



The Principal's Desk

First of all, I would like to thank you for allowing us the opportunity to work with your children. This year is moving at a quick pace, and we are excited about what is in store for all of us during the second semester. I would like to make parents aware of a few items. First of all, it is very important for students to be in school, so we ask that you please be vigilant in not scheduling vacations during the time school is in session. Next, it was recently announced that the middle school students will be taking the West Virginia General Summative Assessment instead of the Smarter Balanced Test. The testing window has not been officially announced, but we do know it will be a shorter testing window than in previous years. Please be sure that all children, if possible, are present during these days.

Sincerely,
John Moyers

The Counselor's Corner

The 8th grade students will be using the CFWV to engage in career planning for high school courses. They met with Mrs. Frostick and Mrs. Thalheimer on December 4 to begin the process of filling out the Personalized Education Plans and learning how to maneuver through the site. Students must have completed PEPs and have chosen their Career Cluster to begin the high school scheduling process before GWHS counselors arrive. Please see additional information concerning the PEP process on page 4.

Notes from the Nurse

"Give Me a Reason" is a free drug testing program offered through Communities That Care. Every school in Kanawha County has free drug testing kits available for use with no strings attached. The School Nurse has the kits and distribution is confidential with no identifying tracking system. The full information sheet is listed on the school website under forms and documents.

Dates to Remember

December

Saturday School	12/16
Chorus Performance	12/19
Band/Strings Concert	12/21
1 st Semester Ends	12/22
Winter Break 12/23-1/1	

January

2 nd Semester begins	1/2
LSIC/PTA	1/9
GW/8 th Grade Meeting	1/17
Saturday School	1/20
GW Parent Meeting	1/30

February

Scheduling for GW	2/1
Saturday School	2/10
End of 4 th 9 Weeks	2/16

March

Beta Induction	3/8
Saturday School	3/10
Saturday School	3/24
End of 5 th 6 Weeks	3/28

April

Spring Break April 2-6

LSIC/PTA	4/24
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May

Saturday School	5/5
Last Day of School	5/21

*Dates are tentative due to weather conditions/snow days.

Who's Who at John Adams

Administration/Office

Principal: John F. Moyers
Assistant Principal: Kevin Lilley
Counselors: Debbie Frostick
and Francine Thalheimer
Secretary: Cindy Toler
Clerk: Rhonda Norman
Office Volunteers: Lynn Alderman
School Nurse: Lisa Hartney
Social Worker: Candice Rubin

Academics

LSIC: Katy Brown
PTA: Amy Goodwin and Katy Brown
Screening Referral Agent &
Special Education: Melinda Susser
Advanced Studies: Denise Workman

Activities & Athletics

Athletic Director: Bill Patterson
Band: Brandon Willard
Baseball: Brandon Willard
Cross Country: Jenny Mayo
Basketball (B): John Testa
Basketball (G): Frankie Holstine
Beta Club: Mary Frances Williams
Cheerleading: Angel Miller-Nantell
Chorus: Kristy Whisner
Football: Bob Mullett
Golf: John Testa
Soccer (B): Dirar Ahmad
Soccer (G): David Bromiley
Softball: Jessica Kortz
Student Council: Emily Patterson
Track (B & G): Jenny Mayo
Volleyball: Bill Patterson
Wrestling: Mike Anderson

John Adams Middle School Honor Code

The John Adams Middle School Honor Code is based on the belief that true learning depends on honesty. JAMS functions on the basis of mutual trust and respect between all students and faculty. As a result, students, faculty, staff, and administrators are expected to demonstrate integrity and individual responsibility, both personally and academically, in order to maintain a fair and honest environment. Students who commit themselves to upholding John Adams' honor code will be instilled with a sense of honor and integrity that will last beyond their school years.

Honor Code Pledge:

On my honor, as a student of John Adams and a member of this community, I will not lie, cheat, steal, or bully, nor will I tolerate those who do.

Honor Code violations include cheating, plagiarism, lying, theft, and the tolerance of any of the aforementioned violations.

Canned Food Drive

The JA Band, Student Council, BETA Club, and JA Girls' and Boys' Basketball teams joined forces to collect canned foods to donate to Manna Meal beginning the week of December 4th through the 15th. Each student, faculty, staff, and parent was asked to donate three canned items to receive a ticket for admission to the December 18 game against Elkview.

Class News

Sixth Grade

It's hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the first semester. We have so many awesome activities taking place in sixth grade!

English classes are reading the novel, *The Devil's Arithmetic*. The novel discusses the Holocaust in relation to WWII. Appreciation of culture is the focus of accepting who you are and how your ancestry has had an influence on your upbringing. Students will be doing a book/movie comparison as a culminating activity.

