

2022 - 2023 Panther Pluses - Jennings County Middle School

Eric Biehl (winner) and Shelby Allen (runner up) were JCMS Spelling Bee winners and representatives at the County Wide Spelling Bee.

Mrs. McLeod and JCMS students created the student section - Panther Pit Crew - with themed dress up nights at football, volleyball, and basketball games.

The National Junior Honor Society rang bells for the Salvation Army.

NJHS and JYIT helped with 6th Grade Parent Night.

NJHS Members, Student Council Members, and JYIT Members gave tours to 6th graders entering JCMS next year.

The Student Council decorated the sidewalks for Kindness Week.

Student Council members helped with Career Day.

ARK club has done several kindness campaigns throughout this school year. Members are: Haley Riffel, Olivia Benbow, Samantha Douglas, Olivia Hair, Madelon Collins, Carly Franklin & Riley VonDielingen

JCMS hosted our first students of the 2022-2023 school year in July at our Orientation Day.

The JCMS Book Club sponsored by Mrs. Ahlbrand and Mrs. Brown met after school throughout the year and shared thoughts and activities centered around the Young Hoosier Book Award List.

The Annual Title 1 Parent Meeting was held for new parents and families of JCMS in September.

Builders Club, led by Mrs. Kelley and Mrs. Ertel, met throughout the year and completed many community service projects around the school and in our local community.

Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade volleyball teams for winning the JCMS Volleyball Tournament at the end of August!

Mrs. McLeod, our athletic director, was hosted by the North Vernon Kiwanis in September. She shared information with them about the many sports and activities offered to our youth at JCMS.

Congratulations to the 8th grade volleyball team for winning the Switzerland County tournament in September.

JCMS Title 1 Panther Recognition for Peers and Parents was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022. Students and their parents celebrated and recognized all of our Panther Fall Sports Participants. Parents received information about ways we support our students at JCMS. Both parents and students earned fun prizes during the celebration.

The 7th and 8th grade volleyball teams both won the Tri-County championship.

Our JCMS Cross Country Teams were the Jennings County Invitational Champions.

College Go Week was celebrated in September. Students explored many opportunities for furthering their education after high school. Prizes were awarded to many students throughout the week. Teachers joined the fun with a door decorating contest as well.

Congratulations to both the 7th and 8th grade volleyball teams for winning the JCMS volleyball tournament.

JCMS Cross Country runners Nate Fewell, Shelby Allen, Addie Otte, Izzy Logan, Alana Watts, Aaron Lewis, and Cash Summers competed at the Indiana State Cross Country finals in Terre Haute. Aaron Lewis finished 23rd out of 301 runners in the boys varsity race to earn medal honors.

The Acts of Random Kindness (ARK) Club met under the guidance of Mrs. Barnes to shower our building with lots of positivity throughout the entire school year.

8th Graders took the PSAT for the very first time this year as a way to become more familiar with the testing format. This gives them a glimpse at some of the expectations that will be required of them in high school.

Our Music Department shared many wonderful performances throughout the year that allowed our students to showcase their musical talents in choir, band, and orchestra.

Some of our JCMS students had an opportunity to tour the Southeastern Career Center in Versailles in October to tour the facility and think about a possible future career.

Mrs. VanLandeghem sponsored a Science Club that met throughout the year. Students found out just how fun science can be.

The JCMS Guidance Office started a new newsletter this year that was published on our Facebook page.

The Advanced Media class of Ms. Evans created some incredible commercials and podcasts that were used for various purposes throughout the year. Several students were

involved in helping with the video displayed on our scoreboard during activities hosted in the gym.

Our advanced art students along with Mrs. Furgason won 3rd place in the North Vernon Main Street Decorating Contest!

7th grade students experienced the Reality Store that was put together by our School Counseling Office. Several guests from the local community gave students a unique opportunity to learn more about the areas of finance, housing, college, and future goals.

Officer Minton and Trooper Simpson spent some time in our classrooms to share knowledge and information about law enforcement careers with our students.

In November our 8th graders spoke with JCHS alumni Steve Elsner about the early morning Artemis I launch. Mr. Elsner, a retired NASA engineer, debriefed the key points of the launch and flight, discussed chemical reactions that are part of a launch, and fielded questions from the students.

