



James Howard Monroe Newsletter

James Howard Monroe
Middle School

Issue #51
August/September 2009

Welcome Back! A note from our Principal, Jason Stipp

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff I welcome our returning parents and students, as well as all of our new attendees.

This marks my second year as the principal of James Howard Monroe Middle School, and I am honored to be a part of this school and community. You will notice that our format for our newsletter has changed and hopefully has become more reader friendly, while conserving paper. As a reminder all newsletters will be delivered electronically in an effort to conserve paper and monies. Along with quarterly newsletters, I will also be posting monthly updates of important information on our Edline home page.

Monroe looks a little different this year. We were able to add lockers to the 8th grade halls which enabled us to place all 8th grade students in their own hall for their locker use. This should greatly cut down

foot traffic in- between passing periods for all of our 7th and 8th grade students.

We have also redesigned our front office, creating a welcoming area for students and parents and have used our extra science lab to create a universal technological science lab that can be used for all sciences, at all grade levels.

Be sure to view the calendar in our newsletter for upcoming important dates. Two that stand out are the Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, August 25th and Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 10th at 7:00. Both experiences are valuable for all parents to get more familiar with our building, curriculum, teachers and staff.

Our PTA is once again is being led by Mrs. Jennifer Thomas. We appreciate all the help and support you can give this organization. We have begun to prepare for our annual magazine fundraiser. This fundraiser

becomes our main source of revenue for supporting several of Monroe's technological wants, activities and programs. Please take the opportunity to renew subscriptions and purchase new magazines through our fundraiser.

To name just a few of the purchases made by our PTA last year were 5 interactive smart boards for our math classes, supported a field trips at each grade level, and 8th grade brunch and recognition ceremony for all 8th grade students.

In closing, always remember that if you should have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or email. I rely on your voices to make sure the experience for your son/ daughter is safe, academically challenging and rewarding. Thank you and welcome back to school!

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PLEASE NOTE:



In an effort to conserve resources, this will be the only paper newsletter of the school year that you will receive. Further newsletters will be sent to you electronically to your email address that you have provided the school with. If you wish to have a paper copy of the newsletter please contact the main office. You may also view the newsletter on our website at www.monroeschool.org

Office Depot: 5% Back to School Program

Every time parents, teachers and school supporters give your school's 5% Back to Schools ID number when buying school supplies at Office Depot, Monroe receives credits equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases for use for FREE SUPPLIES!

number (#70035171) at any retail store in the U.S. and Canada or by calling 1-800-GO DEPOT (1-800-436-3768) or online at www.officedepot.com in the U.S.

District 200 P.E. Uniforms

@ The Sports Fan
74 Danada Square West
Wheaton, IL 60187
(N.W. Corner of Naperville & Butterfield Rd.)
#653-2021

PACE CALLS:



From time to time our Principal or the District office places a Pace call to send important information to parents and students. If a ConnectED call is missed or someone would like to hear the information again, from the phone that was called by ConnectED, you may dial 1-877-REPLAY (1-877-737-5291) to replay any messages that have been sent to that phone.

No matter how you shop, your purchases count! Give your 5% Back to School ID



A letter from the PTA President and PTA Briefs:

Welcome to the Monroe PTA and the 2009-2010 school year at Monroe Middle School. We would like to invite you to join the PTA if you have not already become a member. Forms will be available at the PTA table at the beginning of school registration. Please plan on joining us at our back to school Ice Cream Social, Tuesday, August 25th. Ice cream sundaes with all the toppings are available for just \$1.00. Our annual magazine drive kick off is going to start, Thursday, September 17th. This is our major fundraiser. New subscriptions as well as renewals on current subscriptions are greatly appreciated. Our first PTA meeting is Wednesday September 16th at 7 pm in the Monroe LLC. Please join us! Watch for more information for your student to participate in the National PTA Reflections program, the theme is "Beauty is....".

