

# The Dragon's Tale

Hamden Middle School  
Student & Family Newsletter



## Hamden Middle School

APRIL 2023				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>24 B3</b> <a href="#">HOMEBASE</a> AP Biology Placement Assessment (10 AM-12 PM) Early Dismissal (12 PM) Professional Learning (12:45-2:45 PM)	<b>25 A4</b> School Bus Drivers' Day 🚌 <a href="#">SBAC Scavenger Hunt</a> <a href="#">After School Programs</a> Office Hours <a href="#">Aladdin Rehearsal</a> Dungeons & Dragons Gaming Club Mock Trial NJHS Spring Intramurals: Flag Football (Group 2) Spring Intramurals: Volleyball YES Club <a href="#">Healthy Heroes (2:45-5:00 PM)</a> <a href="#">HMS Softball VS. Adams MS (Home Game-3:45 PM)</a> <a href="#">HMS Baseball VS. Adams MS (Away Game-4:00 PM)</a> School Governance Council (6PM)	<b>26 B4</b> School Clerks Day ❤️ <a href="#">SBAC Math CAT</a> <a href="#">After School Programs</a> CANCELED! <a href="#">HMS Softball VS. Dodd MS (Away Game-3:45 PM)</a> <a href="#">HMS Baseball VS. Dodd MS (Home Game-3:45 PM)</a> <b>Welcome to the Dragon's Den Program (6:30-7:30 PM)</b>	<b>27 A5</b> <a href="#">SBAC Math CAT</a> Early Dismissal (12 PM) Professional Learning (12:45-3:45 PM)	<b>28 B5</b> HPS Superintendent SOM Celebration (7:30 AM) Team Stanton Field Trip to CT Science Center Team Domurad Walking Field Trip on the Canal <a href="#">Healthy Heroes (2:45-5:00 PM)</a> <a href="#">Aladdin Rehearsal</a> <a href="#">Baseball &amp; Softball Practice (2:45-4:45 PM)</a>

Parents can begin to review the calendars for May and June. Updates will be posted each week.

[May 2023](#)

[June 2023](#)

## SBAC TESTING

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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 early fall. 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 in all of these statewide assessments, as determined by an individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan.

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 Hamden Middle School, we will begin the process of administering both assessments. The following outlines our testing schedule:

Week 1	
Date	Test
Tuesday, April 25th (A4)	Scavenger Hunt
Wednesday, April 26th (B4)	Math CAT
Thursday, April 27th (A5)	Math CAT
Week 2	
Date	Test
Tuesday, May 2nd (B6)	Math PT
Wednesday, May 3rd (A7)	ELA CAT
Thursday, May 4th (B7)	ELA CAT

Week 3	
Date	Test
Tuesday, May 9th (A2)	NGSS - Grade 8 Only
Wednesday, May 10th	NGSS - Grade 8 Only

We always emphasize to students the need for doing 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 his/her mind 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.

Thank you,

Michelle G. Coogan  
Principal



## CELEBRATING THE HMS CLASS OF 2023

### *Imagine this sign in your front yard!*

We want to shine the spotlight on our eighth grade students. Parents are invited to purchase a sign for their middle school students who are closing the chapter on middle school and preparing for high school. Parents can order by using this link.

<https://forms.gle/MDiy4J51ukc1y8naA>. The cost is \$15 for parents who want to pick up the sign in the main office. We will

deliver the signs during the week of May 30-June 2 for \$20. Help us spread Dragon Pride throughout Hamden!

## HPS VIRTUAL BULLETIN BOARD

<https://www.hamden.org/families/vbb>

We are often asked to share community flyers. Our district has created a virtual bulletin board for parents to visit and check out local news. Please click on the link above to review recent flyers.

