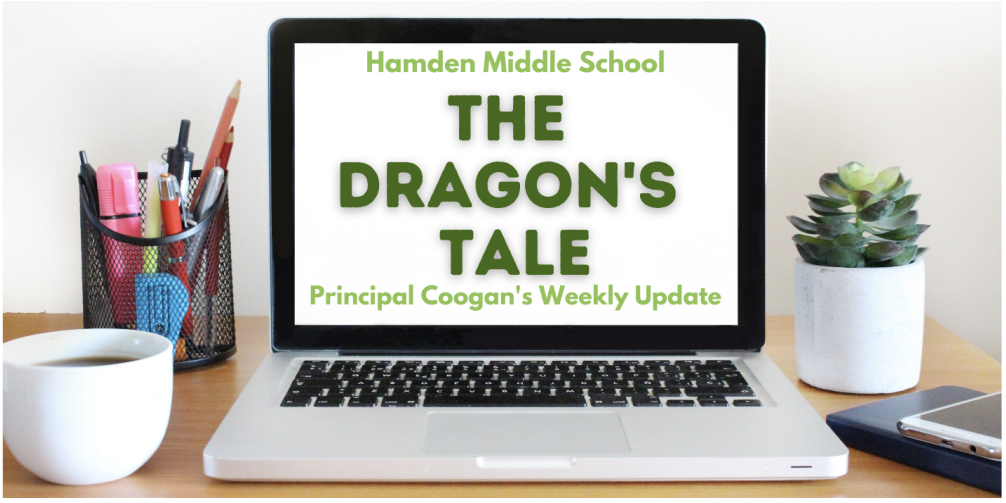

Monday, September 27, 2021, Issue 5

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
27 **B** **After-School Clubs** (2:44-3:32 p.m.) *Cross Country* *Student Council* *Yearbook Club* Late Bus Fall Sports Practice Session (2:44-4:30 p.m.)	28 **A** **After-School Clubs** (2:44-3:32 p.m.) *Cross Country* *Mock Trial* *Rainbow Club* Late Bus Fall Sports Practice Session (2:44-4:30 p.m.) HMS Boys Soccer Game vs. Amity (Away @ 3:45 p.m.) **HMS PTA Meeting Virtual (6:00-7:00 p.m.)**	29 **B** **After-School Clubs** (2:44-3:32 p.m.) *Divide & Conquer Math Club* *G&G Gazette* Late Bus Fall Sports Practice Session (2:44-4:30 p.m.)	30 **A** Fall Sports Practice Session (2:44-4:30 p.m.) HMS Boys Soccer Game vs. Orange (Away @ 3:45 p.m.) HMS Girls Soccer Game vs. Orange (Home @ 3:45 p.m.) HMS Volleyball Game vs. Shelton (Home @ 3:45 p.m.)	1 **B** Fall Sports Practice Session (2:44-4:30 p.m.)

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

We are thrilled to bring back after school programs this year. This week's issue of *The Dragon's Tale* will highlight programs available for students to join. Programs begin immediately after dismissal at 2:44 p.m. and end at 3:32 p.m. Students can be picked up by a parent or guardian or they can wait for a late bus in the cafeteria. *(See additional Late Bus information below.)* Check out these amazing clubs!

Divide & Conquer Math Club

"My kid needs to be challenged in math!" Parents, if you ever said or thought about this comment… you must encourage your children to sign up for this math club. Ms. Zarate will meet with students every other Wednesday, starting on September 29th. Visit room 115, first floor, House 1. Students will play math games

and puzzles, create mathematical art like fractals and origami, and compete in math competitions via the MathCounts challenges! Check out the Google Classroom. The code is meuhljf.

Fall Intramurals, Cross Country

Cross Country running is a sport and individuals run outdoors. Students will focus on conditioning, agility, and long distance running while also building lasting friendships. Interested student athletes can stay after school with Mr. Simone on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. The first meeting will take place on Monday, September 27th and the program will run until November 9th. Students will meet in the main hallway outside the girls and boys locker room at 2:44 p.m. Students should be dressed to run outside, and should bring a water bottle. All runners must ask their parent sign an Athletic Permission to Participate form. Check out additional information in Google Classroom dedicated to the Fall Intramurals, Cross Country. The code is py4dnvw.

