



HALDANE HORIZONS

A newsletter of the Haldane Central School District



Message from Dr. Benante

Dear Haldane Community,

Please join me in congratulating Helena Kottman and Amelia Kupper on their achievements as our Valedictorian and Salutatorian, respectively. Both Helena and Amelia represent our district so well - they are outstanding students who not only take advantage of the district's array of course offerings, but also highlight the importance of becoming involved in extracurriculars both inside and outside of school. Helena and Amelia have thrived academically and socially - I know they have many interests to continue pursuing as they enter college next fall.

Please read on to learn more about their experiences at Haldane, and the many great things that have happened on campus over the past month!

Enjoy,
Phil Benante, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

FEBRUARY 2024

Elementary World Languages

Super Bowl & Asian Lunar New Year

3rd Grade Public Service

Announcement

100 Days Smarter

Heroes Among Us

Middle School Community Read

PCMEA Jr. Music Festival

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2024 Valedictorian & Salutatorian

Reflective Writing in Chemistry?

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Love for Tolve

Students' Choice Lunch

Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations

Art Gallery Glimpse

Elementary Students Explore World Languages and Cultures

This year, elementary students are gaining exposure to world languages and cultures with their new teacher, Ms. Nowak. Since the New Year, Ms. Satterlee's class has been globetrotting in World Language Exploratory. Every week, students learn about a French or Spanish-speaking place in the world and get a glimpse of their unique culture. Recent highlights have included learning the basic steps to salsa dance, exploring French masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay, and singing the folk song, El Coquí, in Spanish. Ms. Windel's class had World Language in the fall and Ms. Moeller's class will start in April.

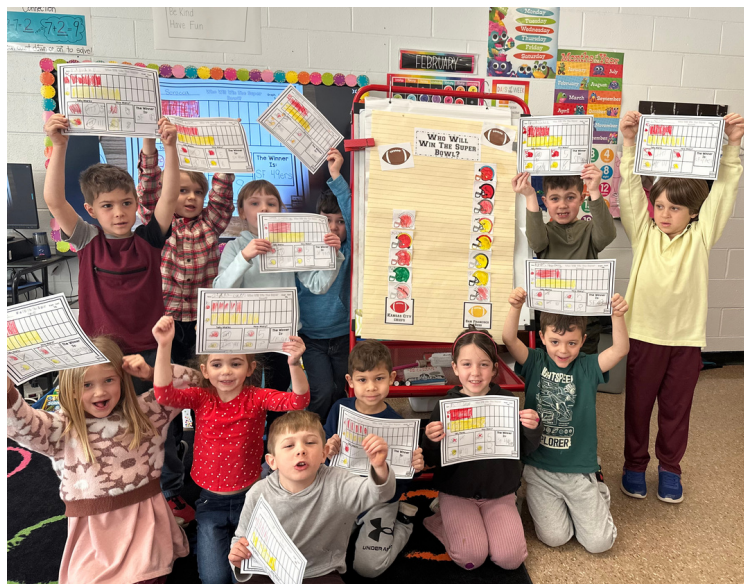
Fourth graders' World Language class gives students the opportunity to explore their interdisciplinary themes through a different cultural and linguistic lens. Last month, to go along with their natural disasters unit, students learned about the climates of Latin America and practiced forecasting the weather in different countries in Spanish.



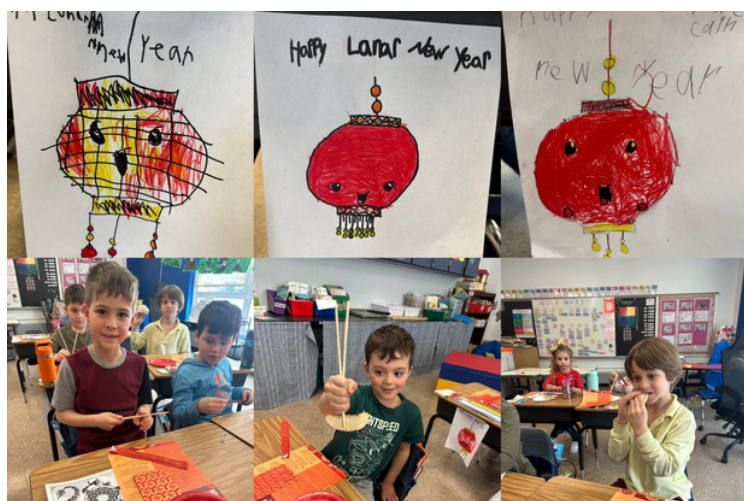
Fifth graders capped off their Japanese unit by folding over 2000 origami cranes! During the unit, students practiced reading and writing the hiragana syllabary, learned to have basic conversations in Japanese, and read *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* to study the annual traditions in Japanese life. Students are now planning to send 1000 of their cranes to the Children's Peace Monument in Hiroshima, and hang another 1000 around our school.

