

Holland's Got Heart

By: Addison Simini

This school year Holland Township School students have been participating in events that are helping raise money & awareness for the American Heart Association & for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. (CHOP)

On December 1st, HTS students wore pajamas to school as a fun way to fundraise for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia!

Money donations were optional. However, that didn't stop HTS families from rallying together to raise money for a great cause. All money fundraised went directly to the CHILD LIFE department at CHOP.

"For CHOP Pajama Day, HTS raised just over \$2,300! Our goal was to raise \$500, which would be a dollar for each student at the school, so I was very impressed with how much we were able to raise for a single day event," said Mrs. Alberalla, who organized the event.

Heart awareness is extremely important to Mrs. Alberalla because her daughter Tenlee was born with an extremely rare heart defect known as Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome.

"She was inpatient from the time she was born until she was 6 months old. Since then, she has had countless hospital stays. However, today she is doing very well, plays countless sports, and even attends preschool here at HTS," Mrs. Alberalla said.



Mrs. Alberalla seen with daughter Tenlee during an event for the American Heart Association.

Kids Heart Challenge at Holland Township School

This February, Holland Township School also participated in the Kids Heart Challenge.

"Our goal is to educate others about kids like Tenlee who have special hearts, and raise money to further research to give a brighter future to our heart warriors. It is very important to teach kids who do have healthy hearts, how to keep their hearts healthy. What a great event to involve the entire school, and community! Our fundraising goal is \$5,000 and I am more than confident we can achieve that goal," Mrs. Alberalla stated.

During the spirit week, students were encouraged to wear certain colors to school to promote different ways to keep your heart healthy. Student participation was very strong during this week. HTS did an amazing job coming together for an important cause.

Holland Herald

Students Create Memories at Winter Formal

By: Nora Dushinka

This year, Holland Township's Student Council hosted the annual Winter formal.

The dance was held on Friday, December 15th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Winter Formal is not just your stereotypical dance.

"The winter formal is special and different from other dances because students are able to dress in a more formal and fancy attire if they choose to. Many students enjoy getting dressed up. We also serve pizza at the winter formal, which we typically do not do at other dances. We have a photo booth set up at this dance as well. Mr. Kries runs the photo booth for us. Students can choose different festive backgrounds and take pictures with seasonal props. Students get to take these photos home with them as keepsakes from the dance," said Student Council Advisor, Mrs. Leap.

The Winter Formal is one dance that does not hand out prizes, but there are many other chances to win them at other dances.

90 students total attended to evidently have the time of their lives, busting some sweet moves on the dance floor and taking a break from everything else for a couple of hours to truly enjoy teenage years.

The Student Council had a great turnout. They were able to raise a total of \$800 dollars for their organization.

Band and Chorus Perform Holiday Hits

By: Maximo Badolato

Every year, the band and chorus hold their winter concert in December.

This year, the band and chorus performed at two locations, the Holland Township School and Whispering Pines in Milford, NJ.

The band performed two songs, Jingle Bells and Up on the Housetop.

Not only did the band perform, but the chorus also performed Hanukkah Shalom, Almost Christmas, In This House Tonight, and Christmas Time is Here.

The band ranges from 5th to 8th grade. In order to prepare the newcomers, there is a separate rehearsal for the 5th grade only.

The band is a great way to get involved for people who are interested in playing music and an instrument.

Not only does the band perform in the winter, but they also are planning to perform later this year for their annual spring concert.

Come Join Us!

The Newsletter Club is still looking for a few more students to join our club to help tell the story of Holland Township School. Students who are interested will have the opportunity to report on stories that take place at HTS and see their articles printed in our next edition. Interested students should email Mr. Horak as soon as possible. Only a select few positions are available.



Student Council

Student Council Hosts Bingo Night!



By: Ava Cwynar

HTS's annual Bingo Night was hosted on January 12, 2024. 75 students attended, across 3 grade levels! These grade levels are 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The largest group was fifth grade, which had 32 students attend!

"Bingo night was a blast!" is what many 3rd-5th graders have been saying.

