

The Castle Caller

Maple Manor Middle School Opens Fall 2015

By Leisha Abreu*
Junior Reporter

Hazleton sure is overpopulated. The schools are filling up with more and more kids. Because of this, a new school was established called Maple Manor.

Maple Manor is an elementary-middle school for grades 3rd through 8th. It is housed in the former Bishop Hafey High School building located in Hazle Township, across the street from Hazleton Area High School.

This past fall the students in grades 3-6 started classes in the elementary section of the school. The middle school section was not quite finished, therefore the students in grades 7 and 8 will begin school at Maple Manor this fall.

Student from Hazleton and West Hazleton Elementary Middle Schools will be notified if they will attend Maple Manor. Wondering if you will be attending this new school next year? Ask yourself if any of your neighbors are elementary students that attend Maple Manor. If the answer to that is yes,

chances are good you will be attending this school for middle school.

Many students who are currently in seventh grade at our school, the

cause he has been at HEMS since third grade and he doesn't want to leave his friends that won't be attending Maple Manor.

her friends are here and she doesn't want to cheer for another school.

Not everyone likes the idea of having to attend a new school, especially



Maple Manor Elementary Middle School in Hazle Township is in the former Bishop Hafey School.

Castle, and at West Hazleton will have to transfer to Maple Manor for their eighth grade year. Several students here at the Castle aren't too happy about that.

Seventh grader **Erika De La Rosa** said she's nervous about going and she sad because she's going to be leaving some friends behind at H.E.M.S.

Erik Lopez, seventh grade, doesn't feel happy about going to this new school. He said he doesn't want to go be-

Yina Barraza doesn't like the idea of going to Maple Manor at all. Even though most of her friends are going, she still feels like it's not necessary to be sent over there.

Kimberly Ventura doesn't like the idea of being sent to Maple Manor because she doesn't want to leave her friends who are staying at HEMS and she doesn't want to quit the cheerleading squad.

Amberly Ventura hates that she has to go to Maple Manor because all

for only one year, but with our schools being over populated there is no other solution. Who knows? Those leaving might actually like Maple Manor better! Change can be good!

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EVENTS

Gallery Night Debuts at HEMS

By Nicolle Garcia
Junior Reporter

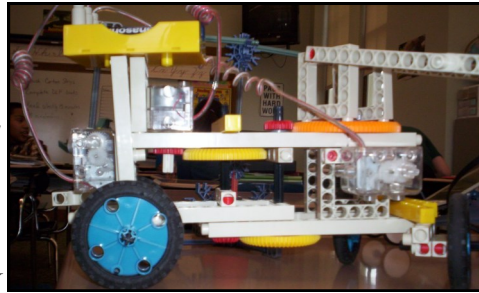
Gallery Night is a new event for Hazleton Elementary Middle School students and families to attend. It is actually a district-wide event that will take place at all of the schools. Gallery Night is an opportunity for parents to come to school to see their children's work and any types of completed projects that will be on display. It is a chance for teachers and students to show off all their hard work!

This year Gallery Night will be held on Wednesday, May 6th from 6:00-7:30pm.

Mrs. Marszalek, seventh and eighth grade physical, Earth and life science teacher, is looking forward to this event. She said when parents attend Gallery Night they will experience what their child experiences in her lab. Parents will take part in classroom activities. Some activities will include roller coasters in motion, planting, digging fossils, Guess What's in the Box?, and rainbow milk. Students' work will also be on display throughout her classroom.

Gifted teacher **Mrs. Sharp** said, "Students will have their projects on display. Some projects will be STEM related and some will be based on using engineering skills. Also, projects that have won awards at middle school competitions will be displayed."

Sixth grade reading and language arts teacher **Mrs. O'Donnell** said her classes will have several projects displayed. Classes created figurative language comic strips, which focused on using various creative writing skills in a comedic, narrative short story cartoon. Both classes also selected a piece of narrative, argumentative or informative writing from their writing journals to display. Finally, for the past several months her homeroom has been learning about 100 People Who Changed America. Student were asked to select



(Above): Truck assembled following a blue print. (Left): Lego Mind Storm Robot programmed on computer to follow different commands.

