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The New Middle School provides an alternative educational experience and social-emotional support for bright children.

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School News



We Are the World

By Robert

While other schools were having holiday parties, NMS students were enjoying sights, smells and tastes of The International Fair. The event was hosted by the NMS students who took their parents on a trip around the world in one day. Each parent got a wonderful International Cookbook of all the recipes from the fair to take with them as a special gift.

Parents who attended the fair had this to say:
"The atmosphere was informative."
"The food was fantastic!"
"The projects were well done."

The International Fair, which was a social studies project led by Ms. Jeanette, allowed students to learn about other countries through research and interesting activities. It was great to see everyone's hard work come together in such a fun way.

School is Where the Heart Is

By Kathleen

I went to four schools before I came to The New Middle School. I never liked my old schools because the other students were bullies and I never felt comfortable.

This year I came to The New School, and I feel like I have a new chance. The teachers are the best because they are nice and they help you with your work. One of my favorite subjects is Newspaper. I like it because it is a way to express my thoughts and write about interesting things.

The after-school program has many fun activities like art where I learned to be a better artist. I love cooking cool recipes with my friends in Kids Cuisine on Fridays.

Most of all, I like all my classmates because they help me deal with my frustrations and handle my problems.



News

Looking Back and Moving Forward

By Christopher

Houston experienced many highs and lows in the year gone by, but it was certainly a year to remember.

How could anyone forget Hurricane Katrina which devastated the city of New Orleans and sent thousands to Houston? Houstonians took in their neighbors from the east, only to be threatened by Hurricane Rita soon afterwards in one of the harshest hurricane seasons ever recorded.

Houston's own Destiny's Child decided to part ways. We also said goodbye to our beloved Astroworld when it closed its doors forever after 37 years of fun!

Houston, we had a World Series! Yes, the Houston Astros went to their first ever World Series. Although they fell short of a championship, the city enjoyed a great baseball season!

The most extraordinary thing about 2005 had to be the way Houstonians helped the victims of Hurricane Katrina. They opened their hearts and their wallets, proving that Houston is one of the greatest cities with the greatest people.

So we say goodbye to 2005, but we look forward to an even better 2006!

Culture

Houston Hails A Hero

By Corey H.

Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream. He dreamed that one day the people of the world would be united in peace. Unfortunately he did not live to see his vision come true. It is up to individuals to make his dream come a reality. By solving problems peacefully and not resorting to violence, we can get closer to the goal that Dr. King worked so hard to achieve in his lifetime.

This month as we celebrate MLK day, there are several events happening in Houston commemorating the late civil rights leader. The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Day Parade takes place on Monday, January 16th in Downtown Houston starting at 10:00 a.m.

The Children's Museum of Houston has an event titled Celebrate a Legacy and a Leader. The event includes arts and crafts, story time and a March & Freedom Rally. Admission is reduced to \$3 per person for the day.

We Have a Dream Too

By Corey J. & Brianna

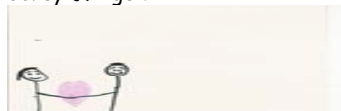
"I have a Dream that everyone had what they need and want and that there will be peace in the world."

Brianna age 7



"I have a dream that there will be peace on earth and that people will get along and have food."

Corey J. Age 7



Features

New Year's Resolutions Promises To Be Kept or Promises To Forget

By Corey H.

Most people head into the New Year like Garfield®, promising to eat less, lose weight, and be nicer. These are often referred to as New Year's Resolutions. Millions of people each year make promises to themselves to be overall better people, and the New Year is an excuse for a new beginning. Unfortunately, few stick to their goals. Perhaps this is because of all the pressure of a new year. Maybe it would be better for people to have healthy habits all year round instead of slacking and trying to make up for their unhealthy habits in January. Why is it so hard to be nice and healthy all year...because cake tastes better than broccoli, and it is easier to be passive than to always be nice to others.

So this year don't put so much pressure on yourself, nobody's perfect, and good enough is its own kind of perfect.

Curiosity Gets the Cat a Trip to France

By Robert

Emily the adventurous tabby cat snuck away from her home and into an office supply company where she ended up in a box that was shipped to France. She was found there and her owners were contacted thanks to her collar which contained information about her home. After a month away from her owners she got a free ride home business class. Besides missing French cat cuisine, she is happy to be home.



Arts & Entertainment

Happy Birthday Elvis!

By Taylor

Elvis Aaron Presley was born on January 8, 1935. Although he died in 1977 people all over the world still celebrate his birthday each year. Elvis is considered the king of rock roll for his unique sound and his electrifying stage performances which changed music forever! His career included singing, acting, wring songs, and TV appearances. He was also famous for his generosity, showering friends and family with expensive gifts and donating money to a variety of charitable causes. Elvis changed our world and paved the way for future generations. He is remembered fondly and honored for his many talents. So this January light a candle and make a wish for the King:

Happy Birthday-Elvis!



