

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BROUGHT TO YOU BY LYMAN C. HUNT MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Principal's Message



Dear HMS Parents and Guardians:

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the 17/18 school year! HMS has been buzzing with activities in this past month. Our staff participated in a Restorative Practices Training that explored how we can expand the use of Restorative Practices within our school to address the achievement gap by enhancing school culture and climate. This has been a year of learning and we will continue to look at our successes and explore where we need to grow as a school and district.

Many students participated in the Geo Bee this year, which is an annual competition organized by the National Geographic Society. Mr. Gagnon did a great job organizing this event and we appreciate all the time and energy he put into making this happen at Hunt. We had our final rounds on 1/23 in our auditorium with the whole school community watching. Julia Hondal from Team Oasis was our Hunt winner and she will move on to the state bee in April. Miles Ellis-Novotny Team Phoenix came in second followed by Robbie Safran Team Solstice in third place. I am very proud of all the students who participated in this event.

Our PTO is supporting the students of Hunt to put on a production of the Lion King this spring.

We would love to have your help in any way you can to make this years play a ROARING success!!! Please get in touch with either Tammy Kuypers and Kacey Boone at hunt dramaclub@gmail.com with any questions you may have. Thanks so much!

We have a new Afterschool Site Director, Elizabeth Pelkey epelkey@bsdvt.org, who has been a great addition to our team. Elizabeth has been working in our school for many years and knows our students and families very well. After School meets Monday-Friday beginning just after dismissal at 3:15pm or 2:15 pm on Wednesday. The after school program supplies supper to all Hunt Middle School students at 3:00pm/2:10pm (Wednesday) in the cafeteria. Many programs end between 4:15 and 4:30pm, but some off-site programs might not return to school until 5:00pm. Transportation to and from all off-site programs will be provided. They also offer homework help in the morning from 7-8 and Monday- Thursday from 3:00-4:30 in our library. These programs are free to all Hunt students. More info about after school programs can be found on the Hunt website.

During the week of February 12th, we will hosting our first "We Are Hunt Week". This week is designed to celebrate our diverse student population and coming together as a community. We will be having a flag parade where our students carry flags representing all the countries that make up our student population. The students will also have a talent show which showcases dancing, drumming and singing. This week was created by our "Be Above" group which is composed of students from each grade level and advised by Peggy Weaver.

BE Above's News!

BE Above Students Speak Out about “The High Costs” of Teen Marijuana Use



Eighth grade BE Above members Shamura Awayle, Ayon Mohamed, and Mea Jeffers (from left) pose with “The HIGH Costs” posters the BE Above group created to educate students about the consequences of teen marijuana use.

In January, Hunt BE Above students spent time learning about the consequences of teen marijuana use and worked on projects to help educate their peers and Burlington parents about the potential dangers. They hung posters throughout the hallways of Hunt Middle School to raise awareness and educate their peers, and they were interviewed for a video that will be shown at the beginning of a marijuana panel discussion for Burlington School District parents.

These are some of the facts about teen marijuana use that BE Above students think it is important for everyone to know:

- Research shows that **1 in 6** people who start using marijuana as a teen will become addicted to it (National Institute on Drug Abuse).
- Marijuana can make **learning harder**, putting what teens want to do and who they want to be at risk (National Institute on Drug Abuse).
- Breaking school rules can get teens kicked off sports teams and out of extracurriculars. Even if teens don't get caught, marijuana affects **coordination, movement, & reaction times** (National Institute on Drug Abuse).
- Because marijuana can interfere with brain chemistry, it can make teens feel **anxious, paranoid, and/or depressed** (National Institute on Drug Abuse).
- **NOT EVERYONE IS DOING IT!** 96% of Burlington Middle School students DON'T SMOKE marijuana (YRBS, 2015).

Team PHOENIX:

There are some great updates on our Twitter feed (<https://twitter.com/PhoenixLearns>) and lots of updates to our blog (www.hmsteamphoenix.blogspot.com). Please visit them and be sure to sign up/follow for updates. We welcome your feedback as we seek to make these tools as helpful as possible for you all.

