



# KNIGHTS NEWS



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK MILITARY ACADEMY

## Superintendent's Message

Happy New Year! Yesterday we were greeted by this winter's biggest storm to date and it's been accompanied by some extremely cold weather. Some cadets' return trips have been affected by the storm; currently three of them are anxiously waiting in Chicago because their flights were redirected. I hope that they will make their way back to NYMA soon!

Despite the challenges of the bad weather, our next Open House will take place tomorrow starting at 10:00 am. I will be joining our dedicated Admissions staff and am looking forward to meeting many families.

Next week, all the cadets will spend four days taking their mid-term exams. Good luck to all!

## Dean's News

Happy New Year and welcome back to NYMA after the long winter break! We all hope that you enjoyed the extended time with your loved ones. The storm gods welcomed us back with *Grayson*. The snowstorm forced the complete shutdown of two of our major airports and dumped about 6 inches of snow here in the Hudson Valley. Although the outside temperature here is struggling to make it to a frigid 10 degrees, we should all be grateful to have not lost power or heat during the storm. There were surrounding counties that were not as fortunate.

Students returned to a schedule of exam review in their classes. Thursday, Friday, and Monday of next week are being devoted to going over material already presented in class in preparation for mid-term exams. Exams will then be administered Tuesday through Friday according to the published schedule with two exams per day. Students must remain in each exam for at least 1.5 hours, but we have allotted 2.5 hours total per exam if needed. Teachers will be in their rooms for 45 minutes prior to the beginning of each exam so that they may answer any last-minute questions that students may have. Ms. Hill has arranged for a hot chocolate/snack study break this evening in our cadet activities center from 7-9:00 pm. To our day students that will not be on campus this weekend...STUDY!!!

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We have received the results from all PSAT exams and Mrs. Magno has sent each parent an email with their student's scores. If you have not received this information, please contact her directly at [smagno@nyma.org](mailto:smagno@nyma.org). We will also use these results in discussions with our teachers for future planning on how to best address each cadet's needs. Our senior class is beginning to see the fruits of their labor with college acceptances starting to roll in. A list of acceptances will be published when all the application results have been received.



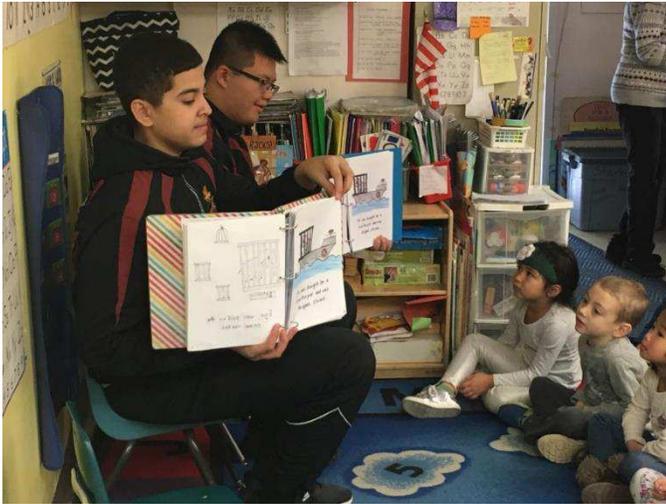
Although the event happened before the break, I would be remiss if I didn't say how proud I was of all of the students who made the donation of the blessing bags possible. It began with an idea which then sprouted into different fundraising activities and culinary projects...all in the name of giving. If you haven't seen the photos or video of the assembly and delivery of the bags, they are all available in the "News" section of our website. I would also like to send a very heartfelt thank you to all of the adults that donated their time and/or money to help make these events happen.

*Students became very competitive in a game of Kahoot during their Biology review class. Looks like a nail-biter!*



*Ms. Zhang and Dr. Gastel are seen here with shovels trying to keep ahead of the snow to ensure the safe passage for our students between classes.*

The service group that creates original children’s stories was also able to travel to Butterhill Day School on the day before the break to read their finished product to the preschoolers. They all look so mesmerized as Cadet Elhouti and Cadet Dong read their story aloud. Cadets Pauletta and Racine look equally entranced by their own stories.



We would like to welcome our visiting students from Taiwan. William, Edward, and Aidan (pictured right) are participating in a special program put together by Ms. Dong where they will be shadowing our students in classes over the next few weeks. We all hope they enjoy their time with us because we certainly love having them here!

