



Knighly News

Hollis Brookline Middle School



NOVEMBER 2003

Volume 7, Issue 2

From the Administration

With tremendous momentum we begin the second quarter of our 2003-2004 school year. It is customary for the staff to say, "Where has the time gone," however, seventh and eighth grade students are echoing the question!

Our **Veterans Day Assembly** was held **November 10th**. One could literally hear a pin drop during the gathering. Special thanks go to **Mr. Capraro** for organizing the reverent assembly for our veterans and school community.

Although *Generations* was placed on hold this year, the staff and student body were engrossed with **Scot Cannon's** presentation, *WE CAN*. Students prepared for this assembly during ROCK with an activity focusing on the individual strengths we all contribute.

The fall **Recognition Assembly** is scheduled for **November 20th at 7:30 AM** for students who have participated in drama and sports as well as students who have achieved honor roll status. Parents are encouraged to attend this special recognition program.

Your help is requested to support the **safety** of the middle school students during **arrival** and **dismissal** times. Many older brothers and sisters are dropping off younger siblings at the middle school. Please reinforce that he/she should drop off at the north side of the building and travel behind the school to exit. The speed limit is **15 miles per hour** on school grounds. License plate numbers will be referred to the local authorities.

With decreased daylight hours we request your support of **students** being in **supervised areas**. On days of home basketball games students may report to the gymnasium and wait for the game to begin. Students may not roam the building or simply hang around. Your child's safety is our concern.

Terra Nova testing will be administered to all **grade eight** students during the **first week of December**. Restful sleep, breakfast and daily attendance will provide a benefit in the process.

Please note that **Picture Retakes** have been rescheduled to **Friday, November 21st**, at 7:30 AM.

Lastly, **ROCK** (Reading, Organization, Communication, Knowledge) is alive and well. Grade seven students have dedicated SKILL day to listening skills and test taking strategies, while grade eight has focused on organization and listening skills/following directions. We have begun a formal process of

collecting data to study the impact of ROCK. Without question staff and students feel a positive effect with beginning each day with ROCK.

As November winds down, we hope you manage to find meaningful time with friends and family.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Patricia Lewis Goyette, Principal

PTSA President's Report

It has been a busy fall for Volunteers and Appreciation at our school. The Staff Appreciation Committee, with Kristin Berry and Lisa Schmalz at the helm, has celebrated Cafeteria Workers, Custodians, and Bus Driver weeks. They are planning a Staff Appreciation Luncheon with all the Thanksgiving Dinner goodies on Friday, November 21. If you can help, please call or e-mail Lisa (889-1120, lschmalz@charter.net) or Kristen (465-7447, kbellep@aol.com). Volunteers have been busy in the classrooms with dissections in seventh grade, chaperoned field trips, dances, and the cast party, and hiked up Mount Monadnock with the eighth grade. Library volunteers are a regular sight in our school. Your volunteering helps our school offer our children excellent programs.

If you shop on line, please consider supporting a fund raising opportunity by going through Box Tops for Education. By logging on at BOXTOPS4EDUCATION.COM, you can access hundreds of stores and earn money for our school. Such favorites as Barnes and Noble, Dell, Lands End, and Eddie Bauer can be accessed.

Believe it or not, we are already starting the planning for the Seventh and Eighth Grade End of Year Celebrations. The Eighth Grade Celebration Committee will be sending out a letter next month. The Seventh Grade Celebration Committee is in need of some more members. Please contact me if you can serve on the Committee. This is a fun Bar-B-Q and Field Day at the end of the year.

The next PTSA meeting is Thursday, November 20, from 8:30-10:00 am in the Middle School conference room. Please come and bring your friends. We want everyone to be heard. Feel free to call or e-mail me with any ideas or concerns.

Lex Bundschuh, PTSA President
465-3142; UNOFAM@aol.com

Inside This Issue

School News	2
Team One News	3
Team Two News	4
Team Three News	5
Team Prescott News (Team 4)	6
Sports Update	7
Physical Education	7
Wrestling	7
Red Ribbon Week & Health	8
Media Center	8
Family and Consumer Science	8

Student Council News	8
Art News	9
Notes from the Music Room	9
Reading	9
Spanish & French	9
HBMS Website	10
Yearbook Committee	10
Drama Club	10
Yearbook Ad form	11
Boxtops For Education	12
Community Bulletin Board	13

Visit us on the internet at www.hbms.k12.nh.us



**School Administrative Unit 41
 Brookline, Hollis & Hollis/Brookline
 Cooperative School Districts
 PO Box 1588, 4 Lund Lane
 Hollis, NH 03049
 (603) 465-7118**

The Hollis and Brookline Schools have an organized plan in place to make decisions about school delays or cancellations. Inclement weather developing in the early morning hours and creating unsafe road conditions is reported, by police officers on patrol in both communities, to the Communications Center in Hollis.

Road crews are dispatched by the DPW in Hollis and Brookline's Road Agent to provide treatment and to monitor driving conditions.

Decisions about school bus travel must be made by 5:30 in order to notify bus drivers who must report to work by 6:00 AM, to inform staff who leave as early as that hour for school and to report the decision to radio and television stations. That decision is made following several conversations between the Superintendent of Schools, the bus contractor and the police and highway departments in both communities. The US Weather Bureau and a regional weather service are further accessed for information.

A two hour delay provides the highway departments with additional time to prepare the roads for travel; however, for the above reasons final decision for the day must be made by 7:30 AM to allow the high school and middle schools to open at 9:15 and our elementary schools at 10:15.

A no school decision means the roads are declared unsafe for travel for even an abbreviated school day.

For delays and closings, tune to the following radio or television stations:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| WBZ TV, Channel 4 | WBZ Radio, 10.30 AM |
| WCVB TV, Channel 5 | WMUR TV, Channel 9 |
| WQLL, 96.5 FM | WZID, 95.7 FM |

SKI TIME

The ski season will soon be upon us. **HBMS students attend Wachusett Ski Area** on Monday afternoon/evening for six consecutive weeks beginning in January. Coordination is done at the office with applications, collections, busses, etc. however, in order to run the ski program smoothly as in previous years, we are looking for parent volunteers who are willing to chaperone each week. It is **not necessary for parents to be skiers** as we also need supervision for students in the cafeteria and just simply walking around the lounge. Please consider whether or not you would enjoy spending some extra time with our students, be it skiing or just watching them have fun and check the appropriate line on the application your son/daughter brings home.

