

John Jay Middle School

P.O Box 387

Katonah, NY 10536

914-763-7500

"Learn. Care. Lead."

Mr. Jeff Swiatowicz, Principal

Ms. Monica Bermiss, Assistant Principal

Ms. Shantel Brooks, Assistant Principal

2019-20 Open House

Teachers' Names: Tina Russo: team leader (Technology X9240 trusso@klschools.org)
Melissa Brady (Home & Careers X9298 mbrady@klschools.org)
Holly Kellogg (Art X9402 hkellogg@klschools.org)

JJMS Goal: Take the time to get to know our students well and use the knowledge to increase student's engagement in our classrooms.

Our mission is to help students develop the confidence and independence they need to become thoughtful, competent, contributing members of their communities. We believe that students are best creatively challenged when they are comfortable in a respectful environment and have the resilience to allow their failures to lead to learning.

Curriculum:

Art: The 7th grade art curriculum allows students to explore a variety of art-making experiences while addressing the New York State Learning Standards for the Visual Arts. Creative projects will involve Art History as well as new art skills. There will be a special emphasis on personal voice, creative problem solving and developing engaging compositions. The young artists will use these new concepts and skills to create pariscraft sculptures of Fantastic Birds, block printed mandalas and a pointillist study with markers. Students are required to complete all projects as well as sketchbook exercises. The sketchbook will be an important record of our journey together through the year. It will include skill building exercises as well as art history lessons, thumbnail sketches and written reflections. The ability to work independently, take risks, and be creative will ensure a successful 7th grade art experience.

Grading begins Trimester 2: Projects 66%, Folders 34%. Final grade: T2 50%, T3 50%.

Home & Careers: Student experiences in grade 7 Home and Careers are founded in the content areas of Interpersonal Skills, Wellness, Food Preparation and Sustainability. Students will be given tasks and challenges which require them to think constructively, communicate effectively, make educated decisions, solve problems and manage resources. These skills will be practiced and applied through a project-based learning experience focused on user-centered Design, which asks students to design and create innovative solutions for fictional characters with real human needs.

In the Culinary Lab, students will experiment with flavor profiles, ingredient combinations and cooking techniques to build the strategies and confidence needed to create healthy meals for themselves and others.

Student success will be achieved through applied effort, cooperation and participation in classroom exercises, culinary labs and on the Design Studio project. A portfolio of student progress will be added to throughout the year. It will include personal reflections, self-assessments, feedback and performance rubrics.

Grading begins Trimester 2: Projects 50%, Classwork 50% Final grade: T2 50%, T3 50%.

Please join at the Spring Design Showcase Events where students will share their ideas, their innovative creations and their experience with the design process. At the event, you will have an opportunity to interact with the designers, provide feedback and try the prototypes they have created. *Invitations will be sent via email by course section before each event.*

Technology: Technology education is a hands-on, systems- based approach to problem solving. Students utilize mathematics, science and technology principles to gain understanding of systems, devices and products. Students use the design process to create, modify and test all projects they are assigned in class.

In 7th grade Technology, students will critically examine the way we use technology to “work smarter, not harder.” The classes will meet in ten and twenty-day rotations throughout the year. Topics of study will include Architectural Design, Wind Powered Cars and Scratch 2.0. Students are required to have a pencil for class. Students keep an engineering log of their daily activities that they use to reflect on when applying the design process to make needed modifications to their projects. The idea that a problem can have “many” correct solutions is stressed in 7th grade technology.

There are no grades 1st trimesters for Unified Arts class. Trimester 2: Engineering journals 20% class participation 10% and projects 60% Trimester 3: Engineering journals 40% class participation 10% and projects 50%. Final grade: T2 50%, T3 50%.

Resources: Tech: Scratch 2.0: <http://scratch.mit.edu>
Home and Careers: posted on e-chalk
Art: posted on e-chalk

Extra Help: Art, Home & Careers, Technology offer extra help on Wednesday.