

Families and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks of the 2023-2024 school year! Please continue to monitor student planners and your child's progress. Independence is the goal, but all students benefit from parental check-ins regardless of age or grade level.

Our best,

THE MSHS TEAM

#### High School Department Contacts:

Teacher	Subject(s)	Email
Mrs. Erica Carter	HS Coordinator, Math	<a href="mailto:ECarter@morningstar-jax.org">ECarter@morningstar-jax.org</a>
Ms. Laura Brock	ELA & Reading	<a href="mailto:LBrock@morningstar-jax.org">LBrock@morningstar-jax.org</a>
Mrs. Jessica Koci	Science, LS	<a href="mailto:JKoci@morningstar-jax.org">JKoci@morningstar-jax.org</a>
Dr. Adriana Giles	Religion, Spanish	<a href="mailto:AGiles@morningstar-jax.org">AGiles@morningstar-jax.org</a>
Coach Angela Whitson	Social Studies, PE, Health	<a href="mailto:AWhitson@morningstar-jax.org">AWhitson@morningstar-jax.org</a>
Mrs. Rebecca Militante	Music, Fine Arts	<a href="mailto:RMilitante@morningstar-jax.org">RMilitante@morningstar-jax.org</a>
Ms. McKayla Whiteside	Paraprofessional, Theatre & Fine Arts	<a href="mailto:MWhiteside@morningstar-jax.org">MWhiteside@morningstar-jax.org</a>

**\*\*For schoolwide announcements, please check the weekly newsletter sent out by email.\*\***

# HOUSEKEEPING



- We do our best to respond to emails, Dojo messages, etc., as quickly as possible during the school day. Please allow us 24 hours to reply to you. If you have a pressing matter requiring immediate attention, please contact the school at (904) 721-2144 and ask to speak to a member of our administration.
- We respect and value your time with your families and ask you to do the same for us teachers. Our contract/contact hours are Monday-Friday, 7:15 A.M. - 3:15 P.M.
- **An excuse note (written or emailed) from a parent or doctor is required whenever a student is absent from class.** Notes are required to receive makeup assignments, including tests and quizzes. Students will receive zeroes for any missing work. (See the [Parent/Student Handbook](#) for additional information.)
- The student dress code, including personal grooming, is required. Details are on p. 23 of the [Parent/Student Handbook](#).
- **Student Service Hours** are due in March. Juniors and Seniors who do not have their hours completed by the due date may not participate in any Junior/Senior activities. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Carter, HS Coordinator, or Mrs. Giles, MSHS religion teacher.
- **Family Volunteer Hours** for the 2023-2024 school year are due to Sr. Elise in May. One-quarter of your hours should be completed by this point in the school year. Please reach out to Sister with any questions or concerns.
- **Moana Rehearsals are Thursdays from 3:15 P.M. to 4:40 P.M.** Please check your emails for updates from Ms. Whiteside. Attendance and participation in the annual MSHS production is part of each student's Fine Arts grade.

# WEEKLY HAPPENINGS



<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Math Tutoring</b> with Mrs. Carter 2:45-3:45 PM, free in classroom	<b>Drumline</b> with Mrs. Militante & UNF 3:30-4:15 PM, in the music room HS students go to ASC until 3:30 (no charge)
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Writers' Lab</b> with Ms. Brock 2:45-3:45 PM, in classroom <a href="#">Registration</a> for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter opens this week!	
<b>Wednesdays</b>		
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Moana Rehearsal</b> with Ms. Whiteside 3:15-4:30 PM, Media Center	<b>Student Government</b> with Mrs. Koci (every other Thursday; see calendar below) 2:45-3:30 PM, in classroom
<b>Fridays</b>		

# CALENDAR



October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1.	2. Picture Retakes & Class Photos ELA Exam Brock (all grades)	3. Math Exam Carter (all grades)	4. Science Exams Koci (all grades)	5. Student Gov Mtg SS Exam Whitson/Carter (all grades) Rehearsal 3:15-4:30 pm	6. Noon dismissal/Dress down	7.
8.	9. No School	10. No School	11. Religion Exam Giles (all grades)	12. Mass 10 am CTK all welcome Spanish Exam Giles (9th & 12th) Rehearsal 3:15-4:30 pm	13. Spanish Exam Giles (10th & 11th) AR DUE for ELA <b>PINK OUT</b>	14.
15.	16.	17.	18.	19. Student Gov Mtg NOTE TIME 2:45-5 pm *NO REHEARSAL*	20. Project Chance or \$1 Dress Down	21.
22.	23.	24.	25. ARC Parent meeting @ 630pm	26. Mass 10 am CTK all welcome Rehearsal 3:15-4:30 pm	27. Fall Festival Brock's Book Club	28. Beach Clean-Up 8-11
29.	30.	31. \$1 orange & black dress down				

