



HALDANE HORIZONS

A newsletter of the Haldane Central School District



Message from Dr. Benante

Dear Haldane Community,

This month's Horizons features profiles of our high school valedictorian, Mairead O'Hara, and salutatorian, Kate Bolte. Not only do Mairead and Kate embody the spirit of academic excellence, they each have thrived in their engagements outside of the classroom, whether it be through athletics or Haldane's diverse offerings of clubs and activities.

This month's issue highlights many of the experiences that our kids have throughout their Haldane journey. It is the complement of these experiences with the support of the family that results in fantastic outcomes for our students.

Enjoy,
Phil Benante, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

FEBRUARY 2023

Second Grade Biography Blast

100 Days, Loops, Cups, and Bucks

DBT Art Therapy

Fearsome Predators

Terrifically Tiny Terrariums

Middle School Community Read

PCMEA Jr All County Chorus

Readers' Theatre Workshop

Frost Valley Back in the Frost

Class of 2023 Val and Sal

Haldane Chorus Spreads the Feels

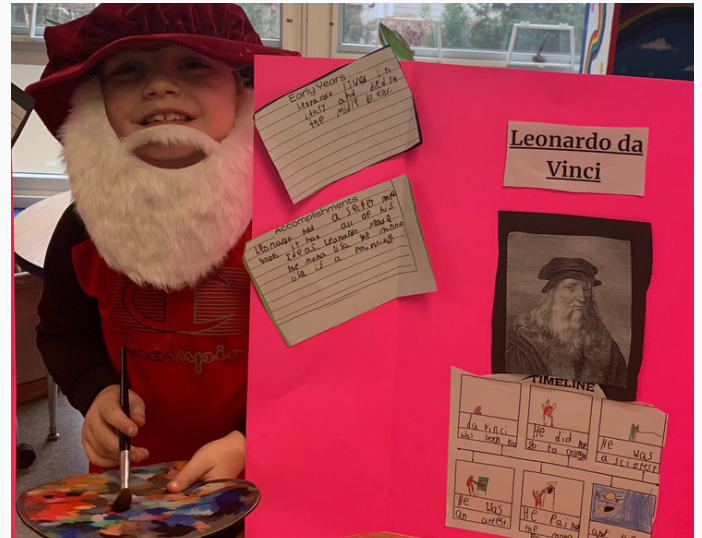
Ski Club Goes to Gore

Acorn Demos Arson Detection

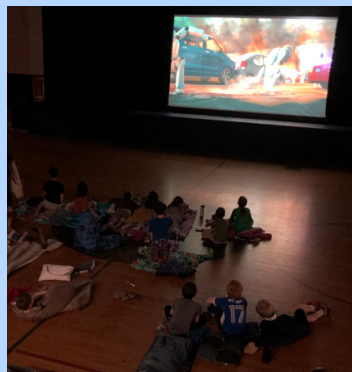
State Champs Show Their Bling

Second Grade Biography Blast

Haldane second graders recently completed their biography projects. The students each chose a person of interest and then learned how to research, take notes, and summarize the information about their historical figure. The hard work wrapped up with a celebration.



PTA Movie Night Airs The Mitchells vs. The Machines



100 Days, Loops, Cups, and Bucks!

Haldane kindergartners had an amazing 100th day of school, complete with some students dressing as if they were 100 years old. The group made 100 Froot Loop necklaces, worked in "100" stations, and fantasized about how to spend \$100. Their big spender dreams included buying 100 toys, a treehouse, a cave, and a Lamborghini. One savvy student even said they would take it to the bank.



