

HMS STUDENT NEWS



Editor: Melanie Childs

Co-Editor: Camryn Moschitta

How The Teachers Became Teachers

By Olivia Burdash (Who, by the way, kept her identity secret and willingly shared it. She writes "The Adventures of Galaxy Girl")

I was asked to write an email to all the teachers in HMS to ask them a question Ms. Ozzy suggested to Mrs. Paff: "What made you want to become an educator?". Here are the answers from the teachers:

Ms. Bertone Curless (the 6th grade Social Studies teacher): "The reason I became an educator is simple... I LOVE LEARNING AND I LOVE CHILDREN! In 9th grade when I had to do volunteer hours for confirmation, and they gave me a 2nd grade class. Ever since, I wanted to be a teacher, and never thought about doing anything else".

Ms. Wacker (one of the 7th grade math teachers): "I never knew that I wanted to be a teacher until high school. I never actually thought I was good at math; I just thought it was super easy, but after I took my SAT's, I got a letter saying that I scored in the top 10% in the country in math! This encouraged me to become a math teacher, because I like helping others with math, and I must have been pretty good at the subject to score that well".

Mademoiselle Geiger (the French teacher): "At first, I wanted to be a biochemist, but there was this math class I couldn't pass; it was a 'weed-out' class that you didn't really need, but it 'weeded-out' large numbers of students that wanted to be in the program. So, I went to a community college to find something else that interested me. One of the electives was French. Then, I hadn't done French

in 25 years, and it seemed like no time went at all, I remembered the language so well! A representative from New Paltz suggested for me to be a French teacher, and it's a decision I've never regretted."

Señora Santana (the 8th grade Spanish teacher): "I had some great teachers that inspired me and made a difference in my life, and I wanted to do the same for others."

Ms. Sutura (another math teacher): "My mom was a teacher when I was little. She'd always take me to school when I didn't have school, and school was my favorite place to be. Even then, I didn't think I'd be a teacher. I first went to college to become a chemical engineer, but I didn't really like it. I changed my major many times, and graduated with a math degree. I had other jobs at several banks and IBM, but after a while, I wanted to go back to my favorite place: school, and I've been happy here ever since."

Thank you all teachers who gave me your replies! (Please note that I tweaked your exact replies so it'd be easier to fit).

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Best Vacation Ever

The best vacation I've ever had was a camping trip to Moosehillock. They also have many different areas to camp such as RV camp areas, cabin areas, and tent areas. There is also a café and store on premises. The café had good bagels, and the store had a lot of knickknacks and toys including vintage rocking horses. Also, there is cotton candy, caramel corn, tons of hard candies, and chocolate.

The Moosehillock I'm talking about is the one in New York in Lake George and is pirate themed. It's close to Highland, only a couple of hours drive, and you might actually enjoy it, too.



It gives you time to think about what you're going to do when you get there. I usually bring a tent so that's what I spend the first day doing, but whatever, I don't care because it's fun to put up a tent. After we pitch the tent, we go to the playground that's also on the premises and has a big wooden pirate ship. The playground also has a bad mitten court, basketball court, and a wooden train. We also sometimes go swimming in the pool after pitching the tent depending on mom and dad's mood.

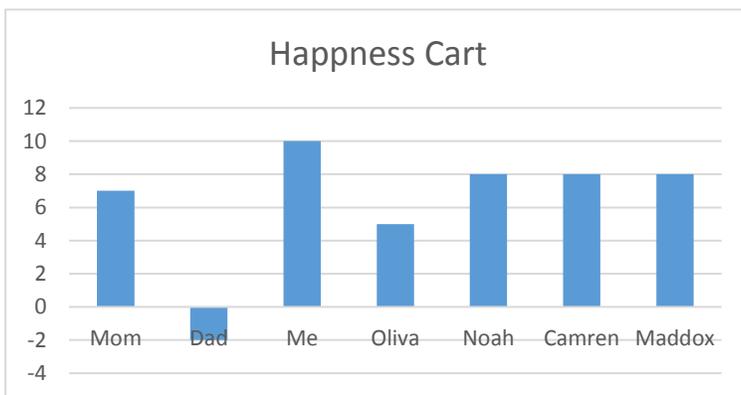
This place has a pool you can swim in; the pool also has waterslides. They also have events there, too, such as an ice cream day where you can get ice cream and take a picture with the camp's mascot which is a moose. Also, the pool **zona** is right next to the store, café, main lobby, and bathrooms.



