

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, N.J.

"SUNSHINE MOMENTS"

SCHOOL: Elementary # 1

PRINCIPAL: Christian J. Paskalides

DATE: November 16, 2017

1. On Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, Elementary #1 held Fall Harvest/Halloween festivities, which included classroom parties, costumed children, and the Grand March. This year's theme was straight out of the children's book, The Very Hungry Caterpillar. A special thank you to the PTO room parents and volunteers for hosting the classroom parties.
2. Elementary #1 recognized Veteran's Day through our social studies curriculum. Teachers held classroom discussions and/or read-alouds honoring our servicemen and women.
3. This week, Elementary #1 welcomed parents/guardians into our classrooms in honor of American Education Week. Families were given the opportunity to see our curriculum in action, while watching their children experience exciting lessons.
4. On Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, NJTV's Classroom Close-up visited Elementary #1. Classroom Close-up is a magazine program focusing on innovative education in New Jersey's public schools. The series features the students, teachers, and communities who create and participate in successful school projects and events. Classroom Close-up interviewed Andrea Davis, Rebecca Hannings, and Elizabeth VanTrieste, and filmed their students operating the famous Lemonade Stand. The episode will air on NJTV and online in February.

We're very proud of our staff and students making the Lemonade Stand a huge success, and for the honor of being recognized by such a prestigious program.

## Middle Township Elementary School #2

"Helping Every Child Achieve Success"

### Sunshine Moments- November, 2017

- Congratulations to the entire instructional staff at Elementary #2 for their overall success in promoting student achievement and moving students forward along the continuum of learning during the 2016-17 school year. Each year the N.J. Department of Education provides certain teachers with a Student Growth Percentile (SGP) score that reflects the amount of growth that students made based on their standardized test performance from one year to the next. This year, 100% of the teachers received a score of 3.0 or above on a scale of 1.0-4.0. The overall average was 3.3; great job to all! This excellent score is a testament to their hard work and dedication to our students. Many thanks to Dr. Salvo, Diane Fox, Robert Johnson, Dr. Lehman, and the entire board of education for supporting the educational endeavors at Elementary #2.
- Gifted and Talented Update- Recently, the gifted and talented students were engaged in a meaningful activity related to Monarch butterflies. The students first located and hatched monarch eggs. Then, using technology, they worked in small groups and created webquests in order to research information on butterflies and migration. Each group designed a Google slide show geared toward a young audience that highlighted the information gleaned from their research; video clips and animation were also incorporated into the presentations. Following this, each group was given a camera which was used to document the growth of their larva. The students measured the larva's growth and estimated the amount of milkweed that would be needed at each stage of growth. Eventually, the larva were placed into cages where they progressed through the various stages until they became fully developed butterflies. The students attended a 3 hour workshop at the Cape May Point Park where they learned the process of "tagging" which is done by naturalists to monitor the monarch's flight path to Mexico. As a culminating activity, the students held a "Butterfly Day" here at Elementary #2 in which they hosted Mrs. McFadden's second grade class from Elementary #1. The GT students created stations that showcased their Google presentations; they served as Monarch butterfly experts as they shared what they had learned with the second-graders about the Monarch butterflies. Finally, the second-grade students created butterfly masks and shared in the excitement of releasing 52 new butterflies into the sky! Many thanks to Denice Badders, our GT teacher, for creating such a meaningful activity for both our GT students and second-grade class. Awesome job!



**MIDDLE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
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**SCHOOL:** Middle School      **PRINCIPAL:** Mr. Jeff Ortman  
**DATE:** Thursday, November 16, 2017

On Friday, October 27, 2017, the Middle School held our Fall Pep Rally. This was an opportunity for all students to participate in this spirited event with several competitions among grade levels. Students on our fall sports teams were represented including Boys and Girls Soccer, Cross Country, Field Hockey and our Cheerleaders. This activity was very well received by the students and included a partnership with the Middle Township Police Department which was represented in some of the competitions with students and staff.

