

## David Brearley 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter

December 2016

Andrew White- Assistant Principal

Megan Harrison- School Counselor

### the big picture

December's theme is Teamwork!  
Congratulations to November's student of the month, Derek Graichen & Gotcha Award winners, Rick Cassidy & Karen Perez-Velaquez!

### Upcoming Events

- Middle School Spirit Week- December 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>
- December 1<sup>st</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Deck the Doors contest.
- MS Honor Roll assembly- December 15<sup>th</sup> @7:40am
- December 23<sup>rd</sup>- PTO 8<sup>th</sup> grade ice cream social!

### For Your Information:

We all know middle school can be rough, on both the students & parents. Below are 3 ways to help your child survive the social difficulties of middle school. (An excerpt from The Star Ledger, written by Phyllis Fagell)

1. Turn down the volume of drama. Be concrete and give examples, such as telling your child not to forward risqué pictures or videos. Block numbers from people who try baiting them with text messages.
2. Assume positive intent. Kids can be insensitive but they are generally not intentionally cruel. Teach your child how to assess situations from multiple angles, factoring in others' point of view & state of mind.
3. Know when to let go. As parents it's painful to see children reeling when they are left in the dust by friends but some friendships come to an end. Normalize that some friendships run their course.

### **HELP WANTED:**

Students who struggled 1<sup>st</sup> marking period will be given passes to see Mrs. Harrison for academic counseling. Please contact Mrs. Harrison for Peer Tutoring forms or more information about full year course failures.

### Dear Parents..

#### **Don't forget to check Parent Portal!**

First marking period grades have been posted!

Steps to view report cards:

1. Logon
2. Click on "grading"
3. Click on "available report cards"