

MIDDLE GROUND

Teaching and learning with young adolescents

From the Principal's Desk



Dear EHMS family,

It is hard to believe how quickly this academic year has gone by. As I move onto another chapter in my professional life I am filled with pride in our school. This has been a very successful year at East Hampton Middle School. As principal of our fine school I have had an opportunity to reflect on our wonderful students. We are very fortunate to have such a great student body. I am filled with pride as I walk the hallways, visit classrooms or see our students' sea of faces at a program in our gym. They are happy, safe and eager to learn to reach their maximum potential. Our school is filled with kind, responsible, compassionate and respectful students. It has been my pleasure to interact with all of them. I feel very good about the kind of citizens we are cultivating. They are guided in their learning by a very capable and dedicated faculty and staff who work tirelessly to provide the best learning outcomes for all of our students. I am proud to be associated with such a fine group. The success of our school, of course, does not come without a strong partnership with the parents and guardians of each one of our students. Together we have provided the platform for growth for each of our young people. The ongoing communication and willingness to work together has provided the basis for social and intellectual growth by all of our students. I appreciate the willingness of all parties to come together for the good of our students.

As we move forward we have the summer vacation to look forward to. Students are eager to kick back and enjoy the warmth of the fine weather. As parents we can do a lot to encourage the continuation of their learning. Please ensure that they are reading; encourage them to visit the library or read whatever interests them. Being a lifelong learner and reader is very important. Read with them and serve as a role model for desired behaviors. Mathematics can also be integrated into the summer experience in a fun way. Have your child help in the planning for a trip, discuss budget, plan expenses, and determine car gas mileage. When you cook have your child double the recipe or cut it in half and determine the new amounts needed for the ingredients. Go shopping and figure out savings when there are sales. Bring math alive for your students and they will see its value and importance in their lives.

In closing, it has been an honor and privilege to work with each of your children and with you. I look forward to a bright future for all of them. My time as principal at the middle school has been the most rewarding of my career. I looked eagerly to each and every day and went home each night with an accomplished feeling as we provided the best learning and growing process for your children. East Hampton is such an outstanding location to raise children.

Thank you for all of your continued support and have a great end of the school year and ensuing summer.

Nancy Briere

CALENDAR OF EVENTS May Calendar		CALENDAR OF EVENTS - June Calendar Cont'd.	
4	PTO Staff Appreciation luncheon for teachers/staff;	June 19	Grade 8 Awards: 8:30 a.m. Grade 7 Awards – 9:30 a.m. Grade 6 Awards – 10:30 a.m. NO LUNCH SERVED TODAY Last day of school – early dismissal @12:30 p.m.
4,7,11,14,18,21,28	Edline grades due		
5	Steam Expo—district-wide event	<h3 style="text-align: center;"><u>8TH GRADE NEWS</u></h3> <p style="text-align: center;">By Mr. Smith and Mrs. Mercaldi</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Planning is underway for the annual eighth grade “Celebration Party”.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The date has been set for Friday, May 15 from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. The cost will be \$10.00. This is an eighth grade social function. It is a “Party”. It is not a prom and therefore does not require a date, limousine rental, formal gowns, or other formal attire. We encourage girls to wear appropriate social attire, and boys to wear dress shirts and slacks. Jackets and ties are optional.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Last year, many parents provided finger food snacks, which helped to make this event a great success. There will be time prior to the party, from 6:30-7 p.m., when parents are welcome to take photos. The dance will be chaperoned entirely by staff and administration. We hope that all eighth grade students will share in this enjoyable evening.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">On Friday, June 5 we will be taking our annual EHMS eighth grade trip to High Meadows. The cost will be approximately \$65.00 which is for bus transportation and admissions to High Meadows. Please mark your calendars. It will be chaperoned entirely by EHMS staff. We hope that all eighth grade students can join us on this field trip. Stay tuned.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">More information about the field trip will be forthcoming.</p>	
6 and 20	Spanish club @2:35-3:35 rm. 21		
11 and 26	BOE Meeting @7 p.m. at EHHS		
13	-Student Council Staff Appreciation breakfast 7 a.m. -PTO Meeting @7 p.m. in the LMC		
15	-Mystic trip for grade 6 -5th graders visit EHMS - Celebration Party – Grade 8 at 7 p.m. Commons (parents can take photos between 6:30—7 p.m.)		
18 to 22	Book Fair LMC – MWF 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., TR till 6 p.m.		
22	-Memorial Day Observation Assembly Last day to order Yearbooks		
25	EHMS Band students march in E. Hampton Memorial Day parade.		
5/28	Rock Cats Music field trip		
5/29	-Summer Reading Assembly @1:20 p.m.		
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - June Calendar			
1,4,8,11	Edline grades due		
2	Band, Jazz Band, Chorus field trip to Memorial School		
3	Incoming 6th grade parent orientation 6:30 in LMC		
5	-8th graders field trip at High Meadow		
8	Last day Homework Club		
10	-7th grade Field Day; -7 p.m. PTO Meeting in LMC		
11	-6th grade field day		
12	Lake Compounce gr. 7 field trip		

