



# JH JOURNAL



- BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL -

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DECEMBER 2020

COMMITTED TO CARING, STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE!

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## PRINCIPAL'S PAGE



Happy December! What a year 2020 has been, but we are near the finish line. December brings cooler temperatures, less daylight, and the promise of a new year around the corner. As much as we'd all like to feel that we are organized and well-prepared for the upcoming weeks, each family deals with the stress of the holidays in different ways. This will definitely be amplified this year with COVID-19 continuing to impact our area. Oftentimes, children fall victim to later bedtimes, hectic trips to the store for that last item, and sometimes experience first-hand the financial stress that plagues many families during this time of the year. Please take time to celebrate the special moments and family traditions this season will bring. As the principal, I'm obligated to say - do not forget to check in on their academics as well! Many students have missing assignments from remote learning. They should be able to access all of those in Google Classroom.

Each student should also be working on some kind of independent reading. Car rides are the perfect opportunity to ask your student about what they are reading in school. Here are a few questions you could ask your child about their independent reading:

- \* What book are you reading right now?
- \* What has happened in the book so far?
- \* Tell me about the main character. Does he/she remind you of anyone we know?
- \* How do you think the book will end?
- \* Why do you think this book will end?

Every child benefits from reading practice. No matter what subject in school, college course, trades program, or career students will face in their life, they will come across something that requires them to read.

The end of 2020 is near and I feel like many of us will be happy to see it go. It is common practice to look back and reflect on the last 12 months. 2020 was sure a roller coaster, but we all stuck it out together and made the best of each opportunity. Through the ups and downs, the love and support within the Buchanan Middle School community remained steady. There will never be enough words to thank you all for your support, your partnerships, and your patience. I look forward to the continued student growth and achievement we will find as we enter 2021!

Happy Holidays, Happy New Year, and Go Bucks!

## 6TH GRADE ELA

Students in Ms. Kluge's 6th grade ELA are completing and presenting their first book projects. There are multiple options for completion using simple materials from home or fully digital formats. She is so excited to see their creativity shine! She would like to also remind students and parents that reading is encouraged and expected at home. Students have recently begun to use Epic, which is an online library full of a variety of books and audiobooks they can access anytime before 4 P.M. at home. This is an excellent option if they are done with their borrowed book or need to fill some time. A few students have been reading like crazy on Epic and she is so proud of them!

Make sure that your Buck is ready to present the week of Dec. 7th!

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Thank you to all our parents who have teamed up with all of us at BMS in trying to make this time of on-line learning successful for our students! It definitely takes a village to raise a child!

We understand that this time period has caused many to struggle with anxiety and depression. We have listed many counseling resources on our home page if you would find your family at need for mental health support. Feel free to reach out to Kathy McLaughlin, school counselor, for any other resources.



## UGLY SWEATER DAYS



What better way to start the holidays than with an Ugly Sweater Day! Join us on Festive Fun Fridays by wearing your best Ugly Sweater! Whether you celebrate Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, or no holiday at all, wear your best ugly sweater each Friday of December.

You are not required to participate. These are just two fun Fridays to lead into Winter Break. Join us on Dec., Friday 11th and 18th with the best of your worst!

# HOLIDAY HOPES

## MY HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND NEW YEAR...

"Everyone cherishes time with loved ones and tries to focus on what we have to be thankful for!" -Mrs. Beasley

"That Christmas shares the gift of resilience with each of our students. This time has not only taught us how strong we can be but also how flexible. May each of you reach deep inside to find you are resilient when times are tough." -Mrs. McLaughlin

"All of our BMS families have a relaxing and fun break with lots of time spent with loved ones." -Mrs. Lietz

"That you all know we miss and love you all. Stay safe and we'll get through this together." -Mr. Brohman

"As the holiday season grows closer, I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the simple joys of togetherness. My hope for all of you this holiday season is for you to remember to always be kind to one another.."  
-Mrs. Staggs

"We stay Buck Strong and head into 2021 with a positive outlook. Also, that we continue to work together, love one another and respect each other."  
-Ms. Young

"That people understand that the world is not always a fair place and that while compassion is great, sometimes we must be willing to stand up and take action when we know something is not ok."  
-Mr. McBeth

"That everyone stays safe and healthy while enjoying time with the family and loved ones." -Mrs. Taylor

"We will all continue to work together and learn together positively as we overcome any obstacles that we encounter." -Ms. Lyon

"That the students know what we miss them while doing Remote Learning. And, I hope that everyone experiences the joy of brightening others' lives this holiday season." -Mrs. Jeffries



# HOLIDAY HOPES

## MY HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND NEW YEAR...

"That you choose to see the positive around you." -Mrs. Whitsel

"That all Buchanan families have happiness and health this holiday season." -Mrs. Raducha

"60 degree sunny days and that everyone has a wonderful time with their families!" -Mrs. Carlsen

"For everyone to enjoy their time of relaxation with their families. It's been a tough year, and we need to take a moment to just breathe, relax, and take care of ourselves. May 2021 be better! Happy Holidays, BMS!" -Mrs. Luke

"That we can take a positive from this difficult year. More time with family and slowing down has been two that I have been able to leave 2020 with." -Mrs. Fiero

"All of the Buchanan Middle School family has health and happiness." -Ms. Prince

"Everyone stays safe and healthy so we can return to school! I miss seeing all the kids' smiling faces!)" -Ms. Bender.

"Everyone stays happy & healthy over this upcoming year & we grow closer in appreciation for one another." -Mrs. Hughes



# DECEMBER SCHEDULE

*Always be prepared!*

## Maroon/White Calendar December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7 MAROON	8 WHITE	9 MAROON	10 WHITE	11 MAROON	12
13	14 WHITE	15 MAROON	16 WHITE	17 MAROON	18 WHITE	19
<b>WINTER RECESS</b> December 19 - January 3						
January 3	4 MAROON	5 WHITE	6 MAROON	7 WHITE	8 MAROON	

## YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

The deadline has been extended to Dec. 18th. Students have the ability to create this year's yearbook cover. Please follow the simple rules:

- Use a blank piece of 8.5 x 11, printer paper
- Images must be traced in dark ink or marker
- Color is great!
- Must use the theme, "Buck Strong"
- Must have, 'Buchanan Middle School' or 'BMS' on the cover
- Must have the year, 2020-20201, '20-'21 (however you write it)
- DO NOT put your name on the front. DO put your name on the back

Winner will win the coveted cover and a free 20/21 Buck Strong Yearbook!