Please consider where you can volunteer. Feel free to contact those of us on board if you have any questions. Parents, teachers, and the community together help our students remain successful

Sincerely

Jennifer Thomas

Monroe Middle School PTA President

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(630)668-6175

Monroe Middle School
PTA[®]
everychild.one voice.®

Monroe PTA Calendar of Events

PTA Meeting dates for the 2009-2010 year:

Wednesday, September 16th*

Thursday, October 8th

Thursday, November 12th

Thursday, January 14th

Thursday, February 11th

Thursday, March 11th

Thursday, April 15th

Thursday, May 13th

* PTA meetings are held the second Thursday of the month, with the exception of September's meeting. All PTA meetings begin at **7PM**.



Don't forget to check out the samples of our Spirit Wear at our PTA table during schedule pick-up. Order forms will be available. We will also have samples and order forms available at the Ice Cream Social on August 25th and at Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 10th.

The Ice Cream Social is **Tuesday, August 25th from 6:30-8:00pm**. Sundaes with all the toppings are just \$1.00!

Magazine "Kick Off" is **Thursday, September 17th**.

- This fundraiser offers many popular magazine titles at discounted prices.
- Provides over 70% of our PTA budget that supports programming for all students.
- It is simple to renew your current subscriptions while supporting the PTA.



Please mark your calendars for **September 19, 2009** for the annual New 200 Fun Run! The Fun Run is a 5K or a 1 mile run, along with other rides and attractions. This year's event will be at the new Hubble Middle School at 3S600 Herrick Road, Warrenville, IL. For more information, including registration, please see the New 200 website at www.new200foundation.org

The theme for this year's National PTA Reflections program is "Beauty is..." Please watch for more information to follow.



Monroe Middle School - School Procedures

ATTENDANCE /EARLY DISMISSAL:

If your student is absent, please call the attendance office 630-682-2290 **before** 8:00 a.m. to report the absence. When a student needs to be dismissed early from school for a doctor's appointment, orthodontist appointment, etc., please call the attendance office before 8:00 a.m., at 630-682-2290 or you may send a note with your student to be brought to the attendance office **before** school stating the reason and the time you would like the student dismissed. The student will then receive a pass to give to his/her teacher indicating the appropriate dismissal time. The person picking up the student needs to come in to school and sign the student out at the attendance office. **(Please do not leave attendance or early dismissal messages on the main office voice mail.)**

VISITORS:

Any visitors to the school **must** check into the office before going elsewhere in the building. Parents should **not** go to a class without checking into the office first.

MEDICATION:

Parents are urged to adjust a student's medication schedule so that medication may be given under parent supervision. If it becomes necessary for a student to take any form of medication at school, a signed note from the parent and the physician must accompany the medication (**Medication Permission Sheet**) and given to the nurse's office. All medication must be in a prescription container and kept in and distributed through the nurse's office. Copies of the **Medication Permission Sheet** are available in the office. If there is a change in medication, it is the responsibility of the parent to notify the nurse's office. ***Please note: The school cannot administer any medication (including over-the-counter medication) without the above permission sheet.**

***A complete explanation and description of Monroe's operational procedures can be found in your students 2009-2010 student planner.

EDLINE:

Has been selected to host student online grades and support email communication. To access Edline go to www.edline.net/pages/MonroeMS. Edline offers a private portal through an activation process. You will need to activate your account at the Edline home page. Once you have your account, you will be able to view classroom information from the teachers using the system. Edline will be used by our teachers on a voluntary basis.

HOMEWORK:

Homework assignments may only be requested on the **third day of absence**. Please call before 9:00 a.m. so teachers have time to prepare assignments and get them to the office by the end of the day.

IMPORTANT ASBESTOS NOTICE:

Monroe Middle School contains some asbestos containing building materials. These materials are inspected and maintained under a management plan as required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). A copy of the management plans is available at the school for inspection.