Moosehillock astoundingly has an arcade to with racing games, claw games, and old games too, like Pacman and sonic games that kind of old, my brother won a little toy dog and named it dog-o, then my other brother fell off of a motorcycle game and fortunately he didn't get hurt but secretly I was hoping he did he was being a jerk.



This place is the best, in my mind, place I've gone on vacation maybe you should go too you might just like it. 😊



Jonah Thibault

THE ADVENTURES OF GALAXY GIRL, #3: THE AFTERMATH

Betrayal is the first thing I felt. No wonder he came down to Earth: he wanted to exterminate another rival queen! Perhaps she really was a jerk and an unjust tyrant, but suspicions fill my mind. Maybe we just murdered an innocent monarch. Maybe Just Ricky just wanted to eliminate Cassiopeia so his mother could take over the galaxy next. Maybe he doesn't really have any powers, and that's why he was so impressed with mine.

"Asteria", he said. "Please. There was no time to explain".

"Shoo," I said, waving my hand like he was a fly. "Go back to your 'majestic' parents. I am sure that they are simply panicking over the disappearance of their treasured royal son. I can do it all. I always have".

"Asteria-"

Before he could say any more, I teleported him to his palace. I was tempted to send him to the Chihuahuas, but they seemed to be acquaintances with the Queen, and I figured that would put a neon target on my back. I stormed away, still hearing the occasional, girlish shriek from a "manly" soldier.

It was very well possible that I was too harsh, but I do not want to think about that. He was the one who betrayed me, was he not?

Still, guilt fills my conscience, and I hoped that he forgave me. Then again, I did kind of banish him in a fit of rage, and refused to accept his apologies.

I do not have the slightest idea where to go. So, I decided to teleport myself to the royal palace instead to apologize to Just Ricky. Then I remembered something: the name "Ricky" means "powerful rich". I should have known, as he is both of those things.

"Who dares walk in here?!" A royal guard demanded. I thought that Their Majesties were supposed to be compassionate and loving, I thought to myself. This guard is neither of these things.

"Just Ricky?" I called out. The guard shoved me away, so I teleported into Just Ricky's chamber. He was pacing and muttering to himself. "Just Ricky?" I repeated.

"Come to interrogate me some more, are you?" He scowled. He then waved his hand, which forced me out of the castle. I suppose he really does have powers.

I descended back to Earth, feeling worse than ever. How will I be able to fix this mess?

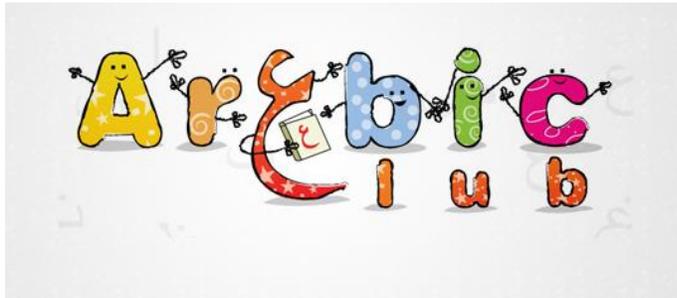
Club Feature

Arabic Club

By: Alisha Mokal

(You may have seen my article about The Dangers of Plastic Bags and this Club Feature/Teacher Feature will go right along with that storyline.)

Currently in Arabic Club the students watched a minimovie, The Turtle to learn about a child who's dream was to save turtles and ban plastic bags from the UAE(United Arab Emirates). He succeeded, so bye-bye plastic bags! Ms. Hamed



decided to let her students make paper or cloth bags which are more environment-friendly. “I think this club helps students learn more about

our culture and language, extra information from what they learn in class,” says club leader Osteza Amira aka Ms. Hamed. Soon these paper bags will be displayed outside the classroom for everyone to see. Club member Cassandra Acosta says, “I think that this activity will help all of marine life and I feel really good doing this!” For more information ask Ms. Hamed if you are interested in joining this club!

The Dangers of Plastic Bags

And the struggles for animals, and *the government?!*

By: Alisha Mokal

There is a constant debate going on about if plastic bags should be banned from New York. Should the government fine people who use/buy them?

