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Middle School
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ALEXIS BOUCHARD
Principal

MATT SCOTT
Assistant Principal

February 13, 2026

Dear HMS Families,

Every year, each public school and school district in Massachusetts receives a report card. Just as your child's report card shows how they are doing in different subjects; the school's report card is designed to show families how our school is doing in different areas. A link to our school's report card is available at <https://reportcards.doe.mass.edu/2025/02650405>.

The report card includes multiple measures of a school's performance – more than just MCAS scores. It represents a new way of looking at school performance, by providing information on student achievement, teacher qualifications, student learning opportunities, and more.

Report cards are designed to be useful tools for everyone connected to our school. Families can use the information to have meaningful conversations with us about what the school is doing well and where there is room for improvement. Community and education leaders can use the information to better understand how to support students and our school.

You will notice on our report card that we are making substantial progress toward meeting our achievement targets and we are not requiring assistance or interventions. We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school. We see parents as critical partners in the success of our students and school, and we are grateful for your continued support.

If you have questions about our school's report card, would like to become involved in school improvement activities, or would like to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teacher, please contact the main office. To see our district's report card or to search for other schools' report cards, visit reportcards.doe.mass.edu.

Sincerely,

Ms. Bouchard

School Counseling News

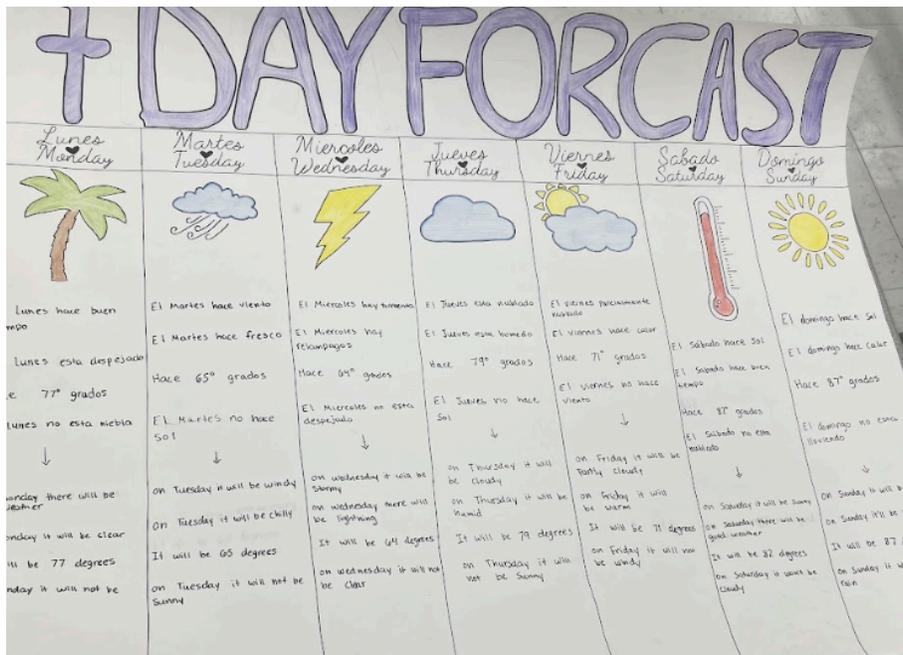
The Seekonk Public Schools strives to provide a safe, respectful, and supportive learning environment in which all students can thrive and succeed in its schools. The Seekonk Public Schools prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, to include traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture, hair type, hair length and protective hairstyles, sex, age, gender identity, disability, religion, national origin, limited English proficiency, sexual orientation, pregnancy or pregnancy related conditions or homelessness. and ensures that all students have equal rights of access and equal enjoyment of the opportunities, advantages, privileges, and courses of study.

Attention 8th Graders! The Guidance Department from Seekonk High School will be visiting HMS on **February 25th** to discuss the course selection process. Students will learn about the SHS program of studies and which courses are available for incoming 9th grade students. Mrs. Czech will be available to answer questions or concerns.

