

The Wise Times

SAYREVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL, WASHINGTON ROAD, PARLIN, NJ 08859 DECEMBER, 2009

“Welcome Back!”

By: Amisha Naik and Norman Whiteley

Students were very excited to start the 2009-10 school year at the Sayreville Middle School. I am a fellow student at SMS and this is my first year of middle school. Many students mentioned that summer was fun at first but then it was starting to get boring. Some of the events that this year's sixth graders are looking forward to are: problem solving classes because many of them have never had this class, the upcoming socials, and, of course, the average sixth grader is always excited to get their own locker. The eighth graders are also very excited about the 2009-10 year. Many of them said that they will always remember the great times they had at SMS and will bring everything they learned throughout the years to the ninth grade and to High School. Eighth graders look to be great leaders for all Middle School students to follow. Best of luck to all students as they plan on working hard and making the grade in SMS! In addition to the new sixth graders to the building, SMS also welcomes our new staff members. They are Ms. Braun, Mr. Denuto, Ms. Esposito, Ms. Kolver, Mr. Ryan, and Ms. Triois. In addition we welcome Mrs. Picazio back from child rearing leave. Mrs. Kolver is a sixth and seventh grade math teacher. She worked in the Maxson Middle School in Plainfield for six years. She likes to spend time with her two children who are 2 and 4. Mr. Ryan is a new gym teacher. He came from the Sayreville High School and has taught for eleven years. He coaches high school football and likes the sport golf. Mrs. Esposito taught in Kumpf Middle School in Clark, New Jersey. She attended the New Jersey City University. She has two dogs and her favorite football team is the Giants. She is also a twilight fan. By the way, Ms. Esposito is not married to Mr. Esposito just because of her last name. Ms. Braun likes to run and play soccer. She is also a Giants fan. During baseball season she roots for the Yankees, for the Nets in the NBA. She went to Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, New Jersey. Last but not least is Ms. Triosi. Ms. Triosi went to Montclair State University. She was an undergrad in Biology. She enjoys crafts, music, traveling, and photography. She has two cats that were both rescued animals. Mrs. Triosi played varsity lacrosse in high school and enjoys hiking and kayaking. She is also an animal trainer at Six Flags. She loves Darwin and Evolution, her animals at Six Flags. Lastly, Ms. Triosi's favorite movie is Jaws 1. Make sure to say hi to the new teachers if you see them and give them a warm welcome. Welcome to SMS!

The Wise Times
Newspaper
is
Going Green!



Red Ribbon Week and Violence Prevention Week

By: Erin Kelly

Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. Red Ribbon Week allows us to take a stand against drugs and allows us to commit to living drug free lives with the ultimate goal being the creation of a drug free America. Perhaps more importantly, Red Ribbon Week commemorates the ultimate sacrifice made by DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who died at the hands of drug traffickers in Mexico while fighting the battle against illegal drugs to keep our country and children safe. Today, Red Ribbon Week is nationally recognized and celebrated, helping to preserve Special Agent Camarena's memory and further the cause for which he gave his life. The Red Ribbon Campaign also became a symbol of support for the DEA's efforts to reduce demand for drugs through prevention and education programs. During the week of 10/19 students at the Sayreville Middle School learned about Violence Prevention Week. They also saw a play called "In Real Life" by the George Street Playhouse at the SUES. During Violence Prevention Week the students learned how to prevent and reduce violence by using multiple techniques. A few of these techniques included identifying the conflict, solving the conflict maturely, and promoting respect and kindness. The play, "In Real Life", helped students to understand the danger of cyber bullying and how to prevent it. In order to prevent cyber bullying you have to be careful about who you chat with and what you say about other people. If you don't there can be serious consequences such as detention and possibly suspension.

