



## ANNA MCDONALD SCHOOL JANUARY NEWSLETTER

200 Second Street, Manhattan, IL 60442

815-478-3310

[www.manhattan114.org](http://www.manhattan114.org)

Ryan McWilliams, Principal

Debbie Jones, Secretary

December 22, 2017

### Happy Holidays

There will be early dismissal on Friday, December 22nd at 2:15 p.m. School will resume Monday, January 8th. On behalf of the Board of Education and staff at Anna McDonald, we wish you a most joyous holiday season and a happy new year! Thank you to our PTO for again hosting our holiday classroom parties.

### No School

There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, January 15th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. We also have an early dismissal on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Students will be dismissed at 12:42 p.m. for walkers and car riders and at 12:45 p.m. for bus riders.

### Dressing for the Weather

For grades Kindergarten thru five (5) the noon duty supervisors will decide whether or not the students will go outdoors depending upon weather conditions. Dress attire should be appropriate for the weather conditions. These decisions will be at the discretion and judgment of the recess supervisors.

### MAKE YOUR LUNCH PAYMENTS ONLINE

Please remember to check your child's lunch account balance in homelogic. Payments can be made online with a credit card. You may continue to pay for lunches with cash or check by sending it to school with your student in an envelope with your child's full name on it. **Students will not be allowed to purchase a hot lunch if their account is negative.** Lunch payments made online with a credit card must be a minimum of \$10.00. If you should have any questions about your balance, please feel free to call.

### PE Exemptions

We have made a change in protocol for students that are exempt from PE class due to injury or other circumstances. Moving forward, we are going to allow students to attend recess outside, HOWEVER, they are not permitted to participate in physical activity, which could do more harm and/or aggravate the injury or circumstance. This is simply allowing students to hang out on the black top area with friends near the supervisor and get some fresh air. I am hoping all our students will take this opportunity to be mature and responsible with their own situation and circumstance and follow protocol. If it becomes a problem for a child to be responsible, I will address it on a case-by-case basis and possibly omit that student from going outside.

### Emergency Closing Information

In addition to local radio, TV, and websites, you can access up-to-date school closing information by calling any of the school phone numbers or the district office at 478-6093 and press extension 5. Mr. Ragon will record a message informing parents about school closings. If school is going to be closed prior to the start of the day, parents will receive an automated "School Messenger" call. If you have had a change in contact phone numbers since filling out your child's registration form, it is important that you call school with these changes. These are the numbers that will be used to generate your automated call. HOTLINE-If we have to close school once children are already in school, we will activate our Emergency Hotline. We will call Wilson Creek

and Anna McDonald's youngest child in the family's emergency contact information to notify you if we have to close school early. At Manhattan Junior High we will only call those families that request a call.

### **Six Flags Read to Succeed**

The Six Flags Read to succeed Program has begun at Anna McDonald School! All students received a Reading Log. Between now and February 15<sup>th</sup>, students should keep track of time spent Reading. Those who read for six hours or more will earn a free ticket to Six Flags. Completed Reading Logs must be signed by a parent and returned to the student's classroom teacher no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>. No late submissions will be accepted. Thank you and happy reading!

### **Yearbook Orders**

This year a yearbook can only be purchased for your child using the online website TreeRing. If you want to purchase one for your child, click on the link below, enter in the passcode, and purchase a yearbook for your child. The cost of the yearbook is \$12.00.

When purchasing a yearbook, please either download the TreeRing app or use your PC to complete the process. We have had parents incorrectly filling out the information and accidentally purchasing yearbooks under their name and not their child's.

The website to order is: <http://www.TreeRing.com/validate>

The passcode is: 1014417497762779

The cost of the yearbook is \$12.00

If you have any questions, please contact the yearbook coordinator for Anna McDonald, Jaime McCleverty, at [jmccleverty@manhattan114.org](mailto:jmccleverty@manhattan114.org) You will also see the flyer at the end of this newsletter.

### **Check Out Our School District Website - [www.manhattan114.org](http://www.manhattan114.org)**

Please visit our website at [www.manhattan114.org](http://www.manhattan114.org). We post a variety of information related to our school district and its three schools. The Virtual Backpack is also available on our website. It contains flyers and information you can print. Homelogic can also be accessed by going to the website.

### **Nurse News**

Please remember the following guidelines:

#### Communicable Diseases

If your child has been diagnosed with a communicable disease, we ask that you call and/or write to the school and inform us. Manhattan School District 114 follows the instructions set forth by the Health Department. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends that your child stay home when the following conditions occur:

1. Fever: Temperature of one hundred (100) degrees F or above. Children are required to stay home for at least twenty four (24) hours after the fever has gone down.
2. Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea: All body fluids are considered contagious. Children are required to stay home at least twenty four (24) hours after the last episode.
3. Pink Eye: This may be viral or bacterial. Any child with symptoms such as swelling, redness, itching, or drainage should be seen by a physician. Antibiotics must be administered at least twenty-four (24) hours before returning to school.
4. Rash: A rash is assumed contagious and must be diagnosed by a doctor. A doctor's note should accompany the child when returning to school that identifies the rash.
5. Antibiotic Administration: Any child that has been diagnosed with a communicable disease that requires an antibiotic is required to stay home until he/she has taken the antibiotic for at least 24 hours.

