



KNIGHTLY NEWS

From the Administration

While writing this message it is quite difficult to concentrate due to the aroma in our hallways. With eyes closed one can easily visualize Thanksgiving dinner, thanks to the tremendous effort of our PTSA, Teacher Appreciation Chairs – Mrs. Schmalz and Mrs. Berry and the many volunteers who prepared special dishes. The staff thoroughly enjoys what has become a very special annual event! Thank you all who participated in cleaning, setting up, cooking or serving! We were extremely pleased with the participation of our local Veterans and our student body. Mr. Capraro organized this special assembly to include our 8th grade band, flag folding, Character Award announcement, Taps and its possible origin, and a special message from Mr. Greg D'Arbonne. Students were exemplary in their respectful behavior.

As you are aware, quarter 1 report cards went home November 12.

At our Fall Recognition Assembly on November 19, three hundred fifty students were recognized for honor roll status, drama participation and all fall sports. The combination of our grade 7 and 8 grade students is producing high positive energy and productivity!

Our school dances remain a popular activity. We have over the last couple of years tried various approaches to decreasing the traffic congestion in both towns at the dismissal of the dance. A truly effective method has not been found. What will help is carpooling! Please consider reducing the amount of cars by carpooling. Also, if you are waiting in traffic on the main streets, please pull to the side of the road using a blinker so that others may pass. We are open to suggestions. Please contact administration with any thoughts.

Please if you have not done so, check our website often. Mr. Jahns, on a daily basis, posts our morning news announcements. You may check for confirmation of activities. Many parents have stated they find it quite helpful!

And finally, thanks for your attention to the new procedure for afternoon carpool. We appreciate your attention to detail and feel it is much safer for our students.

In this edition you will find all dates for the Holiday concerts to be held at the HS auditorium. On behalf of the staff we wish you warm, happy Holidays.

Sincerely,

Patricia Lewis Goyette, Principal



PTSA President's Report

The leaves are falling and the temperature is dropping. Fall sports have ended and winter sport try-outs have been completed. Our congratulations go out to all our fall teams on completing great seasons!!! Special thanks go out to the coaches: Ron Johnston-Cross Country, Amy Dunbar-Volleyball, John Gray-Girls Soccer, Barry Lyle-Boys Soccer, Patty Smith-Field Hockey, and the parent volunteers for the time and effort that goes into coaching and helping to run the games and meets. Thunderous applause goes out to our Drama club and their wonderful advisors, Maggie Grupposo and DeeDee Adams. Their first production was a roaring success!!! We look forward to the Winter Musical, Guys and Dolls with great anticipation.

The magazine drive fundraiser has come to a close with Mrs. Maher's ROCK group winning the final pig race and earning themselves a little breakfast treat. The winners of the limo/pizza lunch are looking forward to their treat with Mrs. Desmarais. The magazine drive total sales as of 10/15 was \$20,813.88, netting the PTSA approximately \$8,000.00. This total exceeded our budget expectations and we are thrilled! Thanks again to all who participated and the committee who so hard to make it happen.

Staff appreciation continues to happen on a regular basis at HBMS! Thanks to all who helped provide a Thanksgiving feast for all of the staff on November 18th. The staff enjoyed turkey with all the fixings and wonderful desserts provided by the wonderful parents at HBMS!

The NH State PTA held it's annual convention on November 5th & 6th at the Radisson Hotel in Merrimack. Dianne Bonta(Treasurer), Ruth Kabel(1st Vice President) and I attended workshops on Internet Safety, "No Child Left Behind", and Reflections. The Internet Safety workshop was eye opening. There is new training being developed which we hope to be able to bring to both children and parents when the tools become available. The "No Child Left Behind" law workshop was very intense and at time emotional for the presenters. It was helpful to us to see all sides to the law and how it effects all of us.

The Reflections program is coming to the Middle School this year. You should be seeing paperwork on that soon. I encourage all the students to participate in this very worthwhile program. The theme this year is "A Different Kind of Hero". Joy Peterson will be heading up the program in the Middle School and we are very excited to have her with us!

Please remember that this is your PTSA. We encourage everyone to get involved and help to make HBMS the best PTSA it can be. Our meetings are the 3rd Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room at the Middle School. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to get on the agenda for a meeting, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

Enjoy the Holidays!!!

Trish MacDonald, PTSA President

465-2898/trish_macdonald@charter.net

Inside This Issue

School and Community News.....	2
Team Caesar News (Team 1).....	3
Team Emerson News (Team 2).....	4
Team Three News.....	5
Team Prescott News (Team 4).....	6
Team McClintock News (Team 6).....	7

Music, French, Spanish, Art and Reading.....	8
Physical Education, Health & Wellness, Band, Drama,	9
Family and Consumer Science	9
Sports News and Updates.....	10

SPECIAL FEATURE:

Yearbook Information	11
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School and Community News

Generations

Since 1992 Hollis/Brookline Middle School has sponsored and coordinated some form of what we now know as Generations. **Generations** is a day full of informative workshops, keynote speakers and a lot of fun! The Generations program exposes students, faculty and parents to a wide range of contemporary issues. Learning about these issues promotes healthy lifestyle choices. Inclusion of parents and students allows for better communication surrounding these issues and a common knowledge base.

