

# Hastings Middle School Parent Newsletter

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## From the Desk of the Principal

What does it take to be labeled a hero? Many people would say a hero is someone we remember and honor for courageous deeds; someone who sacrificed something of great value for another. Perhaps a fireman who rushed into the Twin Towers on September 11<sup>th</sup>, the passerby who comes upon an accident and pulls a complete stranger out of a burning car, a soldier who sacrifices her life to save others from a barrage of gunfire, or a person donating a kidney to save the life of someone he may never meet. The selfless acts of courage shown by these folks are the things we read about in the paper. For obvious reasons they have earned our gratitude.

But what about the heroes we don't read about? The parents who work three jobs so their children can take music lessons, the grandparents who, because of family situations step up to raise grandchildren, the single mom who goes to school while working full time job so she can send her children to college, the employees who willingly take a pay cut so fellow workers remain employed, or the teacher who goes that extra mile to connect with a student whom everybody else has given up on?

Unfortunately, things seem to have grown less compassionate. Too many people ask, "What's in it for me?" They can't find heroes or haven't figured out how to be one. Too often the word hero is used to describe a rock star, someone with lots of money, or a star athlete. This callous use of the term cheapens the very meaning of the word. It should be reserved for people who have made, and continue to make a difference in our children's lives on a daily basis. If you have never considered the influence you have on a child's life just ponder the following quotes. They were written by our grade 6 students in response to: "Who is your modern day hero?"

"Every soldier fighting for us. Every day they risk their lives when they do not have to. They fight to give us a better life. Every day they risk getting killed or losing an arm or leg or both. Many also have to see another soldier who is their close friend be killed or hurt really bad."

"My brother. He's helped me with school and softball. He has taught me a lot over the years. He is one person I will never forget."

My dad. He always knows when to have fun and the time to be serious. He also helps me at softball, even when he has to drive me to somewhere or help me with problems, home-

work, or sports. He's the man to call. He is wise, caring, and proud that I'm his daughter. I'm glad to call him DAD."

"All the teachers at HMS. They have persuaded me to do my best in school. They also inform me of things I need to know when I'm an adult. What hero would there be without knowledge?"

"All my teachers at HMS. They've let me bring up my grades, taught me new study habits that have made my life a whole lot easier. They have changed other kids too."

"My grandparents. They are the kindest, most thoughtful people in my life. I will never forget about my wonderful grandparents."

"My mom. She is always there for me when I need her. She is funny and always manages to make her many friends and me laugh."

"My mom. She is smart, kind, and fun to be around. She is loving, hardworking, and caring. I am very lucky to have such a wonderful mom."

"My coach. He helps me with questions I have for him. He is glad I'm on his team and is impressed with my improvements and my excitement.

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I'm glad he's my coach."

"My uncle. He stopped a lot of criminals in New York. He is retired now but he is still awesome. He will always be my hero."

From the mouths of babes. No more be said. Become a hero! You will be glad you did.

## Honor Roll



The “A” Honor Roll requires that you have “A’s” in all your subjects. The “B” Honor Roll requires that you have “A’s & B’s” or all “B’s” in all your subjects.



## Progress Reports/Report Cards

It is always important for you to know when to expect progress reports and report cards. Our schedule for this school year is listed below.

	<b>Progress Reports</b>	<b>Report Cards</b>
Term 1	Oct. 2, 2009	Nov. 6, 2009
Term 2	Dec. 11, 2009	Jan. 29, 2010
Term 3	March 5, 2010	April 9, 2010
Term 4	May 21, 2010	Will Be Mailed

## Promotion / Retention Guidelines

All *Hastings Middle School* students must meet the following guidelines to be promoted to the next grade:

- All students will pass three of four core academic subjects.
- Enrichments classes are considered in promotion as follows:
  1. Students who fail two enrichment courses in addition to one academic course, will not be considered for promotion.



- Students who fail the same core academic subject for two consecutive years will not be considered for promotion.
- In certain circumstances, a Promotion Review Committee may recommend approval of alternative learning experiences when deemed in the best interest of the student. The committee will submit its recommendations to the Principal who may at his/her discretion, approve or disapprove.

## Early Release Schedule



Students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. No lunches will be served on the dates listed below:

**June 18, 2010**

## Student of the Month



Each month teachers nominate students for *Student of the Month* recognition. The students are placed on a ballot and teachers vote for one student from each team. Students are nominated for demonstrating the core values of our school. Those core values are *Politeness, Responsibility, Involvement, Discipline, and Excellence.*

Congratulations to the winners for April. They are: *Connor Powers, Stanley White, Lauren Conlon, Michael Farias, Nicholas Doyle, Alexis Pacheco, Christopher Rego, Olivia Lopes, Brent Roberts, Bay Gammans*

## Physical Education Student of the Month

Mr. Galvam and Mrs. Nunes would like to recognize the following students for their sportsmanship, skill, and effort in Physical Education for the month of April.

