

# AJMS Newsletter



**Black History Month** is **ON** at Jackson!



## IN THIS ISSUE:

### Letter from the principal

Ms. Shockley brings exciting updates and looks towards the new month!

### Black History Month!

Jackson is going all-out to celebrate!

### Calendar and events

Stay up-to-date on the happenings around the school and our community.

... and more!

Dear Jackson Families,

As February begins, we start the annual celebration of **Black History Month**. This year our theme at Jackson is **African Cultural Influences in Music**. We will focus on how African culture has influenced different genres of music from rock, to country, to hip-hop and even the blues. We have a full schedule of celebrations and activities planned throughout the month for our students and staff. All Americans are encouraged to join in recognizing and celebrating the achievements and accomplishments of African-Americans, not just in February, but all year long. February is full of many exciting events along with **Black History Month**. Our Cambridge students will be visiting Tallahassee and Florida State University. Our 8th graders will be visiting Titusville High School for the **Terrier Experience**. We will also have our student athletes participating in **Track Season**.

In music news, congratulations to **Ava Sperr** for being selected to participate in the All-State Choir. Congratulations also to our students that were selected to participate in All-County Chorus, Orchestra, and Band. The performances on January 27th were amazing!

The third interim grading period ends on February 8th and **interim reports** will be posted to **FOCUS** on February 13th. We will be having **Parent Conferences** on **February 15th**. This is a great opportunity to meet with your child's teachers to review their progress. Please call the front office to schedule your appointments. I look forward to continuing to work with all our Jackson Families for the success of all our students.

*Jennifer Shockley*  
*Principal*  
*Generals 23-24*



# February Calendar & GAP Session Schedule

2024

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6 Florida Youth Survey 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	7	8	9	10
11	12 Interim Grades Due Terrier Experience 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	13 Orchestra Pre-MPA @ THS THS Counselor Visit Track Meet - Madison & Kennedy @ Space Coast 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	14	15 Jazz MPA @ VHS Track Meet - McNair & Kennedy @ Jackson 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Parent Conference Night 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM	16 Jazz MPA @ VHS	17
18	19 Teacher PD Day/Student Holiday	20 Chorus Pre-MPA @ THS Track Meet - Edgewood, Cocoa Beach & Kennedy @ Cocoa JR/SR 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	21 SAC Meeting 8:20 AM - 9:00 AM	22 Cambridge to Tallahassee Track Meet - Cocoa & Edgewood @ Jackson 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	23 Cambridge to Tallahassee	24 Cambridge to Tallahassee
25	26	27 Band Pre-MPA @ THS Track Meet - McNair Cocoa Beach @ Space Coast 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	28 Career Day 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM	29 Orchestra MPA @ THS	1 Orchestra MPA @ THS Spread the Word THS 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Spring Dance 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	2

Our General Achievement Program offers “GAP” sessions where students can meet with their teachers before school for additional assistance with classwork, test preparation, and organizational strategies.

## GAP SESSION SCHEDULE

Math Department			ELA		
Carroll	Wednesdays	8:20-9:00	Dennison	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00
Wright	Mondays	8:20-9:00	Marshall	Wednesdays	8:45-9:15
Spencer	Thursdays	8:20-9:00	Kriewaldt	Wednesdays	8:45-9:15
Ezzell	Fridays	8:20-9:00	Vaughan	Thursdays	8:45-9:15
Social Studies			Viera	Mondays	8:30-9:00
Carty D.	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00	Ragsdale	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00
Carty W.	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00	TBA ILA		
Science			Electives		
Morgan	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00	Theobald	Mondays	8:30-9:00
Means	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00	Burk	Mondays	8:30-9:00
ESE			Gay	Wed & Thurs	8:30-9:15
Huskisson	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00	Andrus	Mondays	8:30-9:00
Curry	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00	Genet	Wednesdays	8:30-9:15
Mellon	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00	Reetz	Wed & Thurs	8:30-9:15
TBA Science			Solis	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00
Rosabella	Fridays	8:30-9:00	White	Mondays	8:30-9:00
Ganoa	Thursdays	8:30-9:00	Bentley	By Appt.	8:30-9:00
Misquitta	Thursdays	8:30-9:00	Woodside	By Appt.	8:30-9:00
Steffan	Wednesdays	8:30-9:00			

### PARENTS:

If you haven’t already completed the permission slip for GAP schedules, please do so as soon as possible.

