

The Castle Caller



FREE

A Student Newspaper

Fall Edition 2016

Most HMS Kids Excited School is Back in Session

By Luis Rojas
Senior Reporter

School has begun again and many students are excited to be back and see their old friends. They are not just at school to see their friends, though. They're here to meet their new teachers, as well, for the exciting new school year ahead.

Robert Rodriguez, seventh grade, said he is very excited to come back to school. He says he is ready to be a seventh grader and experience it for the first time.

Seventh grader **Jamilca Polanco** said she felt very nervous about coming back. She said, "I wanted to know if the vibes and changes would be good. I was still very excited to come back."

Arielys Sencion, eighth grade, said she was most excited about coming back because she has been waiting all summer to cheer for our school again.

Eighth grader **Aysha Rodriguez** said she is very happy about coming back. She is able to see all her friends she missed over the summer and she

wants to learn much more.

Jose Alberto, eighth grade, was excited to come back because he waited all summer to see his new eighth grade teachers. That is what he was most excited for!

Emmanuel Morante, eighth grade, said he was very excited. "This is our last year of middle school as an eighth grader. I can't wait for it to be done already."

Although most HMS students were excited to return to the walls of the Castle, there were some who were less than excited.

Kiara Pizarro, seventh grade, said that she is not excited to come back to school, as she cannot sleep longer in bed and must wake up earlier.

Adrian Figueroa, seventh grade, said he is not proud about coming back. He says he won't be able to sleep his 10 hours a day like he did over the summer.

As you can see many students were excited to come back to school, but

"This is our last year of middle school....I can't wait for it to be done already."

Emmanuel Morante, HMS Eighth Grader

others are finding it hard to let go of their summer routines. Yet, some students just want the school year to end before it has even really begun! Fortunately, most HMS students are ready to learn more in school and be able to see their friends.

We, at *The Castle Caller*, wish everyone a great school year!

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HMS 8th Graders Top Placers SumDog Math Comp By Mrs. Rodgers

Mrs. Rodgers' classes participated in the October Luzerne County SumDog.com Math Competition. In this contest, 47 Luzerne County classes, with a total of 1063 students, participated. Students answered 1000 math questions over a period of 1 week.

Mrs. Rodgers' Algebra I class took first place with a combined score of 860 points. Three of Mrs.

Rodgers' eighth grade students placed in the top ten:

Diana Hernandez came in 5th place answering 931 questions correct out of 1000.

Esmeralda Lucca took 6th answering 951 questions correct.

Finally, **Daviante Granger** took 8th place answering 948 questions correctly.

Great job to everyone!

SPORTS

MS B-ball Says Good-bye to JV Teams

By **Kaleigh Frederick**
Senior Reporter

Basketball is coming up for students at HMS!

Are you ready? We, here at The Castle Caller, are excited for middle school hoops!

Boys' basketball head coach, Mr. Plesh, and assistant coach, Mr. Silva, started conditioning a few weeks ago.

In speaking with Mr. Silva recently, he discussed how this year is going to be unlike last year. There is a big change for both boys' and girls' middle school basketball teams across the Hazleton Area School District.

Instead of two basketball teams, one JV and one Varsity, for each of the girls' and boys' teams, now there will only be one team.

"There are going to be less players, even though seventh and eighth graders can participate," said Silva.

But what does this mean for the students who want to try out for the team?

"It's going to be different because there is going to be competition," remarked Silva.

Tryouts will be held in November. There will not be a specific number of players that will be picked for the boys.

Coach Silva commented, "They need to know the fundamentals like dribbling, passing, and shooting."

The middle school basketball season will begin December 12, with the complete schedule will be announced in the near future.

As for girls' basketball, there is a new coach this season, HEMS third grade teacher Miss Touch! The girls started conditioning a few weeks ago, and just like the boys, there will only be one team.

Coach Touch said, "It will be very different with only one team this year. The girls might have to play the same night as the boys and there will be less girls picked."

According to Coach Touch, she will only be selecting between 12 and 14 girls. Her advise is to be a committed player and, of course, practice. It does make perfect!

2016-2017 HMS Mountaineer Cheerleading Team

Congratulations to the seventh and eighth grade students selected as Mountaineer cheerleaders, in September, for the 2016-2017 school year:

Zekeiri Lorenzo



Kaleigh Frederick - Captain



Ashley Luciano



Juliana Bric



Danna Camacho



Kayleigh Correll



Arielys Sencion - Captain



Karen Pujols



Mia Rodriguez



Bianca Colon



Leandra Santana



Yamairis Ortiz

Editor's Note: The article on the 2016-2017 Mountaineer Cheerleaders by junior reporter Nicolas Perez did not make the editorial deadline.