**Find us on the
SMS website**



SMS Activities

Class Act Committee

By: Alicja Wisniowska

Are you willing to “be in good character” and help your school, even when nobody else is doing it? Well don’t be shy about you! You know you’re doing the right thing. You can show the Pillars of good character during the last Friday of every month by wearing the feature color representing a trait of character. During the month of September, students wore green to show responsibility. October’s color was blue to show trustworthiness. Purple was worn during November to show citizenship, and throughout December students should wear red to show caring. The Sayreville Middle Class Act Committee recently sponsored its Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Homerooms in the Sayreville Middle School collected a total of 1,678 food items and \$468.70 in monetary donations. The donations, along with those from Arleth, Eisenhower, and Samsel Upper Elementary School were donated to the Sayreville Food Bank. Who wouldn’t want to support their school and help their community? Thanks to all students who participate in Class Act Activities and especially for your great character!

Character Fridays

January	Fairness	Orange
February	Caring	Red
March	Trustworthiness	Blue
April	Respect	Yellow
May	Responsibility	Green
June	Citizenship	Purple



A Great Dance

By: Rokaia Sofri

What a night! The first dance of the school year of 09-10 was amazing! Everyone seemed to be having a wonderful time. The dance took place in the school’s blue room and the cafeteria was used as a rest area and a snack bar. The DJs did a great job with the lights and music. Not only did the students have fun but so did the teachers who chaperoned. Ms. Connors had a big smile planted across her face as she danced to the song called “Cha-Cha-Slide.” No one ever ran out of energy because there were delicious snacks in the cafeteria that replenished them such as candy, soda, and even pizza. Personally, I think the dance was terrific and can’t wait for the other dances to come ahead. Don’t you want to go the next dance too?



Student Council

By: Nishi Kadakia and Komali Jonna

Are you the best student you can be? Do you try to make all the right decisions? The SMS Student Council is advised by Mr. Vogel with the help of Mrs. Ciampa. Mr. Vogel is a Life Skills teacher and has advised Student Council for 4 years. The Student Council is philanthropic and motivates school spirit by planning dances and various assemblies. Throughout the beginning of the school year, the Student Council has traveled to Elijah’s Promise, Manna House, and the Preschool classes at the SUES. Elijah’s

Promise is a place where homeless people are provided with food and shelter. While visiting Elijah’s Promise, the Student Council members serve meals. The Manna House is a women’s shelter. Students decorate the house, bake and clean for its residents. The preschoolers at the SUES have fun playing games and learning from the Student Council members. Later in the year the Student Council organizes an Almost Anything Goes assembly and Talent Show. In addition, they travel to Camp Bernie for an overnight stay. The best part of Student Council is the help they provide to the community and to school. Thanks to Mr. Vogel and his members for all they do!



Sports Page

Cross Country

By: Kayla Castellitto

The 2009 boys' cross-country team ended the season in 4th place at the GMCs and girls in 5th place out of a total of 21 teams and over 700 runners on Saturday, October 31, 2009. At the end of the season the boys' team finished with a record of 10-5 and the girls with a record of 12-3. The teams had a wonderful season and some of their goals were to lower their times from past races. Our lead runner for the boys was 8th grader, Chris Cena, and for the girls it was 7th grader, Kim Stratton. During the season Chris Cena broke the school record and then broke his own record twice more. Some of the season's highlights were watching the runners at the GMCs. The cross-country coach Mrs. Drabik loves being a cross-country coach, but was coaching a large group with varying abilities is the hardest part. This is Mrs. Drabik's first year coaching the team. Mrs. Drabik ran cross-country and track at the Sayreville War Memorial High School. "I was pleasantly surprised by how talented the new runners were. The veterans on the team were encouraging," said coach Drabik. The runners were dedicated, hard working, and spirited this season. Coach Drabik stated, "Best of luck to the 8th graders, work hard and, keep running. I'm really excited about all the returning talents we'll have next year. Keep running and be ready to run hard." With the crowd being big, the team had loads of support from friends and family. Congratulations runners on the spectacular season!!!



