

Week of March 18-22, 2024

Monday,
March 18, 2024 (A1)

After-School Programs
Healthy Heroes
2:50 PM - 5:00 PM

HMS Family Paint Night
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Cafeteria

There are 11 days remaining in the third marking period. Grades close on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. Parents are strongly encouraged to check their child's progress by viewing grades in the Parent Portal.

After-School Programs
Office Hours / IXL Support

Early Dismissal (12:05 PM) / Professional Development

After-School Programs
Culinary Club
Dance Club
Earthquake Enrichment Project
Expressions Club

HMS CALENDAR



It is quite simple... school is better when your children are here with us. We are helping students understand the importance of being present every day. Did you know that all students who are present every school day between March 6th-March 27th will be entered into a raffle for a special luncheon? In addition, the team with the greatest percentage of daily attendance will win The Principal Cup for the month of April. While we understand that students may need to stay home due to illness, we want

students to stay Dragon Strong and come to school!

Don't forget to call school to report an absence. Also, did you know that you can always reply to the newsletter emails? Ms. Coogan, school principal, receives your messages.



HMS SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CLINIC

Did you know we have a health clinic directly in our school? Hamden Public Schools is fortunate to partner with Cornell Scott Hill Health Center to support students and families.

Services are for ALL students at Hamden Middle School, as well as incoming students! In order to be eligible for care, students must be registered with the clinic. All services are FREE. Clinic sees patients with or without insurance. Please note, this medical care does not replace your child's pediatrician. The health center is conveniently available during school hours/ school days. It is located on our second floor, House 1.

The SBHC provides the following services:

- Telehealth (Video and/or telephone chat) visits available daily
- Physical exams required for school compliance
- Sports physicals
- Vaccines-all vaccines needed to attend school will be available, including FLU vaccines in the Fall
- Sick visits
- Treatment for asthma, allergies, obesity, and other health concerns
- Referral to specialty care
- Mental Health individualized and group counseling
- Crisis intervention

Please reach out to the clinic with any questions or concerns! 203-407-7223

Johnnise Sumpter, Medical Assistant and SBHC Coordinator
Angela Nardecchia, Family Nurse Practitioner



FAMILY PAINT NIGHT Wednesday, March 20th 5:30-8:30 PM

We are hosting an exciting event for our HMS students and their grownups. On Wednesday evening, our school cafeteria will transform into an art studio. Artists from Divine Creations will teach us how to paint a masterpiece. The cost is \$10 per painter, and it includes art supplies, guided instruction, and snacks from Chipotle. Please reserve your spots today by clicking this link:

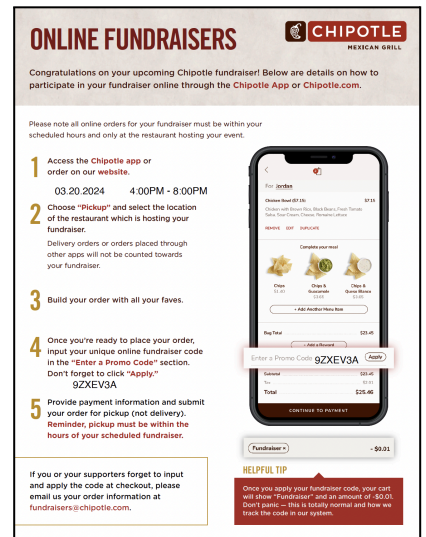
<https://cpta-hamdenmiddlepta.membrhub.com/store/items/999211>

If your children are interested in attending Paint Night and you cannot join, please contact Michelle Coogan at mcoogan@hamden.org. She is willing to supervise and paint with a few middle school students. Parents are busy, and we get it! We are here to help when we can.

If you have any questions, please email Lauren Gejda at lgejda@hamden.org. We hope to see you there!



Photograph from last school year!



CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER!

Wednesday evening sounds like a great night to grab some Chipotle for dinner. Our HMS PTA is sponsoring this event with hopes to raise funds for future PTA events. You can place an order when you visit the restaurant on Dixwell Avenue, or you can order in advance online. Just remember our HMS Code: 9ZXEV3A.

PTA MEETING

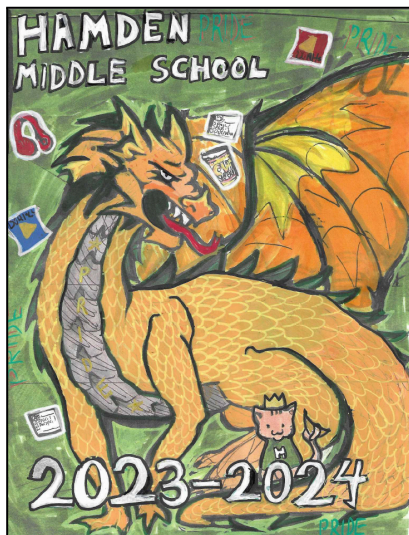
Zoom Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/99431111556>

Our next PTA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26th 6:30-7:30 pm at HMS, or virtually if you prefer. At that meeting, we will be accepting

nominations for next year's executive board. If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved, we look forward to meeting you. Remember, Middle School Involvement Matters!

Lastly, on April 27th, we will be hosting our 6th annual **Clothing and Textile Drive** at the Hamden Earth Day Festival. As you begin spring cleaning, please gather soft items (jackets, sweaters, gloves, boots, etc.) into plastic garbage bags. We also accept media (DVDs, books, CDs, etc) and small household items in boxes. If you would "goodwill" it, then we will accept it. Every item will be weighed and HMS ~ PTA gets paid by the pound!