After pausing for the 2003-2004 school year, Generations is back for the 2004-2005 school year. This year Generations will take place on two separate days. "The Power of Change" will be the theme for the eighth grade that will have their Generations day on December 15, 2004. The seventh grade will have their Generations day on March 30, 2005 themed "The Power of Choice."

Parents are encouraged to come join us. Further updates will be published in future editions of the Knightly News and more detailed information will be sent home with students as the dates get closer. If you are interested in volunteering in planning for Generations or on either of the Generations days please email me at white@sau41.k12.nh.us or

Calendar of Events

Thanksgiving Recess	Nov. 25,26	No School
7th Gr. Choral Concert	Dec. 13, 7:30—HBHS Auditorium	
8th Gr. Choral Concert	Dec. 20, 7:30—HBHS Auditorium	
Generations	Dec. 15	8th Grade
	Mar. 30	7th Grade

Integrated Specialists/Progress Report Dates

Because Integrated Specialists have a shorter grading period, they will send out progress reports at different times. Integrated Specialists will hand out progress reports on the following dates:

2nd Rotation – Tuesday and Wednesday November 23/24 (just before Thanksgiving break)

3rd Rotation – Monday and Tuesday January 31/February 1

4th Rotation – Thursday and Friday March 31/April 1 for 7th grade
Monday and Tuesday April 4/5 for 8th (as they are in Washington DC the week before)

5th Rotation – Wednesday and Thursday May 25/26

Don't Forget the Holiday Concerts!!

The seventh grade chorus will be presenting their holiday concert on Monday, December 13, 2004 at 7:30 pm in the high school auditorium. Please refer to the choral expectation sheet for appropriate concert dress.

The eighth grade chorus will be presenting their holiday concert on Monday, December 20, 2004 at 7:30 pm in the high school auditorium. Please refer to the choral expectation sheet for appropriate concert dress.

We look forward to seeing you at our concerts!



**Be sure and check out the
Yearbook information on page 11!**

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

SEVENTH GRADE NEWS

TEAM CAESAR

Science with Mrs. Cleveland

Thank you for supporting our science program with your donations toward the cost of our "dissectible" items. We, the seventh grade science teachers, feel the dissection is a true enrichment experience for those feeling comfortable doing it. It is with your help that we can continue to provide more of these activities.

The students will look and think of ping pong balls differently now. After studying the parts of the eye and dissecting a cow's eye, the students used these balls, glass beads, felt, lots of hot glue and other materials to make models of the eye. I hope you were impressed with their knowledge as they explained the parts to you as you "dissected" the model.

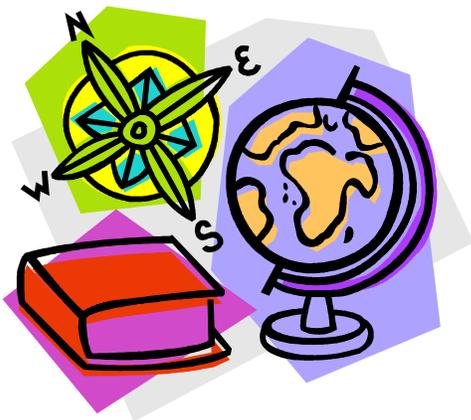
We are moving from how we see to seeing the microscopic world. We have learned the parts and the techniques of using the microscope. We will now continue with viewing, identifying, and studying many organisms that are only visible being magnified tens or hundreds of times. It is so exciting to watch as the students thrill at seeing these organisms swim and dive in the mere drop of water.

Math with Mrs. Fordin and Mrs. Hall

Algebra has taken off with the use of graphing calculators, matrix operations, operations with integers, substitution, combining like terms and mathematical properties. We even learned some new note taking short cuts, the Laws of Losers and about sail squirrels. Students will soon be engaging in formal algebra by solving equations the good old fashioned way.

Number Theory has been a main focus in some of the math classes. Students have studied perfect numbers, abundant and deficient numbers as well as using Number Theory to analyze games and predict patterns in the planets. We will soon move on to deepening out knowledge related to fractions.

Lastly, there are students who have been working diligently with integers. We have used various tools to strengthen our understanding such as dancing, modeling and relating integers to cops and robbers. This will provide a foundation for our upcoming unit on formal algebraic concepts such as writing expressions, substitution, like terms and variables.



English with Mrs. Maher

Team 1 English students have finished The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton, and I must say that the novel received high reviews from many students. In fact, students enjoyed the novel more so than the film we watched in class!

We are now looking at the qualities and characteristics of a hero as well as examples of heroes in society, literature, and film. Students are examining whether or not there are examples of heroes in The Outsiders. We have expanded our conversation on heroes with a brief unit on Greek Mythology. According to Greek Mythology, what is the definition of a hero? How does that definition differ from the definition each class created? The unit on mythology will conclude with an examination of the use and appearance of mythology in our world today. For instance, where did the term "Achilles' Heel" come from? How does 'cereal' have anything to do with Greek Mythology?

