H.B. WHITEHORNE

SCA Newsletter SCA Co-Presidents: Pam Priscoe and Kelli Strlekar Fall 2014

SCA President's Message

Welcome to the first issue of the HBW SCA Newsletter for the 2014-2015 school year.

We had our first SCA meeting on September 17th. Thank you to all who came to the meeting, please continue to attend the rest of our meetings.

The SCA board has been very busy planning many activities for our students. We have had the 5th and 6th grade socials. Thank you to all the chaperones and all who donated snacks for the students. Students have been preparing their spooky drawings for our Halloween Window Painting on October 25th. We had many beautiful Class Baskets at Back-to-School Night – thank you to the committee that worked so hard putting these together and congratulations to all of our winners. The Beautification Committee was hard at work all summer long keeping the grounds at HBW lush and beautiful. Thank you to all of our families with "green thumbs" that helped out. This committee is still working into the fall with new plantings and mulch. Our fall fundraisers are doing very well – Kidstuff Coupon Books, subscriptions to the Verona-Cedar Grove Times and HBW Sportswear.

Thank you to all that participated.

We want to thank all of the SCA volunteers that have worked so hard to bring these activities to fruition. To learn more about SCA activities or how you can get involved, join us at our SCA meetings. Our next meeting is November 11th at 7:30 pm in the Media Center.

In the meantime, should you have any suggestions, ideas or thoughts that you would like to share, please contact us – Pam Priscoe – priscoe@verizon.net or Kelli Strlekar – kdstr@aol.com.

We would like to thank our HBW SCA Newsletter Editor Kathy Emanuilidis. She has made our newsletters fun and interesting!!!

A special thank you to Barbara Yeates for all her time and dedication over the years to the HBW SCA!

We wish all of the HBW families and staff a Healthy, Happy and Joyous Holiday Season!

Pam and Kelli

Did you know?

*The Verona **SCA** stands for—*
*Verona **S**chool **C**ommunity **A**ssociation, a partnership of home and school that enriches your child's educational experience.*

UPCOMING 2014/15 SCA Meetings

- November 11, 2014
- January 14, 2015
- March 11, 2015
- May 13, 2015

Note: All meetings are held in the HBW Library/Media Center @ 7:30pm. All parents welcome!

Issue No. 1

- SCA Welcome
- Principal's Message
- Around the "Horne…" Classes & Clubs
- Sports Beat
- SCA Pet Causes
- Key Dates

H.B. WHITEHORNE

From the Principal's Desk... **Ms. Yvette McNeal**

Dear H.B.W. Family:

As the end of October is upon us and Halloween is tomorrow, I want to emphasize what a great school opening we had. Our fall is always jam-packed with ways for students to get involved at school from socials, to clubs, to wearing pajamas on pajama day, to window painting, and by having fun in costume at H.B.W. Encourage your child to stay involved. It is only when that happens that we maintain a great school culture of hard work and fun because school is tough enough without making room for fun!

This fall, we had excellent assemblies for students on the subject of internet safety. Students, teachers, and the parents who attended learned a lot! I for one didn't realize how unsafe and un-private our online lives are even if we think we have checked all of the right settings! Sergeant Rich also stressed the importance of not putting anything online that students wouldn't want there forever because mistakes are almost impossible to delete online. If you ever have any questions about online safety, you can email Mr. Kish, our technology teacher. He has given parent workshops on this topic in the past. The staff and I will continue to look for and bring quality speakers to H.B.W. If you have suggestions for speakers, we would love to hear from you.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place in mid-November. I encourage you to come and meet with your child's teachers so you can continue to solidify your partnership with them. It's important that great partnerships are formed because when that happens, we see excellent results from our kids.

Warm wishes,

Mrs. McNeal

Mrs. McNeal

5 Cool Q's for... Mrs. McNeal

1. Three dinner guests, past or present?
Shakespeare — it would need to be dinner and a few movies. Would love to show him how his plays have been translated for the modern era with modern technology.

