

Quarterly Update

January 2025

Happy New Year
Warriors!



The Marine Corps celebrated its 249th birthday this year on November 10th, 2024.

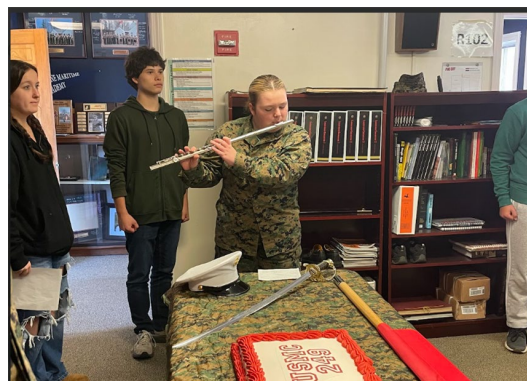
It is customary at Marine Corps birthday celebrations worldwide to cut a traditional cake in celebration of the birth of our illustrious Corps.

The birthday cake is traditionally cut with the Mameluke sword, as a reminder that we are a band of warriors, committed to carrying the sword, so that our nation may live in peace. The Mameluke sword gets its name from the cross hilt and ivory grip design, like swords used for

Winnacunnet MCJROTC

United States Marine Corps 249th Birthday Celebration

Lieutenant Colonel Drown had the honor of cutting the 249th Marine Corps Birthday cake during the Winnacunnet MCJROTC's annual birthday ceremony. The occasion was marked by tradition and pride, bringing together cadets and guests to celebrate the Marine Corps' long-standing legacy of being Semper-Fidelis!



Cadet Boulard opening the birthday ceremony by playing our National Anthem with the oldest and youngest Cadets present.



centuries by Ottoman warriors.

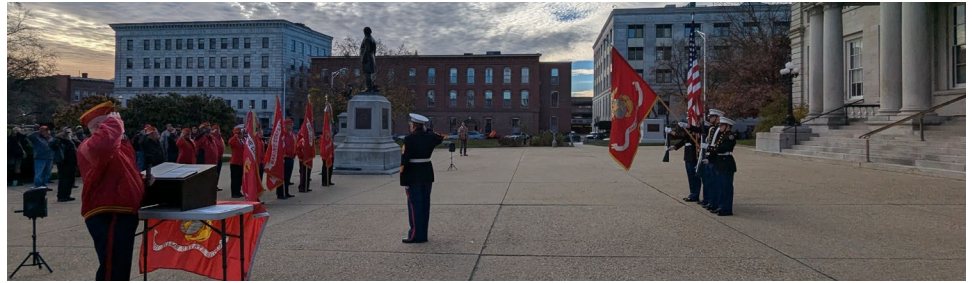
The Marine Corps tradition of carrying this sword dates from Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon's assault of Derna, Tripoli, in 1805, where he is said to have won the sword of the governor of the city.

The first piece of cake is presented to the Guest of Honor.

The second piece is presented to the oldest Cadet in the command, signifying the honor and respect according to experience and seniority. The oldest Cadet is Cadet First Lieutenant Reagan Cink.

Upon receiving the second piece of cake, the oldest Cadet will in turn pass it on to the youngest Cadet present signifying the passing of experience and knowledge from the old to the young of our Corps. The youngest Cadet present was Cadet Private Javier Chacon.

The Winnacunnet Cadets along with the Marine Corps League NH Detachment presented during morning colors at a flag raising ceremony on November 10th at our state's capital in Concord, NH in honor of the 249th Marine Corps Birthday.



Governor Sununu, members of the NH Marine Corps League, as well as several New Hampshire citizens were in attendance for this annual event.

The Cadets joined members of the Marine Corps League for breakfast after the flag raising and a motivated "Pancake" was cut in the same tradition as the cake!



Physical Fitness

Physical fitness is a key part of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) program because it helps cadets develop strength, stamina, and mental toughness. It also helps them build healthy habits and learn to manage stress.

Benefits of physical fitness in JROTC

Physical health

Physical fitness helps cadets build strength and stamina, and it can help them maintain a healthy weight.

Mental health

Physical fitness can help cadets manage stress and build resilience.

Teamwork

Physical fitness can help cadets build camaraderie and teamwork with their fellow cadets.



The Cadets participated in the Devil Dog Challenge in November at Salem high school in Massachusetts. The annual event brings regional schools together to build teamwork, physical fitness, and a competitive spirit!



120 motivated cadets from JROTC programs across New England swarmed the lower field at Salem High School on 2 November 2025.

II Leadership Principles

1. Know yourself and seek self-improvement
2. Be technically and tactically proficient
3. Know your Cadets and look out for their welfare
4. Keep your Cadets informed
5. Set the example
6. Ensure that the task is understood, supervised, and accomplished
7. Train your Cadets as a team
8. Make sound and timely decisions
9. Develop a sense of responsibility among your subordinates
10. Employ your command within its capabilities
11. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions



Community Service

Honoring our heroes with respect and gratitude— MCJROTC stands united with members of the American Legion Post 35 and the community at the Hampton Wreaths Across America, ensuring the memory of those who served lives on. The mission of Wreaths Across America is to remember

fallen military service members, honor those who serve, and teach the value of freedom to the next generation.