Before students leave for Thanksgiving Break, we will begin our Team 1 Interdisciplinary Unit on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Students in English will examine characteristics of Victorian England, and once we return from the holiday break, we will begin reading the novel. Please stay tuned to the Team 1 English Website for more details on the set – up of the unit. The highlights of this unit will be our trip to see "**A Christmas Carol**" at the **North Shore Music Theatre on December 15** along with our **Victorian Tea Party on Friday, December 17**. I will provide both students and parents with more information regarding the Tea Party after Thanksgiving Break.

History with Mr. Capraro

We are just finishing our study of the end of the Roman Empire. We have been paying particular attention to the "new" religion in Rome: Christianity—where it came from, what its beliefs are, and most importantly its affect on the Roman Empire in the first few centuries AD. From there we moved to the fall of Rome and the split of the Roman Empire into the Byzantine Empire of the East and the Middle Ages of the European West. One of our favorite parts of this chapter is 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 will ask the students to try their hand at making one. They will soon find 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 the Fall of Rome and Christianity by reviewing all of the vocabulary and important people in the chapter as preparation for the chapter test.

SEVENTH GRADE NEWS

TEAM EMERSON

English with Mrs. Jahns: Meeting Myth Maker

Zeus, Poseidon, Hades, Mother Earth and the Titans: I am absolutely sure we have learned more about the Greek gods & goddesses than we have at any other time! All just in a few weeks of English class. Each student chose a person or creature from Greek mythology and did a research report on him or her (or it) and then we did a really fun presentation on that person or creature. There were shields & tridents, flowers & sculptures, and several interesting models brought for presentations.

Not only did we learn about Greek mythology, we also learned how to take notes correctly and do works cited. We also learned to outline and then write; doing this makes writing essays so much easier!

During this time we were also working on another essay, but this essay was to enter a contest as well as an English assignment. There were 3 different choices, all involving patriotism. Personally, I wrote about "What Service to our Country Means to Me". I am very proud of this essay and hope that it wins. This was a great activity to do because I never thought about this topic, and now that I do I realize it is very important. I believe that everyone else should think about it too.

Note from Mrs. Jahns: We are beginning our unit on A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Remember that we are going to the theater production of it on Dec. 15.

Social Studies with Mrs. Beal — Farley 424 Becomes Campaign Headquarters!

We left "history" behind and became active participants in our own history as Farley 424 became campaign headquarters for Election 2004. In preparation for the debates, classes brainstormed a list of "issues" and then working in teams, researched their candidate's position on each of the issues. We were lucky to have access to the computer lab where students could access their candidate's web pages. For the finale, each team came well-prepared and ready to win. We had campaign posters, brochures, bumper stickers, power point presentations, editorials and even some rap music. Students chose their own moderators and time keepers. All candidates responded impressively as they fielded one tough question after another on their issues.

Off the campaign trail, our textbook unit has been "Christianity and the Roman Empire" with our main emphasis on how the religion grew and spread and why it was so appealing to the masses. Some of the activities we have done for this unit have been illustrating and then pantomiming pieces from the Beatitudes, filling in a map showing the spread of Christianity in the Roman Empire, watching a video showing Paul's transformation and journeys. In our next unit we will look at the Fall of Rome and then The Byzantine Empire focusing on the Eastern Center of the Roman Empire and the eventual rise of Islam.

Science w/Mrs. Evans: Mystery in Science

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

Observing birth, head on collisions, and unusual eating habits—Where are these amazing events taking place? Right before our eyes—under the microscope, of course! Our microbiologists had an opportunity to observe a variety of microscopic protozoans, including paramecium, stentors, blepharisma, euplates and amoeba. The unique behaviors, movements, and habits of these one-celled organisms were easily observed with our compound light microscopes. Ask your child to tell you about the letter and package we received from the prominent owner of Micro-Scientific in Atlanta, Georgia. Their willingness to respond to her "unusual" request, and their appreciative attitude throughout the whole process made me very proud.

Our scientists are studying genetics and using their knowledge of the subject to solve 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 "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire". Could the red-haired parents have a daughter with blonde hair? Is it possible for two brown-eyed parents 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 victim to the rightful parents.

This 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.

One final word..."Move over Sherlock Holmes, a new generation of detectives has emerged". To further understand this unit on genetics, the students will make "Mom and Dad Reebop". These Reebops are made from the following: marshmallows for the body segment, gumdrops to represent the eyes and legs, M&M's for the nose, toothpicks for antennae, and a pipe cleaner for the 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 clean-up will be relatively easy since most items are edible...uum, uum good.....

Computer and Library Skills

Seventh grade students are completing a computer project. They are required to research a person who has made a difference in the development of the personal computer. During their library classes students choose an individual to research, take notes on note cards and write a Works Cited. After completing their research in the library, they then go to Mr. Gruce's computer class and are taught how to use Excel and if time allows develop a PowerPoint from their research.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Team 3

Math with Mrs. Mezzocchi

The pre-algebra classes are finishing up a unit on one-step equation solving and setting up real life problems as an equation. These classes are slowly being introduced to the TI-83+ graphing calculators by using some of the incredible APPS (applications.) The technology of these calculators has expanded so much that it is difficult to keep up with all the new uses. The students are very fortunate to have these learning tools provided for them in their math classes.

