-8th grade marching band performed at the Sounds of the Stadium performance at Lincoln Way Central High School. At this performance, the band performed along with the bands from Martino Jr. High School and the LWC Marching Knights. This was a great experience for the kids. Congratulations to the band for an outstanding performance!

Band parents are reminded that the November Band Booster meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 18 at 7:00pm in the band room. We hope to see you there!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Student Council would like to thank all homerooms for their support in decorating boxes for Operation Care Package. These boxes will be filled with much needed items for our soldiers overseas. The 3 winning homerooms that turned all of their boxes in first won a party for their homerooms. Congratulations to the homerooms of Ms. Tooley, Ms. Podlesny, and Ms. Gorney.

Red Ribbon week was celebrated the week of October 19th. Students had the opportunity to dress up to a different theme each day. In addition, both individual students and homerooms were invited to submit posters with an anti-drug or anti-alcohol message. The top 3 individual posters in the school were awarded a \$25 gift certificate from Target. The top 3 homerooms were awarded a pizza party. Individual and homeroom winners include:

Student Winners: Kaley Albrecht, Luke Newtoff, and Vincent Manzella

Homeroom Winners: Mrs. Senka, Ms. Podlesny, and Ms. Tooley

CONGRATULATIONS!

SCIENCE NEWS

Science Club just finished their first after school session. 1..2..3..Blast Off was the fall theme. Students created their own rockets out of 2 Liter soda bottles and launched them off. Next we used a NASA simulator to adjust the variables for optimum results. From this, we made our final adjustments and relaunched. Tommy Williams, Alan Hartmann, Rebecca Reidenga, and Tyler Rogers all had successful launches. We ended our session with Creepy Chemistry Theme day for Halloween. Watch for our upcoming winter session. Anyone can join Science Club. Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Senka

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Frankfort Counseling Associates' are offering a Fall Parenting Workshop series to assist parents with teen issues. All workshops are free of charge and will be held at Frankfort Counseling Associates. To register for one or more of these workshops, call Frankfort Counseling Associates at (815) 469-6480. Space is limited.

Keeping Teens Safe on the Information Superhighway
Saturday, November 7th from 10 AM to 11:30 AM
Presentation by Christina Reed, Counselor at Frankfort Counseling Associates
&
Tackling Attitude with Aptitude: Parenting and Discipline for Today's Teen
Wednesday, November 18th from 7 PM to 8:30 PM
Presentation by Rahul Bhala, Community Liason, Linden Oaks

PARENTS

If you **haven't** sent in your email address or it has changed please fill out form and send to office, so we can start sending you the newsletters, and other important information.
If your address changes please keep us updated. Thank you.

STUDENT NAME: _____

MOM E-MAIL: _____

DAD E-MAIL: _____

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 2 6th GBB @ Anna McDonald 4 PM
3 6th GBB @ Anna McDonald 4 PM
3-5 Hearing/Vision Testing
5 6th GBB @ Anna McDonald 4 PM
7-8 GBB @ Home 4 PM
6-7 BBB Tourney @ Joliet West
9-11 No School
9-10 P/T Conf. appointment needed
12 6th GBB @ Wilson Creek 4 PM
7-8 GBB @ Home 4 PM
14 Speech Contest @ Liberty
16 6th GBB @ Homer-Hadley 4 PM
7-8 GBB @ Homer 4 PM
6th BBB @ Anna McDonald 4 PM
7-8 BBB @ Home 4 PM
17 6th GBB @ Anna McDonald 4 PM
7-8 GBB @ Home 4 PM
6th BBB @ Hickory Creek 4 PM
7-8 BBB @ Hickory Creek 4 PM
19 6th BBB @ Wilmington 4:30 PM
21 7th GBB Regional's
23 6th BBB @ Orenic-Troy 4 PM
7-8 BBB @ Troy 4 PM
25 Early Release 1:30 PM
26-27 No School – Thanksgiving Holiday
30 7-8 BBB @ Home 4 PM
8th GBB Regional's