Applications for the HBMS ski program will be **available in the main office beginning November 12th** with a return **deadline for ALL applications on November 19th**. Also please keep in mind that due to conflicting schedules, any student participating in interscholastic basketball, cheerleading or wrestling **IS NOT eligible** for the ski program.

In order to run a successful ski program for our seventh and eighth graders, parent volunteers are a necessity. For more information, please feel free to contact Linda Desmarais at the Middle School at 465-2223. Thank You.

Traffic Pattern Change

Please be aware of a traffic pattern change at HBMS enabling a more direct access to the fields behind the school. **EXCEPT from 7:00 to 7:30 AM and 2:00 to 2:30 PM** for bus traffic you may now enter the middle school grounds off of Love Lane (previously a one-way egress). Until this pattern becomes normal, please be watchful of exiting and entering traffic.

Planning ahead for 2004?

Join us for a "sweetheart" of an evening on Saturday, February 14 at 7:00 PM when we will present a Showcase of Talent featuring HBMS students. Snow date will be Sunday, February 15 at 1:00 PM.

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

Band Concerts

This years' winter band concerts will be held at the HBHS auditorium. The 7th grade concert will be December 9th and the 8th grade concert will be December 11th. Students should arrive at the high school no later than 6:30 in preparation for the concert at 7:00. A reminder that concert attire for students will be as follows:

- Girls- black skirt, white blouse, shoes
- Boys-Dark dress pants, white dress shirt, tie, shoes (no sneakers)

Admission is free. Hope to see you there.

Team 1 English

Mrs. Maher

Team 1 English students are in the midst of The Outsiders unit. The focus of this unit is 'conflict.' Students have examined conflict in the novel, conflict in their own lives, and examined whether or not any good can come from conflict. During the unit, students have the opportunity to select a variety of Choice Assignments to complete. Please visit the Team One English Website for more specific information on our unit.

As part of our unit, we have compared and contrasted the reasons for conflict in The Outsiders, "West Side Story," and lastly Romeo and Juliet, by William Shakespeare. Specifically, "West Side Story" is based on the plot in Romeo and Juliet from the 1500's.

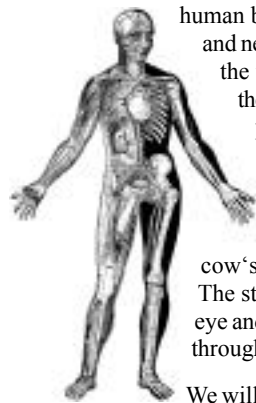
Although The Outsiders was written by a sixteen year old girl and published in 1967, students have been amazed to see that concepts in this novel are based on the classic tale about the incredible love between Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet.

Therefore, as a culmination to our examination of conflict in different pieces of literature, we have the opportunity to travel to The North Shore Music Theatre on Tuesday, November 18 to view "West Side Story." Although The Outsiders was written by a sixteen year old girl and published in 1967, students have been amazed to see that concepts in this novel are based on the classic tale about the incredible love between Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet.

Our next unit is my personal favorite – Victorian England and Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol! We will begin preparing for our unit on Victorian England before our Thanksgiving Break. Upon our return, we will read A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Stay tuned for more information on our Victorian Tea Party!

Team 1 Science

Mrs. Cleveland



Our classes continue to study and explore the world of the human body. We have completed our study of the brain and nervous system with the sheep brain dissection and the unit test. We are now studying the workings of the eye, which include: several activities dealing with peripheral vision, determining the dominant eye, and understanding optical illusions and after images. We determined the size of our blind spots in both eyes and "see" how the brain fills in what the blind spot does not see. The dissection of the cow's eye, or the alternative activity, went very well. The students then made a ping pong ball model of the eye and demonstrated their expertise as they led parents through a "dissection" of the model.

We will next start the study of the cell and see how these cells work together to form larger tissues, organs and system. Student enthusiasm and participation continue to be high. I am very pleased with what we are able to accomplish. I would also like to thank parents for their donations for the dissection materials.

Team 1 Social Studies

Mr. Capraro

On Team One in History, we are just finishing our study of Christianity—where it came from, what it believes and most importantly, its affect on the Roman Empire in the first few centuries AD. From here we will move to the fall of Rome and the split of the Roman Empire into the Byzantine Empire and the Middle Ages of the European West. One of our favorite parts of this chapter was a brief look at Celtic illuminations. These were elaborately designed letters used to decorate the pages of a hand copied Bible. After looking at some illuminations, I asked the students to try their hand at making one. They soon found out that making an illumination is not as easy as it looks! The illuminations made by the students will be organized into words and hung up as a banner in the classroom. Stop by sometime and check it out! We will finish up our unit on Christianity by reviewing all of the vocabulary and important people in the chapter as preparation for the chapter test.

Team 1 Math

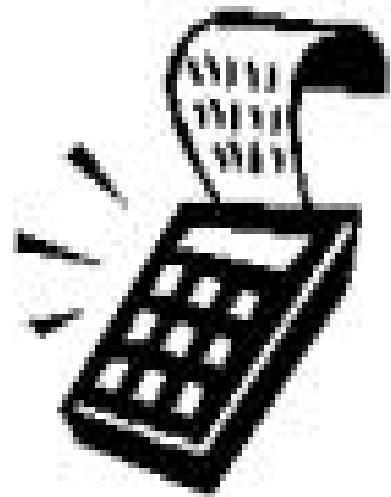
Mrs. Fordin & Mrs. Rossetti

Seventh grade math has been packed full of fascinating mathematical information! We just completed a unit on fractions using area models. Last month students worked on problem solving, the order of operations, square roots and exponents. With no time to waste, B, D and E blocks are starting a unit on manipulating fractions. New concepts, skills and a higher level of understanding will be the focus for this unit. Remember, fractions are our friends so we must learn to understand and accept them!