The Green & Gold Gazette, Our Student Newspaper Club

Kids who love to be “in the know” should definitely consider joining the HMS Newspaper Club with Mr. Simone. Together, they will generate topics of interest, research, and write informative and entertaining articles. This club appeals to students who are looking for a writing challenge. Mr. Simone also encourages creative kids to join him. There will be opportunities for photographers and artists. Students will meet twice per month, and the monthly publication will be shared with students and families. The first meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 29th in room 145, located on the first floor, House 4. Check out additional information in Google Classroom dedicated to the Student Newspaper Club. The code is iaqwa3z.

Jazz Band

Mr. Gunn is ready to meet middle school musicians who want to audition for the Jazz Band. Interested students should select a piece of music that shows off their best work. Auditions will take place on Monday, October 4th and Tuesday, October 5th. Students should contact Mr. Gunn before or after class or send him an email at wgunn@hamden.org. After they form the band, Mr. Gunn will set a practice schedule with the students. He will do his best to create a schedule that works for all participating students. Students will practice and perform a wide variety of musical styles, including swing, rock and blues.

Mock Trial Club

Seeking our future lawyers and judges! Mr. Rocco will meet with students every Tuesday after school. Participants will meet in room 123, first floor, House 2. Students will prepare for a mock trial simulation throughout the fall semester. We believe middle school kids are some of the best debaters! Learn more information in the Mock Trial Google Classroom. The code is ykeshey.

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)

The National Junior Honor Society chapter of Hamden Middle School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization. The National Junior Honor Society is open to 7th and 8th grade students who receive high honors during the first two marking periods of the school year and meet the required standards in five areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, service, character and citizenship. Once students are eligible, they are invited to fill out an application and participate in the interview process. Current members will meet to plan and implement various community service projects in

the school and community. Meetings will typically be once a month in the Media Center. Our first meeting is October 5th starting at 2:44 p.m. Please see Mrs. DeLucia or Mrs. Rodriguez with any questions.

Rainbow Club

The Rainbow Club is a student-led organization that is LGBTQIA+ inclusive with support from Mx. Press and Ms. Tresselt. This club is for all students no matter race, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity, to come together and be allies in a safe supportive environment. We ask all students to come with an open mind and a kind heart. The club will meet every other Tuesday in room 243, located on the second floor, House 3. The first meeting will be Tuesday, September 28th.

Student Council

The Student Council is an organization that will develop leadership skills within our students. The Council will work together to support a positive school climate. Under Mr. Xavier's direction, students will implement activities to support our work with No Place for Hate, Say Something, and Start with Hello. They will help make decisions about student life at HMS, and their voices will be heard! To start the year, Mr. Xavier is encouraging eighth grade students who are interested in running for Student Council President to contact him by visiting the eighth grade guidance suite or through email at gxavier@hamden.org. An informational meeting will be held on Monday, September 27th at 2:45 p.m. Students should meet Mr. Xavier in the school auditorium. Additional information can be found in the Student Council Google Classroom. The code is ehwa44m.

Yearbook Club 2022

Do you want to help Ms. Boehning create a legacy piece for HMS? The Yearbook Club is an important part of our HMS community. The students will help select a theme, take pictures of student life, create unique spreads, and market sales. The first meeting will take place on Monday, September 27th and meetings will follow every other Monday. Check out the Google Classroom; the code is ndxfbke.

Parents, please take time to read and share this information with your middle school children. Encourage them to consider the possibilities and get involved in extracurricular activities. There will be additional offerings as we forge through the year, including winter sports and intramurals, theater productions, and more. Continue to read the school newsletter to stay informed!

OFFICE HOURS

Our HMS teachers are available to support students after school hours. Teachers select one day between Monday and Wednesday. Parents and students can determine the day a teacher is available on our school website. All teachers will post their day in Google Classrooms, and team leaders will communicate the information too. Students can stay after school to get extra help with assignments. Office hours end at 3:32 p.m. Parents can choose to pick up their child or use the late bus service.

