

# MCMS NEWSLETTER

## November 2023

## Mifflin County Middle School

2 Manor Drive Lewistown, PA 17044

<https://www.mcSDK12.org/mcms/> T: 717-242-1401

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, November 7, 2023**

Picture Retakes  
(rescheduled from 10/31)

**Wednesday, November 8, 2023**

Report Cards Distributed

Parent Conferences (4:30-7:30 p.m.)

**Thursday, November 9, 2023**

Inservice Day  
No School for Students

**Friday, November 10, 2023**

Veterans' Day Observed  
No School for Students

**Wednesday, November 22, 2023**

Tally Your Turkeys Assembly  
Early Dismissal - 12:15 p.m.

**Tuesday, November 23 -  
Monday, November 27, 2023**  
Thanksgiving Vacation

## Follow MCMS on Social Media!

MCMS is on Facebook and Instagram! Follow us to keep up with the latest Husky happenings!



Dear MCMS parents/guardians,

We have so much to be thankful for at MCMS! This edition of the MCMS monthly newsletter highlights some of the wonderful things going on at MCMS. Read on to see which students were honored as Huskies of the Month and Leaders of the Pack so far this year. You'll also find information on the upcoming Fall Fest dance, the Tally Your Turkeys campaign, and more. Pages 5-7 feature several of the great student clubs MCMS has to offer.

## Early Dismissals and Parent Pick-ups

**Reminder** - students who are being picked up for an early dismissal need a note from a parent in order to be excused. If the student forgets the note, parents/guardians should bring it with them when picking up the student, or write a new note.

Notes are not necessary to inform the office that students who typically ride the bus home will be picked up by a parent after school. As long as the student is aware that they are to be a parent pick-up, no note is required.

## Yearbook Presale

The yearbook store is open! Yearbooks are now on sale online. The cost will be discounted until December 31, 2023, and cost is \$25. The price will increase to \$30 starting January 1, 2024. Order your book today and receive the discounted rate. A \$1 processing fee will apply. This is an online only discount, so no money should be sent to school. To order, visit [this link](#) or use the QR code. If you have any questions, you can email Ms. Reese at [ldr24@mcSDK12.org](mailto:ldr24@mcSDK12.org).



# MCMS Student Council News

## Fall Fest Dance

Student Council will be sponsoring a fall fest dance. The dance will be from 6:30 - 8:30 on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The cost for the dance is \$2.00. Only Mifflin County Middle School Students may attend. The dance is casual. There will be a concession stand and games that cost a quarter to play. Proceeds from this dance will support our Tally Your Turkeys Campaign.



## Tally Your Turkeys

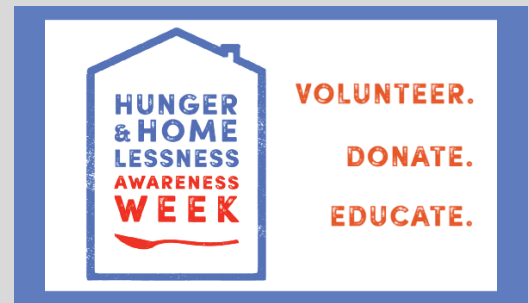
In the week leading up to Thanksgiving, student council organizes and runs a campaign to help the Salvation Army raise funds to benefit our community. During this week, we ask students to contribute money toward our goal. On Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the student council sponsors an assembly to celebrate their accomplishment. Students get the chance to compete in relays with the faculty, learn the total amount of money raised, and see the check presented. There are also prizes for the top money-raising first periods. You can tune into MERF radio in the mornings to hear what homerooms are topping the "Tally Your Turkeys Leaderboard."



## Reminders from the Nurse

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Examinations:** The school nurse will accept a completed physical examination with the student's healthcare provider from up to one year prior to the first day of school this year or at any time during the sixth-grade year. A copy of the child's immunization record must be completed and turned in with the physical. Students may request physical examination forms in the school nurse's office, or they can be downloaded and printed from the district's webpage.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Dental:** The school nurse will accept a dental form dated from up to one year prior to the school start date or anytime during their seventh-grade year. It is a state requirement that every student in 7<sup>th</sup> grade must have a dental exam. Dental forms can be picked up in the nurse's office or downloaded from the district's webpage.