Our very own Una Voce Choir performed under the direction of Miss Tartell in North Vernon during "Christmas in the City" on Saturday, December 3, 2022.

Our very own band director, Mrs. Chadwick, participated in the Columbus City Band's annual holiday concert.

Thirty students were elected to represent their classmates on the 2022-2023 JCMS Student Council.

Our Panther mascot made his debut at JCMS on December 1, and continued to show up at various activities throughout the year.

The Lady Panther Basketball Team were the St. John Lutheran Holiday Tournament Runner- Ups!

Dr. Fry from Jennings Veterinarians spoke with some students about careers in animal or vet science.

The JCMS Guidance Department created some holiday fun for students in the form of Holiday Escape Rooms. Students had to solve all of the clues to help Santa save Christmas. Great fun was had by all!

The staff at JCMS hosted the JCHS Culinary Arts Team who catered the staff luncheon in December.

Our 7th and 8th grade girls basketball teams were the Scottsburg Tournament Champs.

The 7th and 8th Grade Boys White Basketball Teams both won the St. Louis Cardinal Tournament!

The Math Competition Group met to prepare for the ICTM Math Contest in Columbus, Indiana on Saturday, April 22nd. They met every Monday starting in January to prepare for the competition. They were led by Mrs. Ballenger and Mrs. Patterson.

8th graders visited the STEM Lab to try their hands at making popping boba as part of their unit on synthetic materials. Boba tea has become popular recently, but most of our students decided that creating good boba is best left to the professionals.

8th grade girls basketball team won our JCMS Holiday Tournament.

JCMS students were on a "roll" this year! Cinnamon rolls were served to all of our Honor Roll students from the first semester.

29 students took part in a NASA Student Briefing of the Artemis Program. During the hour-long virtual briefing, students heard from four specialists related to the Artemis Program:

Kelvin Manning, Deputy Director of Kennedy Space Center
Charlie Blackwell-Thompson, Launch Director for the Artemis Program,
Elkin Norena, SLS Resident Management office manager at Kennedy Space Center, and
Melody Lovin, Weather Officer with the U.S. Space Force.

The briefing covered everything from weather related concerns during launch to the battle with inertia in space flight to engineering improvements seen in the SLS used in Artemis compared to past space vehicles like the Saturn V and space shuttle.

Some of our 8th graders were invited to participate in some "Creative Competition Challenges" with our Guidance Department. They had to complete six challenges as teams. Students discussed competition, if it was good or bad, and how to find balance between the determination to win and seeing what to improve if they didn't.

Una Voce and Miss Tartell visited each elementary school and shared a glimpse of what students have to look forward to at JCMS next year.

JCMS Archery Team brought home 1st and 2nd place in the Seymour Invitational Tournament.

Our JCMS wrestling team won the 2023 Panther Invitational.

Several wrestlers qualified and wrestled at middle school state. Congratulations to Karli Ledbetter, Luke Kirchner, Brady Franks and Connor Bower. Placing seventh was Taylor Engleking. Finishing fourth was Cristian Gomie Gomez.

Students in Mr. McKeand's advanced engineering and tech class worked on a bridge project. Students spent time running trials of different designs on a virtual simulator and built a physical prototype. Before the build time, students watched a demo of the spring scale based testing apparatus and got a look at how their bridges would be judged. One example bridge held up to a downward force of over 50 pounds.

Ms. Nixon's French class created some lovely Valentine cards utilizing the French language they have been learning.

Our cheer coaches organized a cheer clinic for our K-6 students. The future cheerleaders of Jennings County performed with our JCMS and JCHS cheer squads at a game.

Archery tournaments in February proved very successful for our JCMS students. We finished 1st out of 7 middle school teams!

Layton Waltermire secured the top spot in the 3D middle school division with a 276!!

The ladies were on fire this past weekend taking the top 5 of 10 spots on the leaderboard!!

#1 Makailah Fries with 284

#2 Brooklynn Wilkerson with 263

#3 Emmi Barber with 263

#4 Elaine Johnson with 261

#5 Madelon Collins with 261

Our Bullseye teams also made improvements securing the #1 & #5 spots in the 9 middle school teams participating!

