## **IMJS Update**

September 2, 2023

#### Dear MJS Community,

I hope the first week back to school was happy and successful for all our families. It was wonderful to see our students back in the hallways and feel the vibrancy of the new school year here at MJS.

In every bi-weekly newsletter, we always kick off information with a peek into the learning happening at MJS. This week our classroom and hallways overflowed with community building, getting to know you, and teamwork activities.

I tried my best to capture some of the engaging activities our teacher planned for students, but so many times, I got caught up in joining the lesson itself that I forgot to take a picture! I got to take a Pig Personality test, play in a Rock Paper Scissors Tournament, get stumped in a Dice Logic game and set off Alka-Seltzer rockets on the front lawn. Be sure to ask your child what the most fun activity was this week, and check out the windows into learning below to see some learning in action.

#### **Homework Calendars**

Our grade levels teams want to support our students as best they can, and one way we've found to be most helpful is using team or grade-level homework calendars. Further below in the newsletter, you will find links to the homework calendars for each grade or team. We are hopeful that having this snapshot view in one place will support our students with their organization and time management skills. Homework calendars can also be viewed on our MJS website under Student Resources at this link: MJS Homework Calendars.

#### **Daily Bulletin**

Information on clubs and activities and school announcements can be found daily at our <u>Daily</u> <u>Bulletin link</u> on the website.

Also below, in each newsletter, you'll find links to all our schedules, important upcoming dates, and a link to ask questions or share feedback.

We have a three-day weekend with Labor Day ahead; we look forward to seeing all our students on Tuesday. Have a great long weekend!

# Mindow AT MJS

# Check out some of the relationship and team building activities from this week!







Spanish students challenged their tablemates with Minute-To-Win-It competitions.

In art classes, students brainstormed BINGO board categories, then drew the item on their personal BINGO board to play a few rounds. Most popular ideas from students - fast food menu items, the KoolAid logo, and school supplies. Food and school were on their minds!

Students designed and shared their own digital lockers to get to know one another.







In many classrooms, students built foundations of teamwork by completing the silent activity of forming various lineups and groups - they did it! Many classrooms created their own learning norms and expectations in each period.

In English, students sampled the first line of many popular books, then wrote their own first line for the book of this school year!







In science, students created a presentation sharing how science impacted something they did over the summer.

Many classes completed carousel activities to learn about one another. Here, students shared what kind of car they would be and give one piece of evidence why.

Students were also asked what bird, musical instrument, animal, or song they would be!

In English, students forged community bonds through rock paper scissors competitions and various team-building games based on the popular Surivor show.







In social studies, students had to fill a paper bag with three items in school that demonstrated who they were. Classmates had to use evidence and observations to guess who created each bag.

Also in social studies, students used Frayer Model boards to learn about their classmates and introduce one another to their class.

In math, students faced the ultimate square challenge - teams worked hard to create as many squares as possible using a limited amount of popsicle sticks.

#### Care Plus Wellness Corner

Going back to school can bring up a lot of mixed emotions. It's not surprising that students may feel some anxiety, whether it's lingering concerns about COVID, social anxiety about starting a new school or making friends, or other fears and worries. Please



consider joining this virtual talk on **Wednesday, September 14, 2022 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm** to learn how to support your child(ren) as they acclimate to the 2022-2023 school year. <u>Click here</u> to sign up.

#### **MEF's An Evening of Glamping**

Last Call! Get your tickets ASAP to next week's event, "An Evening of Glamping" to benefit the Madison Education Foundation. Don't miss out on this opportunity to mingle with old friends, connect with new friends, and raise money for the MEF! All proceeds go directly to fund grants in Madison Public Schools that inspire educators and enrich the academic and creative lives and social emotional health of students. Buy your tickets here:



https://mefnj.networkforgood.com/events/46616-an-evening-of-glamping-to-benefit-the-madison-education-foundation

See you at the campfire! #mefgoesglamping #happyglamper



A big thank you to the MJS PTO for the wonderful Welcome Back Breakfast and Buffet Luncheon during our 2023 Preservice Days last week. There's nothing better than joining colleagues, sharing summer memories, and breaking bread together!

#### **MJS PTO PRESS**

Dear MJS parents,

We hope you had a great summer as we look forward to the 2022-2023 school year.

We'd like to introduce this year's parent volunteer MJS PTO Board:

- Co Presidents: Irene Rodin and Christina Notaro
- Treasurer: Liz Ferraiolo
- Board Members: Katie Soeder and Kumi Varga
- We will have 3 scheduled PTO meetings this year (zoom option available). All meetings will be held at 7pm at MJS on the following dates, 10/12, 2/8, 4/12. Speaker and presenter information to follow.
- Dues! Suggested donation of \$50-\$75 per student: <a href="https://madison-junior-school-pto.square.site/">https://madison-junior-school-pto.square.site/</a>, or, Venmo us @MJS-PTO-1

Your support is invaluable to our mission of ensuring that our children have the best experience possible. Dues help us to sponsor various educational enrichments and invite special speakers for our children. They provide teacher grants for supplies and other materials. Dues help fund class socials for our students and assist us in our staff appreciation efforts (this month, we are stocking the teachers' lounge with snacks & drinks!)

We are looking forward to an inclusive, productive, and memorable school year! Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

All the best, Irene & Christina

P.S. Fresh ideas are always welcome, and like in past years, Irene will handle the complaint department :).

#### Congratulations Mr. Erdreich

Congratulations to MJS STEAM educator Mr. Jason Erdreich for receiving a Meffies award for innovation from the Madison Education Foundation. He received the award for his New Heights in Robotics grant. Pictured is the district-wide award recipients.



### **Homework Calendars**







Team 6A Homework Calendar

Team 6B Homework Calendar







Team 7A Homework Calendar

Team 7B Homework Calendar

Grade 8 Homework Calendar

### **MJS Schedules**







Regular A/B Day

Single Session/Delayed
Opening

A/B Yearly Rotation Schedule

#### **Important Upcoming Dates**

September 5, 2022 - Schools Closed for Labor Day

Friday, 9/16 - Girls Soccer game vs Ridgedale

Monday, 9/19 - Start Strong Testing Math

Tuesday, 9/20 - Start Strong Testing ELA

Tuesday, 9/20 - Boys Soccer game vs Mendham Twp

Tuesday, 9/20 - Cross Country vs Mendham Twp

Wednesday, 9/21 - Start Strong Testing Makeups

September 26, 2022 - Schools Closed for Rosh Hashanah

September 21, 2022 - Picture Day

Thursday, 9/22 - Start Strong Testing Science - Grade 6 only

Thursday, 9/22 - Back To School Night - 6:30-8:30 pm

Friday, 9/23 - Start Strong Testing Makeups

Monday, 9/26 - School Closed - Yom Kippur

Monday, 9/26 - Girls Soccer Game vs Ridgedale

Wednesday, 9/28 - Girls Soccer Game vs Whippany Park

#### I'd like to know about...

Please feel free to use this <u>Feedback Link</u> to ask Ms. Phillips to include certain information in a future update. It's helpful to know what you would like to learn more about!