Schools and communities across the nation set aside the week before Thanksgiving to recognize the challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness. Under federal law, children are considered homeless if they lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence. Many people associate being homeless with living on the street, but homelessness is often hidden, especially in rural communities.

An average of **100 students** are identified as homeless in Mifflin County School District each year. To assist those in need, MCSD staff will be raising money for the district's student homelessness fund. In exchange for a \$5 donation, staff will be able to dress down on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and are encouraged to wear a red shirt to spread awareness.

If you or your child would like to join in the effort, donations can be sent to the Administration Building, located at 201 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Lewistown to the attention of Michelle Siruc, the district's homeless liaison. Checks can be made out to Mifflin County School District. Funds are used to purchase clothing, toiletries, and school supplies for displaced students. You can also show your support by wearing a red shirt on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

If you are experiencing homelessness, please know that help is available. Please reach out to your child's teacher, principal, nurse, or counselor. They will connect you with one of the district's social workers, who can assist you with securing necessary resources.

## Huskies of the Month

Congratulations to the September and October Huskies of the Month! These students were nominated and voted on by their teachers. HOTM is a program to recognize students with strong work ethic, good grades, no discipline referrals, and who display positive character. In other words, HOTM honors students who try their best every day!



September (l-r): Madalyn Yoder, Cameron Campbell, Kolt Dixon, Jovie Kauffman, Leon Oliver, Kenneth Shank, Jeanielys Rodriguez, and Elijah Steele



October (l-r): Lily Curry, Owen Wolfkiel, Alyvia Snook, Everett Nulton, Emily Dickson, Brenna Bickel, Eli Sutton (missing from photo: Evan Rook)

## Leaders of the Pack

Congratulations to the September and October Leaders of the Pack! These students were also nominated and voted on by their teachers. Leaders of the Pack are students who are kind and participatory in class and who demonstrate good behavior and positive character.



September (l-r): Maeci Gipe, Elissa Bell, Genesis Espinal Ramirez, Cohen Leister, Jaxlyn Frazier, Remington Marks, Brody Harshbarger, and Eli Sutton



October (l-r): Clay Warner, Noah Bunch, Caleb Sheeler, Drew Krohn, Olivia Kanagy, Lynlee Ritchey, Kynnedi Shank, Ashtyn Yorks



## Athletic News

- The deadline to register for winter sports is November 13th. The 1st day of winter sports practices is November 17th. Please see the athletics website for more information.
- Senior Citizen, Veteran and Active Military passes from last year are valid for the 23-24 sports season. Passes can be picked up at the MCHS main office for anyone that qualifies. Passes MUST be presented for free admission.
- Tickets for all Mifflin County Home Varsity Football games and Volleyball matches can be purchased online at <https://events.ticketspicket.com/agency/e76d4bd5-9868-4b08-878a-9472b4410179>
- Get the most up-to-date athletic information on our athletic website and by following ArbiterLive!
- Check out our MC Athletics' Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MiffcoAthletics>, and follow us on Twitter @MCHuskySports for the most up-to-date information regarding MC Athletics.
- Many sponsorship opportunities are available to support your MC Huskies! Please contact the athletic office for more information.

**We support  
big league dreams.**

Geisinger

Geisinger is the official sports medicine and orthopedics provider of the Mifflin County Huskies. Geisinger supports the big dreams of Mifflin County athletics, and whether your dreams include playing in the pros, hiking, or just getting back on your feet, our doctors and healthcare professionals are here for you every step of the way. Learn more at [Geisinger.org/bigdreams](https://Geisinger.org/bigdreams).