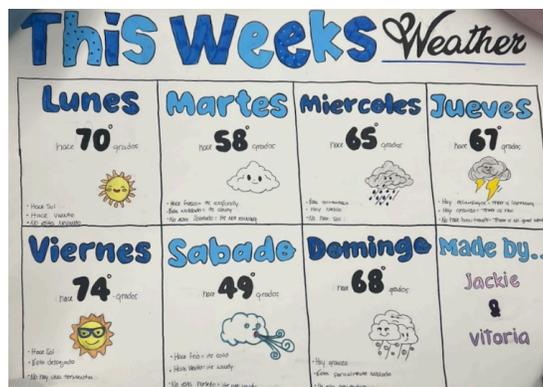
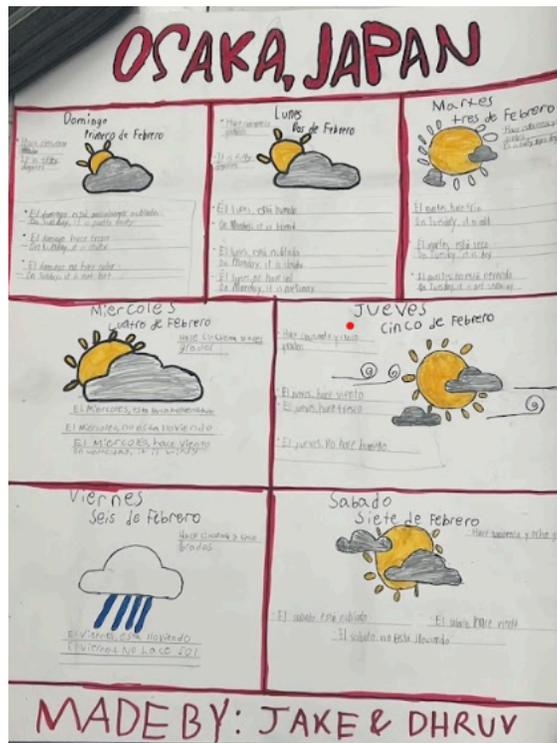
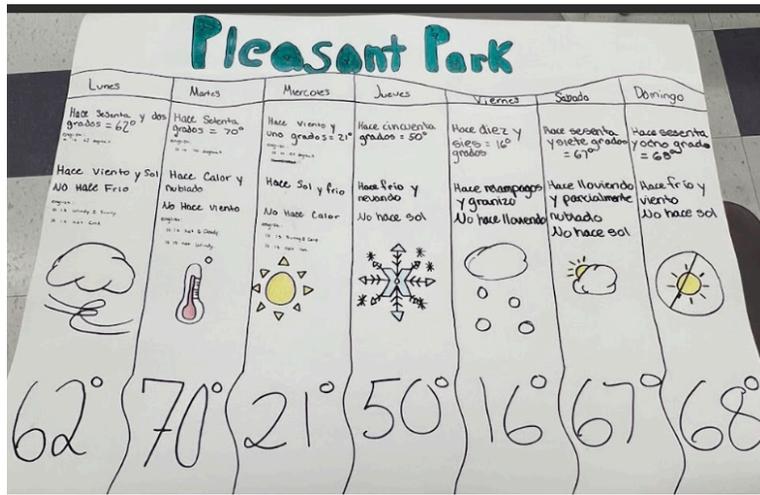
8th Grade Spanish with Mr. Berndt!

Over the past few weeks in Spanish class, 8th grade students have been learning the days of the week and a variety of weather expressions. To bring these two topics together, students completed a creative weather forecast project.

For this assignment, students combined their knowledge of the days of the week with weather vocabulary to create a full weekly forecast in Spanish. They were required to use each day of the week, incorporate at least 10 distinct weather expressions, and demonstrate their creativity. In addition to writing their forecasts, students drew illustrations to show the weather for each day and explained what was happening using complete sentences in Spanish. I was very impressed with how much effort the students put in their projects and how amazing they turned out to be!



