

THE DRAGON'S TALE

PrinciPAL Coogan's Newsletter



Week of March 31 – April 4, 2025

In this week's issue of *The Dragon's Tale*, parents can learn more about...

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3. **HMS EARTH DAY CLOTHING DRIVE- A MESSAGE FROM OUR HMS PTA**
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5. **SPRING INTRAMURALS**
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8. **THE PACER TEST**
9. **OUR HMS DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS "THE MAGICAL LAND OF OZ"**
10. **ORDER YOUR 2025 HMS YEARBOOKS**
11. **VIRTUAL BULLETIN BOARD**

1.) HMS CALENDAR: A REVIEW OF THE UPCOMING WEEK : A REVIEW OF THE UPCOMING WEEK

Monday, March 31, 2025

No School: Eid Al-Fitr

Tuesday, April 1 (B6)

Bite-Size PD

Grade 8 PACER Test

Team Quinones Field Trip to Regional Water Authority Group 1 (10:00 AM-1:30 PM)

HMS Equity Committee Meeting (2:50-3:50 PM)

After-School Programs/Late Bus

Dungeons & Dragons Club

HMS Drama Club

Office Hours

Spring Sports

Baseball Tryouts (Make Ups & Call Backs)

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 (A7)

End of Marking Period 3

Todd White, Educational Consultant Visits HMS

After-School Programs/Late Bus

Culinary Club

Math Club

News Club

Spring Sports

Softball Tryouts (Make Ups & Call Backs)

Thursday, April 3 2025 (B7)

Amanda Baksa, Educational Consultant, Visits HMS (8:00–11:00 AM)

Team Quinones Field Trip to Regional Water Authority Group 2 (10:00 AM–1:30 PM)

Dragon Pride Movie Club Field Trip to Cinemark Theaters: A Minecraft Movie (1:00–4:00 PM)

Staff Meeting: Building (2:50–4:20 PM)

After-School Programs

HMS Drama Club

Spring Sports

Spring Sports Practice (2:50–5:00 PM)

Friday, April 4, 2025 (A1)

School Safety Committee (8:00–8:45 AM)

School Security Meeting (8:50–9:30 AM)

Team Quinones Field Trip to Regional Water Authority Group 2 (10:00 AM–1:30 PM)

Spring Sports

Spring Sports Practice (2:50–5:00 PM)

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Saturday Support Tutorial Program (9:00 AM–12:00 PM)

Need to see future calendar information? Check out our school comprehensive [HMS Calendar](#) on the school website.

END OF MARKING PERIOD 3

The last day of marking period 3 is Tuesday, April 2, 2025. (Remember, the date was pushed back one day due to one school closing!) Teachers will be finalizing grades over the next week, and we will publish report cards before spring recess. Parents can always monitor their

children's progress on PowerSchool. It is the perfect time to reflect and set goals for the final marking period of the school year.



HMS EARTH DAY CLOTHING DRIVE- A MESSAGE FROM OUR HMS PTA

Our HMS PTA is keeping up with the traditional Earth Day fundraiser of collecting clothes, soft textiles, small household items, books, and mixed media to donate to Savers in Milford. You can do some spring cleaning and support our PTA! HMS families can drop off donations on the following days:

1. Friday, April 4: Drop off donations during morning drop off and afternoon pick up.
2. Saturday, April 5th: Drop off donations at the Barn Drop near Josh's Jungle between 9 AM and 11 AM.
3. Saturday, April 26th: Drop off donations at the Hamden's Earth Day Event between 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM.

Please email hamdenmiddlepta@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you!!!



WELCOME TO THE DRAGON'S DEN: AN INFORMATIONAL PROGRAM FOR INCOMING GRADE 7 STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

We will host our annual informational program for **incoming seventh-grade students** and their families. Welcome to the Dragon's Den will take place on Monday, April 7, 2025. Doors open at 5:45 PM, and we will kick off the evening at 6:00 PM. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to learn about HMS and meet members of our faculty and staff. We will be serving pizza and cookies in the cafeteria, and families can participate in a fun scavenger hunt designed to showcase our beautiful building. Please help us spread the word!

SPRING INTRAMURALS

It is time to sign up for spring intramurals! Mrs. Didone will serve as the faculty advisor, and she is planning for yoga (Tuesday afternoons) and soccer (Wednesday afternoons). Interested students can sign up on Google Classroom, code ov77wpex. Parents, if you think your child would be interested in getting involved, please encourage them to sign up. Any questions? Please email Mrs. Didone at bdidone@hamden.org.

Dear HMS Families,

Members of the HMS Community have encouraged us to host a celebration of culture. A small group of teachers are working together to plan a special day on Monday, May 5, 2025. We are seeking parents and students who are interested in hosting a table representing their cultures.

We need your help. We published information about Cultural Expressions Day, and we are eager to hear if families are able to volunteer. Please read on to learn more...

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Michelle Coogan



CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS WANT TO SHARE YOUR CULTURE AT HMS?

This day is a chance to showcase our diverse backgrounds. Tables may include items that express your culture such as:

- Flags
- Maps
- Photos
- Traditional clothing
- Music
- Games
- And more!

COME JOIN US ON MAY 5TH FROM 8:00AM-12:00PM TO HOST A TABLE AT OUR CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS DAY

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL MICHELLE COOGAN AT MCOOGAN@HAMDEN.ORG BEFORE APRIL VACATION.

CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS DAY (MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025)

Join us for an exciting day of cultural celebration and exploration! We are inviting our entire community to come together and share the beauty of our diverse backgrounds. Students will participate in a variety of fun and educational activities, including a "World Tour" in the school gymnasium.

To make this event even more special, we are seeking parent volunteers who are eager to share their unique cultures with our students and staff.

