



THE YOUTH SCOOP

Issue #6: Activities, upcoming events, and news from JFS



THIS MONTH

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ONLY LEARNING**

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WINTER DRIVING SAFETY
CHECKLIST**

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Happy Birthday to

NA ON 12/31!

Ypsilanti Community Schools Important Update

Due to the rising number of COVID-19 positive cases, in-person instruction is expected to resume on **Tuesday, January 19th, 2021.**

There will be **NO in-person** instruction at YCS until **Tuesday, January 19th, 2021.** In January, YCS will reassess the impact of COVID-19 in the community with the Washtenaw County Health Department.



Free tutoring sessions!

JFSupport offers after-hours middle school and high school tutoring for youth every Wednesday at 4PM provided by Hanh Huynh (she/her/hers).

Please use the link provided.. For more information, please contact Cynthia or Hanh on WhatsApp at 205-240-6143.

Driving this Winter? A Checklist on Safety



- Make sure your **car is properly working** (wiper blades, lights, battery, brakes, and defroster)



- **Fill up your car with gasoline** in case there is traffic, you have a long drive, or if you have to change directions



- **Check your tire** traction and inflation. Or, if you have winter tires, make sure to get them put on by a professional



- **Check the weather** report, road conditions, and if there are any car accidents on your way



- Make sure your **phone is charged** and working. If you have one, bring an extra phone battery power bank and cord



- **Prep your windshield** for rain or snow. Make sure you have wiper fluid and an ice-scraper.



- Make sure that your **headlights are bright and clean**, so you can see the road and other drivers can see you



- **Scrape off any snow or ice** on your **front and back windshields AND the top of your car. Also, remove snow from the headlights and tail lights**



- In case your car battery dies, **keep jumper cables** in the back of your car. Bring a **flashlight and gloves** as well



- Be prepared! Keep **water, food, blankets, winter thermal wear, hand warmers, first aid kit, boots and a road flair** in your trunk

December Celebrations

Hanukkah

Hanukkah or Chanukah is an 8-day Jewish celebration that commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple of Jerusalem. It is also known as the Festival of Lights. In short, the festival celebrates the triumph of light over darkness and of spirituality over materiality.

For 2020, Hanukkah began on **Thursday, December 10th** at sundown and will continue through **Friday, December 18th** according to the Hebrew Calendar.

There is a nightly lighting of the Chanukiah or menorah, an eight-branched candelabra with a place for a ninth candle, the shammes, used to light the others. One candle is lit on the first night of Hanukkah, and an additional candle is lit on each successive night, until, on the eighth night, the Chanukiah is fully illuminated.

Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is an African-American celebration of life from 26 December to 1 January. Dr. Maulana Karenga introduced the festival in 1966 to the United States as a ritual to welcome the first harvests to the home. Dr. Karenga created this festival for African-Americans as a response to the commercialism of Christmas. In fact, one might say that Kwanzaa has similarities with Thanksgiving in the United States or the Yam Festival in Ghana and Nigeria. The word "kwanza" is a KiSwahili (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania) word meaning "first."

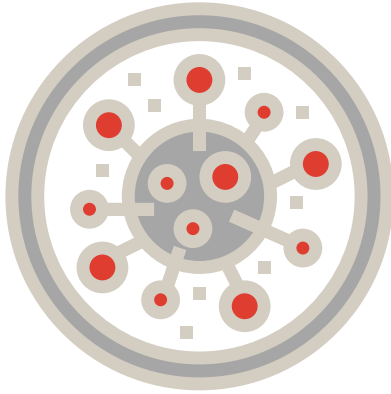
Gifts are exchanged. On **31 December** participants celebrate with a banquet of food often cuisine from various African countries. Participants greet one another with "Habari gani" which is Kiswahili for "how are you/ how's the news with you?"

Christmas

Christmas is a Christian festival celebrating the birth of Jesus on **December 25th**. Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem, and the holiday celebrates the events surrounding Jesus' birth.
























Christmas is one of the most popular holidays celebrated in the Western World. In Spanish, Christmas is referred to as "Navidad." Many people who are not religious will also celebrate the holiday. For Christmas, many people will decorate a Christmas tree, exchange presents with friends and family, feast together, go to a religious service, sing Christmas carols, fill Christmas "stockings" with gifts and have Santa visit their households to drop off presents or coal. If someone is on Santa's "Good" list, they will receive a present, but if someone is on Santa's "Naughty" list, they will receive coal.

COVID-19 Cases Rising




According to the **Center for Disease Control (CDC)**, **the U.S. is breaking daily records for new coronavirus cases** (click the bolded words for current updates). More than **16 million people** in the U.S. have confirmed COVID-19 diagnoses with this number projected to rise. **As of 12/09/2020, the state of Michigan** has issued a new **Gatherings and Face Mask Order** until December 21st in hopes of battling COVID-19 (click the bolded word to view the new orders). Many of your schools may now be remote only, please contact Cynthia for any questions or clarifications.

COVID-19 PAUSE TO SAVE LIVES

Open	Not open
 Two-household gathering (high precautions)*	 High schools (in-person learning)
 Small outdoor gatherings (25 people)	 Theaters, movie theaters, stadiums, arenas
 Retail	 Colleges and universities (in-person learning)
 Preschool through 8th grade (local district choice)	 Bowling centers, trampoline parks, indoor water parks
 Childcare	 Bingo halls, casinos, arcades
 Manufacturing, construction, other work that is impossible to do remotely, including technical education	 Workplaces, when work can be done from home
 Parks and outdoor recreation	 Restaurants and bars (indoor dining)
 Funerals (25 people)	 Group fitness classes
 Public transit	 Organized sports, except professional sports
 Hair salons, barber shops, other personal services	
 Gyms, ice rinks, and pools (for individual exercise)	
 Restaurants and bars (outdoor dining, takeout, and delivery)	
 Professional sports** (without spectators)	
 Health care	

*See Social Gathering Guidance.
**Includes a limited number of NCAA sports.

For more information about the order, visit Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.
 Questions or concerns can be emailed to COVID19@michigan.gov.





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