



# Knighly News

Hollis Brookline Middle School



April 2003

Volume 6, Issue 6

## From the Administration

Fourth quarter has begun and our pace is steady and strong!

Grade six transition plans are well underway. Over 175 parents attended an interactive orientation; meeting with teachers, students, parents, health/guidance and front office staff. Sixth grade students will meet with their teams on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Your feedback on transitioning is welcome and appreciated.

We applaud our seventh grade students who have recently completed their speeches. Congratulations to the 12 finalists who spoke to an audience of 300 on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Over 200 eighth grade students have become certified in CPR thanks to the many volunteers who supported Mr. Johnston and Mrs. Adams with this aspect of our health curriculum. The first aid portion will occur during physical education.

Grade 8 students are immersed in their science projects. Please plan to join us May 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM for our Science Fair.

National Teacher Appreciation Week begins May 5<sup>th</sup>. The PTSA has a special surprise intended for the occasion.

And again, many thanks to our parents and community volunteers. Please stop by the office during the month of May for a small token of our appreciation.

Sincerely,

Patricia Lewis Goyette, Principal

## PTSA President's Report

April 15, 2003

Welcome to all our incoming Seventh Grade Parents. As you think of next year, many of you might have concerns and fears regarding your child attending Middle School. I have a son in tenth grade. The summer prior to him starting seventh grade, I too was full of questions and fears. Fear of the unknown, fear of homework; fear that my child would have problems in school. I was worried about possible bullying and behavioral issues. Three years later, I again had a child in sixth grade. I had no fears and no concerns. I had experienced life as a Hollis Brookline Middle School parent and knew that the teachers would help my student to learn how to get the work done, to learn how to prioritize, and to make good use of the ever present agenda. I knew that the administration of HBMS would not tolerate inappropriate behavior by or towards any student. The staff of HBMS creates an excellent learning environment. They will challenge your student, and ask for their best, supporting them as needed. Your student will be allowed to grow and mature, to take responsibility and make decisions. This will all be done with the guidance that is so necessary in these preteen and young teen years. I encourage you to be involved in our school. It is with the assistance of parental involvement that the staff, teachers, and administration of HBMS can give our students the best Middle School experience possible.

Recently HBMS received the Blue Ribbon Achievement Award for outstanding volunteer school programs. Congratulations to all of you who volunteered in the 2001-2002 school year to help us earn this achievement.

There are a few important activities coming up for our students, and we need your help to make them possible. We need seventh grade parents to help at the seventh grade cookout and field day (June 19). Even if you cannot attend, perhaps you could donate food items. We also need eighth grade parents to chaperone the eighth grade end of year celebration (June 18). Please either contact me or Merle Carrus (465-7007) if you can help.

At the next PTSA meeting (May 15, 8:30-10:00 am) we will be holding our elections for next year. All PTSA members are invited to attend and vote.

Thank you all for the many hours of volunteering you have done for our school. I also truly appreciate the help of our active PTSA members. Your assistance has helped me this year as PTSA president.

Lex Bundschuh

465-3142; UNOFAM@aol.com

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# School News

## Annual Speaking Competition

Carolyn Jahns

On Wednesday, April 16, 2003, seventh graders, teachers, independent judges, and parents gathered in the HBMS gym for the final round of the speaking competition. The speaking unit, sponsored by Dr. DeBeradinis and Dr. Shieh, had begun in March with 230 seventh graders, approximately 50 students were in the next round, and today the 12 finalists would present their speeches for the assembled audience. Following are the 12 students and their selections:

Alan K.	The Other Three Little Pigs
Paige R.	Little Orphant Annie
J. P. G.	Oh, the Places You Will Go
Erin S.	A Nauseous Nocturne
Ben C.	Sullivan Ballou's Letter
Dan C.	Peanut Butter Sandwich
Billy B.	Gnawing Pain
Jessica F.	I Have A Dream
Nathan C.	An Athlete's Prayer
Scott M.	JFK Inaugural Address
Kestyn S.	The Grinch Stole Christmas
Rachel G.	Consequences of Brushing Your Teeth

The audience was also treated to a wonderful musical presentation provided by Mrs. Zarin, Samantha R., K.C. L., and Davis V..

Following the impressive deliveries of the speeches, the judges deliberated and announced their decision. Third place was Erin S., second was Nathan C., and first was J. P. G.. Congratulations to all and many thanks to all the people who helped organize this annual event.



For PTSA information and back issues of Knightly News visit the HBMS PTSA on the Web at [www.hbms.k12.nh.us/ptsa](http://www.hbms.k12.nh.us/ptsa) OR click the link on the school home page [www.hbms.k12.nh.us](http://www.hbms.k12.nh.us)

## OPEN HOLLIS BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL PTSA POSITIONS

Co-President  
Hospitality  
Newsletter  
Publicity  
Garden Project Volunteers

**All volunteers welcomed!**  
**Contact Cindy Ullrich**  
**at 672-3111**

[Runreal@aol.com](mailto:Runreal@aol.com)

All volunteers are welcomed to  
the May 8<sup>th</sup> gathering.

