MIDDLE GROUND

Teaching and learning with young adolescents

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear East Hampton Middle School Family:

Our first quarter is behind us already and we are quickly moving toward the holiday season. So far we have had a fantastic year. The teachers have been working diligently to learn and explore ways to utilize Google Apps for Education. Our last professional development day dedicated a portion of that time to assisting teachers with using these applications in creative ways to help engage students. Students and teachers both have responded with excitement over the use of these new learning tools.

Just a reminder that in November we have Parent Teacher conferences on November 18th from 1-5 PM and November 19th from 1-8 PM. Time and space is limited so please be sure to send back your request for a conference soon. Also remember that if you have a question or concern for your child's teacher teachers are available by phone or email.

The PTO is currently running a fundraiser selling spirit wear online. If you are interested in ordering and missed the deadline we are hoping to reopen the online store before the holidays. If you are interested in seeing what is available visit zimmzang.com. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Jason Lehmann

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS ease check website www.easthamptonct.org for all

EVENTS Please check website www.easthamptonct.org for any		
1	changes to the schedule Clocks fall back one hour	
Daily	Good Morning EHMS—room 4 2:35- 3:35 p.m.	
2, 4, 9, 16, 23, 30	Homework Club	
2	Deadline for permission slips for boys/ girls basketball & Cheerleading	
3	Professional Development Day—no school today	
4	-Gr. 8 Wolfpack field trip and for band/ chorus -French Club begins in room 34 from 2:35-3:35 p.m. -Athletic Fall sports awards @6 p.m. in the gymnasium.	
4 and 18	Spanish Club room 21 @2:35 p.m.	
6, 13, 20	7 a.m. Student Council meets in Commons	
6	-Report Cards issued today -6th and 7th grade band/chorus to U.S. Coast Guard Academy -Student Council dance in Commons for grade 7/8. from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Commons	
9 and 23	Board of Education meeting at EHHS @7 P.M.	
10, 17, 24	Yearbook in room 27 2:35-4p.m.	
11	Veterans' Day—no school today	
13	PBIS Assembly	
16, 17, 18, 19, 20	Book fair—the fair is open until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18, until 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 19 and 1 p.m. on Friday, November 20.	
16	Deadline to hand in Ski Club forms	
17	AMC 8 Math contest from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. for selected students in grade 6, 7 and 8.	
18	 Early dismissal today @12:30 p.m. Lunch is served; Parent Conferences 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. PTO meeting @7 p.m. in the LMC. 	
19	 Early dismissal today @12:30 p.m. Lunch is served; Parent Conferences 1 .to 7:30 p.m. 	
25	Early dismissal @12:30 p.m. Lunch is served. No athletics today.	

Book Fair

East Hampton Middle School will host a Scholastic Book Fair in the Library Media Center Friday, November 16 through Friday, November 20. Students and parents are invited to choose from books from their favorite authors, and to get a head start on holiday shopping. Fair hours are during the school day, with extended hours for parents'

convenience until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18, until 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 19 and 1 p.m. on Friday, November 20. Proceeds help us to purchase new books for our library.



Box Tops for Education

SOX TOPS

Don't forget to bring in the Box Tops for Education that your family has been saving. Each box top is worth 10 cents toward buying new books, so we

are adding to our library a dime at a time! Please put your box tops in a sandwich bag, labeled with the homeroom teacher's name, and put them in box in the Library Media Center. The homeroom that donates the most box tops will have a special celebration in June.

Parent Conferences

Please mark your calendars for EHMS Parent Conference dates:

November 18 from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. and

November 19 from 1 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Remember these days are early dismissals. Teachers will be contacting you regarding scheduling your day and time.

Thank you!

FRENCH CLUB

There will be a La Societe Français Meeting (French Club) meeting on **November 4** to kick off our new year! Come munch on croissants, beguettes and cheeses while enjoying juice as we plan our new season.

SPANISH CLUB

The Spanish club's November meeting is on the 4th and 18th in room 35 beginning at 2:35 p.m. until 3:35p.m. El Club de español se reunirá dos veces al mes hasta el mes de junio. Si quieres jugar juegos, mirar películas, hacer artesanías y preparar comida; ven al Club de español. Para más detalles contactar a la Señora Mannino. Muchas gracias.