Language Arts:

- Students will spend time with one of their favorite independent reading books.
- They will create companion books with different “chapters” writing about different aspects of the book. They will also write an “About the Author” page about themselves.
- Please continue to support your children’s reading at home.
- Ms. Hickey can be reached at lhickey@bsdvt.org.

Social Studies:

We have begun our exploration of Ancient Egypt. After learning some of the basics together, students will work in groups to further understand an aspect of Ancient Egypt and teach the rest of us about it. All the while, we’ll compare and contrast Egypt with Mesopotamia. Please check the Weekly Class Content announcements in Canvas for further details.

Ms. Fabri can be reached at jfabri@bsdvt.org.

Mathematics:

- 7th graders are starting to study algebra.
- 8th graders will begin to study scientific notation.
- Ms. Saunders can be reached at csaunder@bsdvt.org
- Ms. Gagnon can be reached at agagnon@bsdvt.org
- Please make sure that you check your student’s assignment notebook. They write down their assignment every single day.

Science:

Students will be continuing a unit on adaptations and genetics.

They began with how specific traits help an organism survive.

They have compared how some traits occur more often than others.

Then they will learn how traits are passed from one generation to another.

Ms. Cullen can be reached at mcullen@bsdvt.org

Team OASIS

In math class, eighth graders are finishing a unit on exponents. They have begun learning about scientific notation and will soon be solving word problems involving numbers written in scientific notation. Upon completion of this unit, eighth graders will begin a new unit on congruence. Students will manipulate shapes on the coordinate plane using translations, reflections, rotations. Seventh grade students are learning about similar figures and making scale drawing. They will soon be starting an algebra unit that begins with simplifying expression involving like terms and the distributive property.

Team SOLSTICE

Science:

We begin quarter 3 with the study of inheritance and genetics. Students have been hard at work interpreting data to identify patterns in the inheritance of traits. In coming weeks, students will develop models of genetic inheritance, including sexual and asexual reproduction, and mutations. Students will interpret evidence of how variations in traits affect individuals’ probability of surviving and reproducing in a given environment, and how over time these variations can change the frequency of traits in populations. Follow our class on Twitter and Instagram @SolsticeScience!

Math

- Our seventh graders are continuing to explore proportional relationships. We have moved from looking at the overall pattern through tables, graphs and equations to narrowing our focus to look at the individual ratios that are part of the relationship and using proportions to solve problems dealing with scale factors, discount, tax, and tip.

We are also applying our new knowledge of proportions to finding missing lengths of similar figures, as well as solving multi-step problems.

- Our eighth graders are finishing up an exploration of systems of equations and inequalities, and are now beginning with exponents and exponential functions.
- Some of our eighth graders have also chosen to be part of an Algebra Seminar, and continue to work very hard.

Language Arts

- We are finishing up reading our class novel *Brown Girl Dreaming*. Throughout the readings, we are discussing obstacles the main character faces, race relations and memories that students can connect with.
- Students are writing a poem about who they are, what is important to them and who they want to be.
- We will wrap up the unit with a personal essay where students will describe an obstacle they needed to overcome.

Social Studies

- Solstice scholars have completed their study of the Geography of Asia. They are well versed in the political and physical features of this continent and can trace current events in the Middle East to their roots in ancient times.
- Next up: study of the six major ancient civilizations (the Fertile Crescent, Egypt and Nubia, Greece, Rome, India and China).
- Congratulations to Robbie Safran who is the Solstice Geography champion and who placed third in the school Geo Bee! =)

Team GALAXY

January Greetings! Happy 2018 to all families! Galaxy Team students continue to be very busy and productive as we begin the third quarter! It is hard to believe we are officially half way through the year.

Language Arts:

Students wrapped up the Revealers book unit. We enjoyed the level of discussion and writing around the many important topics such as bullying, family, and middle school friendships. Students are now exploring different poetry forms such as Haiku, Diamante, Tanka, Free Verse and many more. Galaxy students are also reading either Solo, by Kwame Alexander or The Outsiders, by S.E. Hinton.. Both books address the larger themes of adolescence/coming of age, family relationships, friendship, and overcoming life's challenges.