<b>Grade 6:</b>	Michael Whitaker	Alexa Gemaly
<b>Grade 7:</b>	Jonathan Vigeant	Alexandra Costa
<b>Grade 8:</b>	Jacob Girard	Sara da Costa

## School Nurse Notes

Nurse—Barbara Webster Tel: 508 979-4064

Email Address: [bwebster@fairhavenps.org](mailto:bwebster@fairhavenps.org)



Welcome to Spring everyone. A reminder to all to check yourself and your children for ticks every-day. Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants when going into a wooded environment to protect your skin from insect bites and harmful plants. Remember to have mosquito repellent handy for all outdoor activities.

We are winding down to the close of the school year and I remind parents to bring to school a copy of your child's yearly physical exam. We need to have an updated exam on file at least every 2-3 years. Seventh graders typically have immunizations administered during their exam and this documentation is required for the health record.

The school nurse's office is asking for donations of clothing for those awkward occasions when a student requires a change of clothing (i.e. milk spill at lunch). As you clean out your children's closets this spring please remember to donate to the school. Thank you.

## Comments from the Assistant Principal



We are just about done with MCAS for this year. The eighth grade will be finishing up with the science tests on May 24 and 25. We were very pleased to see how seriously our students took the test this year. We are very hopeful our scores will reflect their hard work. To celebrate their efforts students will be participating in May Madness, grade team competitions, on Friday, May 28.

In order to promote good behavior and hard work until the end of the school year, we will begin a special contest for all students. Beginning on Tuesday, June 1, students who earn Eagle Bucks will be entered into a special drawing for bicycles, which have been donated by the PTO. We will also be holding weekly drawings rather than daily ones with bigger and

better prizes than students are currently eligible to win. Winners of the weekly drawings will also be entered into the final drawing. The winners of the bikes will be announced on June 17.

June is looking to be very busy for all students. Wednesday, June 16, will be our annual Fun Day for sixth and seventh graders. Notices did go out asking for parent volunteers. If your child did not bring one home and you would like to help, simply send a note to the main office with your name and phone number. We will get it to the PTO, and someone will contact you. The eighth graders will have their dinner cruise on that same day. Unfortunately the fundraiser at the Texas Roadhouse on Tuesday, May 4, was not well attended and did not raise enough money to make a difference in the cost.

The eighth grade will be having rehearsals for their promotion ceremony on Tuesday, June 15, and Thursday, June 17. The dinner cruise and the awards ceremony are only for eighth graders who are being promoted. The ceremony itself will be Thursday, June 17, in the gymnasium from 7 PM to 8 PM. Students will receive **four** tickets each on Thursday, June 10. Please make sure that all outstanding bills have been taken care of before this date. If you have any questions, please feel free to call your child's guidance counselor at 508-979-4147 or my office at 508-979-4066. Also please check with your child to make sure they are bringing home all these important announcements.



## 6 White Legacy Of Greece Project By Mrs. Haines



The 6<sup>th</sup> grade white team has partnered up into groups of 3 to complete a 3 paneled display board describing the legacy of Ancient Greece. Each student in the group will be in charge of one panel explaining and describing either “Arts and Architecture”, “History and Philosophy”, or “Science and Technology”. The display board can be bought at any supply store. All work will be done outside of the classroom. The instruction/rubric sheet went out on May 11<sup>th</sup> and there are extras in the classroom if needed. The project is due, Tuesday June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions or concerns please e-mail Mrs. Haines at [jhaines@fairhavenps.org](mailto:jhaines@fairhavenps.org).

## Millicent Library Event

### Summer Reading.

Signup will begin on **Monday, June 21st from 9-5** at the Millicent Library.



Magician Debbie O'Carroll will present a Summer Reading kickoff show on **June 24**. This year's theme is *Go Green at Your Library!* The Teen theme will be "Tnk Grn",

Contact Jane Murphy at 508-992-5342 or [jmurphy@sailsinc.org](mailto:jmurphy@sailsinc.org).

