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

“SUNSHINE MOMENTS”

SCHOOL: Elementary #1
DATE: May 16, 2019

PRINCIPAL: Christian Paskalides

1. Elementary #1 celebrated Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week with a luncheon on May 9th courtesy of the PTO. A special thank you to the PTO for supporting our teachers and staff, and the Bellevue Tavern for some delicious trays and a variety of donated items.

2. On Monday, April 15th, Elementary #1 celebrated Arbor Day with an assembly led by Committeeman Clark and Peter Lomax from Lomax Consulting. The assembly featured a video produced by Sophia Lomax, performances by Mrs. Banks, Mrs. Ludman and Mrs. Russell’s class. Students learned all about Arbor Day and the importance of planting trees. The Township and Lomax Consulting donated tubelings to all students in grades K-2. Students were encouraged to teach their parents about Arbor Day, and find a place to plant their tubeling. A special thank you to BOE member Kim Kraus for organizing the event.

3. I would also like to thank the following families/organizations for their generous donations this school year: Polar Bear Walk/Run for Autism donated $1500, Soar Church in Woodbine, Fire Department, Bellevue Tavern, Anderson Family, Aaron’s of Rio Grande, Bellevue Tavern, CMCH McDonald’s, Kindle Ford, MASK, Middle Township Ocean First Bank, MTEA, PTO, and Sturdy Savings Bank.
Middle Township Elementary School #2

"Helping Every Child Achieve Success"

Sunshine Moments- May, 2017

• In Mr. Betson's fourth grade classroom, students were studying the life cycle of ducks. Thanks to one of the student's parents, an incubator and duck eggs arrived in the class in April. Mr. Betson decided to use this opportunity to teach the children how to do research based writing, a type of writing they would experience on the upcoming NJSLA. His class watched videos, read texts, and had personal connections with the life cycle of ducklings as they watched the duck eggs hatch and mature. While waiting for the eggs to hatch, some students would actually read their research to the eggs, explaining how they were to hatch themselves. A lot was captured on video. Students were excited to come in each day and would tell me when they believed a duckling would break through the shell based on the cracks they witnessed. Mr. Betson provided a great opportunity for his class. His students and I want to thank him for this. I would also like to thank Ms. Linda Foley for providing the incubator and the eggs and being the parent that made this possible.

• Our students have now completed the NJSLA and I would like to thank Mrs. Janet Biller, Mrs. Megan Bramble, and Mr. Pat O’Dea for all their support and extra hours in making this year’s administration run so smoothly. We were able to complete the test without any major glitches and in far less time than in years past.

• The MUA’s recycling program for Class 1 plastics has concluded and our school was able to recycle 464 pounds of plastic film. Although we didn’t come in first place in the contest, we did recycle the second largest amount in the county. Many thanks to Mrs. Hoffman’s third grade class for taking charge of this project.

• On May 3rd our LEAD officers treated their fifth grade students to a day at the movies. Many thanks to Officer Julio and all the LEAD officers, as well as The Harbor View Theater for hosting our students.

• The Police Unity Tour began their bike ride to Washington DC on the morning of May 10th and our fifth grade LEAD students lined Main Street to cheer them on. Students made posters and held signs as officers from Middle and around the state rode by offering high fives and cheers as they passed. Thanks to Ms. Lisitski and Mrs. Fisher for organizing.

• The week of May 6th was Teacher Appreciation Week and Nurse’s Appreciation. Teachers were treated to various special treats during the week and our Nurse received flowers and cards from students. The week was capped by a luncheon from the PTO. Once again, we were spoiled with an elegant lunch of Chicken Marsala and baked ziti, catered by the Bellevue Tavern, as well as fruit salads, arugula salad and a cornucopia of homemade desserts. We want to thank the PTO for treating us to such a delicious luncheon.

Upcoming Events
May 30th BEACH DAY
June 4th Band and Choir Spring Concert 7:00 at the PAC
June 7th LEAD Graduation 9:30 at the PAC
The Middle School is pleased to announce that student Camille Harris has been accepted into the weeklong Tech Trek STEM Camp at Stockton University. During this week, campers take part in activities such as programming apps for tablets and smart phones, extracting their own DNA, formulating lip gloss in a chemistry lab, visit the FAA Tech Center and much more. Tech Trek has been shown to significantly increase girls’ self confidence as well as expand their interest in STEM Fields. Camille went through a rigorous acceptance process. Only sixty rising 8th grade females are accepted into this program, so this is quite an honor.