As for A and C blocks, this group of students has probably seen more patterns in the past few weeks then they will ever want to see again. They now have the experience and expertise to predict the nth pattern by creating rules and formulas. Great job!

Algebra students have been on a large number hunt! They have discovered such numbers as Happy numbers, Pythagorean Triples and even Emirps! They will continue their studies with a focus on the various properties and expressions, simplifying like terms and solving equations.

Happy Figuring!



Team 2 English

By Talia L.

We are coming to the close of our non-fiction unit this week. James Herriot's autobiographical writing was inspiration for "Writing About Your Life"; students wrote of personal experiences that were memorable for them, including first bikes, travels, friendships, broken bones, sports, and pet antics. In our writing we detected "tired words" and improved with use of the thesaurus. Biography research was the next task; students spent a week in the library learning how to find sources, take notes, paraphrase, cite sources of information, and organize a factual report. These reports will be presented in class this month. In addition, students reviewed and worked with subject and predicate parts of sentences.

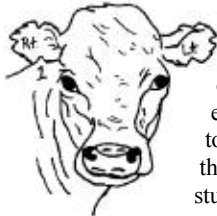
Currently, students are writing essays. A choice of four were offered; topics are "What Patriotism Means to Me", "The American Flag", "Breaking Barriers for Women", and "My Dream For America". Students have had helpful conference sessions in class and completed essays are due Nov. 13 & 14. Our next unit of study is centered on Charles Dickens' writing; please remember that we have TWO theater trips coming up! West Side Story is Nov. 18 and A Christmas Carol is Dec. 16; students are reminded to bring a bag lunch. Good wishes to you for a pleasant holiday season and a healthful 2004!

Team 2 Science

Mrs. Evans

Keep Your Eyes on Science

Thank you for supporting our science program with a donation toward the cost of "dissectable" items. The enthusiasm from our science students and their interest in labs continue to energize me.



I hope the parents enjoyed dissecting the eyeball "model" that students made. They were very diligent and particular when making their accurate eye model. Since many of the students did not let on to their parents that the dissection was an eye "model", there were many funny stories. The next day, the students were very eager to share some of them. Here are a few:

"I put the bag with the eyeball model in the refrigerator BUT my dad made me take it out. He said, 'No one would eat any food with that in there.'"

"When my dad was cutting the eyeball, the vitreous humor spilled all over the dining room table"

"My mom did a great job. She loved it". And with a sigh he said, "Her score was even higher than mine."

"My dad earned all the bonus points."

"I had to teach my parents all the parts of the eye because this was their first time ever doing an eye dissection."

After completing a dissection of the cow eye and making a model for parents to dissect, our focus (no pun intended) is now on comparing the size of the right eye blindspot to that of the left eye blindspot. In this lab, titled, Mapping Your Blindfield and Blindspot, the students use trigonometry to determine the size of the blindspot after they have tested their blindfield. Also this month, the students will have an opportunity to test their peripheral vision, determine their dominant eye, and write their first lab report.

Team 2 Social Studies

Mrs. Beale

Before beginning our study of "The Rise of Christendom," we did a short review of the Roman Empire. Students worked in small groups with each group responsible for creating a panel for a tapestry depicting a piece of Rome's history. The most interesting and detailed panels from each class have been put together into two 18 foot long tapestries depicting Rome from its Etruscan beginnings through the fall of the Roman Empire in 476 CE.



Some of the topics included in our current unit are the birth of Christianity, early church leaders who influenced the spread of Christianity, the persecution and later acceptance of Christians by the Roman emperors and the reasons for the appeal and rapid spread of Christianity.

Some of the learning activities we will be doing are labeling and coloring maps showing the spread of Christianity, making charts of Roman emperors who influenced the spread of Christianity and diagramming hierarchies of many different organizations in order to show our understanding of the church structure after the Council of Nicea. As a culmination of the unit, we will construct a collage to show the influence of the Judeo Christian heritage on our own twenty-first century culture. Part of the final evaluation for this unit will be our second portfolio; a compilation of all work that went into the learning process.

Our next unit will take us to the Byzantium Empire.

Team 2 Math

Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Rossetti

Seventh grade math has been packed full of fascinating mathematical information! We just completed a unit on fractions using area models. Last month students worked on problem solving, the order of operations, square roots and exponents. With no time to waste, B, D and E blocks are starting a unit on manipulating fractions. New concepts, skills and a higher level of understanding will be the focus for this unit. Remember, fractions are our friends so we must learn to understand and accept them!

As for A and C blocks, this group of students has probably seen more patterns in the past few weeks than they will ever want to see again. They now have the experience and expertise to predict the nth pattern by creating rules and formulas. Great job!

Algebra students have been on a large number hunt! They have discovered such numbers as Happy numbers, Pythagorean Triples and even Emirps! They will continue their studies with a focus on the various properties and expressions, simplifying like terms and solving equations.

Happy Figuring!

Team 3 English

Mrs. Cicciu

English students on team 3 are in the middle of reading William Shakespeare's Macbeth. They are thinking in 16th century English and blank verse - quite a feat! They are practicing the reading skills of prediction, summarizing, paraphrasing, and analysis of literal and figurative language. They will be participating in two culminating projects: attendance at the theater production at the Dana Center at St. Anselm's College during which they will focus on one aspect of the live performance (lighting, costumes, sound, stage craft, scenery, or acting/character portrayal) to write a review and completion of a group project in class during which they will use their strong intelligence (linguistic, mathematical, spatial, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, and kinesthetic) to interpret some aspect of the play. This final project will be graded as both a cooperative group project and as an oral presentation for which rubrics will be provided ahead of time.

During December students will work on several pieces of writing - one they already started that focuses on a personal experience and one for which they have already produced a web. They will learn to convert the planning web into an outline, and then they will write a five-paragraph essay from the outline, emphasizing an attention-grabbing introduction that uses an allusion. There will be daily classes on improving the writing and developing their personal "style."