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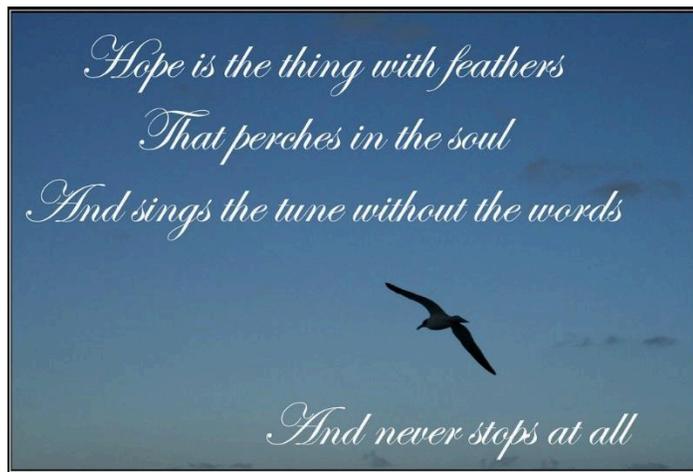
8th Grade Orange Team

ELA - Mrs. Johnson

Essential Question: What is the power of hope in oneself and how does it influence life?

We finished *All Thirteen* by Christina Soontornvat this week. In our reading, we learned of the crucial point when the rescuers devised complex plans to remove the boys from the cave. An obstacle was lack of communication between the rescuers and the Thai authorities. Class discussions have been focused on the importance of good communication and the respectful and compassionate Thai people who help each other, asking for nothing in return. As a culminating writing assignment, students are analyzing Emily Dickinson's poem "Hope - is the thing with feathers" and writing a thematic comparative analysis discussing how hope, in the text, poem, and life, is vital to perseverance in difficult times.

After February vacation, students will begin a nonfiction independent unit, utilizing a nonfiction/informational text of their choice to complete reading and writing assignments in an MLA formatted project document. Students may bring in a book from home, visit the Seekonk Public Library, or choose a book in our school library the day we return from break.



Science - Mrs. Dieringer

This week in science, we wrapped up our Physical Science portion of the year, and students took a Chemistry Unit Test. This test was the culmination of everything students have learned from elements, molecules, compounds, to physical and chemical properties and changes, to chemical reactions, and more. In addition to the test, students made posters describing exothermic and endothermic reactions through the lens of photosynthesis and cellular respiration. When we come back from break, we will start our Genetics Unit!

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Purple Team News

ELA with Dr. Shurtleff

In ELA, we finished reading the *Giver* and wrote essays explaining how Jonas' character developed throughout the novel. The essays will be printed and peer-edited soon. We also started reading *Messenger* by Lois Lowry. Upon completion of the third novel in the series, the students will write an essay explaining the foreshadowing. The essay will require the students to identify and explain numerous examples of foreshadowing throughout the series while focusing on *Messenger*. While reading the novel, as a class we have been taking notes and developing a chart with quotes that will assist in writing the essay. In addition to reading and writing the students are also creating 100 mini sagas and will have a chance to enter their work into a contest!

Math with Mrs. Sogn

In math, we are done with Integer rules! Students now need to apply these rules. They will have many "POP" quizzes to test if they have mastered them! After break, we will start the new chapter covering expressions and equations. Students will learn how to combine like terms, evaluate expressions, and solve equations. In compacted math class, the students have learned how to solve equations and combine like terms. After break, we will start working with inequalities. They will have a quiz covering all of this material after break. Have a great break!

