NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES

- THURSDAY, 11/27 AND FRIDAY, 11/28
  - SCHOOL CLOSED - FALL RECESS
- WEDNESDAY, 12/3
  - WINTER CHOIR CONCERT
- FRIDAY, 12/5
  - SPECIAL OLYMPICS JINGLE JOG
- TUESDAY, 12/9
  - SPELLING BEE (SIGN UP INFORMATION ON GRADE LEVEL GOOGLE CLASSROOM)
- FRIDAY, 12/12 AND SATURDAY, 12/13
  - MUSICAL--BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, JR
- THURSDAY, 12/18
  - WINTER BAND CONCERT
- TUESDAY, 12/23
  - EARLY DISMISSAL
- WEDNESDAY, 12/24 - FRIDAY, 1/2/26
  - SCHOOL CLOSED - WINTER RECESS
- MONDAY, 1/5/26
  - BACK TO SCHOOL!

A MESSAGE FROM MR. ACCARDI

Greetings UMS Families,

As November comes to a close, I want to express my gratitude to the entire UMS community. This summer, you welcomed Ms. Moore and me as the new Building Administration Team, and it has been a pleasure getting to know all of you. Our first marking period has been full of accomplishments and positive momentum.

Our school year got off to a fantastic start! Students have adapted well to our updated Personal Electronic Device Procedures, the use of SmartPass, and the new Flex/Lunch Rotation. These changes have helped create a smooth and engaging start to the year, and we thank you for your continued support.

In November, our students participated in meaningful events. Mrs. Grossmann, our Student Assistance Counselor, guided students in showing support for our school community during the Week of Respect. We concluded Marking Period 1 with our first Cougar Care Days and celebrated with an all-school Respect Rally. Activities like these help our students grow as engaged and responsible members of the UMS community.

We are also thrilled to see students returning to our social events! The Student Council Neon Dance Party had an incredible turnout. Students were able to play in our open gym, have some snacks, and hit the dance floor. MMS PTO hosted our first off-site event at Iron Peak, and students who attended played in the Dome and filled up at the snack stand. These events give students the chance to connect outside the classroom and away from screens—please continue to encourage participation!

Academically, we are proud to report that 526 students made the honor roll for Marking Period 1! This month, students also competed in the American Math Competition, and our Robotics Teams participated in their annual competitions. Fall sports wrapped up successfully, and we are excited to see Winter sports getting underway.

Be sure to check out the rest of our newsletter and give the latest episode of *CougarCast* a listen!

With C.A.R.E.
-Mr. Accardi

COUGARCAST: VOICES OF UMS

TUNE IN TO OUR PODCAST SERIES.
EACH MONTH MR. ACCARDI AND MS. MOORE WILL BE SHARING AN EPISODE TO ACCOMPANY OUR NEWSLETTER.

CLICK HERE TO LISTEN

COUGAR CHALLENGE

Throughout the month of December, we will be practicing gratitude in our community. Students, be sure to check the morning announcements and look for ways to show your gratitude within our school community.

UMS PRESENTS

https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/montgomery-upper-middle-school/690e5b03ddee35100388d2d0

JINGLE JOG

We are very excited to be hosting our 2nd annual Jingle All the Way Special Olympics Fundraiser in just two weeks! On December 5, we will host the jog during the first flex, per grade level. To participate in the fun, sign up using the information on the flyer. All of the money we raise is going to a great cause and will even help our own school. We hope you join us! All students are encouraged to wear holiday pajamas on December 5 to celebrate!

@MONTYUMS

REMINDERS

STUDENT IDS

New ID cards will be distributed to students on December 2. As a reminder, students are expected to have their IDs visible at all times. Replacement IDs, lanyards, and cases can be ordered through our school website.

WINTER SPORTS AT UMS

We are excited to kick off the winter sports season! Families, please note that students attending games as spectators will need a ride home, as late buses depart before most games end. Students will also be reminded of proper spectator behavior.

BUS EXPECTATIONS

UMS families, please help us support our bus drivers and administrators by reminding students of bus expectations. Students should remain in their assigned seats and behave appropriately so drivers can focus on the road safely.

TEAM PTO PTO & SEPTA HAPPENINGS

AMAZON TEACHER WISHLISTS

We recognize that teachers and staff often purchase classroom items themselves when something isn't in the budget or can't be covered by a PTO grant. We hope that by providing an easy way for families to contribute, we can reduce some of the financial burden on our staff.
(www.montypto.org/wishlist)

amazon wishlist
help our teachers!

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