Please be advised that Mr. Viera, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Ragsdale, Mrs. Dennison, Ms. Kriewaldt, Ms. Guadagna, Ms. Shields, and Mr. Vaughan are teaching ESOL out of field in the certification area of Reading and Language Arts for the 2023-2024 school year.

We want to assure you that the teachers are fully certified by the State of Florida and are currently working to become certified in ESOL.



# Black History Month

**FEBRUARY IS**



**HISTORY MONTH**

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements and a time for recognizing the central role and contributions of black people in U.S. and world history.

Jackson Middle School is celebrating **Black History Month 2024**. If you have walked around the school in the last couple of days, you can't help but notice the colorful banners and wall hangings that decorate the school and commemorate **Black History Month**. Shout out to **Ms. Waters**, **Mrs. Moore** and **Ms. Battle** for their help with getting those up and decorating the school in honor of this month.

This year's focus will be different from anything we've ever done before! We hope the topic is one that the kids will get excited about! **It is all focused on the "sound" of Africa**. This year we will look at the influence of African culture on the music of today. We will focus on different types of music genre from hip Hop to the blues to reggae music. We will highlight African American artists in music styles that are not typically associated with African Americans like country and rock and roll.

We will air familiar pop songs that have African infused beats during a "Name That Tune" segment.

Students will be given the chance to win prizes by answering trivia questions each week. Teachers will and have already started decorating their doors. We invite students to get involved and have fun with it.

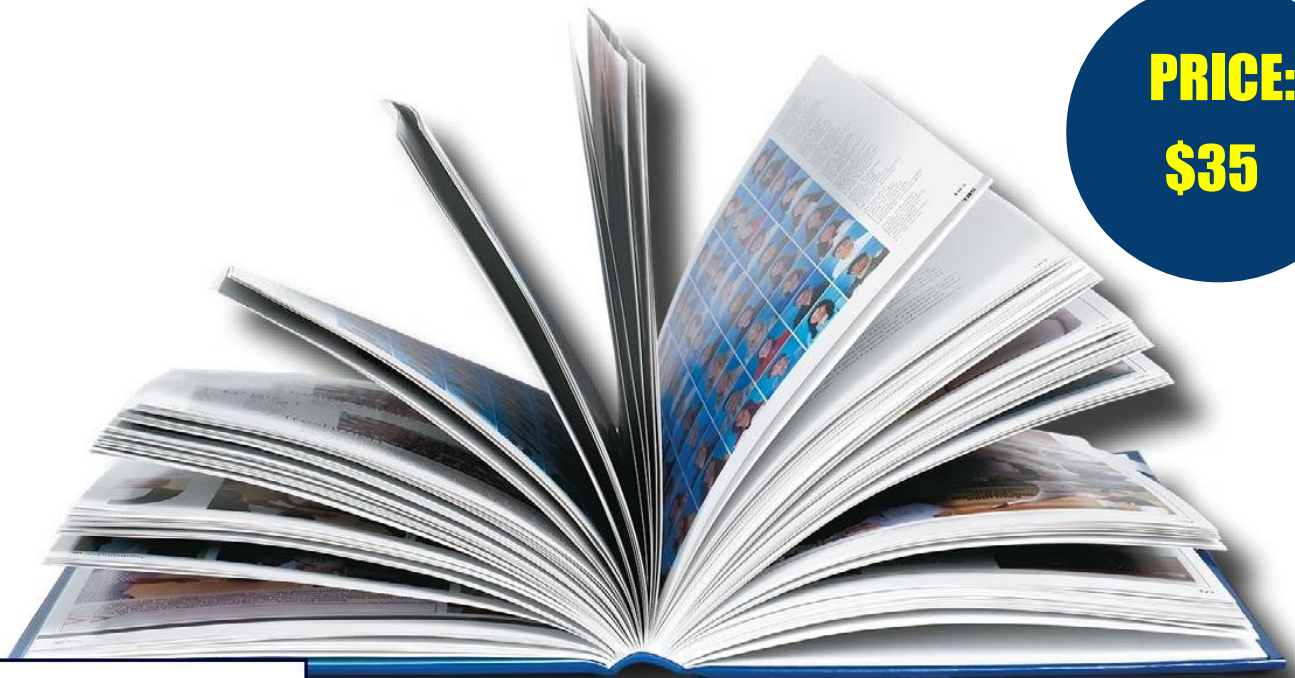
**Black History Month 2024** is on at Jackson!