Rock & “Joel”

By Joel

U2 front man Bono has been named one of Time Magazines Persons of the Year. Bono, whose real name is Paul, shares the prestigious position with Microsoft Chief Bill Gates and his wife Melinda, all for their charitable efforts. Bono convinced Industrial nations to forgive 40 billion dollars in debts incurred by developing countries. The magazine states that Bono is charming and witty. Among those singing Bono’s praises is retired US Senator Jesse Helms, a conservative who developed a friendship with Bono because he is “genuine.” Bono proves that with great fortune comes great responsibility and giving back really rocks!



Bono with fellow recipients Bill & Melinda Gates

Sports

Yao Ming

By Jake

Houston Rocket Yao Ming is much more than a remarkable basketball player. In fact, he considers himself an explorer and a pioneer. A native of China, he came to America and joined the NBA in 2003 and had one of the most exciting rookie years in NBA history.

Yao has many hobbies outside of basketball, but one of his favorite things to do is eat his mom’s hearty Chinese meals. Now anyone can enjoy Yao’s mother’s cooking at his parent’s restaurant which is interestingly called Yao Restaurant & Bar. Located in west Houston, it features some of his mother’s specialties, including Yao’s favorite chicken soup with shitake mushrooms.

So, if you feel like having a taste of China, stop by and have a bite. You never know when you might see Yao having a snack.



Yao dunks a shot!

It’s Good To Be Young

By Joel

Vince Young led the Texas Longhorns to their first Rose Bowl victory since 1969. The Longhorns were trailing the top ranked Trojans when the UT quarterback ran for an 8-yard touchdown with only 19 seconds left in the game. The incredible play left the Trojans stunned and ignited excitement in Texas fans everywhere! “It’s so beautiful.” Young said as he received the MVP crystal. “Don’t you think that’s beautiful? It’s coming home all the way to Austin, Texas.”

Texas is no longer second to Southern California. I guess it’s true you “Don’t Mess With Texas!”



Vince Young holds up his MVP Crystal Football

Smart Art

Let It Snow!

By Jacob

December 24, 2004 was a typical winter day in Houston. It was Christmas Eve and people were in the holiday spirit, but something started falling from the sky, and to everyone’s surprise, it was snowing! The snow was beautiful. It was a miracle, there was enough snow to have a snowball fight.

This winter is much warmer. Instead of wearing coats and scarves we are wearing t-shirts and shorts! Although it is warm, you can still experience a winter wonderland by creating paper snowflakes. Here is how:

1. Fold a piece of paper diagonally.
2. Trim the edge until you have an even triangle.
3. Fold the triangle in half and trim it.
4. Cut any shapes into your triangle.
5. Unfold and you have a beautiful snowflake!



Science

Black Holes

By Matthew C.

Black holes are formed when collapsed stars become so dense that the gravitational field exerted by it is so strong that anything which falls into it can’t possibly get out. Once something gets sucked into a black hole, it gets crushed to a size relative to the mass of the object. For example, Earth and everything on it would be crushed to 0.7 inches if it was sucked into a black hole.

Editorial

Pizza...Junk Food?

By Corey

For years people have considered pizza a bad junk food of terror and artery clogging evil. But is it the terrible food people believe? It doesn’t have to be. High fat cheeses, sausage, pepperoni, white flour crusts and cream sauces are some of the things that make pizza an unhealthy food choice, but some simple substitutions can change pizza from fat to fab!

You can start with a whole wheat crust, and then top it with tomato based sauce, low fat cheeses, lean meats like turkey sausage and chicken and add a variety of vegetables and you have one tasty and healthy treat.

Therefore, is pizza junk food, or is it the health food of the future?

Girl Talk



The Amazing Life of Helen Keller

By Kathleen

Imagine a world of darkness and silence... this was the world of Helen Keller. When she was 19 months old she became ill and lost both her hearing and sight at the same time. She became a very frustrated child and that is when her parents hired Anne Sullivan to help her.

Anne Sullivan was a strict teacher, but Helen was able to learn from her. She quickly learned how to spell words with her hands. The words meant little to Helen until Anne held her hand under the water and Helen began to better understand the world around her.

From then on Helen loved learning. She learned to read French, German, and Latin in Braille. When she was 20 years old she began Radcliff College. She went on to write over 10 books and many more articles. She traveled the world giving speeches and raising money for the blind. She inspired all kinds of people around the world as well as two oscar-winning movies. She received many awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor an American civilian can receive.

Helen Keller died in her sleep in 1968, but her spirit lives on. She was an exceptional woman who proved that anyone can succeed!