**Team 1 English***Mrs. Maher*

Students have recently finished true masterpieces, as they worked incredibly hard to create a Photo- Journalism Essay. This assignment was challenging, in that it required students to reflect on a topic of great importance to them while using poetic and descriptive language. The final Photo-Journalism Essays on Team 1 were outstanding!

The focus of our current unit is to define culture, define American culture, define “my” culture, and to also examine other cultures that exist in our world. We began our unit by examining CULTURE, as it is a term that has great meaning. We have decided to define culture using fourteen specific components: clothing, religion, knowledge, taboos, food, tools, items made, currency, government, customs/traditions/rituals, language, shelter, values, and arts and recreation. Students then examined how the definition of American culture has changed over the decades. Do you know the difference between a “melting pot” and a “tossed salad?” Be sure to ask your Seventh Grader for more details.

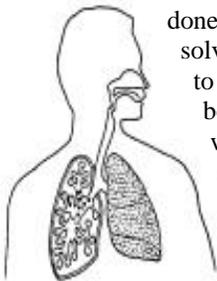
Currently, students are examining how various components of their culture have shaped them into the people they are today. Students will also read pieces of non – fiction based on cultures that exist in our world. Additionally, in order to increase knowledge of culture and world geography, students will work in collaborative groups to create “their own culture.” Each group will need to describe their culture, focusing on the fourteen components of culture. As a culminating event to the unit, groups will select to bring in clothing, food, tools, or writing that is representative of the culture they have created.

We will conclude our year with a research unit. Students will research a country of their choice, focusing on the fourteen components of culture as well as the research process.

**Team 1 Science***Mrs. Cleveland*

After we completed our study of the circulatory system, we took several days to learn how to use the triple beam balance and how to determine volume by displacement. Students then spent a week with Mrs. Adams working on the reproduction unit.

We are now working on the respiratory system. We have learned the parts of the system and have discussed how various activities can be detrimental to good respiration. We have done, and will continue to do, a lot of problem solving to use various methods and materials to determine our lung capacities. The triple beam balances and displacement technique will be only two of the skills needed. Since several of the activities include using water, things (and maybe students) may get a little wet, but it’s all in the name of science. Students will then make a cube which should have the same volume as their



lung capacity. You will be able to see the cubes with the lab report written on the cubes’ sides hanging in room 104 after vacation. We will conclude respiration with the lamb lung dissection when we return from the break.

**Team 1 Social Studies***Mr. Capraro*

We are coming to the end of our long unit on the Middle Ages. We have completed our study of the Crusades and the unbelievable changes they brought to Europe. Ask your student what two F’s we moved from and what two T’s we moved to! Each student chose a guild to join and the room is filled with the sights and smells of the chosen projects. This year I had a record number of bakers! We have spent the last few weeks looking at the culture of the late Middle Ages. We read some literature, with the epic poem Beowulf and the morality play Everyman being particular favorites. Did you know that only Good Deeds follows Everyman to Heaven? We looked at what makes a cathedral “Gothic” and played a game called “Gothic or Not?” as we looked at several Middle Ages cathedrals. Take a look up at my class’ windows as you drive by in the morning; you’ll see the stained glass windows we created! We even listened to some Gregorian chants! We finished this unit with a close look at the Black Death and its effects on Europe in the 14<sup>th</sup> century.



After vacation we will dive into the Renaissance to finish the year. I like to use real people like Michelangelo, Shakespeare, Queen Elizabeth and Johann Gutenberg to unlock the secrets of that time period. We will again spend time on the literature, music and especially the art of this important time.

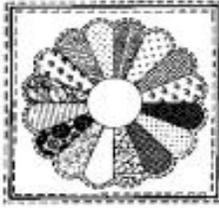
Our room is nearly complete—only the “Sistine Ceiling” is missing. I invite you to take a moment and see what it looks like. The students are pleased with the way their work is displayed and I am glad to have such great examples of historical art displayed! Stop by if you can!

*7th Grade Team 1 News continued on page 4*

## Team 1 Math

Mrs. Fordin

The time has arrived! The seventh grade quilt project has been completed, and thanks to many talented volunteers our students and staff anticipate seeing the eleven quilts that have been created. Back in November and December our math students were engaged in designing quilt squares that had mathematical overtones. In some classes, students were asked to create geometric designs using pattern blocks. In others, students used algebraic rules to create their squares. In all cases, the students were excited to know that their efforts were to support the Linus Project, an organization which donates quilts to children and adolescents who are seriously ill. This is a wonderful



opportunity for our very fortunate students to give back to the larger community. So, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers who helped. The countless hours spent coordinating, designing, purchasing, cutting, quilting, were invaluable to the success of this project. We extend a heartfelt "Thank You" for your support, hard work and endurance!