EHMS Celebrates PBIS for Quarter 3—BENDING GRAVITY AT EAST HAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

By Joanna Mercaldi



On Tuesday, April 21, 2015, East Hampton Middle School community celebrated their 3rd quarter School Wide - Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support (PBIS) program. At the start of the assembly, Mrs. Briere, School Principal, began by welcoming the students and praising them for demonstrating their wonderful behaviors displayed at EHMS, which correlate to our pillars of Respect, Responsibility, Pride and Compassion. Following the welcome, nine lucky students (three from each grade level) were able to claim prizes from the raffle.

Then it was time to “Bend Gravity”. EHMS was fortunate to have Eric Girardi from “Bending Gravity” come and display his talents using yo-yos. Here’s a little about our presenter:

Mr. Girardi’s objective is to provide a one-of-a-kind breathtaking performance of object manipulation choreographed to music... to bring once stagnant objects to life as art in motion. He is an artist of over 20 skills from being a world-ranked yoyo player, a juggler of knives, a fire-eater, a stilt-walker and much more. As a role model, he can stress the importance of following one’s passions in life.

And this was exactly what he did! Students who attended the assembly were fascinated by his talent and tricks; even the adults were impressed with his skill level of using the yo-yos. Overall, it was an exciting performance to watch.

For students who did not earn the opportunity to attend the PBIS assembly, they went to a re-teaching program. During this time, these students were reviewed the PBIS program and encouraged to make some positive changes about their behaviors, so that they would be able to attend the last PBIS assembly for this school year.

By celebrating with the students who won the raffles and enjoying the performance by Eric Girardi, our quarter three PBIS assembly was a total success. The EHMS community continues to look ahead to celebrate again during its fourth quarter PBIS assembly, which will close out the school year for 2014-2015.



ALTERNATE HIGH SCHOOLS

Attention 8th grade parents/guardians. If you child has applied for an alternate high school, you will be getting a letter informing you that there will not be a schedule generated at EHHS for your child. Alternatively, if you decide over the summer to enroll in a different high school, please let East Hampton High School know as soon as possible. Please call 860-365-4030 or email ehhs@easthamptonct.org and inform them of your decision.

Thank you.

INTERNET SAFETY ASSEMBLY—APRIL 24

Mr. Scott Driscoll started his law enforcement career in 1989 and retired after 21 plus years. He also worked alongside Mr. Searles in the Glastonbury police department for a few years. For the majority of Mr. Driscoll's career, he has worked with the youth in his community to help them stay safe. Many years ago, Mr. Driscoll began teaching elementary school children about the dangers of the Internet.



As a law enforcement officer, Mr. Driscoll has taken part in numerous Internet crime investigations. Some of the crimes were undercover on-line investigations, on-line bullying and harassment cases, identify theft cases and many others. Along with on-line investigations, Mr. Driscoll has also done forensic computer examinations for law enforcement agencies and instructs fellow law enforcement officials on how to use the Internet for investigations.

In November of 2010, Scott's first book was published. The book "www.R U In Danger.net" is a guide for Mrs. LaFaille's grade 7 Internet Safety curriculum and focuses on what dangers lurk on the Internet and how students can all be safe.

LUNCH HEROES

Did you know that the week of May 4 to May 8 is "Lunch Heroes" week. All of our hats are off to our lunch room ladies, Joane Colburn, Diane Rall and Mary Marsiglio, who prepare daily our wonderful food for lunch. Your hard work is recognized and appreciated.



A big **THANK YOU** to our kitchen staff, J (right to left) Joane Colburn, café manager, Diane (Didi) Rall and Mary Marsiglio.