As a volunteer, you'll have the opportunity to set up a visual display for a table in the gym. You can showcase a variety of cultural artifacts such as flags, maps, photos, traditional clothing, music, and games. The possibilities are endless, and we encourage you to get creative! Volunteers are needed to be present between **8:00 AM and 12:00 PM**. If you're interested in participating or would like more information, please email **Michelle Coogan** at **mcoogan@hamden.org**.


Let's come together to celebrate the rich cultures that make our community so vibrant!



CULTURAL

Expressions



WANT TO SHARE YOUR
CULTURE AT HMS?

MONDAY, MAY 5TH





THIS DAY IS A
CHANCE TO
SHOWCASE
OUR DIVERSE
BACKGROUNDS



IF YOU WANT
TO BE PART
OF IT, SEE
MR.
HUBBARD

HMS HAS TALENT! AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENT PERFORMANCES

Parents, did you know we offer students the chance to showcase their talents? On Monday, May 5, volunteer students will have the opportunity to perform, including singing, dancing, reciting poetry, demonstrating martial arts, and much more. Some students may need a little encouragement to participate, so we ask parents to talk with their HMS Dragons about this exciting opportunity. Interested students can sign up by visiting Mr. Dave Hubbard, art teacher, in room 272. Parents can also contact Mr. Hubbard via email at dhubbard@hamden.org.

THE PACER TEST

In Connecticut schools, the PACER (Progressive Aerobic Cardiovascular Endurance Run) test is a mandatory part of the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA) for students in grades 4, 6, **8**, and at least once during high school (grades 9–12). Students run back and forth across a 20-meter space at a specified pace that gets faster each minute. Students have to keep running, and when they stop their test is over.

Please help us by supporting our 8th grade students who are taking the Pacer Test with Ms. Alibozek and Mr. Smith on Tuesday, April 2nd. We want our students to do their best on this fitness assessment. Be sure students sleep well and eat a healthy breakfast. We can all encourage students to work hard and show their skills on this test.

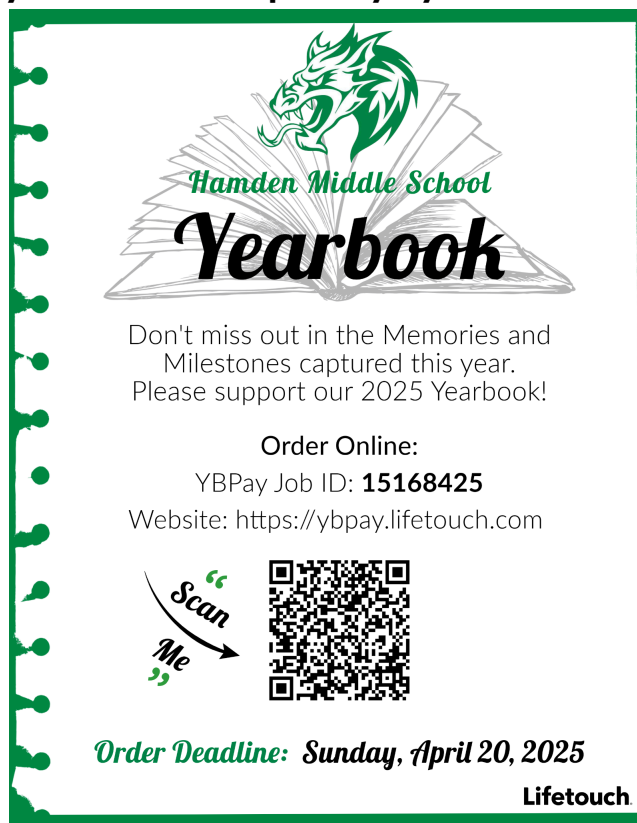


OUR HMS DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS “THE MAGICAL LAND OF OZ”

We hope you can join us for this special performance on April 10, 11, or 12. Our middle school students are working hard to prepare for this performance, and the director Cindy Devoe Simell is taking things to the next level. We hear there will be guest presenters including second graders from our elementary schools.

ORDER YOUR 2025 HMS YEARBOOKS

Ms. Santiago and students are working together to design a beautiful yearbook. Take a moment to order your yearbook now. Visit <https://ybpay.lifetouch.com> Our HMS ID is 15168425. The cost is \$25.00 for a softcover yearbook, and you can upgrade to a hard cover for an additional \$5.00. **Please note that online orders will close at the end of the month. It is important to order your yearbook now, especially if you want a hardcover copy!**

A promotional flyer for the Hamden Middle School Yearbook 2025. The flyer is designed to look like a spiral-bound notebook with a green cover and binding on the left side. At the top, there is a green logo of a tiger's head above the text "Hamden Middle School" in a green script font, and "Yearbook" in a large, bold, black serif font. Below this, the text reads: "Don't miss out in the Memories and Milestones captured this year. Please support our 2025 Yearbook!". Further down, it says "Order Online:" followed by "YBPay Job ID: 15168425" and "Website: https://ybpay.lifetouch.com". To the left of a QR code is a graphic that says "Scan Me" with a curved arrow pointing towards the QR code. At the bottom left, it states "Order Deadline: Sunday, April 20, 2025" in a green script font. At the bottom right, the "Lifetouch" logo is visible.

Hamden Middle School
Yearbook

Don't miss out in the Memories and
Milestones captured this year.
Please support our 2025 Yearbook!

Order Online:
YBPay Job ID: **15168425**
Website: <https://ybpay.lifetouch.com>

Scan Me

Order Deadline: Sunday, April 20, 2025

Lifetouch

VIRTUAL BULLETIN BOARD

Did you know there is a virtual bulletin board on the Hamden Public School's website? Informational flyers are posted here. It is a great way to find out more about community events.
