

Colts Newsletter

Issue #2: December 2022



Cultural Awareness & Celebrations Month

Leah S.

December is the month of many holidays. Most people know of Christmas, but there are a ton of others that people celebrate, and all in their own different ways. For example there is Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, St. Lucia Day, Fiesta of our Important lady, Ramadan, and much, much more! Not everyone celebrates a holiday in December, and that is OK too! We should respect and recognize all different holidays and cultures in our world, not just in the month of December, but all year round!



Holidays and Events!

- December 1st-9th - Popcorn Fundraiser
- December 12th-16th - Candy Grams Sold!
(Will be delivered in HR on the 19th)
- December 13th - Chorus Concert
- December 14th - Band Concert
- December 14th - School Store at Lunch
- December 18th-26th - Hanukkah
- December 25th - Christmas
- Dec. 26th-Jan. 2nd - Holiday Break!

HMS Monthly FOCUS

Alex F. & Clare G.

This month's **Academic Focus** is **Perseverance and Gratitude**. This means to never give up even when things are hard and to show appreciation to people who work hard, help you, do something for you etc.

This month's **Social Emotional Focus** is **Self- Management**. This means to continue or work on being focused on your well being, time-management, and being organized. All of these are important skills to learn to be a successful student and adult.

This month's **CTE FOCUS** is **Computer Science** which means working with coding and computers! This is a great time to check out the technology options in our school, and at the CTE center at Alvirne!



Respect, Responsibility, Hard Work



What's Up at HMS?

HMS Sports & Club Updates

The Leadership group will be sponsoring a Door Decorating Contest for the holidays! It should be holiday themed and include a positive message! Judging will be December 21st! Good luck!

6th Graders are working on the Amazing Race in Social Studies! Mrs. Chabot, Mrs. Scanzani, and Ms. Guilbeault developed this awesome activity where students solve geography clues. As they solve clues they travel around the school to collect more clues. The goal is to ultimately determine which country the Social Studies Mascots (Lat & Long - short for Latitude and Longitude) are hiding in! Where will they be found?!

Teachers & Coaches! Want to submit a Sport or Club Update? Please email it to Ms. Blais for it to be included in the next Newsletter! We appreciate your contribution!

Scholastic Book Fair

By: Olivia T and Chase M

The Scholastic Book Fair was open November 16th-22nd. The Book Fair this year did better than the one last Fall, thanks to the support from the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and all the students and teachers.

Mrs. Sloat was interviewed about how she felt the Book Fair did this year. She said that we raised a good amount of money for new books in the library and for the PTO to use towards student activities. This year we sold over 1000 books to students!

Mrs. Sloat said that we mainly get books for young adults and upper elementary. The raffles were also a big hit! Posters and other treats like jelly beans were raffled off each day of the Book Fair. There were also big book baskets raffled off at the end. The students loved the raffles and it was the Book Fair's biggest hit.

Cheerleading Season!

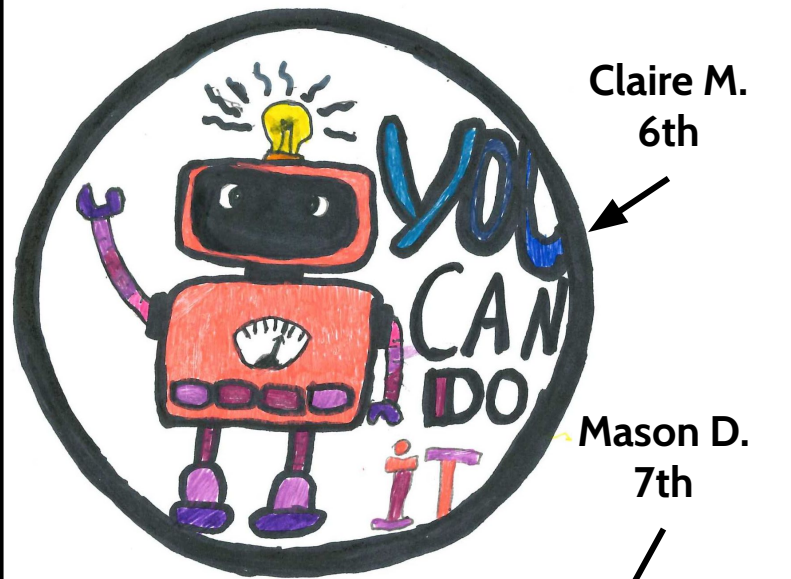
Submitted by Coach McGivern

Did you know that the HMS cheerleading team has two "parts" to their season? The first half of the season is cheering at basketball games. The second part is competing against other middle school cheerleading teams by performing a three-minute routine that incorporates cheer, jumps, stunts, tumbling and dance. The HMS team this season is comprised of 15 athletes and 2 alternates. They practice every day after school and travel to work on tumbling once a week. In the past 9 years, the team has won the Tri-County championship 6 times and earned runner-up status twice!! This is the best record for any sports team at HMS!