Countries and Cultures. Also, all of his students work is going to be displayed and a movie of his students working on their projects will be shown.

Fourth grade math teacher **Mr. O'Donnell** described what his students will be working on as, "A project on class favorites using bar and pie graphs, fractions, decimals, and percents." These projects will be displayed around the classroom.

the top five individuals who impressed them the most and create an informative project board showcasing how these individuals changed America and why they found them. them to be more impressive than the other 95 people mentioned in the book.

Eighth grade social studies teacher **Mr. Schifano** said his classes made a big project called

Students and parents are encouraged to visit



Countries and Cultures project from 7th grade

various classrooms to view displayed work. Music teacher **Mrs. Gogola** will also have the Castle Chorale performing in the auditorium.

CLUBS AND MORE

Back To Summer by HMS Drama Club

By Clarissa Nunez*
Junior Reporters

This year's drama club presentation was *Back to Summer*, a comedy by Wade Bradford. *Back to Summer* stars **Andrew DeJesus**, **Sera McManus**, and **Kimberly Ventura**, along with **Damaras Garcia** and **Dilauri Hernandez** and many others.

The plot of the play is that summer is winding down, but some kids found a way to make it longer by using a time machine to travel back



The cast of *Back to Summer* poses for a company photo.

through time, meet new friends, and save the day. *ent facet to the characters they're playing."*

Club advisor Mrs. Dudeck said, "The kids...really add a differ- Advisor Mrs. Rimshaw said, "We have fun. It's just a bit nerve

wracking."

Mrs. Dudeck and Mrs. Rimshaw have been doing a great job with the club. Unfortunately, Mrs. Dudeck said this will her last year as advisor. "I always enjoyed being the advisor," said Dudeck.

Mrs. Rimshaw will continue with the club next year. She said, "I love being the advisor. It's a lot of hard work, but it's worth it."

Back to Summer was performed April 16 & 17.

HMS PSSA Video Big Hit

By Samuel Figueroa*
Junior Reporter

During the PSSA pep rally on March 17, a motivational video was shown featuring HMS middle school students. The video was directed by seventh grade civics teacher Mrs. Force. This video was so awesome, we at *The Castle Caller* were curious about how she and her students created such an impressive, professionally produced video.

She began the video by selecting the music. Some students volunteered to sing. Some sang *Blank Space* by Taylor Swift, while others changed the words to a famous song and sang *Proficient and I Know It*.

Video clips were taken of students in the hallway, classroom, cafeteria, stairway, an gym. They were put together using an app called Imovie, which was done on Mrs. Force's phone, believe it or not. Mrs. Force said the students were happy and excited to do the video.

Some of the seventh grade students who participated in the making of the video had the following to say:

Meralis Martes said, "It was a fun-filled experience...Everyone was energetic and happy. Mrs. Force was really, really excited to do it. Honestly I think the video

should have lasted longer."

Angela Dubesky said, "I sang in the video...I thought it was great to encourage the students in the Castle to do their best on the PSSAs. It's always great to help out and have fun doing it." She hopes there is another video next year.

Vanasia Germosen and **Gabriel Fabian** both agreed that the video was really cool.

Annette Mateo said, "...it was a nice experience because it's going to become good memories one day."

"I think it was great! The video showed us how much fun school could be," com-

mented **Sahira Olaverria**.

"It was very nice to see all of the students working together," noted seventh grader **Brianna Estrella**.

Arianna Fisher said she loved the *Proficient and I Know It* part and she hopes there is more to come.

Finally, Mrs. O'Donnell said the video was excellent. "I studied TV broadcasting in college and I know how hard it is to make a video. Mrs. Force and her students did a great job. I'd like to post that video on the school website."

SIXTH GRADE

HEMS Groups Donate Thousands to Cancer

By Kaleigh Frederick and Taylor Williams
Sixth Grade Interns

The American Cancer Society telethon was held on February 28, 2015. Hazleton Elementary Middle School's cheerleading squad, student council and 6th grade community service club, raised a little over \$2000 for this worthwhile cause. Two checks were presented live on-air during the telethon.