On Wednesday, November 1, 2017 in coordination with the Middle Township Police Department and County Prosecutor’s Office, all Middle School students viewed the Rachel’s Challenge Assembly. Rachel Scott was the first victim of the Columbine shooting. Rachel’s Challenge promotes students to be kind to one another and follow their dreams. Select students also met with a breakout group and were tasked with spreading kindness in a kindness chain. The presentation was very well received by students and staff.

On Tuesday, November 7, 2017, Middle Township Middle School held our Veteran’s Day Assembly to celebrate our veterans. Thank you to the Cape May Coast Guard Color Guard Recruits, our Middle School Band and the Middle School Choir that performed for our students, and to all of our speakers. Special thanks to our Veteran’s Day Committee members Donia Mills, Heather Chew, June Camizzi, Chris White, Barbara Arenberg, Josh McCarty, Jessica DeBiase, Amy McGarrity, Evan Weatherby, and Dave Farrow for putting this meaningful event together.

The students and staff of Middle Township Middle School would also like to wish a very Happy Thanksgiving to all next week.



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### Sunshine Moments –November 2017

Congratulations to the cast and crew of this year's drama production *Almost, Maine*. The students and staff did a wonderful job putting together an outstanding performance. I would like to send out a special thank you to Miss Jacky Buckingham for all of her efforts with the show.

On Wednesday, November 15, in a joint effort of the Interact Club, Key Club and Red Cross Club, MTHS hosted the annual dinner for a local organization, Caring for Kids. The students in these clubs assisted in the total preparation of the evening and providing assistance to the organization in its efforts to assist families in need. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Kelley Hogg and Mrs. Tracey Nagle for their efforts in coordinating this event.

Sophomore students will visit Atlantic Cape Community College over the month of November to complete career assessments and review jobs that match their interest levels. They also will be provided with study skills workshops that are used at the college level. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Chew and the guidance staff for providing this opportunity free of charge to our students. I would also like to thank Dr. Tammy De Franco from ACCC for providing this opportunity to our students.

### **Sports Update (as of 11/14/17)**

- Two Panthers athletes this week signed Letters of Intent to continue their playing careers at NCAA Division II schools. Maggie Slavin, lacrosse goalie, will attend Nyack College in Nyack, NY. Zach Wyatt, left-handed pitcher/first baseman, is headed to Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania.
- 11 Panthers fall athletes were named Cape Atlantic League All Stars and have been invited to attend an awards ceremony Nov. 29. They are: Dylan Cruz, football; Maddie Deane/Sofia Lomax, tennis; Maggie Fossett, Ava Karimalis, Caroline Gallagher, Kallie Leonik, field hockey; Kira Sides, Nadine Coyle, soccer; Matt Brown, Tim Sawyer, soccer. Sophia Ellis (tennis) and Katie Herlihy (field hockey) received honorable mention.
- Lady Panther field hockey reached the South Jersey Group 1 final for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, losing a heartbreaker in penalty strokes. The team had upset Woodstown to reach the championship and battled hard to hold top-seeded Schalick scoreless in regulation, plus 2 overtime periods. A large contingent of fans traveled to cheer on the girls in the championship!
- Panther football travels to Lower Cape May Regional for the Anchor Bowl. Kick off is 10 a.m. on Thanksgiving.
- The highly anticipated Powder Puff football game kicks off at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at Memorial Field! Come out and cheer on the classes in this friendly competition for bragging rights!
- Swim practice got underway Nov. 6 and the first meet is scheduled for Dec. 5 vs rival Tech.
- Basketball tryouts are slated for next week. Cheer tryouts will be held the last week of the month.
- We added several signs to the Memorial Field fence during the fall season and we continue to solicit new ones. Signs raise funds for awards and other athletic department needs. Any business or organization wishing to purchase a new sign is asked to call Jeanne Donohue at 609-465-1852 ext. 5549.