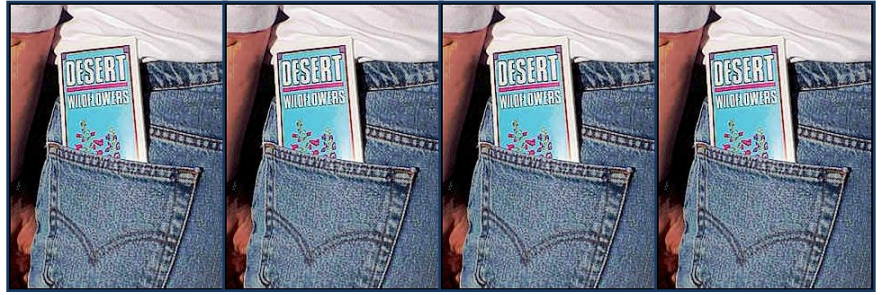


John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



January 20, 2012

A Thought for Today:

“Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education.”

- Martin Luther King Jr.

A Second New Year

Here we are at the end of the first semester. The professional day on Monday is one of those few days off when almost every student really is free of school responsibilities. Exams are over; grades are closed; semester classes are changing. No one is behind and no one is burdened with tons of homework. This weekend is a perfect time for family fun, and I hope you can take advantage of the lower stress level to spend some quality time together. It's also a great time to help kids refocus for the second half of the school year.

Have you noticed that the third week in January is when the gyms start to have more open machines? It takes 30 days to make a new habit, but many folks whose New Year's Resolution was to work out start to give up after two or three weeks and the gym returns to its usual number of regulars. The trick is to make it through a month of the new behavior, and then it's so much easier because it has become a habit.

Tuesday, January 24 is the first day of the new semester. Thursday, February 23 is exactly 30 days later. You could make a huge difference in your child's life if you could help him or her build one or two good school habits in those 30 days.

The most important habits to build are doing homework regularly and reading every day. Both these excellent behaviors can become habits through consistent effort. Here's how you can help:

- Establish a special time and place for homework. It should be the same Monday through Friday, so think about what suits your family's patterns. A public place like the kitchen table is better than a private space, like the student's bedroom. Turn off electronics — especially the cell phone — to avoid interruptions.
- Set a block of time your child will spend studying, whether or not the homework requires the whole time. I suggest an hour. Your child may work longer than that, but rushing through is pointless; he or she will be studying for that hour no matter what. Find a separate block of 15 to 30 minutes for reading for fun.
- Determine what your child will do if there is not enough homework to fill the study time. Flash cards for vocabulary in English or Spanish; practice with basic math facts; memorizing lists of facts, dates, formulae or other data sets; outlining chapters from the text book; creating timelines of events studied in history — all of these are good activities. Just make it clear before your child starts what you expect to see him or her move on to doing when the homework is done. The whole hour is for learning,
- Use Edline and the assignment book to keep track of the work your child needs to do and help him or her estimate how much time it will take to be finished. Lollygagging is not a good study activity.
- Monitor your child's use of time. When I was a kid, I could easily spend an hour staring off into space and doodling. Your job during study time is to make sure it's being used for school work.

Isn't it worth a month of effort to equip your child with the habits that can make learning easier in all the years to come? Tell him or her you're on a 30 day plan and mark February 23 on the calendar. That seems doable, and each day can be marked off as it goes by. The new habits will be in place before you know it!

Hallway Heroes

Hallway Heroes are students we honor for demonstrating exemplary **PRIDE** behaviors as they move from class to class, helping to keep our hallways safe and comfortable for everyone.

The students recognized below consistently demonstrate **Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication** and **Effort** everywhere they go at JPMS. They are **Hallway Heroes** and we are proud to celebrate their high expectations and their Timberwolf PRIDE!



Aidan Briancon

Mickey Gross

Mickey Kovich

Gabby Capobianchi

Stefan Gross

Jason Kuldell

Zach Falls

Sara Himmelfarb

Julia Link

Don't miss this year's fabulous **Science Expo**

Note the Date Change!

February 2nd

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Exhibits, demonstrations, hands-on
adventures for the whole family!

Winter Fun!

The Timberwolf Club was a HUGE success. We had a lot of students who came out in the chilly weather and played flag football, soccer, basketball, and kickball. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Aulls for running this activity and taking the pictures.



