

Principal Michelle Coogan

Weeks of November 27-December 1, 2023

A STRONG FOCUS ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

There are 18 school days between today and the holiday recess.

Teachers are determined to maximize all instructional time. Students will be engaged in lessons that require focus in class and completion of work at home. In addition, there will be assessments that require students to study materials.

We know students do best when their teachers and parents work in collaboration to support them. Here are some questions parents can ask their children each day after school:

- 1.) Is your Chromebook charged for tomorrow?
- 2.) Do you have pens and pencils?
- 3.) What book are you reading?
- 4.) Did you complete your IXL home assignment? What skills did your teacher assign you? Did you earn 80%?
- 5.) Did you complete your Rosetta Stone lessons?
- 6.) Do you have any assignments or tests due this week?
- 7.) Do you need to stay for Office Hours on Tuesday?
- 8.) Do you need my help to study?
- 9.) What grade did you earn on the test? Do you need to request a retest?

10.) What was your favorite class today? Why?

We strongly recommend students and parents review the PowerSchool Parent Portal to review grades every week. Parents, you can receive notifications from PowerSchool. Please see the notes at the bottom of today's newsletter.

In closing, we want our students to work hard and learn each day. We are determined to provide the right balance of support and challenge. We believe the partnership between teachers and parents is vital to a middle school student's success. Together, we can make a positive impact on student achievement.

OUR WEEK IN REVIEW

Monday, November 27, 2023 (A2)

Team Leader Meeting 2:50 PM - 3:50 PM

After-School Programs

Healthy Heroes 2:50 PM - 5:00 PM

Winter Sports

Boys Basketball Callbacks Girls Basketball Practice 2:50-4:45 PM

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 (B2)

Homebase 8:35 AM - 9:10 AM

Gary Petersen, Educational Consultant, Visits HMS

Todd White, Educational Consultant, Visits HMS

After-School Programs

Fall Theater Workshop New Haven Magnet Schools Informational Presentation

Winter Sports

Boys Basketball Practice Girls Basketball Practice 2:50-4:45 PM

HMS PTA Meeting

7:00 PM

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 (A3)

Todd White, Educational Consultant, Visits HMS

After-School Programs

Creative Writing Club Diversity & Equity Club Fall Theater Workshop Gr. 7 A-Team Gr. 8 A-Team Jazz Band

Let's Learn Merengue Math Club

Mock Trial

Newspaper/News Club Student Council Technology Club

Winter Sports

Boys Basketball Practice Girls Basketball Practice 2:50-4:45 PM

Thursday, November 30, 2023 (B3)

Winter Sports

Boys Basketball Practice Girls Basketball Practice 2:50-4:45 PM

Friday, December 1, 2023 (A4)

After-School Programs

Healthy Heroes 2:50 PM - 5:00 PM

Winter Sports

Boys Basketball Practice Girls Basketball Practice 2:50-4:45 PM

Flu & COVID Vaccination Clinic

(HMS Cafeteria) 4:30-7:30 PM

UPCOMING DATES

Monday, December 4: No School Professional Development

Friday, December 8: Fall Theater Workshop Showcase at 7 PM

Monday, December 11: Early Dismissal/Professional Development

HMS CALENDAR

Parents and students can access calendar information on the HMS School Website.

HMS PTA MEETING InPerson Meeting at HMS Virtual Attendance:

https://zoom.us/j/96926916760

On Tuesday evening, the HMS PTA will be hosting their next meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m. This meeting will be in person, however there will be an open Zoom Link for anyone interested in participating from home. This is an important meeting for the PTA since we will be voting for new members of the Executive Board. Ideally, we would have our seventh-grade families get involved so the PTA torch can be passed on seamlessly year-to-year. If you are interested or have any questions, please email—

hamdenmiddlepta@gmail.com

Attending the HMS PTA meetings is a great way for parents and families to connect with each other. It is the perfect opportunity to talk with others about your middle school experiences and to plan some enriching experiences for the students. We hope to see you there!

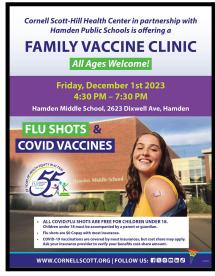
FALL THEATER SHOWCASE December 8th at 7 PM

Please join us for a special evening at HMS. Students who participated in the Fall Theater Workshop are performing in a special showcase on Friday, December 8th at 7 PM. The tickets are only \$5.00 per person and guests can pay at the door.



VACCINATION CLINIC

Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center will host a vaccination clinic at Hamden Middle School on Friday, December 1st from 4:30-7:30 PM. No appointment is necessary.







SCHOOL SPIRIT T-SHIRTS

Parents can purchase Hamden Middle School spirit wear at https://hamdenspiritwear.com/. We work with Spirit Wear to offer families the chance to purchase school swag. You can shop for a variety of items, including hoodies and t-shirts. Then, you can choose a variety of cool Hamden Dragon designs. If you place an order this week, there are NO SHIPPING FEES! It might be just the thing parents are looking for during the upcoming holiday season.



NJHS TOY DRIVE

Members of the National Junior
Honor Society are hosting the annual
Toy Drive. Our students will start to
collect donations on Monday,
November 27th. The team that
collects the most donations will be
rewarded with donuts and hot cocoa.
(YUM!) The greatest reward is
supporting others in a time of need.
All toys collected are donated to the
Keefe Center in Hamden.

HOW TO SET UP EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS ON POWERSCHOOL

Teachers use PowerSchool to communicate student performance and achievement. There is a way parents can set up notifications to

automatically receive email updates. Report options vary from grade and attendance summaries to detailed attendance and assignment scores from each course. Below are the instructions for setting up email notifications.

Step 1—Log into your PARENT
PowerSchool account. Warning:
Setting up notifications under a
student account will allow students
access to turn off the notifications or
change the notification settings. You
must use the PARENT account. LINK
TO SIGN IN PAGE

Step 2— Select "Email Notifications" on the student home screen



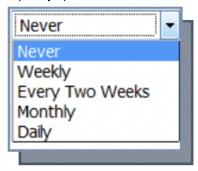
Step 3—Check to see if your email address is correct. Incorrect email addresses can be updated under "Account Preferences"



Step 4— You may add additional emails for notifications. Separate multiple email addresses with commas.

Step 5— Select what information you would like to receive.

Step 6— Select how often you would like to receive the notifications. Frequency options are shown below.



Step 7— Hit "SUBMIT"

PowerSchool is an important tool to help students and families stay up to date on grades and attendance. Setting notifications helps to monitor information regularly.

Please contact Stephanie Bezerra at sbezzera@hamden.org if you have questions about PowerSchool parent account information, log in or notifications.

HAMDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS VIRTUAL BULLETIN BOARDS

Parents are invited to check out the district website. It is the virtual space for community fliers. It is a great way to see what is going on in our beautiful town.

https://www.hamden.org/families/vbb



DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Please review this updated Daily Health Assessment, available in English or Spanish, with your child every day. This is an important first line of defense in both ensuring the health and wellness of your children and also protecting our entire school community from the risk of infection.