Sixth grade community service club member **Kaitlyn Roskos** raised over \$500.00 with the help of her mom, who took the donation sheet to Zumba class and work. She said the club was fun and she could hang out with her friends while giving back to the community.

Ms. DeLucca's student council raised \$500.00 by fundraising with Victoria's Christmas candies. She said,

"We like to participate because it is a worthy cause.

We all know at least one person who has died from cancer or is a cancer survivor."

Mrs. O'Donnell's cheerleading squad raised \$1000.00 by asking friends, family and

members of their church parishes for donations.

"I like the girls to participate because it is important

for them to learn that giving back to the community is something they should always

do," commented O'Donnell. "We all know someone who has been affected by this disease."

Mrs. Karlick's 6th grade

community service club raised \$800.00 by asking friends, family, and local businesses for donations. Mrs. Karlick said they like participating because cancer touches almost everyone in some way. *"My grandparents had cancer. It was very sad to see them suffer."*

In the end, we hope these funds help contribute to finding a cure for cancer. The clubs' goals for next year is to raise more money to help people survive or at least stay alive as long as they can.

To donate to the ACS call (570) 459-5830 or mail donations to 132 S. Wyoming Street, Hazleton 18201.



HEMS students present check to ACS.

Cheerleading: Open Gym & Tryouts

By Diana Hernandez and Kaitlyn Roskos
Sixth Grade Interns

What's more encouraging than a great cheer that gets you up and going?

Mrs. O'Donnell is encouraging sixth and seventh grade students to attend open gym for cheerleading. At open gym, students learn the 10 basic moves of cheerleading, the standard toe-touch jump, and stunting skills before tryouts. It's like pre-school for cheerleaders.

Mrs. O'Donnell and the current 2014-2015 cheerleading squad run open gym. Mrs. O'Donnell said she is happy with the turn out. She said it is difficult to teach girls with little or no experience, but she likes teaching this age group because she can mold them

into the type of cheerleader she wants. She said she is seeing progress in those attending after only a few short weeks, however they must keep prac-



tice, especially jumps.

"Unless you have a natural talent, which maybe 1 out of 15 people do, it takes a long time to get correct height, power, and flexibility for the

toe touch," commented O'Donnell.

Current seventh grade cheerleader Kiany Gutierrez said Mrs. O'Donnell is being easy on the new learners, but she does point out what she sees that needs improvement. Gutierrez said when you first make the squad it is tough, but after all the hard work the fun starts.

Sixth grader Kaleigh Frederick is attending open gym. She said, *"I enjoy going to open gym even though it is tough. It is very fun. I feel prepared to cheer for HMS!"*

HMS's open gym is a great opportunity for students to get prepared for tryouts in June. Mrs. O'Donnell plans to ex-

tend open gym 1-2 weeks into May.

Cheerleading tryout dates have not been set yet. Any student trying out for cheerleading will need a physical exam by a doctor before tryouts. Please note, PIAA rules state athletic physical exams must be completed after June 1st.

A free appointment-only, sports clinic will be held at HAHS on Saturday, June 13th. Forms for the clinic are available in the nurse's office.

Exams at a private doctor must be turned in to the coach or school nurse before tryouts or you will not be allowed to try out. See the nurse for papers and a clinic appointment.

SOUNDS OFF

Cheer and Jeers for 6th to 7th Transition

By Marcus Knecht, Jerry Marcalle, and Cordell Talford
6th Grade Interns

This is the time of year that sixth grade students start to realize things are going to be very different next school year. The comfort of the elementary years is over and the transition to middle school is upon them.

We asked some 6th graders what their cheers and jeers were for next year. Basically, what are they excited about and what aren't they looking forward to in middle school. Here is what they had to say.



CHEERS

Genesis Martinez -

Cheers: "I am excited to be trying out for the basketball

team."

Jeers: The teachers and the new subjects.

