

# Hawks Free Press

The Student Newspaper of Hunter Middle School

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## Fall Fling Never Fails

By Megan Harrell  
& Olivia Simpson

Even though the rain came pouring down, that didn't stop the 2015 Fall Fling. Hunter Middle School students had Fall Fling, their annual PTSA fall fundraiser, on Friday, October 2nd, from 10 am to 2 pm.

This year the school's Fall Fling was held inside because of the rain. The money they raised from this fundraiser goes to the school and their current needs which are: technology, chrome books, and a new security system.

The Hawks started their tradition of Fall Fling nine years ago. "Usually 70-percent of the students at Hunter attend," PTSA president Mrs. Gaddis said. That's approximately 550 students who usually attend.

Some new things added to list of activities at this year's Fling were the photo booth and the gyro ball. "The best thing ever, from the show *Wipeout*, we have the big red bouncy balls," Mrs. Gaddis



Contributed photo

Students ride the gyro ball during this year's fall fling.

said. "Because I like rides," eighth grader Zoe Dill stated, "the gyro ball was the closest thing to a roller coaster, so it was my favorite." This year, the rain created changes to the annual fundraiser. Some

activities took place inside the school building, while others were moved under awnings. The gyro ball, tiki truck, dunk tank, and video game trailer were on the front and back patios.

There were movies playing in the band room and the inflatables were in the gym.

Students had different opinions about having most of Fall Fling inside. Eighth grader Skylar Murray said, "It's better than outside. You can go outside but you can also stay inside, which is easier than just staying out all day." On the other hand, Dill disagrees with Murray's opinion. "Everything was crammed into the gym and it wasn't as fun as being outside."

For sixth graders, it was their first year going to Fall Fling. Zoey Mize was excited to hang out with her friends, get a chance to go on the inflatables, and to get out of school.

Seventh-grader Sarah Moser gave some advice about Fall Fling. "Have fun and don't be scared," she said.

Even with the rain, the 2015 Fall Fling was successful in providing fun for the students and raising money for the school.

## Let the 2015 Hunter Games begin!

By Blake Godfrey  
& Daniela Covarrubias

It's almost time for the trip to see the second part of the third and last installment in the Hunger Games Trilogy, Mockingjay.

On November 21st at 8:30 a.m., Hunter Middle School students are set to visit Northgate Theater in Hixson. They will return to the school at 1:30.

"I'm really excited about the trip," said Hunter sixth-grader Emma Ladd.

Permission forms should have been handed out the

week of October 19th and were due November 11th.

For sixth and seventh graders, the trip will cost 20 dollars, for eighth graders the trip will cost 12 dollars plus about 8 dollars for lunch at the Hamilton Place Food Court.

Hunter Middle Librarian, Mrs. Hall, plans for seventh graders to eat at Cici's Pizza, and for sixth graders to eat at Ryan's.

"They always seem to enjoy it," Mrs. Hall said. "Last year it was crowded, so this year we are sending

seventh grade to two different locations."

The school sold Hunter Games t-shirts again this year, one being blue, and the other being black.

In the days leading up to the field trip, students have also participated in the Hunter Games. Seventh-grader Brooke Kesley dresses as character Effie Trinket and asks trivia questions on the WHMS news.

"I was so colorful, beautiful, and born in the Capitol, and the Capitol chose me," Trinket said. "May the odds be ever in your favor!"



Photo by Mrs. Barrett

Effie Trinket has entertained students on WHMS news.

# We've got SPIRIT

By Maria Bougrat,  
Abbey Brewton  
& Shelby Thomason

Did you enjoy spirit week? Most Hunter students say they did.

Spirit week took place September 24 through September 29.

It was an event in which all three grades participated. Students could buy spirit links during this time to help earn points for their grade, and dressing up on that day

would also earn points for each grade. In the end, the eighth grade won these competitions.

The first day of Spirit Week was Camo/USA/country day. Our second day of this fun event was fan day, and our third day of Spirit Week was crazy day. The fourth day of this fun-filled event was lazy day, which was definitely the students favorite day, and the last day of Spirit Week was school spirit day.



Photos by Mrs. Barrett

Students participate in the pep rally at the end of Spirit Week.



"I think Spirit Week is a really exciting event and very fun for all of the students because we got to dress down," said HMS sixth grader Zoey Mize, "and I think it was great how we got to see how some of the students and staff members dressed up for certain days such as, crazy day."

Spirit Week has been an event at HMS for about three years. Many students and staff members always

try their best to participate in this week-long event. Mrs. Grainger is an eighth grade math teacher who organizes Spirit Week, which is actually a very important event to the school, not just because the students get to dress down but because it also raises money for the school.

The school uses this money to buy brand new things for the school and classes here at HMS such as new computers, recycling bins, and flowers for outside. "Spirit Week is a good way for the students to build some school spirit this early in

the year," Mrs. Grainger said, "especially for the 6th graders."