LATE BUS SERVICE

In an effort to support students and families, we offer a late bus service on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. When students participate in after-school clubs or participate in Office Hours, they can take a

late bus home. Programs end at 3:32 p.m. Then, students report to the cafeteria to wait for their bus. During this time, students can complete assignments or talk with friends. The cafeteria is supervised by a team of teachers and security. At approximately 4 p.m., late buses will begin to arrive at HMS. There are seven late buses. Parents are encouraged to review the bus runs and help your children identify their Late Bus Letter and preferred stop.

Late Bus A	Late Bus B	Late Bus C	Late Bus D	Late Bus E	Late Bus F	Late Bus G

If you have questions regarding late buses, please contact Amita Singla at asingla@hamden.org. She will assist all parents and serve as a liaison between HMS and First Student Bus Company.

THE HMS STUDENT CENTER

We have created a special place for our students. The Student Center is a room designed for students to relax, play, and connect with other students and teachers. Students earn permission to visit the Student Center from their teachers. For instance, a student who consistently follows the Dragon Pride expectations can earn a pass. Getting to class on time, completing assignments, working well with others… There are so many ways a student can earn a pass! When they get to the center, students will find a variety of activities. They can play a game, like UNO, Mancala, or Parcheesi. Build on our new LEGO wall. Make a bracelet. Play XBOX. Color a giant Mandala. Play a game of foosball. And, so much more! We welcome additional supplies for our Student Center. Consider donating a game or arts and crafts supplies. We would love any “used” XBOX 360 games rated E, and if you have an old wireless controller compatible with XBOX 360, we would love it!

COMMISSIONER’S NETWORK!

We appreciate the parents who attended the 2021 Open House programs on Tuesday and Wednesday. At the end of the evening, Ms. Coogan shared exciting information about our partnership with the Connecticut State Department of Education. HMS has much to celebrate, and we are proud of our school. And, yet, we also strive to make improvements. For instance, we are determined to help all students demonstrate increased student achievement as measured by the SBAC assessment. In addition, we want to reduce the number of students who are chronically absent. Without a doubt, we are committed to making HMS a great place for all members of our community.

Last year, we applied to be considered to be a member of the Commissioner's Network. HMS was accepted, and we are currently in our “planning year.” With the support and guidance of the CSDE, we are

collecting data about our school. The state is conducting an audit, including a site visit on Monday, October 4th. Then, our Turnaround Committee will analyze data to identify strengths and needs. We will examine the data through the lens of Talent, Academics, Climate, and Organization with the goal of generating actionable strategies. A School Improvement Plan will guide our work over the next three to five years. It is an exciting time for our school, and we promise to provide continuous updates in future school communications.

Representatives from the CSDE want to meet **YOU**, our families. If parents are available on Monday, October 4th between 1:45 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., please email Ms. Coogan at mcoogan@hamden.org. We need your help to tell our story!

IXL

All HMS Math students will be using the digital program, IXL, this school year to supplement our curriculum. IXL allows students to work on skills that fill in gaps, support their current learning as well as help move students beyond their current level. The past few weeks, students completed the diagnostic "Snapshot" which helped IXL get to know each student's strengths and weaknesses. This allows IXL to set up an individual learning plan for each student. We will be conferencing with students to explain their scores and set some goals. Students will be expected to complete 60 minutes of IXL learning time each week. This will count as a weekly homework grade and will start in a few weeks, stay tuned! Lots of supporting information for IXL has been posted in students' math Google Classroom, feel free to explore!

Donors Choose

Our amazing teachers at HMS are always brainstorming ways to enhance teaching and learning. One way that this happens is through a Donors Choose project. Click HERE to see all of the LIVE Donors Choose projects from HMS and help us celebrate those teachers who have already been funded!

Donors Choose is an online charity on a mission to make it easy for anyone to help a classroom in need by allowing people to donate directly to classrooms.

