



November Newsletter

Message from the Principal

Summit Families,

The start to the 2024-2025 school year has been nothing short of amazing! Our staff has been consistent with having high expectations for our students academically and behaviorally! Given these efforts, our students have achieved at high levels! With that being said, we cannot wait to share all of the great things your student(s) has done thus far during our fall conferences. Conferences will be held on Thursday, November 14th either in-person or via Google Meet! Staff have sent out conference information through ParentSquare and/or email. Please remember to schedule a time for a conference with your student(s)' basecamp teacher! Related arts teachers are available for conferences, but they fill up fast given the number of students on their rosters. If applicable, families should also schedule a conference with interventionists, special education teachers, and ESOL teachers. If November 14th does not work for your family, teachers may also offer times to conference until Friday, November 22nd. We look forward to seeing you!

Kaniesha Pettaway, Principal

Important Upcoming Dates

Thursday, November 7th

PTO Meeting, 7 pm
Summit Library Media Center

Monday, November 11th

School Board Meeting, District Office at 6 pm

Thursday, November 14th

3-Hour Early Dismissal at 11:50 am
P/T Conferences, 1:30 - 8:00 pm
Opening Day of Book Fair
End of 1st Trimester

Friday, November 15th

No School, P/T Comp Day

Monday, November 18th

6th Grade Band Concerts, 5:30 pm & 6:30 pm

Tuesday, November 19th

7th Grade Band Concerts, 5:30 pm & 6:30 pm
Last Day of Book Fair

Monday, November 25th

School Board Meeting, District Office at 6 pm

Wednesday, November 27 - Friday, November 29th

No School, Thanksgiving Break





Summit Band Concerts

All concerts will take place at Summit Middle School. Students will need to wear all black.

Monday, November 18th

6th Grade Band Concert, Green's Students
5:30 pm Performance (warmup at 5:10 pm)

6th Grade Band Concert, Tipping's Students
6:30 pm Performance (warmup at 6:10 pm)

Tuesday, November 19th

7th Grade Band Concert, Gold Band
5:30 pm Performance (warmup at 5:15 pm)

7th Grade Band Concert, Purple Band
6:30 pm Performance (warmup at 6:15 pm)

Counselor Corner

COUNSELOR CORNER

November 2024

What We Learned

Bullying Prevention

During the month of October, Dragon Times learned about bullying. Students learned how to define, identify, prevent and handle bullying situations at Summit. Students also brainstormed ideas for how to handle situations in which they witness or experience bullying.

Students learned a variety of new vocabulary words and concepts:

- Bullying
- Physical Bullying
- Verbal Bullying
- Relational Bullying
- Online Bullying
- Student Incident Report Form
- Bystander
- Upstander
- #SummitNice

Updates

This past week we administered the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) to 130 students. The SDQ identifies student strengths as well as if they are having difficulties that need to be supported.

Conferences

Stop by and see your student's counselor at conference on Thursday, November 14th from 1:30-4pm.

Counselor Info

Last Names:
A-G- Lauren Heston
H-N- Bri De Mass
O-Z- Shannon Brock

Staff vs Student Kickball

Our 6th and 7th graders competed in the Staff vs Student Kickball Game on Friday, October 25th! Teachers prevailed and achieved victory in both games. Our student leaders planned and executed this exciting event. All Summit students had the opportunity to take part in various activities including playing in the game, acting as a scorekeeper, being a spectator, competing in the minute to win it Oreo cookie game, or by playing Blookets in the cafeteria for a quieter environment.