The genre focus for November is Classics or Newbery Award winners; for December students will select fiction or nonfiction books that recount adventures.

Team 3 Earth Science

Mrs. Smith

What a month full of nature's phenomena! We are at the end of our studies in Space Exploration and Rocketry. We have had two solar flares and now we will be observing a lunar eclipse. I just love it when nature cooperates and I can teach from our natural surroundings instead of from a book. Students have been completing homework assignments that have been observational in nature.

How many were able to see the most beautiful Aurora Borealis AKA Northern Lights? Well most of my students have. Many students have recanted what a spectacular display of nature's own fireworks.

How about those rockets though? How high can they fly? Well, I have had the opportunity to observe some very interesting rockets. For instance, perhaps the tiniest rocket made by the team of Ben C. and Travis W. performed superbly. They will have one of the top three places in their class for furthest traveled (height). Another rocket which was ingeniously made by the team

of Kim L. and Larry K. may not have captured a top spot, but what a launch pad! I am so impressed with the drive of every student who took on this rocket project as if it were actually going into orbit. The problem solving, redesigning, rebuilding, and scrapping an idea for another has been a positive learning experience for me

as well as for my students. I hope you have been kept informed as to how much fun we have had

completing this experiment. Now if the rain would stop long enough for the rest of the testing we would be ever so grateful. I guess we can't have everything.



Our next unit of study will be Plate Tectonics. With respect to having studied other planets, how does our own planet earth work? Following plate tectonics will be volcanoes and earthquakes.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Team 3 Social Studies

Mr. Twichell

Team 3 enjoyed a successful and informative "Duck Tour" field trip. Much of the information and sights fit right into our study of the Revolutionary War. The War was studied in some detail. New Hampshire's contribution to the winning effort was emphasized.

After a brief study of our country under the Articles of Confederation, we will examine the Constitutional Convention and some of the major philosophies it proposed to guide our government. When we complete our investigation of the five basic principles of the Constitution, we will be engaged in a detailed study of that famous and important document. We look forward to some role playing exercises related to the functioning of our government to be culminated with a mock trial.

Team 3 Math

Mrs. Mezzocchi

In pre-algebra classes, students have started learning about the proper method of solving algebraic equations. In order to succeed in algebra, it is necessary to fully understand the concepts. Since many of our students are kinesthetic learners (learn by doing), we are frequently using algebra tiles to model equations. This method also helps students see the connection between algebra and geometry. The students in these classes are experiencing a very exciting phase of their math career. They are developing their abstract thought process and are beginning to grasp concepts that are no longer "cut and dry." I call this phase, the "ah-ha" stage. Mathematics can be fun!

In algebra class, the end of first quarter marks the end of reviewing the basic algebra concepts that the students learned in accelerated seventh grade math. Now they will begin to learn totally new concepts such as writing, solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities along with slope and intercept. They will continue to use the TI-83+ graphing calculator as a tool for discovering algebra concepts. Algebra tiles are used in this class also and will prove to be very useful when the students begin to factor polynomials. Excitement prevails in math class.

Geometry class is where everyone is learning (including the teacher!) Rather than tell you what's going on, let's hear it from a couple of students.

"In 8th grade geometry class we have explored many aspects of the geometric world. Students have started writing conjectures as they work with angles and shapes. Patty paper, compasses and straightedges are tools we have been introduced to and are already becoming familiar with. We will soon be beginning more advanced work with polygons, circles and triangles."

Written by Ben M.

"In geometry, we have studied lines and shapes using the correct tools (ruler, straightedge, compass and protractor). We use patty paper to draw angles and duplicate them, and do intriguing homework exercises that help us visualize shapes and angles. We are also studying how we learn which is by inductive reasoning and how we try to get results from trial and error by deductive reasoning."

Written by Ben C.

Team Prescott English

Mrs. Gruposso

Prescott English students have just completed one of their busiest times of the school year. While reading Macbeth they have also been writing multiple drafts of contest essays for the VFW or Fleet Reserve Association. Those essays have now been sent; results will come in the spring.

Having read Macbeth, students attended a performance at the Palace Theater in Manchester. They are now preparing scenes to perform in small classroom "companies" as well as completing independent activities relevant to the play. The essay format will be reinforced with play reviews and literary essays analyzing different aspects of the play.

The next unit of study will be on Mystery, Suspense, Tension Unit. The purpose of the unit is to study and practice the elements of style. Students will read and / or write short stories, poems, radio plays, and a "free choice" mystery novel. They will deliver an "oral essay," as well. The culminating activity for the unit is student written and produced radio plays. This unit will take us through January.

Team Prescott Earth Science

Mr. Bond

8th Graders Learn What Happens...When the Ground Begins to Move

Ash darkened the sky and lava slid down the flanks of Mt. Etna... a school in southern Italy collapsed as the ground shuttered beneath it... a bone-jarring quake in central Alaska caused ripples across the bayous of Louisiana. Last year, October and November were violent months. This year, an Indonesian town is swept away by flood waters on one side of the planet as California extinguishes the flames of the worst wild fire in its history. The earth continues to provide a showcase of natural events as students in Mr. Bond's science classes have been exploring the phenomena of two of the planet's most extraordinary spectacles...volcanoes and earthquakes.

The earth continues to provide a showcase of natural events as students in Mr. Bond's science classes have been exploring the phenomena of two of the planet's most extraordinary spectacles...volcanoes and earthquakes.

In the weeks to come, students will be experiencing first-hand what it takes to design and build a skyscraper that remains standing when the earth

beneath it begins to move. Playing the roles of architects, engineers and contractors, earth science students will be brainstorming, sketching, drafting and building scale balsawood models of 150 foot skyscrapers, then subjecting them to a simulated earthquake. The quakes will be generated by a machine designed to simulate the seismic waves that result during an earthshaking event. As the buildings are "put to the test," they will be videotaped, and the videos will be played back so that each student can evaluate the stress points in their building, as well as pin-point the section of the building that failed first. Last year, our best engineered building withstood a 9.0 magnitude quake for a period of 15 seconds. And, while many buildings withstood a minimum 5.0 quake, by the conclusion of the project, we had accumulated a pretty big pile of broken balsa sticks! We'll see how this year's buildings do!

