



# Henry Lord Newsletter

## January 2012

Throughout the month of December, teachers worked collaboratively to look at each other's lesson plans before and after implementation in an attempt to make adjustments and improvements in their lessons. Teachers met in small groups, made comments and examined student work. In addition, many of the groups included a Math, Science, English and History teacher, therefore allowing the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues they don't normally plan with. For many teachers, the extra set of eyes really helped them to expand their perspective of what they were teaching. It was great to see the enthusiasm from teachers as they learned from each other and really opened up about their practices within their classrooms. As we continue to move forward we will work towards becoming more student-centered and having more rigor in our classrooms.

### From the Guidance Office...

The Diman Applications shall be completed at the close of the first half of the school year. The completed applications will be delivered to Diman prior to the February vacation so all applications must be brought to Mr. Dussault as soon as possible. Acceptance letters should be arriving at the beginning of April. Bristol County Agricultural High School applications are being processed and sent in as they are given to Mr. Dussault. Please tell students not to wait too long as the empty seats are being filled quickly at Aggie.



### Henry Lord Advisory Program and School/Community Awareness

In Henry Lord's ongoing efforts to create a sense of personal, academic, and community voice, an advisory program was established whereby small groups of students meet on a daily basis. On Friday, December 23, 2011 a group of student "elves" selected by their faculty advisors, along with the chorus tied community awareness with the spirit of Christmas offering handmade Christmas cards and singing Christmas carols for the patients of Southpointe Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing Center. It was a joyous experience for all. Southpointe welcomed the students with open arms and gave them the wonderful opportunity to take part in serving their own community by spreading holiday cheer to the residents.



## Sports

The Henry Lord basketball teams will start their season on January 14th. and run until the winter break on February 18th. Games will be played at Durfee every Saturday. The boys play at 8:00 and the girls games are at 9:00.

Henry Lord has started collecting **Box Tops** for Education for the 2012-2013 school year. Collection containers have been placed in every homeroom. Please start clipping, saving, and sending them in with your child. We hope to raise \$1000 this year!



## Attendance

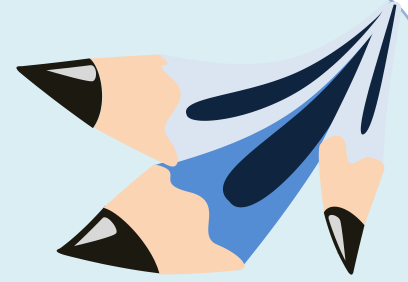
Attendance is a very important part of education. If a child is not in school they cannot learn. We want every child to succeed here at Henry Lord Middle School. We need your help! Please make sure your child is at school every day, on time, and not signed out early. If your child has a fever, is vomiting or has an illness, we understand that he/she cannot be here. Thank you for making school a priority for your child. If you have any questions regarding attendance laws please contact Lisa Sullivan, Supervisor of Attendance.

## World Language

Some students from the **Portuguese** Class met at La Salette and sang "A Todos Um Bom Natal" to their families.



In all **Spanish** classes, students have created power points that are accessible online and can be shown at home.



## Happy New Year!

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade White House

Students are continuing their **Social Studies** adventure into Asia and Oceania. There has been and will continue to be a heavy geographical theme; once students have a knowledge of the land it is much easier to explore the various people, cultures, and issues within each region. The benchmark is scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup>.

This month in **Math**, we will be completing our fraction unit and beginning a unit investigating the relationship between tables, graphs, and equations.

Prior to the Christmas break students performed plays in **ELA** – congrats to all on a job well done! January brings with it a new unit, non-fiction where we will focus on text structure and research with students completing what is called an Investigation Project.

This month in 6th Grade **Science** students are learning about the history of the Earth. They read and had a class discussion about the different layers inside the Earth and made clay models to represent them. They are also working on a research paper about Alfred Wegener and his Theory of Continental Drift. They will also be learning about how tectonic plates move and create earthquakes and volcanoes! It should be an earth-shattering unit!

## 6th Grade Green House

In Ms. Chouinard's **ELA** Class, we just completed our dramatic literature unit. We are beginning our non-fiction unit and we will be able to "investigate" our choice of topics while we learn about the structure of informational text.

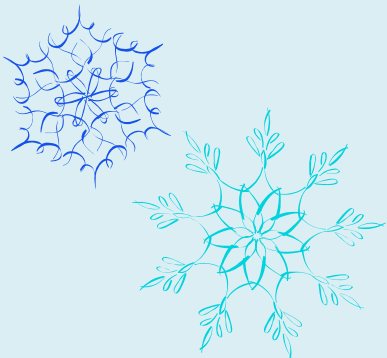
Kudos to Abriana Soares, Ariel Borges, Selena Alves, Bahja Cherry, Julia Silva and Trinity Gendrolis for scoring above a 90 on their benchmark!!