FIELD DAY-NOTICE TO PARENTS

Please mark your calendars. 7th grade will be June 10 and 6th grade field day will be June 11

On the above-captioned dates, the 6th grade & 7th grade classes will have their field day. There will be no scheduled classes that day so their regular classes will not be meeting. Students will be participating in indoor and outdoor activities throughout the day. Keep in mind that it may be hot outside so we are allowing and encouraging students to bring in the following:

- Hat;
- Water bottles or gatorade/powerade (please no soda or sugar drinks)
- Sun screen
- A prescription inhaler/medication properly labeled.
- The color tee shirt that has been designated by their homeroom (students will know what color)

Each student has been designated to a homeroom team and will compete in a variety of activities. Lunch will be served at the normal lunch rate and students may bring in their own lunch if they wish. Hot dogs will be served outside in a cookout format. Please have the students bring in the proper physical education attire which includes proper sneakers.

If you have any further questions please contact Russ Hill via email at rhill@easthamptonct.org) or Elaine Sullivan, esullivan@easthamptonct.org, or by phone at 860-365-4060. Parents are welcome to come and watch at any time during the day.

Thank you for supporting our students!!



East Hampton Middle School Names Connecticut

Association of Schools' Scholar Leaders

Every year, the Connecticut Association of Schools awards its Scholar Leader award to one boy and one girl in each middle school in the state. Eleven eighth graders applied for this prestigious award this year, and the winners were Hannah Balda (pictured right) and Joseph Caruso (pictured left). They will be honored at the state-wide Scholar-Leader banquet in June.



Student Council News-2015 Staff Appreciation Breakfast—May 13

In honor of Staff Appreciation Week, the Student Council hosts a **Staff Appreciation Breakfast on May 13** in the Commons. Student



Council students do a wonderful job with making the breakfast a hit! The volunteer cooking crew prepares pancakes, eggs, and bacon, along with baked goods and fruit salad, and fills the orders placed by the



wait staff. Stationed at the entrance doors to the Commons, the Student Council greeting crew eagerly awaits the arrival of the staff. Upon arrival, the 'customers' are welcomed and seated. Orders are taken and then breakfast is served! Thanks to Mrs. Colburn, our Kitchen Manager, in advance for letting the Student Council take over her kitchen for the morning and helping cook, and Mr. LaBella, for coming in early to let us in!

Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE)

Student Leadership Award

The CABE award has been awarded to two of our students, whose leadership skills include: willingness to take on challenges, ability to make difficult decisions, concern for others, ability to work with others, willingness to commit to a project, diplomacy, ability to understand issues clearly and ability to honor a commitment. EHMS has two winners: Amelia Zhao, grade 8 and Ethan Valencia, grade 8. Amelia and Ethan will be recognized by our Board of Education on May 18. Congratulations to our winners.

MUSIC NEWS

Please see our upcoming events:

Friday May 22nd: 9:30 a.m .EHMS Memorial Day observance

Monday, May 25th: band students are invited to March and play in the East Hampton Memorial parade

Thursday, May 28th: 10:35am EHMS 6/7/8 band/chorus/student council to perform at New Britain Rock Cats Game

Tues., June 2th: (new date!!) (morning concerts) Band, Jazz Band, chorus field trip to Memorial School to perform concerts for students

EHMS Girls Multiply Their Options

On April 9, 2015, East Hampton Middle School had eighteen 8th grade girls attend the 22nd Annual Exploratory Conference held at UCONN, Storrs, with about 200 other students from middle schools throughout Connecticut. The purpose of this conference was to encourage girls to enter the work force in areas of science, math, engineering and technology. The first part of the day began when the girls broke into small groups and attended a variety of workshops dealing with Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Biomedical, and Environmental Engineering. The workshops had hands-on activities that demonstrated how specific types of engineering are used in cars, energy, asphalt, gravity, electric, space and much more. The girls were able to learn how engineering is important to our society and ecosystem.

In the second half of the workshop, the girls attended Tools Clues. During this session, professional women in engineering careers shared five clues about her occupation. Based on the clues, students were able to ask questions then they had to guess the occupations of the women.



Sports Permission Slips

Student/athletes who are interested in trying out for boys soccer, girls soccer or cross-country team, can pick up a permission slip in the school commons at East Hampton Middle School. Athletes must have all the proper paper work and a physical within a 13-month period in order to try-out. Those students in grade 5 who are entering grade 6, should hand in their forms to the Center school nurse. Students in grades 6 and 7 hand their forms in to the EHMS nurse. All forms should be in by **June 12**. For further information please contact EHMS athletic director Michael Mercaldi at 860-463-6837.

8th Grade students interested in participating in sports at EHHS—forms are in the main office and/or the Commons and are available during the 8th grade lunch wave. The deadline date is June 5. Hand your form into the nurse.