P.S. To get a better idea of some of the topics your student is exploring this year in earth science class, in addition to some of the activities they will participate in, check our Earth Science Department web site at <http://www.hbms.k12.nh.us/bondd>. You can even check out "Are You A Super Sleuth?"

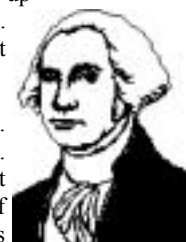
Team Prescott Social Studies

Mr. Lyle

As term 2 opens we're working on some notetaking skills pertaining to the 1st year of the War for American Independence. We watched a documentary and took lots of notes on Lexington & Concord, Bunker Hill, AEQ, the Siege of Boston and Common Sense. Ask your student about any of these topics. They know about them all!

But we're moving on to the topic of Independence now. We'll be watching "1776" shortly which gives a great view of the founding fathers and has some great show tunes besides! The Declaration of Independence can hardly be overdone so we'll take some time with it - then get back to General George Washington in the saddle for 7 more years. The Army's trials and tribulations for that period will be studied, along with the officers.

After the War is over we enter the Confederation period. We have some growing pains and the set of rules we've drawn up to govern ourselves really is inadequate. So, we scrap them. We come up with a powerful document instead - the Constitution. We'll be studying this, and the men who made it, right through the holidays.



Once the Constitution is drawn up we elect a President. The man of the hour certainly is George Washington. He is elected and sets many decent precedents that are followed for quite some time. We'll study both of his terms in detail before moving on to John Adams and all the problems he encountered abroad.

Team Prescott Math

Mr. Jahns

Pre-Algebra is very close to finishing our second unit, and may have done so by the time you read this article. There will be a Unit Test given, which will start the term grades with a bang. It's been quite a term for the Pre-Algebra students as we delved into the world of algebraic notation and expression. We used algebraic tiles to model what a "2x" or a "3x+1" look like. We learned to manipulate (add, subtract, multiply) the tiles, then do the same with the algebraic expressions. We also used an old style two-sided "balance" scale to demonstrate the concept of equations as balancing expressions, and learned that as long as we do the same thing to both sides of the scale, or equation, it stays balanced, or equal. We are now quite proficient at solving one step equations and inequalities using formal algebraic properties.

Algebra I students, having done all of the above last year, are concentrating more on a formal approach to learning the properties needed to understand the steps of equation solving, such as the Distributive, Commutative and Associative Properties, Identity Elements, Properties of Zero, etc. We have also made interesting side trips into such topics as Matrices and Probability. We are currently concentrating on the process and ramifications of graphing linear equations, and how this related to "direct variations" and "functions." Algebra is also very close to finishing the current unit and taking the end of the unit test.

We continue to have homework most nights because dough doesn't turn into bread without a little kneading. I can only provide the ingredients and a little yeast. The student has to roll up his or her sleeves and do the work! Extra Study Sessions continue to be available Thursday after school.

Sports Update



Linda Desmarais

Physical Education

Gayle Bottcher and Ron Johnston

Boys Soccer

Great team effort, good passing, nice ball movement, and some fast-paced, well fought games led to a great season for the **Hollis Brookline Boys Soccer Team**. Final standings of 6 wins, 3 ties, 5 losses put the team into the semi-final playoffs against Goffstown on the 22nd of October. With exceptional plays by all team members, the boys pulled a victory of 5-1 putting them in the finals on Friday, October 24th where they played a hard fought game but could not overtake a very strong Amherst team. Final score was Amherst 6, Hollis Brookline 1. **Nice season guys!**



Girls Soccer

The **Hollis Brookline Girls Soccer Team** played their season with great determination and skill. Very strong, all around defensive play and well-created opportunities by the girls led to standings of 7 wins, 3 ties, and 4 losses placing them in the semi-final playoffs on October 20th against Goffstown where they returned home with a victory of 3-2 after a hard fought game. The girls then faced Amherst in the finals on October 23rd going into sudden death overtime and becoming the **Tri- County Champions** by a score of 2-1. **Great season! Congratulations!**

Field Hockey

... hard work,
great spirit
and enthusiasm ...

The **Hollis Brookline Field Hockey Team** with hard work, great spirit and enthusiasm and some pretty intense games made the semi-final playoffs by finishing their season with 3 wins, 2 ties and 5 losses. They played against Amherst on October 20th for their playoff game, a tough game, losing 0-5. As Coach Smith said, "They have a lot to be proud of, they have come a long way this season."

Volleyball

The **Hollis Brookline Volleyball Team** has had a great season participating with schools such as Fairgrounds, Pennichuck, Milford, Boynton, Sunapee, and Elm Street. The team has won eight of their meets and lost 4. The girls have done an incredible job and produced some flawless serves and gone at times 100% at the service line. On October 25th the girls hosted the **Middle School Tournament and took first place**. Congratulations on a great season!



Cross Country

The **Hollis Brookline Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams** have had a great season of running, competing in meets with Pelham, Peterborough, Amherst, Milford, Windham, Litchfield and Hooksett. In the five meets that the teams participated, the boys placed first in four and second in one. The girls placed first in one meet, second in three and third in one. Traveling to the **Tri-County League Meet in Pelham** on October 11th the teams competed with one thousand runners from thirty different schools. Both the boys and girls placed sixth overall, while placing third and second respectively in the small school competition. On October 18th the teams traveled to **Londonderry to compete in the State Championships** where both the boys and girls teams medaled, placing third and fourth respectively out of 41 schools and ending a great season.



Our 7th grade physical education classes completed the field hockey unit and the 8th grade classes finished soccer. Currently all physical education classes are participating in a volleyball unit. Students are learning safety, rules, etiquette, and skills necessary for playing the game. The underhand and overhand serve, and the set and forearm passes are being reviewed and practiced while the drive, spike, and dig are advanced skills presented later in the unit.

