



The New Middle School
 403 Heights Boulevard
 Houston, Texas 77007
 713-802-1256
 Diane Manning, PhD.
 Director
 Arthur J. Farley,
 M.D.
 Clinical Director
 Debbie Tate-Coffen
 Curriculum Coordinator
 Jeanette Salinas
 Teacher
 Kim Wright
 Teacher
 Craig Gantt
 Teacher
The New Middle School provides an alternative educational experience and social-emotional support for bright children.

Newspaper Staff

Amanda
 Andrew
 Char Del
 Christopher
 Corey
 Grant
 Jacob
 Joel
 Katie
 Laura
 Lauren
 Matthew A.
 Matthew C
 Noah
 Rachel
 Robert
 Taylor

School News

The Laptops Have Landed

By Corey

New Middle School students are getting laptops to help with research, class projects, as well as every day class work. This is good because now students have something they can use instead of textbooks, which are old and boring. Instead of lugging around a billion different textbooks, they can now just carry one textbook-like object.

Of course, there will be restrictions so that the students do not abuse this privilege. If the students prove they can handle this responsibility, they will get to use their laptops for interesting extracurricular projects.

For NMS students the future of learning has arrived!

NMS Helps Those in Need

By Taylor

Students are going to be making cards for those who are less fortunate. The students will design and create the cards for holidays and occasions throughout the year and Volunteer Houston will distribute them to those in need.

NMS will also be collecting children's story books and small Walkman Cassette Players. Students will then read and record these stories on tape. They will then put these items in gift bags with cards for kids in the hospital.

It makes me glad to say that what the NMS students are doing is going to give hope and faith to those who need it most.



Poetic School Days School

By Char Del

School is a place to learn
 Come see how you learn, but still have fun
 Homework is a pain
 Out you go for your favorite holiday
 Out you go to the next grade
 Love the school you are in!

School

By Jacob

Safe
 Cool
 Happy
 Outstanding
 Outstanding and terrific
 Likes to see us think!

Arts in the Afternoon

By Amanda

Looking for something fun to do after school? Why not join "Arts in the Afternoon" at NMS? "Arts in the Afternoon" is a great time to hang out with your friends while doing super cool activities like music, arts & crafts and cooking! Students will get to sing and plan musical parties with fun themes. Kids will also get to use lots of great art materials like watercolors, paints and clay. You will learn about famous artists and even get to be in an art show! Something new this year is photography. Kids with Cameras will let students use cameras to learn a whole new art form and even create a school yearbook. Let's not forget culinary arts, the art of cooking. Kids will create interesting recipes and this is art you can eat!

So, join your friends this year for a fun after-school experience. Just see Ms. Debbie if you want more information.

Features



Girl Talk

By Char Del

Debbie Allen is a TV and dance icon! She has starred in the hit movie and TV show *Fame*. She has also done other shows including guests appearances on *The Cosby Show* in which her sister Phylicia Rashad starred as Clair Huxtable. Her other talents include producing, directing and writing. She has written several touching children's stories such as *Dancing in the Wings* about an awkward girl who dreams of being a dancer.

Debbie Allen was born in Houston, Texas where her father was a successful dentist. She attended the prestigious college, Howard University. She is a multi-talented and busy woman but she still makes time to give back to the community in many charitable ways.

She gives me hope because of all her achievements. So, I think she is an inspiration to girls today.

Video Games Destroy More Than You Think

By Joel

Parents often think that video games are overplayed by their children or even destroying their brains! But doctors have recently found that video games are successfully destroying something... anxiety in children staying in hospitals.

Doctors observe that patients who play handheld games in the hospital have less stress about their time there. By focusing on the games they seem to even experience less pain during long and sometimes painful procedures in the treatment of kidney failure and cancer.

A test program called HOPE (Hospital-based Online Pediatric Environment) at Johns Hopkins Children's Center in Baltimore, Maryland allows kids to play online sports and games with other patients. A long-term goal is to get kids connected with other patients in hospitals undergoing the same treatments. Dr. Arun Matthews heads the program and also loves video games! It was his idea to connect kids throughout the country.

Researchers are even having young kids fighting big diseases design video games that kill the disease they have! Maybe the cure to childhood diseases is in the palm of our hands!

Horsing Around

By Laura

A long flowing mane that glistens in the sun, black sleek coat...oh what do you know? That must be a horse! There are many different breeds of horses. One of my favorites is the Friesians. Friesians in a way look a lot like Clydesdales. They have more hair on their ankles than most horses. That's what makes Friesians so distinctive.

The personalities of most horses are unique. No horse has the same one. Some can be very friendly or some not so friendly. The moods of a horse can change dramatically. If a horse sees something it doesn't like, such as in another horse, its ears will go back. If a horse is high tailed it usually means it's excited or it's a school dressage horse.