Whenever people go to a grocery store they use plastic bags to carry their food home. What these people do not realize is that 500 BILLION plastic bags are used and only 3% are recycled. The rest of the plastic bags end up in the ocean harming the creatures who live there. Many marine animals eat these plastic bags, thinking they are food and not knowing the dangers of what could happen to them. Several states in the US are trying the approach on putting a tax on plastic bags in stores and so far it is working! Washington D.C is one of those states and ever since they put a 5-cent tax on using plastic bags the number of plastic bags on streets and water sources dropped by 60%. Now there is an ongoing battle in the New York congress about if they should put a tax on using plastic bags. Some people argue that New Yorkers should have extra money to spend on food, not the usage of plastic bags. New York City Councilman Brad Lander agrees that there should be a tax on utilizing plastic bags and says "We fought plastic bags, and for now plastic bags won, they are stubborn and toxic forms of solid waste. They never biodegrade, so they pollute our oceans, landfills and trees forever." What do you think, should New York put a tax on using plastic bags?



For full story go to:

<http://www.timeforkids.com/news/debate/563946>

Movies Arriving This Summer!

By Melanie Childs

Summer Edition covers June, July, and August

June

- *The Mummy*- (6/9), since 1932, this title has been used several times, including in 1959, and 1999. Tom Cruise stars in this remake, about archaeologists who unearth the tomb of an Egyptian princess, who awakens after being discovered. Since her betrayal, and having her future wrongfully stolen from her, she awoke with a vengeance and terrorizes the modern era. PG-13
- *Cars 3*- (6/16), the third installment in the *Cars* franchise, Lightning McQueen finds himself being questioned by the next generation of race cars after a terrible crash. After his sponsor is bought by a car who believes Lightning can't maintain his image by racing, Lightning asks for a chance to compete again and begins to train with a new technician. G
- *47 Meters Down*- (6/16), this movie stars Mandy Moore (*This is Us, A Walk to Remember, Tangled*) and Claire Holt (*H₂O: Just Add Water, The Originals, The Vampire Diaries*), are sisters who travel to Mexico on a vacation. When the sisters go diving into shark-infested water, their cage breaks away and sends them to the ocean floor. This movie captures their adventure as they race against the dwindling oxygen supply and the group of great whites to get to safety. **Warning-** this film is classified as horror in the category Killer Shark Films. PG-13
- Other films coming out in June*- *The Book of Henry* (PG-13, 6/16) *Transformers: The Last Knight* (PG-13, 6/21) *Baby Driver* (PG-13, 6/28) *Despicable Me 3* (PG, 6/30)



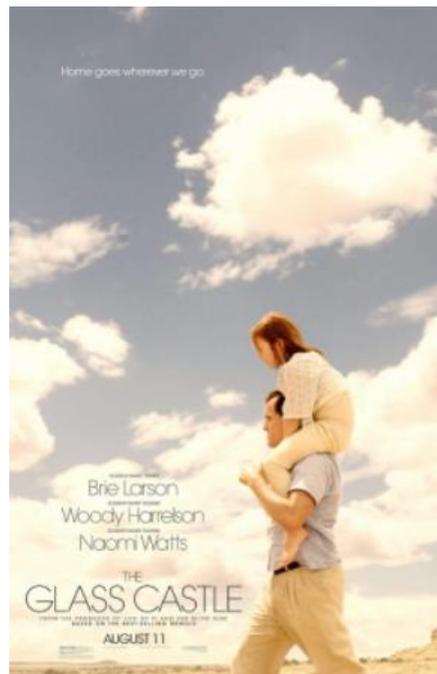
July

- *Spider-Man Homecoming*- (7/7) Tom Holland (*In the Heart of the Sea, Captain America: Civil War*) stars as Peter Parker in the newest Spider-Man reboot. As his predecessors, Tom Holland also begins with the web-slinger getting used to his newfound identity, except this time, Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) is his mentor. With a handful of recognizable names, this film is sure to be a hit. PG-13
- *Valerian*- (7/21) based in the 28th century, this movie tells the adventure of special operatives Valerian (Dane Dehaan) and Laureline (Cara Delvingne) as they are sent to on a mission to a city. On this mission, a force of evil threatens the city, they must identify the menace. PG-13
- *The Emoji Movie*- (7/28) Whether you do or don't remember the buzz about this movie when the trailer came out, SONY pictures has plans for this movie to be released late July. With the stars cast, this movie was set to be great. The backlash on social media caused a fake cancellation of the movie, which led many to believe this film wasn't coming to theaters. Not rated yet, but likely G or PG
- Other movies in July*- *Dunkirk* (PG-13, 7/14) *War for the Planet of the Apes* (7/14) , *Wish Upon* (PG-13, 7/14)