Before the round robin tournament begins, the classes will discuss teamwork, sportsmanship, and the qualities of being a team captain. The unit will culminate with a championship team from each 7th and 8th grade class playing against the staff in a school assembly Tuesday, December 23.



Wrestling

Ms. Bottcher

The Middle School wrestling team will begin practices on Monday, December 1st. All practices will be held at the Hollis Brookline High School and go from 2:30-4:15. The team will practice every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. There will be a **VERY IMPORTANT MEETING** for all students and a parent on Monday, November 17th at 3:00 in the Middle School Cafeteria.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Nov. 17	3:00	Parent and athlete meeting	Cafeteria
Nov. 20-21	2:45	Equipment supplier	HB High School
Dec. 1	2:30-4:15	Practice begins	HB High School
Dec. 8	4:00	MERRIMACK meet	HBMS
Dec. 21	all day	Manchester Tournament	@ Bow
Jan. 9	4:00	NASHUA CATHOLIC Meet	@Nashua Catholic
Jan. 15	4:00	MILFORD Meet	HBMS
Jan. 22	4:00	LONDONDERRY Meet	HBMS
Jan. 24	all day	Rundlet Tournament optional	
Jan. 29	4:00	MERRIMACK Meet	@ Merrimack
Feb. 1	all day	Big East Regionals	HB High School
Feb. 5	all day	Big East Divisionals	
Feb. 14	all day	STATES @ Timberlane	
Feb. 21	all day	Big East Silver	
Feb. 22	all day	Big East Gold	



Red Ribbon Week

Ms. White

Students and staff at Hollis Brookline Middle School celebrated Red Ribbon Week from October 27th through the 31st. The goal of Red Ribbon Week is to raise awareness among students as to the harmful effects of alcohol and drug use among teens. The week was a great success. Students were interested, engaged and appropriate in the week's activities.

Each morning students were welcomed not only with the traditional morning announcements, but also with a message from their teachers. These messages included Mr. Johnston's message about alcohol's effect on the body and Mr. Capraro's message about the dangers of the drug Ecstasy.

The week was also filled with various activities to keep the message strong. On Monday morning students were given the opportunity to sign an individual pledge to be drug free. ROCK groups then signed group pledges that the guidance department has proudly displayed outside their offices. Students also received a temporary tattoo to wear on their hands.

Tuesday, students wore red hats to show their commitment to being substance free. On Wednesday students were encouraged to "Mix It Up" at lunch and sit with people who they do not generally sit with. Students were encouraged to change their seat and possibly meet someone who could literally change their life.

The Amherst Wal-Mart donated two of the four cakes served at each team's lunch on Thursday. On the bottom of some of the plates students found a fact regarding substance use/abuse. These students received a small prize. Students were extremely polite and thankful for their chance to have a *sugar* high... the teacher's were another story...

Friday, students were treated to an assembly. They were joined by two familiar faces from the past, Officer Kerland from Brookline's DARE program and Officer Irwin from Hollis'. Students participated in relay events that got them dizzy – a natural way to feel intoxicated. Students were then asked to walk a straight line, heel to toe on the way back to their teams. The results were both hilarious and educational.

All in all staff was very impressed with student response to Red Ribbon Week. Many thanks go to Ms. Christy, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Morrow for all their hard work. Let's all keep Red Ribbon Week in mind all year long!



Media Center

Eileen Ball

FALL into Books during ROCK ! This year during ROCK students are reading two times per week. A plan to include a variety of genres will help children to expand their reading interests. Most genres such as Science Fiction, Fantasy, Humor, Newbery Award Winners, Adventures and Classics are available in the school library media center. Many titles may be viewed on the Summer Reading web page either at school or from home. The web address is www.hbms.k12.nh.us Library Media Center-Summer Reading.

In the past few weeks all of the 7th graders have had a lesson on how to find a book located on the OPAC (the online catalog). An additional feature on the OPAC is the ability to find out when a library book(s) is due. Hopefully this added feature will help students avoid overdue library book(s) and late fees.

In addition to the many volunteers I listed in the September *Knightly Newsletter*, there are many others who are also giving invaluable help; they are Ellen Lones, Debra Slater, Brenda Ross, Shelly Bower, Kathie Clement, Diane Vlatas, Martha Young and Jill Russell.

I appreciate each and every volunteer for their dedication to the middle school library.

康 Health

Ms. White

Along with the team two 7th graders I was also new to the Hollis Brookline Middle School. Though various challenges presented themselves, together we got through our first quarter here at HBMS!

In class we discussed many ways that health affects us. We learned that the three components to our health are: physical, psychological, and social. If one part of our health is affected, it can affect the other two. Topics we covered during class were stress, media, body image, communication, HIV/AIDS, and alcohol and other drug use/abuse. During the semester we had wonderful class discussions that were able to eventually include everyone in the class (once some students were more comfortable). This was a great way to get different perspectives on topics and learn from each other.

We also got different perspectives from parents. For homework, students interviewed their parents to find out what middle school was like for them. Each topic brought new questions: what was stressful for them in middle school; how they said no to drugs; and the very hilarious answers to what the fads were when they were in middle school.

Health students ended the quarter with a hypothetical letter written to their middle school son or daughter. Students put themselves in the parent role and discussed what they felt was important about topics we covered.

Nice work Team 2! I am excited for my quarter with Team 1!

Family and Consumer Science

Mrs. Sarvaiya

Article written by Kristine B. and Kara G.

We have just begun this quarter in Family and Consumer Science. Now that we are in eighth grade we have more responsibility to finish our own projects and manage our time. The sewing program is individualized and we can pick from 200 or more projects to do. We have begun our felt quilt squares to practice our fine motor skills. We are anxiously awaiting the shipment of our stuffed animal packets. We will be making two stuffed animals using directions. This will increase our practice in advanced sewing skills.