Now, fifth grade has moved on to their French unit and are seeing how French is used as a global language. Right before February break, we had Ms. Llewellyn as a guest speaker to share her experiences as a Peace Corps volunteer in francophone West Africa. Students were thrilled to handle some of the cultural artifacts she brought in, including jewelry made from West African Frangs, millet, and traditional textiles.

Super Bowl Predictions



Asian Lunar New Year



First graders had a thrilling lesson on graphing and predicting the Super Bowl outcome between the Kansas City Chiefs and the San Francisco 49ers. They counted the votes and created word problems to solve based on their graph. This was a touchdown to help them grasp comparing numbers while adding to the excitement of the game!

They then celebrated the Asian Lunar New Year with traditional foods, lantern decorating, and learning about the Year of the Dragon.

3rd Grade Public Service Announcement: Hey Big Kids!

The third graders in Ms. Satterlee's class created a Public Service Announcement to convince middle and high school students to stop twisting the swings.

The project followed their persuasive writing unit where they wrote essays to Ms. Jamin on ways to improve the school. The video is being shared with students across the campus in the hopes that everyone will do their part to save the swings!

Haldane Elementary
A Recess
Public Service
Announcement

Recess
should be fun
and it usually is...

Click box to watch.

A Fan Favorite: Our Kindergartners Are 100 Days Smarter!



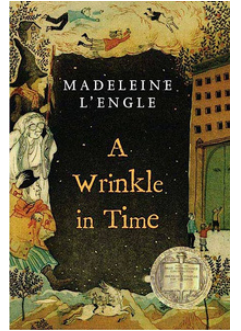
Heroes Among Us



Bruno Lopez, Kaila Woods, Caelan McDermott (not pictured), and our athletic trainer Meg Crowe were recognized by the Putnam County Sheriff's PBA for their heroic actions during a serious medical emergency. The future is in good hands!

Middle School Community Read

Middle School students and families participated in a community read of *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle, followed by an evening of breakout discussion groups. Students are now busy rehearsing of an April performance of a theater adaptation of *A Wrinkle in Time*, by James Sie. Stay tuned for more information!



Middle School Students of the Month



Haldane Middle School's Students of the Month(s) for December and January were recognized by their teachers in partnership with the Elks Lodge of Beacon! Congratulations to 6th graders Vincenzo Pidala and MiaCruz DiGiglio, 7th graders Ellie Shields and Gavin Lyons-King, and 8th graders Tanya Syan and Kirra McCoy.

PCMEA Jr. Music Festival

Earlier this month, twenty middle school students participated in the PCMEA Jr. All County Music Festival. Congrats to all who performed, and to Aisling Loughman, who was selected to perform a solo!

PCMEA exists to provide talented young music students a special opportunity to participate in yearly music festivals. Over twenty music teachers from Brewster, Carmel, Garrison, Haldane, Mahopac, and

Putnam Valley donate their time and expertise to organize, prepare, and rehearse for many weeks to create productive, fun, and memorable musical experiences for their students.

PCMEA selects students for each group based on grade level, NYSSMA levels and scores, instrumentation and voicing, fair district representation, audition, and teacher recommendation.



Poetry Out Loud

Seniors Percy Parker and Camilla McDaniel represented Haldane well at the Poetry Out Loud New York State Regional Semifinals this month at SUNY New Paltz. Camilla placed within the top ten and Percy placed within the top five.

Poetry Out Loud is a national poetry recitation competition that helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about diverse poets and their work. Teachers & Writers Collaborative manages Poetry Out Loud in New York State, in partnership with the New York State Council on the Arts.



Helena Kottman

Class of 2024 Valedictorian

What would you say contributed to your academic success at Haldane?

