

MJS Weekly Update

October 9, 2020

Dear MJS Community,

Fall may have a slight chill in the air, — and that's one of the best things about it. The unlimited potential of layered clothing, scrumptious fall produce, sweet candy treats, and holidays with loved ones are all reasons why Fall is such a beloved time of year. I hope you are enjoying these cooler days as much as I am.

We are well into routines for Fall and Phase I here at MJS. So much so that we are already looking forward to Phase II.

Phase II Update

Phase II implementation will bring all students back into the building, five days a week, for a half-day of learning. We will provide a clear desk shield divider during Phase II that students will carry with them all day. While we will aim to maintain as many feet of separation in the classrooms as possible, having these desk shields in place and continued mask use we can assure students will safely learn together when sitting anywhere from three to six feet of one another.

Other changes for Phase II include giving students more in-person face time with world language teachers and placing our seventh and eighth grade English students into fully leveled accelerated track classes. We can accomplish these goals by having students rotate with teachers remaining in homerooms and by having some students move outside of their small pod cohorts. We will make every effort possible to keep student movement outside of cohorts to a minimum while still meeting educational and program needs.

Dates have not been confirmed for moving into Phase II. We will need to await the arrival of the desk shields. We also want to support the district in prioritizing the elementary schools moving into Phase II as soon as possible. We do hope to make the shift in late October or the first weeks of November.

World Language Name Changes

Please note that we have adjusted our World Language courses' names to reflect the learning levels in these classes better. Instead of the grade level after the language name, they will be named as follows:

- World Language Novice (formerly WL 6)
- World Language Novice-Mid (formerly WL 7)
- World Language Novice-High (formerly WL 8)

Student Cell Phones

Please help us support our no cell phone rule while MJS students are in school. We ask students to keep their cell phone powered off, zipped inside their backpacks while in school. If a student should need to reach home for any reason, the student can come to the office or visit with a school counselor. Morning announcements will reinforce this school guideline.

PTO Fall Cookie Trolley

The PTO wishes to extend a huge thanks to all the bakers that signed up to bake cookies for our teachers on October 23. The baking slots are all filled! Since there was such great response, the PTO is going consider making this a more regular event, such as monthly trolley snacks or cookie cart Friday once a month. Please share any creative ideas about this initiative with the PTO or email Ms. Phillips - and thank you!

Contacting Teachers

Our teachers greatly appreciate when parents reach out to them with questions or concerns. Please be sure you contact teachers via email or phone calls. We kindly ask parents not to communicate with teachers using their child's Google Classroom comments or during Zoom/GoogleMeet class video chats. These district-run avenues of technology are designed to be strictly between students and teachers, and we wish to maintain confidentiality as much as possible. Thank you.

Periods 7 8 9

Teachers are reporting an uptick in students attending these periods for extra help. As we move into the end of marking period one academic expectations are rising, and these extra help periods become more useful for all students.

When we introduce and move into Phase II we are planning to introduce some enrichments for these periods as well as more clear guidelines and tools for students in how to attend these periods. While no new content will be taught during these periods, these are excellent opportunities for students to not only get extra help but also talk with teachers and classmates about the work from the day and any homework they are completing.

Brooke Phillips

Acting Principal

Madison Junior School

phillipsb@madisonnjps.org

Click here for the MPS Facilities Cleaning Procedures

Shared in the document above is the MPS Facilities Cleaning Procedures document. Also, shared below are photos of placement for some safety materials in the school.



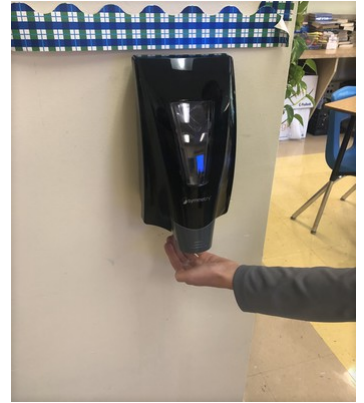
Standing Hand Sanitizer Dispensers

MJS has ten of these dispensers located throughout the building. Dispensers are stationed at the front, rear gym, and both side door entries. The remaining are located in the hallways with positions close to restrooms and high traffic areas.



