

MHMS Jr. Pawprint

Issue 4 June 2018



Photo illustration by Isabelle Ridgeway, Grade 8

A special good-bye from the MHMS Newspaper Club Staff!
Thank you for reading our articles and supporting our club.
We look forward reporting to you next year from the Jr./Sr. High School!

The Sixth Grade Field Trip

By Jordan Linscott, 6th grade

This year's sixth grade field trip was to Chelsea Piers and the Metropolitan Museum. It was, to me, very fun and informational. As sixth grader Jordan Delandi said, "I thought there would be more activities at Chelsea Piers, but I loved that they let you do some free time with the soccer and basketball courses. As for the museum, it was very fun to see all the artifacts and stuff."

This field trip was made mainly to help us on our sixth grade museum Night at the Museum artifact project and why we should save it if Manhattan were to sink under water. And I think it was worth it because it was fun to present to our parents and teachers. Amanda Nebral heard Jordan's group present at Night at the Museum and she said that they did a very good job!



This is Washington Crossing The Delaware by Emanuel Leutze. It was painted in 1851. It is the size of a bus!

Thank you for reading!!

The Boston Tea Party Museum



By Siara
Rosenberger (7th) &
Dominick
Siciliano (7th)

This year, the seventh grade arrived in Boston for a trip that would leave some interesting memories embedded into students' minds.

What's on our minds today is the museum. *The Boston Tea Party Museum*. In one room, there would be talking paintings, on the boat you could throw literal boxes of tea into the water. After touring the museum itself, you could visit the cafe, buy some pastries or do tea tasting.

Entering the museum, you arrive in the *Old North Church*. You receive aliases to become the men who participated in the *Boston Tea Party*. Being led on by many "Huzzahs!" you travel along the dock, onto the boat, and entered inside the vessel, going down into the lower deck then back up again to throw tea over the sides.

Soon, you travel to see a patriotic woman, through a hologram projected from an overhead projector,

arguing with a Loyalist woman about the war and how it would assist or destroy the colonies.

Next, the group would see a movie portraying the beginnings of the Revolution. It was a curved TV and had great sound that made it seem *real*. It only lasted only about fifteen to twenty minutes but it was amazing. From the mini theatre, you enter a room, showing many paintings of people of the past and an old tea box twirling within a glass case. Two paintings began to speak, King George III and Samuel Adams. King George brought up reasons how he *cares* about his *children* while Samuel intervened angrily, testifying against his claim of *caring* with how he doesn't care for the colonies and only wants their tax moneys.

Passing through a hallway, we reached to the cafe. It was pleasant and had some really good pastries. There was tea tasting for five different types of teas.

Passing through the gift shop, you make it to the streets of Boston, where more fun begins.



Eighth Grade Field Trip to Philadelphia

By Amanda Nebral, grade 8

The eighth grade class at Maple Hill Middle School went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from May 30 until June 1. We fit tons of things into just three days and had an amazing time!

The first thing we did in Philadelphia was go to the Eastern State Penitentiary, which is an abandoned place similar to a prison. Originally the penitentiary believed in the idea that criminals could feel bad for what they did and could be put back into society, so they spent the first week or so being trained in some kind of skill to practice in their cell and then were placed in solitary confinement. Solitary confinement is the placement of someone in a room with no contact to anyone or the ability to see or hear the news. Towards the end of the penitentiary's timeline, it turned into a holding place for people who were going to be executed. It was a ton of fun learning all about the timeline of the Eastern State Penitentiary and seeing it compared to today's prison system.

After that, we went to the One Liberty Observation Deck. When we got there, we took an elevator up 57 floors! The whole room on the 57th floor was covered in windows. It was so cool looking down and being to see almost all of Philadelphia. After looking through the window, we got to play games like Candyland and Checkers. It was a lot of fun.

That night, we took the Spirits of '76 Ghost Tour of Philadelphia. We started at the Liberty Bell, and then we when all over the city. We made stops like Washington Square Park, the Rebecca Gratz Club, and Independence Hall. We heard all kinds of scary stories that are all taken from real journals and eyewitness testimony. It was really cool to see the scarier side of Philadelphia history.

The next day, the first thing we did was go to the Franklin Institute. We learned about the human brain, the physics behind sports, aviation, and more. The best part was, everything was hands-on. The most fun part

of the institute was the flight simulator. I'm not a very good flyer so my friends and I were upside-down most of the time.

After that, we went to the Game Masters exhibit. The first part had old games like Centipede and Asteroids. The second part had new technologies like Fruit Ninja on a television with no controller. It was recognized someone was there and copied every move you made onto the screen. The final part had all kinds of games like karaoke and Dance Central, which Ms. Mosher and Mrs. Racz were masters at, by the way. It was awesome to see all of the different games from the eighties to now.