In Ms. Ford's **Social Studies** Classroom, we will be entering The Middle East and focusing on the Five Themes of Geography. The next mini-unit will be on Oceania followed by a Benchmark.

This Month's Shining Stars are Isaiah Fernandes, Hugh Williams and Christian Azevedo!! Outstanding!

In Mrs. Selig's **Math** Class, we just completed a benchmark on multiplying and dividing fractions. At this point, we now can add, subtract, multiple and divide fractions and mixed numbers!! Up next, we will be exploring linear relationships. We will be reading tables, constructing graphs and writing equations.

Amazing job to Trendon Raposo, Brenden Carvalho, Hugh Williams, Noah Freitas and Christian Rodrigues for scoring 100's on their Multiplication and Division of Fractions Benchmark!! Super Impressive!!



## Happy New Year from the 7th Grade White Team!

In **Science** class, we have wrapped up our first term study of physics and we will be moving into chemistry. Before we do so, we will be learning about basic engineering concepts by building a model bridge completely out of pasta!!

In **Math**, we are completing our unit on integers and rational numbers. The students will be starting a business of their own and tracking their profit and loss to help them understand a real life application of positive and negative numbers. They will create a business portfolio including a mission statement, six months of sales and expenses and a summary of whether or not their business would be successful.

In **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies**, we are continuing our unit on ancient Egyptian civilization. Students have studied the geography, government, social structure, writing system, religious beliefs, and art of ancient Egypt. We will wrap up the unit within the next two weeks with a look at Egyptian architecture and Egypt's relationship with its neighbor to the south--Kush.

In **7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA**, we are focusing our writing on preparing for the upcoming MCAS Long Composition which is scheduled for March, 2012. The students have completed two assignments based on MCAS released writing prompts and are showing improvement with their effort and continued practice. We are also finishing Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan with a focus on the social and economic issues presented in the novel. As a final project, students will be choosing a social issue of interest, writing a persuasive speech and debating these issues with their peers.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Green House Math

The 7th grade green house is currently finishing up their unit on Operations with Integers. We will be having a benchmark exam on this topic on Thursday January 12th and Friday January 13th. During the month of January we will begin our unit on Linear Equations, rate of change and slope. Throughout this time we will also be working on a 5-week project that will have students start a small business. They will be responsible for tracking expenses and income for their product or service. We look forward to sharing our creative ideas with other students, families and staff!

## 8th Grade

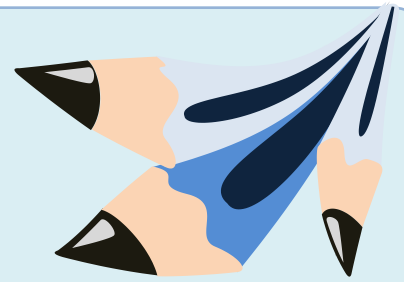
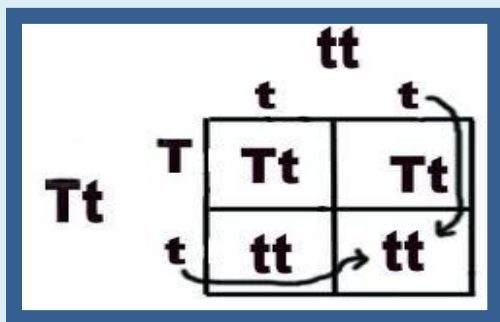
### Social Studies

What's going on...

Just a reminder of our mission here at Henry Lord- Respect- Responsibility- Results. With that said, congrats to many on a job well done on Benchmark #2. Eighth grade Social studies is beginning to embark on a journey through China, Japan, and Korea. Stay tuned...

### Science

This week we have begun genetics! Students will be creating and constructing their own families of pets by using probability to determine their traits. Next we will be constructing their own genetic word challenges in which they will work in pairs to solve these challenges! This month we will also be focusing on current event articles relating to genetics. We just discussed in class this week how scientists discovered the first ever Hybrid Shark off the coast of Australia!



## 8th Grade

In **ELA**, 8<sup>th</sup> graders are wrapping up the unit on the novel *Three Cups of Tea* about Greg Mortenson's journey to bring education to the children, especially the girls, of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Each student is creating a "Symbol Square" which represents some new wisdom they have learned through reading the novel. We will hang these squares together to illustrate all of the new ideas that our reading has given us. Next, we will begin our Journalistic Feature Article unit. In this unit we will be reading many different feature articles on a range of topics to understand how non-fiction writing can provide information while telling an interesting story. Each student will select a topic and write their own article which will be produced with Microsoft Publisher.

The 8th grade **Math** team was the first to utilize the math lab in room 203. The students demonstrated a geometric proof of the Pythagorean Theorem. They will be utilizing it again this month as they work on linear equations.