The Spanish club will meet twice a month until the month of June. If you like playing games, watching movies, making arts and crafts, preparing delicious foods, and practicing your Spanish skills, then this club is for you!! See Mrs. Mannino for more information. Thank you!

SKI CLUB NEWS!

EHMS Ski Club Will be skiing at Mount Southington on Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19 and 26. Registration packages will be available from October 28 - November 13 during lunch waves and also at the Main Office.

Deadline for returning the registration packets is Monday, November 16. Late registrations will only be accepted as long as there is room on the bus. After December 4th no more registrations will be accepted. Please include your payment for your chosen ski package payable to Mount Southington. Mount Southington is offering a new online payment option this year. Please follow the instructions carefully, and provide your online transaction number on your registration form. DO NOT include payment for transportation costs, yet. Once all registrations have been collected we will determine the transportation cost based on the number of participants, and you will receive more information at that time.

If parents have any questions, contact Jodi Brazal hmlvma@gmail.com] or Mrs. Irene Kuck by email at ikuck@easthamptonct.org. Thank you!

BIKEFEST

Many thanks to all who came out for a 6 mile bike ride on a glorious Fall day, on Friday, October 16th. Twenty-one riders and passengers ranging from age 2 to 40+ years in age participated. This ride was open to all 6th through 8th graders and their families. Thank you to the East Hampton Local Prevention Council for sponsoring Biking-Builds-Better-Breathers ride with T-shirts, backpacks, drinks, and snacks. It's a great way to build awareness to make healthy choices and to stay away from harmful substances. A very special thanks to EHMS staff members Mrs. Parent, Mr. Lehmann and our new Assistant Principal, Chris Sullivan for supporting this event.

If there is enough interest we may again hold our spring mountain bike ride in Hurd State park, in conjunction with High School Students and teachers. Stay tuned for more information!

PTO News: meetings are held every month on the 2nd Wednesday.

All are welcome to attend.

November 11 – meeting is cancelled

December 9 – Meeting at 7p in the EHMS library.

Student Council News— "Dance"

Our first student council dance is coming up on November 6—grade 7 and 8 dance from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Commons. Parents should drop off students in the front circle and students will enter the dance through the side hallway doors leading into the Commons.

All coats, purses and hats will be stored in the music room during the dance. Students will not be allowed to enter the dance after 7:30 p.m., unless they have received prior permission from administration.

Students may not leave the dance early without prior notice to administration and parent pick-up.

Only EHMS students are eligible to attend. Cost is \$4 with food bank donation and \$5 without a donation.



DAILY ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! Please remember to call the school <u>during office</u> <u>hours</u> at 860-365-4060 when your child is absent. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Also, students who need to leave the school for appointments should stop in the office with a note from their parent/guardian before going to their homeroom.

LOST AND FOUND

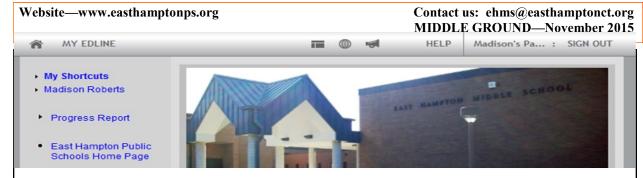
The LOST & FOUND box is filled with sweatshirts, sneakers, lunch boxes and lots of other great stuff both worn and brand new! Periodically, we make announcements asking students to check the box for lost items. Please remind your son/daughter to take the time to look through the lost & found, which is located in the commons, left of the stage. Smaller items are in the main office. Looking for lost jewelry? See Mrs. Turner.

Note, that at the end of the year, we will be donating all lost & found items to local charities. Thank you!

HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK REQUESTS

Homework is posted on line via the student's and parent's edline account. Edline will allow you to access web pages for your child's teachers, which will give you information on classroom homework and projects. If your student has lost their activation code, please contact your student's social studies teacher.

Parents, if you've lost your code, please email Mrs. Turner at ehms@easthamptonct.org. If you don't have access to a computer, requests for homework will be honored for absences of two (2) or more consecutive days. We ask for a 24-hour notification when requesting homework. Students who have been absent will be allowed to make up work. Each student also has been assigned a home-work buddy that they can call to get missed assignments.



