

BACK TO SCHOOL

Summer is Over!

WE'RE BACK

Summer break is officially over, and the halls of MCA are once again filled with the sounds of learning, laughter, and fellowship! On August 17th, students from Pre-K all the way through our Seniors returned for the first day of a brand-new school year. It has already been an exciting beginning, and we are so thankful for the opportunity to start another year at MCA.

Our first week was filled with learning, fun, new experiences, and opportunities to grow in Christ. From the very first class on Monday morning to our first chapel service on Friday, there was a sense of excitement throughout the entire school as students and teachers settled into the new school year.

Our elementary students have especially enjoyed getting acquainted with their new classes and teachers. They have jumped right into learning new skills, including math, cursive, reading, and so much more! Their excitement was evident as they explored their classrooms, met new classmates, and began discovering what this year has in store.



They also had a wonderful time during their first chapel, where they were reminded of the importance of growing in their relationship with Christ. The Junior High and Senior High students have also been excited to be back! This year has brought a new block schedule, which has been a welcome change for many of our students. One of the biggest highlights for them has been having less homework each night as a result of the new schedule.

With longer class periods, students have more opportunities to complete assignments during the school day, making their evenings a little more enjoyable!

While the first week may have flown by, it has set the tone for what we hope will be an incredible school year. We are excited to see what God has in store for MCA this year!

MCA MOMENTS

CHAPEL IS BACK

MCA Students were welcomed back to chapel on Friday, August 21st. Chapel started off with the Fruit of the Spirit Awards.



These awards are nominated by teachers and given to students who show a fruit of the Spirit at some point during the week.

After that, we moved on to the worship portion, and that was a blast! The message was given by Pastor Ryan and it was titled, "What Will You Witness?" His main point was that the students of MCA are a witness to what God has done and should go tell others in their own communities about it.

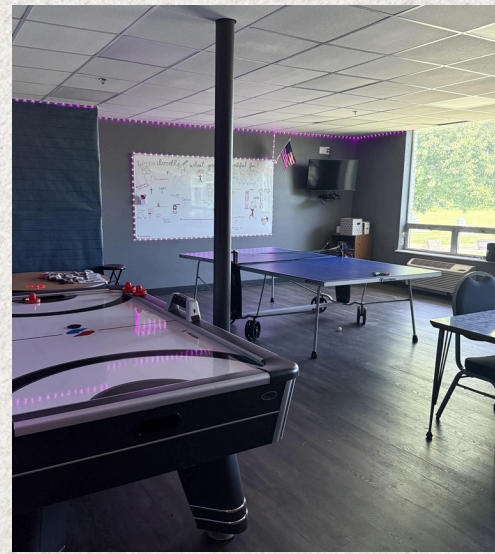
Students walked away with the feeling of purpose going into the 2026 school year.

BY CALEB WALTERS
MCA JUNIOR

NEW EQUIPMENT

The west wing has a new room! The Junior High and Senior High students now have a nice place to relax and play some games. The Den is now available for the students while on their lunch break.

You can play ping pong, challenge your friends to a game of air hockey, or just hang out with your classmates. The Den is just a fun place to relax or play games to take a brief respite from all of your classes.



Also inside the Den, you can doodle what you are thankful for on the whiteboard which has been awesome so far! There really is something for everyone to do.

The Den has already been a hit with the students. We are looking forward to making a lot of great memories this year in the Den!

BY GRAYSON SCHROCK
MCA JUNIOR

SPORTS AND CLUBS

NEW SPORT ADDED

We are so excited to finally have a girls' volleyball team! Coach Haylie said that as of right now there are around eight girls on the team.



She is most excited to see the improvement over the season. Freshman Kendall Schrock said, "I'm most excited to hang out with friends and the coaches." Overall, MCA is so excited to have another team to support!

BY KAITLYN KLINE
MCA SEVENTH GRADER

CROSS COUNTRY

An all new season of cross country is finally here, and our runners are excited for another fun year! When our school started cross in the fall of 2024, we only had six runners, but now we have up to eleven! When asked what he was most excited about this year with cross country, Coach Hudson stated, "I'm most excited to see the improvement from the athletes." He went on to let us know his expectation for this year is to see improvement. He stated that he believes seeing the runners getting better and better helps push them to keep going. Coach also invites anyone thinking about cross country to come try it out. Practices are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm- 6:00pm. On Mondays and Thursdays, they practice at Douglas Hart and on Tuesdays they practice at Sister City.



They even have a practice on Saturdays from 9:00am-10:30am at Fox Ridge. Our first meet is this Saturday in Paris at 8:30am to 10am. Just let Coach Hudson know if you would like to try it out.

BY CALEB WALTERS
MCA JUNIOR

WAIT...WHAT DID THEY JUST SAY!?

FAVORITE FOR THE RECORD QUOTES

"Alakazoo! Alakazam! Give that baby a slice of ham!"
~EL

"What in the poop!? That's my hiding spot!?"
~NA

"Like back in the 10,000 B.C.'s!?!?"
~AH

"What's up my fellow gangsters?"
~RW

STUDENT IMPACT

WORDS FROM A SENIOR

MORE THAN MEMORIES

My favorite part of school has always been the experiences, memories, and relationships. Being able to attend a school with your friends, see them everyday, and grow with them is a priceless thing. However, I've learned that the most important relationship is your personal relationship with God. God has shown me just how much He loves me countless times. No matter how far I stray, God always calls me back. He wants a relationship with each and everyone of us! I am beyond grateful to have a loving Father whose mercies are new every morning; a God who is always there when I need Him. Even when the other relationships in my life aren't consistent, or the way I want them to be, God always is! I am so blessed and grateful to have grown up in a school that reminds me of this and that shows God in every aspect of life! "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." In today's world and culture, it's often difficult to remember the love and peace we can find in our Lord and Savior.