The algebra classes will be moving forward very rapidly. They will soon be working with linear equations and graphing. By the winter break they will be experts in finding slope and intercepts. Since they enjoy playing video games, we have an application of the TI-83+ graphing calculator that allows them to play a game where they are working out the equation of a line in order to hit (go through) targets (points) provided on a graph. The more correct equations, the better the score (of course!)

The geometry class is getting organized with their list of definitions and conjectures. The first few conjectures deal with angles. The next unit in geometry will be studying the triangle conjectures with a taste of trigonometry. This always intrigues geometry students and helps provide the feeling of a true **MATHEMATICIAN**.

With the holidays approaching, all math classes will be participating in an origami unit and will be making decorations to brighten up our classroom. There is a lot of mathematics in origami (especially geometry!) This unit combines both entertainment and learning, which is what math is all about.

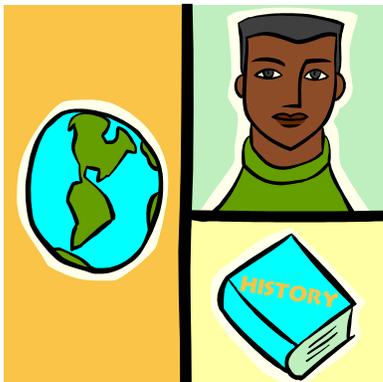
Earth Science with Mrs. Smith

As most of you know I will be taking a short medical leave beginning Nov. 19 and returning on January 3, 2005. Please be assured that the earth science program will not suffer due to my absence. Mrs. Chris Spader is a very capable science teacher who has some exciting activities planned for the next several weeks. I have worked very closely with her to organize the next unit on volcanoes.

As this goes to print the geologic phenomenon of volcanoes provides for much curiosity from the students, particularly Mt. St. Helens. All students have been waiting for it to erupt. Who knows perhaps during the study of volcanoes they will have a chance to view one as it erupts. A few activities that are planned during this unit are the making of several types of volcanoes and learning how to read a topographical map. Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Vesuvius, and Montserrat will be the volcanoes of choice. So parents, stay tuned for some very interesting facts about volcanoes at the dinner table.

Students: Bring in current event articles about science in the news to receive bonus points on tests and quizzes. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity.

I hope everyone enjoys a healthy holiday and Happy New Year! See you in January!



English with Mrs. Cicciu

Student-to-student exchanges are taking place for students on team 3; they are widening their view of the world. The first exchange began in October when a package of letters arrived from students at a middle school in Japan. Mrs. Cicciu and the teacher there had been corresponding via email through the summer and agreed this opportunity for the students to write back and forth would contribute to their understanding of each other's culture and help the Japanese students perfect their English! The Hollis Brookline students were impressed by the artistic embellishments on the letters, and Mrs. Cicciu was appreciative of the neatness! Their box of letters and copies of the first creative writing assignment are now on their way to Tokyo. Before the next letters arrive, students will learn a little more about the culture as they read selections from the Far East during November's multicultural literature study.

The second exchange is taking place with students in three Iraqi schools in an area outside the city of el-Nasiriyah southwest of Baghdad. The proceeds from the team 3-sponsored dance on November 19th will go to mailing tee shirts and school supplies to children in grades K-8. Reports from National Guard and Reserve soldiers stationed there attest to the fact that the Iraqi people are in a desperate situation with limited food and water supplies and definitely no access to clothing and basic school needs. Schools opened a month late because of safety concerns. Students have included banners to the three schools with simple messages of good will.

While both of the foregoing activities address the multicultural reading theme of November, students will "switch gears" in December and read from the adventure genre. To widen the choices, students may choose fiction or nonfiction books that take them on imagined or real adventures. The project for the November is to write a series of three letters to another student on the team, sharing what they are learning about the culture from their reading books. The December project? --to be announced! During the month of December students will be reading the five short stories that will be dramatized during the theater experience in Boston on December 23rd. Busy times ahead!

Students completed their entries for five different writing assignments during the final weeks of October; most focused on giving an opinion and providing evidence and convincing arguments. They learned some of the requirements for this type of writing but will learn more in the next two months about organizing thoughts for essays and perfecting a well-developed, third person writing piece that is convincing and clear. Some of the more prevalent errors in mechanics will be addressed during the editing phase of the writing process.

What does January hold? Radio play writing and taping projects outside of school and maybe some video work in school. Happy holidays to all and sincere thanks for your support of education and the conversations about books that seem to be happening.

U.S. History with 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 exam 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.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Team Prescott

Earth Science with Mr. Bond

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

Mt. St. Helens continues to puff steam and ash almost twenty-five years after its catastrophic eruption in 1980. A few weeks ago, Indonesia was rattled by a strong earthquake. News of glaciers melting around Mt. Everest as a possible result of global warming has scientists and environmental policy-makers scurrying. 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 pinpoint 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 homework, study guides and 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?" or get an up-to-the-minute weather report from our new weather station!

Math with Mr. Dean Jahns

It's been quite a term for the Pre-Algebra students as we delved into the world of algebraic notation and expression. Want to know what "2x" or a "3x+1" look like? So did we, so we used algebraic tiles to model these expressions and others. We learned to manipulate (add, subtract, multiply) the tiles, and then did 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 relates to "direct variations" and "functions".

