



THE JAGUAR JOURNAL

Respect, Ready, Responsible, Proud

September 30, 2016



October 3rd
Rosh Hashanah
(school closed)

October 4th
Flu Clinic for
Bethel Families
(BVNA clinic)

October 5th
Picture Day

October 10th
Columbus Day
(school closed)

October 11th
Professional
Learning Day
(school closed)

October 12th
Yom Kippur
(school closed)

October 18th
PTO Meeting
9:15 am AND 7:15 pm

October 20th
Pumpkin
Decorating
3:00-4:00 pm

Don't Forget to
show your
Johnson PRIDE by
wearing spirit
wear or school
colors every
Friday!

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

It is extremely important that every parent/guardian updates his/her child's Parent Portal Information. **This update is critical to providing us with the most accurate information and phone numbers if there was an emergency.** Additionally, at the elementary level we will no longer be sending home hard copies of report cards, as parents will have access to that information through the portal. Please update your child's information this evening if you have not done so already. (See below for additional information!)

As we complete our first full month of school, I would like to share some helpful hints for parents and guardians:

1. Check your child's backpack daily.
2. Make sure your child is on time for school every day (Remember, our school day begins promptly at 8:15 am)
3. Keep a structured bedtime routine so your child is rested and ready to learn!
4. Set up a quiet homework space free of distractions.
5. Read, read, read to your child!
6. Take opportunities to discuss math in all real-world situations (i.e., shopping, cooking, etc.)
7. Keep lines of communication open with your child.

Have a wonderful weekend with your family.

Alison Salerno
Principal

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ!

The Bethel Public Schools District uses PowerSchool, an Internet-based student management information system. The information system includes a section known as the Parent Portal which will give parents the ability to access important information about their child(ren) over the Internet in a secure manner. All parents received a letter containing directions and information regarding your Parent Access ID and Parent Access Password. If you already have a Parent Portal account you can add your student to your existing account.

TO DATE, MANY of you have not yet created your account!

We are requesting that you update the demographic information and click on the policies and permissions **ASAP**. This information is critical to providing us the most accurate information and phone numbers if there was an emergency.

If you have any questions please call Rachel Caram at 203-794-8700.

A video tutorial is available on our website (click the link)
www.bethelk12.ct.us

PTO NEWS

Fundraiser Updates:

- Yankee Candle on-line orders will go through Dec
- Box tops: Keep sending them in! Our classes will be competing to see who can bring in the most
- Spirit wear is due Oct 5th
- School store is open on Thursdays! (Before school!)

Upcoming Events:

- Pumpkin decorating on October 20th 3:00-4:00 pm. Details to come!
- Our next PTO meeting will be October 18th at 9:15 am AND 7:15 pm

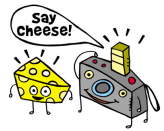
CONTACT US!

rmtjohnsonpto@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone that volunteered and supported our book fair!



Picture day is
Wed Oct 5th!



We can't hide our Johnson Pride!!!



Fall



Fling



Reading



Jamboree



GRAND OPENING!

Our PBIS Reward Store is opening on
OCTOBER 7th!



Respect, Responsible,
Ready & Proud!

Show your Johnson Pride
and earn those stamps for rewards including

- Prizes
- Raffles
- And more!



Welcome to the R.M.T.Johnson School Library! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!



Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am thrilled to serve your child as his/her library media specialist! I look forward to helping him/her become a critical thinker, enthusiastic reader, skillful researcher, and ethical user of information!

We are on a 5 day rotating schedule at Johnson School. Students may visit during their media class time for book exchange. They also could visit in the morning prior to morning announcements. I will be collaborating with your child's classroom teachers on whole class projects as well as research and informational literacy skills. Throughout the year, I'll teach them how to find and use resources, use the research process, appreciate literature, and more.

Please encourage your child to enjoy and take care of our library materials and return them for more. Also, please enjoy the library books WITH your children!

We could use parent volunteers to help out in the library during class time to assist with book checkout and reshelfing of books! Please contact me if you are interested in helping out at weinberga@bethel.k12.ct.us !! Look below for the times needed

8:40-9:20 Liquori, Claridge, Kersting Triad

9:25-10:05 Moscovitz, Basher, Rawlins Triad

10:10-10:50 Esposito, Harding, Andreasen Triad

10:55-11:35 Galante, Donohue, Wicklund Triad

11:40-12:20 Schrader, Reid, Trzcinski Triad

1:00-1:40 Kimartin, DiSalvo, Quader, Gerety, Malone

For more information, please call me at 203-794-8700 or visit our school library webpage, which can be located by using the QR code below or by visiting

http://www.bethel.k12.ct.us/schools/r_m_t_johnson_school/j_e_s_media_center

Happy Reading!
Mrs. Weinberg





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Odyssey of the Mind

2016-2017

What is Odyssey of the Mind (OOTM)?

OOTM “is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.”¹

Who can participate?

