



Horseheads Middle School February 2017

Judith Baenen wrote an article entitled, What's Best For Kids? Tips For Parents. The article begins with the following paragraph:

The first tip is thinking ahead... One of our best tools as parents is being prepared. As your son or daughter gets to the middle school years, get ready for at least occasional conflicts. Think through what is truly important to you. Is the youngster's hairstyle as important as homework? Isn't curfew more of a concern than crabbiness? Obviously, dawdling is a lot easier to accept than drugs. As these give-and-take situations start, know ahead of time what areas you are willing to negotiate and what areas are absolutes.

If you would like to read more, visit the Association for Middle Level Education Website at <http://www.amle.org/>.

I would also encourage you to join us on **March 16th at 6:00 PM in the Middle School Cafeteria** for a parent workshop. The **Surviving Your Adolescents Workshops** is sponsored by C.I.D.S. Family Life Development Center and presented by Alise Mahr and Maria Militello. The workshop will present suggested do's and don'ts when communicating with your teens as well as strategies for building your teens, self-esteem.

Please do not miss this valuable opportunity!



Wednesday, March 1	Music in Our Schools Concert 7:00 pm MS Cafe
Tuesday, March 7	MS Progress Reports Issued
Wednesday, March 8	MS Parent Conference Night 5:30-7:00
Friday, March 10	No School — Conference Day
Thursday, March 16	Surviving Your Adolescents Workshop-6:00 MS Café
Friday, March 24	FACS Mock Interviews Periods 1-9
Tues.-Thurs., March 28-30	Grade 7 & 8 NYS ELA Assessment Testing



The Horseheads Middle School Science Olympiad Team competed at the Southern Tier Regional Competition held at SUNY Broome in Binghamton on February 11th and 12th. A team of fifteen sixth through ninth graders brought home the third place trophy for Horseheads.

While it was a tremendous team effort, there were also a number of excellent individual performances in the competition.

Finishing just out of the medals with fourth place finishes in Wind Power and Hovercraft were Dan Finnerty and Nolan McKibbin. Also just out of medals with fourth place finishes in Ecology and Road Scholar was Stella Clinton.

Antonia Kladias earned two Bronze medals in Experimental Design and Mission Possible. Bhavi Patel earned a Bronze medal in Reach for the Stars and the team of Catherine Koester and Lindsey Hall earned Silver medals in Fast Facts.

Mr. Steele and Mr. Johnson are extremely proud of the hard work put in by this year's team and look forward to working with you all again next year!

NYS ASSESSMENT DATES

Our 7th and 8th grade students will take:

English Language Arts: 3/28, 3/29, 3/30

Math: 5/2, 5/3, 5/4

Our 8th grade students will take:

Science Performance Test: 5/24

Science Written Test: 6/5



Our 8th grade Algebra I students will take the Algebra I Regents Exam on June 13th. All 8th grade Algebra I students will be exempt from the 8th grade math assessment.



MARCH CHARACTER TRAIT

The character trait for March is Respect. Respect is a two way street. Therefore you must show respect if you hope to receive it. At Horseheads Middle School we live by the *Raider Way* and as part of our character education program, we do expect students to develop respect for others and themselves. We ask students to be courteous and polite. Students should judge all people on their merits and abilities and respect individual differences. Remember to **THINK** before saying or doing something. By **THINKING**, students ask themselves if what they are about to say or do is **True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary and Kind**. Showing respect is another way our students demonstrate the *Raider Way*!



MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK SALE

To order your 2016-2017 Middle School yearbook go to the following website: ybpay.lifetouch.com.

Enter the Yearbook ID code 11056517 and then follow the easy on screen ordering instructions. The cost is \$ 18.00 and all major credit cards are accepted. The Middle School will not be handling any yearbook payments. If you need further information or details, please call 1-800-453-9764. All yearbooks must be ordered online. The deadline for ordering is March 31st. School Yearbooks will be distributed in June.



SPRING SPORTS PROGRAM

Varsity and JV sports begin on Monday, March 6th and Modified sports begin on Monday, March 20th.

2017 - 2018 Budget Development Calendar

All meetings are open to the public. Information on the 2017-18 budget is available on the district website at www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

March 9 - 6 pm, Erin Town Hall - Budget Workshop

March 23 - 6pm, Multi-Media Center - BOE Meeting

April 6 - 6pm, Multi-Media Center - Budget Workshop

April 19 - 6pm, Ridge Road - BOE Meeting

May 4 - 6pm, Multi Media Center - Public Hearing on the 2017 - 2018 Proposed Budget

May 8 - 7pm, Multi Media Center - Candidates' Forum

May 16 - 7am - 9pm, Big Flats/Ridge Road/HS - School Budget Vote/BOE Election



Horseheads 2030 Infrastructure Discussions

Please mark your calendars to attend one or more of the infrastructure discussions for the Horseheads 2030 comprehensive project to improve by the educational program and infrastructure of the district now, in 2030, and beyond. More information on the project is available at www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

All meetings begin at 7pm in the Horseheads High School Auditorium, and are open to the public.

March 16

March 27

April 26

May 11

May 30



Questions? E-mail hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

DIGNITY ACT COORDINATOR

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Horseheads Middle School is Ron Holloway. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Ron Holloway at 739-6357, x3640. Mrs. Christiansen is the Dignity Act Coordinator for the District and can be contacted at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845. Her telephone number is 607-739-5601, x4211.

