# MJS Update

**FEBRUARY 10, 2023** 

### Dear MJS Community,

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the PTO meeting this past week, both in person and virtually. A special thanks to Superintendent Mark Schwarz for joining us as we discussed the middle school experience, both from the perspective of our students and as parents of middle schoolers.



We are looking for a parent BookFair Chairperson to partner with librarian Karen Bessin during our spring book fair this year and continue with the committee moving into next year. If interested, please get in touch with PTO co-presidents Christina Notaro at <a href="mailto:christina.notaro@yahoo.com">christina.notaro@yahoo.com</a> or Irene Rodin at <a href="mailto:ibyrdin@yahoo.com">ibyrdin@yahoo.com</a>. Join us as we build and foster the love of books in our students.

As always, if there is anything parents or guardians want to discuss with the MJS administration, please don't feel you need to wait for a PTO meeting. Parent feedback is invaluable and greatly appreciated; we want to hear where we can improve and learn what's going well! Reach out anytime via email, phone, or stop by.

Coming soon from Student Council...STUCO Advisor Maryana Kolinchak will be working with students on a 'sweet' after-school fundraiser to support victims of earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. STUCO Advisor Kathy Siso is working with students to host a new event - a Pickleball Tournament, complete with pickles as snacks! Students requested MJS hold this event specifically to collect funds for recent earthquake victims. Details are coming soon.

#### **SOUP-ER BOWL DRIVE**

Now through February 12, we will be having a "Soup-er Bowl" food drive sponsored by the Student Council. The homeroom that brings in the most non-perishable food for the food pantry will win a prize.

#### **SPRING MUSICAL MATILDA JR.**

Tickets are now for sale for our spring musical, Matilda Jr. Once the link for tickets is clicked, there is a list of cast members for each performance. Click here for tickets.

- Matilda Jr. Chocolate Cake Cast Friday, March 3 at 7:00 PM and Saturday, March 4 at 2:00 PM
- Matilda Jr. Books Cast Saturday, March 4 at 7:00 PM and Sunday, March 5 at 2:00 PM

#### **Kiss the Cast**

Beat the crowds and write your favorite cast or crew members a special message from the comfort of your home, and we'll deliver it after the show! <u>Click here</u> to pre-purchase your Kiss the Cast messages!

#### **Parent Volunteers**

And to our families with performers, the MMA will run our front of the house and need parent volunteers to help them for each performance. Please consider signing up for a time slot. We appreciate your help! <u>Click here to volunteer.</u>

Brooke Phillips

Madison Junior School Principal





7th Grade Innovation & Design





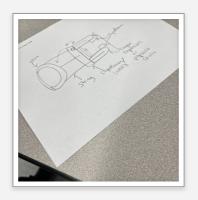


In a recent TED class, students worked to identify how technology can be used to enhance biological and medical needs through the concepts of Biotechnology!

Through the Prosthetics
Articulation Challenge, students
designed and constructed an
affordable prosthetic that can
complete a series of real-world
tasks, just as our hands can.

To kick off the brainstorming and research components, students were given a list of materials to create a tool that would pick out items from a bucket without using their hands.



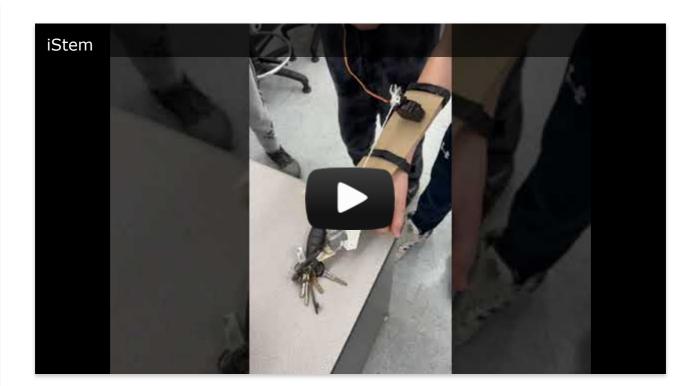




Many students created successful tools to pick up items such as keys, driver's licenses, and glasses.

After completing the research and brainstorming stages, students transitioned into constructing prototype solutions. While there are material constraints, this challenge is largely open-ended in how you construct your prototypes and whether it functions mechanically, electronically, or with pneumatics.

While there were material constraints, the challenge was largely open-ended in how students construct prototypes, as well as whether it functions mechanically, electronically, or with pneumatics. Check out some final prototypes in the video below!



### 6th Grade Social Studies







Students enjoyed a virtual history seminar provided by the Gilder Lehrman Institute. The class examined some of the private collections of primary sources and discuss their value to understanding history.