Congratulations to Mrs. Coggins (7th-grade Team Leader and English teacher) on her fully-funded project for more flexible seating options in her classroom.

HMS currently has several live projects up from Mrs. Boehning (7th and 8th-grade Art teacher), Mrs. Breen (7th-grade Literacy Specialist), and another one from Mrs. Coggins.

Check out the link or scan the QR code to see what the projects are all about!

WINTER SPORTS

It is never too soon to think about basketball season. Starting on October 7th, families can begin register their child at FamilyID. Please know that only students who are medically cleared by the nurse and academically cleared by Mr. Mandel will be permitted to try out. (Keep those grades up, student athletes!) Basketball tryouts will take place the week of Monday, November 15th. Student athletes will stay after school with coaches, and they must be picked up by a parent or guardian by 4:30 p.m. Questions? Please contact Mr. Mandel, HMS Athletic Coordinator, at rmandel@hamden.org or our Basketball Coaches.

Boys Basketball Coach Aaron Hawkins ahawkins@hamden.org	Girls Basketball Coach Kim Mallard kmallard@hamden.org

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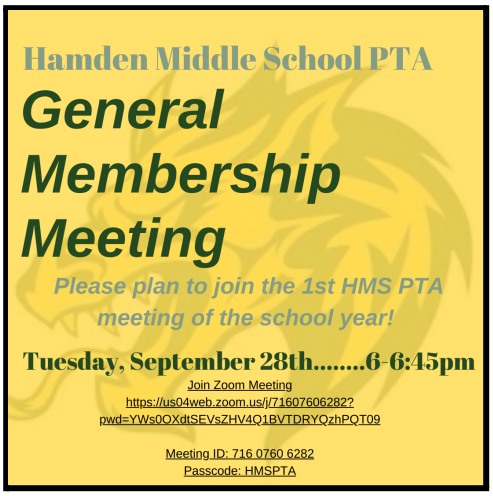

PTA MEETING REMINDER

Parents, the PTA is a great way for you to get involved and enjoy the middle school experience. We hope you will join us for the first meeting on Tuesday, September 28th at 6:00 p.m. Click the ZOOM LINK and enter the Meeting ID and passcode.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

See Below for Flyers

BASHTA'S MARTIAL ARTS
60 CONNOLLY PARKWAY
BLDG 7B
HAMDEN, CT 06514
203.248.2274

HAMDEN RECREATION DEPT.
2750 DIXWELL AVE.
HAMDEN, CT 06514
203.287.2579

IN ASSOCIATION WITH HAMDEN RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PROUDLY PRESENT AN INTRODUCTORY MARTIAL ARTS PROGRAM

THIS SPECIALLY FORMULATED PROGRAM IS DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE THE AGES OF 5 & 12. AT BASHTA'S MARTIAL ARTS, WE BELIEVE IN DEVELOPING CORE VALUES SUCH AS SELF-DISCIPLINE, SELF-ESTEEM, HUMILITY AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS. WE TEACH A UNIQUE FORM OF TAE KWON DO WHICH IS INFUSED WITH EFFECTIVE ELEMENTS FROM OTHER SYSTEMS AND STYLES. OUR INSTRUCTORS ARE HIGHLY TRAINED, EXPERIENCED AND MOTIVATED. WHETHER YOU ARE LOOKING FOR AN ACTIVITY TO STIMULATE AND CHALLENGE YOUR CHILD OR THEY WANT TO ONE DAY BE A CHAMPION,

BASHTA'S MARTIAL ARTS IS THE PLACE FOR YOU!

