

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

## May 4, 2007



### Quote of the Week:

**"Am I not destroying my enemies  
when I make friends of them?"**

**- Abraham Lincoln**

### Theme of the Month:

### ATTITUDES AND VALUES

Attitude, according to Hal Urban, is the most important choice we'll ever make because it affects everything we do in life. Research done at Harvard and Stanford state that attitude is far more important than intelligence, education, special talents, or luck. The research studies concluded that 80% of our success in life is due to attitude, while the other 20% is due to ability.

As Viktor Frankl said: "The greatest discovery of our generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes."

### Internet Safety

This afternoon, Detective John McGee of the Nassau County Police Department Internet Crimes Unit will speak to our students about internet safety. Detective McGee is specifically assigned to a unit that investigates and prosecutes sexual predators on the internet. He will share information and personal experiences that will make a profound impact on our students. Please click on the link below for more information about Teen Safety on the Internet.

<http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/Teensafetyoninformationhighway.pdf>.



Students will bring home a "parent pledge" and a "kid's pledge" to be signed by you and your child. This is a way for you to familiarize the procedures you will use in your household to ensure safe use of the internet. Please speak to your child to follow-up on this important topic and check out the links below.

<http://www.safekids.com/safekidscontract.pdf> and <http://www.safekids.com/parentpledge.pdf>

### **Personal Best Awards**

Our Personal Best Awards ceremony was another success! Students who demonstrated SEL Competencies were recognized at our second Personal Best/SEL Challenge event on April 27, 2007.

Please click on the following link to view some photos:

<http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/library/personalbestawardsapr.htm>

### **Student Leadership Group**

The members of the Eighth Grade Student Leadership Group sold Gatorade and water at last year's Mini-Olympics to raise money for the Martin Barell School (Nassau Suffolk Services for Autism). Through this fundraiser, the Student Leadership Group members were able to purchase portable DVD players for the school to be utilized for educational purposes. This community service project culminated with a trip to the school where the boys presented the DVD players to the school's director, Nicole Weidenbaum, and had the opportunity to have lunch and interact with Martin Barell students.



### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

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| May 10 | Middle School PTSA Meeting - Middle School Library - 9:00 a.m.             |
| May 15 | Middle School Spring Concert I - Chorus/Orchestra - Auditorium - 7:30 p.m. |
| May 17 | Board of Education Meeting - Middle School Library - 7:30 p.m.             |
| May 28 | Schools Closed   |
| May 29 | Middle School Progress Reports E-mailed Home                               |
| May 29 | SEPTA Meeting - Middle School Library - 7:30 p.m.                          |