My Grandmother — I'd love to have her pot roast one more time and to introduce her to my husband who she never got a chance to meet.

The HBW principal 50 years from now — It would be interesting to see how the job and the school has changed over time.

2. Your first thought when you woke up this morning?
My first thought was that I had to reach out to the assembly presenter for Wednesday to see what technology we needed to set up for his presentation.

3. Your favorite word? Least favorite?
"Yes" and least favorite, "reform"

4. Last book you read?
"Americanah" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

5. Your perfect pizza?
Fresh tomatoes, fresh mozzarella, and fresh basil

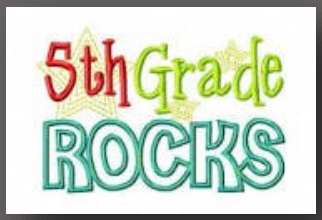
Around the "Horne..."

What's Happening at HBW?

Welcome back to the 2014-2015 school year at H.B. Whitehorne Middle School. School is off to a great start and students and teachers are already busy filling the hallways with student projects, assignments, and artwork. Please remember to check out our hall displays whenever you are here visiting the school.

September and October were a busy time for our students as they began a new school year. Many summer reading projects were well on their way and are displayed throughout the classrooms and hallways.

5th Grade



The fifth grade is busy getting adjusted to being new at HBW. Much time has been spent on helping the students with the various things that are different from elementary school. Lockers, schedules, periods, changing for gym, eating at 10:15 am, and having multiple teachers in a day are just to name a few. As a part of the summer reading assignment, students all created a book ad on the book they read. The students' book ads are on display outside their classrooms making the hallway bright and cheery.

In social studies, mapping skills are the main topic of study. It is always important to be able to find your way especially in a new school this size.

In science classes, students are studying the weather and learning all about various related topics. All students will be working on Cloud Projects. This project is designed to allow the students to demonstrate their understanding of clouds and weather.

For a culminating activity in map skills, students in Mrs. Clifford's and Mrs. Moy's social studies classes are becoming cartographers. They are designing their own parks, zoos, resorts, shopping malls etc. Each design will come with a map and map keys to guide any visitors through their parks. This is a fun way to solidify their directional skills, map key reading, and grid square reading skills.

Around the "Horne..."

6th Grade Class

In the sixth grade, students enjoyed writing Book Reviews as the culminating project for their summer reading. Students created book reviews and summaries, and then presented their book talks in class.

The sixth grade has currently been conducting science inquiries and studying how scientists ask and answer questions about the natural world. Students have asking and answering questions such as, "Does an ice cube melt faster if it is broken in pieces?", "Will the growth of plants be affected if we double the fertilizer in the soil?", "How can we uncover what is inside a given space if we cannot get into that space?", and "What happens when you mix water, oil, and food coloring?" Sixth grade students saw the importance of using the scientific method to answer these questions. They often concluded that multiple trials must be done in order for scientists to come to an accurate conclusion. The sixth graders are looking forward to using the scientific method throughout the year to help answer questions they have about the natural world.

The 6th grade math students began the year exploring the famous Handshake Problem leading into our study of patterns, expressions, properties, and algebra. This is a complex problem with multiple methods for arriving at the solution. Ask the sixth graders to teach you how to solve the problem for any number of people. Some of our math students created original patterns to be compiled in class pattern books. Students eagerly anticipate being able to figure out each other's patterns!

The 6th grade social studies students began learning about how the United States was formed and the symbols that represent our great nation, such as our national seal which is our country's coat of arms. In response, students each created an individual Coat of Arms and presented it to the class along with why it is representative of them. Pleas, come check out their beautiful work on display in the hallway leading to the annex! Students also created Our Classroom Constitution as a guide for the expectations they have of themselves and of each other, as they explore how the United States Constitution came to be.

Around the "Horne..."