Field Hockey

By: Kayla Castellitto

Field Hockey is a very detailed sport that has several rules and is broken down into two 30 minute quarters. The 2009 field hockey team finished their season with 5 wins, 2 loses, and 3 ties with the help of their coach Miss Kissel. This year's team was energetic, competitive, and very fun. The team's captains were Kathryn DeLucia, Heather SootKoos, Mairead Forrest, and Amber Edwards. The team set goals like making themselves better each game and to score goals. The highlight of the season was when the field hockey team beat the undefeated South Plainfield on their last game. This was Coach Kissel's 4th year coaching the field hockey team at the Sayreville Middle School. Kissel played field hockey in high school. Coach said, "This group of girls did very well and many of the players improved." Miss. Kissel also stated "We will miss the 8th graders very much and we thank them for all of their hard work and support. Good Luck in the High School," and "the returning 7th graders should keep up the great work and I look forward to next season, GO BOMBERS!" Player, Beth Eiring said, "This season was amazing and Miss Kissel is a great coach." Also Sam Marcinczyk said, "We worked great as a team." With the support from the bench and the crowd, the field hockey team had an outstanding season!!!!



Congratulations Boys and Girls Soccer!

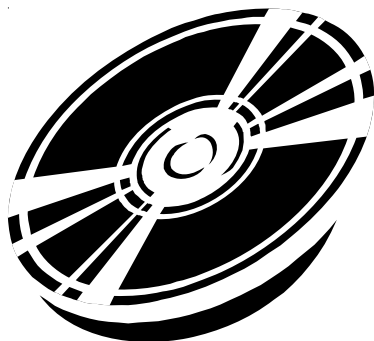
The soccer season flew by with victories and losses. Coach Mullins and the Boys' team played tough and gave the game all they had while Coach Nagy and the girls did the same. Nice work on your season and best wishes for great games next fall!



Top Music of '09

By: Vidhi Patel

This year's hit music contains a mixture of genres including pop, R&B, dance, and rock. Some messages are mostly about letting go and having fun. Top songs include "Fireflies" by Owl City, "I Gotta Feeling" by Black Eyed Peas, "Watcha Say" by Jason Derulo, "Tik Tok" by Ke\$ha, IYAZ with "Replay", Jay Sean's "Down", and many more. Other artists that continue to stay strong are Britney Spears, Lady Gaga, Taylor Swift, and Miley Cyrus. Songs from September and October still top charts this December, so keep your ears open to see what comes in the next months



Book Review

By: Brendan Squitieri

If you'd like to read a classic and fun filled book, then J.R.R. Tolkien's masterpiece, The Hobbit, is for you! What is a hobbit? A hobbit is short, has pointy ears, hairy feet, and is outgoing. The main character is a hobbit named Bilbo Baggins. Bilbo has a wizard friend named Gandalf. Bilbo, Gandalf, and a few other friends go on an adventure of a lifetime. Along the way to Misty Mountains, they meet other creatures, like trolls. The trolls are not always friendly. They either look to make trouble or make peace. However, most trolls choose to make trouble and fight. Bilbo also meets a dragon along the way. He isn't so friendly either. Once Bilbo reaches Misty Mountain, Bilbo is separated from Gandalf and the others. As he is finding his way back to Gandalf he meets two more creatures. The creatures don't bother him that much, but they are a little annoying. Finally he finds his way back to Gandalf. A day or two later the Battle of the Five Armies takes place. The dragon helped the bad side. Bilbo and Gandalf had to find a way to slay the dragon. This book is full of hobbits, fun and mystery! If you would like to check out this book, visit the library.

Geography Bee

Congratulations to Kiarra Butts, winner of the Sayreville Middle School Geography Bee. Mr. Malara hosted the school Geography Bee and Kiarra was the school champion. There were 8 contestants who won a place in the bee by competing in a class competition. Eight 7th and 8th grade History and Geography teachers held class competitions and the winners attended the school wide bee. Kiarra completed the State Bee qualifying test, however, results will not be given until March. The New Jersey State Geography Bee will be held in April. Good Luck to Kiarra and Congratulations!

Websites for Students

Need some help with schoolwork? Homework? Just want to practice or learn for fun? Use some of the links below for Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science.

<http://kids.yahoo.com>

http://www.tdbank.com/wowzone/gameroom/flash/game_entry.cfm

<http://www.shodor.org/interactivate/>

http://www.geocities.com/EnchantedForest/Tower/1217/third_index.html

Maze Days!

