



# THE MESSENGER

*A newspaper created entirely by students for the Hallie Wells Middle School Community.*

## HALLIE WELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

11701 Little Seneca Parkway  
Clarksburg, MD 20871

VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 6

## UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 14- Valentines Day

FEBRUARY 20- Presidents Day

FEBRUARY 23- Honor Roll Celebration

MARCH 21- Junior Achievement (6th Grade)

## THIRD QUARTER GOALS

*Written by Liso O., Mikayla F., Morgan M., Pujita K.*

Can you believe we have already completed the first two marking periods of the school year? With the start of the third quarter we wanted to ask students and teachers what their goals are for the second half of the school year. Here's what we found out!

Dr. Woodward would like all students to get a 2.0 grade average or higher. Also she would like every student to feel like they can trust an adult in this building.

Mrs. Austin, our school nurse, would like everyone to be healthy and well. She would like students to improve on not coming to the nurse so often so

often and getting a good night's sleep.

Ms. Kreinbrook, the Media Specialist, would like students to improve on returning overdue materials and to return unused library passes. She, herself would like to improve on getting some of her administrative tasks completed in a timely manner.

Magdiel's goal's for the third quarter are to get straight A's and to get to class on time!

Nicholas's goal for third quarter are to stay on the honor roll!

So what's your goal for the third marking period? No matter what it is, we know that if you set your mind to it, you can accomplish anything!

## VALENTINES DAY

*Written by Olivia Z. and Prisha R.*

Have you ever wondered the origins of Valentines Day? Most scholars believe that St. Valentine was a priest who disfavored Roman emperor Claudius II around 270. According to Infoplease.com, the author wrote, "Claudius II had prohibited marriage for young men, claiming that bachelors made better soldiers. Valentine continued to secretly perform marriage ceremonies but was eventually apprehended by the Romans and put to death." Another story claims that Valentine fell in love with a daughter of a jailer. Before he was killed, he sent her a letter signed "from your Valentine." It was not until the 14th century that this Christian feast became associated with mostly love and not just a holiday Christians practice.

# MEET MR. MAHONEY

Written by Dorothy N., Oliver M., Pragma K., Robbie B., and Arunima D.

Mr. Mahoney is one of our amazing science teachers here at Hallie Wells Middle School. We wanted to get to know him a little better so we stopped by his classroom to ask him some questions.

**Where did you grow up?** I was born and raised on Long Island, New York and lived there until I was 18. I have an older brother and a younger sister.

**So what brought you to this area?** I went to The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC and stayed there for summer internships and I liked the area so much that I stayed.

**Why did you decide to become a teacher?**

I was inspired to become a teacher as a teenager when I used to volunteer at a camp with students with disabilities. I learned that I was patient and

loved working with kids so it seemed like a natural fit for me.

**Why did you come to Hallie Wells?** Like a lot of other teachers, I wanted to be a part of something new. I wanted to help start new traditions. I am happy I came here, the students are great, the staff is great and the building is awesome.

**What advice would you give to students?** Stay curious!

We had a great time getting to know Mr. Mahoney. He is a great teacher and awesome to have at Hallie Wells!



# SPELLING BEE

Written by: Morgan M., Hawwah M., Megha K., and Jed G.

Hallie Wells recently held their inaugural Spelling Bee! Around 40 students signed up to compete. After numerous rounds of competition and a second list of words, 7th grader Arunima De came away the victor. She won after spelling the word "adherence" correctly. "I was shaking the whole time, but am so excited to go to the next level and win for Hallie Wells!" Arunima will go on to the regional competition in hopes of continuing her journey all the way to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC later this year. We are so proud of Arunima, good luck!



# DIY WINTER SNOW GLOBE

Written by: Samhitha G., Manasvi J., Sananda T. and Gabriella B

Are you bored of sitting at home during the cold winter months? Well now, you can get up on your feet, and start making a Snow Globe! First, get a glass jar. It can be any kind of glass jar, we prefer a mason jar. Fill your jar with water and add lots and lots of glitter. Put in any small winter object that will fit in the jar, and glue it to the lid. What we think will look better is if you put in a tree. Next you glue the lid onto the jar, we would prefer super glue or hot glue. Enjoy your winter snow globe!