The final event of Spirit Week was the pep rally. This event included introduction of the fall sports teams, performances by the HMS cheerleaders and dance team, and relay races, such as donut eating races and the balloon race. Steven Mchone, an eighth grader who participated in the balloon race, said, "I think our team did really good on the relay race."

## Students sell to raise money

By R.J. Knaggs

The year's first fundraiser finished a few weeks ago, and from all the products sold, the amount raised was a whopping \$10,739.39.

This money will be used for new equipment for the teachers and the students, along with the usual expenses for the school itself.

Last year's fundraiser totaled \$17,652.92, which is an outstanding amount. This year the school's goal for the fundraiser was \$15,000, which wasn't quite reached.

"It wasn't as successful as we wanted," school bookkeeper Mrs. Frick said. "There will definitely be a second fundraiser this year."

The next fundraiser will be launching in March. The item will be different, due to that fact that the item sold this year compared to last year most likely affected the amount of items sold, as well as the amount of participants.

Last year 340 people sold items, which is quite a large amount compared to this year's 202 participants.

The student who sold the most items this year was sixth grader Constance Ledbetter. She totaled 25 items and was a great supporter of the fundraiser.

"I wanted to raise as much money as I could to help the school," she said.

## Students debate dress code issues

By Blake Brown  
& Jace Ruiz

Hunter Middle School has a dress code that students have many opinions about.

For shirts, students are only allowed to wear polos or a Hunter t-shirt, and for pants they have to be khaki material. Shorts, skirts, and dresses have to be to the knee. Shoes must be closed-toed. Hunter sweat-shirts and sweaters may be

worn during school hours but hoodies cannot.

Some students dislike the dress code, but others are fine with it.

Seventh grader William Fugate said, "I wish I could wear anything, but we can only wear polo shirts and khakis. But I am fine with that." Sixth grader Kodey Ellis disagrees and said, "I think we should remove polo shirts

because they are uncomfortable."

Sixth-grader teacher Mrs. Waters disagrees. "I am okay with the dress code," she said. "I think that kids still have the opportunity to still be individuals and what they can wear. I think they look nice the way we have them dress."

Some students dislike that they aren't allowed to wear

jackets inside the school building. Assistant principal Mrs. Cox stated, "Really, I guess the whole not wearing jackets issue is due to other places in the country where students tend to hide weapons and things in their jackets. So almost every school says you can't wear jackets because of that reason."

All in all, whether students like or dislike the dress code, they still have to obey it.



# Student Life

## Hunter students have color run fun

By Emma Denham  
& Jada Royval

On a Saturday morning in October, people gathered at the Hunter track to participate in the annual Color Run by running and getting sprayed by dozens of powdered colors.

“The Color Run was really fun and people should attend next year,” said Emily Childress, eighth grade student at Hunter Middle School.

The HMS Color Run was on Saturday, October 17 at 8 a.m., with about 50 participants, and 30 PTA volunteers.

The Color Run started with the volunteers setting out the cones and color packets for the runners. There were two races, one was 1.5 miles and the other was 2.5 miles.

Once the race started everyone took off running and was sprayed with colored powder.

Before the 2015 Color Run, Hunter seventh grader Caroline Case recommended for people to attend this year’s event.

“It was really fun and all my friends went,” she said.



Students participate in the annual Hunter Color Run.

Contributed photo

Overall, the 2015 Color Run was overall successful and fun for the partici-

pants. “The Color Run was fun,” eighth grader Chloe Johnson said.

## The new face at HMS

By Jennifer  
Etheridge  
& Autumn Suchy

On the first day of school, Hunter Middle students were surprised to see a new face. Students later learned that this person was Mrs. Cox, our new assistant principal. Since she is new, students may not know much about her. Well...

Last year Mrs. Cox worked at East Hamilton, and on the teacher's last day she was called at 11 a.m. to hear the surprising news that, guess what? She was coming to Hunter Middle!

“The school I worked at before I came to Hunter Middle School was East Hamilton Middle School,” she said. “I was the vice principal at that school too. I was an English teacher before that.”

Other interesting facts about Mrs. Cox are that she got her teaching degree at Liberty University, and she has three children.

Students might be surprised to learn that when she’s not at school, our new assistant principal is similar to a



Photo by Autumn Suchy

Mrs. Cox is the new Assistant Principal.

farmer. Mrs. Cox lives on multiple acres land, and she also has a tractor that she enjoys riding around on for almost five hours straight.

For anyone who might be wondering what her favorite football team is, Mrs. Cox said, “My favorite college football team is, Alabama Roll Tide. A sport I coached throughout my teaching life was cheerleading.”

Students like sixth grader Molly Trent said, “Mrs. Cox is hilarious. I’ve seen her get the job done, and she dresses very nice every day.”

Eighth grader Nevaeh Ben-Moshe said, “She is confident presenting herself to other people, and people with a strong personality like herself make it very far in life. Also, when she states a rule, she sticks to them.”

Mrs. Cox also shared some of the opinions she has formed about students during her first few months.