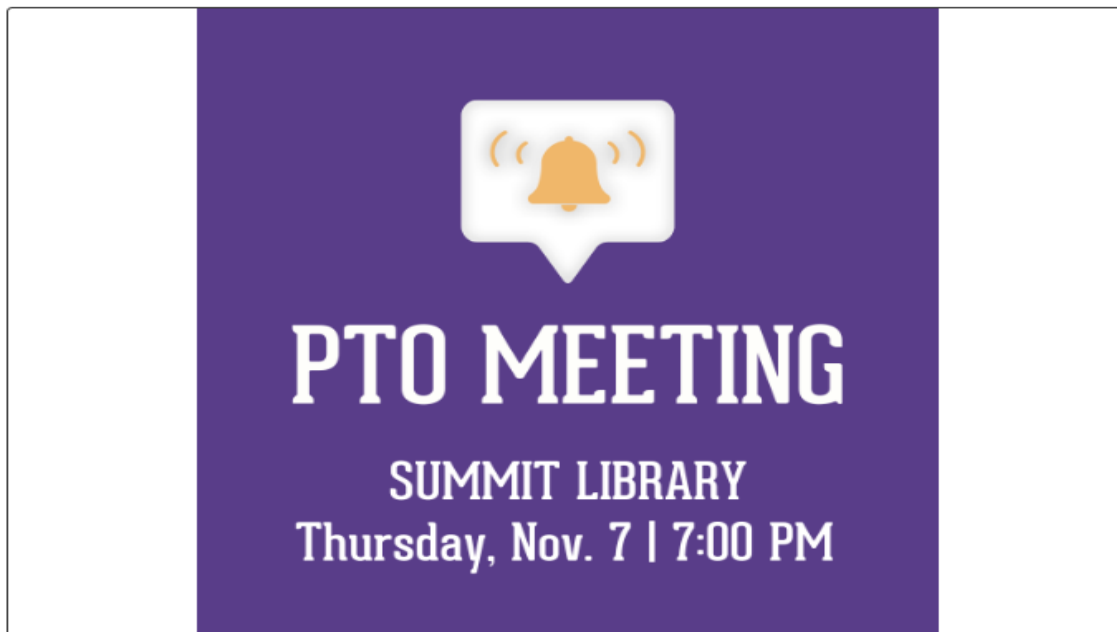
This was a great way to celebrate the end of the first quarter and build community between staff and students at Summit!



Middle School Mock Trial Competitions have begun! Students from SMS and JMS on Team Dragon, Team Firestorm, Team Gold and Team Purple will compete at the Des Moines Regional Competition on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at the Iowa Events Center. For those who make the qualifying Play-Off Rounds, they will argue a case at the Holiday Inn and Suites - Northwest on Wednesday, November 13, 2024.

Those who qualify for the State Competition will compete at The Prairie Meadows Event Center in Altoona on December 2 & 3, 2024, with the four final teams competing at the Iowa Judicial Building on Wednesday, December 4, 2024. Best of luck to all and #godragons #johnstonlearns #mockon

News from Summit Middle School PTO



A composite graphic for the Summit Middle School PTO UNFundraiser. On the left, a vertical thermometer shows a progress bar reaching about 15% of the way to a goal of \$10,000. Text includes "SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO UNFundraiser", "HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF \$10,000!", "OCTOBER 25 - NOVEMBER 15", and "WAYS TO DONATE: SCAN QR CODE, PAYPAL @SHSPTOIA, CASH, CHECK - PAYABLE TO SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO". A QR code is labeled "SCAN ME!". In the center, there are images of baked goods and a sign that says "Appetize Tool". On the right, a yellow and purple box titled "Summit PTO UNFundraiser Update" shows a progress bar and the text "\$1,353.00 raised of \$10,000 goal". Below this, a table shows the goal and deadline.

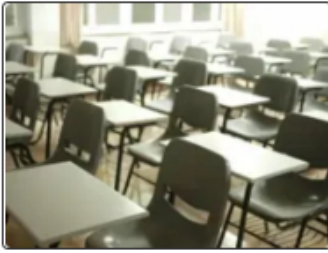
Goal	Deadline
\$10,000	November 15

Reminders & Updates

Cellphones and Other Electronic Devices:

If cellphones and/or electronic devices are brought to school, students are responsible for these items. This includes cellphones, watches, ear buds, etc. The school is not responsible for loss or damage to personal items. Electronics should **NOT** be used throughout the school day, including during class, lunch, recess, and in restrooms. We want to ensure every student has access to quality instruction with limited distractions. Inappropriate use of electronics may result in a removal of the item for student use.





Student Absences

If your child will be absent, arriving late or needs to leave early due to an appointment or other reasons, please report using Infinite Campus. The Absence Request tool in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal allows you to report your student's absence online with just a few clicks. Follow these simple steps:

1. Log in to your [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#) account, either by computer or Parent Portal App on your mobile device.
2. Select your child's profile.
3. Navigate to the Absence Request section.
4. Fill in the required information, including the date and reason for the absence.
5. Submit your request.

