

The Castle Caller

FREE

A Student Newspaper

Fall Edition 2021



A Time for Thanks

Written by Isabel Lopez Felix

Thanksgiving. Turkey.
Time off from school.
It's that time of the year
that really makes us think
about the things that we
are grateful for. Several
students were willing to
share some ideas when
asked what they appreciated
most.

Mya Taveras, seventh
grade, said, "I am grate-
ful toward my family be-
cause they have always
been by my side."

Daviana Rosado,
seventh grade, said "I
appreciate my family be-
cause they provide a roof
over my head."

Tiffany Taveras,
seventh grade, listed sev-
eral people that she is
grateful for. She said, "I
appreciate my friends,
my mom, my brother and
his girlfriend, and my
teacher."

Stanly Ramirez, sev-
enth grade, said, "I'm

*Gratitude is when memory is stored
in the heart and not in the mind.*

~Lionel Hampton

grateful for being Aeden's
friend."

Georfred Roa, seventh
grade, said, "I'm thankful
for my family and having
a home and food."

Angel Taveras, seventh
grade, said, "I appreciate
having the company of
my family and friends. If
I'm ever feeling down,
they're always there. Life
is better, overall, with
them."

Damian Vargas, seventh
grade, said, "I'm grateful
for everything."

Aricel Colon, eighth
grade, said, "I appreciate
my family because
they support me in
everything."

Justin Germosen, eighth
grade, said, "I am grate-

ful for my mom and
dad. My mom is al-
ways there and my dad
works 12 hours a day
to support us."

**Bryan Rodriguez Guz-
man**, eighth grade, re-
sponded, "I'm thankful
for my mom, dad, and
entire family because
they work hard for us."

Adrian Andujar, eighth
grade, said, "I'm thank-
ful to be here at the
Castle and for all the
nice teachers who help
me throughout the
year."

The members of *The
Castle Caller* hope
everyone enjoys their
family and friends over
Thanksgiving.



Illustration by A. Force

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Student Survey

Should School Start Later?

Written by Daliana Melendez

Paul Valery, a French poet, said "The best way to make your dreams come true is to wake up." Many may agree, but what time is the best time for students to wake up?

According to an article written by Maggie Pierce in the September issue of Scholastic Scope Magazine, experts explain that a melatonin release in adolescents makes it difficult for teens to fall asleep early. In other words, teens naturally are wired to stay up later hours. Since middle school students start the school day early, many don't get enough sleep. That leads us to the debate-

Should school start later?

Seventh and eighth grade students at Hazleton Elementary/Middle School participated in the survey. According to the results, **72% of middle schoolers responded that middle school should start later, while 28% disagreed.** The following students

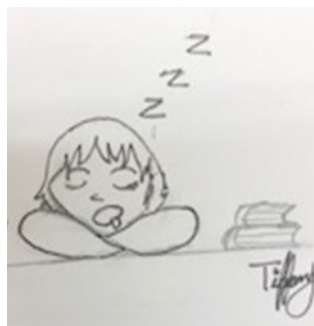
shared their thoughts on the topic:

Reylynn Rosario said, "I think school should start later because some students have trouble going to sleep early."

Marielis Mendoza said, "I think school should start later because we need more sleep to focus in school and so students don't fall asleep in school."

Railin Mora said, "I think it should start at 10:00AM. I need my sleep so I can have energy."

Kliever Valdez stated "I think school should start at 10:00AM so we can get on a better sleep schedule."



Dayalis Pujols agreed. She said, "School should start at 9:00 or 10:00. Right now, it starts too early."

Layla Merenda stated, "I think school should start later because everyone will be more awake. Kids will be able to pay attention and learn more."

Aliana Fernandez said, "I think that school should not start later because we won't have a lot of time for after-school activities."

Joel Castillo Valerio shared, "I have no problem waking up in the morning."

Lastly, this reporter feels that school should not start later because we won't have time to go to after-school programs or clubs. Even though most middle schoolers favor a later start time, the topic is not currently being considered by our school district.



2021-2022 Mounts Girls' Basketball Team

Marielis Mendoza
Maria Ramirez
Nancy Rodriguez
Elaisa Marmol
Camilla Flores
Shaellee Rodriguez
Johandelis Torres
Ana Filion
Reylynn Rosario
Krismeris Reynoso
Isabella Gonzalez
Liz Tavarez
Megan Darraugh
Bianca Bates

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Extracurricular Activities

HEMS 2021-2022 STUDENT COUNCIL

7th Grade

Nancy Rodriguez
Elaisa Santiago
Keilin Feliz
Ashley Tapia
Steven Garcia
Cristian Estudillo
Shaellee Rodriguez
Georfred Roa
Mya Taveras
Camila Flores

8th Grade

Mason Tobias
Isleny Difo
Jaylenet Tavaréz
Imya Love-Lucas
Yanery Cedeno
Rouse Pena
Carla Tousent
Emely Figueroa
Sara Dominguez
Franchesca Lopez

Be
AGGRESSIVE.
Be Be

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2021-2022 Mounts Boys' Basketball Team

Dylan Stish 7th
Noel Matos 8th
Damian Vargas 7th
Jayden Tiburcio 7th
Devin Perez 8th
Luis Nuñez 8th
Robin Sanchez 7th
Xavier Perez 7th
Georfred Roa 7th
Ronaldo Contreras 8th
Reilyn Taveras 7th
Randy Dilone 8th
Joel Castillo 8th
Jonathan Mota 8th
Justin Germosen 8th



Members of the HEMS Student Council and the HEMS girls' basketball team recently collected nonperishable goods for United Charities.