YEARBOOK CLUB

Ms. Santiago is working with a small group of students to design and sell our yearbook. They meet on designated Wednesday afternoons. (Check the [HMS Calendar](#)!) Students are collecting pictures, creating fliers, and more. If your HMS Dragons want to get involved, encourage them to visit Ms. Santiago in House 5 or email her at ksantiago@hamden.org.

Fun fact about HMS Yearbook Sales... we sold 116 yearbooks thus far! The cost of a yearbook is \$25, and it includes 60 colorful pages featuring our HMS students and

events. Students can upgrade to a hardcover yearbook for an additional \$5. If you want a hardcover yearbook, you **MUST** order in advance. Here is the link: <https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/>

We would like to thank **Nina N.**, Grade 8, Team Rocco for designing this year's cover. We are grateful for your talented submission to the Yearbook Cover Contest. #DragonPRIDE!

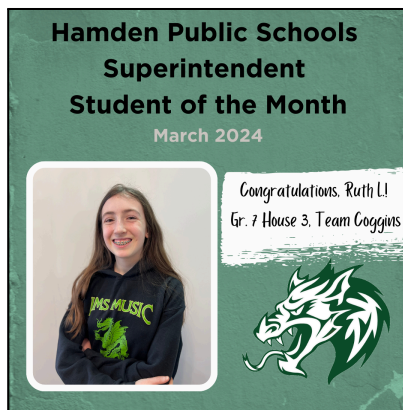
SPRING SPORTS: BASEBALL & SOFTBALL TRYOUTS

Monday, March 25:
Grade 7 Student Athletes
Tuesday, March 26:
Grade 8 Student Athletes
Wednesday, March 27:
Callbacks

Student athletes must be registered to tryout, and they must be both academically and medically cleared to participate. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Bobbi Bergstrom at bbergstrom@hamden.org.

HPS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Superintendent Highsmith will recognize two HMS students, Ruth L. and Beatrice M., on Friday, March 22nd.



Ruth L., Gr. 7, House 3, Team Goggins

Ruth is an exceptional student and a gifted writer. She consistently goes above and beyond and has a genuine thirst for knowledge. She shares thoughtful insights and is a valued

class participant. Outside of the classroom, Ruth loves theater and was a lead in the fall play and is currently on the stage crew for the spring production. Ruth is also an avid fencer. Paramount to her stellar academics, Ruth is an incredibly outgoing and helpful student. She is always first to offer help to a classmate or teacher, welcome others into a group, and offer a kind word. Ruth radiates acceptance and positivity. Bravo!

Stay tuned to learn more about Beatrice in next week's newsletter.



TECHNOLOGY CLUB

On designated Wednesdays, students join Mr. Molloy to construct Vex Robots, learn the basics of 3D printing, and fly drones. Mr. Molloy is impressed with our students' leadership skills and technical abilities. He would like to give a shout out to the following students who have excelled: Bodyn E., Ravi K., Aidyn M., Daniel P., and Jasper S. We are fortunate to have a variety of club opportunities offered at HMS, including the Technology Club.

SBAC: OUR STATE ASSESSMENT

This spring, your child will participate in the annual state assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics by taking the Smarter

Balanced Assessments, or the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) for eligible students. Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 will also be tested in science by taking the Next Generation Standards Science Assessment (NGSS) or the Connecticut Alternate Science Assessment (CTAS).

Student reports will be sent home to parents and guardians in September. You can use the results to see what your child knows and what skills they can demonstrate based on the state grade-level standards taught in the classroom and measured on the state assessments.

All of these standardized assessments are administered online over multiple sessions. These assessments are designed to measure skills in reading comprehension, writing, mathematics, and real-world science using questions that require students to demonstrate a true understanding of content. Additional supports are available for students with special needs and/or Multilingual Learners in all of these statewide assessments, as determined by an individualized education program (IEP), 504 Plan, or the Language Development Plan (LDP).

To learn more about the suite of assessments, please visit the Resources tab of the Connecticut State Department of Education assessment page at <https://ct.portal.cambiumast.com/>

At HMS, assessments will be administered by the teachers in the spring between April 29th-May 17th. Our SBAC schedule is posted on the [HMS Calendar](#).

We always emphasize to students the need to do their best, especially on difficult tasks, but there are additional

measures students can take to be successful. Students should:

- Get a good night's rest.
- Begin the day with a healthy breakfast.
- Limit distractions so students can concentrate on the day ahead.

We expect that all our students will attain a firm grounding in mathematics, language arts, and science by the time they graduate from high school, preparing them to succeed in the future. Our teachers and administrators are committed to working together to support students with excellent instruction and resources to meet these expectations.



DRAGON PRIDE LUNCH BUNCH

On Friday, a small group of students walked to Eli's Brick Oven Pizza for a special luncheon with Mr. Cebula, Ms. Holt, Ms. Mule, and Mr. Ugolik. Students were recognized for their positive contributions to our school community. We are grateful to the Hamden Youth Network for their ongoing support of the Dragon Pride Lunch Bunch initiative.

JUNE 2024

Are you thinking ahead to June? If yes, we want to share some dates. The last day of school is Thursday, June 13th. We are tentatively planning to host the eighth grade celebrations on Monday, June 10th and Tuesday, June 11th. There are four teams, and each team will have their own celebration. We will share specific dates and times with teams after spring recess. The best place to find calendar information is on the

[HMS Calendar](#). We are busy scheduling field days, concerts, the grade 8 dance, field trips and more. If you want to see into the future... check out the school calendar!

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>



Interested in purchasing HMS Swag?

Check out this website:

<https://hamdenspiritwear.com/>



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.