Our curriculum includes learning more about nutrition and eating healthier. We will study diet analysis, eating disorders, fad diets and weight control. We will be composing a packet on nutrition to rethink our choices in the way we eat. We cannot wait until we begin cooking in the kitchen. We will be creating breads, pizza, pasta, cookies for the holidays, and Chinese food.

Some of our goals are to work cooperatively with others, display skills in advanced kitchen management, to advance ourselves for optimal results in relation to time and resource management, and to learn to research on the internet for the latest information on nutrition. It sounds like this quarter will be very exciting.





Art News

Sandra Papadeas

Working with Patterns, Designs & Aboriginal Art

Team 2 students began their first week of art with Mrs. Papadeas. Students started drawing patterns and designs. They found that the designs needed to be planned and arranged using the elements of art. Working with patterns and Australian Aboriginal art will be the focus for the next few classes. One of the National Content Standards for Visual Arts is being able to understand and appreciate visual arts in relation to history and cultures. It is my hope that Team 2 students will gain some knowledge of art in Aboriginal culture. The Aborigines believe that art connects the present to the past. Their detailed process of creating art is more important than the actual end results.

Aboriginal art has taken many forms, based mainly on the materials available in parts of Australia. It is one of the oldest art forms in the world. Students will be painting a picture from the point of view that you are looking down on the subject. Using patterns, dots, stripes and crosshatching they will paint fish, birds, and reptiles. The entire surface of their work will be covered with patterns produced with small dabs of paint. Many Aboriginal paintings are done in earth tone colors, but contemporary artists use brilliant and luminescent colors because they are considered a sign of health, well-being and beauty. Students will be allowed to use whatever color combination they like. Soon, the students will be having fun and the Aboriginal-style painting will begin!



From the Music Room

Sheri Zarin

We are planning an extra performance in our schedule this year. We will present our Holiday music at an in-school assembly on December 19 at 1:30 PM. Both 7th and 8th grade Choruses will present a program of Holiday music for the student body and the community seniors in the gym at HBMS.

ALL SENIOR CITIZENS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS FREE CONCERT.

In addition, our singers will present a WINTER CONCERT at the HBHS in late January. The 8th grade Chorus will sing at 7:00 PM on January 27 and the 7th grade Chorus will sing at 7:00 PM on January 29.

Friends and families are invited to hear our talented performers.



Spanish

Señora Banks y Señora Lash

Hola de Senora Lash y Senora Banks.

Our 7th grade students just began to learn the first conjugation of verbs. They soon will be able to use Regular Verbs in Spanish. They are doing a great job! They have also expanded their vocabulary and are now able to communicate. If you see your child dancing with their feet or their hands, they are working on their verbs!

Our 8th grade students are now working on a very important unit on the verbs Ser and Estar. Along with these verbs they are learning how to describe physical symptoms and speak about their health and health related habits. They are also learning how to communicate with a doctor about their symptoms and to understand a doctor's advice.

Please keep checking our web site for homework, study sessions and other activities. Website is updated each Monday for the entire week. Thank you.



Reading

Mrs. Dufresne and Mrs. Lucas

Book Picks for the Holidays

Christmas is fast approaching. Here are a few book suggestions for stocking stuffers. Shop early!

Crispin: The Cross of Lead by Avi

Set in fourteenth-century England, "Asta's son" is suddenly orphaned and everything he owns is taken away. Accused of murder, he flees his village and finds himself under the protection and mentoring of a juggler. His name is revealed as Crispin and he eventually learns the secret of his true identity. Use with history units on Feudalism.

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen (Newbery Honor Book 2003)

Roy Eberhardt is the new kid in Coconut Cove and the following have suddenly become of vital importance to him: alligators, snakes with glittery tails, crooked politicians, a bully with a lisp, some slippery fish, a renegade eco-avenger, a sinister pancake PR, and some puny burrowing owls. Roy has most definitely arrived in Carl Hiaasen's Florida.

A Corner of the Universe by Ann Matthews Martin

A wonderful return to the values and experiences in a small town in the 50's and 60's. The emotions of a girl and her family as they deal with a member's disability. Excellent read.

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park (Newbery Award 2002)

Set in 12th century Korea, this is the story of Tree-ear who lives under a bridge with his disabled older friend Crane-man. Tree-ear becomes fascinated with the potter's craft and longs to create celadon ceramics. However pottery is a trade passed on from father to son and Tree-ear is an orphan. He works long and hard hoping to become an apprentice.

Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff (Newbery Honor Book 2003)

An unhappy girl runs away from foster homes until she finds the right one. A problem occurs which she must overcome. Exciting, fun read for middle grade girls.

Jeannie, A Texas Frontier Girl: Book Two by Evelyn Horan

Best Author Award/Book Two of more excitement, adventures as Jeannie and her friends face life on the West Texas frontier of the 1880's. Compared to the Laura I. Wilder books.



French

Madame Rankins

French students recognized in the month of October:

Erin M.
Danielle D.
Cori M.
Dave L.
J.P. G.

Eighth grade students recently presented dialogues dealing with clothes shopping. They did a great job and had a lot of fun as well. They are just beginning to work on daily routine vocabulary. They will soon be describing and illustrating their own routine.

Seventh grade students recently presented skits dealing with school subjects, teachers, etc. They were amazed at how much they could say about the subject. They did a very nice job! ER verbs and related vocabulary are just being introduced.

C'est tout pour maintenant! Merci beaucoup!



HBMS Website

Dean Jahns

The HBMS Website is available 24-7, helping keep parents, students and teachers informed (and maybe entertained) on current school activities. Please check it out if you haven't done so already. Check back regularly, as contents change daily. www.hbms.k12.nh.us

Major points of interest:

Homework Pages

Collected during the day and entered onto site daily by office staff. However, due to block scheduling and rotating schedules, this can be a little hard to understand, as not all students have the same homework the same day, so please consider the Student Agenda as the primary source of homework info.

Daily Notices

Updated daily, as soon as available (usually around 10 am), same announcements the students hear over the intercom

Team Pages

A place for Teacher Teams to post information relative to the team, i.e., procedures, field trips, schedules, etc. (may or may not be implemented, according to team).

