

MJS Weekly Update

September 25, 2020

Dear MJS Community,

It has been a wonderful fourteen days of school this year. We continue to be proud of our students' perseverance in wearing masks in school. We will consistently encourage students to keep their masks on during entry and exit times at MJS and reinforce space protocols amongst themselves on school property.

As Mr. Schwarz announced earlier this week, Phase II discussions have begun at the junior school. We will work with our Return To School Stakeholder Committee, which includes staff and parents, to make the most thoughtful plans for change. As we create plans for Phase II, we will consider health and safety protocols as well as educational program needs and our leveled program considerations. As practiced over the summer, I will assure communications about any changes will be provided early and with as much detail as possible so that all families are comfortable with any future changes and have time to ask questions or provide feedback.

Please note that Wednesday of next week, we are hosting our Maroon Cohort learners in person. We have also adjusted this day to an A Day to balance the week for all learners. The AB Color Cohort [calendar can be found on the website or with this link.](#)

We've been sharing with students in our morning announcements about clubs starting up at MJS in the coming weeks. You can check out the morning announcements on our website under student resources. Here are just a few clubs that have been announced:

- Student Council
- Art Club
- Madison Makers
- Fall Drama
- Spectrum

We have been providing mask breaks and walks in the fresh air whenever possible for our in-person learners. As the weather gets colder, please be sure your child dresses for the weather

so that we can continue to take these fresh air and socially distanced mask free breaks even on cooler days.

Today at MJS, we held our second security drill of the month, this time with our Gold Cohort. We held a table talk lockdown with instruction drill. Teachers kept students at their seats and discussed the steps that would be taken if a drill such as this occurred that wasn't just practice.

Have an enjoyable long weekend, dodgers!