Congratulations to students Kaya Fuentes, Kevin Dias, Sam Keppel and Ty Murnaghan, who qualified at a regional qualifier to compete in the National History Bee Competition to be held in Chicago, Illinois at the beginning of June. Thanks to the members of the Social Studies Department for preparing these students for this meaningful event.

On April 17, in coordination with and with financial support from the Middle Township Municipal Alliance and the Governor’s Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 7th and 8th grade students were presented with an assembly from Steered Straight on the dangers of alcohol use and vaping. This assembly was well received by students, several of which met with presenters after the assembly. Thank you to Monica DeRose for organizing this assembly.

On Tuesday, April 30, several Middle School students were awarded certificates for their public service announcements on the dangers of alcohol and drugs. This contest was put on by Cape Assist in conjunction with the Cape May County Prosecutors Office. Students receiving awards at the breakfast ceremony held at Avalon Links were Tatiana Moffit, Keyoni Benjamin, Isabella Pascucci and Dayra Perez-Bazan. Thank you to Ms. Debbie Tweed for organizing the student presentations for this contest.

Congratulations to the April Students of the Month. These students were treated to a pizza party on Friday, May 3, where they joined with a friend to celebrate their accomplishments. The students of the month for April are: 6th Graders: Lilee Conover and Joseph Berrodin, 7th Graders: Hannah Barrett and Carmine Fuscellaro, and 8th Graders: Marissa Gardner and Christian Amato.
Sunshine Moments May 2019

The first-ever Panthers Choice Awards were awe-inspiring! Staff members recognized 30 amazing and deserving students for a wide variety of reasons, including: being extra-kind, painting a mural, helping peers who are new to the school, being super dedicated to musical endeavors, excelling in academics, going out of their comfort zone to try something new, and hanging in to be prepared to graduate, despite adversity! Congratulations to all the award winners! Keep that Panthers spirit alive! A Big-Thank-You to Ms. Kelsey Graham for putting this event together.

The Dance Academy and Mrs. Tridente traveled to Cedar Creek High School on April 30th to participate in a Dance Competition and Showcase called, “Cape Atlantic Day of Dance.” Our Academy joined Lower Cape May, Ocean City, Mainland, Egg Harbor Twp., Oakcrest, Mainland, Atlantic City, Cedar Creek, and Absegami in this event. Our students showcased three original dance numbers, and took master classes with professional dancer, Jennifer DeTour of Powerhouse Dance.

I am pleased to announce Junior Kai Wood won 3rd place for his essay in the Cape May County Bar Association Essay Contest. The paper was among the top submissions presented on the topic of “Free Speech, Free Press, and Free Society.” The essay was judged by an Essay Review Committee.

Senior, Logan Thomas received Honorable Mention prizes in the Elizabeth Ann Seton Center for Women’s Studies twenty-third annual high school essay contest. Students were asked to write about a female role model, someone who has inspired and influenced them.

Senior, Tamara Farrow has received the President’s Volunteer Service Award from the 2019 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards selection committee. This award recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country.

Important Dates:

1. Prom/Afters Prom tomorrow May 17, beginning at 6pm at the Flanders in Ocean City
2. Spring Choral Concert on Tuesday, May 21st 7pm in the PAC
3. Naval Cadet Parent Information Meeting on Wednesday, May 29th 6:30 pm in the Media Center
4. Senior Scholarship/Awards Night on Wednesday, June 5th 6:30 pm in the PAC
5. Baccalaureate on Monday, June 17th 7:30 pm in the PAC
6. Graduation on Tuesday, June 18th 4pm at Memorial Field
Athletic Sunshine Moments (as of 5/7/19)

- Panthers wrestler/football player Romeo Rodriguez was recognized as Scholar Athlete by the South Jersey Coaches Association on May 9.

- Julia Mallett, field hockey/swim/track and field, is our NJSIAA Scholar Athlete 2019 and was slated to be honored at a luncheon May 19, where she will be eligible for scholarships.

- Junior lacrosse player Maddie Barber achieved her 200th career assist on 5/6/19.

- Panthers tennis was designated No. 3 seed SJ Group 1 and was hosting first round playoff match May 8th.

- Signs are available for businesses to advertise at Memorial Field, Shumpike and Boyd Street venues. Sign up form will be posted on our Facebook and Twitter pages. Spring sports schedules are on www.capeatlanticleague.org. Stay up to date by downloading RSchoolToday app.