Next, we went to the Philadelphia Zoo. We saw all kinds of animals! We saw gorillas, monkeys, giraffes, hippos, otters, snakes, zebras, lizards, and so much more. I love animals so, for me, seeing all of the animals was amazing!

We finished the day by going to a baseball game. We went to an AA game. It was the Reading Fightin Phils versus the Trenton Thunder. Philadelphia won. It was a really fun game, especially since I got to enjoy it with all of my friends. We ended the night with fireworks. It was a great game!

We ended the trip by going to the National Constitution Center. We saw two shows there. One was about all the amendments and they can be good or bad. The other was the first sentence of the Constitution, "We the People," and how the definition of "people" has changed over the years, giving rights to African Americans, women, and more. At the end, we saw statues of all of the people at the Constitutional Convention. It was very cool.

In conclusion, it was an amazing trip and we have so much fun!

Thank you so much to Mrs. Sweet and Ms. Kakule to putting the whole thing together!





National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony: Memories Over the Years

By Amanda Nebral, grade 8

2016

In 2016, I was inducted into NJHS. I remember wearing one of my favorite dresses and walking across the stage while a short paragraph was being read about me. It was such a nice ceremony, nothing like what I had expected when I got the invitation!

2017

In 2017, I was one of the people who read the paragraphs of the new inductees. I remember looking into the front row and remembering being one of them, just a year earlier. There was a guest speaker. She worked with a food pantry. She seemed very nice and said some very inspiring things, especially to the new inductees. I loved reading for the new inductees so much, I did it again this year!

2018

In 2018, I was once again one of the readers. I also wrote two paragraphs and helped set up for the ceremony. I love reading for the new inductees because I remember how amazing it felt to have all of these achievements that I had completed being read to everybody, so I wanted to give back and give the new inductees the same feeling. I made sure to write the absolute best paragraphs I could about a couple of the inductees because I didn't want them to be disappointed in what was being read about them and I wanted to make sure that everything they put in their essay shined. I wanted to help Mrs. Silva, the advisor, set up because I remembered how amazing the ceremony looked when I was inducted and I wanted to help make sure that the new inductees got one just as amazing, if not better. This year's guest speaker was Mrs. Caulkins. She gave an amazing, short, but sweet, speech about her battle with breast cancer and how the song, "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus, helped her get through. It was an amazing ceremony and I was glad to be a part of not only that one, but all three, of the past ceremonies.



Twice

By Bridget Soden, grade 8

Twice is a South Korean girl group formed by JYP Entertainment through the 2015 reality tv show *Sixteen*. The group is composed of nine members Nayeon, Jeongyeon, Momo, Sana, Jihyo, Mina, Dahyun, Chaeyoung, and

Tzuyu. The group October 20, 2015 with their album *The Story Begins*. Twice rose to fame in 2016 with their single “Cheer Up” which peaked number one on the Gaon Digital Chart and became the best-performing single of the year. It also won “Song of the Year” at two major awards shows Melon Music Awards and Mnet Asian Music Awards.

Their other single “TT” from their third album *Twicetcoaster: Lane 1*, claimed the top spot for four continues weeks. It was the highest selling K-pop girl group album of 2016, which sold 350,852 copies by year end. Within 19 months after debut, Twice has sold over 1.2 million units of their four albums. The group came out with their first Japanese album on June 28, 2017. The album was called *#Twice* which reached number 2 on the Oricon Albums Chart and sold 136,157 copies in seven days.

Twice released their second Japanese singal “Candy Pop” on January 12, 2018. They released their newest song and album *What is Love?* on April 26 2018. You might like some of their songs, just give them a listen.

“Twice (Band).” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 4 June 2018, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twice_(band).

A Thank You to Our Principal

By Siara Rosenberger, 7th grade

Mrs. Harris,

Thank you for filling in as our Principal when we didn't have one. We wouldn't want anybody else as our Principal. You even came out of retirement to come here and we find that amazing. Though this is short and sweet, we're being honest.

Thank you.

~The final students of MHMS.



**This year, three special people are retiring:
Mrs. Petilli, our guidance counselor;
Mrs. Sweet, our nurse;
and Mrs. VanVliet, our reading and exploratory teacher.
They will be missed dearly!**

Goodbye, Mrs. Petilli!

By: Elena Haberland, 7th Grade

I am sad to hear that our guidance counselor, Mrs. Petilli, will be retiring this year. She has always been around to help others, such as myself, and has always listened.

If you don't know what a guidance counselor is, it is a trained professional who works with students, teachers, the school's principal and parents to help children here at school to stay positive and have the best experience they can have here.

Mrs. Petilli's favorite part of her job is helping students with what they need, and checking up on others. She loves to work with others, and with our age group in particular.