Students will continue to work on their proportional thinking. They will have the opportunity to select from a variety of end-of-unit activities enabling them to "show what they know". Other students will be researching and comparing company rates to determine the best deal around. So, if you are interested in comparative phone rates, health club or museum memberships, or another type of membership opportunity, ask your seventh grader. (S)he just might get you the best deal around!

## 7th Grade News

## Team 2

### Team 2 English

Article by Hannah P.

#### Team Two Pros in Poetry

After finishing our unit on short stories, Team 2 students have been reading, researching, writing and examining examples of poetry. We have studied the structure in addition to figurative language and sound techniques. We have looked at poems, and even some cartoon strips, and found examples of metaphors, similes, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification, and rhyme schemes.

Our major project in this poetry unit was that we had to research many poems and design our own poetry anthology. It would need to have ten poems, each with a specific element of poetry, and the tenth poem would be an original poem, which we were assigned to write ourselves. It could be about any topic we desired but include several poetic devices. Some students wrote about seasons, friends, their hobbies, and many other topics.

We had another book talk assignment also. The only requirement for the type of book was that it could not be the same genre as your last book. We did a three part writing assignment explaining the exposition, rising action, turning point or climax, falling action, and conclusion or resolution. Then we had a choice of either writing a creative song relating to the main character's troubles and then illustrating a CD cover, or designing a T-shirt and writing a description of what it represents in the book.

When we were doing this book talk, one of the sections called for good descriptors. A lot of students were having trouble coming up with adjectives better than pretty, nice, smart, etc. Luckily Mrs. Jahns gave us an assignment where we were given a letter and had to find five unusual adjectives and make a poster with them. The posters are currently on display in the classroom and hallway and really helped expand our vocabulary.

We are finally scheduled to go on our short stories theater trip April 18th. We are very excited for this fun time. Stay tuned for more exciting news from Mrs. Jahns' room!!

### Team 2 Science

Mrs. Evans

Our scientists will be embarking on a study of genetics and will be using their knowledge of the subject to solve a mystery. However, to introduce this unit on genetics the students first will make "Mom and Dad Reebop." These Reebops are made from: marshmallows for the body segment, gumdrops to represent the eyes and legs, M&M's for nose, toothpicks for antennae, and pipe cleaner for tail. To show how genes are passed from one generation to the next each set of students will then create "Reebop Junior." This is a great way to "see" how genes are passed (or hidden) and allows the students to determine probability as well. The cleanup was relatively easy since most items were edible...uum,uum good.....

The students will be actively involved in solving a mystery. Three sets of parents (Mr and Mrs Dom N Ant, Mr and Mrs Gene E Tics and Mr and Mrs Herod E Tee) all claim to be the parents of an amnesia victim (CPR mannequin) who just won one million dollars on "Survivor". Could the red-haired parents have a daughter with blonde hair? Is it possible for the brown eyed parent to have a blue eyed daughter? Could parents with type A blood and type B blood have a daughter with type O blood? By using their knowledge of genetically inherited dominant and recessive traits and DNA "blueprints" from the blood, our scientists will match the rightful parents to the victim.



The amnesia victim also claims that someone has taken her frog pendant from the necklace she was wearing. She remembers a bit of a struggle, but cannot recall the details. Whose fingerprints are on the necklace? Whose blood type matches that of the blood found under the victim's fingernails? Does the "DNA fingerprint" supply any incriminating evidence? Using all the clues, detective reasoning and scientific evidence, the suspects (staff members) will be narrowed down until the students have enough evidence to zero in on one suspect.

## Team 2 Social Studies

Mrs. Beale

Our study of the Middle Ages has included the civilizations of Byzantium, Islam, and now Western Europe. We looked at the efforts of the Goths, Visigoths, Huns and Franks to conquer what was left of the weakened Roman Empire. We did a little karaoke of songs about the barbarian tribes and the rise of the Carolingian kings. We went to the library to do research and then held debates on three topics that continue to intrigue historians: Charlemagne the Great or Charlemagne a Holy Warrior? The Vikings: Violent Marauders or Promoters of Western Civilization? Western Europe in the Middle Ages: The Dark Ages or a Time of Growth and Development? Students further investigated the role of the Vikings as they watched and then wrote persuasive essays from a recently released NOVA video showing new insights into the Vikings' civilization as well as many interesting connections between science and history.

As this newsletter goes to press, students are finishing their feudal system projects. Each student chose a feudal role (king, lord, lady, vassal, knight, freeman, artisan, reeve, serf), researched their daily routines and relationships to others in the feudal pyramid and will present their findings in the form of a skit, interview, story, picture book, game or journal. Our classroom has become a research center and production room. Some pretty impressive projects are underway!