Geometry is concentrating on growing a body of definitions, investigations and conjectures, upon which we will build the rest of our year, as we discover and explain the many facets of Geometry. Our next unit will explore the many uses of the tools of Geometry and geometric construction.

Language Arts with Mrs. Corliss

Team Prescott writers are busily working to complete persuasive essays concerning Wassily Kandinsky's "Angel of the Last Judgment" painting of 1911. Also, students have each chosen one of five essay contest topics to complete by the end of November.

Maya Angelou's memoir excerpt I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings allowed us to once again use critical thinking skills as we analyzed and interpreted her writing. As well, we read "On the Pulse of the Morning," a piece of poetry Angelou wrote and shared at the request of President-Elect Bill Clinton for his 1993 inauguration. Who was the only other president to have a poet speak at his inauguration? Who was the poet? Ask your Team Prescott student for the answer.

During December we will prepare for our trip to John Hancock Hall in Boston. The Chamber Repertory Theatre will perform five stories to include Edgar Allan Poe's The Fall of the House of Usher and Richard Connell's The Most Dangerous Game. We look forward to spending a festive day in Boston with Mrs. Cicciu's English students.

History with Mr. Lyle

All students are breathing a sigh of relief as the election and their coinciding Pres. Politics Project have come to an end!

Students have begun an intense study of the American War for Independence. They've been watching a documentary, narrated by Charles Kuralt, on the beginning part of the conflict. Homework's been light. Discussion of war and its effects have not. The troops will be soon engaged in a comprehensive set of maps concerning the Revolution. We'll be engaged in a Wide Game {Project} encompassing a myriad of personalities involved with the period next week as well. What fun we'll have with that!

We'll be studying the Declaration of Independence shortly also. The delegates and their contributions to that effort are certainly noteworthy and we'll be taking a good hard look at them. We'll be watching "1776" as part of that study.

Following this we'll be taking apart the Articles of Confederation and putting together the new Constitution. We'll be studying the problems and solutions needed to bring that new document about. We'll be having some fun with the Founding Fathers as well. It should be very interesting, challenging work!

We continue to have homework most nights because, just as dough doesn't turn into bread without a little kneading, students need homework as a means of digesting the material and assimilating it into their web of knowledge. I can only provide the ingredients and a little yeast. The student then has to roll up his or her sleeves and do the work! Extra Study Sessions continue to be available Thursdays after school.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Team Prescott

Team McClintock

Family and Consumer Science

A pleasant sight greets anyone who walks into Mrs. Sarvaiya's room. The students on Team Prescott, at the moment, are seated comfortably around various tables, working hard on sewing projects. Most are sewing felt quilt patterns in geometric designs, but a few are already working on projects from Hann Crafts. Students, based on their skill levels and interests, chose these projects from a catalogue. At one table, a plush football is underway and at another, a cute polar bear is being cut out of the fuzzy fabric. Sewing projects like these help students learn to follow directions and strengthen their fine motor skills. These projects also put an emphasis on the importance of student responsibility because they are required to remember to bring their materials to each class as well as to complete their projects in a timely manner.

In Family and Consumer Science, students will be learning more about eating a balanced diet, fad diets, and eating disorders. Students will also be cultivating their culinary skills when they begin the practical side of this unit. In the kitchen, students will be making brownies, cinnamon rolls, and Chinese food. Mrs. Sarvaiya teaches students to cook nutritious food and is giving them a healthy meal option. The Chinese recipes include many of the vegetables that we need in a day. The students on Team Prescott are eagerly awaiting the smells and tastes they will experience during the rest of the quarter in Family and Consumer Science! **By: Allison Langley and Rebecca Powell**

Wellness

by Ms. White



Team Caesar began Wellness classes on October 25. Though only together for a short amount of time, we have jumped in to classes with enthusiasm and a genuine interest in the topics we are studying.

Throughout our study of stress, media, body image, and eating disorders (the topics we have studied thus far) we have involved our parents with our homework. Students have interviewed their parents and/or guardians about how those topics affected them when *they* were in middle school. Once we stopped laughing at the fact that our Moms wanted hot pants and our Dads wanted jean jackets we realized more. We see that often they were very much the same as we are now. Imagine, my Mom really cared about how she looked? Or my Dad really did get stressed about his homework! All in all, we have discovered that our parents are not the aliens we once thought they were!

As for the rest of team Caesar's time in Wellness class, we will examine communication, the immune system, HIV/AIDS and drug and alcohol use and abuse. Parents can expect more interviews and more discussions!

PS Ask your student about their stress book!

Math-Science-English-History with Ms. Ellerin, Mrs. Gruposso

"To Clone or Not to Clone"

To clone or not to clone has been the question Team McClintock students have been pondering these last few weeks. It all came about when the *Boston Globe* ran an article about this very issue, and we found a way to incorporate this great teachable moment into science and English. The students have done internet and book research; they have viewed the nucleus of cheek cells under the microscope; they have been writing an opinion essay and will be culminating the unit with a debate.

Clearly Team McClintock students have experienced the benefits of emersion. The research skills used in science class, along with how to assess the validity of a website, were originally taught in connection with the DAR essay topic, "Along the Trail with Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery." History students have selected one essay topic (DAR, VFW, or Fleet Reserve) to take to a final draft and have written a comparison essay on Bush and Kerry after weeks of collecting information and using a Venn Diagram to organize the information. The Venn was also used to compare the motifs of Greek and Roman mythology to the adventure book they read.

