

# ***Summit Middle School Newsletter***

January 2021

## **Message from the Principal**

Dear Summit Families:

I am excited to have students return to Summit on January 4. As a reminder, we will be following the same safety precautions that were implemented at the beginning of this school year (see the Safety at Summit document in this newsletter).

We have a significant number of students who are coming to Summit for the first time because they have moved to Johnston or are returning to the building from the Digital Dragon learning platform. We also have several students who have moved to Johnston and are beginning as online learners in our district. Please encourage your students to welcome these new dragons to Summit.

We have some exciting news for our Digital Dragons who are remaining 100% online. Summit will be offering two new related arts courses. The first is an art class that focuses on high interest projects designed by our own Connie Pruitt (Summit Art Teacher). The second is an activity- based PE class designed by Jackie Sapp (PE teacher in our district). Students will begin to experience these new courses on January 13 as we begin second semester. We will supply art materials and advertise multiple material pick up times for the art class after we return from break.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to pivot to different learning models in response to metrics related to Covid-19. It has been a trying time for all of us. It is my hope that we can start the new calendar year on a positive note and enjoy learning at school and online.

Thank you,  
Chris Billings  
Principal  
Summit MS



Health and Safety at Summit.pdf

[Download](#)  
1.2 MB

## Counselor Corner

Orchard Place: PACE is offering Parenting the Love and Logic Way which is a six session parenting program designed by the Love and Logic Institute. The parenting program is designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately. Dates: 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16 (Tuesday evenings), No Child Care, Time: 5:30-7:30pm, Location: Virtual <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/963004517> Access Code: 963-004-

517, Cost: FREE

Register by calling Andrea Brown at 515-360-5048 or by email [abrown@orchardplace.org](mailto:abrown@orchardplace.org)



### 7th Grade Transition and Scheduling Information from Johnston Middle School

Hello 7th Grade Families!

During the month of January, 7th grade students and families will have the opportunity to learn more about the transition to Johnston Middle School along with scheduling classes for 8th grade. Families will be receiving more information from JMS counselors regarding a virtual parent night and a virtual parent question and answer session.

On January 20th, in-person 7th graders will be watching a video from JMS counselors during basecamp to introduce the 2021-2022 scheduling process for 8th grade. JMS counselors will then be following up with all 7th graders when they visit Summit on January 28th and 29th to complete the scheduling process.

For 7th grade 100% online students, you will also view the scheduling video during a time determined by Mrs. Platt and Mrs. Heidbreder. JMS counselors will then follow up with each of you through breakout sessions to check over schedules.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Mrs. Heston at Summit.



## Summit Health Office


When return to in person learning, please continue to monitor your child for symptoms of illness. Keep your child home if he/she does not feel well. Notify Summit if someone in your household is going to be tested for Covid, or if there is a positive Covid case in your home.

**6th grade parents,** If your 6th grade student has not had the Tdap and Meningitis vaccines, please consider scheduling this while students are working online. Both of these vaccines are required by the first day of 7th grade.

Below is a quarantine calculator that is helpful for families if the need arises.



quarantine-calculator.pdf

 [Download](#)  
2.5 MB

## Summit Library is OPEN!

Do you need a good book to read? You can still check out library books from the Summit Library even if we are 100% online! Visit the [Summit Library website](#) to access the card catalog to place holds on books. There is also a video on the website that explains how to place holds and how the pick up works. Please e-mail Mrs. McAlister if you have any questions.

Book donations – Our library welcomes book donations! Some we will put into our library collection. Others we use as prizes or giveaways to kids that need books at home. If you are doing some house organizing this month, keep us in mind for any books you find and do not have a need for any more.

## ELP Digital Showcase

ELP Digital Showcase will be held January 7 - 12th. More information to follow

## Math Counts

The MATHCOUNTS Foundation is a non-profit organization that reaches students in grades 6-8 in all US states and territories with 3 extracurricular math programs. More than a quarter million students participate in MATHCOUNTS programs or use their resources each year. At Summit, students have been meeting virtually and online to solve problems and build problem solving skills every-other week since the first of October.

In January, students will begin meeting every week on Thursdays after school to get ready for 4 levels of competition. This is open to any student who enjoys problem solving with others in a competitive environment. All competitions are virtual this year with our school competition in January, a local competition in February, state in March and then the National Competition.

The coaches are Mr. Steve Skinner and Ms. Linda Lewis. Anyone is welcome to join and there are links on the Activities and Clubs Moodle page under MATHCOUNTS.

## Important Dates to Remember

### January 4th

Students return to in person learning

### January 6th

Dismissal at 11:50

### January 12th

End of 1st semester



**January 13th**

Dismissal at 11:50

**January 18th**

No School

**January 20th**

Dismissal at 11:50

**January 27th**

Dismissal at 11:50



**Summit Middle School**

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