## Team 2 Math

Mrs. Hall

The time has arrived! The seventh grade quilt project has been completed, and thanks to many talented volunteers our students and staff anticipate seeing the eleven quilts that have been created. Back in November and December our math students were engaged in designing quilt squares that had mathematical overtones. In some classes, students were asked to create geometric designs using pattern blocks. In others, students used algebraic rules to create their squares. In all cases, the students were excited to know that their efforts were to support the Linus Project, an organization which donates quilts to children and adolescents who are seriously ill. This is a wonderful opportunity for our very fortunate students to give back to the larger community. So, we would like to thank each and every one of our volunteers who helped. The countless hours spent coordinating, designing, purchasing, cutting, quilting, were invaluable to the success of this project. We extend a heartfelt "Thank You" for your support, hard work and endurance!

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## 8th Grade News

## Team 3

### Team 3 English

Mrs. Cicciu

The eighth graders on team 3 are finishing their fourth and final oral presentation for the year. Students seem comfortable and competent as they "teach" the class specific knowledge learned from reading one of their self-selected nonfiction books during the month of March. The audience members are expected to take notes, participate actively in the learning activity, and study for the final quizzes prepared by their "guest teachers."

Students are completing a series of essays that follow the model of clarifying sentences, completing sentences and controlling sentence. This approach was used to address the overall weakness of not providing enough detail in written work and to show the correlation between an outline and the written product. Essays are scored according to the NH State Department Scoring Rubric after students receive feedback on their rough drafts for their revisions.

The reading for the month of April is focused on contemporary realism; in May students may choose fantasy or science fiction. Before vacation, students will participate in a debate on the guilt or innocence of Steven Harmon, the main character in the book *Monster*. While reading the book students compiled evidence to support each side of their arguments.

A poetry unit in which students write both traditional verse with its regular rhyme and meter and free verse will be the focus of May's class work. May the creative juices flow as students incorporate figures of speech, imagery, sound devices, and a precise word choice into their original poems, culminating in a published book.

### Upcoming Events

As the year is coming to a close with the beginning of the fourth quarter, Team 3 teachers would like to remind our students of a few events. The fourth quarter began with Team 3 students taking a CPR certification course with Mr. Johnston and Mrs. Adams. They are currently starting a career workshop and will move on to computer classes in May. Mr. Gruce will be facilitating an eighth grade exiting project and students will receive a credit before they arrive at the high school in the fall upon successful completion of the project! Coming up in May, we are also looking forward to seeing the scientific creativity of our students at the Science Fair, on Friday, May 16th. Students will arrive at 4:30 to prepare their exhibit sites, with the exhibits running from 5:30 - 7:30. This is an exciting time for students to "show off" their projects! In addition to our classroom activities, we are planning two exciting trips to George's Island for a barbecue and Canobie Lake Park with the entire eighth grade class. Requirements for attending each of these trips will be appropriate school conduct and a passing grade in each class. With so many exciting events in our future, we are looking forward to a great fourth quarter!

## Team Prescott English

*Mrs. Grupposo*

Students have just begun their last project connected with The Taming of the Shrew, the performance of some of the scenes. Scenes will be planned, prepared and acted out during class, and some will be performed for seventh graders.

The last big push to the end of the school year will be a study of post World War II literature. As we examine some of the changes in society, students will listen to episodes of some old radio shows, including Ozzie and Harriet, and will view early television shows such as My Little Margie. We will discuss the role of the media as a reflection as well as an influence on society. The film, October Sky, will be viewed and discussed. We will also read some fiction and nonfiction from the same period and leading to the present day. Anticipated novels are The Pearl by John Steinbeck, Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson and, if we have time, Monster by Walter Dean Myers. Parents are invited to borrow a copy of any of these novels and share in the discussion.

The end of the year is a time of high energy and high expectations. I am looking forward to sharing these activities with Prescott students.

## Team Prescott Earth Science Classes

*Mr. Bond*

### Team Prescott Earth Science Students Are All Wet!

Students in Mr. Bond's Earth Science classes have been logging a lot of hours in the lab ... working with water. Recently, they finished up a lab investigation where the process of distillation was explored. Students built a distilling apparatus designed to purify water. Tests for pH and chloride were run on the "contaminated" liquid before and after distilling and the data was compared to demonstrate how the distilling process is really a purification process. Our lab-built system was compared to the natural distillation process of the earth's water cycle.

Soon, students will continue their work in the lab when they explore the chemistry of their home well water. Tests for pH, chloride, iron, copper and hardness will be completed so they can compile a basic water quality report of their own tap water. Also, classes will be collecting information on the type and depth of their home well and will research the causes and effects of their home water quality.

Two more notes that may be of interest...

Our annual science fair is just weeks away! Please plan to join us on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30!

And, visit our new HBMS Earth Science Department web site at [www.hbms.k12.nh.us/bondd](http://www.hbms.k12.nh.us/bondd). Students used some of the SIP (Science Investigation Project) links a few months ago as they got started on their science fair projects. Many students continue to visit the site to try out their investigative talents by clicking on "Are You a Super Sleuth"?

## Team Prescott Social Studies

*Mr. Lyle*

We began term 4 finishing up a unit on the opening of the West. Students studied a myriad of assorted topics like: the mountain men, the Oregon Trail, Texas Independence, Manifest Destiny, the California Missions, the Bear Flag Republic, the Mexican War of 1846-1848, the 1849 gold rush and the immigration of the Latter Day Saints to present-day Utah.

