

APRIL 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:

March has been a busy month here at HMS. The cast of the Lion King has been working hard to learn their lines, dances and songs for the performance on April 6th and 7th. Our spring sports have started and we are happy that the snow has melted enough for the kids to practice outside. This year we have a co-ed volleyball team that has been traveling to other schools to compete. This is a new program for our school and we are excited about how popular it has been.

I am sad to report that *Peggy Weaver* who has been our Student Assistance Program Counselor for 18 years will be leaving HMS on April 6th. Peggy has been an amazing asset to our students and families and will be greatly missed.

I would like to thank the PTO for the yummy pancake breakfast they sponsored last weekend. I saw a lot of smiling faces and it was nice to meet some members of the community that don't have students currently at HMS.

During April our students will be taking the English/Language Arts Assessment SBAC test. The 6th graders will be taking the ELA test April 10th and 11th and the 7/8 graders will be taking it April 17th and 18th. Please do everything possible to ensure your kids attend school for the entire school day on these dates.

During my principal coffee in the month of May, I will facilitate a restorative circle with parents/guardians. This would be a great opportunity to learn what happens during a circle and what your students will be doing as we continue with Restorative Practices in our school district.

Team Galaxy

Happy spring! It's hard to believe that we are wrapping up the third quarter. Galaxy Team students continue to be positive, hard working and enthusiastic!!! We still have much to do and will be working until the end of the year. This last quarter is an opportunity to finish strong!

Science: Galaxy students are beginning the study of the human body systems. So far, students have learned how cells form together to make tissues, how tissues form together to make organs, and how organs form together to make systems. Currently, students are investigating the nervous and digestive systems.

Math: Students have completed an extensive study of fractions and are now working on multiplying and dividing fractions. Daily IXL and STMath continues to be an important skill practice, and students are graded on participation.

Social Studies: Galaxy students wrapped up the study of Canada with virtual city tours in Quebec and Ontario. A visit to the Toronto Zoo, dinner at the revolving restaurant, 360 CN, a tour of the Bata Shoe Museum, the Biodome penguin exhibit, and a helicopter ride over Montmorency Falls are just a sampling of the cool sights they may have explored. The fourth quarter focus will be Latin America, starting with the geography of Mexico, Central America, Caribbean, and South America. This study will also include early civilizations, people, art, and current social/environmental issues.

Language Arts: Students are currently reading about people who have exhibited either physical, social/moral, or emotional courage. All students have selected individual courage books and will have two weeks to complete the project, which includes writing an essay and creating a courage award. Daily language warm-ups continue to be part of each class, and is a great way to review grammar and strengthen editing skills.



Special Activities:

Our special Canada celebration week was a great success! The activities included several 'hands-on' projects, a special guest speaker, and a culinary feast! The activities were connected to the culture of specific provinces and/or territories. Throughout the week, students created Inuit "string stories", carved *Ivory Soap* soapstone sculptures, and replicated the artwork of Clarence Gagnon, a famous French Canadian artist. Galaxy teachers and a dedicated group of student chefs also worked after school to bake Ms. Picher's family meat pie/tourtiere recipe, maple pies, and bread. Students also enjoyed our special guest speaker and his sled dogs! Ed Blechner, a musher and outdoor educator, shared a slide show about the Inuit people's relationship with sled dogs, modern mushing, and dog breeds. The best part was getting to meet Boomer, Scuppy, Nanu, Moose, Skunk, Bravo, and Buddy!

An enormous thank you to all the families who sent in a special dish to share for our culminating cultural feast!!

Congratulations to our March students of the month, **Nadheer Al Dulami and Zora Trombley.**

Galaxy Teachers

Ms. Picher

Mr. Pease

Team Solstice

Science

Follow our class on Twitter and Instagram! @SolsticeScience

Math

- Our seventh graders are working on using equations and inequalities to solve problems, with an emphasis on applying our knowledge to geometric shapes and problems.
- Our eighth graders are working with exponents and exponential functions, including using properties of exponents to simplify expressions, and scientific notation. We have also done some work comparing linear, exponential, and inverse variation relationships. We will be beginning an investigation of what functions are and how they work.
- Some of our eighth graders have also chosen to be part of an Algebra Seminar, and continue to work very hard.