### Classroom Spotlight: Mrs. Zerby's Math Class

Students in Mrs. Zerby's math classes began their financial literacy unit in October. They learned about checking accounts and completed a "Money Madness" escape room. As the unit continues into November, the classes are being tasked with creating their own "shops". Students have to create a store or restaurant, design logos and ads, and create business community guidelines as a group. The project will wrap-up later in November with a "shop day" in which students will sell their shop items to each other while balancing checking account and profit logs.

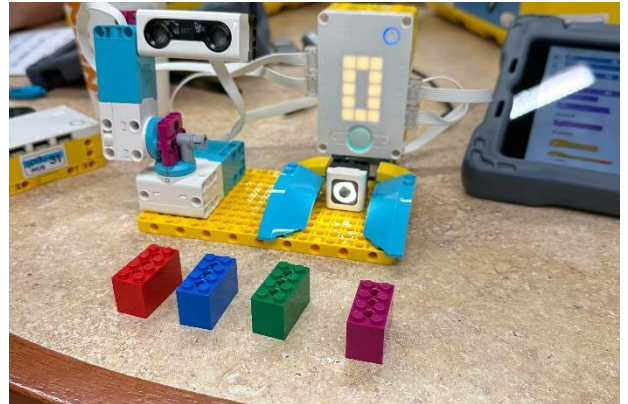


## MCMS Student Clubs

We have tons of clubs for students to be involved in here at MCMS! If you're not involved in a club yet, take a look at the club descriptions and photos below.

### Computer Club

MCMS Computer club meets every other Monday from 3:00-4:00pm in Mr. Yerger's Classroom. Students in the club have the opportunity to participate in activities that include web-based computer programming, Micro Bit coding, & any desired STEM related activities. A new choice recently acquired for computer club members this school year will be the option to participate in a robotic building and design course through LEGO Education.



### Engineering Club

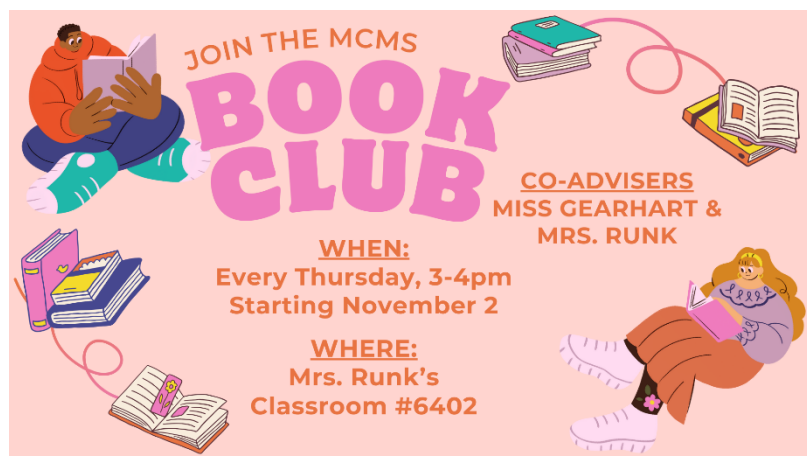
Engineering Club is an opportunity for student engineers to tinker, design, create, and build while collaborating with other people with similar interests. Students have the chance to explore small scale electronics, computer programming, and building through the engineering design process. The ultimate goal is for students to plan, design, and create a project that personally interests them while using the tools and skills they've acquired throughout the year. Engineering Club meets every other Wednesday at the middle school in room 209. See Mrs. Hartman for more information!

### Science Club

Science Club meets every other week in Mr. Grove's room. We do "sciencey" things that are outside the realm of normal middle school science, either because they are beyond the scope of the regular curricula, because of limitations in time or supplies, or because they are just too messy! Students typically suggest activities and we decide by voting/feasibility/expense which we will do each year. Favorites include the United States Crystal Growing Competition (USCGC), a national contest for students of all ages to see who can grow the largest Potassium Aluminum dodecahydrate (Alum) crystal; cell phone microscopes, elephant's toothpaste, polyvinyl alcohol slime, mentos and coca cola, dissections (squid, fetal pigs, hearts, and dogfish specimens have all been used), free time with compound microscopes, matchstick rockets, turning pennies to "gold," panning for gold, best paper airplanes, and DNA from fruit.