Science with Mrs. Reilly

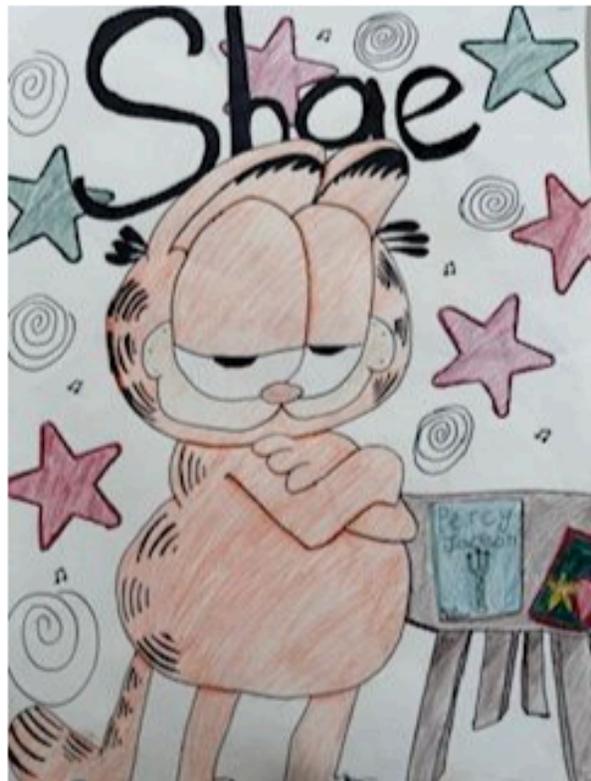
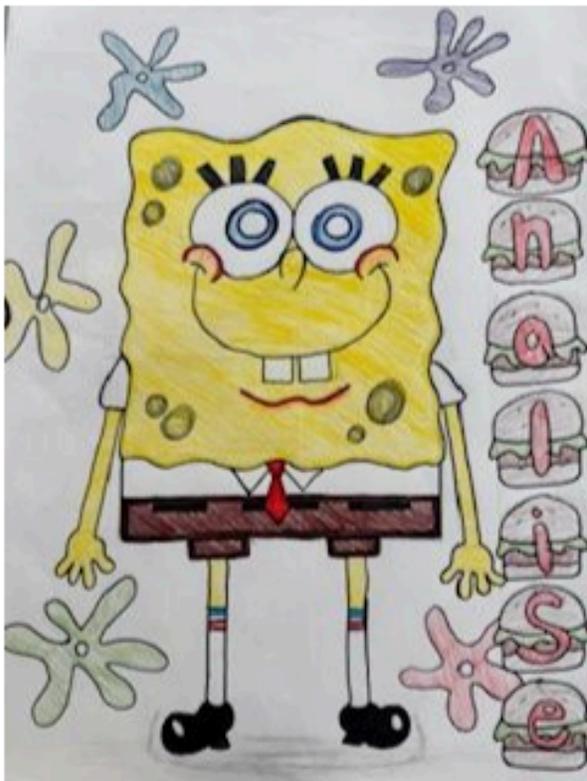
We will wrap up our unit on plate tectonics with a small project in which students will be data scientists trying to predict and mitigate the impacts of potential future natural disasters in a region they will be assigned. They will apply what they learned about plates, plate motion and boundaries, and geological events in order to complete this project successfully. Have a wonderful break!

Social Studies with Mr. Manton

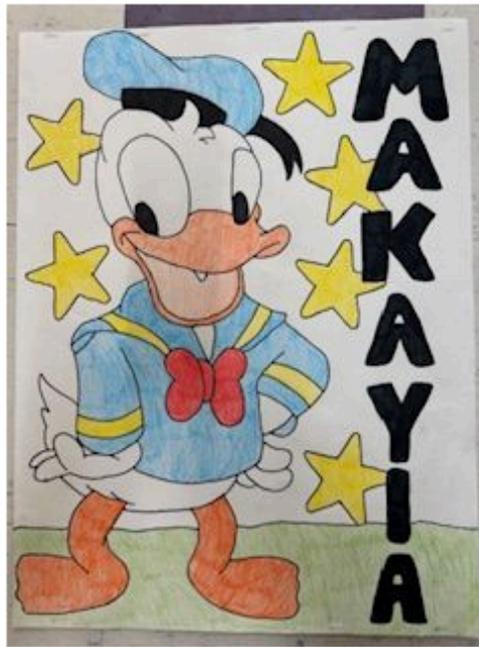
We are onto Ancient India now! We've started this unit over the last couple of weeks learning about the Indus Valley. India sure does get a variety of weather thanks to the different types of monsoons! We've looked at the cities of Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa, some of the world's oldest cities as well as perfectly created symmetrical streets in a grid-like pattern. We've discussed what has happened to the Indus Valley civilization as well as started looking at India's Caste System. We will continue India for the third quarter and will look at India's Vedas (Vedic Age) after break. Enjoy the Feb. break!

The Purple Team

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Design The HMS Band T-Shirt

Calling All Artists

Criteria

- **Must Include School Name**
- **Must Include Trills and Thrills Music Festival 2026**
- **No more than three colors**
- **Can be done by hand or computer**
- **See Mr. Marx or Mrs. Farrow for a Blank T-Shirt Template**
- **Open to ALL middle school artists**
- **T-shirt Designs will be chosen by members of the HMS Band**

Submit your designs to Mr. Marx or Mrs. Farrow by March 2nd



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