



# GREYHOUND NEWS

October 15, 2014

## Individual & Magnet School Pictures

### Individual School Picture Day

If your student missed Individual School Picture Day, don't worry. A make-up date has been scheduled for **Individual School Pictures** on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

The photographer will shoot make-up photos during the PE classes. He will reprint the same order form as before for the make-up photo day and students can pick them up in the main office or room 221. In addition, the order blank will be available to download on the JMS website. Students should bring their completed order forms and payment on photo make-up day October 30, 2014.

### Magnet Class Picture Day

Magnet Class pictures will be taken for the yearbook October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> during all class periods. New this year, Magnet Class pictures will be available for sale. The photographer will make photo order forms for magnet photo day, which will be distributed by the magnet teachers, as well as a digital copy that we can send to you.

## Also – Yearbook News

### Attention 8th graders!

If you are one of the lucky ones who have already bought your 2015 yearbook, or will be buying this week, please submit your baby picture to be featured on our Guess Who baby page in the new 2015 yearbook. Show everyone how cute you were by submitting your baby picture to the yearbook staff in room 221. Photos must be 0-24 months only. Space is limited to the first 30 babies.

So, hurry and submit your baby picture to: [www.jmsyearbook@johnstonmiddle.org](http://www.jmsyearbook@johnstonmiddle.org)

Tobi Arsham-Shvartzapel  
Magnet ART Teacher: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
JMS YEARBOOK Teacher & Advisor  
[tarsham@houstonisd.org](mailto:tarsham@houstonisd.org)

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## Textbook News

Math Textbook – HISD is now using an online math textbook which is accessible at <http://my.hrw.com>. Each student has been given login information. Parents can obtain login information from their child or from the student's math teacher via email (email addresses available on the Johnston website, <http://www.houstonisd.org/Johnston>).

Math workbooks are available for purchase for \$14.50 (plus shipping and handling) from Holt McDougal. Contact customer services at 1-800-462-6595 with the title, grade level and ISBN or contact your student's math teacher for a printable order form.

6 <sup>th</sup> grade	ISBN 9780544051676	Holt McDougal Go Math! Texas Student Interactive
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	ISBN 9780544050877	Holt McDougal Go Math! Texas Student Interactive

8<sup>th</sup> grade

ISBN 9780544052888

Holt McDougal Go Math! Texas Student Interactive

Cindy Dinneen, MLIS  
Librarian

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## All School Read!

All School Read begins soon! *All the Broken Piece* by Ann E. Burg (Scholastic, 2009) has been selected for Johnston's first all school read. The award winning book is set post-Vietnam War era is about a middle school boy named Matt, a Vietnamese refugee who has been adopted by an American family. Matt struggles with issues common to many middle school children and is haunted by memories of his life and family in Vietnam.

Students will be reading the book during the Mentor period in the next few weeks and each student will receive a copy of the book to keep. Extra copies are available for parents to purchase for \$5 and are available in the library from Ms. Dinneen. Weekly discussion questions will be posted on the JMS website to provide conversation starters at home.

Thank you for supporting this very important piece of the JMS literacy initiative.

Cindy Dinneen, MLIS  
Librarian

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## JMS Library Policy

Because library policies differ from campus to campus, here is a summary of the Johnston policy:

1. Library hours are from 7:50 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Students need a morning pass to come to the library before school.
2. Students may check out up to **four** books at a time with a 3-week checkout period for all books except graphic novels, which have a 1- week checkout period. All books may be renewed **one** time unless another student has placed a hold on the book.
3. Library fines are charged at \$.10 per day per book with a 2-day grace period. Fines may be "worked off" before school or after school.
4. There are 28 computers in the library that are available for student checkout before and after school.

Cindy Dinneen, MLIS  
Librarian

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## ID Badges

1. Students can purchase replacement ID's in the library for \$3.00 each; replacement lanyards are available for \$1 each.
2. Temporary ID's are available in the library for \$1 and can be purchased on credit.
3. Charges for temporary ID's may be "worked off" before or after school.

Cindy Dinneen, MLIS  
Librarian

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## The first 6-Weeks Report Cards went home on October 10, 2014.

