



The New Middle School  
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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

### NMS Plays The Market and Comes Out On Top

By Robert

NMS students are really “invested” in a new school subject...economics! This subject has students learning all about the stock market. This is a nation-wide project with 130 schools participating. A requirement for the game is teamwork. There are 1,380 teams nationally, and NMS students ranked 23rd of all the teams involved in the game. Making NMS in the top 2 percent of the 1,380 teams.

Ms. Jeanette introduced students to the Stock Market Game in January. She felt this would be a good way for students to work as a team and learn about money. The game consists of researching, and picking stocks, and following their progress.

The best stock has been Sony, and the worst has been Game Stop. The students have enjoyed the game because it’s just like real life, and it’s fun to make decisions and work with your classmates.

### A Special Thanks

By Robert

Well, the new building is really starting to come together thanks to the addition of some much needed furniture. The furnishings came from a local store called Alabama Furniture located at 2200 Yale, zip code 77008. The owners are Rion and Cheri Enroth. Dr. Manning chose Alabama furniture because they have very good furniture at very good prices, and she likes to support Heights’ businesses. When asked if she’d shopped there before, Dr. Manning said, “Almost all the furniture in the school is from there.” I also asked her what style of furniture she was looking for and she stated, “I tried to get furniture that looked like the era of when the house was built.

There’s more good news, Alabama Furniture has opened a new location at 2625 Tarbach, zip code 77092.

So NMS wants to send out a special thank you to Rion and Cheri Enroth and Alabama Furniture for contributing to the growth of our great school.



### Arts in the Afternoon

#### Art Show

By Matthew A.

This month Arts in the Afternoon students hosted an Art Show which gave them a chance to show family and friends some of the great artwork they created throughout the year.

Students prepared for the Art Show by creating invitations, painting tablecloths, making centerpieces, decorating cups, and plates and even cooking recipes from their after-school cooking class Kids’ Cuisine.

Friends and family were invited to see all their beautiful artwork. Each student also did creative projects on different artists they read and learned about.

The Art Show was a real work of heart!



Arts in the Afternoon students creating works of art

### Young at Art

Here are two masterpieces from the Arts in the Afternoon Art Show



“Color Collage”  
By Brianna Age 7



“Starry Night”  
By Corey J. Age 7

### Summer

By Corey H.



## NMS Theme Park ADVENTURE



**8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. daily**  
**May 30-July 21, 2006**

Astroworld is gone (everybody bow your head in unison) but wait! What’s that...? A sparkle of hope...yes! The New Middle School will be hosting several famous Astroworld roller coaster related attractions. All students aged 6-13 are welcome to come enjoy this tribute while sharpening their minds. So far I got info on 5 attractions:

1. **Mind Benders**-Students will design structures and build a virtual roller coaster.
2. **Lost World Adventure**- Students will learn about creatures of the past.
3. **“Greece” Lightning**-Ancient and modern Greece will be explored through several hands-on activities.
4. **Looping Starship**- Students will go on a space adventure.
5. **Excalibur**-students will team up for team sports and games

There will be several prerequisite activities to keep math and reading skills sharp. This may not even be all! Details were exposed on possible Texas Cyclone and Viper related attractions. Astroworld may be gone, but its legacy will live forever in educational roller coaster related attractions.

So grab your tickets and don’t miss all the fun this summer. It’s going to be great ride!

**Editorials**

**Oil... When Will It Be Enough?**

By Joel

Oil... the very name sends thoughts like hazardous to the ecosystem, harmful to plants, and animals, and fuel for cars. The concern is that all this oil consumption is causing global warming.

Some Americans are turning to alternatives like powering their homes with solar energy, and buying hybrid cars, which are becoming more popular. The fact is we will probably never really run out of oil, but the cost of using oil is getting higher on our wallets, and our planet.

One country that is making a positive change is Sweden. They are taking the biggest energy step of any advanced Western economy by trying to stop using oil completely within fifteen years without building a new generation of nuclear power stations.

A group of industrialists, academics, farmers, car makers, and others are planning to help the country become practically oil free. They will be reporting to parliament in a matter of months with their progress.