SPRING AWARDS NIGHT AT EAST HAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

East Hampton Middle School will host its' spring awards night (Baseball and Softball) on Thursday, June 4 @ 6:00 p.m. in its' school gymnasium and commons. **Male** athletes and/or parents of **male** athletes are asked to bring in some type of baked good or munchies. For additional information please contact EHMS athletic director Michael Mercaldi @ (860) 463-6837.

Band Camp

Band Camp by Mr. Shilansky, East Hampton Middle School Music Teacher and Mrs. Sprague Center School Music Teacher. This program consists of specialized music instruction designed to provide students with a positive and encouraging musical experience. Students must have at least one year of experience on their instrument. Students will have an opportunity to perform an informal concert on Friday, and will have an opportunity to march in the Old Home Day Parade on July 11. Students should bring their instrument, snack, water bottle, sunscreen, hat and wear sneakers.

Location: East Hampton Middle School, Music Room

Cost: \$100.00

For: Boys and Girls entering grades 5-8

Dates: Monday-Friday July 6-July 10

Times: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Register on the East Hampton Park and Rec website <http://www.easthamptonrec.com/>.

BOOK FAIR

East Hampton Middle School will host a Scholastic Book Fair in the Library Media Center Monday, May 18 through Friday, May 22. Students and parents are invited to choose from books from their favorite authors, and to stock up for summer reading. Fair hours are during the school day, with extended hours for until 6 p.m. on Monday, May 18 and Wednesday, May 20. Proceeds help us to purchase new books for our library. Please contact Mrs. Nosal with any questions at enosal@easthamptonct.org or 860-365-4060 x453.

Mrs. Briere is proud to announce the 2014-15 East Hampton Middle School's third marking period honor roll:

High Honors Gr 6	High Honors Gr 6 Cont'd.	Honors Gr. 6 Cont'd.	Honors Gr. 7 Cont'd.	High Honors Gr. 8 Cont'd.
Danielle Adams	Daniel Segovia	Jacob Zuber	Hailey Ballou	Irisa Burchsted-Glynn
Susan Ahn	Valeriya Sheptukhina	High Honors Gr. 7	Ryan Becker	Joseph Caruso
Hunter Allis	James Slossar	Lauren Anelli	McCallion Brennan	Molly Conklin
Kathryn Arndt	Kyle Stamm	Tyler Baczek	Emma Cahill	Megan Crotty
Robert Balda	Karey Stewart	Emily Balda	Brianna Caron	Tyler D'Anna
Colby Camp	Ashley Stoeckle	Lena Bosco	Thomas Cooke	Anthony DeZinno
Alec Carrington	Rachel Sweeney	London Brazal	Lily Cordeiro	Enrique Diaz
Connor Carrington	Kaitlin Tassmer	Kendall Burt	Zachary Crotty	Isabella Diaz
Olivia Collins	Nathaniel Thomas	William Chrin	Kyle Davis	Zachary Fauvel
Adam Collisson	Branden Villani	Jessica Chunko	Justin Edwards	Haneen Fiazuddin
Meryl Curtin	Joshua Wagner	Jessica Cohen	Gabrielle Fales	Kayla Field
Kaitlin Curylo	Lauren Walton	Grace Cronin	Benjamin Gancarz	Katherine Flood
Shannon Donahue	Allison Williams	Sebastian Dabkowski	Noah Gibson	Gabrielle Gagliastri
Callie Dubos	Abigail Wilson	Ailie Daley	Leonel Guiao	Rachel Gerzabek
Aleena Fiazuddin	Marissa Woodbury	Kevin Dardick	Nathan Lazor	Morgan Govoni
Emma Field	Ted Zhao	Emma Deveran	Richard Leone	Joshua Hull
Mya Field	Cassandra Zimmerman	Liam Dillon	Ardyn Lezak	Jenna Jackson
Aiden Flood	Honors Gr. 6	Liv DiStefano	Christopher MacDonald	Marissa Jedziniak
Samuel Gibson	Grant Arcidiacono	Maggie Donohue	Michael Mamczynski	Thomas Keegan
Jessica Goodspeed	Hannah Barrientos	Lena Esposito	Emily Mann	Victoria Kelpen
Makenzie Grant	Carson Benigni	Kailey Flatley	Daniel Markovitz	Claudia Krzeminski
Sabrina Jenny	Michael Brubaker	Rachel Gardiner	Megan McDaniel	Ava Kuch
Kyle Jones	Jonathan Buciak	Amber Johnson	Jacob McElroy	Alexia Leon
Gabrielle Keller	Skyler Colby-Bodamer	Elizabeth Link	Lauren Menzel	Alexander Link
Lauren Klemonski	Amelia Dill	Tomas Lopes	Brittany Parenteau	Malachi Lytle
Justin Landon	Benjamin Gordon	Helaina Maynard	Isabella Peszynski	Alyssa Marchi
Claire Lindsay	Damon Hansen	Christopher Miller	Nathan Piscatelli	Nicholas Maynard
Kristina Lintz	James Hansen	Ryan Morris	Elijah Ripper	Jesse McGrath
Sage Lynch	Kaylyn Johnson	Vanessa Naughton	Jaelena Rivera	Meagan McLaughlin
Lainey Maynard	Lorelai Jump	Colin Piteo	Erik Setterberg	Katherine Nikolov
Angela Mercaldi	Maxwell Karrenberg	Juliet Porter	Natalie Sin	John O'Brien
Sarina Michaud	Kyle LaPolt	Zachary Porter	Dylan Snurkowski	Lindsay Orbann
Nicholas Miller	Jenna Ledas	Julia Riegler	Madison Wall	Emma Pawlak
Julien Minnick	Logan Lefebvre	Evan Selger	Layne Weller	Slawomir Piela
Bridget Montovani	Carolyn McDonald	Brooke Soracchi	Nicholas White	Janine Plyley
Julia Nevico	Kyla Norton	Rylee Thomas	High Honors Gr. 8	Wylie Post
Alexander Nikolov	Emmanuelle Perkins	Noelle Vaillancourt	Grace Adams	Katelyn Potter
Austin Ondas	Sophie Pescosolido	Nalaeh Valley	Ryan Adams	Taylor Prince
Brendan Owen	Mary Rainville	Emilia Winqvist	Ryan Arndt	Jenna Russo
Wyatt Pawlak	Damien Rich	Emma Wolfram	Hannah Balda	Kaia Sahn
Cole Peszynski	Brayden Vicino	Jacquelyn Yorker	Meghan Banack	Megan Salafia
Jack Piper	Xavier Ward-Cardona	Katie Zimmer	Jackson Benigni	Lexie Scrivano
Taryn Potter	Darren Way	Honors Gr. 7	Rachel Blackwell	Julia Shirley
Luke Rempe	Liam Wilson	Isabella Amendola	Shannon Bristol	Nisha Sidana
Grace Riegler	Emily Zoldak	Sarah Balda	Emily Bunnell	Julia Smith