Lately we've all been involved in factors that lead to the explosion in northern factories in the 1840's and 1850's. We'll be discussing the agricultural South in the Antebellum Period shortly. There are a number of reform movements that kick into high gear in the 1840's such as abolitionism, public education, and care of the mentally ill. We'll be discussing all of these on our journey.

After vacation we'll be discussing the factors leading up to and causes of the American Civil War. The war itself will follow and we're diggin' in here for a bit. It has many aspects and the kids really enjoy the topic.

Reconstruction of the American South follows the Civil War. The KKK, Jim Crow laws and civil rights make for some lively discussion all around. This leads right into the Industrial boom and the Robber Barons of the Gilded Age. We also discuss the American cowboy, the Indian Wars of the West, the Transcontinental Railroad and the politics of farming.

## Team Prescott Mathematics

*Mr. Jahns*

*Lions and Tigers and Bears ... Oh No!!*

### Inequalities, Absolute Values and Systems ... Oh No!

Doesn't quite have the same ring to it? Maybe not, but the land the Algebra students have entered may feel as strange as the Land of Oz at times! And we haven't reached the end of this yellow brick road yet! Next we move on to Quadratic Equations, looking at graphing quadratics (or non-linear) equations, factoring quadratics and using the Quadratic Formula, our last major unit. Have Courage ... take Heart ... the Brain will come along!

The Math classes are working through a probability unit, learning not only the mechanics of writing probability ratios, but also getting a good feeling for why experimental data doesn't always come out exactly as theoretical probability might suggest. We have experimented with dice rolling and compared the results to the expected theoretical outcomes. The unit will finish by having teams analyze a new "game" they have never seen before and devising a strategy for play, based on probability theory. Teams will then compete in the game to see which team's strategy proves to be the best in the "real world". I'd say good luck to all, but luck has nothing to do with it. it's just a matter of probability!

## Team Prescott Student Appreciation Night

By Dara F.

On Monday, April 7, almost 200 parents, students and teachers gathered for Team Prescott's "Student Appreciation Night." The HBMS gym was packed with proud parents and Prescott students eager to show off their best work. The dinner and the display of work illustrated how far Team Prescott has come since September and also displayed the team's best work.

As guests entered the gym, they were met with a huge image of Team Prescott math students projected onto the stage. At one table Mr. Bond was displaying brilliant blue crystals that had been grown by the students and videos were also running of the "Epicenter" earthquake simulator tests. Guests could also see the remains of the buildings that did not make it to 9.0 on the Richter scale. Also on display was the students' artwork which was meant to interpret a passage from suspense stories. Team Prescott radio plays were also available to listen to.

After dinner was over, the guests were asked to return to their seats for student readings. Mrs. Grupposo took the mic and explained to the parents about the team's study of style and exploration into the short story. After her introduction, thirteen Team Prescott students took center stage to share their superb examples of diction, rhythm and also "snapshots," or pieces of writing with great amounts of detail, which let the reader visualize the scene easily. The topics ranged from a church dress, to the Revolutionary War, to an "atomic wedgie." The readings showed the great diversity and skill of Team Prescott.

The event's coordinator was Merle Carrus, and the food was donated by the Team Prescott parents.

## Team Four's Potluck Supper

J.P. T.

Laughter, excitement and fun filled the air when entering the Hollis Brookline Middle School's Team Four Potluck Supper! The dinner took place on April 7, 2003. The dinner was setup by Mrs. Grupposo, Mrs. Carrus and many other parents. The potluck started at 6:00pm and went to 8:30pm.

When the guests entered the gym wonderful scents filled the air. In the front of the room many projects were on display. Some of the projects were Radio Plays, Mystery Interpretations, Earthquake Buildings and a Math Probability Slide Show.

The dinner was very exciting with all of the different foods and recipes. Some were spicy to add some summer flavors to the bland winter. Then for dessert there was everything from brownies to cupcakes and cookies.

At the end of the dinner eighth grade students read their creative writing pieces. A few students including Greg A. who broke the ice

for everyone, read their own. After him were JP M., Ben S., Allison H., Emily C. and many more great writers. Mrs. Grupposo also read some other students' work. Some of those were students who weren't able to attend the dinner; others were just too nervous to read their own writing in front of the crowd.

## Celebration

By Michelle V.

What? Does it matter if there is a lead? Is there any point to it? Just ask the Hollis Brookline Middle School eighth grade students and they will explain just how essential it is. You could have seen it for yourself on a pleasant April evening, from 6 to 8:30 PM, when there was a celebration of students' academic schoolwork. The most inspirational aspect of the festive night was the students' readings.

And the leads were extraordinary. This entertainment showed the courage, hard work and creativity across the board through selected students sharing their moving pieces. This special event also exhibited numerous examples of science and math projects as well as artistic illustrations created for English projects. Whether it brought the audience to tears or laughter nothing downplayed the eighth graders' enormous effort to impress.