Notice: The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression). Inquiries regarding this notice may be made to Judy Christiansen, Title IX and DASA Coordinator, or Kim Williams, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

Riddles: By Joshua Friess

- 1-What belongs to you but others use it more than you do?
- 2-The more you take, the more you leave behind, what am I?
- 3-What flies without wings?
- 4-What vehicle is spelled the same forwards and backwards?
- 5- Mary's father has 4 children; Three are named Nana, Nene, and Nini. What's the name of the fourth child?



Riddles by: John Grover

What did the frog say to the princess who wouldn't kiss him?

“Wart's the matter with you?”

Why are banjos the saddest instrument?

“Because people keep picking on them.”

What did the pencil say to the paper?

“I dot my i's on you.”

What should you do if you baby brother is chewing up your favorite book?

“Take the words right out of his mouth.”



Answers To Riddles Above

1: Your Name

2: Footsteps

3: Time

4: Racecar

5: Mary

Growth Mindset

By: Aaron Garrow and Aaliyah Eastwood

Have you ever failed? Possibly you've failed at school. Possibly you've failed at sports. You're not the only one who failed at something. For instance, there have been many famous failures. Albert Einstein wasn't able to speak until he was almost 4 years old, and his teachers said he would "never amount to much." Eventually, he became a Theoretical Physicist & Nobel Prize Winner. Walt Disney got fired from a Newspaper for "lacking imagination" and "having no original ideas."

All of the people listed above must have had the Growth Mindset. What does the Growth Mindset mean? It means thinking about the positive ways of things. Some people have a fixed Mindset which means that when they are frustrated, they doubt themselves and give up. So, when our readers start to think they can't do anything right, they should try thinking the positive way. For example, they

Source:

https://www.google.com/search?q=growth+mindset&safe=strict&biw=1093&bih=521&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&sqi=2&ved=0CAcQ_AUoAmoVChMlg_hxg-Ch1-PAIZ#imgsrc=I_Yipp0hyWRUFM%3A

How to Stay Connected with Your Family

Andrew Costas and Evan Mekos



We used to stay connected with our families, but now a lot of people just pay attention to their phones and not their families or anyone else. This is sad, and makes us feel alone, sometimes. We, here at HMS, have some long-forgotten ways to fix this. We would like to share some of ideas about how to stay connected to our families.

When we're staying connected with our families we could: go on car trips, play games, watch a movie, eat as a family, go outside, play cards, or do other activities. We could also play charades, spades, spoons, Egyptian war, arm wrestle, play Pictionary, telephone, Dominoes, or Uno. There are a lot of fun things we could do with our families. Really, we can do anything as long as we aren't on social media. If our families are the type of family that plays video games, we can go to the following website <http://www.aol.com/games/family-games/> to find free family games. If our families don't enjoy playing video games, we can just stop at the local Walmart, Target, or the Dollar Tree to get board games or other games of that sort.

That's some ways we can stay connected with our families. We should try some of them to get to know a little more about our families.



Extraterrestrial Life?

By: Blake Austin, Liam Coon, Dominic Myers.



When we think of life that exists on other planets, we might be thinking about little green men, with big eyes, three fingers, and no ears. This is the picture that many Hollywood movies have planted in our heads. Maybe, life exists in ways we haven't thought of yet.

Some planets that are believed to have evidence of life are Mars, and possibly, Super Earth (possibly the 9th planet in the solar system). One reason is when the rover Curiosity landed on site on Mars, it found organic material that was said to be in a lake bed. Organic material is soil that has decomposed plant or animal in it. So, that means, at one time, Mars could have sustained life. Another reason is on Earth, all forms of life need water to survive. It is likely, though not certain, that if life ever evolved on Mars, it did so in the presence of a long-standing supply of water. On Mars, NASA will therefore search for evidence of life in areas where liquid water was once stable, and below the surface, where it still might exist today. Perhaps there might also be some current "hot spots" on Mars where hydrothermal pools (like those at Yellowstone) provide places for life. Recent data from Mars Global Surveyor suggest that liquid water may exist just below the surface in rare places on the planet, and the 2001 Mars Odyssey will be mapping subsurface water reservoirs on a global scale. We know that water ice is present at the Martian poles, and these areas will be good places to search for evidence of life as well.

In addition to liquid water, life also needs energy. Therefore, future missions will also be on the lookout for energy sources other than sunlight, since life on the surface of Mars is unlikely given the presence of "superoxide's" that break down organic (carbon-based) molecules on which life is based. Here on Earth, we find life in many places where sunlight never reaches--at dark ocean depths, inside rocks, and deep below the surface. Chemical and geothermal energy, for example, are also energy sources used by life forms on Earth. Perhaps tiny, subsurface microbes on Mars could use such energy sources too.

Super earth is believed to be our ninth planet, and could contain life. Super earths are more massive than Earth, yet lighter than gas giants like Neptune. They are exotic planets, unlike any in our known solar system, and they can be made of gas, rock or a combination of both. There are about 70 known to circle stars beyond our sun, and NASA's Kepler mission has detected hundreds of candidates. These planets' relatively small sizes make them very hard to see.

In conclusion, there may be planets NASA believes could sustain life, other than our planet. Who knows what form it may take?

“NASA’s Kepler Discovers First Earth-Size Planet In The ‘Habitable Zone’ Of Another Star.” NASA TV, <https://www.nasa.gov/ames/kepler/nasas-kepler-discovers-first-earth-size-planet-in-the-habitable->