7th Grade Science

Last spring after studying the solar system, students designed science experiments that could fit inside of ping pong balls. These "PongSats" were sent up into space on September 28th. Students are anxiously anticipating the return of their PongSats, especially since the first chapter that they are studying in seventh grade science is the atmosphere! The PongSats traveled to a height of about 100,000 feet where there is less gravity, less air, less pressure and cold temperatures, so these conditions should have some very interesting effects on the experiments inside of the ping pong balls! *The Verona-Cedar Grove Times* did an article on this awesome experiment! It can be viewed at: http://www.northjersey.com/news/education/verona-students-participate-in-out-of-this-world-experiment-1.1097049

As a chapter project, Ms. Heckel's seventh grade science students are studying a real-life application of their chapter on the Earth's Atmosphere. They are investigating how climate changes as one climbs up Mount Kilimanjaro, in addition to the causes and effects of altitude sickness. Hunter Tramel's mom, Joelle, came in and shared with the class her experience climbing Kilimanjaro to help the kids learn more for their research.

8th Grade Science

Ms. Heckel was one of twenty-five teachers from the Mid-Atlantic States who were chosen to be a part of a National Science Foundation Grant. She went to a week of training this summer and during the school year, her classes will be working with scientists, who are experts in their field, who will be stationed in Antarctica studying how global warming is affecting Antarctic ecosystems and, in particular, the impact on the Adelie penguin. Throughout the year, students will participate in lessons about the science that the scientists are doing. Additionally, they will be following a blog (being written by a professional writer with pictures by a professional science photographer), and the kids will get to participate in a video conference with the scientists from Antarctica in January. The project will culminate with students working on research projects which they will present at a Research Symposium at the Liberty Science Center in April.

Media Center

New fifth graders participated in a fun lesson to learn how the media center is organized. Mrs. Kleinknecht showed students a video she made in order to give students a virtual tour. She paused the video at intervals to check for students' understanding of key concepts. By the end of the lesson, students realized that the signs in the library are like signs on the road directing them where to go. Students checked out books, and Mrs. Kleinknecht can't wait for them to return!

Around the "Horne..."

MUSIC NEWS

In the Music department, the Gold Band is preparing for our winter concert in December. They will be playing several seasonal selections and other well-known band pieces for the enjoyment of parents, students, and the Verona community. Also the Annual Cheesecake Fundraiser is well on its way and all band and chorus members are busy fundraising for the music department. Do not forget to purchase your cheesecakes!

Brooke Cooney sang the national anthem and Catherine Welch sang "God Bless America" for the 9/11 ceremony. What an amazing tribute to mark the remembrance of that day.

Student Council

Student Council Elections for the 2014-2015 school year took place over the past two months of school. Students interested in being potential candidates met with club advisors Mrs. Albano, Ms. Kunkel, and Mrs. Pietruchia.

During the kick off meeting students were given guidelines and criteria to follow in order to run for Class President or Student Council Executive Board. Students had speeches to write, posters and stickers to create and hang, and finally campaigning to do.

On Thursday October 23rd all potential candidates came in front of the entire HBW student body, staff, and parents to give their speech. What a very exciting time, but nervous time as well. The student body then voted electronically in the Media Center in their Social Studies classes.

Congratulations to the following 2014-2015 Student Council Members!
We are looking forward to a wonderful year.

President: **Reilly Hughes**

Vice President: **Alyssa Deo**

Recorder: **Maeve McGinley**

Treasurer: **Jack Duggan**

5th Grade Class President: **Matteo DeVito**

6th Grade Class Presidents: **Jackson Seawright & Renee Schuldiner**

7th Grade Class President: **Christian Dionisio**

8th Grade Class President: **Kate Ashley**

Around the "Horne..."

DREAM TEAM

The **Dream Team** sponsored Christina's Walk for JDRF during the week of October 13th-18th.All students walked during gym class on October 18th. Last year, we raised around $500.00 and would like to raise the same or more this year. We would like to raise awareness as to the concerns and issues involved with JDRF and show school support for of our very own HBW students.

Box Tops for Education was a great success last year. The **Dream Team** raised approximately $1500.00 to be spent on something for our school. We would like to thank all who participated with this program. Again, remember to collect Box Tops throughout the year and bring them to your homeroom teacher.

