Students at the middle school purchased candy grams for one another in honor of Valentine’s Day. The candy grams were sold by the Student Council for $1. The money raised from the candy grams will go into a student activity fund used for things like ice cream at events.

The Student Council chose to use large, twisted lollipops this year instead of chocolate in consideration of students with allergies. Students are able to write messages to their friends on the candy gram. The candy grams were purchased at break and lunch and distributed during Utility on February 14.

Student Council President Noah Simone said, “It’s fun. We have always done it. I think it’s a way to give back to your friends.”
On a Thursday afternoon, if you pass Mrs. Nelligan’s room, you will hear students laughing and talking and smell something delicious. Senora Barry’s and Mrs. Nelligan’s after school activity, Cookies, Crafts & Crazy Fun, is jam-packed with students every Thursday afternoon. The first week, they made Belgian waffles and the second week, they made Rice Krispy treats. Who knows what they will make next! Over 30 students signed up for the intramural.

“It was fun and I like food,” commented 8th Grader, Peyton Kondrat.

Sixth-grader Ava Coffey added, “I got to bake things I never even thought of trying to bake before.”

On January 8th, Cohasset Middle School students of all ages attended a math meet hosted by Gates Middle School in Scituate. To attend the math meet, students had to submit the answers to several math questions to Mr. Mills. Students who were best able to answer the online questions correctly were chosen to attend.

“The questions on the online test were very difficult,” said Reeve Day.

At the event, students had several rounds of math work to do on worksheets. They had to work on some problems individually and others in teams. Aydin Tiryaki scored third for the individual challenge and the team of Oliver Henry, Rex Shiffman, Dimitri Peters and Tommy Basile scored second in the team competition.

This event was hosted for two principle reasons. One, to provide students with a platform to challenge their math and problem-solving abilities. Two, to serve as a trial for future math activities and potential middle school math meet.

“There were many math problems that I guessed at, and I think that I learned from what I missed,” commented William Elwell.

In this quote, Mr. Elwell speaks towards the virtue of failure. This lesson doesn’t only apply to mathematics but life as well, demonstrating what a watershed advent this math meet was.
Throughout the month of January, all across Cohasset Middle School, students brought in spare change to fill an empty water cooler. As more and more coins inched up the side of the plastic bottle, students were feeling very satisfied about their efforts to help the children of Malawi.

For several months, the sixth grade students have been inspired, moved, and invested in William Kamkwamba and his life, through his autobiography *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*. The sixth grade voted, and they decided on a charity for Malawi - William’s charity, Moving Windmills.

This year's sixth grade class raised $912.30 for Moving Windmills. Last year’s class raised $869.61. This is a grand total of $1,781.91, the equivalent of $1,300,794.30 Malawian kwacha. With the money given to William Kamkwamba, William was able to build an innovation center, and help support Wimbe Primary.

The sixth graders have been working very hard to read the book and essay for English, and create the windmill for Science. Sixth graders Sam Bushley, Adam Bushley, Brandon Chapman, and Rylan Hurley spent Thursday, January 23 after school counting every last cent for William and his charity.

The sixth graders started the special project on January 24th by watching the Netflix movie. The students gave mixed reviews about the movie with the majority voting on the book being better. After the movie, the big check was revealed: $912.30, beating last year's class! After the big reveal, the students went to the cafeteria to indulge in the splendid food. Mrs. Hathaway and Mrs. Amaral had amusing games to keep the kids entertained as they waited for the food. The parents made Nsima, Mangos, Ndiwo, Rice Phala, and Mandasi. After the taste testing, we tested our windmills. They were all different shapes and sizes, colors, and built with different materials. Mrs. St. Peter presented awards for the windmills. Congrats to Jaedyn Kaufman-Savenor, Julia Looker, Layla Haddad, Rylan Hurley, Adrian Seiz, Aaron Hassan, Will Albert, Robert Blanchard, Abby Rini, Cambell Schiebel, Halianne Catrambone, Max McPhillips, Harrison West, Matty Kupsc, Nora Khan, and last but not least Rylee Noonan.
The sixth grade also Skyped with William on Monday, February 3, 2020. The Skype with William went amazingly! William gave very insightful answers for every question. He seemed very grateful for all the money the school raised, which came to a total of $912.30! He said the money would be used to put solar panels on Wimbe Primary School.

~ Green Team Assembly Teaches Students ~

~ How to Recycle ~

By ~ Brenna Kane

On January 30th, CMS students learned the do’s and don'ts of recycling from The Green Team. The CMS Green Team has taken up a new project on expanding the amount of recycling and composting the middle school accomplishes. The Green Team consists of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students who want to see change in the environment. They realize the effects of climate change and how much we as a school can make a difference. The CMS held an assembly explaining how we can make an impact. They shared what we can and can't recycle and compost also what belongs to stay in the trash. This information provided students with the information on how putting the right materials in the right place matters. If one person puts something in the wrong spot it ruins the whole batch eliminating the point of the process. The Green Team hopes people will realize how much change we can make if we all follow these basic guidelines. They believe that if we can all work together we can make the planet a better place.
Students from Boston have come to Cohasset as part of the METCO Program since 1968. This year, 48 Boston students attend Osgood, Deer Hill and the Middle and High Schools.

