

SEPTEMBER

CHARTER INK

Welcome Back!



ADVICE FOR FRESHMEN

BY KAYLEIGH WRIGHT

In lieu of the new school year, the top 10 column this issue is directed toward freshmen; who are just starting the infamous four years of high school. Many people say that high school is the best four years of your life, while others look at it more as a treacherous 1,461 days. And so this month, in order to help the freshmen adjust better to high school, a list has been compiled of different pieces of advice from upperclassmen that they would like to share with freshmen. Trust them, they've done freshman year before!



(in no specific order):

1. "Make sure that you don't fall behind in your classes."
- Anonymous
2. "Freshman year DOES matter for college, just ask Mary!"
- Katie Aucella, 12
3. "Respect the upperclassmen, and remember that they've done this before too!"
- Anonymous
4. "Don't get on your teacher's nerves- you'll have them for the next 3 years!"
- Demetra Tselengidis, 10
5. "Don't question Mr. Small."
- James Perachi, 11
6. "Do your homework because it really does help."
- Jacob Gray, 11
7. "Don't sleep in class."
- Wilner Milius, 11
8. "Try your hardest- don't give up in the beginning!"
- Meggan Thermitus, 12
9. "Hopefully you only have to do this once- make it great!"
- Ryan, teacher
10. "Take advantage of your FIT blocks and studies."
- Van Harting, 10

Upcoming Events

BY ZAIN AKHTAR

On Thursday October 10th

There will be Parent-Teacher Conferences from 5-7PM. The teachers will discuss your grades and how you are doing in class. So remember, be nice to your teachers!!

On Saturday October 19th

There is the Harvest Run road race at 11PM at Wompatuck State Park in Hingham. It's a 5k, or 3.1 miles in the woods of Wompatuck. Don't worry, there will be one water stop and refreshments at the end. You can register at harvestrun.homestead.com. The Harvest Run is mandatory for all cross country players.

On Thursday October 31st

The 1st Quarter Ends, only three more to go. After this, all grades go towards the 2nd quarter. And don't forget, it's Halloween! Get as much candy as you can!

Outdoor Classrooms

by Kayleigh Wright

How many times have you been sitting in class and your gaze has drifted outside to the beautiful sunny day unfolding beyond the windows? And after seeing that, proceeded to ask the teacher of that class “can we go outside?” Well now you are in luck. Because their protests of “no one can concentrate” and “there is nowhere good to sit” can not be held up. SSCPS, this year, has welcomed the outdoor classroom. The classroom, located outside of Ed’s classroom windows, is a stone patio designed in the shape of the school logo. Currently the space is simply a patio, but plans for the classroom include benches and the design of the school logo laid in the rocks with flagstone, according to executive director Alicia Savage. She also mentioned the possibility of a hedge being donated to “give the space some privacy.” Along with the classroom space, there has been a walkway from the front



The completed out door classroom, in the shape of the SSCPS logo

door to the back of the building added.

Support in building the outdoor classroom has come from all different areas. Donovan Fauvelle and William Tramontana created the idea, and a parent/architect designed the space. A donation was made by the Derby Street Shoppes to fund the project. Finally, staff members as well as forty four graduate students from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government contributed huge amounts to the actual building process. The development of the

outdoor classroom has been a real group effort.

Alicia said that the classroom will be available for use for all grades, but that there will be a sign up sheet. She also mentioned the possibility of high school students being allowed to eat lunch in the space. So, if you want the chance to learn in an innovative and unique area that truly represents what this school stands for, make sure your teacher gets the class on the sign up sheet! Be sure to take advantage of this great opportunity that is an exciting addition to SSCPS.

The Funnies

by Luke MacCormack

Did you hear about the crossed eyed teacher?

She couldn't control her pupils.

A man breaks his foot and calls 911 for help.

Man: Operator, operator call me an ambulance!

Operator: Okay sir, you're an ambulance.