Holiday Features



Halloween Traditions

By **Jonanthony Sencion**
Junior Reporter



This Halloween I interviewed the seventh graders at HMS to see how they celebrated the spooky holiday.

Did they dress up? Did they go trick or treating or stay home?

Leandra Santana, seventh grade, loves Halloween, but she stayed home this year. She was afraid of seeing the killer clown that's been in the news. She would rather give candy to the trick or treaters.

Seventh grader **Michael Pujols** planned to be a clown this year. He went trick or

treating with his friends.

Andy Lainez, seventh grade, celebrated Halloween by, both, passing out candy to the trick or treaters and being a trick or treater himself!

Seventh grader **Ryan Craig** said he was taking his little brother trick or treating. Once they got a lot of candy, they went home and helped their parents pass it out.

Wellington Zoquier, seventh grade, who also planned to be a clown, was going trick or treating with his cousins this year.

Michael Jon, seventh grade, was going to celebrate Halloween this year by going to his cousin's Halloween party! He was dressing as Freddy Krueger. He was also planning to do some trick or treating with his family.

Though it seems like creepy clown outfits were a popular costume this Halloween season, there were several other popular costumes that many people wore. The Purge was a scary costume some chose. Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, of course,

were also very popular amongst the older kids and adults. Batman, Superman, or just about any Marvel's superhero was a great choice this year, as well.

Finally, we want to applaud all of the teachers, aides, and school staff who dressed up this year. Some of the elementary and middle school teachers dressed as superheroes to celebrate the holiday, while others were crayons, M&Ms, and even a Minion.

The Castle always celebrates Halloween in style!

Halloween 2016 Costumes

By **Nayeli Rodriguez***
Junior Reporter

Halloween is the time of year when you want to either have the best costume or the SCARIEST costume.

This year, those who dressed up as either The Purge or Freddy Krueger definitely took the prize as the scariest. Although some clown costumes were pretty terrifying, too, according to some people.

At the Castle, it was the year of



superheroes. Everyone, including teachers, wanted to dress up like their favorite power-

ful hero.

Seventh grade teacher Mrs. Force dressed up as Batgirl. She said she wanted to lurk in the shadows at night and seek out dangerous villains in her kick butt costume.



Other teachers took part in the fun and dressed as Wonder Woman, Harley Quinn, Captain America, Robin, The Joker, and even Santa Claus? He didn't get the memo, obviously.

A fun time was had by all. A parade was held in the auditorium and the high school band provided the music for the event.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?



Above: Students participate in the Fun'd Walk on October 14, 2016. Below: Crazy Hair Day on October 27, 2016.



Right: Middle school cheerleading clinic held on Columbus Day.



Halloween Fun



A Letter from the Editor

Dear Students of HMS,

The Castle Caller has been publishing student newspapers for 9 years. We have always had students interested in working as reporters or photographers to report the school news. This year, one student came to the first club meeting. I scheduled a second meeting and no one showed up. Students who came to see me later were assigned articles and then many never turned them in, as you can see.

Without your participation, there can be no student newspaper. We cannot have a staff of only 4 people. In September, over 12 students signed up for this club. Meetings are only once a quarter and 15 minutes long, giving students time to attend additional club meetings or practices occurring that day.

My hope is that for the Holiday Edition meeting in November, I will see the students who signed up for the club in September and I will see the students who worked on *The Castle Caller* as seventh graders. We depend on the eighth graders who have reporting experience. We also want seventh graders to learn how to serve as reporters, so next year there will be eighth graders with experience.

I will not fill another edition with pictures. If we have no interest or participation for the Holiday Edition, then the newspaper will unfortunately be only one page. Remember, this is YOUR club. You get out of it what you put into it.

Editor's Note: The Club News section of *The Castle Caller* was to contain the following articles: *Drama Club December Production* by Cristen Mejia and *SADD Comes Back Strong* by Adrian Figueroa. These reporters did not make their editorial deadline.

The Castle Caller
needs

YOU

to work as a

REPORTER!

Attend the Holiday
Edition meeting on

Thursday, Nov. 17th
right after school.

The Castle Caller Staff

Reporters:

Kaleigh Frederick

Nayeli Rodriguez

Luis Rojas

Jonanthony Sencion

Photographers:

C. Karlick

M. Howey

M. O'Donnell

C. Rodgers

Editor-in-Chief/Advisor:

Mrs. O'Donnell

*Denotes Mrs. O'Donnell assisted with the article.

