



MMS MATTERS

October 6, 2017



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent teacher conferences will be held on October 17 and October 19, 2017. All conferences are scheduled and there will be no drop-in conferences. To schedule your preferred time for a conference:

1. Go the <https://www.myconferencetime.com/macdonald>
2. Click on the name of your child's teacher
3. Select the desired date/time for your conference by clicking on "Sign Up"
4. Submit the requested information
5. You may then schedule additional conferences

Please see the attached **Conference Connection** for more information on scheduling, as well as links to YouTube videos to help with the scheduling process. Please be aware the conference slots fill up very quickly.

If you have questions or trouble scheduling, please contact Kelly Hocquard, kelly.hocquard@elps.us.



TEACHER APPRECIATION DINNER

The Teacher Appreciation Dinner is fast approaching...October 19 to be exact! MMS Parent Council is looking for parents to help with dinner for the teachers during conferences on October 19. Sign up to help out – it can be as easy as bringing paper products or donating money to help toward the cost of catered sandwiches. Folks are also needed to set up and clean up too! Let's show the teachers how much they are appreciated. Click here to sign up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0549a9af2ea75-mmsteacher2>. If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Trunk, courtneytrunk@gmail.com.



IMMUNIZATION REMINDER

The State of Michigan requires all 7th grade students, as well as those new to MMS this year, have a current and up-to-date certificate of immunization on file. Students failing to meet immunization requirements may be excluded from school until they are up-to-date. Please make sure your student has their immunizations on file no later than Monday, October 16. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hocquard, kelly.hocquard@elp.s.us.

If you wish to waive your child's immunization requirements, please contact the local Health Department at 517-887-4311 or visit <http://www.michigan.gov/immunize>.



PSAT FOR EIGHTH GRADERS

On Wednesday, October 11, our eighth grade students will be taking a grade level PSAT test. The purpose of the test is to give all students an opportunity to experience taking a college and career readiness test and to identify students who might benefit from advanced coursework.

It is important for students to be prepared on test day. Your student should answer all questions to his or her ability. It will also help if he or she gets plenty of sleep the night before and eats a good breakfast the morning of the test. Students must be to school on-time. The test will begin at 8:05 a.m. and will conclude by 11:30 a.m.

The attached link provides more information and valuable resources regarding the PSAT 8/9.

<http://pull.xmr3.com/cgi-bin/pull/DocPull/1378-6ECF/183745805/5a0a2cf7-c9f2-4473-9919-ceba0bfa6183.html>

Picture Retakes



PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Picture retake day will be Wednesday, October 18 during Trojan Time. Students wishing to have their picture retaken will need to return their picture packet. If your child was absent or is new to MMS since September 7 they will need to have their picture taken for their Student ID. If you would like to order pictures, you may order online at www.mylifetouch.com, **Picture ID: LM417031Y1**.

If you would like to volunteer to assist with re-takes, please contact the office. We are looking for a couple parents to help between 11:15 and 1:00 p.m. Thank you for your willingness to help.



FINAL CALL FOR TAKE APART WEEK ITEMS

Mr. Voigt's Design and Build class will be starting to work on their "Take Apart" projects next week. Students will explore how to use tools to take apart appliances and investigate how machines work through the process of reverse engineering.

This is the final call for all types of take-apart machines and "upcyclable" materials. **The last day to bring in items will be Monday, October 9.** These items are important since they serve as the "raw material" of study and springboard for re-creation of new projects.

We hope you will consider looking around your home or office for items to contribute. A collection center will be set up just inside the cafeteria where you may deposit your items any time school is open.

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Book

Club **MMS BOOK CLUB**

We are excited to announce the MMS Book Club again this year! MacDonald Middle School will continue a partnership with the East Lansing Public Library to offer Book Club after school. Our first meeting is **Thursday, October 26 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** in the MMS Media Center. Snacks will be provided. We will be reading Drama by Raina Telgemeier.