Step Workshop

by Sam Circelli

“Fun”, “chaotic”, “We’re gonna bring it!”, are quotes from the students and teachers of the Charter School’s newest workshop, Step. Visiting this workshop was quite a unique experience. The workshop is filled with all girl dancers, who are a group of very energetic, loud, and talented people. Students from the workshop have told me that it is a workshop that is very student run. The names of the steps are given by names of students in the workshop who make up those particular moves.

While talking to Maria, the teacher of the workshop, she told me about their upcoming plans for EOMs. They will be asked to perform a step dance that they made up themselves. Along with the EOMs, they plan on dancing at basketball games and competing in competitions! This workshop is definitely an exciting one. Next year this workshop could bring in so many more students, there might have to be auditions!



THE SYRIAN CRISIS

By Molly Schauer

In case you haven’t been watching the news, Syria has been using chemical weapons against their own people. Not only is that an awful idea, but the United Nations decided that if you use chemical weapons, you are committing a crime against humanity. The Syrian president Bashar al-Assad used chemical weapons against his own people because he is a desperate man who thinks he is losing power. Bashar al-Assad has killed over 100,000 people since 2011 with over 400 of those being children, all from chemical weapons. All over the world, armies are preparing to help stop Assad from continuing to use chemical weapons against anyone. However Russia, Iraq and China are fully prepared to help Syria because they’re the ones supplying Syria with these weapons. The armies of countries bordering Syria have handed out first-aid kits, oxygen tanks and gas masks to all their residents for precaution. The U.S allies that are prepared to help are: France, Israel, Saudi-Arabia, Turkey, Egypt, Mexico, Germany, Great Britain, Canada, and finally Russia. Our relationship with Russia is a little shaky because even though they’re supplying Syria they said they’d fight for us. Our president Barack Obama recently said he would like to continue his plan to attack Syria. Obama has put missile craft carriers and destroyers along the Mediterranean and Red sea. These ships can send missiles more than one thousand miles away and the Syrian president doesn’t even know they’re there because they’re hidden. Obama also has troops ready to go into Syria in case of emergency. Already there are F.B.I and C.I.A agents along with CDC and medics handing out gas masks and essentials in case it happens again. There are stations set up all over the places under attack with medical services for anyone. The U.S seems well prepared to defend ourselves and the people of Syria with the help from our allies. Recently Russia told the U.S that they would take their chemical weapons back from Syria. Syria also said that they would destroy all the chemical weapons they have, but it will take a month. There needs to be solution that ends these crimes from ever being possible to commit in the future.

Guilty or Innocent? You decide

by Melanie Sullivan

“Bad boys Bad boys whatcha gonna do, whatcha gonna do when they come for you” or “who let the dogs out? who? who? who?” would be a perfect fit for this summer’s anthem. Over the summer we witnessed the verdicts of world wide controversy including the case of Florida State vs. George Zimmerman.

As you may recall in April of 2012, George Zimmerman was charged with second degree murder in the shooting death of unarmed Trayvon Martin in Florida. On February 26th 2013, in Sanford, Florida while on neighborhood watch, Zimmerman saw a suspicious African American walking through neighborhood houses in the rain at about 7:00 pm. Zimmerman called the police immediately and reported him, saying, “this guy looks up to no good, or he is on drugs or something” and started to follow him. The dispatcher then eventually told Zimmerman that he does not need to follow Martin. Zimmerman agreed, but soon after the call ended a violent encounter took place ending in Trayvon Martin’s death. Zimmerman pleaded not guilty saying he was using self-defense as Martin viciously attacked him.

This case brought about huge media attention. Protests were staged all over the

U.S, over 2.2 million signatures were collected on a petition for Zimmerman's arrest created by Martin's mother; hoodies were a sign of protest all over since he was wearing one while he was killed, participants included basketball players LeBron James and Dwayne Wade from the Miami Heat. Arizona Iced Tea and Skittles were also represented as symbols, items he had bought before his death. Walkouts were staged in many high schools in Florida, and thousands of people attended rallies for Zimmerman's arrest all over the country.