Third Quarter Honor Roll Cont':

High Honors Gr. 8 Cont'd.	Honors Gr. 8	Honors Gr. 8	Honors Gr. 8
Ruth Spooner	Nathan Alston	Alexandra Dombrowski	Evan Reichenbach
James Sullivan	Alyssa Anderson	Jorge Gomez	Courtney Rudnick
Jared Thomas	Travis Bevin	Luis Gomez	Isabella Scarfo
Allyson Tuxbury	Drew Bochan	Olivia Marsh	Sean Stoeckle
Skylar Vicino	Megan Bosse	Karlee Martin	Frederick Swanton
Rachel Vickery	Cody Chaloux	Alyssa Maynard	Collin Twiss
Tyler Vitale	Preston Decker	Coralin McDaniel	Ethan Valencia
Abigail Young	Adrianna Demotses	Jared Reed	Daniel Watkins
Amelia Zhao			

EHMS 2015 Softball -By Mrs. Mercaldi

Although it's still early in the season, the EHMS varsity softball team has had a strong start to their season. Out of the nine starters, eight of them are experienced eighth graders that have been playing softball for years. They bring a great amount of skill, force and pride to the team.

The team's defense has been solid with (co-captain) Lindsay Orbann having spectacular pitching performances on the mound. Kendall Burt and Emma Wolfram also have made positive contributions on the mound. Allyson Tuxbury, Rachel Vickery, Katie Flood, Alyssa Marchi, and Wylie Post have contributed too many defensive plays thus far this season.



In only 3 games, the softball team has already scored a total of 49 runs, and beating 2 of their opponents within 5 innings of play. They have had batters hit a hand full of doubles and many singles, including awesome bunts. Solid hitting performances go out to (co-captain) Meghan McLaughlin, Lexie Scrivano, Lauren Anelli, Jessica Cohen and Angela Mercaldi. Supporting efforts are given by Rachel Gardiner and Bridget Montovani, as well as Emma Field, Sophie Pescosolido, Alyssa Shaw, Lauren Walton and Abigail Wilson.

Coach Mercaldi and Coach Parkos are proud of the sportsmanship and contribution that all the softball players are giving in each game and practice. Overall, it promises to be an amazing season for the EHMS 2015 Softball Team.

