

Families and Guardians,

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. This is especially important any time your child is absent. MSHS policy states students have one week from when an assignment (classwork, homework, quiz, test, or project) is due to turn in work for credit. After one week, a zero is recorded in the grade book.

Our best,

THE MSHS TEAM

High School Department Contacts:

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

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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



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

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 PINK OUT	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 poster is decorated with various autumn-themed illustrations. In the top left, there are several large, colorful leaves in shades of orange, red, and yellow. To the right, there are clusters of small orange berries and a branch with two red acorns. In the center, the text 'Morning Star School' is written in a blue, stylized font. Below this, the word 'FALL' is written in large, bold, orange capital letters, followed by 'Festival' in a black, cursive script. Underneath, 'OCTOBER 27' is written in bold, orange capital letters. The bottom section contains three paragraphs of text in a simple, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the text, there are more autumn-themed illustrations, including a large orange leaf, a cluster of orange mushrooms, and a yellow sign with the text 'SIGN UP!' in blue, bold, capital letters. At the bottom right, there is a QR code with a small 'b' logo in the center. The entire poster is set against a white background with a yellow border.

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!

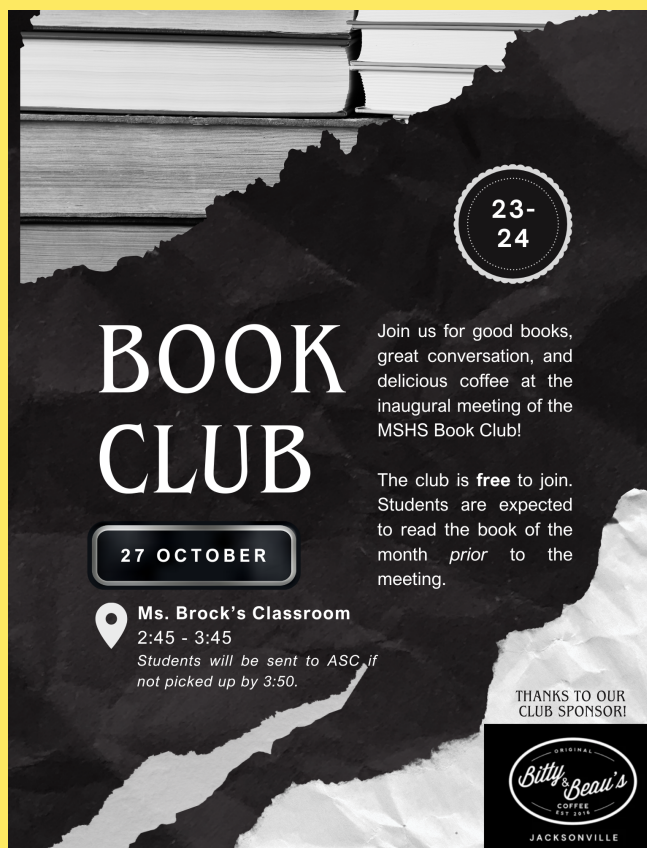
SIGN UP!





[CLICK HERE FOR FORM!](#)

BOOGRAM ORDERS ARE DUE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH.



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A poster for the Writers' Lab. It features a central white rounded rectangle with a sunburst background of orange and yellow rays. The text is in various fonts, including a large cursive font for the title and a bold sans-serif font for the dates and location.

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

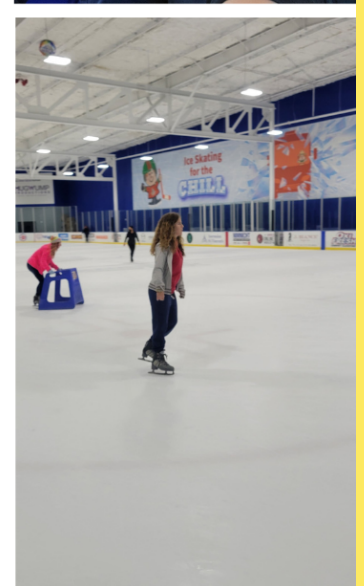
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CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



High School High Tech | ARC Jacksonville

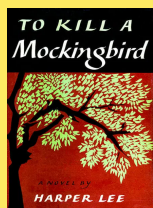
Mrs. Koci and the Junior class visited the **Jacksonville Igloo** with Ms. Jessica and ARC this Monday.



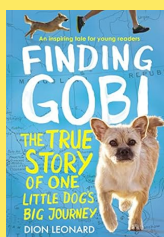
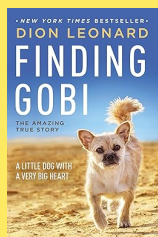
Students talked to the **Iceman** Team Manager about how the Zamboni works and why they run it over the rings. Mr. Josh also told them how the Iceman games are planned and that the **Jacksonville Igloo** is open for public skating.

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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.

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**.)

MORNING STAR HIGH SCHOOL'S

WINGED LIONS SOAR

- ALUMNI CORNER -

Joel Acacia, MSHS % 2023, recently starred in Florida State College at Jacksonville's DramaWorks production of **Dracula Radioshow**. This chilling sonic voyage brings Bram Stoker's classic vampire tale to life in the golden age of radio. The production was showcased at the Wilson Center Studio Theatre at FSCJ's South Campus from 19 October to 22 October. Way to break a leg, Joey!



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