Nabeel Bonifon, who has been in the METCO Program since first grade, said, “It’s hard to get home so late and have enough time to do our homework, juggle extracurricular activities, and get good grades. We don’t always have enough free time to do the stuff we like.”

Students in the METCO Program take a bus to and from Boston everyday. Some students are picked up in Dorchester and Mattapan Square. The bus brings students to Hingham and Cohasset. This is a long bus ride, usually about an hour and a half, especially in traffic.

As time-consuming as the ride is, Kyng Williams said it also gives students the chance to form “close friendships, do homework, talk or sleep.”

“My Cohasset friends will call me at 3PM to play video games and I tell them I’m still on the bus,” added Kyng.

According to the METCO website, The Metropolitan Council of Education Opportunity or METCO has been bringing students from Boston to Cohasset for over 52 years. The METCO program was created in 1966 at the peak of the Civil Rights Movement to give an opportunity to students of color to learn alongside their white counterparts. The program was also created to diversify towns and cities. At the start of the program, seven towns/cities were involved including, Brookline, Lexington, Arlington, Braintree, Lincoln, Newton, and Wellesley. Today, there are 38 towns/cities. The METCO program is funded by the Racial Imbalance Act. It started with about 220 students and now has over 3200.

Most elementary students are assigned Cohasset host families, but Middle School students are expected to form lasting friendships which will become host families.

“My host family can pick me up after school,” explained CJ Clarke.

“And the METCO program wants the students to interact to make these lasting friendships” said Ms. Aleisa Gittens-Carl.
Alexis Bradshaw of 7th grade said, “Everyone is nice and we communicate really well” and “It's a very friendly environment.”

CJ said a downside of coming to Cohasset is that “…there’s not a lot of diversity here.”

Kyng added, “Yes, I remember how scary it was for me the first days of school.”

~ Local Troop Makes Scouting History at Camp Squanto ~

By Ava Coffey

Last summer of 2019, six of eight girls from Scituate and Cohasset made history at Camp Squanto, a summer camp located in Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth, MA. Out of 400 attendees, six of them are female, and all of the six, proudly attend Troop 48, the very first female troop to EVER attend this camp.

Scoutmasters of Troop 48 go out of their way to spread the word by posting the news on local articles such as the Cohasset Mariner and the Scituate Mariner. Including websites such as The Patriot Ledger, and local activities throughout the town of Cohasset and Scituate such as the Farmers Market and the town fairs.

“This was a historic summer as girls attended Camp Squanto for the first time in its 100 year history as a fully integrated group,” said Heather Frank, Scoutmaster for Troop 48 Cohasset. “Girls from other areas attended as well, but Troop 48 had six girls attend this year. Women have been a part of Camp Squanto in the past as staff members or through the Venturing Program but never before as Scouts.”

Heather Frank is actually a loving mother of one of the girls attending this troop. Not only Heather, but all of the scout masters have children of their own attending either Troop 48 or Troop 21. Katie Holden, Artie Sharpe, Jennie Ellwell, and are also scoutmasters. “They all wanted more leadership opportunities.” added Heather Frank.

All of the girls were 11 years old and more girls have decided to join scouting over the past year. Jennie Shamitz, Ella Sharpe, Haley Cody, Nora Ellwell, Ava Coffey, and Suzie Frank, were all scouts of Troop 48 at the time and currently are this very moment.

Katie Holden, is Haley Cody’s mother, along with Jay Cody, Haley’s father, who helps along with scouting activities, such as campouts, hikes, and more. Katie spends her time planning when the next campout might be, or what the girls may want to do as a fun winter activity. Currently, the scoutmasters are planning to go tubing with the girls at Blue Hills, a ski/tubing center. Artie Sharpe, Ella Sharpe’s father, mainly helps
with the storage and the equipment, such as portable camping stoves, tents, lanterns, tarps, food, etc. Artie also helps Jay, Haley’s father, with driving the equipment and transporting everyone's bags for campouts. Jennie Elwell, Nora’s mother, also helps plan the campouts and arranges directions and orders, such as where the safest spot is to set up tents, the best way to set up the equipment, etc. Lastly, Margie Hillman has been a part of scouting for quite a while now. Her son is an Eagle Scout, the highest scout ranking there is to offer, which got her into scouting. She mainly works on scout requirements at home or at “The Locker” (the Deer Hill School basement) every meeting on Tuesdays. On average, she doesn’t participate in many campouts, therefore she is given enough time to work on scout finances.