That's why I am so blessed and grateful to have grown up in a school that reminds me of this and that shows God in every aspect of life. I will never forget how fortunate I've been to learn and grow in a Christian environment, surrounded by Godly people! Our teachers and staff have willingly surrendered their lives to God's work in preparing us for life beyond the classroom. It's amazing to see their dedication to teaching and equipping us with the tools to live a life full of opportunities and hard work. A life rooted in God's word!



KAYLA MEYER
MCA SENIOR

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLASS COLOR WARS

Wednesday, Sept. 16th

Represent your class by wearing your class color! The group with the highest percentage of participation will win a drink from the Husky Perk! Colors are listed below!

Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd = Yellow

3rd, 4th, & 5th = Green

Junior High = Red

Highschool = Blue

Teachers = Black & Maroon

WIG DAY

Wednesday, Oct. 7th

Things are about to get a little WIGGY around here! Whether you want to look like a rock star, a grandparent, a movie character, or just completely ridiculous, wig day is your chance to have some fun! Come ready to make your friends do a double take!



Want to stay up to date with everything happening at MCA?

Make sure you're connected and in the know! Follow our Facebook page, @mcamattoon, for the latest announcements, events, reminders, and updates.

Planning ahead? Keep track of all our upcoming events and important dates by checking the MCA Google Calendar on our website.

www.mcamattoon.com

ROCKY'S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

BEEP! BEEP! 6:00

AHH! ONE MORE MINUTE!

WAIT... TODAY IS THE FIRST DAY!

IT IS?!

LET'S GOOO!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

FOCUS. WORK. HUSKY PRIDE.

1. STARTED THE DAY OFF WITH MY FAVORITE CEREAL...

CAP'N CRUNCH KIBBLE... THE BEST WAY TO START THE DAY!

MAROON IS MY COLOR!

2. PICKED OUT MY FAVORITE JERSEY...

HUSKIES 00

3. BRUSHED MY TEETH...

CLEAN TEETH, CONFIDENT PUPS!

4. ALL SET AND READY TO TAKE ON THE DAY!

LET'S DO THIS!

BE KIND. WORK HARD. HAVE FUN.

5. OFF TO MAKE IT AN AMAZING FIRST DAY!

NEW DAY, NEW ADVENTURES!

HUSKIES 00

HOME OF THE HUSKIES

🐾 FIRST DAY LESSON: WAKE UP. SHOW UP. MAKE IT GREAT! 🐾



Back to School Word Search



ELEMENTARY	S P O R T S Y S M B R E L U R
MIDDLE	N A A R D A H G H T E R W O U
JUNIOR HIGH	U C T P C I I E A S M P E N S
HIGH SCHOOL	L M L H E O G T A C O V R P D
BACKPACK	J U N I O R H I G H R E C I E
PENCIL	U I P E C R S P I O I L A C L
PAPER	P T N S R E C E S S E T L E E
SCISSORS	R T R O N G H A T G S A C X M
RULER	O S C I S S O R S O S Y U T E
CRAYONS	T L R U L R O A T S E N L T N
MARKERS	R E A G L E L A T L I R A A T
BOOKS	A A Y Y P K R E D T R E T Y A
PENS	C J O N E R O D H L E H O B R
PROTRACTOR	T Y N E M A I E M O I D R A Y
COMPASS	O H S T A S S A P M O C R B S
CALCULATOR	R S K O O B A C V J B R N N B
RECESS	F O S E M A T E A C H E R E L
CLASS	B A C K P A C K E R W A P O P
SPORTS	
TEACHER	

BACK TO School



Across

Down

1. A person who teaches students

2. A task given to students to complete outside of class

3. A place where a teacher and students gather to learn

4. A place where a student sits in class

5. A book used for school work

6. A place to borrow books

1. A break between classes where children play

2. Storage item typically worn on the back

3. What you write on with chalk

4. The subject that involves numbers and equations

5. Tool for removing mistakes

6. Educational institution



FOR THE PACK

LIVING AS A WITNESS

When you read Acts 4:20, Peter and John are in a pretty tough spot. They're standing in front of religious leaders who basically tell them to stop talking about Jesus. But instead of backing down, they just say: "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

That's why I love that our school word this year is WITNESS.

Honestly, being a witness doesn't mean you have to be a preacher or have every single answer to life's hard questions. In real life, a witness is just somebody who shows up and tells the truth about what they've seen. It's that simple.

So what does that actually look like for us in the halls, the cafeteria, or on the court?

1. Keeping it real: A witness doesn't fake it. It means letting our faith actually change how we treat people on a random Tuesday, not just when we're at church on Sunday.

2. Having some backbone: Peter and John had huge pressure to just blend in and stay quiet. Standing up for kindness, integrity, or the left-out kid isn't always easy, but that's what real courage looks like.

3. Sharing the good stuff: Peter and John said they cannot but speak. When something awesome changes your life, you can't help but talk about it. Caring about people should just spill over into how we live.

We have a chance every single day to set the tone for our school. We can be witnesses through how we encourage someone having a rough day, how we handle losing a game, or how we treat people when no one's watching.

Let's make this year count. Let's live in a way that makes people notice something different about us—and when they ask, we'll be ready to share the things which we have seen and heard.



PASTOR RYAN HAIFLEY

HEAD OF SCHOOL

THE MARANATHA MAP

Mission

We exist to **glorify God** by faithfully proclaiming the **truth**, cultivating **personal responsibility**, and preparing students for **achievement beyond the classroom**.

Vision

We desire to see generations of families **rooted in Christ**, prepared to live out their faith with **wisdom, purpose**, and **impact** for the **glory of God**.