I am very grateful to the support system that my family and the Haldane community provided. My parents are both educators, so they instilled in me a deep appreciation for education. At school, Mrs. Sniffen has always made room for me to take difficult classes, regardless of my grade level. I am also thankful to my teachers for answering my questions during tenth period, giving me interesting and engaging material, and generally supporting me in my academic pursuits.

Best part of senior year so far?

My favorite day of senior year so far has been an Ethics Bowl Tournament at the end of January. The debate team and I tried out Ethics Bowl for the first time, a new format of argumentation, adjacent to debate. We explored sixteen cases: recent news stories that raise ethical questions, such as what copyright laws for AI-generated media should be, how ethical true crime shows are, and more. Seven of us attended Manhattanville College's annual Ethics Bowl tournament.

I was impressed by my team's argumentation skills and teamwork, and had a great time meeting students from other schools and debating with them about relevant and interesting topics. As a school, Haldane continued through elimination rounds to the final round, which we lost by a slim margin.



What activities were you involved in at Haldane?

I have been the president and captain of the high school Debate Club since my sophomore year, and I highly recommend it to younger high school students. Additionally, I am the president of the International Club and Math Club, both of which have been a fun experience. Some other clubs I have taken part in include the "Blue Notes" a cappella group, Literary Magazine, and the "Blues Devils" rock band.

What are your plans post-Haldane?

I plan to attend the University of Chicago next year. I have not yet declared my major, but I have interests in Art History/Philosophy, Psychology, Spanish, and Ceramics.

Amelia Kupper

Class of 2024 Salutatorian

What would you say contributed to your academic success at Haldane?

My friends and family have always encouraged me to work hard and never give up, and my parents have been incredible role models who taught me to take pride in my work. I like to see my hard work pay off, which keeps me motivated to always put my best foot forward. Furthermore, since I have been busy with dance for so many years, I learned how to budget my time at an early age. This helped me to be successful in high school, because I need to have the ability to direct my attention to many different pursuits.

What activities were you involved in at Haldane?

I am involved in a lot of clubs and I have taken numerous leadership roles in them. Some of my favorites are History Club, Model UN, and ROAR (Reaching out for Animal Rights). I am also the president of National Honor Society, which is a privilege because it allows me to encourage my peers to get involved in the community.



Best part of senior year so far?

My favorite part of senior year so far was the senior kayaking trip! I have always wanted to kayak on the Hudson River, and it was so exciting to have the opportunity to do so with all of my friends!

What are your plans post-Haldane?

I plan on going to a four-year university. I am interested in biology and I may major in that field, though I am also interested in environmental science and am considering pursuing a law degree in the environmental field.

Reflective Writing in Chemistry? Haldane Teacher Finds Solutions

New Haldane High School Chemistry Teacher, Leah Alper, is a fellow with the Early Career Leadership Institute (ECLI) at the Hudson Valley Writing Project. The program is designed to help teachers in their first five years of teaching "develop new teaching and leadership skills as they learn powerful literacy strategies that put writing, deep reading, and critical thinking at the center of their practice."

As part of the program, at a Hudson Valley Writing Project regional conference, Ms. Alper led a workshop of 20+ attendees titled, "Writing as a Catalyst for Learning: Opportunities for Reflection and Growth." The workshop focused on a project she's been cultivating in her chemistry classes this year, where students use reflective writing practices to deepen their understanding of course concepts, bridge gaps in understanding, and build community.



Haldane Students Represent at Chamber of Commerce Breakfast



Representatives from Haldane High School, along with Mrs. Sniffen, attended the February Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce meeting to encourage participation in upcoming events. As a continuation of the Haldane Works initiative started by former student, Charlie Keegan, junior Julian Schwarz encouraged local businesses to consider hiring a Haldane student or hosting a senior for the annual senior internship program.

Senior Elaine Llewellyn sang a teaser for Haldane Drama's production of Chicago, set to debut March 22, 2024.