Math classes have had several project-based learning activities. They have been calculating rates and unit rates using grocery store flyers. They made presentations using project boards and/or Keynote presentations. Another class did a review activity via an Escape Room- so much fun!!!!

Social Studies students have been studying WWI by making patriotic posters and trioramas. The students also honored our veterans by making cards which were sent to the VA medical centers in Charleston, Huntington and Beckley.

Science class is all about weather! They will be using Touchcast to create a weather report. They will have green screens to record and present their forecasts.

In our Language Skills class, students have written "Emotion Poems." They chose a feeling or emotion and wrote sensory images about each one. The 17-line poems were thoughtful and well-written. Our next project will be "The Ultimate Gift" essay, which goes along with a movie by the same name. In-between writing, we have studied our fourth part of speech...prepositions. As a follow-up project, students designed a written figure, wrote out detailed step-by-step instructions explaining how to make it, and gave those directions to a friend to see if that person could draw the figure using those instructions. Students used anywhere from 10-20 prepositional phrases in the directions.

Finally, we are so proud of our students who participated in the geography and spelling bee. We have had numerous winner for both!

Seventh Grade

Fun learning activities continue in the 7th grade as students in Mr. Brown's science classrooms explored thermal radiation (which is the transfer of heat energy over a distance using infrared waves) by making S'mores over an IR heater.



Another hands-on lesson involved students in math classes who participated in a project in which students had to create a hat from one piece of construction paper and then calculate the volume of the hat and the area of the brim.

Fun continued for students who were not failing any classes as of the 5th week of the 6-week grading period. They were treated to a 5th Friday Fun Day in the gym.

Eighth Grade

In just 90 short school days, your students will be freshmen in high school! It is hard for us to believe, so we know it is even harder for parents. Therefore, it is imperative that parents stress to their children the importance of being in school, engaging in activities, studying for tests, and turning in all assignments. It is our goal to prepare them for success in high school.

Students in Mrs. Williams' and Ms. Patterson's English classes have completed their study of *Tales of the Strange and Mysterious*, including an in-depth look at authors such as Poe, Jacobs, and Dahl. Mrs. Williams' and Mr. Vandal's students

read WV Ghost Stories and worked on independent projects for both classes, including creating an iMovie in order to promote the film version of their anthology. Recently, WV Studies students published their WV Ghost Story Anthology, "Mountain Mysteries Volume 3." The students have also delved into the legend of Mothman and have explored possibilities as to what it could be. Students are ready to explore the early history of "western" Virginia. Meanwhile, in Mrs. Abshire's classes, students have explored the geography of our state and researched the early history. They are currently investigating our government and rights established in the Constitution before moving onto the Civil War.

Math students are currently doing Algebra and Pre-Algebra skills. Teachers are reinforcing slope with equations, graphs, and tables.

Science classes are currently involved in the NASA Design Challenge in which students are designing and building lunar landers that have to survive a drop of one meter.

In English Learning Skills, students are currently reading the historical fiction novel, *The Coffin Quilt*, which is the story of the Hatfields and McCoys, as told by young Fanny McCoy. Students are also reviewing the parts of speech and various other grammar points.

Finally, students in Developmental Guidance classes branched off of their Defined STEM coursework and created their own escape room in which teams of students tried to beat the time to escape from the situation. KCS Superintendent Dr. Ron Duerring, Assistant Superintendents Dr. Tom Williams and Missy Ruddle visited the winning classroom on December 19 to try their hand at solving the winning room before time ran out.

Eighth Grade PEP Plans

The school counselors met with the 8th grade students the week of December 4th to discuss the development of their Personalized Education Plan (PEP) for high school. The PEP guides each student's course selections based on individual career aspirations and postsecondary plans. The PEP covers grades 9-12 and the

first year beyond graduation from high school. The PEP is developed for every student in consultation with the students' parent and/or guardian and the school counselor or advisor.

Development of the PEP is a thoughtful process that includes identifying each student's aptitude, interests and learning needed through review of past student work, academic assessments results, and interests and learning inventories. The PEP is used to guide, personalize, and maximize each students' learning experience ensuring each student has the opportunity to develop academic skills, identify interests, maximize strengths, minimize weaknesses, set and reach academic and personal goals, and realize their career aspirations.

Students learned that the PEP is developed to identify course selections for the 9th grade based on each 8th grade student's identified career aspirations. The counselors presented a packet of information that will guide each student with opportunities to discover a career pathway that meets their personality preferences. Counselors also realize that students mature and change and know that the PEP will see changes throughout high school.

But for now, students will begin the development of the PEP based on their present career interests. The packet of information is located on our school's website, johnadamsmiddleschool.com, for our families to review.