Restroom Procedures

Our restrooms are cleaned hourly. Only one student is permitted in the restroom at a time. While waiting, students stand on bright blue floor stickers that note social distance spacing.

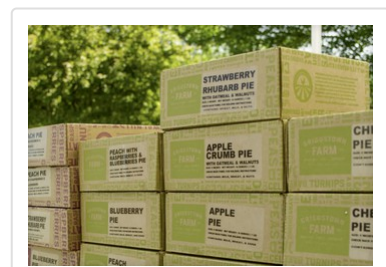


Classroom Wall Mounted Hand Sanitizer Dispensers

Every MJS classroom or office space has a wall-mounted hand sanitizer station.

Supporting the PTO Is As Easy As Pie!

Back by demand, we're pleased to offer delicious Griggstown pies for sale, with proceeds going to the Madison Junior School PTO. Perfect comfort food (and dessert) for the cooler nights ahead!

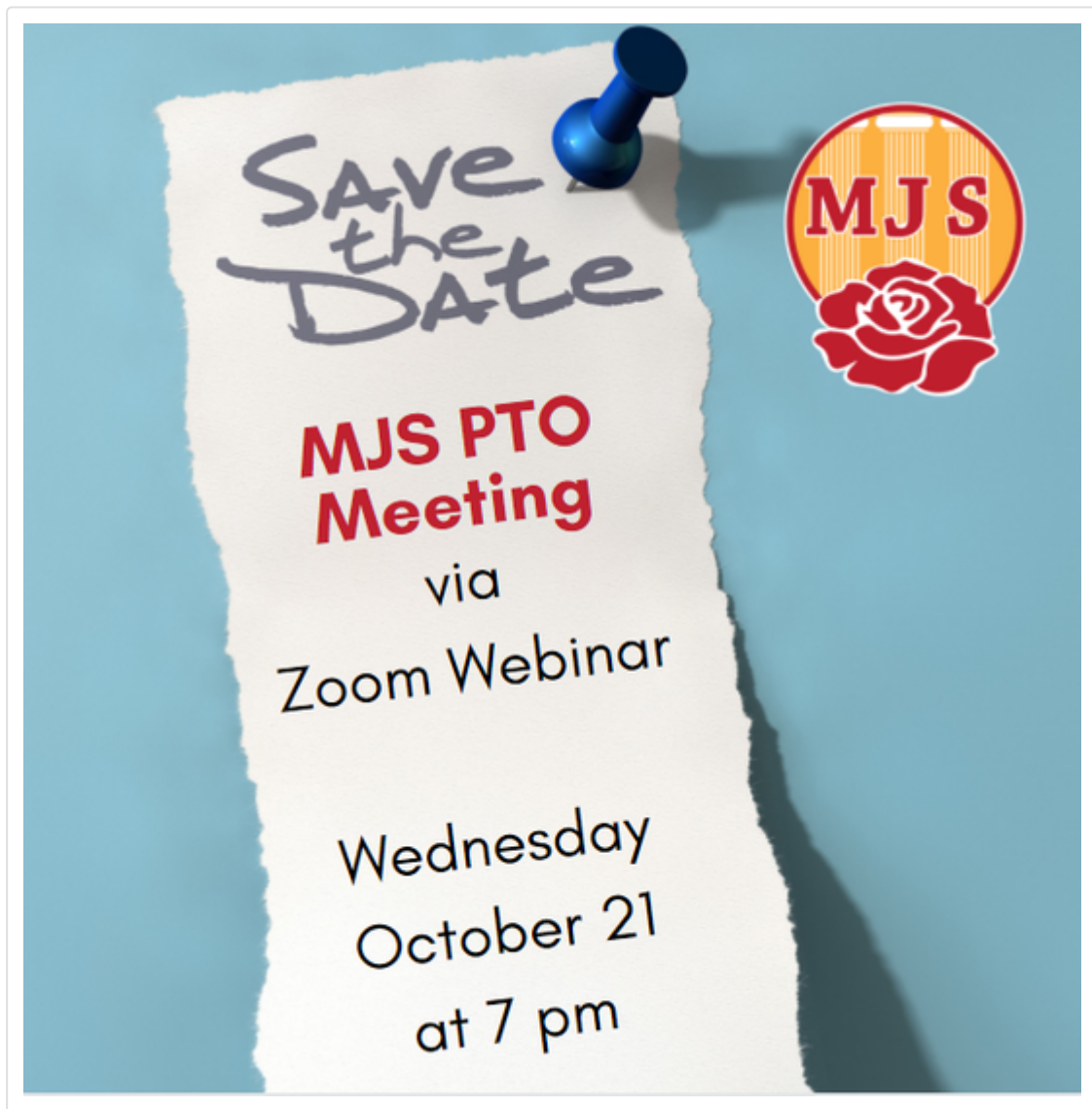


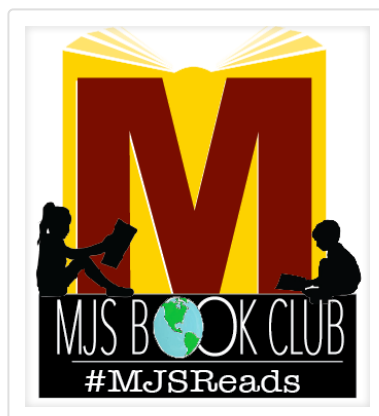
Order online at: <https://sites.google.com/view/mjsptowebiste/fundraising/griggstown-pie-sale>

Or simply print out the [order form at this link](#) and deliver with your check (made out to MJS PTO) to:

Kerry Mariani
13 North Oak Court
Madison, NJ 07940

All orders due by Monday, November 2, 2020





Happy National Book Month!

The [MJS Virtual Library](#) is open for check out. Students can browse the [catalog](#) and [request books](#) by title or genre. When students make a request, the books will be processed with gloves and delivered to the Library Corner of the students' classroom with the student's name on them. Students can also make arrangements to browse the library after school (by [appointment](#)).

All-remote students can use the [book request form](#) or [email Ms. B.](#)

Please let me know your ideas for how we can make our virtual space even better!

Announcing the MJS Book Club