To participate, students will need a signed permission slip available in the Media Center. The first 20 students with completed permission slips submitted to the Media Center will receive a free copy of the book. For more information, please contact Christa Robinson, christa.robinson@elps.us.



MMS YEARBOOK CLUB

The MacDonald Middle School Yearbook Club is now taking applications. The club will meet after school in the computer lab from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on the following Thursdays: October 26; November 2, 9, 16, 30; December 7 & 21; January 11 & 25; February 8 & 22; and March 8 & 15.

Due to the computer lab space, we can only accept the first 30 people who apply for the club. **In order to apply, you will need a parent/guardian signature and signatures of two teachers willing to vouch that you are reliable and able to work on your own.** There is a \$5.00 fee (collected at the first meeting) which helps to cover snacks provided during club meetings.

Applications are available on the Blue Board outside of the office. **The deadline to apply is Wednesday, October 18 by 3:30 p.m.** Incomplete applications will not be considered.



SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB

MMS is excited to announce our new Sign Language Club! Have fun with games and activities all while learning a new language and learning about deaf culture. Best of all, the club is FREE! Led by Emily, a student from the interpreter training program at Lansing Community College, the sign language club will be an opportunity to learn more about the third most used language in the United States! The first meeting will be Thursday, October 12th from 3pm-4pm and meetings will be held weekly on Thursdays from 3pm-4pm in Project Space Room 134. To join the Sign Language Club sign up in the office, you will need to leave your name and homeroom teacher. You must be on the sign-up sheet to be signed up to take the late bus. There is no limit on numbers, the more the merrier! Snacks will not be provided, but if you bring an after school snack you may take the first few minutes to eat. If you have any further questions, e-mail Mrs. Mayville at kristen.mayville@elps.us.



BOYS BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

MMS Boys Basketball tryouts will be held on October 23 and 24. Students who would like to try out must sign up in the office by Friday, October 13 so we may check eligibility. Students who currently have an "E" in any class will be required to complete a progress report prior to trying out. Students must be passing all of their classes by Monday, October 23 to be eligible to make the team.



HARVEST FUN RUN

All MMS students and staff are invited to get moving on Tuesday, October 31 during Trojan Time for our fall Harvest Run/Walk. Our course is approximately one mile around the MMS campus. Water and apple slices will be provided to all participants at the conclusion of the race.

Parent volunteers are needed to help navigate the course, slice and serve apples and assist at the water station. Please look in future newsletters for a sign-up link!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- October 9:** Volleyball vs Charlotte – 8 home, 7 away
Math Counts – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
- October 11:** PSAT for 8th graders – **test begins at 8:05 a.m. Please be to school on time!**
- October 12:** Cross Country at Grand Ledge (Fitzgerald Park)
- October 16:** Volleyball vs Okemos – 8 home, 7 away
Cross country at DeWitt (DeWitt Invitational)
Math Counts – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
- October 17:** Parent teacher conferences – half day of school – dismissed at 11:20 a.m.
- October 18** Picture retake day – parent help is needed. Contact the office
Volleyball vs Mason – 7 home, 8 away
Cross country banquet – Cafeteria – 3:00 p.m.
Choir concert – Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.
- October 19:** Parent teacher conferences – half day of school – dismissed at 11:20 a.m.
Teacher Appreciation dinner – 4:00 p.m.
- October 20:** No school
- October 23:** Boys basketball tryouts
Math Counts – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
8th grade Volleyball banquet – Cafeteria – 5:00 p.m.
- October 24:** Boys basketball tryouts
- October 25:** Boys basketball parent meeting – Cafeteria – 5:30 p.m.
- October 26:** Sign Language Club – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
Yearbook Club – Computer Lab – 3:00 p.m.
MMS Book Club – Media Center – 3:00 p.m.
- October 27:** **Pink Out Day** – wear pink to support Breast Cancer Awareness
Activity Night – Cafeteria – 6:30 p.m. – Halloween themed – costumes encouraged
- October 30:** Math Counts – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.