Teacher Pages

HBMS is in the process of training teachers to use Frontpage to create individual pages relevant to their class and studies. Many have now done so, and are available for your use. You may get to their pages from the Faculty Index or Team Page.

Sports Schedules

Schedules are posted. A suggestion has been made to include directions to away games (a good suggestion), but we have found this information very hard to come by, as most schools don't know the venue for middle school activities until very close to the day. If someone would like to write up game summaries and submit them (coach, manager, game mom?), we'd be happy to place them on Sports Team Pages!

Club Pages

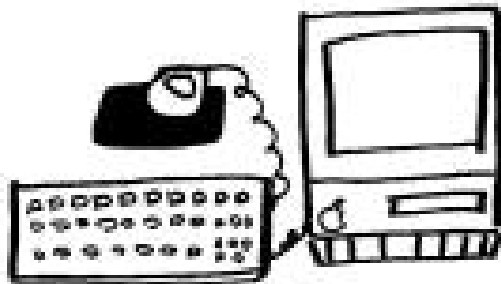
Entries do exist for the various club activities within the school. Regrettably, not many have any useful information yet. This is an area in which we hope to grow. Do check out the Drama Club, as it holds a schedule for the entire Spring Production (The King and I) season.

Knightly News Archives

You can look at back issues of this newsletter, even if yours has already recycled through the birdcage.

Important links to other sites

- HBMS Library
- HBHS
- SAU41
- PTSA
- School Closing
- Curriculum related sites



Yearbook Committee

What's Up with the Yearbook?

Students on the yearbook committee have been gathering advertisements for this year's edition. We ask that you consult the list below and support the business establishments, groups or individuals that have bought advertising space in the yearbook. Their monetary contributions demonstrate that they support education and the Hollis Brookline students

- Christopher's Subs and Pizza
- The Marino Family
- Infiniti of Nashua
- Curves of Hollis, NH
- Hollis Hair Design
- Quiltopia
- Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage (Joyce O'Connor)
- B & C Cuts
- The Brookline Schools
- Nashua Nutrition
- Focus on Fitness Inc/Nashua Athletic Club
- Martial Art Center for Personal Development
- Dr. Edward L. Klopfer, Othodontics for Children and Adults
- Mary Kay Skincare (Ginnie Foye)
- Hollis Village Grocery
- S. R. Tardif Remodeling, Inc.
- The Hollis Brookline Middle School PTSA
- Page Two Entertainment
- Crafts Appraisal Associates, Ltd.
- Hollis Auto Service
- Kathy Blake Dance Studios

If other interested sponsors have not had the opportunity to submit your ad copy and donation and still would like to do that, a form is attached to the back of this newsletter for that purpose. Checks should be made out to HBMS and be submitted with the completed form to the middle school office by November 26, 2003. Thank you in advance for your help with this project.



Drama Club

DeeDee Adams

The HBMS Drama Club will present "The Kind and I" this March 12th and 13th.

Tryouts will be held on Monday, November 10 with call backs on Wednesday, November 12. There will be a read through for all cast members on Tuesday, November 18th until 3:30. There will also be a rehearsal on December 2nd until 3:30 for all cast and one on Tuesday, December 9th until 4:30 for leads only. Regular rehearsals will begin after Winter break on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:15-4:30. Main leads will also meet on several Mondays during January and February. Dress Rehearsal is planned for Friday, March 5th from 2:15 to 8:30. Schedules will be sent home with all students who try out for parts and parents are encouraged to post these dates at home. If you do not receive a schedule, please contact Mrs. Adams.

Hollis Brookline Middle School Yearbook Committee

25 Main Street
Hollis, NH 03049
603-465-2223

The Hollis Brookline Middle School Yearbook Committee is asking for your support! To produce the yearbook at a reasonable cost for all students, we need local businesses to help us by purchasing and placing ads in our yearbook or by making monetary donations. Announcements over the intercom at school encourage students and their families to patronize businesses that show their interest in the school in this way.

If you would like to support us, all you have to do is provide us with a business card, an existing ad copy that you already may have, or the information you would like in an ad that we design. Complete the ad information below and return it in an envelope with your check made payable to **HBMS** by November 26, 2003.

Thank you for your support and interest in Hollis Brookline Middle School

The Yearbook Advisors: Mrs. Carolyn Cicciu and Mrs. Jackie Lucas

Company Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone: _____ **Ext.** _____ **Fax:** _____

Size of Ad (Circle one):

full page (\$200)

½ page (\$100)

¼ page (\$50)

**1/8 page (\$25)
business card**

Donation \$ _____

Use the space below to staple a business card, a copy of an existing ad, or the EXACT information you would like printed for us to create an ad for you

Boxtops For Education

Make a difference each time you go to the grocery store by purchasing your favorite participating Box Tops products. Clip and earn money for your school in three easy steps...



Clip Box Tops

Clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of General Mills products found throughout your local grocery store.



Send Box Tops to School

Turn in your Box Tops coupons to Hollis Brookline Middle School. There's a collection box in the office. The PTSA will collect submitted Box Tops and send them to General Mills.



Your School Earns Cash

General Mills will pay your school 10¢ for each Box Tops coupon redeemed. **Your school can earn up to \$20,000 per year through Clip.**

The PTSA earned \$268 last year through the Boxtops for Education Program!

This year's goal is \$500.

Start clipping now!



Hannaford Helps Schools

Hannaford is once again helping schools earn money!!

From September 6 through December 6, shoppers will receive "School Dollar" certificates at the register when they buy participating General Mills products.

- Buy 3 (General Mills) products = \$2 "School Dollars"
- Buy 6 (General Mills) products = \$4 "School Dollars"
- Buy 9 (General Mills) products = \$6 "School Dollars"

When customers purchase participating General Mills products they will receive "School Dollar" certificates. The HBMS PTSA will be collecting the certificates between now and December 17, 2003. Please send certificates into the Hollis Brookline Middle School Office. For a list of products go to www.Hannaford.com and click on Hannaford Helps Schools.