In addition to research and essay writing skills, Team McClintock students attended Team Two's presidential debates. They also participated in a Mock Election sponsored by the New Hampshire Public Television.

At this point English students have begun their study of A Christmas Carol in preparation for their trip to see the North Shore Music Theater's performance on Wednesday, December 15. (They will need a bag lunch.) History classes have returned to their study of the ancient world.

An exciting new unit starts off the winter quarter in science. Students begin their study of light and vision. The students will be conducting their own inquiry-based science experiment around the idea that light is a form of energy. Students will be transforming questions they have into a workable experiment. Students will design the experiment by delineating the constant, dependent and independent variables; they will be writing detailed procedures to carry out the experiment; and presenting their findings in a lab report. Along with the experimental process, Team McClintock will be learning about the eye, culminating with a dissection of an eyeball.

The 7th grade science department would like to thank all families who have contributed a donation towards funding the dissections offered throughout the year.

In 7th grade math, students are beginning an in depth unit on fractions. In accelerated math, students are beginning a unit on solving single and multiple variable equations.

Team McClintock also had a Team McClintock meeting to commemorate students who have shown excellent work ethics, a love of learning and a strong community/team spirit. The following students were awarded a certificate for work ethic: Emily Dutile, Cardin Kennedy, Kaelyn Hawekotte and Katherine Wadleigh. Katie Foley and Moriah Aske-naizer were awarded a certificate for continually showing a love of learning. Ryan Hoynacki was awarded a certificate for community spirit.



Reading—Holiday Gift Ideas

Mrs. Dufresne and Mrs. Lucas

Summer of the Swans by Betsy Byars

Sara sometimes resents her younger brother, who is mentally disabled. One night Charlie disappears, and Sara must search before it is too late. This is a compelling story of a fourteen-year old that learns what it is like to care about someone else more than your self. A Newbery medal winner.

Crazy Lady by Jane Leslie Conly

Maxine, a short, stocky woman with dark glasses, was called the crazy lady. She would walk the streets with her special needs son. At first Vernon joins his friends in ridiculing the neighborhood outcasts. After spending a day helping this odd family, Vernon develops a social conscience after all.

Patriots in Petticoats, Heroines of the American Revolution: by S.R. Redmond

Tales of 14 feisty, daring, noble women include Prudence Cummings Wright, who grew up in Hollis and became the wife of a Pepperell Minuteman. She formed a militia and captured a loyalist spy. Other famous women of the Revolution include Betty Zane and Phyllis Wheatly.

Thura's Diary: T. Al-Windawi

A Baghdad teen relates her experiences in wartime Iraq just before and after the bombing of Baghdad. This puts a personal face on the top news story of today. This is an engrossing story for teens.

The Land: by Mildred D. Taylor

This is a prequel to Roll of Thunder, Hear Me Cry. Set in the Deep South during the Reconstruction, Paul-Edward Logan narrates the tale of his life as the son of a plantation owner and a slave mother. Logan's passion for land and his relationship with family and neighbors surround themes of loyalty, betrayal, racism and hope.

Some websites for finding great books

ALA Resources for Parents, Teens and Kids

www.ala.org/parents/index/html

The Book Bag

www.teenreads.com

Teen Hoopla

www.ala.org/teenhoopla

Reading Connection, 2000, Resources for Educators



French

Madame Rankins

French Students honored for their work in October were:

Alicia Papineau

Kylie Witt

Julie Coffey

Dylan Guetling

Catie Calo

Bon effort, mes amis! !!!!!!!

French 7 students are talking about themselves and others in French. They are also sharing their likes and dislikes with the class. They have managed to put a dialogue together involving all of this, which was presented to the class. Nice job!

French 8 students are speaking about their daily routine and what they do to stay in shape. We have had some interesting conversations. They will be doing an illustrated routine in the near future!

C'est tout pour maintenant! Au revoir!



La clase de Español

Señora Banks y Señora Lash

Hola! Would you like to see a theatrical mask be carved out of a large chunk of wood before your very eyes? This is what we had the opportunity to do while spending the day with Mr. Ju in Mexico. His masks have been used by Ballet Folklorico de Mexico, as well as other famous groups. Mr. Horta shared with us his knowledge of Mexican culture and traditions. It was an enjoyable day for all involved. Thank you to our PTSA for sponsoring this event. Special thanks to our students, your respectful behavior and thoughtful questions impressed our visitor and made us very proud.

Congratulations to our 7th grade students who will soon learn the first conjugation of verbs. Exciting stuff! Through this skill they will expand their vocabulary and greatly enhance their ability to communicate. We are proud of how quickly students have caught on to the concepts leading up to this critical skill. It reflects very well on their effort and work habits. Ask your son or daughter to share with you how we study verbs in Spanish class. It is probably not what you think!

Our 8th grade students have just completed an important unit on the verbs Ser and Estar. The tests are in and are looking very good. Thanks for your hard work.

We combined these two big verbs with our unit on health. Your student can now describe physical symptoms and communicate with a doctor and a pharmacist! To foster conversation about a healthy lifestyle, we are in the middle of a friendly showdown between our classes to determine which class has the healthiest habits! We look forward to moving on to Direct Object Pronouns and working on a cultural project as we head into the Holidays.