We are excited to launch the MJS Book Club.

Students should join our remote club with the code: **dek4ad6**

We will meet the **first** and **third Friday** of the month at 3 PM.

Students who are interested but missed the first club meeting or students who want more information should [email Ms. B.](#)

Calling all library books...

Do you have overdue library books at your house? We are still missing a number of books that were checked out in spring and summer. **CAS, KRS, and TJS** are missing books, too.

Please look around your house and have students bring ALL school library books to the **Library Corner** of their classroom. All-remote students can drop them off at the Main Office.

Thanks so much for helping our library books find their way home!!

MEF Corner

Visit the Madison Education Foundation (MEF) at the Madison Farmers' Market on October 15th! (Click [HERE](#) for all the details).



MEF Board members will be on hand to answer questions about how we fund grants, how donations are spent, and how we've already fast-tracked over 75K in grants that support virtual learning at MJS and throughout the District!

We'd love to talk to you about how you can get involved, whether it be volunteering your time or making a donation (MEF is funded entirely by donations). There are many ways to help us help our schools!



Wellness Corner

Create a Gratitude List

Remembering all of the good things in our lives can help us feel better when times are hard. This can be as easy as writing down one thing a day. Start with something easy, such as: "I'm thankful I have a comfortable bed to sleep in every night."