The guys dominated the top ten seating 5 of the 10 positions!

#3 Logan Caldwell with 273

#4 Kyler Stidham with 269

#5 Trayton Hulse with 268

#6 Layton Waltermire with 268

#8 Cameron Tichenor with 266

The ladies took 1st and 4th of the bullseye tournament!

#1 Mikailah Fries with 285

#4 Madelon Collins with 270

The 7th grade math classes of Mrs. Ballenger, Mrs. Galyen, Ms. L. Tucker, and Mr. Nobbe recently visited the STEM Lab to test their knowledge of the circumference of a circle using.....BUBBLES! What a fun day for all!

Geometric figures took on a whole new shape, smell, and taste as Mrs. Patterson's class created geometric figures with marshmallows & toothpicks to explore attributes of these figures. They also sliced snack cakes to visualize cross sections of 3 dimensional figures.

In March Builders Club members spent time clearing and pruning old growth in the school's butterfly garden. Time was also spent preparing some pictures for the Color a Smile project, which will send happy pictures to senior citizens, troops stationed overseas, and others.

JCMS 8th grade students spent two days touring IUPUC and Ivy Tech in Columbus to learn more about all of the programs that they offer to our community. Students were given tours, provided with some hands-on activities, and participated in quiz games to check their knowledge about the campuses. Students asked many significant questions to the presenters and were very attentive to those who were willing to share their classrooms and experiences with our students and staff.

The JCMS State Archery Team walked away with a 7th place finish. JCMS brought home the #1 spot in the state for the 3-D division. In the 3D Middle School Division we had some high shooters. Layton Waltermire was 3rd place with a 280. Mikailah Fries was 1st place with a 293. This was not just overall middle school girl but also overall girl for elementary, middle and high school divisions together for 3D.

Staff and students stayed in March for the National Junior Honor Society Dance Fundraiser to support their endeavors.

French students of Ms. Nixon, along with Mr Rigby, all enjoyed a trip to the EiteljorgMuseum in Indianapolis today. Our students have so many unique opportunities for learning at JCMS

Mrs. Shepherd's room practiced many cognitive skills as they participated in a "Break Out Room" session during class.

JCMS Wrestling Awards: Luke Kirchner: MVP Award, 8th grade, lead in team points and falls (25), 29-1 record on the season. Brady Franks: Outstanding Wrestler, 7th grade, most takedowns, near fall's, reversals and match points.. Cristian Gomez: Team Heartbeat Award, 8th grade. Reliably enthusiastic, engaged, and encouraging at practice and in

meets. Taylor Engleking: Most Improved Mental Mindset, 8th grade, Greatest strides taken from start of Season to completion to be ready and competitive. Andrew Maschino: Most Improved Overall, 8th grade, First year wrestler grew over the season constantly asking questions and choosing challenging practice partners.

In celebration of "Pi Day" 3/14, Mrs. Patterson's students calculated measurements of circular snacks using the value of pi .

New members were inducted into the JCMS National Junior Honor Society in April.

Jill Stoner earned the Jennings County Schools' Teacher of the Year award, and Linda Barnes earned the Jennings County Schools' classified staff of the year award.

Mrs. McGuire's Spanish class created a meal plan activity to display in the building using their Spanish language skills and some incredible artwork as well.

Mrs. Stoner's German class has been working on a Dad Monster project. Students are shown using not only their drawing skills, but also applying their German vocabulary to the labeling of the parts of the monster's body.

Jennings County Middle School JYIT members and sponsors participated in the United Way Day of Caring.

Elizabeth Perry, Addi Otte, and Addison Petro had outstanding accomplishments in the Duck Stamp Contest!

Mrs. Chadwick, band director, and Maddy Ryan, a seventh grader, both have roles in the upcoming production "Jane Eyre-This is My Story" at the North Vernon Park Theatre.

Eric Biehl represented our JCMS Math Club well at IUPUC. He tied for second in the PreAlgebra Division of the ICTM math contest at this site. We had 5 participants - Eric, Logan Mitchell, Arthur Owsley, Symphanie White & Hadley St.Clair.