

# *JSE Weekly Newsletter*

November 23 - November 24

## Changes to December Calendar

With Winter Break quickly approaching and COVID cases (or CLOSE CONTACT QUARANTINE cases) on the rise, our hope is that every student, all employees, and every member of your family will be well and out of quarantine for the holiday season. Working toward that end, we are announcing the following significant schedule change.

As you know, our last day of instruction before winter break is December 15. However, we will not hold classes **on campus** on December 14th or 15th. Instead,

- students in grades 4-12 will be DIGITAL LEARNERS on December 14th and 15th.
- students in grades K-3 will receive enrichment and intervention materials and resources to work on at home.

Each school will provide detailed information to support learning on these two days. With this change, the last day for on-campus classes will be Friday, December 11. Hopefully, these extra days at home and the break to follow will be a welcome respite for everyone.

Digital devices will be sent home with all 4-12 grade students, including day users, during the Thanksgiving and Winter breaks. Students in grades K-3 will not require a device for home use.

Adventure Club will be OPEN on December 14th and 15th.

**Again, no ON-CAMPUS classes will be held on December 14th and 15th. Instruction for grades 4-12 will be DIGITAL ONLY during these two days. Elementary teachers will provide specific directions and plans for K-3 students, who will also be at home on December 14th and 15th.**

## JSE Angel Tree

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A084EAAAAA2DA2FE3-jseangel>

Hello JSE Families! Each year, JSE participates in the All is Bright Angel Tree. This year's tree is digital. Angels on our tree represent JSE students, siblings, and children in our community. Please consider selecting an angel and help make a child's holiday brighter. Your generosity and kindness are so appreciated!

Angel wishes have been divided amongst several tags to help spread out the cost. There are 2 gifts for each slot. Please do not wrap the gifts but gift wrap may be included if you would like.

All gifts should be returned to the school office by **Monday, November 30th**. Please put gifts in a bag with the Angel tag number (ex. JSE 2A boy age 6) on the outside of the bag.

Thank you for providing gifts to a deserving child! If you have any questions, contact Becky Mitchell at [becky.mitchell@maryville-schools.org](mailto:becky.mitchell@maryville-schools.org).



## 3rd Grade Unicycle Club

Third grade (in person) students learned about the JSE Unicycle Club recently. Each year approximately 20 students are chosen to participate in this club. Club size must be limited due to safety concerns (new riders have little to no control over their direction). If your 3rd grade student is interested in trying to earn one of these spots, please have them write an essay with at least 5 sentences and at least 3 details about why they want to ride a unicycle and why they believe they would be successful. Papers are due by Monday, December 7th. Papers should include first and last names, as well as homeroom teacher's name. The members of the 2021 JSE Unicycle Club will be announced before Christmas Break. The club will meet twice a week on Mondays and Fridays from 2:50-3:30 beginning in February. JSE provides unicycles for students to learn on so there is no need to purchase one at this time. If you have any questions, contact Alex Rouse at [alex.rouse@maryville-schools.org](mailto:alex.rouse@maryville-schools.org) or Melissa Michalak at [melissa.michalak@maryville-schools.org](mailto:melissa.michalak@maryville-schools.org).



## Adventure Club News

Winter Break will be December 16th – January 4th. ***Adventure Club will only be open December 14th – 18th, 28th- 30th and January 4th.*** Sign up for these dates will start on November 30th. The deadline for sign up will be **December 11th**. Please let Misty Cable know if you have any questions. [misty.cable@maryville-schools.org](mailto:misty.cable@maryville-schools.org) or call 865-681-8210.

## JSE APPAREL SALE OPEN AGAIN!

The JSE PTO will be reopening the apparel store beginning Monday, November 16th! They will be offering a variety of t-shirts and masks. Below are a few of the options. Click on the link below (starting Monday) to see the full selection! Orders must be placed by November 30th. Orders will be distributed to the student associated with the order at school. Let's all show our JSE spirit!

<https://jseapparel2020.itemorder.com/sale>



## Giving Tuesday, December 1st

Every year the Maryville City Schools Foundation partners with our PTO's to collect household cleaning supplies for families in need within our district. Volunteers will be in our morning drop off line on Tuesday, December 1st to collect items for this event. You will not have to get out of your car to donate! See below for details.

#GIVING  
TUESDAY



## CLEANING SUPPLIES DRIVE Tuesday, December 1st



DONATION TUBS WILL BE AT SCHOOL  
ENTRANCES DURING DROP-OFF ON 11/30 & 12/1

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Laundry Detergent (no pods)  
Fabric Softener  
Dishwashing Liquid (not dishwasher)  
Toilet Bowl Cleaner  
Window Cleaner  
All Purpose Cleaner

\*Gift cards and donations are gladly accepted.

Supplies will benefit families within Maryville City Schools  
& help them stay healthy this winter.



Thank you for being #GREATERTOGETHER in support of our MCS families!



The supply drive benefits the Family Resource Center & is sponsored through Maryville City Schools Foundation & Parent Teacher Organizations.





## Crayons and Coloring Book Collection

John Sevier Elementary is helping with a community service project along with Junior Service League of Blount County! We will be collecting CRAYONS AND COLORING BOOKS from now until Thanksgiving Break! Please help us help children in our community by donating and bringing in these items and placing them in the decorated box right outside the main office. THANK YOU!!



## News from the Café

As you know, all students are currently able to receive free breakfast and lunch through the end of 2020. These meals are funded by the USDA. Even if a student chooses to bring a lunch from home, they may receive a pb&j "grab and go" lunch under this program.