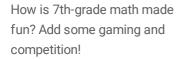
Students explored maps, virtual tours, and a diary entry from Benjamin Latrobe about visiting President Washington.
Students got to ask some great questions and interact with the

institute panelists.

Last month MJS students got to meet virtually with a few members of the broadway cast of Hamilton. Students asked questions and learned about the show from insiders!

### 7th Grade Math







Students worked as teams to solve equations and earn points for throwing a ball into the basket.



Teams then took their chances at making a basket with the points earned. Math glory was given to winning teams.

# **National Read Aloud Day**



Students enjoyed hearing a read-aloud from Assistant Principal Frank Perrone on National Read Aloud Day, February 1st. Other mystery readers included District C&I Director Donna

Gallo, Instructional Coach Shelly Emann, Librarian Karen Bessin, Counselor Libby Marotta, and Principal Brooke Phillips.

### 8th Grade Art



8th-grade students worked on self-portraits recently.



Using the grid method, students worked to create an accurate portrait.



Another goal of the project was to create a monochromatic painting using one color and mixing in various tints and shades.

### Italian

In Italian Novice Mid, students have been learning about the region Puglia all week as a part of their unit about travel and vacations. Today, when finished with their writing task, students watched a YouTube video about how to make the traditional pasta shape from this region, and practiced the technique with clay. Here they are showing off their homemade "pasta"!



## 6th Grade English



Students got up and moving while working in stations during a recent English class.



Each station stop had students working on a different aspect of narrative writing.



Stations included revision strategies, strengthening conclusions, conferencing with the teacher, and peer review.

#### Care Plus Wellness Corner

February is **American Heart Month**, a time when all people can focus on their cardiovascular health. <u>Click here</u> to learn more about heart disease and prevention strategies.



#### **Important Dates**

Monday, 2/13 - Math Olympiad, 3:00 pm - Cafeteria

Monday, 2/13- Con Res Spirit Week - Pattern Day - wear polka dots, stripes, zig zags or squiggles

Tuesday, 2/14 - Con Res Spirit Week - Wear Red for Heart Health and Valentine's Day

Wednesday, 2/15 - Con Res Spirit Week - Mustache Day

Thursday, 2/16- Con Res Spirit Week - Patriotic Day - wear red, white and blue

Friday, 2/17 - Con Res Spirit Week - Dress to Impress, wear your best!

Monday, 2/20 - School closed - President's Day

Tuesday, 2/21 - School closed - Staff In-Service

Friday, 3/3 - MJS Musical, Matilda! 7:00 pm

Saturday, 3/4 - MJS Musical, Matilda! 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Sunday 3/5 - MJS Musical, Matilda! 2:00 pm





2/6 vs WAMS - Boys

2/14 vs Mendham Township - Boys

2/15 vs East Hanover - Boys

2/16 vs RMS - Boys

2/21 vs Easter Hanover - Girls

2/28 vs RMS - Girls

Once a year spectator permission slip must be filled out for students to attend MJS basketball or volleyball games. Click this photo to access the permission form link.



#### SAVE THE DATE!!!

Mark your calendars. We will be having the District Chorus Concert On March 29th at 7:00 pm At Madison Junior School

More details to follow.





Is your child a different learner? Do they have an IEP, 504 or receive special services?

The Madison Special Education Parent Advisory Group provides support and advocacy for families of children with special needs. The SEPAG seeks to develop effective communication between parents, faculty, and special services personnel in the schools, and it also provides programming and content on current topics in special education.

If your child has an IEP, 504, or receives special services, we invite you to join the Madison SEPAG and our community of parents, educators, and community members.



Register via our Website

WWW.MADISONSEPAG.COM



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MADISONSEPAG

Parent Meetings are held virtually bi-monthly at 7.30pm

2022/2023 Meeting Calendar October 5th December 7th February 1st April 5th June 7th

### Coldwell Banker and The Spelker Real Estate Team present



a interactive under-the-sea exhibit for ocean life lovers of all ages to benefit the

Explore museum quality sea life specimens!

See, touch, and learn about sharks!

Madison Education Foundation

Participate in a seashell and fossil dig!

Saturday, February 25th at 9am or 11am Madison Community Arts Center (10 Kings Road)

Tickets: \$25

mefnj.org or scan QR Code



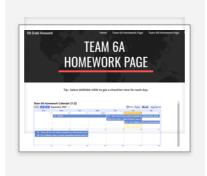


Yearbooks are available for ordering, they are are \$52. Order now to reserve your yearbook for June! Order Yearbooks by clicking here.



### **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

#### 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!