DBT Art Therapy Teaches Mindfulness and Emotional Regulation

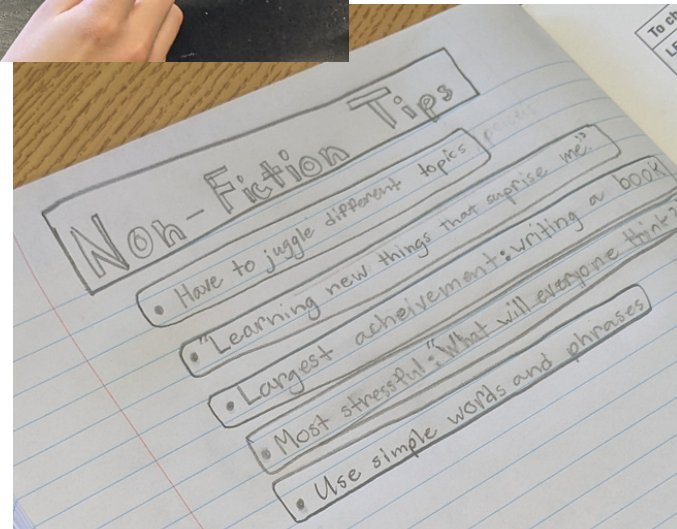
Students in fourth grade participated in DBT, Dialectical Behavior Therapy lessons, with Ms. Curry. The students learned what DBT is and the components that make up this form of therapy. The focus was to teach the skills of DBT to help students in their everyday lives. The students learned about dialectics and the 3 states of mind, along with the 4 key areas of DBT: mindfulness, emotion regulation, distress tolerance, and improving relationships.

As part of the implementation of the therapy, Jayne Henderson, a creative arts therapist, visited the students for a series of 4 lessons surrounding distress tolerance skills, mindfulness, emotional and logical responses, and self regulation. Students explored with senses through a series of activities, created objects to represent their "wise mind," and practiced mindfulness through role playing.



Fearsome Predators

What is a predator? Students visited with a naturalist from The Center for Environmental Education at PNW BOCES to learn all about fearsome predators. They examined the differences between structures and functions, and adaptations. Students pondered what would happen if predators disappeared, and learned the importance of keystone species.



Terrifically Tiny Terrariums!

Mr. Wick's 6th grade Ecology class designed and constructed their own mini ecosystems using all native woodland materials. Thank you to our amazing parent volunteers!



2023 Middle School Community Read



The 2023 Haldane Community Read of *Greenglass House* by Kate Milford was held on February 16 at 4:30 pm. About 75 students, parents, faculty, and staff enjoyed hot chocolate and book-themed snacks in the cafeteria thanks to the efforts of the PTA. The group then filtered into five classrooms to discuss the book. Everyone had a good time and we are looking forward to continuing the tradition of the Community Read for many years to come.

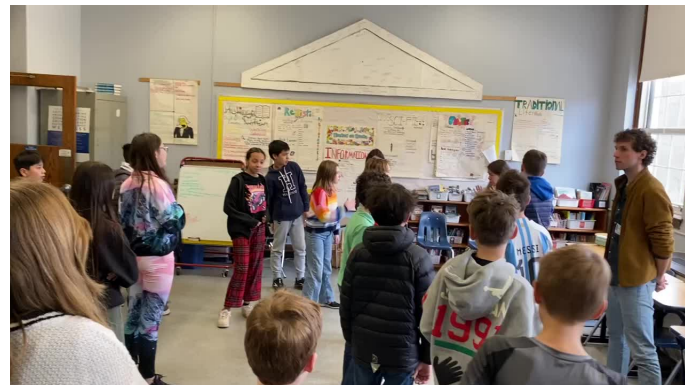


PCMEA Jr All County Chorus



Earlier this month, several 7th and 8th grade chorus members, along with Mr. Sauer, attended the Putnam County Music Educators' Association All County Festival in Carmel, NY. The Haldane students did a phenomenal job at the Saturday concert and represented our school in a profound way throughout the length of the festival. Congratulations to: Kirra McCoy, Jack Conrey, Eamon Wall, Maggie Hall, Lily Parker, Ryan Cavallaro, and Freddy Geppner.

Watch Scenes from the Annual Readers' Theatre Workshop



Frost Valley Back in the Frost

The annual 8th Grade trip to Frost Valley returns to the cold weather for class bonding and blustery outdoor fun.



Mairead O'Hara, Class of 2023 Valedictorian

How did you do it?! What would you say contributed to your academic success at Haldane?