If you have not seen it, ask your student.

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### October 15 through November 8, 2014

- 15-29 READISTEP 8th grade  
Magnet Tours - 1:15 to 3:45 p.m.
- 17 Field trip to Houston Ballet "Dancing in Texas" – 9 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.
- 18 Orchestra Region Auditions at Woodcreek JH, Katy
- 19 "Cool Brains" author Roland Smith – 2:30 to 5 p.m. – auditorium
- 20 7<sup>th</sup> grade Football - JMS at Welch – 5 to 6:30 p.m.  
Volleyball – JMS vs Dowling – 5 to 8 p.m.
- 21 Magnet Class Picture Day – 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – auditorium  
JDE Master Class: Houston Ballet Learning from the Masters – 11 a.m. to 12 noon  
8<sup>th</sup> grade Football - JMS vs Welch – **HOME COMING!** – 5 to 6:45 p.m. – Butler Stadium
- 22 "Axiom" String Quartet – auditorium  
Magnet Class Picture Day (outside of auditorium) – 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Magnet Tours - 1:15 to 3:45 p.m.
- 24 Youth Summit South Texas College of Law (Adderley & Rubin) – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 27 7<sup>th</sup> grade Football – Dowling at Johnston -- 5 to 6:30 p.m.
- 28 JDE Master Class: Houston Ballet Learning from the Masters – 11 a.m. to 12 noon  
8<sup>th</sup> grade Football – JMS vs Dowling – 5 to 6:45 P.M. – Butler Stadium
- 29 Magnet Tours - 1:15 to 3:45 p.m.  
**EARLY DISMISSAL** – 1:25 p.m.
- 31 Region Choir Rehearsal – 8 a.m.

#### November

- 1 JDE Master Class: Houston Ballet Learning from the Masters – 11 a.m. to 12 noon  
Region Choir Concert  
Piano Festival – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
All-City Band Auditions – 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- 3-7 Magnet Awareness Week
- 3 7<sup>th</sup> grade Football – JMS at PinOak – 5 to 6:30 p.m.
- 4 JDE Master Class: Houston Ballet Learning from the Masters – 11 a.m.-12 noon  
8<sup>th</sup> grade Football – JMS vs Pin Oak – 5 to 6:45 P.M. – Butler Stadium  
Band Boosters Meeting – 6 to 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Magnet Tours - 1:15 to 3:45 p.m.
- 6 JMS PTO Meeting – 8:30 a.m.  
Magnet Open House/Concert – 6 p.m.
- 7 All Region Choir Rehearsal at Cardiff JH, Katy
- 7-8 Band - Region Auditions at Beckendorf JH, Katy - 3-8 p.m.
- 8 All Region Choir Clinic/Concert at Morton Ranch, Katy

*A complete calendar listing for all Johnston events can be found on the JMS website at <http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/78514>. Current dates are on the main page <http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/78513>. The 2014-15 Magnet Performance schedule can be found under "Magnet Information". Sporting events are also under the Athletics Department calendar. Events are also listed in the JMS Student Planner.*

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## Homecoming 2014: Soaring to Excellence!

Homecoming is Tuesday, October 21, at 5 o'clock at Butler Stadium when JMS takes on Welch. Our homecoming theme is *Soaring to Excellence!*

Homecoming Week, October 20-24, should be a terrific week of school spirit. There will be a pep rally October 21 from 7:50-8:10 a.m. in front of the flag pole, Theme Dress days from October 20-23, and a dance on October 24 from 3:47 – 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. There will be a 10-day food drive ending on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. All donations to be given to West Houston Assistance Ministries Food Pantry.

Homecoming ticket sales will run October 13-17 during all lunch periods.

There will also be Homecoming Elections for Students and Teachers. The positions of Homecoming King and Queen are open to 8<sup>th</sup> graders with the Prince and Princess open to 7<sup>th</sup> graders followed by the Duke and Duchess positions, open to 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The Student Poster Campaign will be October 10-16 in the cafeteria. Voting by students for the Student Campaign will be October 17 during Mentor.