Music Notes

Mrs. Nancy Spencer



Seventh grade general music groups just finished a six-day project in which they created a music notation system from another planet. The final project included a presentation for other class members, a pen pal letter to their friend on Earth and a display board showing a copy of their music. Some very creative ideas for duration and pitch were presented. Good job to all involved!

Eighth grade general music groups are working on rhythms and drum set patterns. They will soon be practicing acoustic guitars. Students are allowed to bring in their own acoustic guitar for the next three weeks. Guitars may be dropped off in the morning in room 118.

Art News

Sandra Papadeas

Clay is pliable, movable, wet, dry, slimy, sticky but lots of fun. Team 6 art students just finished a unit in clay. They decided what hand building methods they wanted to use. The basic methods are pinch, coil, slab, and hollow out. Many students constructed leaves, name plaques, containers, and animals. Many of these forms are from nature. Clay is very close to natural forms because it becomes hard, durable and smooth like stone once it has been fired in the kiln. The next step after firing is glazing and staining. Students are very pleased with their results and have always said that the clay unit is their favorite. Hopefully, they will save the pieces that they have made and keep them for many years.



In the drawing unit, students were studying highly imaginative drawings in the style of Russian artist Marc Chagall. They visually tied memories together to make their drawings dreamlike. Objects could float, overlap, and be cropped. Proportions could be distorted and exaggerated. Students found it quite challenging to make an interesting composition. Much thought was considered in designing the background. Some added colors to a flat background while other drew a more realistic image. These drawings will soon be on display on the main building.

Health Update



Scoliosis screenings and heights and weights have just been completed on 7th grade students. Any students that need follow up appointments with their Doctors for questionable scoliosis screenings have had a note sent home with the student. 8th grade screenings will begin next week.

Vision and hearing screenings have just been completed on all students. Notices have been sent home with the student if they require follow up evaluation by your physician. If you have any questions please call Dee Dee Adams at 465-2223

Recently we have had a number of students with colds. Many of the viral illnesses are spread by contact with infected body fluids. In order to reduce the risk of the spread of these illnesses the following guidelines are recommended:

Students should be encouraged to wash their hands frequently with soap and water or alcohol based hand gel.

Students should be reminded not to share food or drinks with anyone.

Students should be reminded to use and dispose of tissue in the appropriate location.

Any student who has a temperature over 100 degrees should remain home until they are fever free for 24 hours.

BAND

Mr. Depine



The instrumental music program at Hollis-Brookline Middle School is now in full swing with preparations being made for winter concerts. The 8th grade band made their performance debut at the Veterans Day assembly with a performance of the Star Spangled Banner and America. Ian Grant provided everyone with a beautiful interpretation of "Taps" and the percussion section assisted in the posting of the colors. Congratulations to the 8th grade band on a fine performance. Jazz band is now meeting on Wednesday's with 2 groups. The first meets from 5 to 6 and the second group from 6 to 7. Any student still interested is invited to attend. Our band concerts have been scheduled with the 8th grade concert on December 21st and the 7th grade concert on December 22nd. The concerts will begin at 7:30 and take place at the Hollis-Brookline High School Auditorium. Students should plan to arrive before 7:00 and be on stage ready to warm-up at 7:00. Concert attire will be as follows:

Boys-dark dress pants, white dress shirt, tie, shoes (no sneakers, please)

Girls- dark skirt or slacks, white blouse, shoes

The concert is free and open to the public. Hope to see you there.

Drama Club



The Hollis Brookline Middle School Drama Club will be presenting the Jr. Version of Guys and Dolls on Friday and Saturday February 18 and 19 (snow date Sunday February 20). The performance will be held at 7pm at the Middle School with doors opening at 6:30. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$5. For rehearsal dates and times please check the school's web site under Drama Club.

Plan to save this date as cast and crew are already working hard to bring you an entertaining evening.

Physical Education

by Gayle Bottcher and Ron Johnston



The seventh grade physical education classes completed the field hockey unit and the eighth grade classes finished soccer. Currently all physical education classes are inside participating in a volleyball unit. Students are learning and becoming more competent in the safety, rules, etiquette, and skills necessary for playing the game. The underhand and overhand serve, and the set and forearm pass are being reviewed and practiced while the drive, spike, block, and dig are advanced skills presented later in the unit.

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

Be safe this Thanksgiving holiday!

Eat healthy!

Enjoy your family and friends!