The Controversy of this case was that Zimmerman racially profiled Trayvon Martin. To prove this, prosecution had to show the jury that Zimmerman was racist; which was difficult because evidence showed Zimmerman to be an active protester against Sanford police for beating an African American homeless man. He was also an active member of the democrat party who supported Barack Obama. Because there is no evidence of Zimmerman being a racist, this leads to a legal concept of reasonable doubt which forces the jury to look at circumstantial evidence and ascertain its credibility to the case. With the concept of reasonable doubt and Florida’s “Stand Your Ground” law of self defense there was not enough evidence to declare George Zimmerman guilty. On July 13,

2012 the jury came to a verdict that Zimmerman was not guilty of the murder of Trayvon Martin.

Just days after the verdict, implications began. Zimmerman went into hiding as he and his family began receiving death threats. The NAACP formed a petition requesting the Justice Department to open a civil rights case up against George Zimmerman, within hours receiving 130000 signatures. Hate crimes began, including a white man from Wisconsin who said he was beaten by a group of African Americans while they yelled, “This is for Trayvon!” The same incident occurred in Washington D.C. Several Activists petitioned for the repeal of the “Stand Your Grounds” law, and for the outlaw of Racial Profiling.

The Florida State vs. George Zimmerman case, lasting over a year had a huge impact on the United States. The controversy of whether Zimmerman is innocent of guilty is still questioned today and is a sensitive topic for many. If this article brought up any comments, questions or concerns that you may have, share them with us! Dear Charter is a great way to share, submit an article with your opinion or just walk in to Katie Cianelli’s room and share.

AMANDA BYNES by Sam Circelli

Who here has felt personally victimized by Amanda Bynes?

Your favorite childhood star, known for her show, “The Amanda Show”, is being treated for schizophrenia and drug abuse. She went into treatment for drug overdose and reckless endangerment. The troubled childhood star was even begged by her mom and dad to admit herself into a psychiatric hospital. After the accusations, and court date to discuss Amanda’s marijuana abuse, she still refuses to admit her problems. She went to court for overdose on pot, and reckless endangerment. Bynes threw a bong out of her 36-story building, causing the arrest.

The 27 year old childhood star has had very few, if any, nice things to say about her celebrity pals. In many of Amanda’s tweets she puts down many well known celebrities. One of the posts she shared, centered around her old celebrity crush, Drake. She tweeted, “@drake has an ugly face”. Everything she posted were all insulting peoples appearance. Not to mention that among the cruel comments, she humiliated her parents and even Barack and Michelle Obama. No more of that sweet and funny child star you grew up with. Bye bye Bynes.

September FYIs by Kevin McGuiness

- The Continental Congress officially changed the name of the country from the “United Colonies” to the “United States” on September 9th, 1776
 - The Supreme Court was established on September 24th, 1789
 - Band-Aids were invented in September
 - On September 18th, 1851, The New York Times published it’s first issue
 - World War II began in September of 1939
 - The first ever comic strip was printed in an American newspaper on September 11th, 1875
- Silly Holidays
- September 5th: National Cheese Pizza Day
 - September 9th: National Teddy Bear
 - September 16th: National Play-Doh Day
 - September 19th: International Talk-Like-a-Pirate Day
 - September 12th: National Chocolate Milkshake Day
 - The 4th week of September is National Dog Week
- <http://bit.ly/septfacts>

Student Submissions

Untitled Poem

by Shannon Barry

Have it be that love shall abandon
us
And take no prisoner of war
To leave us to ourselves
But be it that we shall follow no
law of love
But yet follow our hearts
To leave love in it’s legality to dust
If we call this not love
What then do we call this
For no emotion has been made
If any be made
That be stronger than love
Yet love it is still
And if my hand upon yours be not
touch
What then shall it be
And if our lips together be not a
kiss
What affections have we done
And to stare into your eyes
Shall that not be called staring
To lay beside you
Should I be considered standing
In what the world shows to be love
Love does not exist
It is no emotion
No single act or word
Love has abandoned us
For a war that rages between
forced unknown
We are left to ourselves
Where love has started
With no word such as love
But as emotion
As hands upon hands
As a kiss and staring into the eyes
of another
Looking past love
And into the soul