Please check with your 8th grade student to be certain that their completed PEP has been handed in to their Home base teacher before the George Washington High School counselors come to JAMS.

Website

Please check out the JAMS website for future issues of the Falcon Flyer and other important events at johnadamsmiddleschool.com

Clubs and Organizations

Quiz Bowl

Congratulations to the John Adams Quiz Bowl Club. John Adams A and B teams finished first and second place in the middle school division at the George Washington High School Tournament held November 18. Anurag Reddy and Patrick Ward came in 1st and 2nd respectively. Congratulations to our JAMS students!

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to sixth grader, Samir Jones, who captured first place in the JA Spelling Bee. Samir will compete in the KCS Spelling Bee on January 28 at South Charleston High School. In the event that Samir cannot fulfill his obligation, runner up Jeeya Patel, seventh grade, will represent JA.

The following students won at the classroom level and competed at the school level bee on November 14: Barrett (Cole) Adams, Abigail Perkins, Seth George, Ben Isaac, Sohan Kukkillaya, Claire Cox, Tucker Mullen, Thalia Dinh, Dominik Holstein, Luke Workman, Claire Kotsky, Samir Jones, Clark Gillespie, Dylan Mitchell, James Edwards, Nik Tomblin, Jayla Boyd, Isaac Keith, Owen Pack, Marlie Kepple, Yousef Marzouk, Joseph Lively, Bryce Stevens, Jenna Raup, Dana Hasan, Camryn Monk, James Wallace, Ally Heath, Lucy Smith, Kaitlyn Erby, Liam Johnson, Zjara Laury, Travor Dinh, Virinchi Kakani, Connor Strickland, Jace Hall, Hannah Cantrell, Sophie Alexander, Alexa Bostic, Zach Mowrer, Nate Brogan, Emma Macconough, Zack Kraison, Taylor Cooper, Jacob Miller, Kuran Brown, Andrew Orders, Jack Weber, Jacey Crisp, Kiara Bartoli, Jeeya Patel, Katie St. Jean, Catherine Orders, Anurag Reddy, Todd Goins, Tristan Pauley, Savannah Graley, Will Hardin, Danielle Smithson, and Jana Zatar. Good Luck Samir!

Beta Club

The JA Beta Club has been extremely busy this fall with a cleanup of the JA campus, tutoring during Saturday Schools, assisting at the Capitol Market Pumpkin Party, and raising funds for the National Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund and the Salvation Army Christmas Angel Program.

The induction ceremony for those students who have obtained a 3.76 for three consecutive semesters will be held on March 8 at 9:00 a.m. Invitations for the families of those being inducted will be sent home mid-January after semester grades have been reviewed.

Geo Bee

Grade level classes held the Geo Bee competition in early December. Connor Stricklen will be taking the qualifying test after Winter Break to determine if he advances to Regionals. Grade level students who placed included Sohan Kukkillaya, who placed first with runners up Mustafa Foual, Ameera Mustafa, and Luke Workman.

Patrick Ward placed first in the 7th grade competition with runners up Isaac Combs and Charlie Taylor. Jack Morris placed first for 8th grade with runners up Tristan Walker and Connor Stricklen. We wish Connor the very best of luck!

Math Field Day

Congratulations to the Math Field Day winners. First place winners include: Audrey Street (6th), Patrick Ward (7th), and Jack Morris (8th). First runners-up include: Jeb Morris (6th), Isaac Combs (7th), and Ethan Burdette (8th). The first place winner from each grade level will represent JA at the County Math Field Day on February 14th.

ATHLETICS

JAMS Boosters, which supports the school's excellent athletic program, is preparing for the 2017-18 school year. Any student who participates in one of the school's 18 teams receives an automatic membership into Boosters, a policy started two years ago. The Booster's board consists of 15 members, with the Principal and Athletic Director added as voting, ex-officio members. The group meets monthly with coaches and team representatives to plan activities, make improvements, and discuss relevant issues. General membership meetings are held twice a year-once in the fall and once in the spring-to coincide with the annual meeting. One of the primary functions of the Booster's board is to work with coaches and teams to raise funds to support team activities, including uniforms, pre-game meals, facility maintenance and development, and coaches' salaries. If you wish to become involved or are interested in learning more, feel free to contact Bill Patterson at wpatterson@mail.kana.k12.wv.us.

Any student playing sports may now access "Student Insurance Forms" through the KCS website. Please go to the KCS website, click on "Student". On the right side of the Student Page, there is a menu. Click on "Forms" (transcripts, physicals, etc.), which is the third item down. Once you are on this page, click on Voluntary Student Insurance. Download the forms.

Falcon Flyer
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