Dressage is a sport much different than most sports. Dressage is where the rider and horse are judged on how well they can communicate with each other.

Well, now you are horse experts! Join me next time for more horse fun!

Editorials/Opinions

**The Start of School:
Amazing, or the Worst Thing Ever?**

By Rachel

Starting school is not exciting for some kids and very exciting for others. So why does the end of the lazy days of summer get kids down?

Well, for starters, kids have to learn to like the little invention called the alarm clock. Next, they have to understand that 6:30 in the morning is not too early to get up. Also, the kids have to try to “enjoy” the horrors of homework.

But what is it that makes kids enjoy the first day of school? Maybe it’s the fact that they are moving up in grades and they are getting closer to finishing school forever! Maybe it’s that they like to see their friends again. What makes them like it? Nobody knows....

Should Harry Be Killed?

By Christopher

J. K. Rowlings has been thinking about killing Harry Potter for years. I don’t know why she’s thinking that. I think it’s crazy! I think he should stay alive and it’s weird because he is going to die sometime.

I would really like him to stay alive so there can be more books!

Science

Aurora Aircraft

By Matthew C.

Aurora is an aircraft that is rumored to go at hypersonic speeds (Mach 6t). The first evidence for its existence was in the fiscal year 1986 procurement program document. A line item in this document, labeled “Aurora” was slated to receive \$80 million in 1986, and over \$2.2 billion in 1987. Because this appeared next to the line funding the TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft, people began to believe that a secret aircraft was being developed to replace the SR-71. The Air Force denied the existence of a secret program and said the “Aurora” budget line was simply one site for B-2 bomber funds when that program was classified. One Air Force official commented, “I wish I could say it is a SR-71 follow-on, because we’d love to have it. But it’s just accounting, I’m afraid.”

**Try This At Home
A Science Experiment**

By Grant and Noah

Airplane Mentos

What You Need:

1. Paper
2. Mentos Mints
3. A small plastic bottle
4. A carbonated drink
5. Duct tap
6. Drill

Directions:

1. Make a paper airplane.
2. Attach the paper airplane to the bottle sideways with duct tape.
3. Place the bottle on the ground with the hole of the bottle facing up.
4. Put the carbonated drink in the bottle half full. Then put the top back on the bottle.
5. Then drill a small hole in the cap of the bottle.
6. Then unscrew the cap and put one Mentos in the bottle and quickly screw the cap back on and quickly throw the bottle.
7. The contraption will take off fueled by the carbonated drink and Mentos!

Sports

Astros “BARC” in Action

By Katie

The Houston Astros recently posed for pictures with their pets to create a 2007 pet calendar.

The very talented Evin Thayer donated his time to photograph the championship players and their furry companions, as well as animals up for adoption at BARC, a local organization that helps animals.

Proceeds from the sale of the calendars will go to Saving Animals Across Borders which has saved over 30,000 dogs and cats this year. BARC has teamed up with this organization to continue the effort of helping animals.

The Astros are not new to helping the community. The Astros in Action Foundation has been “Fielding the Dreams of Houston” since 2000.

The Astros Pet Calendar will be available throughout Houston. For more information visit www.savinganimals.org



**In The Kitchen
with Jacob
Banana Vanilla
Smoothie**

Ingredients:

- 1 Cup of All Spice
- 2 Bananas
- 1 Teaspoon of Pure Vanilla Extract
- 2 Cups of Milk

Directions:

- Get a blender.
- Then add ice if you want.
- Slice the bananas.
- Put all the ingredients in the blender.
- Then blend all together.
- Enjoy!

Arts and Entertainment

How To Eat Fried Worms

By Robert

Coming out August 25th is the movie of the somewhat gross book by Thomas Rockwell, *How To Eat Fried Worms*. This tells the story of an eleven year old boy named Billy whose big mouth leads him into a bet with the bully of his new school on his first day of school. Unfortunately for him the bet requires him to eat ten worms in one day!

This movie is rated pg and is a comedy. So, if you’re looking for a good, gross, movie...*How To Eat Fried Worms* is the movie for you. To me this movie looks like a good family film and I would recommend seeing it because I read the book and it looks like it will be just as good!



Pirates of the Caribbean

By Matthew A.

Aarrg! Look mates what’s out on the port bow. It’s the movie *Pirates of the Caribbean Dead Man’s Chest*. Jack Sparrow and his crew are back in the action packed movie. This time they are fighting the Kracken and Davy Jones. They try to find the chest that contains the heart of Davy Jones. So, all you Pirates better go see this treasure movie before they take it away like the pirates they are. “Shiver Me Timbers!”



Comic
By
Lauren