The readings would not have been as inspirational if there hadn't been such a wonderful ambiance. The round tables with the blue school color tablecloths gave a warm comforting feeling of togetherness. The smells and unique color of each type of food was absolutely enticing. There were a variety of foods that included lasagna, fancy salads and strawberry pie. There was even a plate of sushi! The food represented many cultures brought together as one. There was not one person without a smile on their face because of their amazement over the students' work ethics.

However, there was a division between the students and parents with their seating choices. Mrs. Grupposo stepped in to bridge the gap. The minute she stepped up to the podium her support poured out to the students. She also explained a lot about the students' journey through the school year to the parents and it brought forth much appreciation from the parents. Mrs. Grupposo then invited each of the selected students to the podium for their readings. Each student stood there proudly while reading his or her writings. As they read, they gave an occasional glance at the delectable food directly in front of the podium. Fortunately, they were allowed to chow down before the presentations.

The food, inspirational readings and all the other academic exhibits were equally excellent. No one could say that the Hollis Brookline Middle School Team 4 eighth grade students do not go above and beyond expectations.

**Team Prescott thanks Merle Carrus and her small army of volunteers, including Mary Thomas and Elaine McCartney, for their help in providing food, decorating, organizing the food and seeing that the potluck supper ran smoothly. We also thank students, including Danny L., Danielle C., Greg A., Kat E. and KCL. and Principal Pat Goyette for their help. No one left hungry!**



## Sports Update

### BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

The Hollis Brookline Middle School Baseball and Softball Teams have been hard at work practicing their pitching, catching and fielding efforts daily. Unfortunately, due to all the snow and cold weather many of their first games have had to be either cancelled or postponed. Their first games of the season were played on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, doubleheaders against Amherst.

In their first game the boys lost to Amherst 6 – 2, however, the second game, with great team effort, brought a victory of 14 – 0.

Team members this year are: Kyle A., Tim B., Eric B., Richie B., Ryan B., David C., Ben E., Michael G., Evan L., Andy M., Mike S., Travis S., Chris W., Greg Y. and team manager is Brendan C. Coaching for the boys this year is Coach Tim Creedon.



The girls first game against Amherst was a loss of 16 – 2 and their second game was also a loss of 19 – 2. Team members this year are: Rachel B., Kate

C., Michelle F., Megan F., Jessica F., Caroline H., Elizabeth K., Ali M., Courtney P., Paige R., Erin S., Erica S., Alicia S., Hillary S., Christine W. and team manager is Kelly F. Coaching for the girls again this year is Coach Bill Dulac assisted by his daughter.

### TRACK AND FIELD

The Hollis Brookline Middle School Track Team has entered into a great season with over 105 students participating this year. The team has been practicing daily regardless of the snow and cold weather. Their first meet of the season was played on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at Amherst with St. Joe's and Hudson participating also. Both the boys and girls returned home victorious, placing first in the four division meet. Coaches for the teams this year are: Coach Barry Lyle, Coach Ron Johnston and Coach Claudia Dufresne.

**SCHEDULES FOR BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL AND FOR TRACK AND FIELD ARE ATTACHED IN THIS NEWSLETTER**

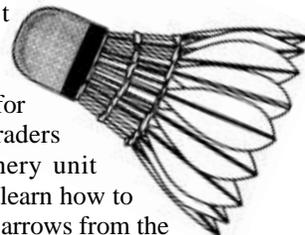


Figure 15. Hurdles in Progress

## Physical Education

*Gayle Bottcher and Ron Johnston*

Since the last newsletter, the seventh grade students have completed the team handball tournament and the basketball unit - improving ball handling, passing, shooting, defensive positioning, jumpballs, foul shots and working as a team. They are currently involved in a speed cup stacking and badminton unit. The badminton unit will include the basic strokes, rules and strategies necessary to play a competitive match. Due to the limited number of courts, students not participating in badminton will try their skill at speed cup stacking. We will be posting the quickest times for each of the stacks. The seventh graders will end the year in a target archery unit shooting a recurved bow. They will learn how to string and unstring the bow, remove arrows from the target and follow the seven stages of shooting.



The eighth grade students completed an Outward Bound based program called Project Adventure. As an extension of this unit, they will be going to Boulder Morty's rock climbing gym (Team 3 on May 30, Team 4 on June 6). Following the Project Adventure unit the students will participate in a weeklong class in First Aid.



The final eighth grade unit will be lacrosse. They will be learning the basic rules of the game and the differences between boys' and girls' lacrosse. Skills that will be developed in class are cradling, scooping, throwing, catching and dodging. During game play we will be following the guidelines used in the non-contact girls' lacrosse game.



## From the Music Room

*Sheri Zahn*

All the beautiful singing coming from the music room after school is generated by the talented students who will be attending the All-District music festival on May 10<sup>th</sup>. K.C.L., Hillary S., Elizabeth K., Julia J., Dara F., Davis V. and Nick B. are preparing their music in order to represent Hollis Brookline Middle School at the festival which will be held in Pelham, NH.