Making lists can be therapeutic, and can help you feel a sense of satisfaction. Give it a try!

A graphic with a light blue background and a wooden plank texture. At the bottom, there are four pumpkins of different colors (orange, yellow, orange, and white with orange stripes). In the top right corner is a circular logo with "MJS" and a red rose. The text "MJS Next Week" is in large red letters. Below it, the schedule for the week of October 10th to 16th is listed in black text, with the letter and color of the game in bold.

MJS Next Week

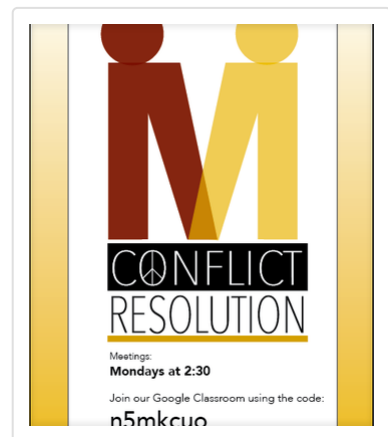
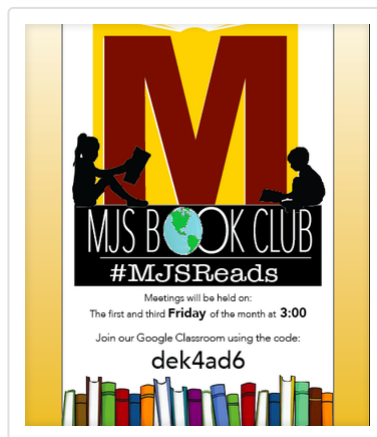
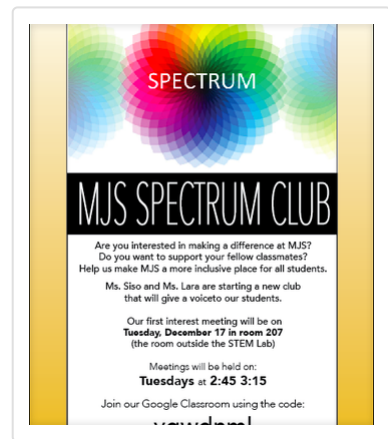
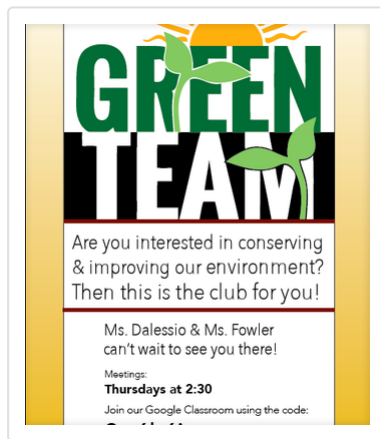
Monday 10/12 **A Maroon**

Tuesday 10/13 **B Gold**

Wednesday 10/14 **B Remote**

Thursday 10/15 **B Maroon**

Friday 10/16 **A Gold**



MJS Link Bank

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

[AB and Color Cohort Calendar](#)

[MJS Morning Announcements](#)

[MJS Archive of Updates & Newsletters](#)

[6th Grade Homework Website](#)

- [6A Homework Calendar](#)
- [6B Homework Calendar](#)