Language Arts

- Students are finishing up research on a person who has persevered
- They will share this information with other students after writing a mini essay
- SBAC tests for language arts will occur the week before April vacation. During class we will make sure students can log onto the computer and we will also run through a sample test so they know what to expect.
- Next up.. Students will research a social or personal issue that they are passionate about. Students will write and send argumentative letters to legislators, administrators, teachers, or whoever the most logical recipient is for the information.

Social Studies

Students have completed their study of the Fertile Crescent and are well through the history of Ancient Egypt. Recently, they wrote essays examining their strengths and weaknesses as writers. You can examine the notes on your student's abilities [here](#) (ask your student what their student number is). Social Studies classes are also working on a variety of academic skills including note taking, test preparation, and content area reading strategies. For more detail, visit our website [here](#).

Team Phoenix

Don't forget about our team Twitter feed (<https://twitter.com/PhoenixLearns>) and team 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 are in the middle of a "Poetry Bracket" unit. Scholars will

- read 16 poems
- discuss the writers' techniques
- write their own poems
- and eventually decide, through a bracket competition, which poem is the best.

Students will be expected to read over April vacation.

Miss Sugar, our student teacher, will be complete her placement on April 13. We will miss her.

Social Studies:

We have wrapped up our studies of Ancient Egypt and are now moving on to a student-designed unit on Ancient China. 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 percents.
- 8th graders will begin to study square roots and irrational numbers.
- 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.
- Ms. Gagnon will be contacting parents soon regarding placement in **summer school math** or placement in **algebra seminar** for the 18-19 school year.

Science:

Students are finishing up the unit on genetics/natural selection.

They each completed an individual/group project of their choosing on Genetics or Evolution.

They will be starting a unit on:

- Organizing Earth's history based on rock strata
- How geoscience processes have changed the Earth's surface
- Plate motion over time

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

Team Oasis

In Oasis science classes, students are continuing their study of evolution. We have recently focused on four different types of evidence for evolution including studying the Fossil Record, Morphology (form and structure of organisms), Homologous Structures and Embryology. Ask your Oasian to show you their most recent science blog for an overview of what we've been studying.



BE Above News

On March 22nd and March 23rd, Hunt BE Above members attended prevention training workshops hosted by youth leaders in the Dover, NH Youth to Youth substance abuse prevention program.

During the March 22nd training, Dover Youth to Youth members taught Hunt and Edmunds Middle School BE Above members public speaking skills and introduced them to a series of prevention skits that teach about medication safety and the dangers of tobacco use. BE Above members will perform these skits for students in local elementary schools.



Hunt BE Above members dress up in colorful costumes to perform prevention skits.

During the March 23rd training, Hunt BE Above members joined middle school and high school students throughout Chittenden County for a training that included youth-led workshops on how to effectively deliver a public service announcement, information about the history of marketing deception used by tobacco and alcohol companies, and a presentation on how to work with the press.

Hunt BE Above members will use the knowledge and skill set they gained to inform all of their future prevention projects.

Hunt 6th grader Damian Ricciarelli said his favorite part of the March 23rd county-wide training was “learning about the history of tobacco and alcohol advertising.” He added that he generally likes learning about history and is “excited to share what [he] learned and to make sure people know the truth about Big Tobacco’s lies.”



Hunt BE Above members join youth from throughout Chittenden County to sharpen their prevention skills and build their prevention knowledge.

Talent Development Institute (TDI)

For advanced students, entering grades 4-9, who want to have fun while learning!

The Talent Development Institute (TDI) combines the relaxed atmosphere of summer camp with new academic & creative opportunities. It is a great summer opportunity for your brightest students to learn, grow, and have fun with their intellectual peers.

TDI is a summer camp/academic program, with overnight and commuter options, for advanced and gifted students who are entering grades 4-9. The 2018 Institute will be held for two weeks: June 24-30 and July 1-7. Participants may be involved for one or both weeks. This year's classes- which include Rube Goldberg Machines, Writing, Culinary Chemistry, Web Design, and Improvisation- nurture students' creativity and their love of learning. Campers have a blast learning alongside other smart kids on a small college campus (Johnson State College) nestled in the beautiful Green Mountains. Partial scholarships are available. Go to www.tdivermont.org.



