



**Anna McDonald Elementary School
200 Second Street; Manhattan, IL 60442
815-478-3310
www.manhattan114.org
Ryan McWilliams, Principal
Debbie Jones, Secretary**

November 2016

Important Reminders

Please keep in mind when making changes for your child, or if other arrangements need to be made for your child, please send a note. Unless we have something in writing your child will be sent on their normal means of travel. In case of an emergency, a call can be made to the school and we will get the message to your child. Please try to make all calls before 2:30 p.m. to allow time to get the message to them.

3rd Grade Music Program

Our 3rd Grade Music Program will be on Thursday, November 17th at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. We would like to encourage friends and family to attend the 10:30 a.m. performance so there is more room for parents at the 7pm performance.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 21st and Tuesday, November 22nd. Please sign up for your conference through SignUpGenius.com. You can find information on Anna McDonald's home page at www.manhattan114.org. Please call the office if you need assistance. There is no school on Wednesday, November 23rd thru Friday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

PE Exemptions

If a student presents a note from their doctor exempting them from PE, this also includes recess & any other physical activity. Students exempt from PE will attend workroom during recess and not go outside. For the safety and liability of the students & district, this takes effect 10/6/16. Any questions can be directed to Mr. McWilliams.

Lunch Information

Please remember to check your child's lunch account balance on homelogic. You can pay online through your homelogic account or send a check. When sending a check, please remember to use an envelope with your child's first and last name and teacher's name on the envelope. This is very important to ensure that we can credit the right child's account. It is also necessary for students to sign up each day that they are buying a hot lunch. **Students are NOT allowed to buy hot lunch if they have a negative lunch balance.**

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. Verbal notification from recess supervisors, as well as written notification in newsletters, will be provided to the students and parents, of expectations for the good of the whole student body.

Physical Education Notes

The students in fifth grade are finally finished with the fall series of physical fitness tests. Students were tested in the Curl Up, Back Saver Sit and Reach, 90 degree push ups, Trunk Lift and P.A.C.E.R.

The confidential test results were then entered, into a program called FitnessGram. This program then allows us to easily send reports to the State of Illinois, as is required this 2016-2017 school year. This is in an effort to meet State Goal 20, where students meet and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.

Our fourth and fifth grade students have begun their “football” unit. We’ve focused on the basics, which include punting, receiving, passing, and returning. Students put these basics to good use by playing Punt-Return-Tag and Scramble.

Third graders have finished up their Personal and Social Responsibility Unit. Students participated in games like Robotic’s Lab, Reflection Perfection, Ice-Water-Steam, Foam Ball Frenzy, Cooperative Triathlon, Machine Shop, and Aerobic Pattern Perfection. The third graders will finish up the month of October playing “See-Ya” and “Trick-or-Treat.”

Please be sure to watch your child’s take home folder and backpack for information about our JDRF walk, which will be held in November!!

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. However, if you purchase one by October 31, you can save 10% off of the cover price.

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, Tracy Lamont, at tlamont@manhattan14.org

Orchestra News

The orchestra will be having their ONLY fundraiser of the year: Christmas Cash Lottery. Each family is asked to sell 10 tickets @ \$10.00 each. You will be the only one with that number (E=Evening, M=Midday) for the month of December. Cash prizes are mailed directly to your house: \$25.00 Monday-Saturdays, \$100.00 on Sundays, \$50.00 on Christmas Day and New Year's eve. Good luck to all, and thank you for helping out the program! Sales begin on November 7th.

The 4th and 5th grade orchestras will have their fall concert at MJHS on November 10th, at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to hear beautiful music by our talented musicians!

3rd Grade Music Revue "Forever Learning" will be on November 17th at Anna McDonald School.

Everyone is welcome to hear our young singers at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Students are asked to wear black and white for the evening performance.

91% Factor

The 91% factor means that if a child enters school as a kindergartener and never misses a day of school until he/she graduates 13 years later, the school system will have had control over that child's learning experiences for 9% of the child's life up to that point in time. The other 91% (hence the 91% Factor) of the child's life is outside the control and the purview of the school system, presumably mostly in the hands of the family and the community (George Will, Washington Post, 2002, p. B07)

The relationship between home and school is crucial in the development of a child—Ryan McWilliams.

“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 6th 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.

NURSE'S NEWS

The Kinsa [FLUency program](#) is now live for our school! This program will keep our school healthier by:

- Giving each family a FREE Smart Thermometer
- Showing all families "what's going around" for preventative care
- Reducing sick days through early detection and increased awareness

The more families that participate, the more successful the program will be in keeping our students healthier throughout this flu season.

Signing up for the program is as easy as 1,2,3:

1. Download the FREE Kinsa app for iOS or Android
2. Create profiles for anyone in your family
3. Go to "Groups" and search for our school using our location. Join our school group.

We are excited and proud to be chosen for this exclusive program and look forward to a healthier flu season this year!

Symptoms	Cold	Flu
fever	rare	characteristic, high (102-104 F); lasts 3-4 days
headache	rare	prominent
general aches, pains	slight	usual; often severe
fatigue, weakness	quite mild	can last up to 2-3 weeks
extreme exhaustion	never	early and prominent
stuffy nose	common	sometimes
sneezing	usual	sometimes
sore throat	common	sometimes
chest discomfort, cough	mild to moderate; hacking cough	common; can become severe

(Source: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases)

November 2016

- 1st Student Council 3:15
- 3rd 6th gr Girls BB Game 4pm
- 6th Daylight Savings Ends
- 7th 5th Grade Robert Crown 9am
- 9th BOE Mtg 6pm
- 10th 4th/5th Band & Orchestra Concert 7pm
- 11th JDRF Walk 2:30pm
- 15th Student Council 3:15pm
- 17th 3rd Grade Music Program 10:30am & 7pm
- 18th Progress Reports on HomeLogic
- 21st P/T Conferences 2-9pm
- 22nd P/T Conferences 8am-1pm
- 23rd NO SCHOOL
- 24th HAPPY THANKSGIVING
- 25th NO SCHOOL
- 29th Student Council 3:15pm