Extracurricular Activities

Drama Queen

Written by Dalays Soriano Rodriguez



Hazleton Mounts 2021-2022 Cheerleaders

According to Dictionary.com, the definition of drama queen is a person who has exaggerated or overly emotional reactions to events. The words can be interpreted in another way, as in the leader of a theater group. In a recent interview with Ms. Rimshaw, the adviser of the HEMS Drama Club, information about this year's production was revealed.

Q: What is the title of the play?

A: The play is titled *Scrooge Makes Up!*

Q: Why did you choose this play?

A: We are doing this during Christmastime and it's a comedy.

Q: Can you describe the play?

A: Without giving too much away, I can say that it is a modern, funny version of *A Christmas Carol*.

Q: What is the most annoying part of running the drama club?

A: It is difficult when students don't show up for practice.

Q: Do you think that this play will be successful?

A: I do think everyone will like it if actors clearly express their lines.

Q: You presented a virtual play last year. Did you like it?

A: Yes, but I'm glad to be back on the stage!

I'm sure the students and staff are happy too, for nothing beats watching a play in person. You can look forward to watching the presentation of *Scrooge Makes Up!* in December, before winter break!

Tiffany Taveras
Mackenzie Brodie
Edilianys Estevez
Neyshaliz Texidor
Joselyn Romero
Kamila Aybar
Neidy Tavaréz
Marianny Fabian
Valery Anziani
Isabel Lopez Felix
Aniurka Veloz
Jatna Abreu
Ava Cahalane
Isleny Difo
Carla Tousent
Jocelyn Lukashunas
Amanda Wentz
Ideliz Colon
Jalissa Greene
Dafne Aquino
Nashla Aponte
Genesis Ramos
Keany Alvarez
Jaylenet Tavaréz

Extracurricular Activities

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN CLUBS?

Written by Lluvia Espinal

Many positive things were said about the Hazleton Elementary Middle School's clubs.

This reporter interviewed her close friends and classmates about why they want to join the clubs that they are in or desired to be in.

The first person interviewed was **Jancy Colon** who is a member of the History Club and the Book Club. Jancy claims they find interest in the History Club because they find history fun to learn about and they would really like to learn about the people before us who shaped the world of today. Jancy joined the Book Club because they believe books can pull us out of any stress and

anxiety that we feel and can also give us our own world in which we feel safe and happy.

Valary Anziani wants to help the environment by joining the Ecology Club. She decided to join the Ecology Club because she loves animals and wants to protect wildlife. She likes the thought of taking care of animals and all nature in need.

Another person interviewed was **Isbelia Colon** who desires to be in the Drama Club. Ever since Isbelia was a little girl she has always wanted to become an actress and be involved with acting. She thinks if she joins the Drama Club, she'll meet new people and learn new things.

Gissel Munoz, wants to be in the Art Club when she has the chance. The Art Club is a big opportunity for Gissel to improve in her art and creativity. Gissel likes to draw, sketch, paint and everything else that has to do with art. She believes this club will help boost her work and artistry.

The clubs mentioned are only a few of the many options for students who attend HEMS. If you want to improve your skills, learn something new, or make new friends, consider joining a club. Even though club sign-ups were already held, some clubs are accepting new members. Consult the club advisers to check if you can still join.

"If you never did you should. These things are fun and fun is good."

~Dr. Seuss

Parent Engagement Activities

Book and a Bagel



The fourth-grade teachers, along with the reading and math interventionists, hosted a parent engagement activity on Friday, October 22. Students and parents enjoyed bagels while listening to a story read aloud in the library.



Bingo

Third graders and their parents enjoyed playing Math Bingo, on Friday, November 19th.



What's Happening?

Red Ribbon Week



The NJHS, Student Council, and Fitness Club sponsored Red Ribbon Week to create an awareness about the dangers of drugs. Congratulations to Leony Acevdo and Alexander Lange Colas, the winners of the HEMS Red Ribbon Week coloring contest. Both received prizes for their outstanding entries.



Middle school seventh grade students wear tie-dye shirts in support of Red Ribbon Week.



HEMS teachers and staff wear their favorite team shirts in support of Red Ribbon Week.

What's Happening?



**2021 Dodgeball
Champions**



**2021 Dodgeball
Best-dressed**

Dodgeball Tournament

Written by Daviana Rosado and Gissel Munoz

This year's annual charity dodgeball tournament, hosted by the National Junior Honor Society, took place on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. There were six seventh grade teams and three eighth grade teams that participated.

The championship game was played by That One Team and Nike, with That One Team clutching the win. Afterward, the champions took on the TEACHERS, with each team earning a win. All money collected will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

Is anyone hoping for a **REMATCH?**

That One Team– Champions

Dylan Stish– Captain
Lewin Ramirez
Georfred Roa
Robin Sanchez
Jayden Tiburcio
Damain Vargas

Door Dash– Best-dressed

Ranffy Santana– Captain
Jayden Gomez
Isabella Gonzalez Valencia
Makaila Jones
Jeffrey Ramirez
Liz Tavarez

CLASSIFIED AD

Wanted: Imaginative individuals to design holiday/winter theme decorations for classroom doors. See your homeroom teacher for details.

CLASSIFIED AD

Wanted: Creative comrades to create holiday ornaments for the HEMS Christmas tree, See your homeroom teacher for details.

Thanks Third Base!



A heartfelt thank you goes out to the Third Base Luncheonette for their generous monetary donation to the HEMS PTA! The donation will be used for educational field trips and programs.

The Castle Caller Staff

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