

J. M. S. News. . . by Donald F. Gately

October 27, 2006

Quote of the Week:

"Be the change you want
to see in the world."

- *Mahatma Gandhi*



Middle School Spelling Bee

Congratulations are extended to Sahir Raoof, an eighth grade student, who is our school's spelling bee winner and Elvina Yau, a seventh grade student, first runner up. Our thanks to Rose Scalera, eighth grade English teacher, for organizing this fun event.

Middle School Book Fair

Our PTSA held its annual Book Fair on Tuesday, October 24th and Wednesday, October 25th. Scholastic Book Fairs brought a large selection of paperback books to the Middle School for our youngster to buy. We also invited parents to visit the Book Fair, which was held in the Middle School Library from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We are happy to announce that we sold \$9,001.18 worth of books. All the profits earned from the Book Fair are used to provide additional books for the students to borrow from their English and Reading classrooms, as well as from our Middle School Library. Click on the following link to view pictures from this exciting event! <http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/library/bookfair2006.htm>

Middle School Recess Program

Beginning this month, students have had an opportunity to enjoy the Middle School Recess Program. This is a pilot program resulting from a recommendation by the New England League of Middle Schools. During lunch periods, on alternating days, students can go outside to the area immediately adjacent to the gym and the pool. Half of each cafeteria can go outside each day. While outside, students are free to socialize or play. Because of safety and supervision issues, students may only play non-contact games that do not require equipment. Supervision is provided by teachers and aides.

Safety Information from the Nassau County Police Department

Please click on the link below to view a letter from the Nassau County Police Department advising citizens to be aware of the existence of an ongoing pattern of daytime residential break-ins in the Jericho, Syosset and Woodbury communities. <http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/CivicGroups.pdf>

Halloween Reminder

Next Tuesday, October 31st, is Halloween. Students are permitted to wear costumes to school according to the following guidelines:

- As done in previous years, teachers may have students wear costumes that depict a theme or character that is being taught in their particular class. Additionally, the costumes can also depict positive role models: Benjamin Franklin, Eleanor Roosevelt, Amelia Earhart, Mrs. Bany, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, etc.
- Students may wear costumes that depict our monthly SEL theme or any idea that brings SEL to life.
- Teachers were asked to remind students that:
 - 1) Masks should not be worn in the hallways in order to ensure student safety.
 - 2) Violence, sex, and/or drugs, cannot be depicted.
 - 3) No group costumes.
- Teachers can award a prize to each class that participates. The prize will be a "Mind and Heart" tee shirt donated by Student Council.
- The administration will judge SEL costumes during the lunch periods. The SEL judging will be done in the cafeterias.

Parents, there are some great tips about safe trick or treating at:

<http://www.nsc.org/library/facts/halloween.htm>

Late Bus Information

In addition to the regular after-school bus at 2:05 p.m., there are a number of other buses that can be taken to get home after school:

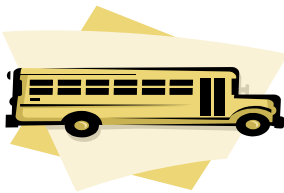
3:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

5:45 p.m.

6:35 p.m.

If there are any questions or bus problems, please call the Transportation Department at 203-3600, Ext. 3244 or 3245, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



DATES TO REMEMBER

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| November 2 | <i><u>Middle School Yearbook Portrait Retakes</u></i> <i>Please be aware that "Yearbook Portrait Retakes" will be available for students on Thursday, November 2nd, in the Auditorium.</i> |
| November 7 | Schools Closed |
| November 9 | Middle School Principal's Coffee Hour - Middle School Library - 9:00 a.m. |
| November 9 | Middle School First Marking Period Ends |
| November 13-17 | Middle School Coats/Winter Outerwear Drive |
| November 15 | Middle School Winter Concert I - Chorus/Orchestra Performing - Auditorium - 7:30 p.m. |
| November 16 | Board of Education Meeting - Middle School Library - 7:30 p.m. |
| November 20 | Middle School Report Cards Emailed |