the Cougar Chronicle

CMS Newspaper Club

Real news, written by real students.

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Who’s In The Suit
By Sophia Li and Nishka Maheshwari
Have you ever wondered, who’s in that Cool Cougar Suit we see at important school events? Some of us make wild guesses, while some of us don’t really care. However, deep down, we all have questions. Who’s in the suit? How do they feel with the eyes of every student resting on them? And, why are they so popular? Find out in this interview, featuring our very own CMS Cougar!

Interview
Q: What is your name, and which grade are you in?
A: My name is Malik Alzubi, I am in Grade 8.

Q: In which events were you the Cougar?
A: I was the Cougar in the Fall Pep Rally, and the NY Jets Visit.

Q: How does it feel like inside the Cougar Suit?
A: It’s hot, I can’t see anything. But it’s as comfortable as a fuzzy blanket.

Q: Do you realize you are popular among the student body? If not, how does it feel like to be popular?
A: I didn’t know that I was popular. It feels good to be popular. It’s also going to be kind of weird when everyone realizes that I’m the Cougar.
Upstander of the Week

By Nishka Maheshwari

Every 6 seconds, a child is bullied. This major conflict affects every 1 in 5 children. Bullying can be social, verbal, or even cyber. However, taking a stand is as difficult as it is to be bullied. That’s why, the New York Jets have partnered with “Stomp Out Bullying!” to kick off the start of a new program, called Upstander of the Week. They have invited our very own CMS, to identify an “Upstander” each week.

You might be wondering, what is an Upstander? An Upstander is an individual who puts others needs before his/her own. He/she portrays the qualities of kindness, selflessness, and commitment, to make the school a better place for all. The Upstander of the Week will receive a Jets Upstander T shirt and 2 tickets (with a parking pass) to the Jets Home Game. Our very own small but mighty group of CMS Upstanders are: Faith Giles, Matthew Hernandez, Robert Spero, Logan Joyner, Tanisi Patel, Jarett Behnke, Ava Praziale, Jake Stevens, Frances Diepietro, and Divya Loganathan. We are very proud of our CMS heroes and congratulate them on their big accomplishment!

Very recently, some players from the NY Jets team and people from ‘Stomp Out Bullying!’ came to talk about the importance of standing up to being bullied. We were surprised by their inspiring stories to share, and their wonderful advice on how to tackle bullying. It was a great talk, and we were certainly grateful for their time at CMS.

So, interested in this program? Want to be an Upstander? Well, it’s never too late to lend a helping hand to those who need it. Whether it’s helping a struggling student at work, or just asking a new kid to sit at your table for lunch, even a small deed of kindness can change someone’s day, year, or life. Just remember, never be afraid to stand for what is right, even if it means standing alone.
Tips for Having a Better School Year

Tips to Have a Better School Year

1. **Be Positive!** A good attitude distracts the bad things that happen. Studies also show that when you smile, more people around you are likely to smile as well.

2. **Have some energy!** People who don’t have energy are more likely to unexpectedly doze off. Better not get the attention of your teacher.

3. **Create objectives!** Set some goals that you would want to achieve. It doesn’t have to be school-related goals.

4. **Do your homework!** It may sound cheesy and frustrating, but trust me. I’ve had the experience of repeatedly forgetting my math homework in sixth grade. It was horrible!

5. **Be your very best!** Who knows when your teacher can be angry when you don’t behave? I experienced that, too.

By our prized reporter, Arshan Ali.
New Teacher Spotlight

An Interview By Arianna Crum

Why did you start teaching?
When I was younger I didn’t like school. I wanted to be a teacher that made kids want to go to school.

What subject do you teach?
I teach English with Ms. Pearl, Science with Mrs. Eckert and Social Studies with Mrs. Hosonitz.

Did you teach anywhere before CMS? If so, where?
My first job was in West New York, at St. Joseph’s for 2 years, where I taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade English, then 3rd grade at the same school. Then, I taught 2nd grade at Woodland Elementary School in Morristown for a year. After that I went to Lazar Middle School in Montville for 3 years, where I taught middle school English again. Finally, I came to CMS. This is my first year here.

What are your teaching methods?
I’m a very hands on type of teacher, so I like my students to have a wide variety of activities such as handouts, visuals, games, etc.

What do you enjoy most about teaching?
I enjoy interacting with students daily and I also enjoy when students understand what I just taught, and seeing their reaction to the new information.

What advice would you give to a new or aspiring teacher?
As much as the curriculum is important, don’t forget that students are children who need social and emotional love and support.
Featured Clubs

Magician Club

Students learn how to perform all kinds of magic, from basic card tricks to making objects disappear. Members are required to compile a bag of assorted magic tricks that are created, practiced and performed throughout the year.

In this club, all secrets are revealed, but remember, what happens in Magician’s Club stays in Magician’s Club!

Ski Club

The Ski Club will be starting their exciting trips to Shawnee Mountain.

The bus leaves from here at CMS, and the trips are a lot of fun.

Join them in swooshing up and down the slopes. And in between that, enjoy the delicious cheeseburgers at the ski lodge.

Skiers and snow-boarder are welcome!

Mr. Gillespie and Mrs. Clifton are looking forward to seeing you.
Musical Happenings
By David Winters
The eighth grade band has been very busy these days: participating with Parsippany High School Marching Band. They also performed with the 6th, 7th and 8th grade choirs when the 5th graders came to visit. The choir and the band performed for the pep-rally as well.

Students, Aadi Seth, Emily Regalado, and Aisha Rehan performed at the High School Broadway night.

And don’t forget: Rehearsals for Frozen Jr. and already underway!
Puzzle Page
By Arshan Ali

Winter Word Search

LU
JWA
REUOIS
AZFDNCUN
RXJIEVEBAO
QEDELYLICSWO
MTERJGPSBNSBM
YTKDRAZZILBIULLA
VIXTNIJSTWNCCWKGUCN
EDUDAIIXWUOMEIRTEKECT
ANYFOEWEBNWCNOTLEOGCV
TEKCRZSTRTKZBCWLIO
NZUGBZEETAPXODW
AOYYAARLOGEPVLO
SRMGZEJNETEOL
IFOCDVSCN
WLVILOTC
HNALKG
OLEH
BW

BLIZZARD
COAT
COLD
FROZEN
GLOVES
ICE
ICECREAM
REINDEER
SANTA
SLED
SNOW
SNOWMAN
WINTER

Sudoku: You must get the numbers 1-9 on every row, column, and 3x3 grid.

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8  2
6  3  2  1
9  7
8
1
7
3  7  1
8
4  5  8
9  5
3
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The Cougar Chronicle Needs Writers!!

We meet every first and third Tuesday in room 212.

Have an idea for an article for the Cougar Chronicle? Email Mr. Winick:
gwinick@pthsd.net