Our 8th grade leaders are working on developing their leadership skills by studying types of leadership and learning styles. The entire team is focused on mental toughness to help improve their grit and resilience. The team uses different skills and breathing techniques to help them calm their jitters before a performance. These skills are the same skills that Olympic and pro athletes use.

If you see a cheerleader, wish her luck on her season!

Student Artwork!



Claire M.
6th

Mason D.
7th



Courtney
A.
8th

Stay tuned for next month's amazing student work!

Want to submit a drawing, comic, poem, short story or something else to the newsletter?

Put your art or literature in the Colts Council Box on the stage in the cafeteria or email it to Ms. Blais or Mrs. Freemantle. It will be included in the next monthly newsletter! All artwork or literature should be school appropriate!

Colts Council Fall Clean Up!

By Liana G.

On November, 10th, 2022, colts council decided to keep the school clean by performing a fall clean up. We cleaned the sports fields, and the trail to the rally point in the woods and back. All green space and the parking lot were cleaned up as well. 11 bags of trash were collected during this. A big desk that was dumped in the side parking lot was dismantled and brought to the dumpsters. 12 colts council members were outside for 1 hour. We worked very hard and we intend to keep our school environment clean. You can also help keep the school clean by picking up your own trash and respecting our environment, especially outside at lunch or when at games on the field.

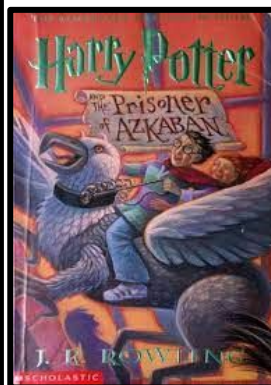


Literature Recommendation

By Henry H.

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban

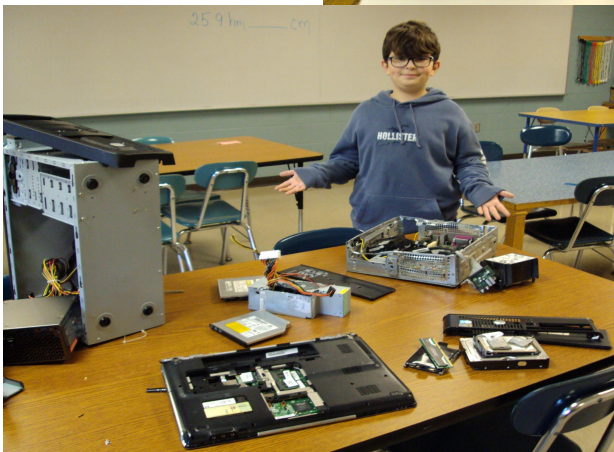
A criminal by the name of Sirius Black has escaped the prison of Azkaban! And everyone is convinced Harry is his target. Meanwhile, life goes on in Hogwarts: Hermione's cat, Crookshanks harasses Ron's old rat, Scabbers. But the question remains: is Sirius Black after Harry Potter?



SPECIAL FEATURE!

Computer Club

Ms. Reinitzer's Computer Club offers students a variety of fun activities to do related to computers. Whether it's playing Minecraft, disassembling a computer, or forcing robots to work for you. Recently however, there has been a large spike in students attending so, we interviewed her.



Interviewer: Alex H.
Interviewee: Ms. Reinitzer

Q: When did Computer Club start running?

A: 2008 - 2010

Q: What do students most enjoy?

A: They definitely enjoy playing Minecraft, and working together on fun activities.

Q: Are there any activities you want to do with computer club?

A: I'm open to suggestions, if students want to do something I can try to get the stuff to do it.

Q: Any advice for students going to high school?

A: Coding is the future so do more coding!

Tech-Ed is Cool!

By: Maddie L.