Weekly reading logs, signed by parent/guardian, are expected every Friday as completed homework. Please encourage your child to hand these in regularly and on time.

Math: We have just started our work on ratios. Student have been pre-tested and are being grouped accordingly on a regular basis to extend their understanding of concepts or to give further practice to enhance the skills that they currently have. Homework continues to be 1/2 hour each of ST Math and IXL each week outside of math class time.

Science: Students have wrapped up for their biome project, *Welcome to Planet Earth*. We have moved on to cells and are currently working with microscopes and hand lenses to view cells. Students are also studying cells using QR codes. The codes take students to websites that include video, articles and cartoons to help students independently learn about cells. We continue to learn about Brook Trout. The Eggs have hatched and will begin feeding soon. We have been observing them weekly.

Social Studies: We are currently studying Canada using the 5 themes of geography. Students completed the Maritime Region and British Columbia, and The Prairies, and are currently learning about the Northern Territories. Students are using geography books, and both primary/secondary online resources to gather and organize information. They are also taking oral and digital quizzes on each region. One current project is a 5 themes poster with digital links. Current events discussion is included not only during Social Studies, but also during extended homeroom time and other subject areas.

A huge thank you to all our Galaxy parents who have volunteered to drive or chaperone on our field trip to the fish Hatchery . Also thanks to those who have supported our monthly team breakfasts!

We appreciate all the positive support you give us!!! Look for information from our social committee

about upcoming activities related to our Canada unit.

Congratulations to our awesome students of the month for January: **Tran Vu and Ben Michael !!!**

Health Office News

Yes! The cold and flu season is upon us! I'm sure that you have been hearing about it as much as I have on the news. It's a bad season for the flu with a more than average incidence of illness and even death from the flu virus. And although the vaccine this year has not provided as much protection as in previous years, it is still recommended for all of us! If you have not gotten the vaccine, please do so! It's not too late.

Here are few interesting fact for you:

- **The flu virus can survive on surfaces between two and eight hours.**
- **A single cold virus can have 16 million offspring within the course of a day.**
- **While a person's breath can travel 4.5 feet per second, droplets from a sneeze can travel at about 100 miles per hour**
- **The droplets from a sneeze can spread for a distance of six feet**
- **The single best way to avoid getting a cold, aside from becoming a hermit, is to wash your hands. A lot. Use soap and wash them in water for 20 seconds. It's cheap and easy and more effective than alcohol-based hand sanitizers; but if you don't have soap and water, sanitizers will do in a pinch.**

If your child has had a fever, please keep them home for at least 24 hours since the start of the last fever episode. For example, if your child has a fever at 4PM but does not have a fever when they wake in the morning, they still are not permitted to be in school because they are still contagious. We will do our best here to minimize the spread of illness and appreciate your help as well.

Here is some additional information for you:

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/spread.htm>

http://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2016/12/Flu_decision_chart.pdf

Finally, if I can help in anyway, please feel free to contact the Health Office here at school. The number is 802-540-0166 or contact me by email at cparadis@bsdvt.org.

Stay well, Catherine Paradiso, School Nurse



[For February Lunch Menu Please Click HERE:](#)

Message from ParentIN Burlington:

As of July 1, it will be legal for adults 21 and over in Vermont to possess up to an ounce of marijuana, and grow marijuana in their homes. With increased access to marijuana comes increased challenges for keeping kids safe. It is more important than ever for parents to be informed.

As part of our [ParentIN](#) program BPHC is hosting a free event for parents in Burlington to learn more about the marijuana available today and how to support kids to make healthy choices. Please help us spread the word. Childcare will be provided (upon request). [Register today!](#)