EHMS 2015 Baseball

Using the experience acquired from the first match up, our panther baseball team went toe to toe with Berlin again. A quick paced, offensively strong style of play was established in the first inning by both teams.

Jared Reed started off the game with a double base hit, eventually stealing third and then ran home thanks to a triple base hit from Nate Alston. Many great hits were accomplished over the course of the game including triples from Pat Farren and John Obrien, double base hits from Darren Way and Tristen Wales, and great singles from Chris Weyrauch. Even with a strong pitching force from Pat Farren and Nate Alston, the Berlin team began to pull away from our reach in the later innings, ultimately ending in a 6 to 2 loss by East Hampton. Our boys continue to improve. Coach Landry and Coach Field are proud of those who are trying new positions and working to improve their skills.

Please come support the baseball team at our home games today. We are in the midst of a wonderful season.

May 2015

East Hampton Middle School

Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

My own business

Middle schoolers may not be old enough to hold regular jobs, but they can still earn cash and learn responsibility. Your tween might take care of pets and plants for people on vacation, wash and vacuum cars, or babysit. Suggest that he post and hand out flyers. He could also send an email advertising his services to neighbors and friends.

Preparing for finals

If your child will take final exams this spring, she may feel pressure. To prepare, encourage her to rely on good year-round habits like paying attention in class and reviewing notes daily. Then, let her know you'll be proud of her, no matter what, for doing her best.

Trips with blended families

Do your summer plans include vacationing with your children and stepchildren? Planning ahead can make it more enjoyable. Ask everyone what they want to do, and try to include at least one idea from each person. Also, tell the kids what you and your spouse expect, such as doing certain activities as a whole family.

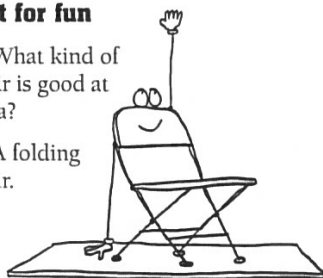
Worth quoting

"Adopt the pace of nature: her secret is patience." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Just for fun

Q: What kind of chair is good at yoga?

A: A folding chair.



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Have a creative summer

Summertime may be downtime—but try to make it “uptime” as far as your child’s brain is concerned! She can stretch her creative thinking with fun ideas like these.

Make a book trailer

Encourage your tween to select a book to read with a friend and then film a trailer to “promote” it. They could give a sneak peek of the plot, read a few excerpts, and pose a question that would make the viewer want to read the book. (“What will happen when Earthlings finally meet Martians?”) They might even paint scenery to hang behind them or film their trailer in a place like the book’s setting (a park, outside a museum).

Find new uses

Coming up with unusual ways to use unneeded household items will get your child’s creative juices flowing. She could cut colorful plastic shopping bags into strips and weave them into friendship bracelets. Or she might remove the



broken strap from a small purse and put toiletries inside for traveling. What other ideas can she dream up for repurposing stuff you can’t use?

Imagine scenarios

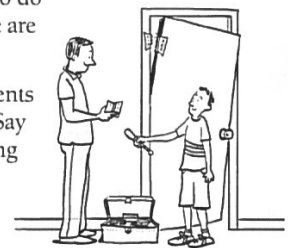
Try this thinking game. Have family members ask silly questions like “What if soccer balls were square?” or “What if fish could talk?” Write each one on an index card, and keep the cards in a zipper bag. In the car or at dinner, pull one out to start a thought-provoking discussion. Add cards with new questions to keep the conversations coming! 👍

Encourage integrity

A sense of integrity can guide your middle grader to do the right thing and show others he’s trustworthy. Here are ways to instill honesty in your tween.

■ **Little things count.** How he handles minor incidents can determine how he deals with more serious ones. Say he breaks a door hinge and lies about it to avoid getting into trouble. Explain that lying can become a dangerous habit—and then have him help you fix the door.

■ **Think it through.** If your child is tempted to be dishonest, he could ask himself, “Would that move me closer to the person I want to be?” Also, if it’s not a choice he would want others to know about (say, texting himself test answers), it’s probably not a smart move. 👍



Musically minded

Most tweens enjoy music, and that's good news. Why? In addition to bringing pleasure, music can build academic skills. Share these tips:

■ Suggest that your child listen for metaphors and similes in songs. These poetry techniques compare two unlike things ("Life is like a gently rolling sea"). Focusing on them will help him understand these images when he reads and use metaphors and similes in his own writing.



