

One problem many people face here at Merrick Avenue is finding friends. Although you have great pals from whatever elementary school you're coming from, you may not see them as often as you'd like to. There are so many new people that you'll meet here that it is impossible not to find a few friends in the bunch. Try looking for people that you're comfortable with, people who accept you for yourself and are fun to be around. Don't go for the nasties, or the people whom the only thing you like about is their popularity. People who like the real you are easier to talk to and are more fun to hang with.

Most of the people here are great, but there are also some mean ones. These are the kind of people who want to steal your confidence and make you feel insecure. Don't worry about what they say, and just try to avoid them. The best way to deal with them, according to a very wise man (hey Dad!) is to shower them with kindness. If someone is teasing you, complement him or her in a sweet, sincere tone. They will be so confused. When they tease you, they expect you to get either sad or upset. You praising and complimenting them is the last reaction they'd expect, and they'll be stunned into a silent stupor. And guess who gets the last laugh looking at their face as they retreat. Humor and confidence can get you out of almost any sticky situation.

Just keep your head up and your feet on the ground, and middle school will be a breeze. Following this advice will take the edge off of the hardest situations, and will make you feel confident, but if middle school is a let down, and if you run into trouble anyway, Take this last piece to heart: 10 years from now, is any of this still going to matter? If the answer is yes, get help and fix it, but if the answer is no, just let it go. Don't worry about it, and be happy about the fact that you are almost grown up!

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When you are in middle school there comes a point when everyone meets new people, and that can be a **BIG CHALLENGE!** Some people you can trust and some people just might want to just put you down. Having friends in middle school is the best things that will ever happen. One reason is that they will be nice to you and make you feel welcome. They will also make you feel more comfortable. Occasionally, you will come across people who just want to be nasty, like a devil, to you. If they're nasty to you just be kind and keep walking. Don't ever fight fire with fire. It's great sticking with your old friends but it's also nice making new ones, too. If you stay close with them and stay honest you will have a better chance of staying friends with them through the rest of your years in school. Just stick with them and everything will turn out to be okay. Just stay true to your heart and everything should turn out okay.

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Making friends is a big deal. You may be wondering, who will I talk to if my friends aren't by my side in middle school? Go make new ones! That doesn't mean that you make new friends and forget your old ones; that's just wrong and it hurts. You may think it's hard to meet someone and then automatically click and become friends. Well, you're wrong again, because they're kids just like you with the same fears of middle school. Other kids sometimes are like spiders: they may be more scared of you than you are of them. Just walk up to them and say, "Hey, how is it

going?" and start talking. It's that simple.

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You're not alone in middle school. You don't have to do everything by yourself and have difficulty with it. This is where friends come in. There are nine periods in a day, and you switch off most of those classes anyway, so odds are you are going to have *at least* four to five friends in each class, maybe more! And even if you come to school on Day 1 and you aren't friends with anyone in a certain class, they'll probably be in other classes with you. The best way to feel more comfortable in that class is to become friends with the people you don't know. Ask the people you're already friends with what classes you have together. When you compare schedules, make a plan if you're going to walk with each other to similar classes that you both have. Typically in lunch, it is important to sit with people that you like, but stay away from friends that get into trouble a lot, or else you'll get punished for their bad behavior.

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Your social life may be at risk leading into your middle school career. Yes, this is a time to change your image and just be you, but don't stab the friends you have now in the back. It will come back to bite you. Friends are the people who will be there no matter what, so make close ones that you know you can trust. Your reputation with other people doesn't decide who you are but it doesn't hurt to look good to others. Also, first impressions will be remembered forever, so on the first day of school, make a good impression on the new people you meet.

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When you enter a new classroom you look for your friends or recognizable faces. Sometimes there are no friends or people you know in your classes. Don't panic and remain calm. This is now the best time to meet new people and make new friends. Just remember these two tips and you won't have a problem making new friends. The best way to make new friends is to just be yourself. If you act differently than you always do, you will miss out on people that have the same likes as you do. Another way to make friends is to step out of your comfort zone. When it's time to buddy up with someone, don't go with your best friend; instead buddy up with someone new. This can be a new way to get work done and meet a new person. If you do this and step out of your comfort zone, then you can be open to new people and have new friends.