On an end note, as cold as it is right now do not despair...spring is around the corner. I entered my office after break and to my delight saw my Azalea (bottom right) in full-bloom!



## From the Admissions Office

Welcome back to NYMA! We are excited about the first semester finishing up and the start of the second. Winter break was not long enough for us either!

We have an Open House this weekend starting at 10:00 am. Please tell your friends about it and share your experiences with us.

Upcoming Open Houses:

Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

## From the Athletic Department

Before the break the NYMA Varsity Basketball team (3-2) beat Chase Collegiate by the score of 80-24. The Knights were led by a balanced scoring attack as Will Mayfield had 24 points and Brandon Evans had 17. Josh Antoine finished with 11 points, Zaahir Woody with 9, Zamere McKenzie added 7, and Robin Zhao had 6 points.

A special Knights shout-out goes to Monmouth University Assistant Coach Duane Woodward and Palm Beach State (FL) JUCO Head Coach Martin McCann. They both stopped by Alumni Gym to watch practice and meet a few of our cadets.



The Varsity boys then traveled to Oakdale, CT to take on NEPSAC power, St. Thomas More. The Knights won 70-57 and were led by Zaahir Woody with 31 points. NYMA also had solid performances from Zamere McKenzie with 15 points. Will Mayfield added 6 points and had 18 rebounds while Josh Antoine and Jalen Ricks added 6 points each. The Knights also received great efforts from Karif Isaac, Mickey Urso, and Nigel Petti-Fernandez in the win.

JV Basketball was in action as well before the break as they also took the ride to Oakdale, CT to take on St. Thomas More. They were led by Remy Sykes and Ethan Hassane and came out with a huge win. The young squad also had contributions from Henri Racine and Simon Chen. They are now 3-1 overall.

On the Bowling side of things, Jeffrey Li recorded a personal and team best score of 141 at practice before furlough. The Bowling team will be ready to make history and kick off the season this month. Swimming and Wrestling will also begin competing at events and meets.

Cadets Matthew Montes, Will Mayfield, and Zaahir Woody (who won back-to-back weeks) have been named NYMA's Athletes of the Week for the month of December. Athlete of the Month honors for December go to co-recipients Will Mayfield and Zaahir Woody. Congratulations cadets!

Go Knights!!!

## Commandant's Notes

Happy New Year! We're quickly getting back into the swing of things here at NYMA! Next week will be completely focused on exams. Please know that your cadets will be given as much time as they can handle to study not only this weekend (closed for boarding students) but all next week as well. Academics are critical to success and the curriculum here is extremely rigorous! February 10<sup>th</sup> is the date of this year's Winter Formal. We're working out the details, but I wanted to give you as much advance notice as possible to work around that evening's schedule. This is a big event!

## Counselor's Corner

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a wonderful winter furlough with your cadets. Just as much as you are sad to see them go, we are just as happy to have them back! As cadets finish up the second quarter and move into mid-terms, we hope that they get the rest that they need to do their best. A few special notes...

For our senior parents: mid-term grades will be sent to schools to which your cadets are applying so please make sure that they are updating their Naviance.

For the rest of our wonderful parents: if your child took the PSATs with us in October, I am in the process of sending out individual letters and scores. Please be on the lookout for that email.

As always, thank you for everything that you do to support your children at home. I will continue to do my best to support them here at school. My door and phone line are always open so please feel free to reach out.

## From the Activities Coordinator

Happy New Year from the Activities Coordinator! We have nearly planned all of our spring semester activities (although it doesn't feel much like it right now). Cadets had major input in this semester and we have added a bunch of new, exciting adventures.

In the upcoming months we will have trips for horseback riding, local school plays, ice skating, bowling, family feud night, snow tubing, etc. We are encouraging cadets to sign up early for all events and to participate in as many activities as possible. There will be lots to do in the Social Center as well during the coming months including Bingo Night, Make-Your-Own-Mini-Pizza Night, and Horror Film Night to name a few.

Although cadets should be studying for finals, we are sponsoring a Hot Chocolate Bar Night in the library. Cadets can warm up with a cup of cocoa and sweets while mingling to music.

Please speak with your children and ensure they have the proper attire and finances for their events. Stay warm!