# Yearbook Announcement:

*Jostens*

## Reserve Your Jackson Middle School Yearbook Today!

Don't miss out on the BEST yearbook yet.  
Copies are selling fast – secure yours by March 1st



**PRICE:**  
**\$35**



**ORDER NOW**

[Jostensyearbooks.com](https://Jostensyearbooks.com)



# Club Announcements:



First Priority is a Christian club that meets every **Thursday from 8:30 - 9:00am** in Mr. Ragsdale's room 305. Students play games, connect with others, and hear a positive message each week. If you would like to attend, make sure to grab a permission slip from [Mr. Ragsdale](#) or [Coach Henry](#) and bring it signed to either teacher!

An announcement from Mrs. Dennison:

ASL club has moved to Friday Morning at 8-10 to 8-30 in Room 306

There is an informational meeting for a possible book club to take place Monday 02/12 from 8:10 to 8:30 in Room 306

BEST BUDDIES



## BESTBUDDIES®

Friendship, Jobs, Leadership Development & Living

### Best Buddies:

2/9 meeting 3:10-3:45

2/16 Lunch Bunch during lunches

3/1 Spread the Word to End the Word @ THS

3/8 Lunch Bunch during lunches

3/8 meeting 3:10-3:45

Best Buddies album: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/oZv2FM2NeYxC9jNw8>

If you have any questions, please contact [Dani Wright](#), club sponsor.

# Cambridge Corner



Parents and Students who are going on the Tallahassee trip:  
On February 6 from 5:00-5:30,  
please attend a meeting to discuss itinerary and expectations.  
If you have any questions, please email [Ms. Kriewaldt](#).

Jessica Kriewaldt  
Cambridge Coordinator  
7th grade Cambridge English  
(321) 269-1812 ext. 32356

## PBIS

★ At Jackson, We Celebrate Being STAR Generals ★

	Halls	Patio	Cafeteria	Restroom	HOT Hangout	Dismissal Areas
<b>Stay Safe</b>	-Keep moving -Follow the flow of traffic -Walk at an appropriate pace -Keep feet on the ground	-Notify staff of any spills -Walk to desired location	-Notify staff of any spills -Keep hands, feet and food items to self	-Use the restroom, wash your hands, & exit -Notify staff of any spills or other concerns	-Walk to desired area -Use equipment for its intended use	-Walk to desired location -Pay attention to moving vehicles
<b>Take Responsibility</b>	-Use appropriate language -Maintain an inside voice -Electronic devices in backpacks	-Stay in your original seat -Clean up your area before leaving -Electronic devices in backpacks	-Get in line or find a seat quickly -Stay in your original seat the entire time -Clean up your area before leaving -Electronic devices in backpacks	-Ensure you have a pass during class time -Keep the restroom clean -Electronic devices in backpacks	-Have your student ID ready -Report any unsafe behaviors -Electronic devices in backpacks	-Clean up your area before leaving -Report any unsafe situations -Electronic devices in backpacks
<b>Achieve Academic Excellence</b>	-Arrive to class on time and be ready to work -Use transition time effectively	-Utilize your time effectively -Use hall passes to visit teachers and office	-Raise your hand to go to the library, patio, or other activity	-Use instructional time wisely	-Come inside when time is called	-Keep all items in your backpacks
<b>Respect Yourself &amp; Others</b>	-Keeps hands, feet, and object to self -Be kind and use appropriate language	-Maintain an inside voice -Be kind and use appropriate language	-Wait your turn in line -Maintain an inside voice -Be kind and use appropriate language	-Wait your turn -Be kind and use appropriate language	-Be kind and use appropriate language -Leave food and beverages inside	-Keep hands, feet, and objects to self -Be kind and use appropriate language

PBIS is our incentive program for rewarding STAR General behavior!

The STAR Bucks Store opens the last week of August.

STAR General behavior can earn Positive Referrals and Student of the Week awards.