

The Greyhound Gazette

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Meyerland Performing & Visual Arts Middle School

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Homecoming Activities by Gissel Velasquez

Homecoming week is a fun time every year. Students dressed up the whole week with cool outfits. The different days were neon, camouflage, Greyhound colors, team jerseys, and dress to impress. Many students enjoyed taking a break from their uniforms.

The Pep Rally was Wednesday morning before school. Cheer, Kickstart Karate, and the band performed. The homecoming game was full of excitement and another win Wednesday night.

On Friday night, over 800 tickets were sold for the dance. Students had a good time even though some people were disappointed by the VIP food options.



Above: Our Cheer squad leads the pep rally

Savage Football Grizzlies vs. Greyhounds by Jaya Evans-Moore

As the sun started to set, the benches in Butler Stadium filled with excited fans, families, and friends, who represented the team by wearing the school colors. Once the game commenced, the crowd roared with enthusiasm as they saw the players move to the field. The game started off with it being West Briar's ball, that was quickly punted to the Greyhounds. Going into the 2nd quarter, the Greyhounds scored the first touchdown, which was a long run. The score then became 8-0 Greyhounds.

Fast forward to the end of the half; the Greyhounds scored another touchdown which was a 20-yard pass from the QB to number 41. That touchdown then earned a P.A.T. (point after touchdown), making the score 16-0, Greyhounds. There was then a kick-off, that was suddenly fumbled and retrieved by the one and only GREYHOUNDS!! After the turnover, the Greyhounds, once again, scored a touchdown. The score then changed to 22-0 Greyhounds, scored by number 18.

Fast forward to the end of 3rd quarter, the Greyhounds scored a touchdown, making the score 30-0, Greyhounds. Suddenly, out of the blue, the Grizzlies scored a touchdown, making the score 30-6. But that wasn't much of a problem; the QB scored a touchdown, making the score 36-6, Greyhounds. Finally, number 23 then successfully made it the 1 from the 60-yard line. The game ended, leaving the boss Greyhounds victorious and keeping the title of undefeated.



Above: 8th Grader Raynard Hall evades a tackle during the Homecoming game

“Swimmers, Take Your Marks...”

by *Betzaida Granados-Rogel and Naomi Issak*

Did you know we have a swim team? Since the pool is indoors next to the gym, some students don't even know that it exists. You can spot swim team members by their purple tie-dyed team shirts and hoodies. Swim season runs from December – February. Sixth graders are in training, and 7th and 8th graders participate in the meets.

We interviewed two proud 7th grade swim team members, Tess Reed and Jasmine Lin. They said that they joined our swim team because they've been swimming since they were little. They said swim was a hobby that encouraged them to stay active and do their best. They love swim team giving it a 10, because “Coach Snook is always pushing us to be the best athletes we can be. We wouldn't be where we are without swim.” Catch their meets on Wednesday nights.

Vantastic Volleyball, Pink-out Game

by *Jaya Evans-Moore*

As you walk into the gymnasium, you will see cheering families and friends of the lady Greyhounds, showing their appreciation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing pink.



You can hear the little chants coming from the crowd for motivation. Then, by the blow of the whistle, the 7th grade girls start to make their way to the hard floor. The Lady Greyhounds played against the infamous Pershing Panda girls in an intense game. Unfortunately, the Pandas came out victorious, but our team still played hard.

I interviewed Myah Watkins and Embery Guy about the game. They said they felt good after their game even though they lost, and they felt like they were going to win when they tied with the Pandas, which they unfortunately, soon took the lead. The game ended with the score 20-25, Pandas. We are still so proud of our team!

Seventh Grade Football Aims High

by *Betzaida Granados-Rogel and Naomi Issak*

The 7th grade football team played three games against Lanier, Pershing, and Pin Oak and ended their season with a record of 2-1. We interviewed Mr. Rodriguez, one of the coaches. He has always loved football and took that passion into coaching. He thought that coaching the football team was going to be easier than it turned out to be, but he realized that it “takes a lot of dedication to coach football, just like teaching does.” Congrats to our 7th grade team.

Fall Sports Recap



Above: 7th Grader Enikubahiry Bekele runs in a cross-country meet



Above: 8th Grader Adantae Ford helps lead our team to an undefeated season and a district championship



Above: 7th Grader Myah Watkins prepares to serve in a September game

Dressed to Impress...and They Did

by Aaron LaVohn

Music fills the air! Hundreds of talented performers gather on one night for an amazing performance at the Fall Advanced Ensemble Concert. Seven of our magnet departments were featured, including Orchestra, Piano, Choir, Mariachi, Dance, Guitar, and Band. A full house enjoyed the music on Thursday, October 11, 2018.

