### January 2020

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1 Happy New Year!</td>
<td>2 School Resumes</td>
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<td>9 New Teacher Induction 4-6</td>
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<td>15 HS: Special Education Support Meeting 6-7</td>
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<td>20 Martin Luther King Jr Day No School</td>
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<td>22 HS: College and Career Day</td>
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<td>27 Midterms Week -</td>
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<td>29 HS: Parent Meeting: Literacy 6-7</td>
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Since the beginning of our school year and our first drill on September 10th, the Dante Mattioni Division has been extremely busy! We have trained with the Coast Guard at the local station on six occasions, getting underway once, and will pick up training at the station again in early spring. In October, we spent an overnight drill weekend with the USS NJ division onboard the USS NJ. Also, our cadets spent 4 hours building a park in West Philly. After our drill on October 29th, the cadets were called upon for an Open House for our school to again speak about the Sea Cadet program and our school and summer opportunities. The cadets have also attended trips to Kings Point, Maritime College, and Temple University. They toured the Coast Guard Cutter Eagle while it was moored at Penns Landing and took a trip to Cape May to observe the graduation of one of their prior shipmates, Hope Martinez who graduated from the Coast Guard boot camp.

Furthermore, the Sea Cadets are always helping with the day-to-day operations in the school building. They have moved heavy shipments of copier paper, set up tables and chairs for assemblies, and moved four Chromebook carts. They have conducted Veterans Day colors and formation. The Sea Cadets set up, assisted with, took part in, and broke down Red Cross Blood Drive. They took part in a ceremonial wreath presentation at the Chapel of the Four Chaplains.

Our Sea Cadets have met a total of 95 hours for drill since the beginning of this school year, which is 31 more hours than the national average Sea Cadet program. We are a very unique, proud, and hard-working division!

During the second half of the year, we are planning on several day trips: The Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT; the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD; and Cape May, NJ. We also plan on working on our swim and marksmanship qualifications.

Our Sea Cadets always perform their best and never complain! They truly uphold the Navy’s core values of honor, courage, and commitment! I do not speak only for myself when I say this but also for the Sea Cadet officers, Maritime faculty and staff, and all the parents and guardians of our Sea Cadets when I say we are all very proud of all of their efforts! Hooyah!

- Chief Hentnick

Mr. Wilson, Mr. Lagrassa, and several Sea Cadets participated in the Four Chaplains Wreath ceremony, which honors veterans by laying a wreath at their headstones.
The 3rd grade participated in a performance called “Traditions Around the World.” Mr. Ahern and Mrs. Purcell worked tirelessly to bring all cadets together and prepare them for their performances.

Students from 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades enjoyed a wonderful candy-filled evening at the “Peppermint Prance.” Fifth and Eighth grade students teamed up to create a beautiful, life-like “Candyland” board and characters and props to decorate the dance. It was a sweet night filled with “snickers” and joy!

The fourth graders went on a field trip to the Lincoln Financial Field. They toured the entire stadium, walked onto the field just like the Eagles do before their home games, and even got to explore the locker room. It was an unforgettable experience!

During the December Community meetings, the elementary school recognized October and November Cadets of the Month.

The Varsity and JV girls basketball teams went to Chestnut Hill College to watch the Griffins take on Holy Family University! The players had a great time and got to meet the captains after the game.

Ms. Coates’ class spent time with 5th graders to create ornaments for loved ones and decorate gingerbread cookies. Students had a great time working with friends from other classes!

Mr. Braunstein’s class participated in a mug exchange on December 20th. The students had a great time drinking the hot chocolate provided by Mr. Braunstein.

Mrs. Wassel’s cadets recreated characters popular video games and movies. Joshua Chen and Tatyana Rosado built characters from “Cuphead” and Ironman.

The 8th graders in the Independent Living class learned how to make cookie dough dip.
The high school winter concert brought out a great crowd to enjoy a fabulous show. Even the students from the elementary school joined in on the fun!

Mrs. Curley, Mrs. Gara, Mrs. Karnes, and several students put together ditty bags that were delivered to seamen who were unable to be home for the holidays.

Maritime’s Basketball team is having an amazing season under the guidance of Coach Okonta and Coach Ballenger, winning numerous games and practicing non-stop.

The high school teachers and students got into the holiday spirit with an Ugly Sweater Dress-Down Day.

The Sea Cadets had their annual holiday party to celebrate the end of the year and to recognize outstanding cadets. Parents and staff attended the festive gathering and everyone had a great time.

Due to the encouragement from Mr. Hewitt last year, Roberto Davilla’s poem was published in Illustrious, a collection of student poetry by The America Library of Poetry.

The students and teachers had a great time celebrating their favorite sports team during December’s dress-down day.