Red Ribbon was celebrated the week of October 20-24th. Daily themes were posted with regards to supporting a drug and alcohol free environment. Daily participants will be included in a homeroom prize drawing, happening on October 24th. Participation is greatly encouraged.

Soccer Club

All 5-8th grade students are invited to join the soccer club. We meet on Tuesdays from 3-3:45 in the gym or outside, depending on the weather, from October through December. Interested students should see Ms. Heckel for a permission slip.

YEARBOOK

Students have been reading books and Yearbooks are on sale online now for $55 or in school for $60. Yearbooks can be purchased online at www.yearbookforever.com. Prices will increase on November 22. Parent ads are also on sale now. They will be on sale through November 21 and can also be purchased at www.yearbookforever.com.

Around the "Horne..."

HBW Portrait Retake Information

1. Student portraits were passed out in homeroom in early November. If you have any problems with your photos (i.e. wrong package, did not receive your package, etc.) please contact Picture Perfect Photography at 973.751.4800 – do not contact Ms. Heckel or Ms. Rusignuolo – they are unable to assist you with these issues. You can also call Picture Perfect if your child forgot to hand-in their order envelope. You can order photos over the phone with a credit card.

2. Photo retakes are on Wednesday, November 12. Students will be called down by grade starting at 1pm. If students wish to have their photos retaken, they should come down to the auditorium when their grade is called. Individual students will not be called down.

3. Students will only receive complimentary ID cards with their first set of photos. None will be issued with retakes. Lost/misplaced/stolen ID cards will not be replaced.

4. Retake Costs:
   ~ $5 – If you just don't like your pictures and want them retaken.
   YOU MUST BRING YOUR ORIGINAL PHOTOS WITH YOU!
   ~ Free – If there is something wrong with your original photos (i.e. eyes closed, etc.)
   Again, YOU MUST BRING YOUR ORIGINAL PHOTOS WITH YOU!

5. If you did not have your portrait taken on the original photo days, you may have your picture taken on November 12 as well. Extra order forms/envelopes to order portraits are available from Ms. Rusignuolo.

VAA CLUB

All 5th – 8th grade students are invited to join the VAA Club (Verona Athletic Association) with Mrs. Albano and Mrs. Useche. We meet on Wednesdays from 3-3:45 in the gym or outside, depending on the weather, from September through June. This club is a good opportunity for students to make new friends and explore fun athletic activities. Interested students should see Mrs. Albano or Mrs. Useche for a permission slip. Come and join the fun every Wednesday in the gym!!!!

FOOTBALL By Dave Gautieri

On the Field with the Verona Eagles

As the end of the regular season approaches for the Verona Eagles football teams, there is a lot to be excited about. The A Team which is made up of 7th & 8th graders has a 6-1 record and is in first place.

Fall practice at Centennial.
Photo by Dave Gautieri.

The boys have been working hard since mid-August with the goal of winning the Super Bowl. They will be one of the favorites in November when the playoffs begin. The AJV team got off to a great start on the field and has the coaches excited about the prospects for next year.

The B Team is tied for first place with a record of 5-1-1. Like the A Team, they will enter the playoffs as one of the teams with a chance of winning it all. The B Team is made up of 5th & 6th grade players and what is most impressive is the number of boys playing in these two classes. In fact the B Team has so many boys that in addition to the varsity there are two JV teams, Maroon and White. The benefit of having two teams is that all boys get plenty of playing time.

The 2014 season is already a success on all levels as the boys have learned discipline, conditioning, and hard-work. Good luck the rest of the season!

WRESTLING By Sam Zamloot

On the Mat with the Verona Junior Wrestlers

The Verona Junior Wrestling program is now accepting registration forms for the upcoming season. We had some registration sessions in the past few weeks but it's not too late to sign up your child. The program is open to 2nd thru 8th graders who live in Verona and the practices are split between the younger and older kids.

Practices start at the end of November and the season goes to the end of February. We've built the program into one of the top teams in Essex County and we need new wrestlers to continue the tradition.