Student Service Learning (SSL) Notes

Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference

- Ring in the New Year by reflecting on 2011 service and resolving to continue to make a positive impact on the community.
- Consider steps needed to be recognized by an MCPS Awards Program as one who has contributed exceptional service. (Middle School requires at least 75 hours by the first Friday in April of a middle school year; High School requires at least 260 hours by the first Friday in April of the senior year.)
- Join with other Montgomery County residents as they share skills, talents, and interests at the Dr. Martin King Jr. Day of Service on January 16, 2012.
- The SSL graduation requirement is not intended to take the place of what individuals do to support their family, community, and faith-based organization members.
- Get involved in meaningful service with the Montgomery County Volunteer Center on the Martin L. King, Jr. Day of Service January 17.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS SEEKS STUDENT ELECTION AIDES TO WORK FOR 2012 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

The Montgomery County Board of Elections is seeking school-age students, grades 6-12, to serve as Election Day student aides during the 2012 Presidential Primary Election, Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

Students and their guardians must attend mandatory training to serve on Election Day and, if applicable, to receive Student Service Learning (SSL) credits. Students are placed in neighboring precincts according to their home addresses. This initiative combines civic participation and the opportunity to observe democracy in action.

This program is available to all students within a public, private, independent, religious or home-school setting located in Montgomery County. U.S. citizenship is not a pre-requisite to participate. Students with bilingual and American Sign Language skills are encouraged to apply.

Interested parents/guardians can register their student(s) before January 27, 2012, online by visiting the Montgomery County Board of Elections' website at

<https://www4.montgomerycountymd.gov/BoardOfElections/registerGuardianFv.seam>.

How to Register

- 1) Pre-register at "[Register Now](#)" to receive a Future Vote temporary password.
- 2) Retrieve temporary password from e-mail provided.
- 3) Click "[Sign-In](#)" to complete application process by typing in temporary password and e-mail provided at pre-registration.
- 4) Follow system prompt to change temporary password.
- 5) Complete Future Vote application by selecting training date during the online registration.
- 6) Once training has been successfully completed by parent/guardian and student, you will be notified via e-mail to select a precinct location and shift.

For additional information, email future.vote@montgomerycountymd.gov.

ATTENTION: Board of Elections is seeking registered voters with Spanish speaking fluency to serve as election judges. Please contact them if you are interested in serving.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME & JOIN THE PTA

- Sharon Armstrong - President
- Marilyn Soltis - Vice President
- Dawn Albert - Vice President
- Dreama Hemingway - Secretary
- Sue Van Meter – Treasurer
- Lori Kocur – Membership & Volunteers
- Anne Donovan – Staff Appreciation

**Thanks to
Anne Donovan
and our wonderful
PTSA Staff
Appreciation
Committee for the
delicious salads and
healthy treats we
enjoyed today!**

It is always worthwhile and never too late to join the John Poole Middle School PTSA.

Your membership entitles you to receive the 2011-2012 JPMS Student Directory at no charge!

Please contact Lori Kocur at kocurs@verizon.net for membership information or to register as a JPMS Parent Volunteer. Once you are a registered volunteer, you will receive emails when opportunities to help out at school arise. It's as easy as that!

Show your kids how much you care and how important their school experience is to you – register to volunteer today!

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13111%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf>



New Clubs are beginning next week! See below for classes and times! These classes are great opportunities for the students at JPMS. Please join us! It is the purpose of RecXtra to serve all students, please do not hesitate to submit club suggestions for your child. Please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org

Upcoming RecXtra Clubs:

Scrapbooking: Tuesdays -- 1/24, 1/31, 2/7

Sewing for Hours: Wednesdays -- 1/25, 2/1

Jewelry Making: Thursdays -- 1/26, 2/2, 2/9

Boxing Fitness: Thursdays -- 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, and 3/15

Registration forms are available in the main office.

RecXtra needs your donations for upcoming classes. Don't throw it away!!! Recycle with us! You may drop items in the RecXtra Box in the Main Office. Thanks!

- Magnets
- Scrapbook supplies
- Old and unwanted jewelry
- Yarn
- Spray paint--any color
- Fabric cuts or scraps
- Beads and Jewelry making supplies

Montgomery County Department of Recreation is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Please call a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist @240-777-4925V /240-777-6974 TTY to request accommodations no later than two weeks prior to the activity.