Ella Sharpe, one of the scouts, shared her opinion about Camp Squanto in her own words. “My parents even met working at Camp Squanto,” she said. “My uncle is an Eagle Scout, and my grandpa was a Scoutmaster with Troop 90, Scituate, which sadly doesn’t exist anymore.”

“When my younger brother Liam was finally old enough to join Cub Scouts, I thought that all the camping trips and hikes he was going on were really cool,” Ella added. “When I was younger, I had been in Girl Scouts and we never went camping. We mostly did crafts, and I wanted more adventure.” Haley Cody and Ava Coffey, have the same opinion about Girl Scouts because they were both in the same troop in around, 2013-2015. Girls were not allowed to join Boy Scouts until two years ago in the beginning of 2018. “When Scouts opened to girls, I was the first Scituate girl to be in Den 13, Webelos,” added Ella. Haley, Ava, Nora, and Jenny, also started at around the same time as Ella did.

Troop 48 is currently looking for girls who are willing to join the troop in their activities all the way until Eagle Scout rank. For information on how to join, contact Jenny Elwell ~ 617-921-2101

~ Student Council Update ~

By ~ Leila Omran

The Student Council had quite an eventful February! Starting February 3rd, students were given the opportunity to purchase Candy Grams for one another or themselves. This annual CMS tradition was carried on very well, and students enjoyed the colorful twist pops on Valentine’s Day. Spirit Week was also a success! To start off this joyful week, students were invited to dress up for Tropical Day on Monday. Tuesday
was Favorite College Day, followed by Favorite Sports Team Day on Wednesday. CMS glowed on Neon Day on Thursday and our Spirit Week was closed off on Friday, Cohasset Day. Throughout this exciting week, students were invited to take a break and paint rocks during their utility. This calming activity allowed students’ true colors to shine. The completed rocks will make a beautiful addition to our Rock Garden. Additionally, 8th-grade students participated in a Cornhole Tournament on Friday, February 14th. This was a wonderful use of time, and students really enjoyed hanging out with their friends while playing this fun game! The Student Council hopes everyone enjoyed their February vacation. We hope the CMS students and faculty are looking forward to Spirit Days in the future.

The Arts at CMHS

~ Doodle for Google ~

By ~ Reggie Lanier

Each year since 2008, Google has run this annual competition in various countries to have children create a doodle of the google logo displaying a theme set by them called 'Doodle for Google’ or ‘Doodle4Google’. Each year kids produce amazing art pieces to be sent into google for a chance to have their custom-designed google logo to be displayed on the Google homepage. There are 3 levels to the prize being awarded. The first category is; ‘State and Territory’ if you win this you will receive Google hardware, an assembly celebration at your school, and Fun Googly swag. All ‘State and Territory’ winners will have their artwork displayed in the Doodle for Google Gallery. The next up category is ‘National Finalist’. There are only 4 national finalists. Each finalist receives a $5,000 scholarship to a college of your choice, a trip to Google Headquarters in California, Google hardware, and Fun Googly Swag. For all the other people who didn’t make it into the ‘National Finalist’ category will have their artwork displayed in the Doodle for Google.
Finally the top of the line prize, ‘National Winner’. If you win this category you have won it all. You will receive a $30,000 scholarship to a college of your choice, your school will receive a $50,000 tech package, and again as I said in the ‘National Finalist’ rank you will receive a trip to Google Headquarters in California, Google hardware, you will have your artwork displayed on the Google website for a day, and Fun Googly swag. Mrs. Swartz encourages everyone to enter into the contest, who knows, maybe you can win! Forget that, you CAN win if you put all the effort into your artwork that you can. Even if you aren’t the best artist, try. You can check out this link for more information - https://doodles.google.com/d4g/how-it-works/

~ Comedy Coming to Theaters Near You! ~

~ By William Elwell ~

This May, the spring drama production Everyone Gets Eaten by Sharks: A Cautionary Tale by Marshall Pallet is coming to the Cohasset Middle High School Auditorium. Miss Carmody is overseeing the drama and auditions. Make sure you book your calendars for Friday May 8th or Saturday, May 9th to come have a blast and laugh alongside the cast and crew.
Calling all writers, photographers, and editors. We the Pond Street Press newspaper are always accepting new people to join our newspaper! If you love writing, making comics, or editing/doing layout you should join us every Tuesday or Thursday in Mrs. Melia’s room [insert number of rooms here] to help produce our newspaper. We hope to bring in new people and to publish what's happening in the school more often. If you can join us on either Tuesdays or Thursdays, your help is always welcome! We hope to see you!
Editorials

~ Moving Utility ~

By ~ Maxwell Fernald

In my last editorial, I touched upon how moving utility blocks could be useful to the students and faculty of the middle school. In this new editorial, I will go more in depth and look at new and interesting angles in these discussions. I will show the pros and how they can improve our lives, and how this system is somewhat flawed in the cons section. There are many reasons why this schedule change can definitely be implemented into next year's schedule.