Brooke Phillips

Acting Principal

Madison Junior School

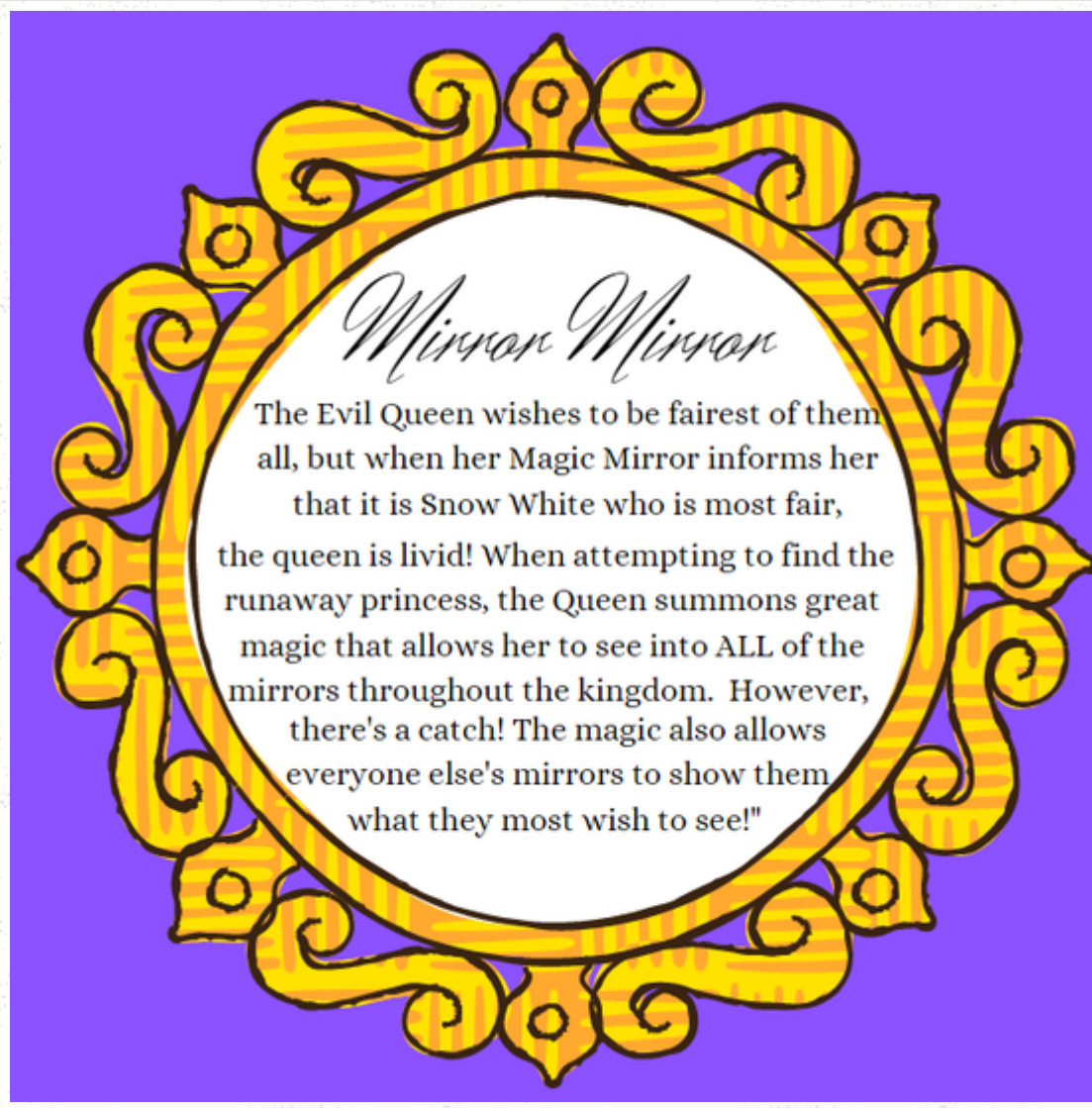
phillipsb@madisonnjps.org

MJS Fall Drama - Mirror Mirror

Come ZOOM with us for this year's very special virtual Fall Drama! Auditions will be held next week via FlipGrid and rehearsals will start the first week of October on Wednesdays and Fridays via ZOOM. The play, directed and produced by Mrs. Ward, will be recorded virtually and assembled into a final performance video. Audition information is available at the link below.

[Click here for more audition information, sign up procedures, and details about the production schedule.](#)

Check out the *Mirror Mirror* play synopsis below. Break a leg auditioners!



What To Do When Your Child Will Be Absent

1. Fill out the student health questionnaire via the Genesis Parent Portal.
2. Whether your child is in-person or remote this day, call the attendance line to report the absence. 973-593-3149 ext. 1
3. Please note in your message the reason for the absence and if your child will be learning remotely versus in-person please clearly indicate this.
4. Our attendance secretary will mark your child absent in the Genesis system, or she will be sure to let the teaching team know of the change to remote learning for the day.

Please note - if the reason your child is staying home is due to COVID-19 reasons please be sure to email or call our nurse Mrs. Skordinsky, skordinskym@madisonnjps.org, or explain this in the voicemail you leave on the school recording.



Weekly Wellness Tip

"As the crisp Fall weather sets in, enjoy this long weekend by partaking in traditional Autumnal activities like apple picking, hayrides, or enjoying some apple cider. You can also simply spend some time outdoors on a leisurely walk or bike ride."

MJS Parent Teacher Organization

The MJS PTO collaborates regularly with parents, teachers, and administration in an effort to make MJS a positive, engaging learning environment. Please visit their [website](#) for more information including a [link to pay dues](#) via Venmo.

MJS
TRIVIA
NIGHT
is back!

Wednesday, September 30
at 7pm

Links to join the Gimkit Game will be posted on the MJS Website in Live Feed and News Feed sections!

STAR English Testing

In grades K-8, during the past two weeks, students are completing the STAR assessment. This assessment is given minimally three times during the school year. The STAR assessments are diagnostic assessments designed to provide educators and parents with important information about the students' progress. The fully remote students and the students learning in person will all complete administration of the STAR assessment by early October. The results of these tests will aid our teachers in creating lessons and unit plans to support and challenge our learners.



MJS Link Bank

[All Bell Schedules \(including Periods 7 8 9\)](#)

[AB and Color Cohort Calendar](#)

[MJS Morning Announcements](#)

[MJS Archive of Updates & Newsletters](#)

Upcoming Dates

September 28 Yom Kippur No School

September 30 MJS Family Trivia Night

October 14 - PTO Meeting via Zoom 7:00 pm

October 26 - Picture Retakes (Maroon Cohort & Full Time Remote Learners) 8-3:30 pm

October 27 - Picture Retakes (Gold Cohort) 8-12:30 pm

I'd like to know about...

Please feel free to use this [Feedback Link](#) 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.