Announcing –

Yearbooks

Yearbooks can be pre-ordered through Jostens only. If you do not pre-order a yearbook, you are not guaranteed a yearbook. You can go to www.jostens.com today to pre-order your yearbook. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Aulls at Kelly_M_Aulls@mcpsmd.org.

Did You Upgrade Your Family's Electronics This Holiday?

Please remember that PBIS will recycle your old, obsolete or broken technology. This fundraiser helps us raise money for our Positive Behavior Program and protects the environment through the donations of your used consumer electronics. The items you bring in are recycled in accordance with EPA regulations. **One hundred percent of the proceeds help fund PBIS.**

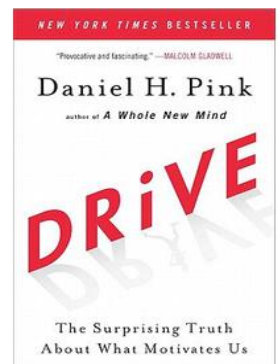
We are collecting the following items:

Cell Phones	Laptop Computers	Inkjet Cartridges	Digital Cameras
Digital Video Cameras	Handheld Game Systems	MP3 Players	GPS Devices
Radar Detectors	Electronic Book Readers		

Please drop off any of the above items you would like to recycle. There is a bin for cell phones, inkjet cartridges, and other small electronics in the school's foyer. Larger items can be dropped off in the office. Thanks!

Next Book Club Event Set for January 31

Join Superintendent of Schools Joshua Starr for his second book club event on Tuesday, January 31, 2012, at 7 p.m. Dr. Starr has selected "Drive" by Daniel Pink for this book club. Parents, staff, students and the community are invited to join the discussion as members of the studio audience. Those watching online or on TV can join in, as well, via Twitter and email.



Parents of Current 6th Graders

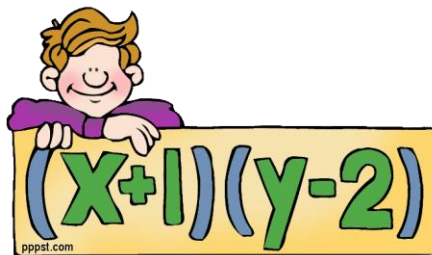
Why should you attend the registration meeting on February 7? You are already familiar with our school, staff and schedule. Do you really need to come?

This is the meeting at which we will discuss registration for next year, the electives that are available here, and transitions to the high school.

If you have questions about how the pieces go together to get your child ready for the next educational level, this meeting is for you.

Remember – planning ahead can help you make sure you don't miss opportunities.

That's Tuesday, February 7 from 7:00 – 8:30 in the APR. (Snow date, February 16)



Algebra 2 Jumpstart

Our Honors Geometry students are among our Best and Brightest students at JPMS; we want them to have every opportunity to be the Best and Brightest at Poolesville High School! All Honors Geometry students are invited to attend a very special *Summer Program* that will give you a *Jumpstart* into Algebra 2!

Over the past two years, Mrs. Aulls has developed this curriculum to help strong students refresh their Algebra skills so they are ready for excellence in high school. It has been a year since Honors Geometry students took Algebra – of course those skills are a little rusty. This class is a great way to review Algebra 1 concepts so JPMS students are ready on Day 1 to excel in Algebra 2. Mark your calendars now for this great opportunity which is available only to John Poole students.

The class will run Monday through Friday for three weeks at John Poole Middle School. The first day of class is Monday, July 9th and the last day is Friday, July 27th. The class will be from 9:30am – 11:30am. Students will need to have their own transportation to attend this program. There *may* be afternoon transportation if there are other summer programs at John Poole MS.

There is a small fee of \$10 for this great opportunity to jumpstart your Algebra skills (checks made payable to JPMS). Fill out and detach the reservation slip below and return it with your registration fee to Mrs. Ogden in the main office or Mrs. Aulls in room 309 as soon as possible and no later than Friday, March 30th.

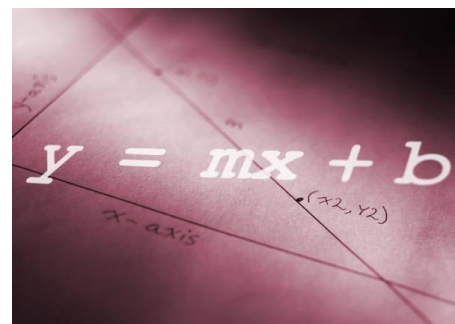
I would like to reserve a spot for the three week Algebra 2 Jumpstart class.