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# Informative Parent Meeting

Parents of students 13 and older

**Wednesday, October 25, 2023**

6:30 pm

MSS Media Center



**Employment**



**Arc of  
Jacksonville**



**Advocacy**

*Parents will receive  
volunteer hours*

The background of the poster is decorated with various autumn-themed illustrations. There are several types of leaves in shades of orange, red, and yellow, some with detailed vein patterns. Interspersed among the leaves are clusters of berries in red, purple, and orange, as well as some acorns and small mushrooms. The overall theme is a warm, inviting autumn festival.

Morning  
Star  
School

# FALL Festival

OCTOBER 27

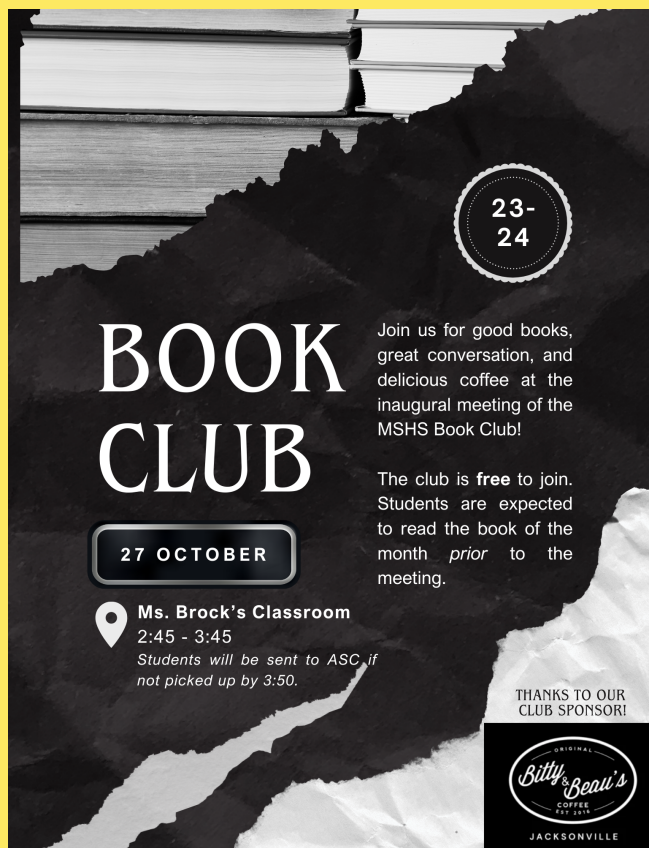
PLEASE REVIEW THE AVAILABLE SLOTS IN THE  
SIGN UP GENIUS AND SIGN UP.

IF YOU ARE VOLUNTEERING TO WORK ON THE  
DAY OF THE FESTIVAL YOU MUST HAVE  
COMPLETED THE MANDATORY CLASS AND  
BACKGROUND CHECK.

PLEASE CHECK WITH SISTER ELISE IF YOU  
GOD'S CHILDRENS CLASS AND BACKGROUND  
CHECK. THANK YOU!

**SIGN UP!**





23-24

# BOOK CLUB


27 OCTOBER

Ms. Brock's Classroom  
2:45 - 3:45  
*Students will be sent to ASC, if not picked up by 3:50.*

Join us for good books, great conversation, and delicious coffee at the inaugural meeting of the MSHS Book Club!

The club is **free** to join. Students are expected to read the book of the month *prior* to the meeting.

THANKS TO OUR CLUB SPONSOR!



Betty & Beau's  
COFFEE  
EST. 2019  
JACKSONVILLE



# BOO-GRAMS ARE COMING!

\$1 click button below to print order form

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A colorful poster for the Writers' Lab. It features a sunburst background with orange, yellow, and blue rays. The text is arranged in a central white oval shape with various fonts and colors.