The Teacher Poster Campaign will run concurrently, but with posters in the teachers' lounge. Teachers will be running for Emperor and Empress. Voting by students for the Teacher Campaign will be October 20. Students will be allowed to donate a penny to vote for the teacher. All proceeds will go to the JMS thanksgiving baskets.

The Homecoming Game should be great! Homecoming Week should be full of school spirit! Soar to Excellence, Greyhounds!

B. Haverkamp



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## New Online PTO Membership & Communication System

We are excited to launch MySchoolAnywhere, our new membership and email communication for the 2014-2015 school year. This new system will also serve as JMS' primary communication tool for receiving emails from the PTO (including the Greyhound News and other school-related emails). If you are interested in receiving communications from your PTO, please follow the link below and sign up. <https://www.myschoolanywhere.com/new-family.a5w?fam=JohnstonMiddleSchool52632>

Please send any questions or concerns to [ptojohnstonmiddleschool@gmail.com](mailto:ptojohnstonmiddleschool@gmail.com)

Gloria Pereira, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

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## Painless Fundraising

**Painless** is the operative word. Our families all eat. Several local groceries make donations to JMS based on a percentage of their receipts for shoppers who have designated JMS as their favorite beneficiary.

**Randall's** has its Good Neighbor Program. One can link one's Randall's Remarkable Card to the charity of one's choice. The ID number for Johnston Middle School is **5075**. Linking your Remarkable Card to JMS can be done at your nearest Randall's Courtesy Booth.

**Kroger's** also has a program for generating donations for schools. We are currently investigating this program. As soon as the process is known, it will be announced.

**Target** has a donation program, too. To enroll your Target RedCard, go to [www.target.com](http://www.target.com). Click on "Manage REdCard". Sign in, if you already manage your RedCard account, OR click "Enroll for the first time". Follow the instructions to log in, then, click on "Enroll now in the take charge of education program". The JMS Target ID number is **98699**

Many products come with special labels. Why not clip them for Johnston?

JMS benefits from Box Top\$ for Education and the Tyson A+ Program.



How to Collect and Submit Box Top\$:

1. Clip eligible Box Tops and make sure the date is visible and not expired.
2. Bundle your Box Tops in bunches of 10 or 50.
3. Put them in a Ziploc bag or on a collection sheet.
4. Label with your name, house, grade, mentor, and the number of Box Tops.
5. Turn in your collection sheet or Ziploc bags.

There are two collection locations for Box Top\$ for Education, each with four containers labeled for Houses J, M, S, and G. (Note: Tyson Program A+ labels go in to the same containers.)

Collections sheets may be found on the Box Top\$ for Education website at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).

A list of products included in Box Top\$ for Education can be found at <http://www.boxtops4education.com/default.aspx>. Each box top is worth 10-cents.



How to Collect and Submit Tyson Project A+ Labels:

Place Tyson labels in a Ziploc bag, in sets of 10, labeled with your child's name, mentor, house and number of labels (10, 20, 30, etc.)

Deposit them in the Box Tops/A+ collection boxes in the cafeteria and library.

Each label is worth 24 cents!!! That's a lot of money fast!

Tyson products eligible for Tyson Project A+ are listed at <http://projectaplus.tyson.com/Products.aspx>.

Yes, painless fundraising is the best kind. Thank you for participating.



### Spirit Night Benefiting JMS!

4-8 p.m.

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday every month

Percentage of evening's receipts donated to JMS.

*This one is painless and delicious!*

### Next JMS PTO Meeting – November 6, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

This meeting is timed to include our morning parents who cannot attend an evening meeting. Your JMS PTO wants your input. All are invited. Enlightenment and a snack are promised.

### HISD MAGNET AWARENESS WEEK – NOV 3-7, 2014

Magnet Awareness Week is THE week of the school year when magnet schools across HISD showcase their programs for aspiring student applicants and their parents. HISD offers a large number of Magnet programs. Here at Johnston, we are pleased to offer our award winning performing and visual arts program. Our artistic disciplines include: visual arts, band, broadcast journalism, choir, dance, guitar, mariachi, piano, orchestra and theater.