There were many winners and many prizes were handed out. One of the winners was 4th grade student, Mollie G.

"I was excited because I don't usually win at Bingo," Mollie G said.

Mollie G was most excited about winning her sketchbook and colored pencils.

There were even more prizes, these included smores kits, journals, acrylic paint set and canvas, candy, Mezza Luna gift cards, and squishy stress balls.

"We like to hand out prizes that our students can use and enjoy," said Student Council Advisor, Mrs Leap.

This year was also Holland's fourth Bingo Night!

The spring of 2021 was the first time we had a Bingo Night, which was held virtually. "We had many students participate online and decided to hold the event in person in the spring of 2021," Mrs Leap said.

"We felt it was so successful because our students were having so much fun, which is the most important part!"

The bingo night has also helped the student council to raise \$375 for future events! This includes the paint night and the middle school spring dance. The paint night will be on February 2nd for grades 2nd to 3rd.

The Holland Herald



New Year, New Me: How Setting Goals at the Start of the Year Can Help Students Achieve Success!

By: Addison Simini

Every New Year the popular thing to do is to set a New Year's resolution. A New Year's resolution is a goal that helps people change their lifestyle for the better.

According to Forbeshealth.com, the top three New Year resolutions are to improve fitness, improve finances, and improve mental health.

The average person gives up on their resolution 2 weeks in. The second Friday in January is known as "the quitters" day.

CNN says that the best way to make a New Year's resolution is to limit the number of resolutions you make, do research, give yourself rewards along the way, and get a buddy to follow the resolution with you.

Mrs. Deniz, an elementary counselor at HTS, states that "setting goals for the new year will help people improve their lives and feel great about themselves."

The people who have the most success in sustaining a New Year's resolution often take it step by step.

According to Mrs. Deniz, the following steps are essential to achieving your goal.

Step one: reflect upon things you would like to improve in your life.

Step two: set small achievable goals.

Step three: make small changes each day to achieve goals.

If you're one that did not set a New Year resolution it is not too late to set a goal.

"I think the start of each new day brings a new opportunity to think about where a person is and where they would like to be in the future," Mrs. Deniz said.

Whether you are setting New Year's resolutions in January or deciding to undertake a new challenge on the fly, setting goals can help people improve their daily lives.

Drama

Elementary Students Start New Era for HTS Drama Club



The Holland Township School Drama Club put on a spectacular musical called *Pajama Party* on February 9th.

The show featured many songs and was based on the various events that children go through when they are getting ready for bedtime.

A total of 39 students participated in the musical. The students involved ranged from preschool through second grade.

In years past the drama club was only open to students at the middle school level. Now, students of all ages will have the opportunity to take part in the drama club and showcase their acting skills.

Pajama Party also is the first show under the leadership of Mr. Bigelli, who is in his first year as a teacher and as the drama club director here at HTS.

"We wanted to create an opportunity for children to feel comfortable performing in front of their peers and audiences, but also have them understand what it takes to put on a show," said Mr. Bigelli. "Another reason for the program was to create a feeder program into our next Junior program, which consists of students in Third through Fifth Grade."

If you enjoyed the *Pajama Party* performance you are in luck. The HTS Drama Club plans to make its next performance in April!

"We are very excited that we have the opportunity to bring acting to the students in the elementary school," said Mr. Bigelli. "We hope the audience enjoys the production so much that they come out to see our Juniors program present *Finding Nemo* on April 18 and 19."

Holland School isn't the only place you can watch the drama club perform. On March 24th, HTS Drama Club will perform a musical selection on the ice at a Lehigh Valley Phantoms game at the PPL Center.

**HTS DRAMA CLUB
TAKES OVER THE
LEHIGH VALLEY
PHANTOMS**

**JOIN THE HTS DRAMA CLUB AT THE LEHIGH VALLEY
PHANTOMS GAME ON SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024
THEY WILL BE PERFORMING A MUSICAL SELECTION ON THE ICE
AT THE END OF THE 1ST QUARTER.
TO PURCHASE TICKETS, SCAN THE QR CODE!**

**PROCEEDS FROM TICKET SALES WILL GO BACK TO THE HTS
DRAMA CLUB TO HELP WITH FUTURE PRODUCTIONS!**

Sports

Boys Basketball Wins Double Digit Games

The 2024 HTS Boys Basketball team had a very successful season. The team fought hard and worked together to win a total of 11 games!