TDIvermont.org

Celebrating 21 years!
Johnson State College
(now Northern Vermont University)
Johnson, Vermont

**June 24-30 and/or
July 1-7, 2018**

Summer camp meets academic institute!

What is TDI?

TDI is...

- A program for high-ability, creative, talented, and gifted students, in its twenty-first year at beautiful Johnson State College campus (now Northern Vermont University).
- An enriching and delightful week which combines the relaxed atmosphere of summer camp with new academic & creative opportunities, with overnight and commuter options.
- A place where kids go to learn, to grow and have fun with other bright and gifted children, and with teachers who are understanding and supportive of their gifts and talents.
- A variety of classes, ranging from Young daVincis (art) to Computer Programming to Recipe for Life (biology) to Writing and Laughing to Improvisation.
- A place where learning is rewarding in more ways than one, especially with dynamic faculty and stimulating peers.

Burlington Technical Center Information

We are excited to work with you in transitioning Hunt and Edmunds students into high school with our Foundational Tech programs for 9th and 10th graders at the Burlington Technical Center. To recap, students at both middle schools filled out course selection sheets with Burlington High School after BHS/BTC presentations for the 2018-2019 school year and several students indicated that they would like to take one of our two Foundational Tech programs (Design or Health, Hospitality, and Human Services). The next step in this process is for these students to fill out our application form with a parent/guardian and counselor signature. Next week, we will return to both Edmunds and Hunt to pick up the filled out applications. I have attached a pdf of the Foundational Tech application with this email if extras are needed. Our goal is to have notification of acceptances by April 13th.

We would also like to invite both counselors, parents, and students to a Parent Informational session for Foundational Tech at the Burlington Technical Center on Wednesday, **April 11th from 6-7pm in our Studio B classroom**, located on the bottom of F-building at Burlington Tech Center. Parking is available along upper side of F-building. This event is an opportunity for parents see the space for both programs, to ask additional questions, and to meet class representatives.

If you have any additional questions, please contact either Jason Raymond at jraymond@bsdvt.org or Kris Breen at krbeen@bsdvt.org.

BURLINGTON
TECHNICAL CENTER

**HEALTH,
HOSPITALITY &
HUMAN SERVICES
FOUNDATIONAL
TECH**



- Be creative and innovative in a hands-on environment
- Care for people/animals
- Respond quickly and calmly in emergencies
- Work on a team
- Explore how sciences apply to your community
- Work with people of all ages and backgrounds
- Learn about other cultures
- Participate in community service

**A TECH PROGRAM
FOR
9th & 10th
GRADE STUDENTS!**

Personalize your learning experience by exploring several career pathways. Design your high school education around your area of interest. Make connections and learn to work in teams, just like in the real world.

EARN CORE HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS, EARN CPR & FIRST AID CERTIFICATIONS AND LEARN BY DOING!

**TALK TO YOUR
GUIDANCE
COUNSELOR TODAY
TO SIGN UP!**



BURLINGTON
TECHNICAL CENTER

**DESIGN TECH
FOUNDATIONAL**



Work with typography, website management, mechanical drawing, 3D design, hydraulics, leverage and torque, engineering statics, electrical circuits, microcontrollers (Arduino) - coding, robotics.



Design Tech Foundational is a program in Studio B, Burlington Technical Centers Makerspace. Build critical and creative thinking skills through hands on design projects. Areas of interest include art, filmmaking, computer science, and engineering. Successful students will receive one science credit and two elective credits.

**A TECH PROGRAM
FOR
9th & 10th
GRADE STUDENTS!**



**SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY-ENGINEERING-ARTS-MATH
EARN CORE HIGH SCHOOL
CREDITS AND LEARN BY
DOING!**

**TALK TO YOUR
GUIDANCE
COUNSELOR TODAY
TO SIGN UP!**

Application:

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=a1c112566f&view=att&th=16273390ff32efdc&attid=0.1&disp=inline&realattid=f_jfcwhx1x0&safe=1&zw