Instructions on How to Add an Email to Your Edline Account

Many times parents email teachers questions directly from the class web page on Edline. Teachers would like to reply but often cannot as parents do not have their email address attached to their Edline Account. To add your email address go to **My Edline** on the Middle School Edline Home Page.

Then Go to My Account, Manage Account and Add Email Address. Once you have completed entering the information Edline will send you an email to confirm your address. Please read and confirm this email to complete the process.

Should you have any questions, please contact Denise Turner at ehms@easthamptonct.org.

Parents and Guardians, please be aware that when you send teachers emails through Edline, it does not give the teachers the option to email you back.

EHMS Music Department News

All Band, Jazz Band and Chorus students will have their concerts at EHMS this year. Students need to dress in black dress pants and a white dress shirt or a polo shirt with a collar for all performances.

6th and 7th grade band and chorus students will be attending the United States Coast Guard Academy on **Friday November 6th**, **2015** to watch a special Coast Guard Band Concert This performance will highlight the music of John Cage, Richard Strauss, Mason Bates, and other composers.

On **Friday, December 4**, the EHHS Jazz Band and Chorus will visit EHMS grade 8 students beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Commons.

Upcoming Concerts

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

10:30 a.m. the 8th grade band/chorus will be playing and singing at the Hartford Wolfpack Educational School Day Game held at the XL Center in Hartford, CT. Permission slips are due to homeroom teachers by Friday, October 2nd.

Wednesday, January 13th 2016 Winter Concert for Band, Chorus and Jazz Band in the

EHMS gym at 1:20pm and 6:30pm

Thursday, January 14th 2016 Snow date for Winter Concert, EHMS gym, 1:20pm and 6:30pm

<u>Thursday, May 12th 2016</u>: Spring Concert for Band, Chorus and Jazz Band in EHMS gym at 1:20pm and 6:30pm

*Dates are subject to change. See our website at <u>www.easthamptonps.org</u> for updates.

MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS

East Hampton Middle School Math Department is promoting the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The math teachers in all three grades are continuously working to refine units of study and lessons that align to the CCSS. Our goal is to strengthen the students' depth of knowledge through rigorous lessons that involve critical thinking skills. These skills will prepare them for the higher demands of college and careers today and in the future. The implementation of the CCSS also calls for teachers to use rich and challenging math content and to engage students in solving real-world problems in order to inspire greater interest in mathematics. Through the use of performance tasks teachers will provide real life scenarios that challenge students to apply learned skills along with encompassing the eight mathematical practices. Throughout the year, these practices are incorporated into each unit of study and require students to not only answer the question but to delve deeper into the reasoning behind their answer. The eight practices are:

- 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- 2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- 3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- 4. Model with mathematics.
- 5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
- 6. Attend to precision.
- 7. Look for and make use of structure.
- 8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

To promote a partnership between school and home, students and parents can access the following websites to further enrich and support the math curriculum.

www.xpmath.com/

http://www.ixl.com/math/

http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/

https://www.khanacademv.org/

And for sharpening their math fact fluency:

https://xtramath.org/

Arcademicskillbuilders.com

http://www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/Mathmagician/cathymath.html

Please continue to use google classroom to view your child's assignments and updated curricular information. The units of study are located in the ABOUT section in google classroom. If you have any further questions or concerns please feel free to contact your child's math teacher.

Physical Education News

Reminder to Parents/Guardians & students: Please remind your child:

- Do not leave valuables in the gym baskets in the locker room; and
- Do not leave clothes on the floor or in the bins.

Put anything of value in your school locker before class. Check the Lost & Found if you have lost items. Thank you!

Drama Club

Thespians, get ready! Drama Club is gearing up for a fantastic season! We are currently making the final decision on which play we will be performing this year. Once that decision is made, permission slips will be sent out and auditions will be held. Rehearsals will begin in January. Listen for announcements!

East Hampton Middle School Athletic Update

East Hampton Middle School will host its Fall awards night on November 4, @ 6:00 p.m. in its' school gymnasium. **Female** athletes and or parents of **female** athletes on our Cross Country and Girls Soccer teams are asked to bring in some type of baked good, finger food or munchies. They rotate who brings items each season. For additional information contact EHMS Athletic Director Michael Mercaldi @ (860) 463-6837.