Honor Roll Q2 Update

**Honor Roll/
Q2 Update:**

| INDIGO | | GALAXY | | SYNERGY | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| High Honors | Honors | High Honors | Honors | High Honors | Honors |
| Lillian Connolly | Sarah Ali Liam | Sara Bahrenburg | Nadheer AL Dulaimi | Naveen Bleakney- Eastman | Vivienne Baker |
| Ivy Dorward | Davenport | Quinn Boyd | Milla Heise | Saraswoti Chhetri | Owen Eley |
| Maximo Dowling | Eden Delaney | Lilly Caputo | Ramsey Karson | Onyinyechi Dimgba | Sean Fialko Casey |
| Veronica Lindstrom | Samuel Doan Saw Moses | Brooks Deshaw | Augustina Mampouya- Louamba | Zoe Grimard | Ariana Fisher |
| Adam Maher | Doe | Destiny Godin | Benjamin Michael | Kiernan Hackney | Robin Foy |
| Prekchhya Mizar | Camryn Poulin | Pratikchhya Mizar | Chanh Nguyen | Kasey Haggerty | Waylon Hammaker |
| Grace Park | Rubina Upreti | Norra Moody | Noah Poquette | X | Zachary Hook |
| Nevaeh Perry | | Jessica Tran | Subash Tamang | Nora Perry | Erica Niyimpaye |
| Jane Shaver | | Tran Vu | Kaine Than | Miranda Stilwell | Sophia Pidgeon |
| Abigail Wheeler | | | Rowan Thayer Zora Trombly Connor Trombly Anissa Porter | Katherine Vigneau | Zinnia Stanley Kim Tran |

| OASIS | | PHOENIX | | SOLSTICE | |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| High Honors | Honors | High Honors | Honors | High Honors | Honors |
| Audrey Greenip | Camden Abair | X | Rehema Abdi | Macey Allard | Gracie Bangoura |
| Bridget Haggerty | Idman Abdi | Miranda Baruth | Miles Ellis Novotny | Tigran Bedrosian | Nash Barlow |
| Julia Hondal | X | Parbati Chhetri | PCAdamk Hlordsz | Kiran Bleakney- | Brandon Beaudoin |

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Jason Huynh | Olivia Calderin | Leo Dabelstein | Habiba Ibrahim | Eastman | |
| Meredith | Leah | | | Salvatore Boone | Sophie Burdick |
| Jackson | Chamberlain | Alma Davidson | Autumn King | Amy Chung | Sophia Chant |
| Lani | Samantha | Theodore Ellis | | | |
| Keomanyvanh | Crafts | Novotny | Adalee Leddy | Jeremie Gouala | Josue Correa |
| | Alisandra | | | | |
| | Fitch-O'Leary | Riley Gillespie | Benjamin Leithead | Dylan Grimm | Andrew Dede |
| | Dylan Fleming | Sushila Gurung | Joselyn Maldonado | Lanxi Lin | Jonah Delaney |
| | Elise Holway | Aziza Kasanga | Gracie Mitchell | Robert Safran | Sahra Hassan |
| | Mae Jeffers | Peter Kuypers | Adolphe Niyonsaba | Lamija Semic | Chenoa Hunt |
| | Barsha Khanal | Abby Mitchell | X | Rory Stein | Steven LaBombard |
| | Alioune Kounta | X | Kaelyn Paul | Alyson Vigneau | Mariah Larson |
| | Sonia Laughlin | Pheonix Ringwig | Corazon Rabin | | Caleb Lodish |
| | Nathan Lorrain | Ian Rock-Jones | Tousline Sangano | | Arianna Lyons |
| | Emma Martin | Micah Rossman | Alev Vurgun | | Dylan Mac |
| | Ethan Messier | Duy Tran | Hadley Waterman | | Brady Markle |
| | Cannon Poulin | Julia Tran | Hadley Waterman | | Jaydin Martel |
| | Kai Sessions | Vivian Vail | | | Charles McCleary |
| | Sage Smith | Joshua Winters | | | Ethan Park |
| | Ella Taji | | | | Caleb Purvee |
| | Arbin Tamang | | | | Connor Reutter |
| | Ledum | | | | |
| | Tornwini | | | | Sanjit Tiwari |
| | Tedum | | | | |
| | Tornwini | | | | Madeline Tulkop |
| | George Waitt | | | | Rubin Upreti |
| | | | | | Tsering Wangyle |
| | | | | | Maddix Webster |
| | | | | | Lily Young |