## Nation Junior Honor Society

## By Mrs. Tracey

On May 13, 2010 Hastings Middle School held its 2010 Honor Roll Induction Ceremony. With families and friends looking on, the following students signed the official register:

**Grade 7:** Hannah Abrantes, Nicole Arruda, Noah Aurelio, Rebecca Cabral, Taylor Canastra, Kacie Carvalho, Brandon Chan, Cam Charette, Julia Corey, Samantha Correira, Jacob Costa, Jordan Costa, Julia Days, Casey Douglass, Nicolas Doyle, Benjamin Elliott, Allison Espindola, Katherine Gilmore, Stefan Golas, Evan Grodzki, Ethan Kellaway, Kyle Koczera, Alison Kuechler, Valerie Malatino, Cole McGarty, Madeline McLaughlin, Rachel McNamara, Alicia Pearl, Christina Pinheiro, Shae Riley, Danielle Scalata, and Matthew Sylvia. **Grade 8** inductees included: Katelynn Couto, Raegen Docca, Nathan Jones, and Emma Robidoux. Thank you to Mrs. Joan Tracey, honor society advisor for coaching these students through the process and Mr. Rick Brejcha and Mrs. Stacy Martin for adding special music to the event. A special thanks to Ms. Rose Oliva, FHS valedictorian and guest speaker. Congratulations all!

## PTO News

We are ending the school year with **A lot of fun, excitement and many talented students....**mark your calendars because you don't want to miss out!

**HMS Star Search: Friday, May 21st** from 7-9 pm in the HMS Auditorium. Tickets available at the door: \$3 for students and \$5 for adults. You **DO NOT** want to miss this event! Come cheer on Hastings Middle School's hidden talent!



**Fun Fair Day: June 16th** Fun for the entire school! Activities include a photo booth, toilet races (yes, you read that correctly), and karaoke fun for all to enjoy. Don't forget to bring some money to purchase a snack or two!

**From the HMS PTO:** a BIG THANK YOU to all who helped throughout the year! We couldn't have done everything this year without your help, your fundraising, and your support. Here are just a few highlights of the events sponsored by the PTO with the money raised by all of you.

Purchasing school agendas

6th Grade Danced/Mixer

Thank you breakfast and Teacher Appreciation Week for the staff

High School Musical Jr. Performance

MCAS Snacks and Celebration (Drumming Assembly)

Fun Fair Day

Scholastic Book Fair

December Holiday Dance

Carousel Skating Party

Destination Imagination

HMS Star Search



## **Green Team By Ms. Richard**

Hasting Middle School Green Team

*Presents*

***Tapped: The Movie***  
At the HMS Auditorium

**Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**  
FREE & Open to the Public

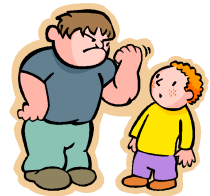
Tapped is a film that examines the role of the bottled water industry and its effects on health, climate change, pollution, and reliance on oil. Anytime you drink bottled water, not only are you putting your health at risk, you're also contributing to one of the most massive environmental waste nightmares of all time. There is a simple, safe, green solution.

This film is being sponsored through a grant from SEEAL.  
The Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance



## ***No Tolerance Bullying Prevention Parents' Meeting***

Hastings Middle School Auditorium



**This meeting is for Parents only!**  
**Thursday, May 27, 2010**  
**7 P.M.**

This event was sponsored and partially funded by the following organizations, businesses, and individuals.  
**Rep. William Straus, Fairhaven Improvement Association, Fairhaven Rotary Club, Nye Lubricants and Southern Mass Credit Union**

PLEASE R.S.V.P. to HMS at (508)979-4063



## **2010 National Spanish Contest Results By Mr. Beaulieu**

Congratulations to the students who participated in this year's National Spanish Exam under the direction of Spanish teachers Kevin Beaulieu and Melissa Duarte! This year 63% of our competitors earned national recognition, compared to 52% last year. This is an exciting improvement, and we look forward to trying to beat that record again next year, for sure. Unfortunately, there were no Gold Medal winners this year, compared to two last year.

This year's **silver medal** (*above 85th percentile*) winners are

DeAnna Dang 8th, Monique Desnoyers 8th, and Sara daCosta 8th. This year's **bronze medal** (*above 75th percentile*) winners are Rebecca Cabral 7th, Allison Roderiques 8th, and Sarah Dupont 8th. This year's **Premio** (*above 50th percentile*) winners are Madeline McLaughlin 6th, Meghan Sargent 7th, Alison Kuechler 7th, Victor Miller 8th, Marissa Garcia 8th, Cole McGarty 7th, Olivia Lopes 8th, and Emma Robidoux 8th.

The following students earned **participation awards** - Samantha Stoddard 8th, Morgan Smith 7th, Evan Grodzki 7th, Brianne Bindas 8th, Dylan Cromwell

7th, Autumn Cyr 8th, Erik Hancock 8th, and Jacob Costa 7th.

On Thursday May 20th there was an awards banquet in the library at Hastings, to celebrate these achievements. There was a huge taco bar and Latino music. Many thanks to the Hastings PTO who sponsored the contest, a study session pizza party, and the taco bar celebration. Muchas gracias!