A+ School Rewards

EHMS is participating in the **APlus School Rewards program** at Stop & Shop. This began on October 9, 2015 through March 17, 2016 . The **deadline to enroll is January 31, 2015.**

How do you do this? **Go online to <u>www.stopandshop.com/aplus</u> to register your card or dial 1-877-275-2758 to register over the phone.** Be sure to have your Stop & Shop card number available so you can enter the number. On the website click "register your card", put in the first 3 letters of your last name and card #. Then enter East Hampton Middle School ID #, which is 11133, and start earning points for our school.

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop using your Stop&Shop Card earns CASH for our school! Each month, the amount of CASH awarded will be updated on the Stop & Shop website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt and online when you create an account at stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. You can also shop at any Stop & Shop and still earn money. Sixth grade parents/guardians, please register your card for EHMS. Seventh and Eighth grade parents/guardians, if you registered last year, you do not have to re-register this year. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support. Thank you parents/guardians for your support!

Vinal Technical High School (Information for ALL grades)

Vinal Technical High School is an option for high school for all East Hampton students. Representatives from Vinal Technical High School were here at EHMS on September 30 and spoke with all 8th grade students about their program. It is important to know that they begin looking at students' record from 7th grade. With this known, 7th grade students are encouraged to begin exploring Vinal Technical High School if this is a path you may wish to follow.

Eighth grade students can receive applications from one of the school counselors, Mr. Mannes or Mrs. Mercaldi. The deadline for the applications is **December 4, 2015.** However, Vinal Technical High School does accept applications throughout the school year. The sooner your application is submitted, the better your chance will be in becoming accepted since Vinal Technical High School can only **accept a certain number of students.**

Lastly, Vinal Technical High School will be hosting an Open House on Thursday, November 5 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. for any interested student in any grade level. If you are unable to attend the Open House, they do offer tours one time per month during the school day for students/parents. You would need to contact them directly to set up a tour. It is never too early to learn more about your options.

If you would like to learn more about Vinal Technical High School, please refer to the following web--CT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM: www.cttech.org/

-VINAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL: www.cttech.org/vinal

VINAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, 60 DANIELS STREET, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457 TELEPHONE: 860-344-7100; FAX: 860-344-2622

sites:

"Cake for Kids" Collection

The EHMS Student Council will be collecting birthday party items throughout the month of November. Needed items include cake mixes, cans of frosting, party paper goods (unopened packages, please), party favors, sprinkles, medium size gift bags and colorful tissue paper. Our students will be sorting the items and delivering the filled gift bags to our local food bank. We hope every child in our community gets to celebrate his/her birthday in a special way!

2015 Soccer Recap by Rebecca Parkos

The Lady Panthers played a strong defensive game and put a scare into a nearly undefeated Middletown team, but it was not to be. After tying the score on a Mya Field crash- the- net- goal (assisted sublimely by Emily Balda), Woodrow Wilson stormed back and the Panthers suffered defeat. Playing an outstanding game was Hannah Barrientos who often had to mark the best players, and Makenzie Grant, who made many great saves to keep the ladies in the game. Sarah Balda was also aggressive in the midfield, terrorizing the other team. Finally, showing great Panther effort was Whitney Dixon, who was an offensive spark for the team. Come cheer the ladies on Friday night at 5:30 in their final game of the season, at home.

The JV Lady Panthers made one costly mistake, and that ended being the game, as they fell to Woodrow Wilson on Tuesday. The Panthers had the ball mostly in the Wilson goal area, but couldn't cash in, due to a good goalie. Cassi Zimmerman and Jenna Tigner battled hard for the ball, along with Brianna Bunnell who was creating many offensive chances. Annin Daly played her usual stellar game, along with Maddie Evans, who had the best scoring chance of the JV game.

It was a fun season and see you at the Sports Banquet November 4th! It is the girls' turn to bring in a finger food (just a friendly reminder)!