Wreaths Across America is conducted every December on the same day in all 50 states of the United States. Placing wreaths on veterans' graves at cemeteries nationwide.



Remember. Honor. Teach.

Esprit de corps

is a feeling of pride, fellowship, and loyalty that unites members of the United States Marine Corps. It's a key part of Marine Corps culture and is essential for the success of the Corps' missions.

What is esprit de corps?

A sense of identity and camaraderie that's shared by all Marines.

A bond that's stronger than any individual member.

A spirit of devotion and loyalty that inspires Marines to work together to accomplish their mission.

The Cadets stand ready to march in the 14th annual Hampton Holiday Parade. The streets of Hampton were lined with excited onlookers as the Cadets marched with pride and spread holiday cheer by handing out treats to the crowd.



The Colors were carried by Cadets Jamison LaFleur, Trinkalee McMahon, Owen McMahon, and Liam McKeon. Candy was passed out by Cadets Joshua Adams, Oliver Perreault, and Kaiden Sharpe.



Festive vibes, and unforgettable memories at the MCJROTC Winter Warrior Fest! From ugly sweaters to gingerbread house competitions and the ultimate snowman showdown, it was a night of good food, great camaraderie, and holiday cheer.

How does esprit de corps develop?

Through shared hardship and accomplishment.

Through collective blood, sweat, and tears.

Through reverence for those who came before.

How does esprit de corps manifest in the Marine Corps?

Marines wake up every day motivated to accomplish their mission, no matter the circumstances.

Marines are proud to proclaim, "Once a Marine, always a Marine."



Cadets participated in "Feats of Strength" in order to gain certain advantages during the Gingerbread House contest!



The Cadets had a time limit creating gingerbread houses using teamwork, engineering, and creativity.



Do you want to build a Snowman? The contest tested teamwork under pressure by decorating temates with toilet paper/props in limited time.

Marksmanship tips

1. Maintain a solid, stable position.
2. Ensure your body is balanced and aligned with the target.
3. Hold the rifle firmly but not too tight.
4. Align the front sight (post or ring) with the rear sight aperture.
5. Steady and consistent breath control.
6. Trigger control.
7. Follow through.
8. Stay calm and stay focused.
9. Regular practice helps to refine technique and build muscle memory.

Marksmanship

The Winnacunnet Warriors placed 2nd at the "Frozen Solid Seven" Marksmanship Tournament at Revere High School. It was a fierce contest between New England Region JROTC Units from the Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force. They truly did great, showcasing exceptional skill and determination throughout the event!



Cadets aim in on their targets in the standing position.



Cadets Reagan Cink, Austin Phibbs-Nichols, Grace Bramhall, Rowan Huynh and Jamison LaFleur pose with the 2nd Place Trophy.



Marksmanship is a critical skill that requires a high level of precision and discipline. To succeed in marksmanship, cadets must develop a laser-focused approach, honing both their physical and mental abilities.

Marines' Hymn

From the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli; We fight our country's battles in the air, on land, and sea.

First to fight for right and freedom and to keep our honor clean; We are proud to claim the title Of United States Marine.

Our flag's unfurled to every breeze from dawn to setting sun; We have fought in every clime and place Where we could take a gun; In the snow of far-off Northern lands and in sunny tropic scenes, You will find us always on the job The United States Marines.

Here's health to you and to our Corps Which we are proud to serve; In many a strife we've fought for life And never lost our nerve.

If the Army and the Navy Ever look on Heaven's scenes, they will find the streets are guarded By United States Marines.

**Winnacunnet
High School
Hampton, NH 03842
(603) 926-3395 ext. 262**

Upcoming Events

6 February – Penguin Plunge set up, Hampton Beach

7 February – Penguin Plunge set up, Hampton Beach

8 February – Penguin Plunge operations (HS Day), Hampton Beach

9 February – Penguin Plunge operations and tear down, Hampton Beach

12 February – Middle School Course Selection Night at WHS

14 February – JROTC Military Ball Danvers, MA

5 March – Step-up day at WHS

17 March – Start of Trimester 3 (new Cadets)

30 March – St. Patrick's Day Parade Manchester, NH

*Events and signups are periodically posted to the Google Classroom Activities page as the date draws near.



The school year's 1st Trimester came to an end on 2 December 2024. Great work Cadets and we hope to see you participating in events throughout the year! As a reminder, all Cadets are welcome to participate in any events conducted by the unit even if they are not actively in class for the Trimester.



See you next
Quarter,

**STAY
MOTIVATED!**