You may also report an absence by calling 515-986-0941. This line is available 24 hours to leave a message. You may also send an email to asoda@johnston.k12.ia.us

If your student is at school and needs to leave for any reason, it needs to be facilitated through the nurse or office. In addition, if you are picking up your child, you must enter the building to sign them out. We appreciate your assistance!

Pick-Up & Drop-Off Guidelines

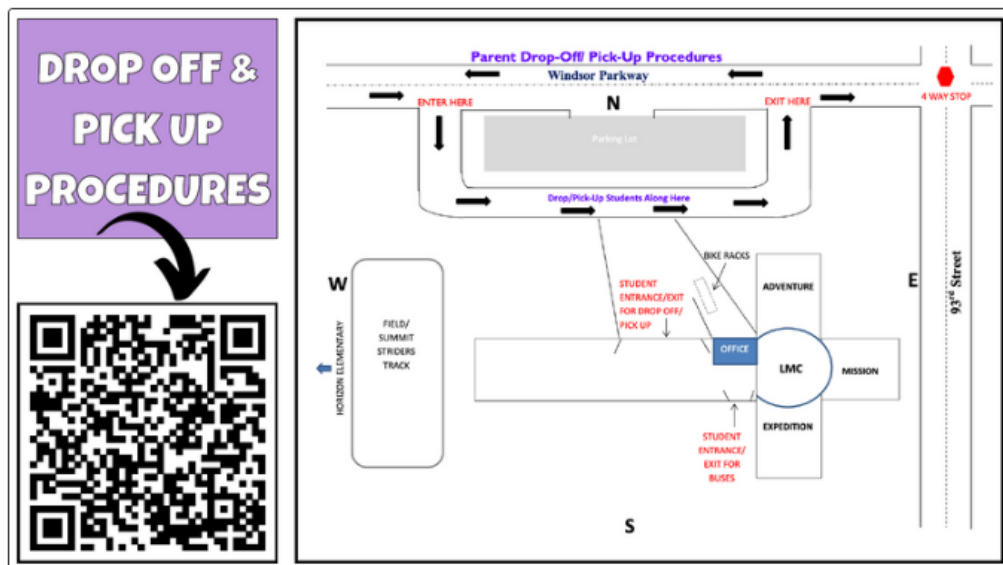
Here is some guidance on how to help make pick-up and drop-off traffic flow smoothly:

1. Staff will be on duty at the front of the building from 7:30 - 7:40 am for arrivals.
2. Staff will be on duty from 2:50 - 3:00 pm for dismissal.
3. Pull your vehicle all the way up behind the car in front of you when in the carpool lane for pick-up & drop-off. If you are first in line, drive past the entrance and stop at the second light pole.
4. Parking lot drop-offs are not permitted for safety reasons.

Important Reminders:

An ordinance with the City of Johnston states that drivers are not allowed to block a crosswalk under any circumstances. When a crosswalk is blocked, Crossing Guards are not allowed to assist students across the street until the crosswalk is clear. It can also create issues for neighborhood walkers, joggers and cyclists.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we work together to keep our students safe!

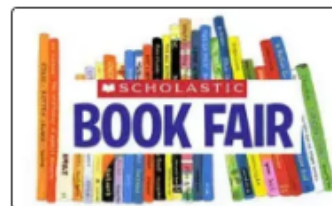


The Scholastic Book Fair is back at Summit!

November 14 – 19 in the Library

November 14: 8:30 am – 8:00 pm

November 18-19: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm



Volunteers are needed to help staff the Book Fair!

Come join the fun, support our school and get our kids excited about reading!

Visit our Book Fair home page to sign up: [Book Fair Home Page](#)

You can shop online too! Online fair runs from 11/13 – 11/26 and books will ship to your home for FREE on orders of \$25 or more!

Don't want to send cash? Set-up an eWallet!

It is a secure, cash-free way for your child to shop at the Fair. Simply create an account and authorize a spending limit to have funds immediately available for your child to purchase books!

How it works: 1. Create an Account 2. Add Funds 3. Student Shops



SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL

9500 Windsor Parkway
Johnston, IA 50131

Office: 515-986-0318

Fax: 515-986-0952

Attendance: 515-986-0941

Nurse: 515-986-0931