

Potter Pride Newspaper

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Newsies Stop The World!

By Katie Beckerdite, 7th-grade reporter

As most people know, the Junior High musical happened over the weekend of February 3-5. This year, the show they put on was *Newsies*, and as Mr. Beutel (one of the musical directors) says, "It is one of the most famous musicals ever written. It has a ton of action and energy."

The musical is about newspaper sellers (*Newsies*) in 1899 in New York City. The *Newsies* then go on strike because the newspaper company raised the price of the newspapers, making it much harder for the *Newsies* to make enough money.

The students held practices four days a week, which is a busy schedule, but which ended up with high rewards. Renee Fonseca, a Gray Team student playing a reporter named Katherine Plumber, said, "I personally have 2-3 practices a week, but the number of rehearsals usually increases the closer we get to the show." Renee enjoyed many things about the play, including spending time with her friends, acting, singing, dancing, and working with the directors and choreographers. The choreographer of the play was Mrs. Stewart.

Mr. Rocke, another director of the play, said, "*Newsies* is an AMAZING show

with incredible music and a story about the poor and downtrodden taking on the wealthy and powerful." Mr. Rocke also said this about the powerful message of the play: "Never underestimate the power of banding together and standing up for what's right!"

The whole school got to see the musical on Thursday, February 2nd, and the musical was fantastic! All of the hard work definitely paid off as the cast put on a show full of incredible choreography, singing, and acting. Between the amazing group singing and dancing and the story told through emotion, it really was a show to remember. And no one can forget the stage crew! The flawless set changes were done quickly and well, so well that it was like the sets changed magically. Congratulations to Mr. Rocke, Mr. Beutel, Mrs. Stewart, and the entire cast of *Newsies*!



Photo from MJHS Facebook page

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Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Feb. 13-17: Spirit Week

Feb 14: Valentine's Day

Feb 20: Presidents' Day

MARCH

March 1: Early Dismissal,
Leadership Academy

March 10: Half Day

APRIL

April 3-7: Spring Break

April 10: Easter Break

April 12: Early Dismissal

Students and Staff

Student Spotlight: Henry Potts

By Adelyn Robbins, 7th-grade reporter

Henry Potts is in 7th grade on the Green Team. He moved to Morton in 2nd grade and went to school at Lettie Brown Elementary. He is a fantastic student and likes to work very hard.

He participates in the Morton band in percussion. He enjoys the band because he makes new friends and meets new people, and he enjoys the challenge of each and every new song. He also plays in jazz band with excitement.

Henry ran in cross country, and he likes to mountain bike. He's very active and likes to try new challenges. Every person he meets he greets with a smile.

When asked about what inspires him to work so hard, he replied, "It is rewarding to set a goal and see the progress I make with the things I care about."

Student Spotlight: Josie Porubcansky

By Rylee Maher, 7th-grade reporter

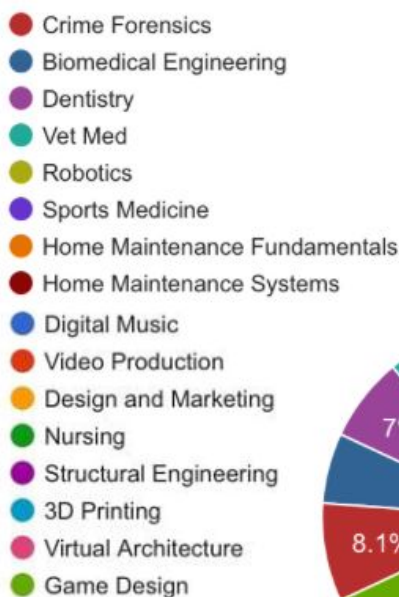
Learn all about 7th grader Josie Porubcansky!

1. Who is your hero? "Jennie Finch."
2. If you could live anywhere, where would it be and why? "Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming because of the amazing nature and scenery that it is surrounded by."
3. Why did you decide to do band? "I decided to do band because I wanted to try something new. I also really liked the band instructors when I met them."
4. What's your favorite activity to do outside of school? "Softball."

Best Careermaker Module

By Ellie Beckler, 7th-grade reporter

Most people have done the encore class CareerMaker STEM Lab (taught by Mr. Ames), and you possibly have a module you consider your favorite or are really eager to do. The class is about helping you learn about what you like and don't like, and possibly what you would like to do as a job or career field. There are currently 16 different modules to choose from, with Nursing being a recent addition. All of the modules have something to do with STEM (science, technology, engineering, math). This pie chart is based off of 86 responses from students on the Green Team.



Students and Staff

Student Spotlight: Sofiya Patel

By Ava Dentino, 8th-grade reporter

Sofiya is an 8th grader on the Red Team. Before she came to the junior high, she attended Grundy Elementary School. She is a stellar student and has the grades to prove it.

In her spare time, she likes to create art, play tennis with her elder brother, hang out with friends, read a good book, play the piano, make things, or play games with her family. Theater, Arts, Limited Edition, Jr. Prelude, Scholastic Bowl, Track and Field, and volunteering at the public library are some of the extracurricular activities Sofiya participates in.

Math and science are her favorite topics to study all year long since she finds them to be enjoyable puzzles and subjects that she is naturally good at. Without a doubt, art, especially painting, is her favorite elective since it allows her to relax and socialize with friends. Mr. Sheley, Mr. Schick, Ms. Hasler, and Mr. Finney are some of her favorite instructors.

Sofiya would characterize herself as lively, inventive, and helpful. When her friends were asked to describe Sofiya, they said “awesome”, “sweet”, “pretty”, and “a genius.”

