Good evening John Poole Middle School families,

This is Mr. Green with your weekly updates for December 18 - December 22, 2023.

This is the final week of 2023 and we have a great SGA spirit week planned.  On behalf of all of us here at John Poole, I would like to wish everyone a safe winter break and a healthy new year.  We return to school on Wednesday, January 3, 2024.

The interim reports are now available in ParentVUE on Monday, December 18.  Please continue to check your grades, monitor your assignments, and take advantage of re-assessment opportunities.  Speak with your teacher if you have any questions or concerns about your grades.

Our 8th Grade Candy gram fundraiser has been extended.  The last day to buy a Candy Gram to support the 8th Grade class is Monday, December 18th.  Don't forget to send a special note and a candy cane to all of your friends!  Candy Grams cost $1.  They will be sold on Monday before school and at all 3 lunches.

Thursday, December 21 is the 7th grade field trip to Finance Park.

Next Friday, December 22, we will have an adjusted bell schedule to accommodate our music department performance as well as staff vs. students volleyball matches throughout the day.  More information will follow as we get closer to the day.

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SGA Spirit Week

Staff and students are invited to take part in the SGA Winter Spirit Week.  Below are the spirit days:

**12/18:** Merry Morning Monday- Wear your favorite Holiday PJs or just PJs.

**12/19:** Crazy Socks and Ugly Sweater Tuesday.  Wear your crazy socks and ugly sweaters.

**12/20:** Winter Wonderland Wednesday.  Celebrate the Winter Season by wearing Blue and White.

**12/21:** Candy Cane Thursday.  Dress in White and Red to celebrate this holiday treat

**12/22:** Class Color Day.  Support your team by wearing your grade color.

Staff - Flannel

6th Grade - BLACK

7th Grade - BLUE

8th Grade - PINK

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During the December 5, 2023, Board of Education (Board) business meeting, the Board adopted the 2024–2025 School Year calendar. The calendar is responsive to community input, offers limited instructional disruptions, and maintains 182 days of instruction. Mark your calendar for the first day of school next year. Please use the links provided to access the 2024–2025 School Year calendars.

* [2024-2025 Traditional School Year Calendar](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2FuploadedFiles%2Fcalendar%2FFY2024%2FTraditional_Calendar_BoardAdopted_Months.pdf&data=05%7C02%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C2afbd7a968e64b641af208dbfccc649d%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638381727008101526%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1K68t26%2BV7DZpN4Z9soX3x2HP%2FiZps6HGZ7YcX%2F4tA8%3D&reserved=0)
* [2024-2025 Innovative School Year Calendar](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2FuploadedFiles%2Fcalendar%2FFY2024%2FInnovative_Calendar_BoardAdopted_Months.pdf&data=05%7C02%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C2afbd7a968e64b641af208dbfccc649d%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638381727008101526%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KMBzB8mv2%2FlRlwM0N089pvtQ8rDqoVmQBR0OEQagBOo%3D&reserved=0)

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PHS Student Tutors/Mentors

This Wednesday, we will have PHS students coming to JPMS to support our students.  High school students will be ready to help students with their homework and will assist students with whatever help they may need.  Please consider joining us after school on Wednesday.  Please listen to the announcements this week for more information.

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Winter Music Concert - Wednesday 12/20

The JPMS Winter Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, from 5:00-7:00 p.m, in the Main Gym.   All performers should wear formal black & white attire for the concert.  We look forward to seeing you then!

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**Drama Production Update**

We have had to change the dates for our drama productions.  The plays will no longer take place in December.  The new dates are now Friday, January 19 and Friday, January 26, 2024.  The shows will begin at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you then!

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**PTSA News - Winter Social (2/2)**

**Winter Social is coming this February and planning is now underway!** Interested in volunteering on the committee? Here are the two easy steps to take:
1) Fill out this JPMS PTSA [Volunteer Form](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FJPMSPTSA-getinvolved&data=05%7C02%7Cjon_green%40mcpsmd.org%7C3a22ca2ecee3464a9cef08dbf80c656d%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638376504370708875%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YwauCa9phvOtXbWM7y9%2F%2Fo0xOFXq%2FcUJjWTf2ljsIFA%3D&reserved=0) indicating your interest, and
2) Join us for an [intro zoom](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FJPMSPTSAwintersocial24&data=05%7C02%7Cjon_green%40mcpsmd.org%7C3a22ca2ecee3464a9cef08dbf80c656d%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638376504370708875%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0WwEqcSuIJlbiA3nmmfv4lXxpvFEDrsVLA2EZAq7bY4%3D&reserved=0) on Tuesday, 12 December at 7:00 p.m. We will record the session for those who have indicated interest by completing the JPMS PTSA [Volunteer Form](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FJPMSPTSA-getinvolved&data=05%7C02%7Cjon_green%40mcpsmd.org%7C3a22ca2ecee3464a9cef08dbf80c656d%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638376504370708875%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YwauCa9phvOtXbWM7y9%2F%2Fo0xOFXq%2FcUJjWTf2ljsIFA%3D&reserved=0) but aren’t able to attend.
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**PHS PTA Store for current 8th grade (future PHS class of 2028) families**

The Poolesville High School PTSA has decided to try something fun for the incoming freshman. They switched their swag shop from just serving their current families to having 2028 gear for 8th grade families of JPMS.  The store will open on Monday, December 18.  Please use the following link:

[**https://phsclass2028.itemorder.com/shop/home/**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fphsclass2028.itemorder.com%2Fshop%2Fhome%2F&data=05%7C02%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C66aae646bb58431f433c08dbfcd2051e%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638381751198155448%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=iIraAIzkKsmn5QhiI247ua1zcn7OIBQC8Rx9J0PdRTM%3D&reserved=0)

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**YEARBOOK NEWS:**

The 2023-2024 John Poole Yearbook is currently available for purchase at Jostens.com. Personalization is available through January 26, 2024.

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Please continue to check the [myMCPS Classroom](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclassroom.mcpsmd.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7C5bab4d84c8e547b1868508dbff5899ae%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638384528234521461%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BxZUj4aYIlxGT73%2BhyojVWLM1zSzk7R16TycUCHq0Po%3D&reserved=0) calendar or our [JPMS school webpage](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fschools%2Fpoolems%2F&data=05%7C02%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7C5bab4d84c8e547b1868508dbff5899ae%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638384528234521461%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2zabJNnP%2BB5eYCMbuT6NV1yd2N1fsHtsIgvJ9QMQtzI%3D&reserved=0) for the most updated information, including upcoming events, bus routes, and other happenings occurring at school.

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Please mark your calendars for these important upcoming events:

Monday, December 18 - Interim Reports Available in ParentVUE

Thursday, December 21 - Grade 7 field trip to Finance Park

Monday, December 25 - Tuesday, January 2 - NO SCHOOL.  Winter Break

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Have a great night and a wonderful week!

Mr. Green