MARCH 2024

**FRI
3/8** Middle/High School
Quarter 3
Progress Reports

**FRI
3/8** NO SCHOOL
Superintendent's
Conference Day

**TUE
3/12** Arts Alliance Meeting
3:00PM
Main Bldg: HS Art Room

**WED
3/13** PTA Public Meeting
7:00PM
via Zoom

**THU
3/14** MS Parent Orientation
6:30-7:30PM
Band Room

**FRI
3/15** Elementary School
Half Day
11:30AM Dismissal
Report Card Conferences

**WED
3/20** 6th Grade Trip
to Olana

**FRI-SUN
3/22-24** High School
Musical
Chicago

**MON-THU
3/25-28** Junior Trip
to Washington, DC

**TUE-THU
3/26-28** Senior Trip
to Boston

**WED
3/27** 9th Grade: Broadway
10th Grade: FDR Museum

**FRI - FRI
3/29-4/5** SCHOOL CLOSED
Spring Recess

HALDANE  DRAMA
PRESENTS

CHICAGO

FRIDAY MARCH 22 @7PM

SATURDAY MARCH 23 @7PM

SUNDAY MARCH 24 @2PM

Music and Lyrics by Kander & Ebb

Book by Fosse & Ebb

HALDANE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

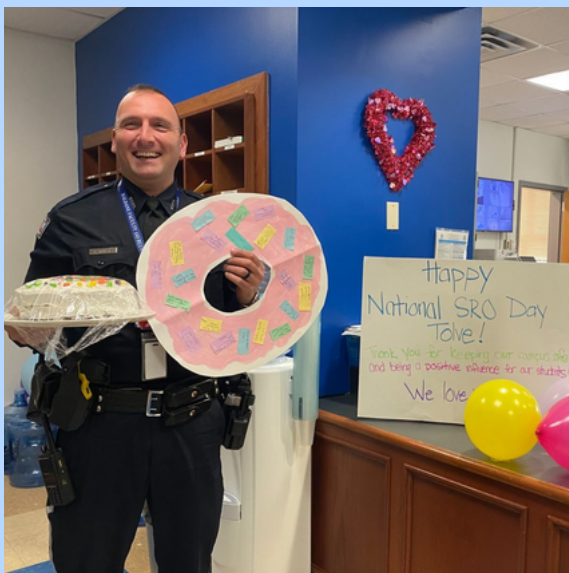
15 CRAIGSIDE DRIVE COLD SPRING, NY

**PURCHASE TICKETS
ONLINE TO SAVE!**

— CHICAGO TEEN VERSION —



Love for Tolve

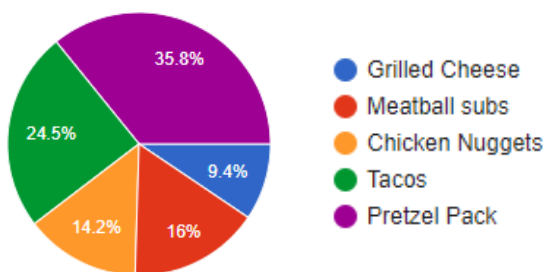


Deputy Tolve felt the love on National SRO Day! The high school office baked him a cake and students expressed their thanks with donut love notes, while the elementary students snuck in to decorate his office with badges of appreciation.

Thank you, Deputy Tolve, for the safety and the smiles!

Students' Choice Lunch!

Pretzel Packs lead the pack this month! Students were given a choice for lunch and Pretzel Packs were the clear winner. This lunch fave includes a fresh baked soft pretzel, mozzarella string cheese, a yogurt cup, and fresh fruit. We'll see what March brings!





ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Recognizing outstanding
Haldane athletes, teams, and coaches

NOMINATIONS DUE 04.01.24

GO BLUE DEVILS

Requirements and nomination
forms available at:

HALDANESCHOOL.ORG

or by calling the
Athletic Department
845-265-9254 x179

Elementary Heart Art



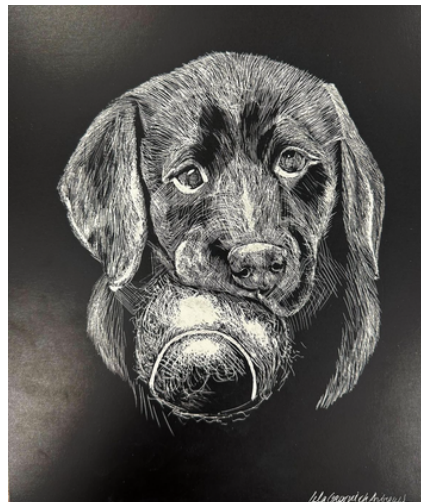
METAL HEART: a Valentine's Day collaboration created to the sounds of heavy metal.



Scenes from High School Art



Expressive self portraits in sculpture and ceramics.



Thinking in reverse: scratchboard drawings.

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