For more information or a registration form, please contact Sam Zamloot at samzamloot@verizon.net or 973-239-0835.

Verona Junior Wrestling

SOCCER By John Hogan

Verona United Kicks It Up!

This past summer the world event which happens every four years was on stage in Brazil, the FIFA Soccer World Cup, and Verona United's Soccer teams were watching and were excited!

The excitement of the World Cup led to the Summer being filled with nightly practices, getting geared up for the fall season from 14 teams made up of HBW students. The teams which consist of 5th through 8th graders in various age groups (U11Gx2 , U12G, U13G, U14Gx2 & U11Bx3, U12Bx2, U13Bx2, U14B) kicked off the season in early September. Below are some highlights from some of the teams so far:

- **U11 Girls Red Devils– Won the Essex Fall Tune Up Tournament to start the season against teams from our area and have scored the most goals in their division.**
- **U11 Boys Wolverines – Starting the season 3-1-1 after going up a division from last year.**
- **U11 Boys Red Devils sporting ten HBW 5th and 6th graders on its roster, began the fall season in top form by taking 1st place in their season-opening Essex Fall Tune Up Tournament. They're currently 2-1-2, with 5 games remaining in Northern Counties SA league play.**
- **U12 Girls Witches – are building on momentum with the addition of several new players, they take their talents on the road staging as the "Verona Witches" at a Halloween Tournament.**
- **U12 Boys – Venom – are having a successful season after moving up a flight in the competitive Northern Counties League.**
- **U13 Boys –Cobras – Have won two tournaments, Essex Fall Tune Up Tournament and the Monroe-Woodbury Columbus Day Tournament. The boys are presently playing in the A Flight, the highest division in the league, comprised of teams throughout Northern Jersey.**
- **U14 Girls - which includes 13 HBW 8th graders, are playing in the highest division of the Northern Counties League this season. Midway through the season the girls have been very competitive in the majority of their games, and are looking forward to a strong finish to the season.**

The girls and boys will finish up their season in the middle of November and look forward to getting back on the pitch come March/April for spring season. If there is any interest in coming out in the Spring or next Fall please contact the VUSC at Veronaunitedsc@gmail.com.

VBSL Fall Season Update & Upcoming Season

By Manny Triggiano

The fall baseball and softball seasons are winding down, and many of our Verona teams have been competing hard in hopes of winning a championship, but also to have fun and improve their skills for the upcoming 2015 season.

The 12U baseball team, which was made up of 6th and 7th graders, finished their fall season at 7 -4, losing in the finals to West Orange. Despite the final game loss, the team played hard and made great improvements throughout the season, taking a 4-game winning streak into the game. In the semi-finals the team had a thrilling final at-bat, two out come from behind walk-off win after being down by 3 runs.

In Softball, the 12U team just finished its fall season with a record of 13-3-2, playing in two fall tournaments (with a record of 4-0-2) against club and town teams. The team enjoyed fantastic pitching and fielding success, batted a collective .427 and scored 173 runs over those 18 games making for a highly anticipated, promising Spring season. The 14U team came into the fall season after winning their summer league championship. Their strong bats continued and lead them to an undefeated season. They too look forward to continuing their success in the spring.

We hope our winter is much milder than last year, this way we can look forward to an earlier start to spring and getting back on the diamond. Spring travel tryouts will take place on November 14-15 (Softball) and November 22-23 (Baseball). Registration for in-town program will begin on November 21 for both online and in person (also on 11/22). We encourage everyone to sign up and
enjoy what America's past time has to offer.

More information and updates will be available on our website,
www.veronabaseballsoftball.com.

VERONA RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Middle School Program Update!

By Marissa Landolfi

The Verona Recreation Department will be offering Basketball for middle school students for the Fall/ Winter 2014-15 season. These programs include; A Recreation In-Town Basketball League and a Suburban Travel League. Registration for these programs is now in progress.