SPORTS NEWS AND UPDATES



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 8 wins, 2 losses and 1 tie put the team into the semi-final playoffs against Peterborough on the 26th of October where the boys played a hard fought game against a very strong Peterborough team losing 0 to 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 8 wins and 3 ties placing them in the semi-final playoffs on October 27th against West Running Brook where they returned home with a victory of 2-1 after a hard fought game. The girls then faced Weare in the finals on October 29th becoming the **Tri- County Champions** by a score of 3-0. **Great season! Congratulations!**



FIELD HOCKEY

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 7 wins, 2 losses and 1 tie. Their playoff game against Amherst on October 26th, a tough game going into sudden death, brought them a loss of 1-2. **Great season girls!**



VOLLEYBALL

The **Hollis Brookline Volleyball Team** has had a great season participating with schools such as Fairgrounds, Pennichuck, Milford, Boynton, Sunapee, Goffstown and Elm Street. The team has ended their season with 9 wins and 2 losses. The girls have done an incredible job and produced some flawless serves and gone at times 100% at the service line. On October 26th the girls faced Goffstown in the semi-finals with yet another victory placing them in the finals on October 28th against Fairgrounds where they became the Tri County Champions. **Congratulations girls!**



BASKETBALL

Tryouts for the Hollis Brookline basketball season have just ended and the teams are now hard at work practicing daily and hoping for a great season. Team members for the boys' team are: Craig Berry, Alex Betit, Todd Boisvert, Joshua Cone-Roddy, Cole Etten, Bryan Johnson, Christopher Knecht, Bryan Landry, Joseph Napolitano, Trevor Nierendorf, Alex Petropulos, Daniel Robertson, Ryan Zingales and Michael Lopez as manager. Their Coach is John Gray.

Team members for the girls' team are: Brittany Dolloff, Hillary Flanagan, Kimmie Glover, Arielle Kinney, Alyssa Landolt, Katelyn Martin, Maura McCartney, Kelly Morgan, Kendall Nicosia-Rusin, Molly Parlee, Haley Reddick, Danika Rencken and team managers – Hannah Godshall, Alicia Papineau, Maycie Whelan. Coaching the girls' team this year is Peter Stopera.



CROSS COUNTRY

The Hollis Brookline Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams have had a busy season of running, competing in meets with Pelham, Peterborough, Merrimack, St. Joe's, Villa Augustina, Fairgrounds, Hampstead, Hood, Amherst, Milford, Windham, Litchfield and Hooksett. Improving with each meet, they took several individual first place positions. The teams also participated in the **Tri-County League meet** on October 16th competing with one thousand runners from different schools and later traveled to Londonderry to compete in the **State Championships** on October 23rd where the teams saved their best performance for last running outstanding races ending a great season.



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 January 3, 2005. 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. Chaperones are needed especially to ride with students on the bus. 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.

Applications for Hollis Brookline Middle School ski program will be available in the office beginning November 15th with a return deadline for ALL applications on November 22nd. However, students should return their applications as soon as possible as **eligibility is on a first come first serve basis**.

Remember, in order to run a **successful ski program** for our seventh and eighth graders, **parent volunteers are a necessity**. If your child enjoys skiing, please consider helping us out! If you can help or for more information, please feel free to contact Linda Desmarais at the Middle School at 465-2223.

DUE TO A CONFLICT IN SCHEDULES, ANY STUDENT PARTICIPATING IN INTERSCHOLASTIC BASKETBALL OR WRESTLING IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE SKI PROGRAM.



WRESTLING

An informational meeting for parents of students interested in the Wrestling program will be held on Monday, November 29th at 2:30 in the middle school library. Practices will begin on December 2nd and will be held after school every day except for Tuesdays from 2:30 to 4:00 at the high school gym. Wrestling is a very demanding and intense sport that requires commitment from everyone involved. There are no tryouts and everyone that participates in the program is guaranteed to wrestle at least ten matches. Coaching the wrestling team again this year is Rick Meillo, 8th grade Guidance Counselor.

Yearbook - Parent Tribute

To the Parents of Hollis Brookline Eighth Graders:

Would you like to acknowledge your child who will be leaving Hollis Brookline Middle School in June, 2005? The yearbook committee has set aside space in the 2004-2005 yearbook for this purpose. This acknowledgement should be 15 words or less and should also contain the name of the student and the names of the people sending the message.

The cost is \$5.00. The deadline is December 17, 2004.

The form and check (HBMS/memo "Yearbook") should be enclosed in an envelope and sent to the school office.

Student name: _____

Congratulatory Message:

Signatory of the ad: _____

What's Up with the HBMS 2004-2005 Yearbook? How Can You Help?

Students on the yearbook committee have been gathering advertisements for the 2004-2005 yearbook. We ask that you peruse 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.

Amherst Orthodontics (672-0844)

JPSA Advanced Laser Technology (595-7048)

AVIVA Custom Photography (465-3897)

Kathy Blake Dance Studios (673-3978)

Big Bear Lodge LLC (672-7675)

Longhorn Steakhouse (888-6900)

Entropy Software (465-2955)

Marcia T. Farwell Real Estate (673-4786)

Hollis Village Grocery (465-3350)

Nashua Nutrition (595-2312)

Hometown Video (673-8556)

Schaefer Mortgage Corp. / Paul Descoteaux (673-1733)

Janice R. Basiletti Contemporary Fine Art (533-9696)

Structures of Elegance Salon (673-9657)

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 included below for that purpose. Checks should be made out to HBMS with the memo "Yearbook" and be submitted with the completed form to the middle school office by December 17, 2004. Thank you in advance for your help with this project.

Company Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone: _____ Ext. _____

Size of Ad (Circle one):

Full page (\$200) 1/2 page (\$100) 1/4 page (\$50) 1/8 page/bus. card (\$25)

Send a business card or copy of an existing ad that you would like printed in the 2004-2005 yearbook.