The Swedish government's goal is to replace all fossil fuels with renewables.

"Our dependency on oil should be broken by 2020," Said Mona Sahlin, minister of sustainable development. "There shall always be better alternatives to oil, which means no house should need oil for heating, and no driver should have to turn solely to gasoline."

Oil prices have hit Sweden hard, and they are responding with this ambitious idea of becoming mentally, and technically prepared for a world without oil.

Sweden will be joining Iceland, and Brazil who also hope to use less oil in the future.

So, there are alternatives to oil, and even our own president, George W. Bush has expressed that the US is addicted to oil, and should greatly reduce imports to the Middle East.

**Do Dogs Make Good Pets?**

By Taylor

I am a dog owner and it is hard, but fun! I have to walk my dog seven times or more a day. I feed her two times each day, and when I have some free time I bond with her! I love my dog and I think dogs make great pets!

**Sports**

**Craig Biggio**

By Jake

Craig Biggio was drafted by the Astros in 1987 and has been on the team his entire career, and what a career it has been!

Biggio is a speedy runner, and is very good at stealing bases. He started as a catcher, but his team convinced him to change to second base. He led the majors in runs scored in 1995 and 1997. By the end of the 2005 season, Biggio had 2,795 hits, 604 doubles, 260 home runs, 1,063 RBIs, and 407 stolen bases. He is one of the famous "Killer Bs."

He is rated the 4<sup>th</sup> best second baseman of all time, and the 35<sup>th</sup> best player of all time. On October 25, 2005, Biggio became the first Astros player to hit and score a run in a World Series home game.

This loyal Astro is destined for the Hall of Fame, and as the 2006 baseball season begins, he's likely to lead our team to another World Series!



**Cheerleading**

By Taylor

Cheerleading is becoming more popular than ever, and is also receiving more attention than ever. Once thought of as an unimportant "girl" activity it is now respected as a highly athletic, sport for girls and boys alike.

The sport requires a great deal of skill. Cheerleaders must perform risky stunts that require flexibility, balance, and gymnastics skills.

The sport has become increasingly competitive over the years and the stunts have become more dangerous. This has given the sport a reputation that is not exactly true. That is that cheerleaders get hurt more often than other athletes.

Cheerleading accidents are not nearly as frequent or fatal like many other sports such as football, which is responsible for more than 250,000 head injuries in the United States.

So when you think of cheerleading, think of the many hours the athletes spend perfecting their skills as well as cheering their teams to victory!

**Science**

**Toilet Water**

By Christopher

Next time you go to your local fast-food restaurant, you may want to order your drink without ice. According to twelve-year-old Jasmine Roberts, the ice in restaurants was dirtier than the toilet water.

For a science project she decided to take ice samples from five fast-food restaurants in South Florida. She collected toilet water samples from the same restaurant. She placed both in sterile containers and took them to the University of Southern Florida where she volunteers to get the samples tested for bacteria. They uncovered one dirty discovery! Four out of five restaurants tested had more bacteria in the ice than in the toilet water.

Jasmine believes that the reason for this is that employees do not wash their hands, and then scoop ice with their dirty hands. Toilets, on the other hand are supplied with sanitized city water.

When she told the restaurants her findings, they told her they planned to make some improvements in cleanliness!

So the next time you order a drink from your favorite fast-food establishment, think twice about the ice!



**Girl Talk**

**The Way The Cookie Crumbles**

By Kathleen

Debbi Fields was a 20 year-old housewife with a recipe and a dream when she opened Mrs. Field's Chocolate Chippery on August 16, 1977 in Palo Alto, California. Her business has grown into a \$500 million company. In 1989 she made Mrs. Fields, Inc. which was the first food retailing business to use technology to help the business thrive. This computer technology has transformed the food industry and is used at Harvard Business School.

Mrs. Fields is certainly one smart cookie which happens to be the title of her autobiography. She is a role model to women everywhere and gives speeches across the country telling people about her success. Along with being a successful business woman, she is the mother of five daughters and lives in Memphis, Tennessee.

Mrs. Fields is proof positive that sometimes the cookie crumbles in your favor!



Mrs. Field's Cookie founder Debbi Fields