Lucky Paper Stars

By Emily Tan

“I confess I do not know why, but looking at the stars always makes me dream.” These words of Vincent Van Gogh are very accurate and inspiring. This particular quote captures the idea that by looking out at a starry sky we are allowed to see what is possible beyond reality. It is with this idea that paper stars are made, so that anyone can carry around their hopes, dreams, and a bit of luck in their pocket. Stars in the sky are one thing, but being able to carry a reminder star around inspires hope on a daily basis. Thanks to an Asian ritual of spreading love and luck paper messenger stars, making these

on little stars is now an easy craft for anyone who needs a bit of luck on a hard day.

To start, you will need a small strip of paper approximately 1 centimeter by 15 centimeters. The paper should not be too thick or too flimsy, so regular copy paper is fine. Write down any wishes, messages, or dreams on the paper now, so that the luck will be inside the star. Then, carefully tie a knot as close to the left side as possible, preferably without tearing the paper. When pinched, the knot should be in the shape of a pentagon.(1) On the right side of the knot the majority of the strip of paper should stick out, while there should only be a small tab of paper on the left side. Fold the left strip of paper on top of the pentagon. The right side should fold easily on top of that and wrap around the pentagon. Continue wrapping the strip of paper around the pentagon so that the pentagon holds its shape.

When the strip of paper has been wrapped around the pentagon as many times as possible, tuck the end of the strip under the nearest fold. Now you should have a small pentagon made of paper. In order to pop it up into a paper star, squeeze the middle of the sides of the pentagon. The middle should be raised up and the points of the star more defined.(2) If it caves in on one side the first few times, do not worry - it still looks cool when one side has puffed out! Now you have a lucky paper star.

You can do many things with your new paper star. It can be a gift to a friend who is having a bad day, a piece of luck to carry around with you, or a simple reminder of your dreams sitting on your bedside table. Now that you can make paper stars, the luck and good fortune will circulate. The more stars that are given away, the more people that are aware of the happiness it brings to others. Encourage those around you and the world will be a better place. The ability to hold your dreams in your hands and remember the good in the world, even on the darkest days, is a treasure in the shape of a star.



Dear Charter is still going on! We'd love more submissions, our total record is a whole whopping ZERO!! Please! We have the most wise team of advice givers in the whole school! Please submit something and it will get published! I promise you! Send us in any questions or anything you want! We'll answer them all! Any questions (school appropriate) will be accepted and answered in that month's issues, so make sure you get them in to the blue folder in Katie's room A.S.A.P!!

SEPTEMBER SPORTS SUMMARY

By Danny Freitas

NBA

The NBA offseason is almost to a close, so let's reflect on the best off-season moves, and the worst off-season decisions, like the tragedy of the Boston Celtics.

Trades:

Brooklyn receives: Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce, and Jason Terry.

Boston receives: Gerald Wallace, Kris Humphries, MarShon Brooks, Kris Joseph, and Keith Bogans.

Paul Pierce on leaving Boston: "I would have loved to have ended my career in Boston."

Signing:

Dwight Howard with Houston Rockets, \$88 million for 4 years.

Josh Smith with Detroit Pistons, \$54 million for 4 years.

Andrew Bynum with Cleveland Cavaliers, \$12 million for 2 years.

Off the Court

L.A. Clippers hire former Celtics coach, Doc Rivers, as new head coach.

Jared Sullinger arrested for domestic abuse.

Basketball Legends such as Gary Payton and Bernard King introduced into the Basketball Hall of Fame.

MLB

The MLB playoffs are right around the corner! Let's look over the last few weeks of the regular season.

The last day of the regular season is September 29th.

Boston Red Sox's own Jacoby Ellsbury is leading the league in stolen bases.

Boston's own Mike Napoli & Will Middlebrooks share the AL Co-Players of the Week, 4th of all time 2 players from the Red Sox have been named the award in the same week.