We invite 5<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents to come visit Johnston during Magnet Awareness week. There will be Magnet tours on each day at 1:00 with small performances and reception where you can ask questions. On Thursday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Magnet Open House and concert at 6 p.m. After the concert parents and students will have the opportunity to visit with different magnet teachers to ask questions. Visitors will leave with a good idea of what Johnston is about – artistic excellence. They will also leave with information about our Gifted & Talented program and how the academic needs of our students are met. Johnston has the same vanguard program as any other vanguard school. All teachers are certified GT/Vanguard instructors.

If you have a child entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade next school year, or have friends who do, please come visit and invite your friends, too, to Johnston Middle School during Magnet Awareness Week.

For questions, please contact Gary Leger, JMS Magnet Coordinator, at 713-726-3616.

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### **The Fall Advanced Ensemble Concert**

On Thursday, October 9, I attended the Fall Advanced Ensemble concert at JMS. My daughter came home saying she really wanted to go. Why? I asked her. “Because some of my friends are playing and I want to see them.” I was feeling a little overwhelmed with all the things to do on a Thursday night, but I reluctantly dragged myself out of the house to go with her. Was I in for a treat!

Where can you go to a night of wonderful music for **free**? We loved the Advanced Orchestra performance of music from “Frozen”. I thought, “Can we sing along?” (Not according to my daughter.) The Symphonic Band was also lovely. I knew we had handbells as a magnet, but I had never seen them perform or any handbells performance for that matter. My daughter pointed out all of her friends who were on stage. The Advanced Guitars were great playing a Beatles song and one from Mr. Guinea – so cool. We watched a film by the dance ensemble – a combination of dance magnet and broadcast journalism. The Jazz Band had us dancing in our seats. My daughter commented, “I did not know my friend could play so well.” The Mariachi Band also played. I tried to sing “Las Mañanitas”, but my daughter gave me the evil eye. At the end, the Varsity Mixed Choir sang; my daughter wanted to be in choir after that performance.

We walked to our car inspired and happy after listening to wonderful music, all of my to-do lists forgotten. We are planning on attending the orchestra performance next.

If you have a chance, I highly recommend you attend a concert at Johnston with your student – one in which your student is not performing. You both will really have a wonderfully musical night.

Gloria Pereira

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### **Attn: Parents**

Do visit the JMS website frequently at <http://www.houstonisd.org/johnston>. It is a source for all kinds of campus information. From this URL, one can link to the JMS Athletic Department for the schedule of weekly sporting events.

From the “Parents” drop-down, one can find information about After Care including the hours of operation, activities during After Care, the cost, and registration forms at <http://www.johnstonmiddleschoolpto.com/after-care.html>.

PTO Memberships are always available via the website. Membership information can be found at <http://www.johnstonmiddleschoolpto.com/get-involved.html>.

One can find Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) registration information at the HISD link <http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/96109>. If you anticipate chaperoning a field trip or want to help around school, you must be an approved VIPS. Registration information is at this URL.

## **PTO BOARD POSITIONS**

Melanie Rosen: President  
Nicole Lewis: Treasurer  
Regina Puccio: Secretary  
Ann Guerra: 1st VP  
Subha Balasubramanian: 2ndVP  
Gloria Pereira: 2nd VP  
Mindy Cox: Membership  
Jan Huff: Aftercare/Membership  
Veronica Simmons: Uniform/ Title1  
Ellen Tagtmeier: SDMC  
Michelle Maislin: SDMC/Directory  
Diane Ragan: Directory  
David Perry: Greyhound IT  
Adriana Perez: Hospitality  
Barbara Haverkamp: Greyhound newsletter  
Elizabeth Shaw: Landscaping

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The **Greyhound News** is produced twice monthly (1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>) by the PTO and e-mailed to parents and faculty and/or posted at the website. To submit articles, please e-mail them seven days in advance of issue posting to Principal Sanders at [wsander1@houstonisd.org](mailto:wsander1@houstonisd.org), or PTO President Melanie Rosen at [johnstonmiddleschool.pto@gmail.com](mailto:johnstonmiddleschool.pto@gmail.com), or B. Haverkamp, PTO newsletter editor, at [jmsnewskamp@hotmail.com](mailto:jmsnewskamp@hotmail.com).