Student Name: _____

2012-2013 Math Course: _____

Parent Name: _____

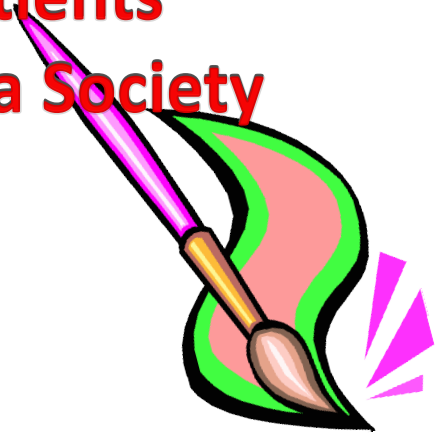
Parent Signature: _____



Please provide a name and number below of someone who can be reached in case of an emergency.

MOVIE & CRAFT NIGHT

**NHS Pennies for Patients
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Fundraiser**



**Watch
Despicable Me**



**Make
crafts for kids**

**Popcorn and
drinks for sale!**

**Wednesday, February 1, 5-9 PM
at Poolesville High School Auditorium**

Summer 2012

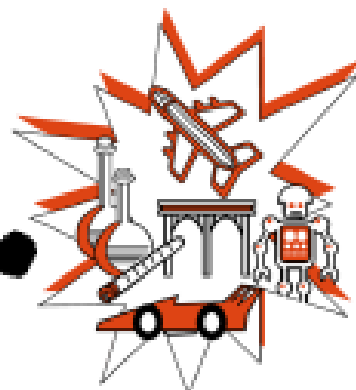
The A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland

presents

Stepping Stones



To
Your
Future



Engineering Summer Camp

"YOUR FIRST STEP TO UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD AROUND YOU"

A commuter camp for current 6th & 7th graders

Runs from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm daily

Work with University of Maryland engineering students to perform fun science experiments and engineering challenges.

Discover just how much fun engineering is and how it can impact your future!

Apply Online Now! wie.umd.edu/precollege/stepstone.html

Apply by March 26, 2012

Contact Information

Elizabeth Remmers
eremmers@umd.edu
301-405-0315



Program Dates

Session I: July 16-20

Session II: July 23-27



MedImmune

Kids in Bio

As part of MedImmune's commitment to health and science education, we are pleased to open our doors to local middle school students for our annual Kids in Bio Program this spring. During this educational program, students will have the opportunity to interact with MedImmune employees with different roles, expertise and academic backgrounds who use science in their daily work. In addition, students will tour a laboratory and hear from several of our scientists.

We will offer pizza and refreshments for students after the session.

WHO: Local middle school students, 11-14 years of age

WHAT: Interactive "game show" panel discussion, lab tour and Q&A session

DATE: March 8, 2011

TIME: 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: MedImmune
One MedImmune Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

TO REGISTER: Please visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KidsinBio2012>

There are 100 spots available for the program, and registration will close once all spots have been filled. At that time, we will start a waiting list and will notify parents if and when spots become available.

Due to space restrictions, parents cannot participate in the program. For additional information, please contact Natalie Shuster at community@medimmune.com.

About MedImmune

MedImmune, the worldwide biologics business for AstraZeneca PLC (LSE: AZN.L, NYSE: AZN), has approximately 3,300 employees worldwide and is headquartered in Gaithersburg, Maryland. With an advancing pipeline of promising candidates, we aim to be the next revolutionary force in biotechnology by delivering life-changing products, industry-leading performance, and a tireless commitment to improving patient health. For more information, visit MedImmune's website at www.medimmune.com.



Ask teachers for help Tuesdays-Thursdays, 4-9 PM, on MCPS TV's Homework Hotline Live (HHL). Watch teachers on TV as they work with you to solve homework problems.

To ask your question: From 4 to 6 PM, call **301-279-3234** (STILL THE BEST--talk directly with a teacher). From 4 to 9 PM, send a text message from the Homework Hotline website (AskHHL.org); send a text message from your cell phone to **724-427-5445**; post a message on the [HHL Facebook wall](https://www.facebook.com/AskHHL), or send an e-mail to question@AskHHL.org.

Homework Hotline Live has been helping students for 26 years. It is a service of Montgomery County Public Schools. In addition to the website, HHL can be viewed in Montgomery County on cable TV (Comcast 34, Verizon FIOS 36, RCN 89).