■ It might be fun for your tween to listen to music from periods he's studying in school, like the Roaring Twenties or the civil rights era. Have him type the name of the time period into an Internet radio station. As he listens, he can think about how the lyrics and the musical styles reflect the mood of the time.

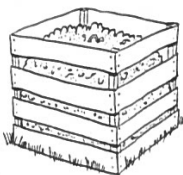
■ Encourage your middle grader to listen to music online from other countries like Chile or Japan. He'll hear styles that are popular elsewhere, such as "electropop" or "bubblegum pop." If he's studying a foreign language, he could listen to songs from that country to recognize words he knows and learn new ones. 👍

Lessons from the environment

Your child can learn about science and help protect the environment at the same time. Suggest these activities.

Join in a watershed cleanup. As she picks up cans, bags, and tires that could otherwise end up in local bodies of water, your middle grader will realize how our actions affect the environment. *Note:* Let her visit water.epa.gov/action/adopt or contact environmental groups to find a cleanup event.

Start a compost pile. Does your youngster know your family's food scraps can be turned into mulch that's full of nutrients? Have her look online or in library books for advice on choosing a container and managing the heap. Then, she could help you save eggshells, coffee grounds, fruit and vegetable peels, and other scraps (not meat, dairy products, and fats—the smell can attract animals). While composting, she'll learn about reducing waste and making soil healthy. 👍



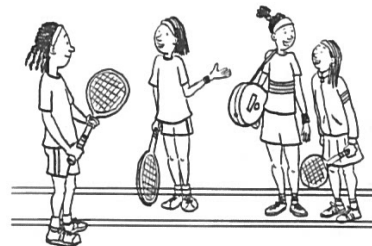
Q & A

Friendly faces this fall

Q My daughter is going to high school next year. Her "BFF" moved, and she's worried about making friends. How can I help her?

A To start with, encourage her to hang out with other kids she knows so she develops closer ties to more people. She might get together with a girl she sat near in Spanish or her lab partner from science. She could invite them over or suggest going to the mall or a rec center.

Another idea: Your daughter can sign up for a high school activity that starts during summer break. Then when school starts, she'll see familiar faces and have something in common to talk about. For instance, she might join a student improv group or a freshman planning committee or try out for the tennis or field hockey team. Have her check the high school's office or website for information. 👍



Parent to Parent

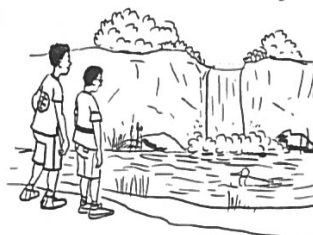
Pretend tourists

We live about an hour from a big city, but we hardly ever go there. So when my sister's family visited for spring break, I put my son Evan in charge of picking places to take them.

Evan enjoyed finding things for us to do, and he didn't even realize he was practicing research skills. He looked online, checked newspapers, and got a guidebook from the library.

We couldn't believe it—he discovered a glass-blowing museum, a park with waterfalls tucked away where you'd least expect them, and even discount tickets to a comic book convention.

In the process, we all realized just how much our area has to offer. Now when we're looking for something to do together, our son can usually suggest an idea. And if he can't, he knows how to find one! 👍



OUR PURPOSE
To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.
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East Hampton Middle School Menu				
May 2015				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 BBQ Pork Rib Sandwich French Fries Steamed Broccoli	5 Cinco De Mayo! Crazy Tacos Taco Meat, Cheese, Doritos Lettuce, Tomato Salsa & Sour Cream	6 French Toast Sticks Sausage Links Hash Brown Patty	7 Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes Seasoned Corn	8 Pizza Dippers Marinara Sauce Dinner Roll OR Assorted Pizza
11 Cheeseburger French Fries	12 Personal Pepperoni Pizza Tossed Salad	13 Cheesy Bosco Sticks Marinara Sauce Tossed Salad	14 Chicken Tenders French Fries Steamed Broccoli Dinner Roll	15 Mozzarella Sticks Marinara Sauce Dinner Roll OR Assorted Pizza
18 Spicy Chicken Fries French Fries Dinner Roll	19 Taco Salad Taco Meat Lettuce, Tomato, Salsa & Sour Cream	20 Mini Pancakes Sausage Links Hash Brown Patty	21 Red Devil Chicken Patty Sandwich French Fries	22 Pizza Dippers Marinara Sauce Dinner Roll OR Assorted Pizza
25 No School Memorial Day	26 Cheeseburger French Fries Tossed Salad	27 Popcorn Chicken Bowl Mashed Potatoes Corn, Gravy & Dinner Roll	28 Cheesy Bosco Sticks Marinara Sauce Tossed Salad	29 Mozzarella Sticks Marinara Sauce Dinner Roll OR Assorted Pizza