Our class has always been very competitive academically, and that environment drove me throughout high school. My classmates and I pushed each other in and outside the classroom, on every test and assignment. Yet even as we jockeyed for the highest grades, I never lost the sense that this competition was supportive and good-natured. We shared study materials and notes, but we motivated each other, and I think that helped us all succeed.

Best part of senior year so far?

Tennis season has definitely been my favorite part of senior year so far. I have played alongside several of my teammates for Coach Dudar since middle school, and I've enjoyed watching the program grow and improve over the years. Our hard work and strong team dynamic really came together this year, and we got the opportunity to compete in the sectional tournament, both as a team and as individual doubles pairings. Being a part of tennis at Haldane is something that I will certainly miss.



What activities were you involved in at Haldane?

I have played tennis, basketball, and lacrosse throughout high school, and I truly value the time I've spent on each team. I even had the opportunity to play volleyball during a fourth season of my sophomore year --- something I might not have been able to do at another school. At Haldane, it was encouraged. I found that staying involved in sports each season helped me to develop as both an athlete and a student, forcing me to maintain organization and balance.

What are your plans post-Haldane?

I plan to study history in college, although I haven't chosen a school yet.

Kate Bolte, Class of 2023 Salutatorian

How did you do it?! What would you say contributed to your academic success at Haldane?

My friends and family, especially my parents, have contributed the most to my academic success. My parents have been supportive since day one, and have always encouraged me to do the best I can. My family and friends were always there to celebrate my successes and help me through my failures. I couldn't have done it without any of them.

Best part of senior year so far?

The best part of senior year so far was simply being a part of the school community. Whether it be celebrating a sports teams win, a friend's acceptance to their dream school, or hearing about others plans for the future, I've enjoyed connecting with all of my classmates. I look forward to continuing to be a part of this community through our senior dinner, prom, graduation, and much more as we finish senior year.



What activities were you involved in at Haldane?

Tech Crew for Haldane High School Drama, Assisted in Tech for Haldane Middle School Drama, NHS member, International Club member, President of History Club, President of Leo Club, and President of ROAR club

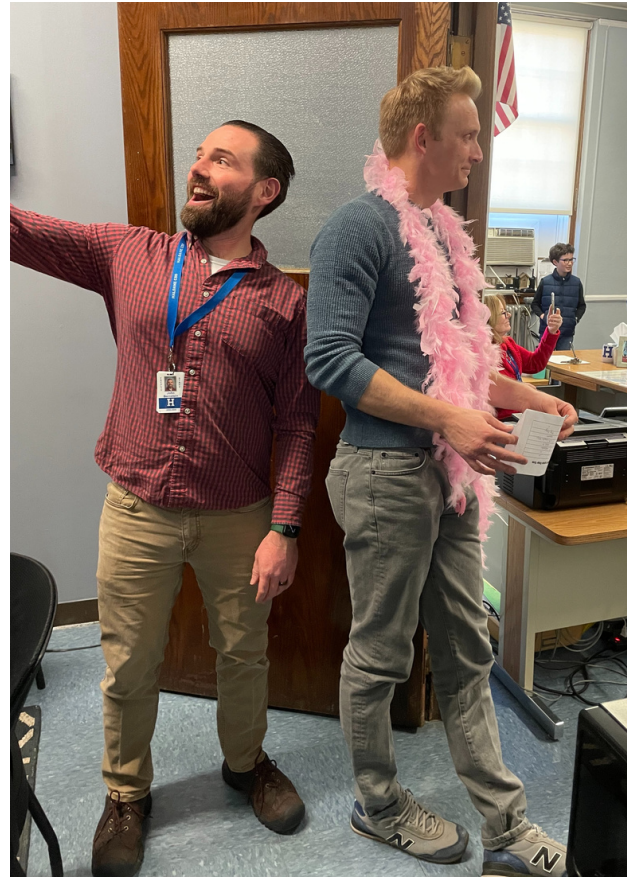
What are your plans post-Haldane?

I have not decided which school I am going to attend yet, but I plan to pursue either aerospace engineering or architecture.

