



HIGHLITES

September 2016

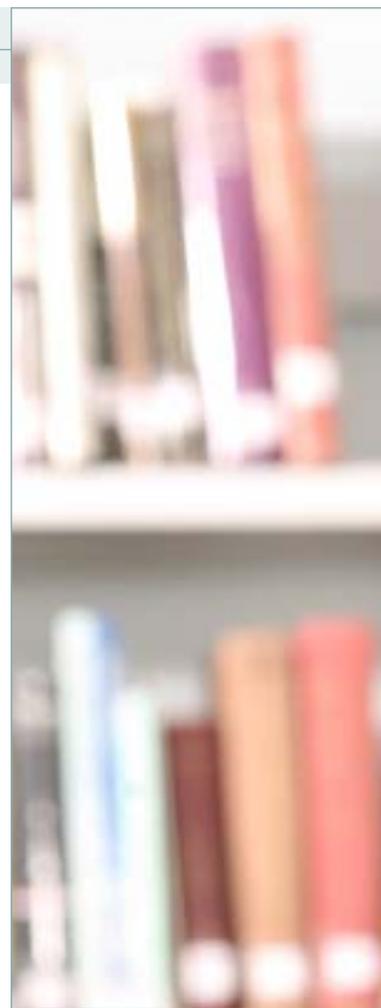
Dear Parents,

As the cooler temperatures signal the coming of Fall, our school community is immersed in a new academic year. Our students have successfully completed their first five weeks of class; our athletes have admirably been competing on the fields, courts, and in the pool; and our performers have been preparing for the Fall Comedy, the Columbus Day Parade, and other performance opportunities throughout our town.

With the newness of the school year comes a new look for Highlights as well as a new editor, Mr. Benveniste. Please welcome him and feel free to let him know about any interesting student accomplishments (abenveniste@eastchester.k12.ny.us). Our goal is to provide you with timely and easily-accessible information.

This weekend is Homecoming 2016. In addition to a full docket of games (see the schedule on the Eastchester Athletics website), we will be hosting our Fall Pep Rally on Friday evening at 7 pm and will welcome the Classes of 1966 and 1986 home for their 50th and 30th reunions. Please come out and support Eagles Athletics!

Sincerely,
Jeffrey A. Capuano, Ph.D.
Principal



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Newsweek Report.....	2
Merit Scholars	2
New Faculty	3
In the Classroom	3
Students at EHS	4
Classroom Spotlight	4
College Trip	4

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Spirit Week and Homecoming
October 5th-7th
- College Fair Night October
14th
- First Marking Period Ends
November 4th
- Players Club Fall Comedy
November 17-19



EAGLE PRIDE

Newsweek Report

This summer, Newsweek released their list of the best public high schools in the country and Eastchester High School clocked in at No. 194. Newsweek looked at six measurements and weighted them to achieve a “college readiness index.” The rankings demonstrate how well high schools prepare students for college. Eastchester earned a score of 79.9 % in College Readiness with a 99.6 % graduation rate and 95.1% college-bound rate.

OUR NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALISTS

The National Merit Scholarship Program announced 962 students from New York state who are 2016 semi-finalists for the annual award.

Nationwide, about 16,000 semifinalists were named today. These high school seniors will compete for 7,400 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered in the spring.

Congratulations to:

Hiroko Abe

Minna Kimura-Thollander

Daniel Mancusi

Andy Zhu

*“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”
-Mahatma Gandhi*

Fête de retour

French Club (Advised by Laura Marcoccia) just had its' Welcome Back Party which was a huge success! They had 26 kids attend! Tim McManus held a French trivia contest which Catherine Froehlich and Reina Nakamura won! Hiroko Abe's artistic talent shined as she used an original drawing of hers for a caption writing contest and Megan Sinanis won! Catherine Winn put together a beautiful slide show of past events they have had and it was a great way to kick off the year!

The Start of Memories

Yearbook advisers Rachel Sydlowski, Patrick Perry and yearbook staff Brandon Marku, Elsa Bucaj, Melissa Booker, Sakura Abdel-Rahman, Dylan Ecklund, Anastasia Philippopoulos and Kevin Jiao attended the Herff Jones Fall Yearbook Seminar at Pace University on September 29, 2016. Staff immersed themselves in vibrant lectures and workshops covering a wide range of topics from journalism to photography, color theory and graphic design.

PHILANTHROPY/SCHOOL SERVICE

Relay for Life: To update last May's Relay For Life, over 130 Eastchester High School students helped raise \$31,947. Eastchester faculty members Lina Astarita and Heather Reilly spearheaded the High School's presence along with the EHS Jazz Band and Don Olson with their beautiful performance. EHS graduate, Jesse Millman kept the participants in shape with Zumba.

Swazi Legacy/NAHS: This past summer, a group of students and teachers traveled with Swazi Legacy to work on the grounds of Enjabulweni Primary School in Swaziland. Thanks to the money raised by the National Art Honor Society's flower sales, the club purchased art supplies in Swaziland that afforded them the opportunity to paint all around the school grounds. In a collaborative effort, they were able to depict traditional scenes of African life as well as modern learning situations. Many thanks to the NAHS for their fundraising that allowed so much success in creating a brighter environment for the school children of Enjabulweni.