Each year, NH music educators hold district music festivals to give their most talented students the opportunity to perform with students from other schools in their district. Students in our South-Central district attend from Manchester, Amherst, Merrimack, Nashua, Hudson, Salem, and Pelham as well as Hollis and Brookline. The young musicians will rehearse with their guest conductor in Pelham all day on May 10<sup>th</sup> and present a concert that evening.

Students representing HBMS in All-Band are Sara H., Suzi G., both on clarinet, Patrick L. on trumpet and Chris P. on tenor sax.

## Media Center



Eileen Ball

The library media center web pages offer a wealth of information for our students to use during the school year. During the summer months there is also a **Summer Reading** web page dedicated to giving suggestions of authors/titles for incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders, 8<sup>th</sup> graders and those 8<sup>th</sup> graders going into high school. Many of the selections are old favorites and some are titles of the newest and best young adult literature ever written as suggested below:

Alvarez, Julia	<u><a href="#">In the Time of the Butterflies</a></u>
Avi	<u><a href="#">Crispin: The Cross of Lead</a></u>
Farmer, Nancy	<u><a href="#">The House of the Scorpion</a></u>
Funke, Cornelia Caroline	<u><a href="#">Thief Lord</a></u>
Gaines, Ernest J.	<u><a href="#">A Gathering of Old Men</a></u>
Hesse, Karen	<u><a href="#">A Time of Angels</a></u>
Hickman, Homer	<u><a href="#">Sky of Stone</a></u>
Jacques, Brian	<u><a href="#">Mossflower</a></u>
Jen, Gish	<u><a href="#">Who's Irish</a></u>
Michener, James	<u><a href="#">Mexico</a></u>
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<u><a href="#">Sang Spell</a></u>
Nix, Garth	<u><a href="#">Abhorsen</a></u> sequel to <u><a href="#">Sabriel</a></u> and <u><a href="#">Lirael</a></u>
Rahman, Hazel, editor	<u><a href="#">Somehow Tenderness Survives</a></u>
Stories of South Africa	
Salisbury, Graham	<u><a href="#">Under the Red Blood Sun</a></u>
Soto, Gary	<u><a href="#">Baseball in April and other stories</a></u>
Stolz, Gary	<u><a href="#">Cezanne Pinto a memoir</a></u>
Yep, Laurence	<u><a href="#">Dragon's Gate</a></u>

These and many other titles may be viewed at the Hollis Brookline Middle School Library Media Center web site:  
<http://www.hbms.k12.nh.us>  
click **Library Media Center**  
search **Summer Reading**.

## Art News



Sandra Papadeas

The annual N.H. Scholastic Art Awards were held in the Bedford Mall, Bedford, NH this year. Several students entered in this event. Over 2,000 pieces of work were judged. Congratulations to Kate C. and Anna G. who both received honorable mentions in the drawing and painting category. The NH Art Educators Association also held their statewide exhibit at the Bedford Mall. This annual March event marked the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of the National Youth Art Month organization. Three of our students represented HBMS. Katie D.'s drawing, "Tears of Liberty," Danielle M.'s acrylic painting, "Study of Claude Monet," and Brittany R.'s watercolor painting, "Abstract Fiesta," are all outstanding works that were viewed by many.

Team 4 students in Mrs. Papadeas' art class have just completed their first week of the new quarter. Students were assigned a creative piece called "Windows with a View." Many students created great distance, tranquil landscapes, cityscapes and seasonal scenes in their work of art. These will soon be on display in the main building. A study of the California artist Wayne Thiebaud is our next course of study. He is best known for his painting of cakes and pies. How creatively delicious!

## Reading

Mrs. Dufresne and Mrs. Lucas

### April 2003 Book Picks

The Children's Choices project publishes a list each year of the top 100 books selected from over 10,000 votes of children across the nation. The International Reading Association and the Children's Book Council have supported this project for over 25 years. A few suggested titles are listed below. The entire list can be found at <http://www.reading.org/choices/>. The list includes annotations and bibliographic information for each of the 100 titles as well as Teacher's Choices 2002.



(Source: *Reading Today*; Oct/Nov 2002, Vol. 20, No. 2)

**Alice Alone** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

**Anne Frank and Me** by Cherie Bennett and Jeff Gottesfeld

**Darkness Before Dawn** by Sharon M. Draper

**The Hostile Hospital and the Vile Village** by Lemony Snicket

**Little Lit: Strange Stories for Strange Kids** edited by Art Spiegelman and Francois Mouly

**Skeleton Heart** by Joseph Bruchac

**Say Good-bye** by Laurie Halse Anderson

**Burp! The Most Interesting Book About Eating You'll Ever Read About Eating** by Diane Swanson

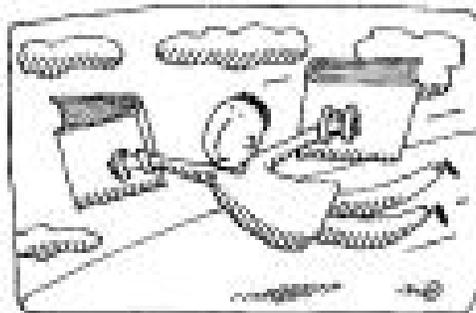
**A Smart Girl's Guide to Boys: Surviving Crushes, Staying True to Yourself and Other Love Stuff** by Nathan Holyoke