When it comes to siblings, Sofiya has one elder brother. This brother of hers introduced her to coding, which he thought would be a good skill to have and that Sofiya saw as a career, hence her decision to become a computer scientist. This job will be a great fit for her because she enjoys solving problems and thinks that coding is rather easy even though many find it a troubling task.

When it comes to being a sports person or a music person, Sofiya says why not both? She plays tennis and runs track. She also can play viola and is a skilled piano player.

Sofiya has a medium-sized circle of seven friends, practically all of whom she gets along with well. Renee Fonseca and Haley Kaluza are her closest and dearest friends.

So, if you are looking for a role model, look no further – Sofiya Patel is ready to take on the world and accomplish her dreams.

Spiking Down the Competition

By Adelyn Robbins, 7th-grade reporter

The girls volleyball team is on fire this year. They have had very few losses and work hard as a team. Both 7th and 8th graders are tough and hard working. They don't despair if they lose a point. They get through it like a champ, and the girls are dedicated to winning. On top of that, they have a fantastic coach to help them. The volleyball team is sure to make it far.



Photo from MJHS Facebook page

Book Love



Keeper of the Lost Cities

If you are looking for a fantasy, mystery, and action book, then *Keeper of the Lost Cities* is for you. *Keeper of the Lost Cities* is a nine-book series so far. The ninth book came out in November, and the last book is expected to be released in 2024. In the book, Sophie Foster has always felt out of place until a mysterious guy shows up and tells her she is an elf. She and her friends go on a journey to find the organization that is corrupting the elven world. While doing that, she is also on a journey to find herself. They experience war, death, and love. The order you should read the books are *Keeper of the Lost Cities*, *Exile*, *Everblaze*, *Neverseen*, *Lodestar*, *Nightfall*, *Flashback*, *Legacy*, a bonus 8.5 *Unlocked*, and *Stellarlune*. You can find the first book on Amazon, Ms. Shore's classroom library, the Morton library, Barnes and Noble, and the school library. Be sure to check out the *Keeper of the Lost Cities* series!

Book Recs

By Adelyn Robbins, 7th-grade reporter



The Hunger Games

The Hunger Games is a thrilling three-book series. Katniss Everdeen is a girl in District 12, the poorest of the Districts. Reaping day is the day that everyone hates. That is the day where the Capitol draws a girl and a boy from each district to fight in the Hunger Games. Brutal and inhuman – that is what the Hunger Games is. Peeta Mellark, a boy who saved Katniss but never talks to her, gets chosen for the Hunger Games. Prim Everdeen is also picked, Katniss's little sister. "I volunteer, I volunteer" was rung out into the stadium after Prim was chosen, but who said it? Read *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins to find out.

Reading Nook

By Melissa Kruse, MJHS Instructional Coach

It happens. Students read, and they can't tell you what the story or article was about. You may notice this tendency with your child if you talk about books at home. What can parents do to help? Here is a quick list of strategies you can use to support your child's comprehension:

1. **Summarize:** Read short passages and ask your tween to verbally summarize what he or she read. Make it conversational, not a chore.
2. **Connect:** Before, during, and after reading, find pictures that relate to the story. Have a conversation with your tween about how the pictures connect with what they just read.
3. **Visualize:** Read a few sentences of the text out loud. Then, ask your tween to picture the story like a movie. Prompt their visualization with some questions to make sure they are actually *seeing* the words and ideas play out. Enrich this activity by comparing and contrasting their thoughts to what you're picturing in your head.
4. **Activate:** Connect what the text says with your tween's background knowledge. Talk to them about how the ideas, events, facts, conflicts, setting, and other elements relate to the world, to other texts they have read, and to their own lives. Take time to look up answers together if they have questions.
5. **Infer:** Help your tween to read between the lines. What is the author suggesting that he or she does not actually put into words? What can we as readers safely assume is happening? How are the characters feeling? What time period is it? And, what textual clues are there to support our inferences?

Prioritizing opportunities to read and talk about books at home will help. The more regularly you read with or talk about books with your tween, the more their comprehension and attitude about reading will improve. They will be able to focus on reading for longer periods of time, too!

Games

Jokes

*Compiled by Adelyn Robbins, 7th-grade reporter
Jokes from Reader's Digest*

What's the best thing about Switzerland?
I don't know, but the flag is a big plus.

Why do we tell actors to "break a leg"?
Because every play has a cast.

Hear about the new restaurant called Karma?
There's no menu: You get what you deserve.

A woman in labor suddenly shouted, "Shouldn't!
Wouldn't! Couldn't! Didn't! Can't!"
"Don't worry," said the doc. "Those are just
contractions."

Did you hear about the actor who fell through the
floorboards?
He was just going through a stage.

A man tells his doctor, "Doc, help me. I'm addicted to
Twitter!"
The doctor replies, "Sorry, I don't follow you..."

Wordle

Compiled by Adelyn Robbins, 7th-grade reporter

Have you ever played the popular game called Wordle? You have 6 guesses to guess a 5-letter word! If the square is green, that letter is in the right place. If it's yellow, the letter is in the word but not in the right place yet. Click [here](#) to access a game of Wordle!

Word Scramble

Compiled by Rylee Maher, 7th-grade reporter

1. BELOW
2. TARACTNIAC
3. APREP
4. HEARALSRE
5. DNBA
6. KRCICET
7. SATURANTO
8. IGHNT
9. EOFSTR
10. BLEBCRAS

Answer Key:

1. Elbow
2. Antarctica
3. Paper
4. Rehearsal
5. Band
6. Cricket
7. Astronaut
8. Night
9. Forest
10. Scrabble

Sudoku

			9	3		6		
	6	9	5		4	7		8
3	7			6	1	9	2	4
7		6						
8						5		
	9		3			2	6	7
9	2	8	1		3	4	5	6
				8		1	7	
6	1	7	4	5			8	2