*Pictured from L to R. Lauren Stipo, Nancy Brown, and Katelyn Odierno
Camera Shy: Joe DiMaio and Anna Leighton*

EASTCHESTER WELCOMES NEW STAFF!

- Nancy Brown (Library) comes to us from Fox Lane High School after thirteen years of service while educating in information literacy and research skills.
- Joe DiMaio (Assistant Principal) comes from Valley Central High school after eight years and brings along with him expertise in building administration and student discipline.
- Anna Leighton (Class of 2008) (English) returns to her home district after teaching at Cardinal Spellman for three years.
- Katelyn Odierno (Orchestra) spent time in both Sayville High School and East Islip before coming to EHS .
- Lauren Stipo (Business) has taught Accounting, Business Law, and Marketing at Stamford.

VIDEO PRODUCTION CLUB HOSTS COMPETITION!

Over Columbus Day Weekend, the Video Production Club is hosting the 88 Film Continuum, a filmmaking competition where student production teams compete to write, film and edit a short 4 - 7 minute film in 88 hours. On Friday October 7 at 3pm, production teams will be assigned a character, a line of dialogue and a prop they need to include in their film. Also each team will pick a genre out of a hat.

The films are to be handed in the following Tuesday morning before 1st period. They will be screened at a later date and awards will be given out. The winner for best film will be screened at the School's film festival in June.

IN THE CLASSROOM

AP PSYCHOLOGY

In August, Douglas Weisman of the EHS Science department was one of only a dozen AP Psychology teachers in the nation to be selected to complete a Timing Trial for The College Board's Advanced Placement program. He reviewed many elements of the current AP Psychology curriculum and also provided valuable teacher input regarding the changes in the proposed AP Psychology course overhaul scheduled for implementation in 2018-2019. This is the second time Mr. Weisman has consulted for the College Board's Advanced Placement program in this capacity this year.

Art

Art teacher Rachel Sydlowski's ceramic sculpture is included in The Northeast Ceramic Sculpture Exhibition, juried by Anat Shifan. The exhibition runs until October 1, 2016 at Art Centro in Poughkeepsie, NY.

STUDENTS AT EHS

This past summer, Benny Salanitro and Lauren Gresia participated in an amazing opportunity to study the Italian culture in Narni, Italy for two weeks. Mrs. Lindia and the Italian American Committee on Education, IACE, sponsored the summer program. The two weeks were spent immersed in the Italian language, cultural tours, and visits to local craftsmen and industries. Highlights of the trip included Marmore Falls, Narni Sotterranea, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome.

In the name of science, Kureha Masuda had video camera in hand at 5:12AM on 9/23, filming the International Space Station as it passed over Eastchester.

Sports

The Eastchester Cross Country Boys are off and running this season, led by Russo, Ulaj, and Oakes, who have been averaging 5:42, 5:54, and 6:01 per mile respectively during their first few three-mile races.

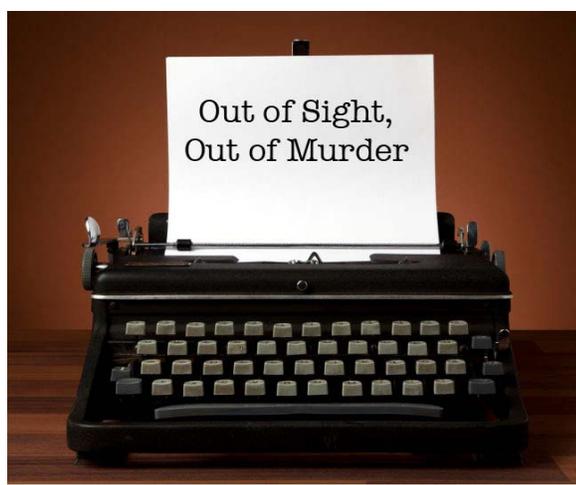
Newcomers to cross country, Ethan Gatrell and Bailey Hunn have stepped to the forefront of both the Boys' and Girls' varsity lineups by running with "reckless abandon".

Homecoming Games

Thursday: -Swimming at Sarah Lawrence College at 5pm.
-Boys Varsity Soccer at 730pm at Haindl Field.

Friday October 7th: Girls Varsity Volleyball versus Scarsdale at 5pm
Pep Rally at 7pm
Bonfire at 830pm

Saturday October 8th: Varsity Football at 1:30pm.



COMING SOON- THE ANNUAL PLAYERS CLUB FALL COMEDY

Imagine that you are writing a story and suddenly the characters in your head start appearing all around you. That is the hilarious premise of this year's EHS Fall Comedy, "Out of Sight....Out of Murder" by Fred Carmichael. Working on a deadline, mystery writer Peter Knight has been sent to a Gloomy Victorian house to complete his latest thriller. After a large lightning strike, the characters in his book seem to start showing up in the flesh. Constant laughs follow as the author tries to determine if he has gone insane, or if this is really happening.