“The sixth graders are very smart, and when they want something they are intelligent enough to get it,” she said. “The seventh graders, well, they are very loud and like to have fun. Now the eighth graders dress very stylish, and are hilarious.”

To tie things up, now students at least know a little bit about our new assistant principal, Mrs. Cox. She sounds like a pretty cool assistant principal.

### Congratulations Students of the Month!

#### SEPTEMBER

##### Nighthawks:

Mason Killingsworth

##### Raptors:

Karleigh Schwartzl

**Heroes:** Hallie Meers

##### Starhawks:

Natalia Engelmann

**Aviators:** Shea Thompson

**Hawkeyes:** Zach Gregory

**Aces:** Blake Catlett

**Talons:** Landon Rogers

**Falcons:** Arebella Durby

##### CDC/MULTI/DCC:

Nathan Collake

#### OCTOBER

**Heroes:** Vinny Gans

**Starhawks:** Luke Keown

**Nighthawks:** Calle Arnold

**Raptors:** AJ Smith

**Hawkeyes:** Maria Bougrat

**Aces:** Lucy Pirtle

**Aviators:** Jerrin Lowe

**Falcons:** Patrick Quinn

**Talons:** Ryan Wargo

##### CDC/MULTI/DCC:

Koree Ray

### NEED ADVICE?

#### Ask Heather and Harriet Hawk!

Submit your questions to our box in the library, and have your questions answered in the next edition of the Hawks Free Press!



# Hawks Athletics

## Fall Sports Roundup

### SOFTBALL

By Alana  
Anderson

The softball team at Hunter had a championship season this year. They won fourteen games and lost only four.

The Lady Hawks were the champions for their division and the tournament champions, and they are very happy about that achievement.

"They did really well and made first in both things," softball coach Ms. Standridge said.

Five softball players made all county. Those girls are Makala Strickland, Savannah Allen, Whitney Tryon, Cadie Cooper, and Lindsey Meisheid.

Three girls made all tournament. Those girls are Riley Nayadley, Whitney Tryon, and Makala Strickland.

Head coach Ms. Waters said all her players contributed to a great season.

"Softball is more of a team sport, not one girl that has all of the power," Ms. Waters said.

### CROSS COUNTRY

By Elliot Raughton  
& Sierra Holder

Both the girls' and boys' cross country teams raced their hearts out this season. The boys team finished their season third in the county with a record of 6-2. The girls team did not place in the top three, but had a record of 5-3. Three Hawks placed in all-county: Kaigen Mulkey for the boys, Chloe Johnson and Brooklyn Hilliard for the girls.

"We had a great season this year," Johnson said. "Our team did great because we had so many new kids. Coach Bacon was great."

Coach Erin Bacon was both the boys' and girls' cross country coach. The girls' team consisted of 13 runners, and the boys' had 29. Bacon says her experience coaching cross country at Hunter for the first



The softball team was recognized at the Spirit Week pep rally.

Photo by Mrs. Barrett



Contributed photos

Both cross country teams had successful seasons.



time "was actually kind of cool. I got to learn a lot over the course of the season."

Johnson said, "She definitely pushed me harder. Coach Bacon is a great coach."

The team practiced every day after school, except for days of the meet. "Our school grounds are great for practice," Bacon said. Each practice, there was a different routine--some days it was hill work, some days sprints, and sometimes just a straight two miles around the track. No wonder the team was fantastic!

### FOOTBALL

By Brianna Paige  
& Lilli McDaniel

Even with only one win, the football team worked their hardest at every game this season. "They have worked extremely hard and I am very proud," said varsity coach Todd Richardson. The varsity team had a record of 1-6. Even though Orchard Knob was their only win, Coach Richardson said they went into every game feeling confident. "Any win is a big win," he said, "and that is what is important."

Every player "worked extremely hard and I'm very proud of them." Richardson said. "Each game and each opportunity were all unique. Different individuals with each practice and game stood out." They all worked together as a team and played to their full potential.

This year the junior varsity football team won with a score of 20-0 against Ooltewah, a three-year rival. Also with their record of 2-3, the JV football team "Started off slow but eventually picked it up as the season went on." The majority of the team were sixth graders, but according to Coach Barth, they were all good in their own way.

Overall, even though the record may not show it, the football teams worked very hard this year. Each coach said they were very proud of each and every player. Win or lose, the Hunter Hawks always played to their full potential, and had confidence in each other.

### TENNIS

By Elliot Raughton &  
Christopher Thomas

The tennis team had a great season this year. The girls' team finished second place in the district, and the boys' finished third. "They had a great season," tennis coach Mrs. Owens said. "The girls were undefeated until the very last match, which they lost but they fought very hard, and the boys had a good season too." She says she is very proud of the way they played.

Even though they didn't place first, the girls accomplished something huge for the team. "The goal going in was to beat East Hamilton, which we have been trying to do for several years, and we did that so we were very excited," Owens said. In the tournament, the team did great. "Tournament is individual," she said. "Most of them made it at least through the second round."