**Please remember if you think your child will be needing any medication at school that the Medication authorization form needs to be filled out by parent and physician and returned to school. This includes cough drops, Tylenol, Motrin etc. Please remember this is a district policy! Any medication is to be brought in to the nurse's office and picked up by a parent.**

### **Parent/Teacher Conference Thank You!**

Thank you to both parents and teachers for successful Parent/Teacher Conferences. We hope that your conference was very beneficial and informative. As always, if you have any future concerns as to your child's progress, please contact your child's teacher. The Anna McDonald staff would also like to thank the PTO for serving dinner to the staff on the Monday evening of conferences.

**The Manhattan Foundation for Educational Excellence**  
**Support the Foundation While Doing Your Regular Holiday Shopping**

Use the link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1751490> to do all your holiday shopping and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the Manhattan Foundation. This is an excellent way to benefit the Manhattan 114 schools using money you would be spending anyway! This program runs all year long and you can use your existing Amazon account. Please spread the word to your friends and family - anyone can participate!

**Do you own a business? Advertise in the School Calendar**

This program is a win-win! Your business wins when your name and contact information appear in our school calendar which is seen by all the families in our district and our students and schools benefit from your support. We offer a \$50 special listing for home-based businesses, as well as full business ad packages. Contact Kelly Honan at [BHonan@aol.com](mailto:BHonan@aol.com) or 815-478-7782 for more information.

**7th Grade Families - Watch for Graduation Ad Forms in January**

Send your Class of 2019 student off with a special note of congratulations in the school calendar! Your child's name and your message will be listed in their 8<sup>th</sup> Grade calendar as a keepsake from this special time in your child's life. Graduation ads are \$25 and forms will be available in January 2018.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MANHATTAN FOUNDATION!**

The Manhattan Foundation for Education Excellence uses all of our profits to provide District 114 students and staff with educational resources beyond what the school budgets allow. We are strictly a volunteer organization made up of individuals who share one goal - to help our schools achieve and maintain a standard of educational excellence in Manhattan!

For information on joining our efforts

contact Kelly Honan

at

[Bhonan@aol.com](mailto:Bhonan@aol.com) or 815-478-7782.

**“WHY CAN'T I SKIP MY 20 MINUTES OF READING TONIGHT?”**

Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week; Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week. Student A reads 20 minutes x 5 times a week = 100 min./week. Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 minutes.

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month. Student A reads 400 minutes a month. Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year. Student A reads 3600 minutes in a school year. Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year.

Student A practices reading the equivalent of ten whole school days a year. Student B gets the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits, Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days. One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance. How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

**Some questions to ponder:**

Which student would you expect to read better?

Which student would you expect to know more?

Which student would you expect to write better?

Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?

Which student would you expect to be more successful in school....and in life?

Which student are you?

U.S. Dept. of Education, America Reads Challenge. (1999) “Start Early, Finish Strong: How to Help Every Child Become a Reader.” Washington, D.C.

### **Orchestra and Choir News**

Thank you to everyone who supported our only fundraiser! We are very appreciative and have been able to build the program through everyone's participation!

Good luck to 5th grade violinists, Chloe Miller and Makenzie Ceh. They are participating in the IGSMA Solo and Ensemble contest on Saturday, February 10th in Shorewood. GOOD LUCK, CHLOE and MAKENZIE!!!!

January 25th is the Winter Concert at MJHS, 7:00 p.m. Wear your tuxedos, and parent help is appreciated with the ties/cummerbunds.

### **Student Council**

Student Council had an exciting December. We wrapped the gifts we were able to purchase from Yellow Ribbon Week to send off to the children's hospital for kids that are fighting cancer this holiday season. We also adopted an Army unit and packaged a gift filled with snacks and games along with cards made by Student Council members. In addition, we showed our appreciation to the teachers and made holiday gifts for them. We finalized and spread the word for our Winter Wear It Spirit Week.

### **January 2018**

- 8<sup>th</sup> School resumes
- 9<sup>th</sup> Student Council 3:15pm  
PTO Meeting @ Wilson Creek 6:15pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> BOE Meeting 6pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> STEM Club 3:15pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> No School-Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> Progress Report Grades on Homelogic
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Student Council 3:15pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal 12:42/12:45pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Book Fair 25<sup>th</sup> thru Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>  
4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band/Orchestra/Choir Concert @ MJHS 7pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> Erin's Law Assembly 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade only

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR PRIME TIME READING NIGHT  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST FROM 6-7:30PM