We should all be grateful for Mrs. Petilli, and her always making sure we are doing okay. We will all miss you, and we hope that your retirement is amazing!



Mrs. Sweet, Our School Nurse

By Grace Barrington, grade 7

- Question: Where did you go to college?
Answer: Utica State College

- Question: What would you say are your hobbies?

Answer: Craft Work, Knitting, Sewing, Scrapbooking.



School Nurse

- Question: Why did you become a nurse?

Answer: Both of her parents and grandparents were nurses.

FUN FACT: Her grandfather was the first male nurse in a hospital!

- Question: Did you work at any schools before this?

Answer: Before she worked at Saint Peter's Hospital Cardiac Care Unit and Emergency Room.

- Question: What is your favorite part of being a nurse?

Answer: Mainly helping kids, and she finds health information fascinating.

FUN FACT: On June 7, 2018, Mrs. Sweet helped MHMS Newspaper Club member Bridget Soden remove a staple from her thumb! This was the second time she ever had to do that and they both happened this year!

- Question: What would you want to share with our middle school students for your retirement?

Answer: That she loves working with middle school kids. She enjoyed working here the whole time. Very excited about retirement!!

- Question: What are your plans after retirement?

Answer: Volunteering at Ronald McDonald house. Making a lot of baby blankets for babies in the hospital. Going on a cruise to celebrate.



Mrs. VanVliet: A Special, Caring Teacher

By Dominick Siciliano, grade 7

This year in Maple Hill Middle school we won't just be losing the Middle school. We will also be losing one of our teachers. That teacher is Mrs. VanVliet. She has been teaching for forty years, and she actually started "student teaching" at Maple Hill in the 1969-70 school year.

Her favorite memory was having the high school yearbook dedicated to her about 10 years ago. The class that dedicated it had been with her in 9th grade and had done a "Pay It Forward" cereal collection for the Anchor. She took a picture of them with their cereal boxes, and they put that picture (from 9th grade) at the end of the yearbook and said they'd go out in the world and Pay It Forward for her. That made her day!



Her least favorite memory is when Chris Beebe died unexpectedly during February break. Mrs. VanVliet said, "He was quite an inspiration to all who knew him."

Mrs. VanVliet says that for her favorite class to teach is Public Speaking because most students begin the class "hating it" and finish the class with it being their favorite class.

When she first started to want to teach she went to college at S.U.N.Y. @ Albany. She became a teacher because her father was a teacher and he was her "hero!" He taught business for over 35 years, and his students "loved and respected him!"

Mrs. VanVliet also says that now that she is retired she wants to volunteer, and spend time with her family and twin, 6-year old, grandsons.



Summer Reading Program

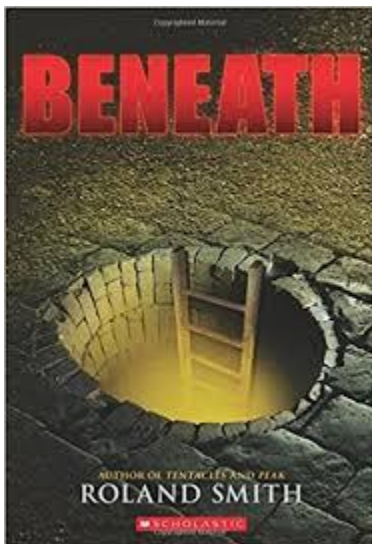
By Isabelle Ridgeway, grade 8

The Summer Reading Program is a program at Castleton Public Library that promotes reading during the summer. This year, in 2018, Summer Reading will start on June 21st, and will end August 18th. On August 16th there will be a finale party.

On Monday, June 18, Youth Services Librarian Joelle Adler will visit all of our reading or English classes to share information the program and to give away FREE BOOKS!

There are many smaller, one-day programs during Summer Reading, and the programs can be divided into different groups; little kids, kids, teens, and adults, although anyone can come to any program. These groups are also used for the different reading records; there's a little kids reading record, a kids one, teens one, and adults one. The reading records can be turned in up until August 23rd. For the reading record, each day that one has read for at least 20 minutes is marked. A week that one has read at least three days earns a raffle ticket, while a week that one has read for six or seven days rewards two. A raffle ticket is also earned by doing five activities listed on the back of one's reading record.

There is no limit to how many programs one can visit (set by the library, at least; there may be complications in one's life), so anyone can and should feel free to visit as many programs as they can, and read a lot as to earn raffle tickets to potentially earn prizes. People have won money, toys, gift cards, and other cool things in the past, just because they've read a lot during summer. Prizes are given out during the last week of August. And the finale party will be lots of fun with games!



So, if you're going to be bored at home this summer, think about coming to the library to do Summer Reading!

This summer's
Read It Forward book
is *Beneath*
by Roland Smith!