August

- *The Glass Castle*- (8/11) In this film, Brie Larson stars as Jeanette Walls, a young woman who's world changes when her parents, (Woody Harrelson and Sarah Snook) move to New York to be closer to her. Not yet rated
- *Leap!*- (8/30) Based in late 19th France, Elle Fanning (*Super 8, We Bought a Zoo, Maleficent*) stars as Félicie, an orphan who dreams of becoming a dancer in Paris. Nat Wolff (*The Fault in Our Stars, Paper Towns*) also stars as Victor, her best friend, who dreams of becoming a famous inventor. In a "leap of faith" they escape the orphanage to achieve to their dreams. As always, there is a catch. Félicie must pose as the child of a wealthy family to gain admittance into her ballet school. Throughout this film, it is evident she will show acts of strong determination in order to reach her dreams. PG
- Other movies coming out in August*- *The Dark Tower* (not yet rated, 8/4), *The Nut Job* (PG, 8/18)



*If you're looking for R rated movies, check movie websites online

FICTIONAL STORY

Or is it?

A SLIMEY STORY

Slime is taking over the schools, and not just through popularity. In a Poughkeepsie middle school it literally took over! At night the goo oozed out of the students lockers and had conferences. They talked about taking over the school, and it did. Last week it finally did! When the students opened up the containers it sprung out. The goo tidal waved the school.

The worst part is that the rebelling slime recipe ended up online, where Highland Middle Schoolers found it. Now slime is planning to take over this school.....

THE END. Or is it?



The Winner of February's Monthly Favorites is.....

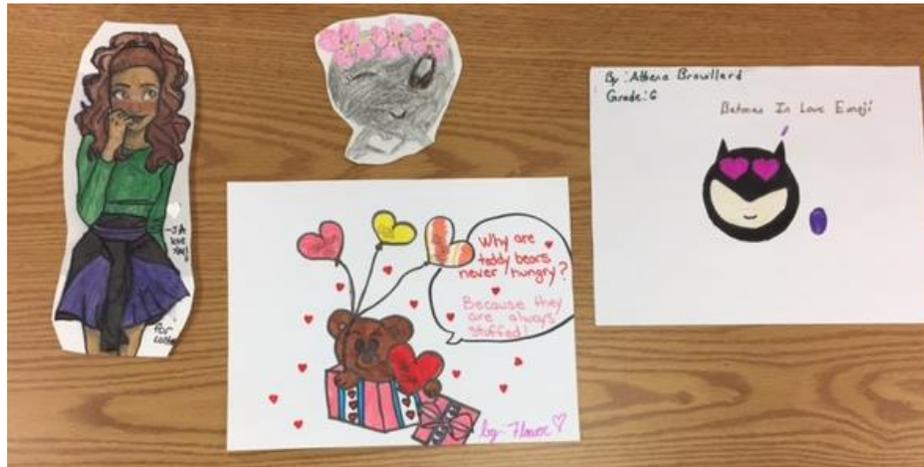
Rogue One!



Thank you to all those who voted for your favorite movie!

Contest Created By: Alisha Mokal

Contest Winners from February and March



From Left to Right:

1st Place: Marissa Santos

2nd Place (top): Madison Wood

2nd Place (bottom): Flowthatianna Oriz

3rd Place: Athena Brouillard



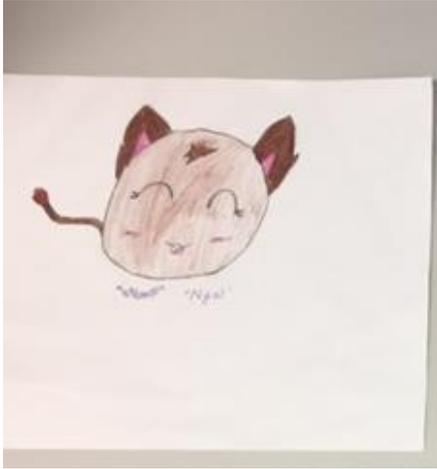
From Left to Right:

1st Place: Ella Falco

2nd Place (top): Daphne Valenzuela

3rd Place: Flowerthatianna Orriz

Contest Winners from May



1st Place Winner
Madison Wood

2nd Place Winner
Ella Falco



3rd Place Winner
Maggie Petty