2015 Cross Country Recap by Joanna Mercaldi

The boys and girls cross country teams have been very competitive this season. There have been a number of races that we either won or lost by just a few points. Although there are injuries that the team is dealing with, every runner is stepping up to the plate and doing a fantastic job. Strong runners for the girls are: Liv DiStefano, Jessica Cohen, Nalaeh Valley, Angela Mercaldi and Elizabeth McDonald. Strong runners for the boys are: Jake Ireland, Danny Kostoss, Alexandre McMillian, Julien Minnick and Hunter Peszynski. The teams are preparing for the last few weeks of the season and also are preparing for the League Meet being held at EHMS on October 29th. They are working hard to bring home some individual medals and possibly a team trophy.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

By Beth Kelpen R.N.

The cold and flu season will be here soon and there are many things everyone can do to stay healthy, such as washing hands often, covering your cough and staying home when you are sick to promote faster healing, and to prevent transmission to others.

Do you know the difference between the cold and flu? When are antibiotics appropriate? What can you do to lessen your chance of becoming ill? The following is information that can answer these questions and more.

A Guide for Parents—WHAT IS THE FLU?

The flu (influenza) is an infection of the nose, throat, and lungs that is caused by influenza virus. The flu can spread from person to person. Most people with the flu are sick for about a week, but then feel better. However, some people (especially young children, pregnant women, older people, and people with chronic health problems) can get very sick and some can die.

What are the symptoms of the flu?

Most people with the flu feel tired and have fever, headache, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and sore muscles. Some people, especially children, may also have stomach problems and diarrhea. Cough can last two or more weeks. People that have the flu usually cough, sneeze, and have a runny nose. This makes droplets with virus in them. Other people can get the flu by breathing in these droplets or getting them in their nose or mouth.

How long can a sick person spread the flu to others?

Most healthy adults may be able to spread the flu from 1 day before getting sick to up to 5 days after getting sick. This can be longer in children and in people who don't fight disease as well (people with weakened immune systems).

A flu vaccine is the best way to protect against the flu. CDC recommends that all children from the ages of 6 months up to their 5th birthday get a flu vaccine every fall or winter (children getting a vaccine for the first time need two doses).

- •Flu shots can be given to children 6 months and older.
- A nasal-spray vaccine can be given to healthy children 2 years and older (children under 5 years old who have had wheezing in the past year or any child with chronic health problems should get the flu shot).

You can protect your child by getting a flu vaccine for yourself too. Also, encourage your child's close contacts to get a flu vaccine. This is very important if your child is younger than 5 or has a chronic health problem like asthma (breathing disease) or diabetes (high blood sugar levels).

Is there medicine to treat the flu?

There are antiviral drugs for children 1 year and older that can make your child feel better, be less contagious, and get better sooner. But these drugs need to be approved by a doctor. They should be started during the first 2 days that your child is sick for them to work. Your doctor can discuss with you if these drugs are right for your child.

Flu Cont.'d.

What Can YOU Do?

- 1. Take time to get a flu vaccine and get your child vaccinated too.
- **2.** Take everyday steps to prevent the spread of germs. This includes:
- •Clean your hands often and cover your coughs and sneezes
- •Tell your child to:
- Stay away from people who are sick
- Clean hands often
- Keep hands away from face
- Don't share gum or drinks
- Cover coughs and sneezes to protect others (it's best to use a tissue and then, throw it away).

How else can I protect my child against flu?

Washing hands with soap and water (for as long as it takes to sing the Happy Birthday song twice) will help protect your child from germs. When soap and water are not available, wipes or gels with alcohol in them can be used (the gels should be rubbed into your hands until they are dry).

Consult your doctor and make sure your child gets plenty of rest and drinks a lot of fluids. If your child is older than 2 years, you can buy medicine (over-the-counter) without a prescription that might make your child feel better. Be careful with these medicines and follow the instructions on the package and never give aspirin or medicine that has aspirin in it to children or teenagers who may have the flu.

What can I do if my child gets sick?

Call or take your child to a doctor right away if your child:

- •has a high fever or fever that lasts a long time
- •has trouble breathing or breathes fast
- •has skin that looks blue
- •is not drinking enough
- seems confused, will not wake up, does not want to be held, or has seizures (uncontrolled shaking)
- •gets better but then worse again
- •has other conditions (like heart or lung disease, diabetes) that get worse

Can my child go to school if he or she is sick?

No. Your child should stay home to rest and to avoid giving the flu to other children.