**Daughter of the Forest** by Juliet Marillier

**Gathering Blue** by Lois Lowry

**Night Hoops** by Carl Deuker

**The Wings of Merlin** by T.A. Barron



## Spanish

### ¡La Clase de Español con Señora Banks y Señora Lash!

It is hard to believe that we are rounding the final turn! We are very proud of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders' progress. We are now focusing on a fun sports unit and practicing the present progressive tense – allowing us to describe actions in progress and to accurately describe pictures and photos. How are your skills at sports broadcasting? We'll have a chance to see!

Eighth graders are finishing up with the preterit tense. They are very happy to see the LAST group of irregular verbs! We are combining this grammar with our unit on food – everyone's favorite! Our students are working on an independent, mini research project culminating in our sampling a dish from a Spanish speaking country, prepared for us by them!

We are combining this grammar with our unit on food – everyone's favorite!

We are very pleased with our 8<sup>th</sup> graders' hard work. They have come a long way since September of 2001. We will miss them all as they go on to bigger and better Spanish things!

## French

### Bonjour from Madame Rankins

French students honored in the month of March are:

Michaela K.  
Shelby N.  
Adam C.  
Melissa Y.  
Tyler T.

Bon travail, mes amis!

French 8 students are finished with sports and are now discussing going to the doctor and telling him their symptoms. They will be creating doctor visit dialogues as well as posters depicting ways to stay healthy, etc.



French 7 students are finishing up with the food sections. They will be creating their own French menus as well as making crepes for our Crepe Fete. Bon Appetit!

C'est tout pour maintenant. Au revoir!

## Health News

Dee Dee Adams

### TETANUS SHOTS DUE FOR MANY 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

It's not too early to look at your child's immunization needs. If you have a child entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall, they may be due to receive a Tetanus booster. The State is now MANDATING that all students MUST have an updated Tetanus booster. Tetanus boosters are required every 10 years. Some students may have already received this immunization, but there is no record of it at the school. Those students in grade eight needing to be immunized before the start of school in September, have been notified by phone. If your child has already received their updated tetanus booster, please send documentation of this to the nurse's office. If you have any questions regarding your child's immunization status, please call the school nurse (Dee Dee Adams 465-2223)



### PHYSICALS FOR ENTERING 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ATHLETES

High School requirements for participation in high school athletics differ from requirements at the middle school level. Only one physical during the four years is required, but it must be received after March 1, 2003. If you have documentation of this physical please submit it to Mrs. Adams before June 6, 2003. After this date it should be sent to the High School.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTERING 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

It's that time of year again when we begin to plan for next year. The Health Office would like to remind you of State guidelines for entrance to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. All entering 7<sup>th</sup> graders must have a second MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) immunization record on file in their school health record. It is possible that your child may have had this immunization and the school does not have a record. In order to facilitate entry to school in the fall, parents of students who do not have an MMR on record will be contacted this spring. Please get either documented proof to your elementary school nurse by the beginning of June or inform her of the date of your child's doctor's appointment. If your child receives this immunization during the summer, documentation of this should be forwarded to the Middle School as soon as it is received.

# Community Bulletin Board

## **Community Education Courses**

The Hollis Brookline Community Education evening program is on-going. New classes are starting each week. In April, we will be offering the following classes:

### **Arts and Crafts:**

- Basic Watercolor
- Basketweaving
- Carving Miniature Birds (woodworking)

### **Computer Education:**

- Beginning Microsoft Word

### **Dance/Exercise:**

- Ballroom Dance II
- Fun Fitness II
- Swing II

### **Finance:**

- Debt-Free Living Workshop
- Smart Women Finish Rich

### **Government:**

- Inside Concord

### **Home & Garden:**

- Companion Planting
- Use of Native Plants
- Invasive Plants
- Pruning Small Trees and Shrubs

### **Personal**

- Everything you need to know about Estate Planning

Classes are offered Monday - Thursday evenings between the hours of 5:00p.m. - 9:00p.m. Classes fill up fast, so register early! For detailed information of these courses, see our WEB SITE at [WWW.HBHS.K12.NH.US](http://WWW.HBHS.K12.NH.US) or pick up a copy of the Hollis/Brookline Community Education brochure at the Hollis Village Store in the Village Marketplace or the Brookline Village Store in Brookline center. Or contact Danielle Beaudette at 603-672-0283, or [daniebeau@aol.com](mailto:daniebeau@aol.com).