THIS SESSION RUNS FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN WEEKS.
CLASSES OCCUR ON MONDAYS. THE PROGRAM DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22

PROGRAM COST: $80.00 (W/ FREE UNIFORM)

ALL CLASSES MEET AT SHEPARD GLEN SCHOOL
1 SKIFF ST EXT, HAMDEN, CT 06514

CLASSES MEET ON MONDAYS FROM 6:00PM - 7:00PM

@BASHTAMA ON FB & INSTAGRAM • WWW.BASHTASMARTIALARTS.COM

REGISTRATION & WAIVER

NAME_____

D.O.B_____AGE_____MALE_____FEMALE_____

PHONE_____EMAIL_____

ADDRESS_____ZIP CODE_____

SCHOOL_____

I, the undersigned parent or guardian of the above named child do hereby agree to waive, release, and hold harmless Bashta's Martial Arts, the Town of Hamden and the agents and employees of both from any and all causes including personal injury. I understand that insurance coverage is my responsibility.

SIGNATURE_____DATE_____

CHECK:_____ CASH:_____ **PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO BASHTA'S MARTIAL ARTS**

CHECK#_____ RECEIPT#_____

RETURN CHECKS TO BASHTA'S MARTIAL ARTS (60 CONNOLLY PARKWAY BLDG 7B, HAMDEN, CT 06514) | NO REFUNDS

21st ANNUAL

FALL FESTIVAL

@ BROOKSVALE PARK

524 Brooksvale Ave. Hamden 06518

11am-4pm Saturday | SEPT. 25

Live Music - Food Trucks - Kid's Zone
Beekeeping Demos - Nature Crafts - Environmental Exhibits
Climbing Wall - Hamden Police K9 Demos - Pumpkin Patch
Bake Sale - Craft Vendors and More!
Rain Date: 9/26/21 - 203-287-2669

FREE EVENT - FREE PARKING (CARPOOL IF POSSIBLE) - BRING CASH FOR VENDORS & RIDES
(NO ATM ON SITE) - For info, call Ranger Vinny at 203-287-2669

BALLET LESSONS

Sponsored by the Hamden Recreation Department

2750 Dixwell Ave. (Hamden Government Center) Hamden, CT #203-287-2579

www.hamden.com

WHO: 5 & 6 year olds & 7 to 10 year olds (boys & girls)

WHEN: Starting Wednesday, October 6, 2021 (10 lessons)

DATES: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov. 3, 10, 17, Dec. 1, 8 & 13
Make-up date due to inclement weather only: Dec.22

WHERE: Shepherd Glen School, Skiff St, # 203-407-2070

TIMES: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm for 5 & 6 year olds
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm for 7 to 10 year olds

COST: $70.00 for residents, $80.00 for non-residents

APPAREL: Leotards, tights, and ballet slippers recommended no house slippers please!

REGISTRATION: All fees payable in advance. The applicant is considered registered when check and registration form below is received at the Recreation Office. Class size is limited to 12 per students per class, no exceptions! You will be notified ONLY if there is a conflict. If you are not notified, assume you are in the class and go to the first lesson. NO REGISTRATION WILL BE TAKEN AT THE GYM.

DEADLINE: October 1, 2021 or when class is filled. CAPACITY: 12 participants per age-group!

Parents/Guardians Please Note: If your child is sick or running a temperature, please do not send them to class. In the event of a COVID outbreak, classes will be cancelled. COVID protocol will be followed throughout the class. For security reasons, participants are not allowed to go outside and wait for their ride home. *Please arrive 5 minutes prior to the end of each class and come into the gym to pick up your child. Also, since you will not be allowed to observe your child during lessons, a Visitor's Day will be held on the last day of class.* You will receive further information while the lessons are in progress. For cancellations due to inclement weather, please call our recorded announcement @ 203-287-2588. Thank-you for your cooperation.

**********CUT HERE**********

BALLET LESSONS - Fall 2021 (Please Print Clearly)

Name:_____ Age:_____

Address:_____ City:_____ Zip:_____

Previous Dance Experience? _____ Number of Years_____

E-Mail Address:_____ (H) Phone _____ Cell _____

Please check off age group: (5 & 6) ____ (7 - 10)_____ School attending _____

****

Please make check payable to "Treasurer, Town of Hamden" and mail along with completed application to Hamden Recreation Dept., c/o Ballet Lessons, 2750 Dixwell Ave., Hamden, CT 06518

Office Use Only: Amount paid _____ Ck # __ Cash __ Date received _____