We asked Vada Schneider, a choir performer, about her class's performance. She said, "I think we performed pretty well. Improvements could have been made, but all in all, it was a solid performance." Mr. Guinea, the guitar teacher, echoed similar sentiments, saying, "Improvements can always be made, but overall, they did a really good job." The next concert is December 13.

How Do You Get to Carnegie Hall...?"

by Jasmine Dixon & Lalitha Snell

"...Practice, practice, practice...and lots of fundraising." Orchestra has a lot going on. They are currently raising money to go to Carnegie Hall. In addition to selling weekly Hartz Chicken boxes, they also held a pasta dinner and concert on Friday, November 2, to help with this cause.

The night began with an auction. They sold things like tuners, rosin, as well as centerpieces and décor. At about 6 o'clock, the pasta was served. As entertainment, the Sinfonia Orchestra played a few songs, as well as the beginners and intermediates. Overall, it was a very successful night for the orchestra.

As for the fundraising success, the orchestra has raised a good amount of money but still has a long way to go. Between the spaghetti dinner and the Fuzzy tacos partnership, the orchestra will hopefully have enough money raised by the time the trip comes around. More projects and fundraisers are planned to raise the \$50,000 needed for the trip.



Above: 8th Grader Connally Leach shows off her skills at the Homecoming pep rally for our Kickstart Kids demo team.

Growing Character & Earning Belts

by Naomi Issak & Betzaida Granados-Rojel

MPVA is one of many schools which has the Kickstart Kids classes, founded by martial artist Chuck Norris. Our resident black belt teacher, Ms. Chelsea Clark, started in one of those classes when she was in middle school. When Ms. Clark was a little younger, she didn't like PE, and she became out of shape. So, she decided to join karate, and she said, "It was the best decision I ever made."

In addition to the classes, each Kickstart program is required to have a demo team that goes to competitions, but this year, they're doing something special. They're adding a second demo team and partnering with the Special Olympics to make the first ever Unified Karate Team. This new team will allow every martial artist to have a chance to represent our school.

Look to see our demo teams at the fall belt ceremony December 18!



Wax On, Wax Off

by Aaron LaVohn

On October 19, 2018, most kids would go home on an early dismissal day, but not these NJHS volunteers! They stayed for 3 hours to wash teachers' cars, all for a fundraiser. They washed 26 cars, raised \$280, got 80% wet, and had 100% fun.

Magnet Highlight Reel <i>by Layla Crear</i>	ART 7 th Grader Jocelyn Ajacum won the HISD Greeting Card Contest	DANCE Dance Workshop with Battery Dance NYC & the Houston Ballet	GUITAR Invited to play at the Magnet Schools of America conference
MARIACHI Great concerts Awesome costumes	BROADCAST Started a YouTube Channel & they rock morning announcements	CHOIR Sang at the RenFest and the Marathon Oil Building	ORCHESTRA Played before an HISD meeting
BAND Concert & Foundation Band Chamber & Percussion Ensembles & Jazz Band Rock	CREATIVE WRITING First ever Poetry Slam on a Friday night [Snaps]	PIANO Went to see "La Boheme" Plus had some cool Recitals	THEATER "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" advanced to UIL districts!

"Greyhound Q & A" Advice Column

My best friend and I had a fight, and she won't talk to me. What do I do?

Try apologizing and give her some time to calm down. If she doesn't forgive you after your apology, she is not a real friend.

I don't like one of my teachers, and I think she doesn't like me. What should I do about it?

Be extra polite and be a good student. She can't have any reason not to like you if you are a great student.

Math is really hard, and I'm no good at it. What should I do to get better?

Take the time to study and focus in class. Maybe even take your math journal home to practice or attend tutorials. Practice helps!

Some of my friends make fun of me. They say they are joking, but I don't feel like it's a joke. I want to tell them to stop, but I don't want to stop being friends. What do I tell them?

Ask them kindly to stop. Be honest about how it hurts your feelings. If they don't stop, tell them that you feel bad when they tease you. If they are real friends, then they'll stop.

Show your Talent!

Art by Betzaida Granados-Rojel



"BLESSED BE....." by Luis Angel Perez

Blessed be the rays of the sun for keeping record
 Of the blossoming flowers. And the water which flows
 With my love for the earth. The flag and the boxer
 Weaving back and forth. Blessed be the seed of life
 which sprouts with love.
 Blessed be the shadows and darkness. Blessed is the
 healthy soil
 In wait of use. Blessed be the wood chips that fly as the
 man carves out his
 Destiny. Blessed be the strands of hair, empty hearts,
 and the soot of a fireplace.
 Blessed be the seat in the heavens with our name on
 it. Blessed is our creativity
 and ability to imagine. Blessed be the sweat and tears
 of the power and dedication of man.