For the Recreation In-Town League; you must register online or in-person by November 1st or you will be put on a wait list. There is a workout held on November 1st at designated times for each grade group. There will be a late fee of $10 on all of the middle school basketball programs after November 2nd. For more information, please visit our website, www.veronanj.org/recreation.

For the Suburban Travel Basketball League, tryouts were held on Oct. 23, 24 and 25 at designated times for each grade. Teams have already been decided but for more information, please visit our website, www.veronanj.org/recreation.

Stay in the know! Be the first to be notified about upcoming registrations, such as our Winter programs for Middle School Students (Music Theater, Team Adventure, Artist Studio and MORE!) For more information on our Recreation programs and to join our mailing list, please visit our website, www.veronanj.org/recreation.

Also, **NEW** at the Verona Recreation Department, we are now on Facebook!

Visit www.facebook.com/veronarecreation. You can have immediate access to the latest program information, cancellations, town news, registrations and MORE!

SHOP – AND SUPPORT!

It doesn't get much easier!

Two great ways to buy the things you need and support your kids and the Verona Schools!

Sr. Pet Reporter
Roger Emanuilidis

TARGET RedCard

REGISTER YOUR **TARGET** RedCard and earn 1% back for your school, and 5% off for you! Just visit: www.Target.com/tcoe

Click on the Verona school of your choice Once that is done, so are you! Your donations keep coming without any more effort on your part! How great is that?

Last year, only 124 of our approximately 2000 families raised over $2000. Just think what we could do if everyone got involved.

Tell friends and family too.

SHOPAROO

SHOP – SNAP – EARN

Yep, it's that simple!

Shoparoo turns pictures of your everyday shopping receipts into cash donations and sweepstakes entries for your school with this free app.

Get started today:

1. Download the free Shoparoo app
2. Select your school from the list and start taking pictures of your receipts - shop anywhere, buy anything!

There's no limit to how much money we can raise with Shoparoo - the more supporters, the more we will raise for our schools. Check out shoparoo.com to learn more.

Watch for more great options coming soon.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

H.B. WHITEHORNE

2014/15 Key Upcoming Dates...*

November 2014

3rd	Mon	Music Fundraiser Cheesecake Delivery for Grades 5 & 8
4th	Tue	Election Day 1/2 Day SCA Snacks (Everything $1.00) 12:30 Dismissal
5th	Wed	Music Fundraiser Cheesecake Delivery for Grades 6 & 7
6th & 7th	Thu-Fri	School Closed—NJEA Convention
11th	Tue	SCA Meeting @ 7:30 in Library
12th	Wed	Marking Period Ends Picture Retake Day
14th	Fri	7th Grade French Trip
17th	Mon	Report Cards Posted
18th	Tue	12:30 Dismissal Daytime Parent/Teacher Conf.
19th	Wed	12:30 Dismissal Evening Parent/Teacher Conf.
20th	Thu	12:30 Dismissal Daytime Parent/Teacher Conf.
21st	Fri	7th Grade Social in Gym
26th	Wed	12:30 Dismissal Club Pic Day Turkey Trot @ 12:30
27th & 28th	Thu-Fri	Happy Thanksgiving! School Closed

December 2014

4th & 5th	Thu-Fri	In School Holiday Concert
10th	Wed	Holiday Concert @ VHS, 7pm
23rd	Tue	12:30 Dismissal
24th-31st	Wed-Wed	Holiday Break—School Closed

January 2015

1st & 2nd	Thu-Fri	Holiday Break—School Closed
5th	Mon	School Reopens
9th	Fri	5th Grade Social in Gym
14th	Wed	SCA Meeting @ 7:30 in Library
19th	Mon	MLK Day—School Closed
30th	Fri	Marking Period Ends 6th Grade Social in Gym

*Dates subject to change.

Contact Us:
Have an HBW-related story, announcement or just some fun pictures you would like to submit for consideration? Email to Kathy Emanuilidis at hbwnewsletter@gmail.com.

Note: The H.B. Whitehorne SCA Newsletter is a three-time a year e-publication with Fall, Winter, Spring/Summer frequency and intended exclusively for the H.B. Whitehorne family.