On the same bill the club is also presenting the Jim Gustafson's ten minute comedy, "Bank Withdrawal Symptoms", in which a robber is constantly being

interrupted by side conversations and helpful suggestions from the banks clients.

The EHS Players Club is widely recognized as one of the best high school theaters in the state and has been called a "powerhouse" by the LOHUD newspapers. Almost 40 cast and crew will be involved in the Fall production.

Performances are Friday, November 18th and Saturday, November 19th at 7:00pm. Running time for the entire production, with intermission, will be approximately two hours and 20 minutes. Tickets are \$7.00 for students, \$9.00 for adults and are only available at the door.

9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM COMES TO EHS CLASSROOMS

On Tuesday, September 13th, Eastchester High School welcomed Eileen Forbes-Watkins, a docent from the 9/11 Memorial Museum as part of their outreach program, *Anniversary in the Schools*. The program helped commemorate the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. It offers lessons that discuss what happened on 9/11 with a focus on the importance of remembering the attacks through personal objects and stories. To that end, the interactive lesson incorporated an artifact, as well as audio clips and images, (both from the museum's collection) of those actually involved in the 9/11 attacks. Questions, discussion and analysis followed. Students in Ms. Molinari, Mr. Borys, Ms. Chazen, Mr. Leddy, Ms. Vitale and Ms. Kelly's classes participated in the presentation which was organized by Ms. Molinari.

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT

WRITING THROUGH THE HUMANITIES

MS. JENNIFER GAVIN

In our digital era of “selfies” and instant messages, cultural literacy is in danger of becoming obsolete. It’s important that students learn about the world of ideas influencing the literature they read, and I have always been interested in teaching a Humanities class. A while back I came across my journal from fifteen years ago, and in it I had written the course outline for what a Humanities course would look like, and I knew I wanted to put together a course that presented students with some of the world’s greatest creators. I knew the course would have to be interactive, intriguing, and fun, with room for the students to write about and discuss inspiring ideas. Last year, eighteen brave, intellectual truth-seekers signed up for the course, not really knowing what it was all about. They were incredible; we went to the opera, wrote about architecture, created art-based poetry, applied ancient philosophy to everyday life, and listened closely to music from a variety of eras. We have another great group of students this year, and I look forward to working more with them in an environment where we learn for the sake of learning. Students here at Eastchester inspire me every day.

2016-2017 EGO

Executive officers:

President: Matt Roche
Vice President: Cindy Lin
Secretary: Lauren Gresia
Treasurer:
Joanna Georgiou

Class of 2017

President:
Tereza Shkurtaj
Vice President:
Jack Francisco
Secretary:
Skyler Russo
Treasurer:
Skylar Capasso

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President:
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Vice President:
Sophie Mc Intyre
Secretary:
Dana Shina
Treasurer:
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President:
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Vice President:
Miranda de Leon
Secretary:
Keeva Fay
Treasurer:
Conor Collins

Class of 2020

President: T
Tim Kiely
Vice President:
Maddy Smith
Secretary:
Ciara Fay
Treasurer:
Meghana Viswanathan



Marcos Monteagudo and Heather Reilly took 30 students on a college tour of SUNY New Paltz and Marist College. They met with EHS Alumni at both campuses (Cecelia Bolger at New Paltz, Lauren and Sarah Tartaglia at Marist).

HIGHLITES

Highlites seeks to bring the accomplishments of the classroom, teacher activities, athletic accolades, as well as Eastchester events to the community at large.

**Editor-in-Chief
Adam Benveniste**

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE

OCTOBER

- 3-4 ROSH HASHANAH—No School
- 5-7 HOMECOMING SPIRIT WEEK
- 7 HOMECOMING PEP RALLY/BONFIRE
- 10 COLUMBUS DAY— No School
- 12 YOM KIPPUR— No School
- 13 SENIOR PHOTO
- 14 FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE- 7 p.m.
- 17 COLLEGE FAIR- 7 p.m. @ HS GYM
- 18 EGO BLOOD DRIVE— 3-7 p.m. @ EMS
- 19 HS PSAT
- 22 HS ACT EXAM
- 24 DISTRICT-WIDE DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENION/WELLNESS EVENT
- 27 UNDERCLASSMEN PHOTOS
- 28 FALL COMEDY NIGHT— 6:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 4 FIRST MARKING PERIOD ENDS
JUNIOR CLASS VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT
- 5 SAT EXM
- 7 CAREERS IN MEDICINE NIGHT @ 7 p.m.
- 8 ELECTION DAY— No school for students
- 10 FASHION SHOW, Surf Club
- 17-19 PLAYER' CLUB FALL COMEDY
- 21 MATH HONOR'S SOCIETY INDUCTION @ 7 p.m.
- 23 1/2 DAY OF SCHOOL
- 24-25 THANKSGIVING RECESS

HIGHLITES QUESTION CORNER

Do you have a question concerning an upcoming event or something related to the high school? Submit your question and the answer may show up in next month's edition!

Email Adam Benveniste:
abenveniste@eastchester.k12.ny.us