All Johnson students are eligible to help form teams! Each team is made up of 5-7 Johnson students. A team cannot compete if it has more or less! Parents and coaches are NOT allowed to give ideas, so the team members must make the commitment to create, design, build, and execute the plans. Parents and coaches can help guide with safe practices and handling big equipment, but this is primarily student driven.

What is the time commitment?

Odyssey teams work together to come up with meeting times outside of school hours as well as project timelines/goals in order to get their projects complete. This can mean meeting every so often, or up to a few times per week, especially as the competition day comes closer. Team members should also be willing to work on their projects individually at home, as a lot of time goes into building the props, costumes and pieces to bring the entire project together. All team members must commit to being at the State Competition on Saturday, March 18, 2017.

There is an optional Team Building Workshop “Odyssey Day” on December 3rd as well. Each team can decide if they would like to attend this workshop.

What is the main goal of OOTM?

The teams will choose from a list of 5 projects and compete in a state competition on March 18, 2017. This is the major portion of the project. The second part is a Spontaneous Problem that the students will not know anything about until the day of the competition. This is a fun time for the teams to work together to figure out a brand new problem, being scored on their teamwork, creativity, and completion.

What else does a team need?

Each team must have a Coach (two preferably), a Volunteer, and a Judge. Coaches will lead the meetings and help keep the teams focused without giving them help to solve their problems. Coaches also coordinate the meeting scheduling and complete all paperwork necessary for team registration. There are 2 optional (but encouraged) Coach Training dates, November 5th or January 7th. In addition, a Volunteer and a Judge needs to give their time on the day of the state competition. Without these, teams are fined for non-compliance with rules. Volunteers are expected to serve for a few hours either the night before or the day of the competition. You can choose your time and location typically to try to work around your teams' competition times. Judges will need to attend a Judge Training on Saturday March 4th. They will commit to judge a block of time for a certain project or area. Scheduling can be a bit trickier so sometimes a judge is not able to see some or all of their teams' competitions.

How much does OOTM cost?

The program cost is about \$60 per student. In addition, there will be expenses for props, costumes, etc. however it is expected that the majority of these items are recycled. Each problem has a maximum dollar amount that can be spent towards solving the problem.

How do I sign my student up?

Depending on interest and the number of volunteers, there will be a lottery to form teams. If there are enough students to form a team, the student of a Coach, Volunteer or Judge will have a guaranteed spot on the team. Fill out the attached interest form (do not include payment at this time) and we will create teams based on the interest. Forms must be received by Friday, October 7, 2016.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, you can contact Jill Kurtz at jmkurtz@gmail.com or visit the main program website at <http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/> ¹



Odyssey of the Mind 2016-2017

Student: _____

Grade: _____ Homeroom: _____

Parent Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I would like to be a: _____ Coach (Training 11/5/16 or 1/7/17)

_____ Judge (Training 3/4/17)

_____ Volunteer

FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7th

My student will commit to being an active participant of an OOTM team and compete at the State Championships on Saturday, March 18, 2017. No need to send payment at this time. You will be contacted if there is enough interest to form a team. This form is not a guarantee that your student will be placed on a team.

(Parent Signature)

PTO VOLUNTEERS



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Volunteer/Chairperson Opportunities 2016-2017

PTO EVENT/FUNDRAISER	DATE	CHAIR	VOLUNTEER
Reading Jamboree	9/28		
Scholastic Book Fair	9/26-9/30	Rebecca Chamberlain & Christine Cohen	
Fall Fundraiser – Yankee Candle**	September	Kathy Horvath & Amber Kane	
Fall Spirit Wear**	September	Jeannine Bruey	
Pumpkin Decorating	10/20	Ashley Tarzia	
Veteran's Day Breakfast	11/9 (tentative)		
4 th & 5 th Grade Movie Night**	11/4	Lisa Geist	
Toys for Tots Giving Tree	11/28-12/9	Tamara Wachnuik	
Holiday Shoppe – open during lunch	12/6-12/8	Amber Kane	
Author Visit	February	Kara DiBartolo	
Reading Rock Stars**	2/27-3/10		
Spring Spirit Wear**	March	Jeannine Bruey	
STEM Night**	TBD		
Spring Fundraiser – TBD**	April		
Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week	5/1-5/5		
Screen-Free Week	5/1-5/5	Pnina Flynn	
Mother's Day Plant Sale	5/10-5/12	Tamara Wachnuik	
Scholastic Book Fair	5/23 & 5/24	PTO Board	

PTO VOLUNTEERS



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CURRICULUM & COMMUNITY EVENTS	DATE	CHAIR	VOLUNTEER
Health Fair	October TBD	X	
Mindfulness Workshops	TBD	X	
5 th Grade Picnic	June		
5 th Grade Moving Up Breakfast	June		

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	CHECK
Floating Volunteer - to be contacted when extra help is needed	
Baking Committee ** - baking for events throughout the year	

Name: _____

Child's Name & Grade: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

*** Events/opportunities that can be coordinated outside of school hours.*

Events and event dates are subject to change.

Please contact Christine Cohen at cacohen10@gmail.com with volunteer questions.

Thank you for supporting Johnson School!