There are definitely some issues with the new delayed start time, and even though there are still adjustments being made, I highly doubt that there will be a start time where everyone is happy. It does not mean we can't try to perfect it and eliminate some problems. I think one of the best ways to do this is to move up the utility block or TST (teacher-student time) to the end of the day. One of the biggest problems with the new start times is how sports teams do not have enough time to practice before the sun goes down. The sports teams could leave during utility block at the end of the day and not miss any academic class time. This would not solve the entire problem, as they still miss around 15 minutes of the time they have in the current time, but it would help. The only real problem is that the sports teams would miss utility, and if they have to make up a quiz, they would have to make a choice between sports and grades.

Another thing that moving utility block to the end of the day could achieve is bring enrichment classes to Cohasset Middle School. At Deer Hill, during the end of the day on Wednesday, we took EMC (Enrichment Classes) that could range from cooking to math, or even Origami. I personally thought that they were both interesting and fun. This could happen during the end of the day when utility would be. I think this would be good, especially if someone wanted to try something new, but did not want to devote too much time to it, such as writing a freelance article in this newspaper. Perhaps Newspaper could meet during the Utility
Block which would encourage more students to participate? All the enrichment activities could be very useful in opening new opportunities for students and teaching pupils new skills.

A problem that this adjustment could cause is that the enrichments teacher would not be able to host a utility. The students would not have a utility, but there still are some solutions to this problem. The students could all go to a different utility, but that would be chaotic. That would be able to generate enough noise to drive all the neighboring teachers to the verge of insanity. They could go to different utilities, but then it would be hard to account for all of them, and the students would all go to their friends’ utility, producing more noise. Another assistant teacher could take over the class, but there would not be a room for the enrichment activity.

Another aspect to consider is how there is that some kids could leave early for various reasons. For example, if someone needs to get to a doctor's appointment or an orthodontist's check up. If someone walks to and from school, someone could leave early to get a bit of extra time to do something when they get home. Of course, it would not be that simple, as the school has a responsibility to look after their students until 2:10, but a simple permission slip could solve the issue.

A problem that could arise from this idea is how the students could get really tired without the break known as utility in the middle of the day. I dread the last 15 minutes that creep up to utility or lunch. I don't think some students could make it through the day without utility. I think many people would go crazy.

In the end, I can't do much on my own, so it's up to all of the other students and the teachers to look at all the different sides of this idea. I see value in both sides of the issue.

**Sports**

~ 8th Grade Wrestlers Key to High School Team Success ~

*By ~ Ollie Buckley*

All you have to do is step into the wrestling room and look at the wall of fame to understand the history and success behind the Cohasset wrestling program, and the middle school is a big part of that success.
On Saturday, January 31, senior wrestler Danny Nolan beat the record for most wins in a high school career in Cohasset. He achieved 138 wins in his 4th season. He is in the 152 pound weight class. Danny beat the record during a quad meet (a wrestling meet with four teams) with a pin against a wrestler from Wilmington.

The 8th graders can sign up to wrestle with the high school. It is a good opportunity to experience high school sports and to challenge themselves and become better wrestlers. It also familiarizes them with the system and expectations. It is also a great experience to see if they want to wrestle the following year in high school. Danny Nolan had 15 wins as an 8th grader and look how far he has come. Sophomore Ben Ford had 18 wins as an 8th grader and has much potential. So does sophomore Gregor Guempel who has 15 wins as an 8th grader.

“The 8th graders are the future of the wrestling program,” says Assistant Coach, Peter Buckley. “The sooner they start wrestling, the better off they will be in high school.”

Wrestling is the only high school sport that can do this because it is one of the only sports that have weight classes. If an 8th grader is below 106 pounds, they are able to wrestle in the 106-pound weight class. The 106-pound weight class is the lowest weight class so it is 106 pounds and below. They are usually the backup for their weight class, in case the starter for that weight class gets hurt or is not able to wrestle. Or if there is no wrestler for the weight class. Many other towns do the same thing so many times it is an 8th grader versus an 8th grader in the 106 weight class matches.

These 8th graders already have some experience because they most likely participated in the middle school wrestling program. The middle school wrestling program meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:15 PM to 6:15 PM. It takes place during the high school wrestling season. The program is very low pressure and it is just a place to learn the sport while having fun at the same time. It is run by Assistant Coach and former wrestler of the Cohasset wrestling team, Coach Buckley, and former Cohasset wrestler Coach Donohue. They do a great job of making the sport intriguing and fun. See you there!
### The Pond Street Press Staff

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Mrs. Melia

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