ITEMS/MESSAGES:

TO BE DELIVERED TO STUDENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY:

We are unable to interrupt a class. Any item or message that needs to be delivered to a student during the school day will be done only at the 8:06 announcements and the appropriate lunchtime. Permission slips need to be turned in to the appropriate teacher on the designated dates. **No permission slip will be accepted by the office in person or by fax.**

*****Any item that you drop off for your student can now be placed in the appropriate grade bins that are found directly to your right as you enter the main office.**

VACATIONS:

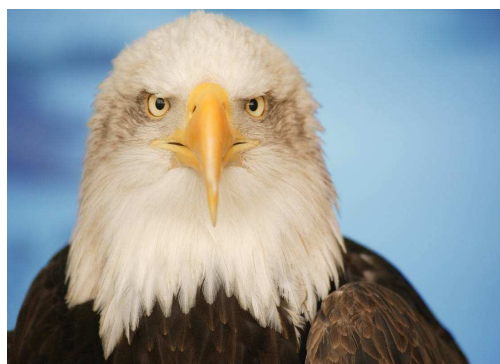
Vacations during the school year are discouraged. Even the most conscientious efforts of students and teachers are no substitute for daily attendance. If students must take a vacation during the school year, they need to notify the office at least one week prior to the absence. They should plan to do work before leaving or during the vacation. Students should arrange to come in before or after school to make up tests or lab work.

**James Howard Monroe
Middle School**

1855 Manchester Road
Wheaton, Il 60187

Phone: 630-682-2285
Fax: 630-682-2331
Attendance Line: 630-682-2290
www.monroeschool.org

GO EAGLES!



Fall Sports Information

Girls Volleyball Tryout Information:

7th Grade: August 26, 27, & 28th 3-5pm

8th Grade: August 26, 27, & 28th 4-6pm

***A current sports physical is needed before you can tryout. A sports physical is good for one year from the date of examination.

***Please note that the Activity Bus will begin, Weds. Aug. 26th. There will be no Activity Bus on Fridays during the school year. During tryouts however, students must provide their own transportation home.

***8th grade girls trying out must leave the building after school and return by 4:00pm as there is no supervision for them between 3:00 and 4:00pm on those tryout dates.

Fall Intramurals:

Flag Football: Aug. 31-Sept. 24 Mon-Thurs PM

Soccer: Sept. 28-Oct. 22 Mon-Thurs PM

Boys Basketball: Sept. 28-Oct. 22 Mon-Thurs AM

AM = 7:00-7:50AM PM = 3:00-4:00PM

Important Upcoming Dates

- August 24 Teacher & Staff District Inservice Day
August 25 **1st Day of School 11:30 dismissal**
Ice Cream Social 6:30-8pm
- August 26 Volleyball tryouts: 7th grade 3-5pm, 8th grade 4-6pm
August 27 Volleyball tryouts: 7th grade 3-5pm, 8th grade 4-6pm
August 28 Volleyball tryouts: 7th grade 3-5pm, 8th grade 4-6pm
- September 2 Lifetouch pictures for students with no ID
September 3 Parent meeting for Fall Sports 7pm
September 7 **Labor Day No School**
September 8 Volleyball vs Hubble 7(H) 8(A)
September 9 Volleyball vs Edison 7(A) 8(H)
Cross Country vs Wredling @ Fox Chase Park
September 10 **Curriculum Night 7pm**
September 15 Volleyball vs Haines 7(H) 8(A)
Cross Country vs Wego & Wredling @ West Chicago
September 16 Volleyball vs Rotolo Red 7(H) 8(A)
September 17 Volleyball vs Franklin 7(H) 8(A)
Cross Country Crusader Invite @ Schaumburg
September 18 **1/2 Day Inservice 11:30 dismissal**
September 19 New 200 Fun Run @ Hubble Middle School
September 21 Cross Country vs Franklin @ Northside Park
September 22 Volleyball vs Thompson 7(A) 8(H)
September 23 Cross Country vs Rotolo/Geneva S. @ Home
September 24 Volleyball vs Hubble 7(A) 8(H)
September 25 **Progress Reports**
September 28 Volleyball vs Edison 7(H) 8(A)
September 29 Cross Country vs Hubble/Geneva N. @ Home

Cross Country Information:

1st practice is Monday, August 31st.

***There will be an informational meeting, Thursday, August 27th from 3-4pm. Please listen to morning announcements for the location of the meeting.

***All participants will need a sports physical on file, running shoes and a gym suit.

***Please note that the Activity Bus will be available starting this first day of practice.

Parent Meeting—Thursday, September 3rd for BOTH Cross Country and Girl's Volleyball.