Should my child go to school if other children are sick?

It is not unusual for some children in school to get sick during the winter months. If many children get sick, it is up to you to decide whether to send your child to school. You might want to check with your doctor, especially if your child has other health problems.

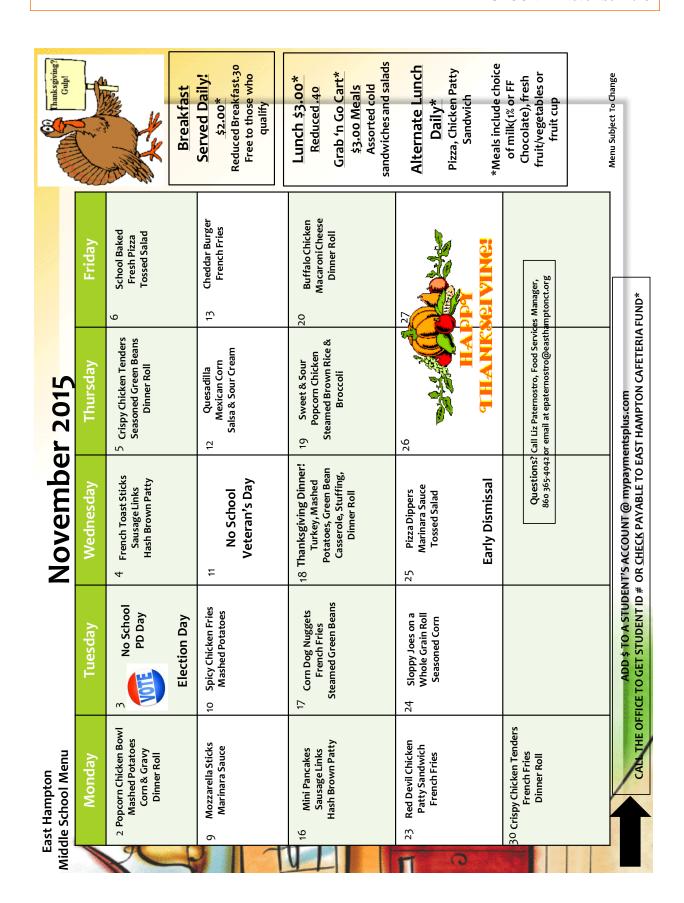
When can my child go back to school after having the flu?

Keep your child home from school until his or her temperature has been normal for 24 hours without Tylenol or Advil. Remind your child to cover their mouth when coughing or sneezing to protect others (you may want to send some tissue and wipes or gels with alcohol in them to school with your child).

For more information about flu, visit www.cdc.gov/flu

Emergency Information

It is very important that we have complete and up-to-date information in case an emergency situation arises and we must reach a parent/guardian. Thank you for updating your demographic form(s) this year. Please contact us at 365-4060 or email us at EHMS@easthamptonct.org with any updates. Thank you!



2015-2016 HOMEWORK CLUB at EHMS

November 16 to January 27

Session Two of Homework Club will begin on November 16. Homework Club is open to any student wishing to spend some time after school getting homework help, getting organized, or just needing a quiet place to get work done. The club will run from 2:35 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day and will be monitored by one of our Middle School teachers.

Session Two will run on Mondays and Wednesdays through January 27. The actual dates are listed on the sign-up sheet at the bottom of the page. The fee for the club is \$5.00 per day attended.

A late bus will be provided for those students needing transportation home from school after Homework Club.

To sign up for Homework Club, fill out the form below and have your son or daughter bring it in to Mr. Lehmann with the correct payment. Forms and payment are due into the office before you attend. Please check next to the appropriate statement below, whether you will not need or will need the late bus home after Homework Club

Homework Club.				
SESSION TWO- HOMEWORK CLUB				
Yes. I would like my child	to participate in			
Homework Club. I have circled the date priate fee.	es they will be attending and have enclosed the appro-			
I will not need to use the late bus	I will need to use the late bus. My			
address is				
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date			
Fee: # Days X \$5.00 = \$				

Monday	Wednesday
November 16	
November 23	
November 30	December 2
December 7	December 9
December 14	December 16
December 21	
January 4	January 6
January 11	January 13
	January 20
January 25	January 27

