

Week of March 18-22, 2024

**Monday,
March 25, 2024 (B3)**

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

**Tuesday,
March 26, 2024 (A4)**

Office Hours
2:50 PM

**Wednesday,
March 27, 2024 (B4)**

Spring Sports Try-Outs (Callbacks & Make-Up!)

Thursday,
March 28, 2024 (A5)

Boys Basketball Team Celebration
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

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!

PARENTSQUARE IS COMING TO HMS!

Hamden Public Schools has invested in ParentSquare for the 2024-2025 academic year. It is going to transform our home-school communication. ParentSquare will be the primary tool for communication across the district. We will be able to send notifications to the entire school, including the weekly newsletter. Team leaders will use this tool to send home information to students and families. Individual teachers will also use Parent Square to share classroom information. We will use Parent Square to schedule conferences, and more. We are hearing great things about ParentSquare, and we promise to keep families informed!



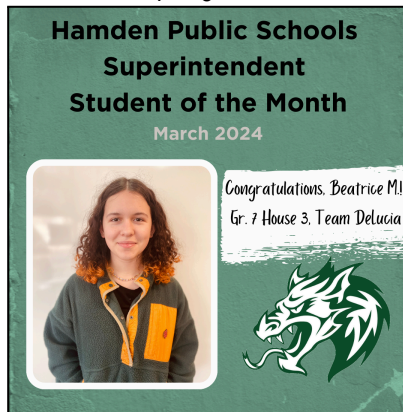
DRAGON PRIDE FIELD TRIP TO THE BUSHNELL THEATER

On Thursday, April 25th, we are taking 40 students to see Wicked the musical. Students can earn their place on the trip with 100 Dragon

Pride Tickets. Teachers share tickets with students as a sign of appreciation for making positive choices in the classroom and throughout our school community. Mrs. Mule and Mr. Tremper, Deans of Students, can answer any questions about Dragon Pride tickets and this field trip.

HPS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Superintendent Highsmith recognized two HMS students, Ruth L. and Beatrice M., on Friday, March 22nd. In last week's edition of The Dragon's Tale, we learned about Ruth. Today, we shine the spotlight on Beatrice...



Beatrice M., Gr. 8, House 3, Team DeLucia

Beatrice is an amazing eighth grade student who thrives in an academic and artistic environment. Her teachers report that she comes to class each and every day with a smile on her face and ready to work. She is a modest individual, and yet Beatrice has many talents. Her ability to take direction and provide support to others in class is top notch. Beatrice is also not afraid to try something new and provides feedback about her experiences. We are proud of Beatrice, and we are confident she will continue to excel in high school.

YEARBOOK CLUB

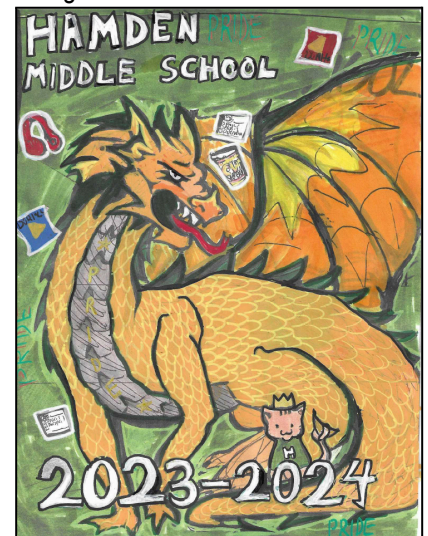
Ms. Santiago is working with a small group of students to design and sell our yearbook. They meet on designated Wednesday afternoons. (Check the [HMS Calendar](#)!) Students

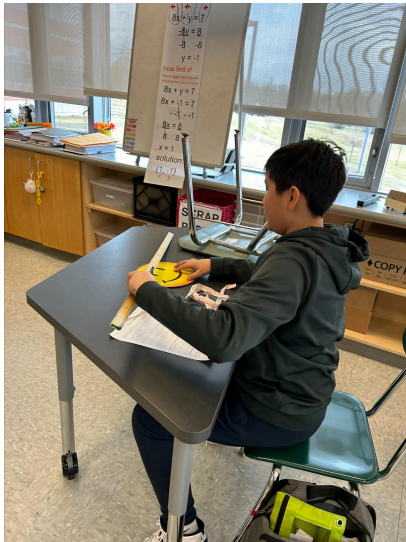
are collecting pictures, creating fliers, and more. If your HMS Dragons want to get involved, encourage them to visit Ms. Santiago in House 5 or email her at ksantiago@hamden.org.

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!





MATH CLUB

HMS students have multiple opportunities to get involved after school, including our Math Club. Students play games, solve puzzles, and investigate challenging concepts each week. Past meetings have included topics of complex numbers, the Fibonacci sequence, prime numbers, operations with radicals, Zeno's paradox, different number base systems, and most recently pi!

We have a small core of dedicated founding members including Kai J., Theo C., Daniel P., and Liwen M. who have demonstrated their perseverance and appreciation of math. Students who excel at math and want to explore advanced math are welcome to attend. Mrs. Zarate, club advisor, encourages 7th grade math scholars to consider this opportunity for the spring. Please contact her on the Math Club Google Classroom (Code [meuhljf](#)).



Under the direction of our World Language Team, the following students will participate in the Poetry

Recitation Contest on Wednesday afternoon. We are proud of our HMS Scholars for embracing this challenge.

Chinese: Melanie C., Ken C., Lily S.
Italian: Chloe B., Lauren F.
Portuguese: Isabela N.
Spanish: Camille D., Amanda M., Jhenicer S. R.

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!



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

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.