

Families and Guardians,

Happy Thanksgiving! We pray your break is safe and restorative, and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday, November 27, 2023.

Are you looking for a way to support exciting projects in your student's classrooms? Please see the **Teacher WHOA List** section below for donation ideas that will help us take learning to the next level!

Students will be dismissed at **11:10 AM** during midterms. After-school Care is **not** available. Please plan accordingly **now** for December.

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

****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



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 is open!	
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



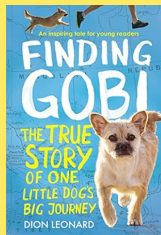
November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 All Saints Mass - 10AM	2 Rehearsal 3:15-4:30 pm Student Gov't. 2:45-3:00	3 Noon Dismissal-- REGULAR Uniform Day Class Pictures & Retake Day	4
5	6 11th ARC to JEA	7 Writers' Lab 2:45 - 3:45 UNF Music Performance	8 Veterans' Day Celebration	9 Rehearsal 3:15-4:30 pm	10 Red, White & Blue Dress Down & Veteran's Day Celebration	11
12	13	14 Writers' Lab 2:45 - 3:45	15	16 Rehearsal 3:15-4:30 pm	17 Project Chance Dress Down Day	18
19	20 T H A N K	21 S G I V I N	22 G 🦃🦃🦃	23 B R E	24 A K	25
26	27 Welcome Back!	28 Writers' Lab 2:45 - 3:45	29	30 Mass 10:00 AM @CTK - All are welcome Rehearsal 3:15-4:30 pm Faith & Family Movie Night RSVP Due	12/1 School-Wide Advent Retreat (Noon Dismissal) *REGULAR* Uniform Day - Bishop Visit to MSS/MSHS "The Star" Faith & Family Movie Night @7PM (MSS)	2

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CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



Brock's Book Club



Many thanks to [The Hurst Company](#) for providing copies of Finding Gobi for Book Club participants!

If you would like to sponsor January's Book Club, please [contact Ms. Brock](#) for more details.

Book Club for November and December will be combined since we have a limited number of school days.

Books have arrived and will be handed out to the students who signed up with Ms. Brock. If you have not yet received your copy of the book but still want to participate, please see Ms. Brock during class or social time to get your copy of Finding Gobi. It's a page-turner!

We will meet for Book Club on Friday, December 8th, in Ms. Brock's classroom from 2:45-3:45.

Christian Service Opportunities



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. For ideas on what to donate, [CLICK HERE](#).

(Please note, donations to the Christmas Shoeboxes are not redeemable for family volunteer hours for the 2023-2024 school year. These donations are, however, an excellent opportunity to serve others as a family and are strongly encouraged.)

Feeding Northeast Florida Sunday, Dec. 17th | 2:00 PM

[The Florida Theatre](#) presents the film *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (1993) to benefit **Feeding Northeast Florida**.

Admission is **FREE** for every adult and child with a gift of canned or nonperishable food.

The Nightmare Before Christmas begins at 2 p.m. Runtime is 1 hour and 16 min.







Teacher WHOA Lists

The MSHS Department is constantly looking for new, exciting, and engaging ways to make each and every school day fun and exciting for students.

We know that you share your **greatest treasure - your children** - with us daily, and we are eternally grateful. Thank you!

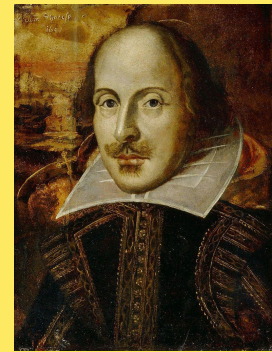
If you are in a position to help us make our wild and crazy ideas come to life, here are some ways projects you can directly support that will immediately impact the MSHS students and make learning go from “why?” to “WHOA!” (To simplify, links are listed next to the items.)