Haldane Chorus Spreads the "Feels" and Feathers

Love was in the air on February 14 with travelling Valentine-o-Grams

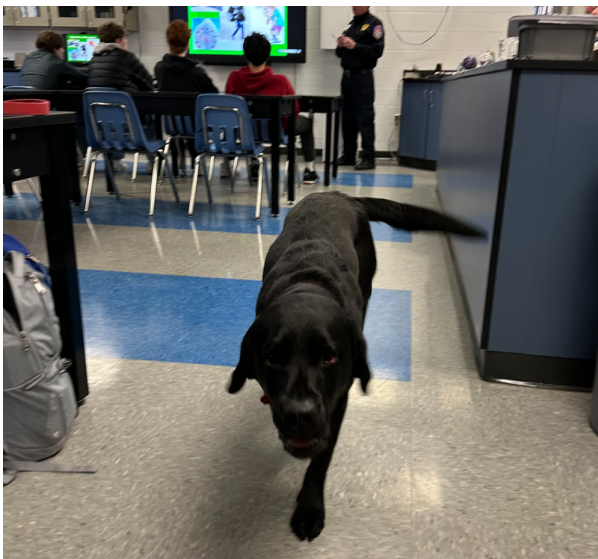
This year, Haldane students and staff sent their love to one another through singing grams by the high school chorus. Song choices included short versions of "My Girl," "For The Longest Time," and "I Want It That Way." Recipients were wrapped in a feather boa while they enjoyed a short serenade. The fundraiser sought to bring a little bit of love, kindness, and fun into the halls of our school - all while supporting the choral program at Haldane. While students were the primary recipients, Dr. Benante and Mr. Dudar were among those hit with some musical love. *With all the feels this will definitely become a new Haldane tradition!*



Ski Club Hits the Slopes at Gore Mountain



Acorn Demos Arson Detection



Black lab, Acorn, and his partner, Westchester County Police Detective (and Haldane dad) John Peters visited the Forensic Science class to share their arson detection skills. Acorn is trained to sniff out accelerants and ignitable liquids in suspected arson cases, and he demonstrated his expertise by detecting a drop of gasoline in the classroom.

State Champs Show Their Bling



We may have mentioned a time or two that the Haldane Boys' Soccer team was the 2022 STATE CHAMP! Captains Ryan Eng-Wong, Will Sniffen, and Ronan Kiter played with ice in their veins and now they're sporting some ice to commemorate their success.

MARCH 2023

**THU
2**

High School
Orientation

**WED
22**

9/10 Class
Trip to
Broadway

**FRI
24**

HV Shakespeare Festival
Performs Romeo & Juliet
Grades 6-9

**THU
9**

Middle School
Orientation

**THU
23**

Anxiety Relief
for
Teens Assembly

**MON
27**

Modified
Sports Begin

**FRI
10**

NO SCHOOL
Superintendent's
Conference Day

**TUE
28**

You Don't Know Me
Until You Know Me
MS Assembly

**MON
13**

Varsity & JV
Sports Begin

**FRI
31**

High School
Immersion Day

**TUE
14**

Elementary School
Report Cards

**THU/FRI
16/17**

Elementary
Parent/
Teacher
Conferences

**TUE-THU
21-24**

Junior Class
Trip to
Washington, DC

**Haldane Drama
Presents**

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S
Oklahoma!

March 17
March 18
March 19

**Haldane
Elementary
Presents**


Seussical
KIDS

March 30

Celebrating our Drivers



February 22 was Bus Driver Appreciation Day and Haldane high schoolers delivered signs of THANKS as they boarded their busses. We appreciate our drivers and their efforts to deliver Haldane students safe and sound to school, field trips, and athletic events.

Hats & Scarves for the Ukraine



Antoinette Guy, Haldane 8th grader, organized a hat and scarf drive to benefit children impacted by the war in Ukraine. The project was part of her coursework for Mr. Horn's Discover, Create, and Innovate class.

Antoinette utilized her research skills to find Hope Now Ministries, a charitable organization headquartered in Georgia. Antoinette selected scarves and hats as the collection materials based on reported needs and ease of transport. She was inspired to use the class project as an opportunity to make a difference.

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