2023 - 2024

**Writers' Lab**

**CREATIVITY - TEACHER & PEER REVIEWS -  
INSPIRATION - FUN - COMMUNITY**

**WITH MS. BROCK**

**QUARTER 2 DATES**

10/24	10/31	11/7	11/14
11/28	12/5	12/12	

**MOST TUESDAYS AFTER SCHOOL**  
9-12 STUDENTS  
8TH GRADER STUDENTS WELCOME WITH A  
TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

**ROOM 205**  
**2:45 - 3:45**

**\$100 PER QUARTER | LBROCK@MORNINGSTAR-JAX.ORG**

# CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



## Student Government News Mrs. Koci, Sponsor



## PINK OUT

Student Government sponsored a campus-wide **PINK OUT** last Friday, 13 October 2023, to support Breast Cancer awareness. For a minimum \$1 donation, students were allowed to 'pink out' and dress down. All money raised was donated in loving memory of Mrs. Phyllis Mattox, the mother of Aaron Mattox, MSHS % 2023.

### **October 19:**

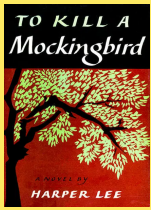
Student Government Meeting | 2:45-5:00 PM | Mrs. Koci's Classroom

\*Please note the extended meeting time. Students will be making the Halloween Boo-Grams, one of our largest fundraisers of the year. Pizza will be provided.

**BOO-GRAMS** are available for purchase from Student Government for \$1 apiece. Boo-Grams will be delivered to students by the Student Government. [Click here for Boo-Gram forms.](#)

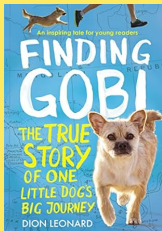
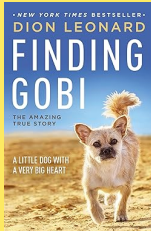
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## Brock's Book Club



### October's Book Selection - To Kill A Mockingbird

A literary classic, Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird examines the American Deep South during the 1930s and follows one lawyer's crusade against blind hatred and racial injustice. For [permission slips](#) and book copies, please see Ms. Brock. Book Club is free and open to all MSHS students. October's meeting is Friday, 27 October 2023, after school from 2:45 - 3:45 in Ms. Brock's classroom.



### November's Book Selection - Finding Gobi: A Little Dog with a Very Big Heart

*Finding Gobi* is the miraculous tale of Dion Leonard, a seasoned ultramarathon runner who crosses paths with a stray dog while competing in a 155-mile race through the Gobi Desert in China.

#### *Finding Gobi:*

- Proves that miracles are possible—anywhere and at any time
- Gives vivid details of an ultra-marathon and what it's like to run one of the toughest races on the planet
- Connects to that special bond that humankind has with dogs and what it can open up in our hearts

Read this inspiring story and discover how miracles truly are possible—and find your own heart changing as well ([amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)).

## Respect Life Month - MSHS Diaper Drive -

**October is Respect Life Month.** In honor of this, we are doing a **Diaper Drive** for a local ministry in the Jacksonville area. Any size of diapers is welcome and appreciated. Please turn in diapers to the front office or send them in with your student to their homeroom teacher.



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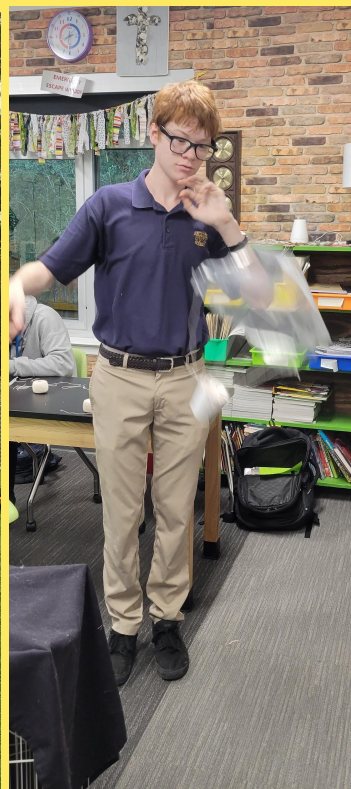
## Upcoming Christian Service Hours Opportunities

**BEACH CLEAN-UP** Students interested in earning 4 service hours on **28 October 2023** must register with Coach Whit and submit a signed permission slip. See Coach Whitson for details.

*\*Please note the date change.\**

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES** Information for our annual drive will come home this week. Students interested in helping organize donations and pack shoeboxes for needy children are encouraged to sign up when Mrs. Carter opens registration. (The dates are **7 November 2023** and **10 November 2023** after school. Students ONLY.)

## S.T.R.E.A.M. with Mrs. Koci



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