This year the Tech-Ed Class, A.K.A-woodshop, as grown in popularity. This class now has a very long waiting list of students trying to get into the class. Students say the class is extremely fun but, I really wonder, what are some of the things you do in Tech-Ed?

We decided to ask Ms. Rouleau, the teacher of the class and some of her students! Ms. Rouleau says that in this class students do all types of fun, safe projects and they're for different for each grade. This year is her first year teaching Tech-Ed and she is very surprised on how many people enjoy her class. Ms. Rouleau says it's a good break to get away from academic classes and enjoy working with wood and making things that students could use in the real world. Students are free to do what they want as long as they follow directions and are cautious with the materials. Some of the students here enjoy the ability to make whatever they want after they finish the assigned work they need to do also.

Students commented that they like to be able to roam freely within the classroom and really enjoy Ms. R as a teacher. After interviewing some students and teachers, the real reason I think people love tech-ed and want to be in the class is to be free, communicate with others and just have a fun time! So make sure to check out Ms. R's super fun tech-ed class for a fun and creative time!



Basketball Season

By: Leah S. & Rylee G.

The boy's and girl's basketball seasons have started for this year. This year about is about improvement. We talked to the coaches of both of the teams, Mr. Schmidt & Ms. Sherman, and they both said that right now, being earlier in the season, that winning isn't key, but improving to be the best and win more in the future is what they are looking for. This year's players for the teams are included. Congratulations on making the teams and good luck this season! Go Colts!

Girl's Team

Celia S. – 6th
Lia B. – 6th
Ochanya A. – 6th
Taliah K. – 6th
Adrienne C. – 7th
Ava T. – 7th
Celia F. – 7th
Mallory O. – 7th
Vivienne K. – 7th
Courtney A. – 8th
Emily W. – 8th
Samantha S. – 8th

Boy's Team

Jordan R. – 6th
Ben F. – 6th
Alex B. – 7th
Gavin B. – 7th
Camden S. – 7th
TJ D. – 7th
Brayden P. – 7th
Paul M. – 8th
Vitor P. – 7th
Patrick W. – 8th
Amri O. – 8th
Jeremiah C. – 8th
Charlie B. – 8th

Annie Jr. Cast!

Provided by Ms. Crivello

The Annie Jr. play has been casted! The major roles are below but there are also many others and an ensemble of singers! Congratulations and good work to all who auditioned!

Annie - Clare G
Miss Hannigan - Meri P.
Grace Farrell - Makena D.
Oliver Warbucks - Henry H.
Molly - Ella G.
Tessie - Maddy B.
July - Lanee K.
Duffy - Sophie S.
Kate - Grace R.
Pepper - Emma M.



Quote Of the Month

“Success is not final; failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.” - Winston Churchill

Student & Staff Shout Outs

Shout out to Mrs. Ciraldi who helps students and teachers with activities and having conversations with the kids on how they feel about their school life!

Shout out to Mrs. Scanzani for getting Academic Assistance up and running and to all the teachers helping to run Academic Assistance for each team!

Shout out to our teachers for staying super late two days before Thanksgiving for Parent-Teacher conferences!

Shout out to Ms. Crivello and the director of the school musical Annie Jr. for staying after school for hours during auditions and callbacks to help us prepare for the play!

Shout out to the Newsletter Journalists for getting the first two Colts Newsletters of the year out! I am super proud of your hard work!

Shout out to Mrs. Phaneuf for her encouragement to bring in cans for the Food Drive to help those in need.
Go Team 6!

Monthly Tip!

By Hayley HB. & Clare G.

Double checking and submitting your work on time can help you get better grades! You'll have more of a chance to succeed double or triple checking your answers before turning in assignments and even using your notes if possible to do your homework as well!

RECOMMENDATION OF THE MONTH

By Maddie. L



Have you ever seen “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”? It's a popular Christmas movie for when the holidays come around! The Grinch is a person who sits on his ledge in a cave above of a town called “WhoVille”. However, the Grinch hates Christmas. Try watching the movie with your family or friends to have a great laugh!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Want to submit something to the Newsletter? Have a comment or concern?

Email the Advisors:

Ms. Blais (ablais@sau81.org) and
Mrs. Freemantle (lfreemantle@sau81.org)

Or put submissions into the Colts Council
Box on the stage in the Cafeteria



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Respect, Responsibility, Hard Work