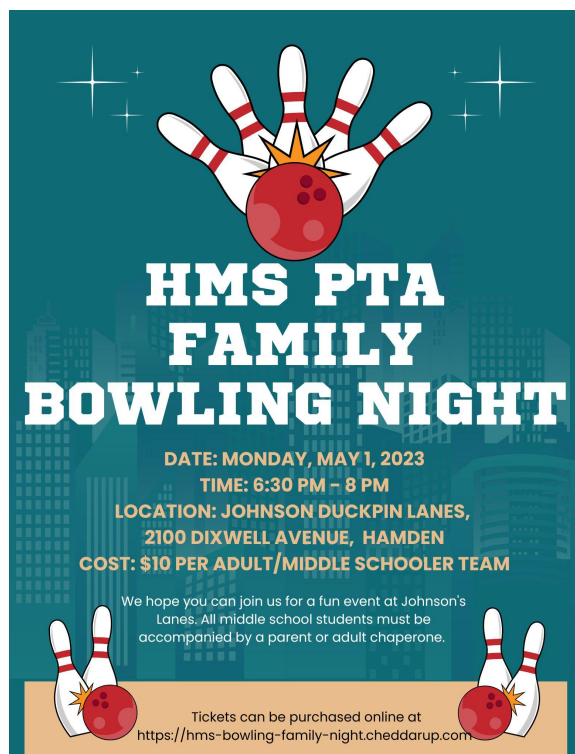
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## ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY \* Wednesday, April 26th

### WE LOVE OUR OFFICE TEAM!

We shine the spotlight on our amazing office team, Stephanie Bezerra, Gayle Colburn, Rebeka McKee, Rose McKee, Amita Singla, and Kim Washington. These positive, brilliant women keep HMS running. We are grateful for their commitment to HMS.

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### FAMILY FUN!

#### HMS PTA FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT

**Monday, May 1, 2023**

**6:30-8:00 P.M.**

Our PTA is hosting a fun event at the Johnson's Bowling Lanes. The cost is \$10 for partner teams including a middle school student and adult. Parents can register by using this link.

<https://hms-bowling-family-night.cheddarup.com>

Or, parents can send cash or a check to school with a note to Ms. Coogan. Check out the flier below. We hope you can join us!

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### CHROMEBOOK REMINDERS

Chromebooks are an essential learning tool. When teachers plan lessons, they count on students having

access to a charged Chromebook. Unfortunately, many students come to school each day without their Chromebook or with an uncharged Chromebook. It is having a negative impact on teaching and learning. **Parents, please remind your child to bring a charged Chromebook to school each day.** Students cannot fully engage in their classes without being prepared, and a charged Chromebook is an essential part of the learning process.

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### WELCOME TO THE DRAGON DEN \* April 26, 2023 \* 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Do you know any sixth grade students who are planning to attend HMS next year? If yes, please encourage the family to attend our informational program on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. The doors open at 6:15 p.m. It is a great opportunity to learn about HMS and see the facility. Help us get the word out!

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## **GRADE 8 DANCE \* Thursday, May 18, 2023 \* 6:00-8:00 PM**

Does your 8th grade child want to attend the best dance ever? Please return a signed permission slip with \$10 to Rebeka McKee, Gr. 8 Clerk. The theme ... "In the City" promises to be awesome. Student attire is a personal choice. Please remember it is a semi-formal to casual event. Proms are in the future!

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## **GRADE 8 FIELD TRIP \* LAKE COMPOUNCE**

*Wednesday, May 31 (Team Domurad & Rocco)*

*Thursday, June 1 (Teams DeLucia and Morello)*

The end-of-the-year field trip will be a great time for all eighth grade students. We are reminding all parents that permission slips and \$40 are due by Wednesday, May 17th. Team Leaders are collecting forms and funds. Students must arrive at school on time, and they will be able to take the school bus home at 2:30 p.m. Questions? Please contact Ms. Jessica Coffey, Grade 8 Assistant Principal at [jcoffey@hamden.org](mailto:jcoffey@hamden.org).

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## **STUDENT NEWSPAPER: THE DRAGON'S POST**

View the HMS Newspaper Club's latest issue [here](#). Scan the QR code (embedded in the newspaper) to connect to the student-run website. To view all of this school year's student newspapers– brought to you by our talented and dedicated HMS Newspaper Club members– [click here](#).