One of the biggest reasons for the team's success was the players attitude on and off the court according to first year head coach Kathy Harvey.

"These 20 boys were always receptive to my coaching and were excellent young men to coach. I never had an issue with them and they were very respectful," Coach Harvey said.

The team also showed determination and grit when faced with difficult situations according to their coach.

"The dedication of all the 8th graders this year was phenomenal. Many of them played sick so they didn't leave our team short," Coach Harvey stated.

One of those eighth graders was Chase K, who was a standout on the team.

"Chase K is a dominant player. He is a triple threat with dribbling, passing and scoring whether on a drive, inside reverse shot or his famous 3 pointers," Coach Harvey said.

The team also got big performances from eighth graders Corey H, Chase H, Travis M, Dyllan S, and Michael T.

Although, HTS is losing a lot of production from the eighth grade class, Coach Harvey believes Warrior fans should be optimistic about the future of the team.

"We will lose our top 6 players to the high school next year but have a good crew of 7th and 6th graders coming up," Coach Harvey stated. "Diego and Michael H had some great play on the A team this year. I think we will do just fine!"

The HTS Boys will finish their season this week at the Del Val Basketball Tournament.



Girls Basketball Nearly Perfect in 2024

The 2024 HTS Girls Basketball team had an amazing season. The team put together an impressive 11-1 regular season record.

"We had a great season this year! Our Holland girls came ready to fight each and every game," said Head Basketball Coach, Mrs. Raulf.

Rylee H and Quinn W led the Warriors in scoring this season. Taylor F and Madison F also had productive seasons with their rebounding skills and ability to score baskets.

One of the identities of the team was their ability to hustle down the court and the pace that the team played with.

"The whole team put in so much effort and worked really hard to earn such a great record for the season. I love the hustle they had- diving on the floor for basketballs as well as the energy and love for the sport. I really am proud of both the A and B team," Coach Raulf stated.

As impressive as this season was, Coach Raulf believes the next year could be another special year for the Warriors.

"The future for HTS basketball looks great! We have a lot of upcoming talented players who are working on building their skills and improving with every practice. This is only my third year coaching and can't wait to see what is in store for years to come," said Coach Raulf.

The girls will cap off their season at the Del Val Tournament this week, where they hope to finish on a winning note.

Holland Herald



4th graders help collect food for NORWESCAP Food Drive.

HTS Helps Fight Hunger

By: Addison Simini, Cali Travers, Nora Dushinka, Maximo Badolato, Ava Cwynar

This November, the fourth grade held their annual food drive. The grade level has run the food collection for over 20 years! NORWESCAP is a non-profit organization that provides services to the counties of Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren.

All items received are donated to the NORWESCAP Food Bank in Phillipsburg, NJ. This helps provide food for local food pantries around the area. Holland students were encouraged to donate non-perishable food items for the drive.

Grades preschool through eighth donated 1,304 pounds of food! Mrs. Croasdale's fourth grade class raised the most, with a total of 191 pounds of food donated!

Aside from food donations, monetary donations were collected as well. This year the grade level received \$105 dollars to go towards helping fight hunger. For every dollar donated 14 pounds of food can be purchased by NORWESCAP through the federal government. This means NORWESCAP can purchase 1,470 pounds of food to help people in need.

The fourth graders had to put a lot of time and effort into running the event.

"The fourth graders were responsible for collecting the cans, sorting the food, making posters to promote the drive and weighing the food at the end," said fourth grade teacher, Mr. Horak. "This year was cool because we were able to tie in the lessons that we learned in the novel Crenshaw and apply it to the food drive."

Thanks to everyone's generosity at HTS, local families in need won't have to worry about going hungry.