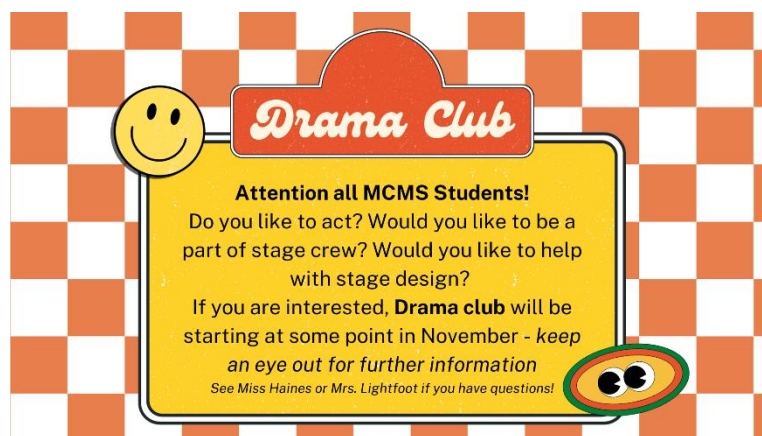


## Book Club

Join our Middle School Book Club! Middle school students will get ready for a literary adventure every Thursday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM in room 402. Participants will dive into captivating novels, engage in lively discussions, and make friends who share your passion for reading. Our first book selection is "Love That Dog," promising an exciting read. For more information, contact Mrs. Runk or Miss G. Don't miss out on this opportunity to explore the world of young adult literature with us—see you there! 📖🤝

## Drama Club

Drama Club works with students to help practice their acting skills. We play theater games and start to learn the process of putting on a play. In the spring, we start practicing for the play which will take place at the end of the year. Each student has a critical part in putting on the production. We have students acting, helping with set design, helping with hair and makeup, and, of course, helping with backstage duties. Students also participate in the Day of the Arts to showcase their play and characters.



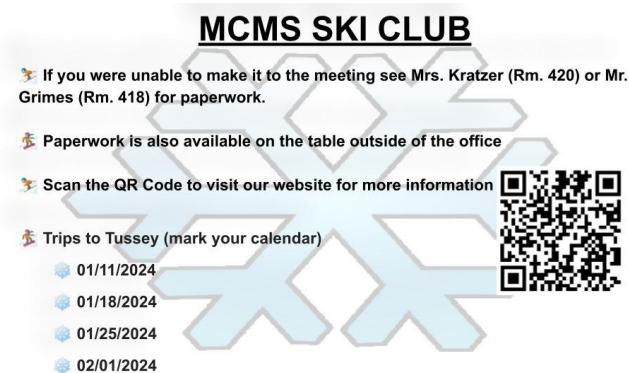
## Chess Club



Chess Club, advised by Mr. McKelvey, welcomes all levels of chess player from those who are just learning the game to experienced players. Those who know how to play can easily find someone to play against and those who are inexperienced will have the opportunity to receive instruction in the game. A variety of chess boards will be provided. Permission slips are required to join initially. Chess Club will meet Fridays after school until 4 p.m. beginning November 10th.

## Ski Club

Ski Club is a non-competitive after school Intramural Program that is run through Tussey Mountain and is advised by Mrs. Kratzer and Mr. Grimes. We take four trips per year to Tussey Mountain with the goal of students learning how to ski or snowboard. For those who have already been introduced to the sport, our goal is to help them perfect their skills and increase their comfort levels on the mountain slopes.





## PAPER MACHE MASTERPIECE

Ms. Elsesser's students are working on paper mache' projects. 7th grader, Jayda Thomas, shows her M & M paper mache' project while sporting her matching t-shirt. Students are making a wide variety of paper mache' object including hot-air balloons, bee hives, snowmen, animals, and fruit.