NFL

The NFL season is officially underway! There have been some highlights already over the first 2 weeks.

Peyton Manning tied NFL record by throwing 7 touchdowns.

Patriots down the Jets 13-10.

Danny Amendola could miss 4-6 weeks, while Rob Gronkowski might return Week 4.

Vick Ballard, running back for the Indianapolis Colts, will miss the

Melanie kindly agreed to an interview to share her knowledge of the team. When asked why she joined the volleyball team, she said that it was because, "I have played with my family and I enjoyed it, it is also one of the only sports I can play." Melanie is most excited about the improvements we are all going to be seeing in the playing ability of the Jaguars volleyball team.

Home games will be played at the YMCA in Hanover. The schedule for their games is available online at sscps.org. The high school looks forward to watching matches and cheering the Jaguars on as they win games and get better.

JAGUARS UPDATE

By Ethan Seal

The Jaguars soccer season got off to a slow start just outside of Dorchester on Monday the ninth, with both boys and girls losing to Boston Collegiate, the league champions of last year. The boys got out to an early lead against Boston Collegiate when Elvis Tavares crossed the ball to Ian Wright and he used his head to score a goal. They lost after Boston Collegiate came back and scored two goals. The next day was better, with the boys winning 3-0 over Salem. However, the girls were defeated. Both teams are improving steadily and they will definitely see multiple victories in future games.

The SSCPS Jaguars have also just added another sport to their athletics program: volleyball. Volleyball is a team sport consisting of six players who play on an 18 by 9 meter court and hit a ball over a net.

The team is led by Jenn Johnson and Captain Melanie Sullivan and Katherine Griffiths.

The One-Foot Wonder

by Danny Freitas

How many kids do you know that play goalie in lacrosse? OK, now how many of them play on one foot and one prosthetic one? That's what I thought. On January 4th, 2013, Matthew Freitas, was on a trip to Maine with his boy scout troop. He got in a dangerous car accident and was taken to the emergency room at a hospital in Maine. The following day, he was told his right lower leg had been amputated, where he said, "So does that mean we get handicap parking now?". He would live in Maine for a couple of days before traveling back to Boston to stay in Children's Hospital.

While at Children's Hospital, countless friends and family, bringing gifts (Matthew's favorite part of their visits), would come to visit him every single day, including Major Lacrosse League All-Star goalie Jordan Burke of the Boston Cannons. A few months later, he received his first prosthetic leg, and he almost immediately got back on the lacrosse field, his second home. Still getting countless support from his friends, family, and the MLL, he has not been caught up in all the fame.

Along the way, he has made some strange yet hilarious comments, Such as:

"Lets go to Foot Locker and get shoes half off!"

"Smile or I'll whack you with my stub." (He insists on calling his stump a stub. Don't ask.)

"I'm gonna be in the school newspaper? Don't forget to mention I'm very handsome!"



Horoscopes from the Astrology Psychic

As September ends and October begins, things will only become worse. As the stress of school builds up, you may feel as if it's the end of the world. As if meteors are hitting the earth and your loved ones are dying. You know the saying, "things can only get better"? I bet you're thinking that right about now. But that saying is false. Things are about to become horrible. But don't freak out, because there's nothing that can be done to fix this. The amount of black cats that have crossed your paths or the amount of salt you have spilt in your lifetime is now haunting you.

Remember that one time when you were little and you broke that mirror? And if you don't remember, ask your parents because it happened, and now, 7+ years later, bad luck is coming. If reading this made you freak out, stop what you are doing, drink some warm milk and calm down. Well maybe you shouldn't calm down because like I said before nothing can be done to change this. Make a wish at 11:11 or if you happen to come across a shooting star, make a wish, and maybe things will turn around. However if you don't believe in making wishes this month will be torturous, so good luck with that. But on October 22nd something good will happen. Something that will make all this bad stuff seem worth it, emphasis on the word 'seem'. So mark it in your calendar, or write it on your hand and never wash that hand but keep in mind- October 22nd will be a good day.

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