<u>Teacher/Class</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Link</u>
<p>Mrs. Carter</p> <p>High School Choice (Sewing)</p>	<p>Sewing Machines are desperately needed to support this class offering. Students are currently working on two sewing machines brought in from teacher homes.</p> <p>Mrs. Carter is asking for a class set of scientific calculators for her classroom. <i>(Please note this does <u>not</u> mean one family must donate all 12. A donation of a single calculator can and will make a huge difference; 12 is simply the goal.)</i></p>	 <p>Sewing Machine Link - 3 Machines are needed.</p>  <p>Scientific Calculators - 12 Needed</p>
<p>Mrs. Koci</p> <p>S.T.R.E.A.M. (science, technology, religion, engineering, art) & labs</p> <p>Dissection Kit Sponsors Needed!</p>	<p>All HS classes participate in S.T.R.E.A.M. Mondays, which include a variety of project-based learning opportunities and adventures. Labs also require lots of disposable materials, from tongue depressors to cotton balls, foil to rubber bands, and much more.</p> <p>Mrs. Koci is seeking dissection kit sponsors. Please contact Mrs. Koci if you are interested!</p>	 <p>High School Science Wish List</p>  <p>To sponsor, contact Mrs. Koci!</p>

Ms. Brock

ELA/Reading Classroom List

The **ELA/Reading classroom** wish list has several items that need support, ranging from a class set of Shakespeare for an upcoming 11th-grade unit to sensory tools. Thanks in advance for checking out the Amazon list to the right!



[ELA/Reading Amazon Wish List](#)

Meditation Spotify Sponsor

MSHS needs a Meditation Spotify Sponsor! All music used during meditation, praise, and worship is projected with lyrics during our meditation time following lunch and is made available to students via Spotify playlists on Google Classroom. (This was by student request, and we LOVE that they're engaged and seeking Jesus beyond our walls.) This is only possible, however, through the use of an expanded Spotify account. **If you can help sponsor this, please contact [Ms. Brock](#).**



[Meditation Sponsors Needed!](#)

Christ on Campus | Br. Stephen & Fr. Carl from the Home of the Mother



Last week, Fr. Carl and Br. Stephen visited with the Freshmen. Fr. Carl shared his testimony and tales of time spent serving in Ecuador, where he spent fifteen years.



This week, Br. Stephen and Br. Dominick returned to talk with the Juniors about our impact on those around us and of course, stir up laughter with jokes.

For more information on the Servant Brothers and the Home of the Mother, [CLICK HERE!](#)

Around the Diocese

November 30

Annual Cards & Coffee Event for Christmas

Create custom Christmas cards while enjoying fellowship and coffee at the annual Cards & Coffee event. This special event is priced at \$25.00 per guest which includes festive cookies and lunch. Make your reservation today for the event at the Marywood Retreat & Conference Center, 235 Marywood Drive in St. Johns, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Reservations are required; call Ansley Irwin at (904) 436-6591 or email at ansleyirwin@marywoodcenter.org.

December 4

Monthly Discernment Evening with Father Clay

Father Clay Ludwig invites all young men, ages 16+ who are seeking to learn more about priestly vocations. The evening begins with Mass at 6 p.m. at the Marywood Retreat & Conference Center Chapel, followed by a meal and small group discussion at the San Juan del Rio Parish Family Center. To RSVP, email vocations@dosafi.com. Future dates for 2024 are Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 4 and April 1.

December 8-10

Baby Steps Camino Advent Walking Pilgrimage

Join men, women and their families for Baby Steps Camino™ for a pilgrimage covering 30 miles from Jacksonville Beach to the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche in St. Augustine. All abilities are welcome, with shorter routes available. A Camino is a spiritual journey to a sacred place, going beyond a tour. The Baby Steps Camino™ involves prayer, reflection, sacrifice, worship and fellowship. Pilgrims can attend Mass, confession and Holy Hours. It's a chance to connect with God during Advent. For details and registration, visit babystepscamino.com.

For more upcoming events, visit <https://www.dosafi.com/calendar>.

#iGiveCatholic Update

Please see this week's MSS newsletter for updates on the iGiveCatholic campaign.

For additional details or to help MSS hit its \$5000 goal, please [click here](#).

The 10th grade class is currently in 2nd place. Way to go, Class of 2026!