Breakfast Served Daily!
Reduced Breakfast: .30
Free to those who qualify
Includes a milk & fruit

Lunch \$3.00
Reduced .40
Includes milk & 1 of the following:
-Tossed Salad
-Fresh Fruit/Fruit Cup
-Vegetable Cup & Dip

Grab 'n Go Cart
\$3.00 Meals
Assorted cold sandwiches and salads

Alternate Lunch
Daily:
Baked Potato or Assorted Pizza
\$3.00
Reduced .40
Includes a milk & fruit/vegetable

ADD \$ TO A STUDENT'S ACCOUNT @ mypaymentsplus.com
CALL THE OFFICE TO GET STUDENT ID # OR CHECK PAYABLE TO EAST HAMPTON CAFETERIA FUND*

WHAT'S COMING UP OVER THE SUMMER!

Check out our website: www.easthamptonps.org. Activities scheduled to date are already there. Also, see **THE RIVEREAST** for upcoming school information over the summer! **August 27** is the first day of school for the 2015-2016 school year. WE HOPE ALL OF YOU HAVE A TERRIFIC SUMMER!! **REMEMBER—SAFETY FIRST!!**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! Parents & Guardians—It is extremely important to keep our contact records up-to-date in the event of an emergency. Contact the Main Office at 860-365-4060 or send an e-mail to ehms@easthamptonct.org when you move, your phone number changes, a work number changes or your cell phone changes. Please keep your emergency contact person list updated as well. Thanks!

East Hampton MS Panther
Baseball/Softball Schedule 2015

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>OPPONENT/PLACE:</u>	<u>DISMISSAL:</u>	<u>BUS</u>
April 24, Friday	Portland/Home		
April 27, Monday	Strong/Away	2:20	2:30
April 29, Wednesday	RHAM/Away	2:20	2:30
May 4, Monday	Berlin/Home		
May 6, Wednesday	Cromwell/Away	2:20	2:30
May 8, Friday	Cromwell/Home		
May 11, Monday	Rocky Hill/Home		
May 13, Wednesday	Berlin/Away	2:20	2:30
May 14, Thursday	Strong/Home		
May 18, Monday	RHAM/Home		
May 20, Wednesday	Washington/Home		
May 21, Thursday	Rocky Hill/Away	2:20	2:30
May 27, Wednesday	Woodrow Wilson/Home		
May 29, Friday	Hale Ray/Home Softball only at EHMS 7:00 pm		
May 29, Friday	Baseball/Away Legion Field, Moodus 6:00 pm	4:45	
June 1, Monday	Woodrow Wilson/Away	2:20	2:30

Games start @ 3:30, unless noted.

Practices Mon.- Fri. from 2:35-5:00 @ East Hampton Middle School.

All **home** BB/SB games @ East Hampton Middle School unless noted.

BASEBALL COACHES

Head Coach-Ken Landry
Asst. Coach-Bryan Field

SOFTBALL COACHES

Head Coach- Joanna Mercaldi
Asst. Coach-Rebecca Parkos

Athletic Director-Michael Mercaldi (860)463-6837

2014-2015 HOMEWORK CLUB at EHMS

April 1 to June 8

Session Four of Homework Club will begin on April 1. Homework Club is open to any student wishing to spend some time after school getting homework help, getting organized, or just needing a quiet place to get work done. The club will run from 2:35 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day and will be monitored by one of our Middle School teachers.

Session Four will run on Mondays and Wednesdays through June 8. The actual dates are listed on the sign-up sheet at the bottom of the page. The fee for the club is \$5.00 per day attended.

A late bus will be provided for those students needing transportation home from school after Homework Club.

To sign up for Homework Club, fill out the form below and have your son or daughter bring it in to Mr. Lehmann with the correct payment. Forms and payment are due into the office before you attend. Please check next to the appropriate statement below, whether you will not need or will need the late bus home after Homework Club.

SESSION FOUR- HOMEWORK CLUB

Yes. I would like my child _____ Grade _____ to participate in Homework Club. I have circled the dates they will be attending and have enclosed the appropriate fee.

_____ I will not need to use the late bus. _____ I will need to use the late bus. My

address is _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Fee: # Days _____ X \$5.00 = \$ _____

Monday	Wednesday
	April 1
April 6	April 8
April 20	April 22
April 27	April 29
May 4	May 6
May 11	May 13
May 18	May 20
	May 27
June 1	June 3
June 8	

