

J. M. S. News. . . by Donald F. Gately
March 9, 2007

Quote of the Week:

**"Fear grows out of things
we think; it lives in our minds.
Compassion grows out of things
we are, and lives in our hearts."**

-Barbara Garrison



Jericho Middle School Once Again Shines

To the Best Music Department Staff anyone could want,

CONGRATULATIONS! You've done it again!

For the fifth time in the past six years, The Jericho Music Department has been honored by being named to the:

"100 Best Communities in America for Music Education."

I received information that on February 27th, our school was once again chosen for this honor. I know that many districts on Long Island applied for this distinction and it is rewarding to see our name on the list.

Of note, one of the accrediting agencies is the National Association of School Boards. Along with Yamaha, VH-1 Save the Music, NAMM, and the American Music Congress, we completed a comprehensive survey detailing programs, course offerings, budget, new initiatives, scheduling, qualification of staff, dedication of staff, facilities, administrative support and community support.



As you have heard me say in the past, we have the best music staff, teaching the best subject, to the best students. I am in awe of our music teachers efforts on a daily basis, and I am so proud of each of their contributions to the middle school.

Thank you for your untiring dedication to our students, your passion for quality music education, and for the way you change lives for the better.

Middle School's Spirited Student Events for March

BRAVE is hosting "No Name-Calling Week" from March 26th-March 30th. Each grade level has been assigned a book to read and then there will be book discussions and activities focusing on the themes and importance of the lessons learned. "No Name-Calling Week" is a nationally recognized week where students and teachers are asked to reflect on the power of words.



World Language Week

This week students decorated the cafeteria with flags and words from world language study. There was music in the hallways from many different cultures and we had celebrations and activities in all of the world language classes.

Middle School Winter POPS Concert

Our POPS Concert will be held on March 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Come out and listen to our incredibly talented players!

Middle School Spring Play

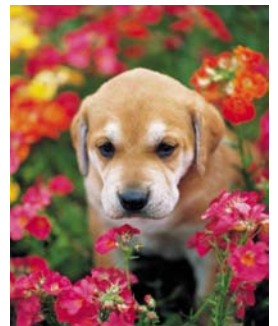
Lights, Camera, Action!!! Our Spring Middle School play is scheduled for Friday, March 23rd. We are featuring "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court." You will surely be entertained and amused by our performers.

Fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis

Last year we sadly lost one of our Learning Center teachers, Mrs. Marissa Bishop, to Cystic Fibrosis. The disease is also known as 65 Roses. To be able to always remember her kindness and strength, Student Council and Community Service Learning will be selling chocolate roses to raise money to create a plaque with her name that will hang outside the Learning Center. We thank you for your support.

Ruff!!! Meow!!!

On Wednesday, March 14th, Abbey and her owner are coming to Jericho Middle School. Abbey is a lovable, handicapped dog that was rescued. Students will be able to pet her and hear her owner talk about the importance of helping animals. This will begin a week of collecting treats and toys for dogs and cats at the Huntington Shelter. Thank you Student Council and Community Service Learning. It is through these efforts that our students learn the importance of helping others and the community.



Mrs. Kearon's Read-Aloud Crowd

Sixth grade students are welcome to come to the library during their lunch period to listen to Mrs. Kearon read some great books. Your child can purchase his lunch or bring it from home and go directly to the library. This is an excellent program and we encourage your child to attend. Please click on the link to below to view the program. <http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/library/kearonskids.htm>

The Jayhawk

The Jayhawk, our school newspaper, is now on-line! Please click on the following link to view our first issue for 2006-2007 capturing the best events of the first half of the school year including clubs, faculty interviews, editorials, sports and entertainment.

<http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/jayhawk/2006-2007/index.htm>

7th Grade Trip



REMINDER.... Every year, the 7th grade students go on a grade-wide field trip. This year's planned trip is to a Long Island Ducks game. **The deadline to reserve seats is March 16th**. Please click on the following link for additional information:
<http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/announcements/LIDucksGame.pdf>

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 12	Middle School Progress Reports Mailed Home
March 12-16	Math Assessments for Grades 6, 7 and 8
March 15	Board of Education Meeting - Cantiague School - 7:45 p.m.
March 20	Middle School Guidance Evening Hours - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Recognizing that other commitments often make it impossible for parents to find time to meet with counselors during the regular school day, we continue a program of evening meetings. If you would like to meet with your youngster's counselor but are unable to do so during the school day, please call the counselor in order to schedule an evening appointment.
March 21	Middle/High School POPS Concert - Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.
March 24	Middle School Winter II Sports Season Ends
March 26	Middle School Spring Sports Season Begins
March 27	Alternatives to Team Sports - Speaker: Eric Chessen - Cantiague Elementary School