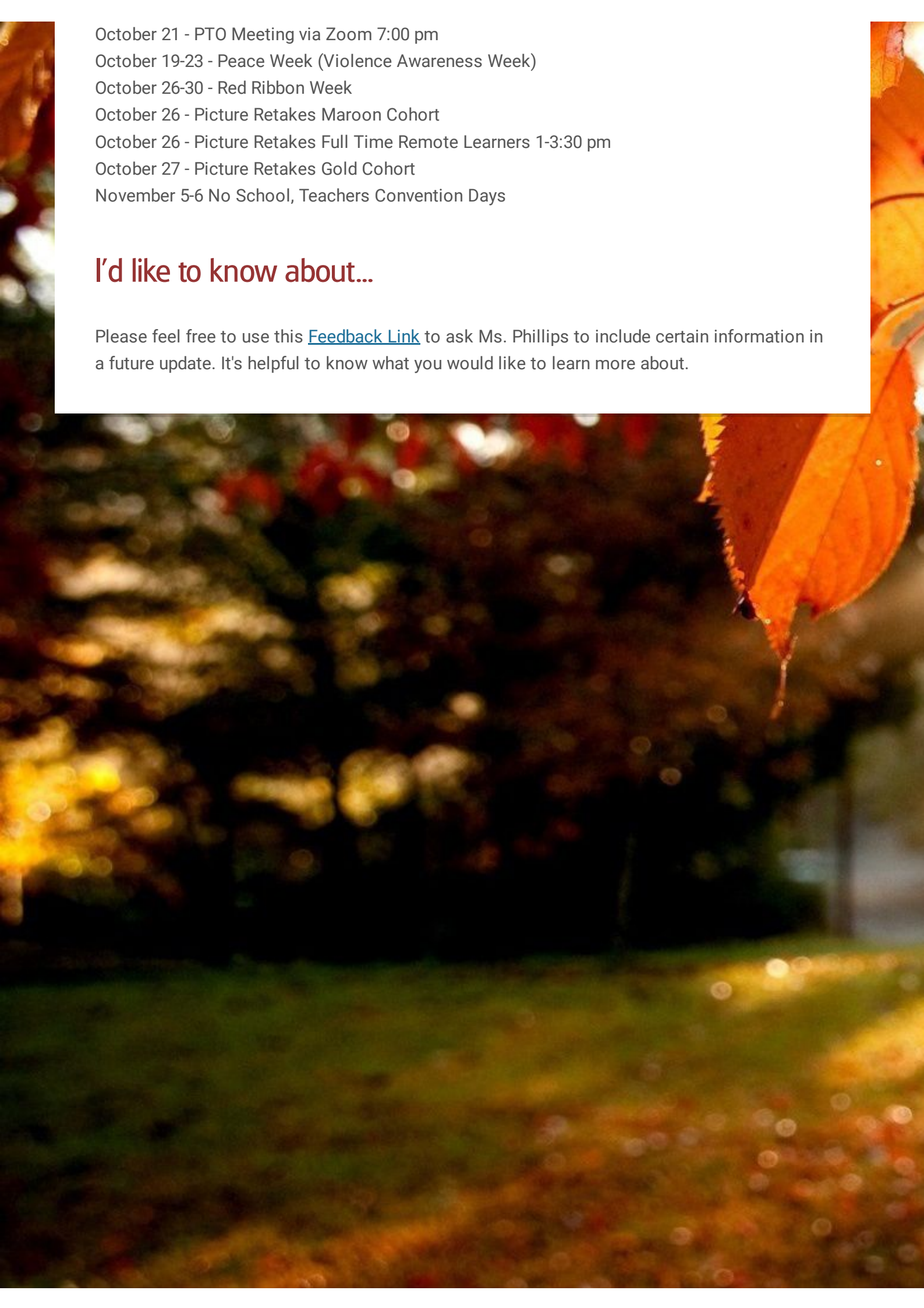
[7th Grade Resources Website](#)

- [7A Homework Calendar](#)
- [7B Homework Calendar](#)

8A Homework Calendar - coming soon!

8B Homework Calendar - coming soon!

Upcoming Dates



October 21 - PTO Meeting via Zoom 7:00 pm
October 19-23 - Peace Week (Violence Awareness Week)
October 26-30 - Red Ribbon Week
October 26 - Picture Retakes Maroon Cohort
October 26 - Picture Retakes Full Time Remote Learners 1-3:30 pm
October 27 - Picture Retakes Gold Cohort
November 5-6 No School, Teachers Convention Days

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.