Diana Hernandez -

Cheers: Hopefully making cheerleading.

Jeers: Waking up early.

Ruby Diaz -

Cheers: Meeting new friends.

Jeers: "...bullies."

David Dodd -

Cheers: Middle school gym.

Jeers: Middle school PSSAs. "They are not really fun."

Arielys Sencion -

Cheers: School dances.

Jeers: "All the moving around (from class to class) can get confusing," she said.

Gabriella Velez -

Cheers: Cheerleading.

Jeers: Waking up early.

Jeremiah Castillo -

Cheers: Joining the basketball team.

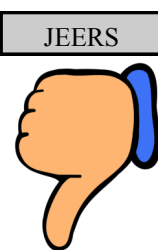
Jeers: The stress of waking up early.

Karen Pujols -

Cheers: Different classes and meeting new people.

Jeers: Getting lost because the school is big.

We have come to the conclusion that most people are worried about waking up earlier, but most people are excited for middle school and that is positive.



JEERS

In the Summer, I like To...

By Franklyn Colon, Brayan Pena, and Jean Portes
6th Grade Interns

HEMS is encouraging all students to be healthy, happy, and have fun during the summer months. Some students' favorite summer activities are playing sports and spending time with their families.

Sixth grader **Jean Portes** said, "I like to swim, stay active, play sports and video game." Portes thinks these activities are healthy for his body.

"I play video games, swim, and play basketball," commented **Eddie**

Linker, sixth grade.

Jeison Hernandez, fifth grade, said, "Soccer and a little bit of baseball," are his activities of choice. Hernandez has fun doing these things with his uncle and family.

Grashell Cruz, fifth grade, said her favorite activities in the summer-time are swimming and drawing. She enjoys spending time with her family at the beach and having drawing contests with her sister.

Sixth grader **Justin**

Ortega likes playing basketball, baseball, and football. He said he enjoys having fun while playing sports he is good at.

Cindy Paulino, sixth grade, said her favorite sports to play are, "Soccer, basketball, and baseball."

Fifth grader **Jose Abreu** agrees with Paulino on the baseball and basketball activities.

Katie Anziani, fifth grade, commented, "I like to go outside, play basketball, go to

Knoeble's, go to the beach, and go shopping." She spends her time doing these things with her family, mostly.

Sixth grader **Jose Alberto** plays video games.

Whatever activity you like to do most, make sure you spend your time outside enjoying that warm, summer sun. Before you know it, winter will be back and we will be hiding in our homes until the snow melts. We hope you choose to have a healthy, happy, and fun summer!

2014-15 Year in Review



NEWSFLASH



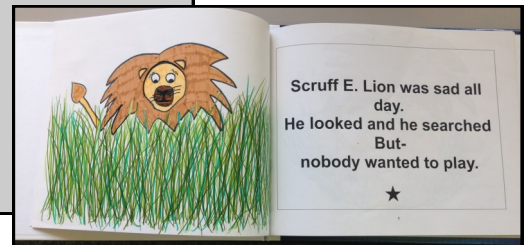
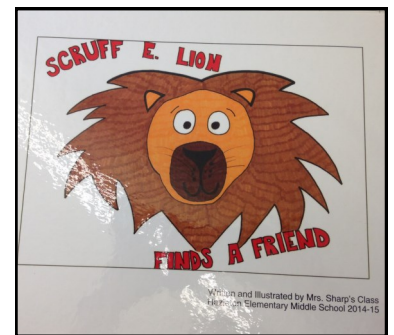
Gifted Students Author Book

Four students from Mrs. Sharp's gifted class conceptualized, wrote, and illustrated a children's book called *Scruff E. Lion Finds a Friend*. It's a book about a lonely lion looking for someone to spend time with. The hardcover will be available in our school library in the future. The girls said the hardest part of creating the book was all the detailed illustrations.

Left: Authors Alexis Kulish, DiLauri Hernandez, Isabella Nika, & Makayla Kerrick.

Top right: Cover of *Scruff E. Lion*

Bottom right: Inside illustration.



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