## City of Maryville Sanitation Santa Program

**December 21, 22, and 23**

**9 a.m. until 4 p.m.**

Toys will be distributed at the Theater in the Park, 325 Court Circle, Maryville (across from First Baptist Church on Lamar Alexander and beside the Court House)

Distribution is on a first-come, first-served basis. No sign-ups are required.

Toy and gift distribution is for children newborn to 15 years.

### How to qualify:

- \*Proof of ID in the form of Social Security Card, birth certificate, library card, school id, insurance card, etc. for **each child**.
- \*Proof of residency in Blount County (address on state ID, utility bill, etc) for parent/guardian.
- \*If the adult present is not the parent, proof of guardianship.
- \*No other assistance has been provided by other agencies for child. (We link with United Way and other charitable agencies. Families may be assisted by only one organization for Christmas gifts.)

### **COVID-19 Updates**

The process and procedures may change this year due to COVID-19. Please check [maryvillegov.com/sanitationsanta](http://maryvillegov.com/sanitationsanta) for more information.

# Changes to Instructional Method

The next opportunity to notify us of a desire to switch instructional options is by **noon on Friday, December 11th**. Those changing at this time would begin their new method of instruction upon return from winter break, (January 5th).

Families are limited to changing instructional options one time for the entire school year. Please call the office at 865-983-8551 if you plan to switch.

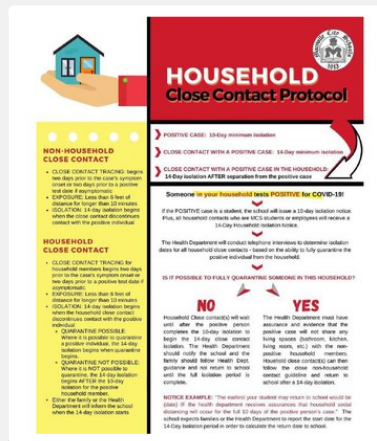
## Contact Tracing

We need your help! As we continue to work toward solutions to keep as many students in front of as many teachers for as many days possible, one big area of challenge is Close Contact Tracing. We believe the following actions can help to minimize the number of students who are required to quarantine due to being a close contact:

1. Please keep your student at home if symptomatic. The guidelines are to stay home for 10 days for COVID-level symptoms. Sometimes just taking one day at home will help parents or physicians determine if the symptoms are actually COVID level or not.
2. If you are considering giving your child a COVID test or are awaiting the results of a COVID test, please keep your child at home until a determination is made and results are provided. Initially, the guidance from the health department was to not test until symptomatic. However, we are now seeing an increase in testing regardless of symptoms. At this time, we ask that you keep your student at home even if you choose to administer a test to your child without symptoms out of an abundance of caution.
3. If your child has been in close contact with a person outside of the school environment who is positive, please take action and inform the school and keep your child home for 14 days. The close contact definition is proximity to an infected person for longer than 15 minutes and less than 6 feet with tracing beginning 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms or a positive test. If you know your child is a close contact to an infected person, please take this action even if the Health Department never contacts you to officially identify your child as a close contact. The school will happily accept your parent report of Close Contact and will follow-up by providing digital instruction to your student for the 14-day isolation period.
4. Immediately inform the school of all positive test results. These actions are critical to COVID management at the school and district level. If the "possibly positive" student stays at home until the test results are provided, that eliminates all of those days for close contact tracing because for each positive case, we are required to look back 48 hours to identify close contacts based on the 6 foot/15 minute guidance.

The only chance we have to prevent spread is for sick kids and adults to stay home and for everyone to work as a team on proactive strategies. We appreciate your cooperation.


**Below are the most recent documents regarding Covid from the MCS district**



<https://bit.ly/31SiIjV>





Upcoming Color Days And Menus				
Monday November 23	Tuesday November 24	Wednesday November 25	Thursday November 26	Friday November 26
<b>Orange</b>	<b>Yellow</b>	No School	No School	No School
Muffin  Hot Dog, Bun, Chili, Tater Tots, Coleslaw OR Grab & Go Pizza Flatbread, Cheese, Sauce, Pepperoni, Carrots, Ranch, Fruit by the Foot	Sausage Biscuit & Gravy  Cheese Pizza, Corn, Carrots, Ranch OR PB & Jelly <u>Uncrustable</u> Meal			

Upcoming Events	
November 25	No School – Professional Development
November 26 – 27	No School – Thanksgiving Holiday
December 11	Deadline to Change Instructional Preference (By Noon)
December 14-15	No In Person School – Digital / Remote Instruction Only
December 16	No School – Administrative Day
December 17 – January 1	No School – Winter Break
January 4	No School – Professional Development Day

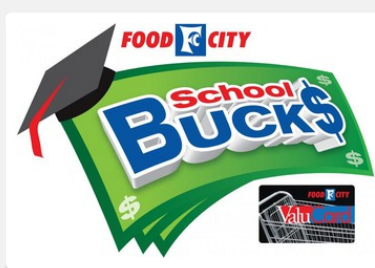


## John Sevier Elementary School

2001 Sequoyah Ave.  
Maryville, TN 37804  
Phone: 865-983-8551  
Fax: 865-977-0725

Brandee Easterly, Principal  
Brian Tinker, Assistant Principal  
School Start Time: 7:50 a.m.  
School Dismissal: 2:50 p.m.

## Ways to Help Your School:



**amazon**smile

Choose John Sevier Elementary  
Parent Teacher Organization  
when you shop at  
[smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

*Happy  
Thanksgiving!*