Save the Date!



Important events you won't want to miss!

January 23	Professional Day (No School for Students and Teachers)
January 24	3 rd Marking Period Begins
January 26	Science Expo Rescheduled to February 2 (5:00-7:00 p.m.)
January 31	8 th Grade Field Trip to the Newseum
February 1	Report Card Distribution
February 2	Science Expo (5:00-7:00 p.m.)
February 3	7 th Grade Holocaust Field Trip
February 7	Grades 7 and 8 Incoming Parent Orientation Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
February 9	Grade 6 Field Trip to the Frederick Douglas House and MLK Memorial
February 9	6th Grade Incoming Parent Orientation Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
February 10	Honor Roll Celebrations

JPMS Basketball Schedule

January 26	Girls play King at JPMS (2:40 p.m.) Boys play King at King (3:00 p.m.)
February 8	Boys play Kingsview at JPMS (2:40 p.m.) Girls play Kingsview at Kingsview (3:00 p.m.)
February 16	Girls play Clemente at JPMS (2:40 p.m.) Boys play Clemente at Clemente (3:00 p.m.)

Season Update – Go Lady Timberwolves!

Last week the Girls' Basketball team raised their record to a perfect 3-0. On Tuesday the Lady Timberwolves defeated Baker Middle School 22 to 15. **Mollie Bodmer, Delaney Cecco, and Casey Harkins** led the team with 4 points apiece. Although the team struggled offensively, the strong defense led to the victory. **Breanne Hall and Delaney Cecco** each pulled in 5 boards to lead the team in rebounding. The highlight of the game came in the fourth quarter, when **Madi Peyton** sank two free throws to score against her former school. Next game is January 26, home versus Martin Luther King Middle School.



PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



***Don't Miss Movie and Craft Night
February 1, 2012
5:00 – 9:00 PM in the PHS Auditorum
Great Family Fun!***

Girls Varsity Basketball

January 20	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
January 24	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Watkins Mill HS at Watkins Mill HS
January 27	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at Seneca Valley HS
January 30	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at PHS

Boys Varsity Basketball

January 20	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
January 24	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Watkins Mill HS at Watkins Mill HS
January 27	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at Seneca Valley HS
January 28	TBA	PHS vs. Gettysburg HS at Gettysburg HS
January 30	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at PHS

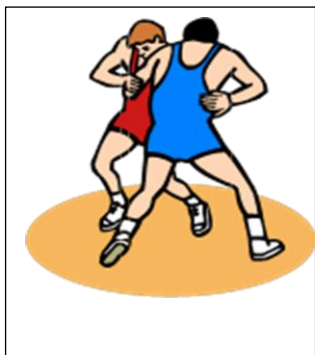


CoEd Varsity Swim and Dive

January 21	12:00 p.m.	Richard Montgomery and Poolesville at Montgomery College (Takoma)
January 28	9:15 a.m.	Walter Johnson and Poolesville at Martin Luther King Swim Center

Boys Varsity Wrestling

January 21	1:00 p.m.	Richard Montgomery and Walter Johnson at PHS
January 25	6:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood at Northwood
January 28	2:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Gaithersburg at Gaithersburg
January 31	6:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Magruder at Magruder
February 4	1:00 p.m.	Wheaton and Kennedy vs. PHS at PHS



Call John Poole!

Main Office 301-972-7979
Counseling 301-972-7980
Cafeteria 301-407-1037
Health Room 301-407-1029



And Ask for...

Principal - Mrs. Boucher	Assistant Principal - Ms. Lemon
Technology & Arts IRT & Grade Level Coordinator	- Mr. Grotenhuis
English IRT	- Mrs. Lindsay
Social Studies IRT	- Ms. Nachlas
Math IRT	- Mr. McKay
Science IRT	- Mrs. Callaghan
Counseling - (Ms. Kitts, Secretary)	Mrs. Arnold - Mrs. Hardy

JPMS
Timberwolves
live with
Purpose
Respect
Integrity
Dedication
Effort

Our Vision

The Timberwolf community experiences joy in learning, celebrates excellence, and values positive relationships.

Our Mission

At John Poole Middle School, our mission is to:

- **promote joy in learning through motivation and engagement**
- **celebrate excellence by acknowledging achievement foster a shared responsibility for academic and social success**
- **value positive relationships, thereby promoting a respectful and supportive learning environment**