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A place to go to talk about your problems is guidance. It is really important to get to know your guidance counselors. If they know you, they can help you with your specific needs. In the beginning of the year, every new student eventually gets called

down to guidance. When you are there, they ask you questions about your family and schoolwork. Don't feel embarrassed to tell them how you feel. They won't tell anyone. The guidance counselors are meant to be your friends, and not the object of your fear.

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There are many different kids from different elementary schools that come to this school. You will get to meet a lot of new people. You will also have the opportunity to make many new friends. Try to make as many friends as possible. You can never have too many friends.

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Many kids coming into seventh grade are very nervous about meeting new people and making friends. You shouldn't worry about whether people will like you or not. This is because kids will like you if you act like yourself and don't try to impress them. Oftentimes you may not stay friends with the kids that you went to school with and thought that you would remain friends with. You may only stay friends with some of them, but that's not always the case. Friends usually grow apart when they reach middle school because it's a different environment and you meet new people. If you want to keep your friends close to you and don't want to lose them, you shouldn't talk about them behind their back. Many people talk about their "friends" and in the end usually lose them. You are better off not saying anything about anyone because it will get around. This will keep you from getting into fights or getting in trouble. Making new friends isn't as hard as you think it is, so you shouldn't worry too much about it. Don't stress about people liking you or not, because they will like you.

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Friends shouldn't be a worry you should have entering middle school. Friends are a great aspect to have in middle school. Always remember to just be yourself. Friends can help you with schoolwork and your problems. There's going to come a time where you are struggling with school and you have some problems. Friends are always a great source for comfort and help. An easy way to create long friendships is by talking to kids with the same common interests as you. If you are an athlete, try to talk to fellow athletes in middle school. Making friends isn't something you should be scared about, just remember to always be yourself and have fun.

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Kids are mostly nervous about whether they will make any friends. It isn't always easy to find friends within your first week because there are so many new faces that you know nothing about. Try to find people with the same interests as you. For example, if you see someone with a Yankees jersey, you can say, "Hey! Nice shirt" (with a friendly smile). And you can ask, "Did you watch the game the other day?"

That may lead to a conversation. Most classes usually spend the second or first day of school having a "Getting to know you" activity. This is a good way to find people who like the same music, do the same activities, or have been to the same places you have been to. Another easy way to make friends is to get to know who some of your close friends are friends with. Your friends probably have the same interests as you, and your friend's friends probably have the same interests as your friend.

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Making friends is one of the common worries when starting middle school. You might think, "What will the kids be like?" or "will I make new friends?" Well, to prevent those worries and a sleepless night before the big day, here are some tips on how to make friends. Join clubs and sports teams. When joining those things you can make tons of friends who enjoy the same things you do. You will also be in classes with kids from other schools now. Don't worry; you'll get to know them and soon you will be friends with a bunch of new friends. Now you are probably wondering how you are going to have time for your friends from elementary school. Don't worry because here are some tips for keeping in touch with your old friends. Just invite your elementary friends to the movies with your new middle school friends. Chances are they might already know each other from being in the same classes. There are also field trips and team activities so you will be able to socialize with people there, too, and you can also join the play, which meets after school. That is another fun and easy way to make friends. Well, those are some ways to make and keep friends.

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Friends are an important part of middle school, so you have to choose carefully. Popularity is a dream of everyone in the world, but in reality it really doesn't matter. You should find friends who genuinely enjoy being around you. It is better to have a small group of really good friends than a million sort-of/kind-of friends. Many of you are also worrying about keeping old friends. You don't have to worry about it. Even if they aren't in your classes, you still see them in the halls and all around. Also you can still hang out outside of school. You will be a happy kid if you just follow these tips on friendships.

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Your social life is usually very important during your years in middle school. It changes hugely for a couple of reasons. One example of your social life changing is that your parents will think you're responsible enough to now go out with your friends all the time and don't need your parents around to tell you what to do outside the house. Some advice would be to tell your parents where you're going and tell them you have your phone just in case. Another reason is that you'll be invited to a lot of bar and bat mitzvahs if you have Jewish friends, or you might just be invited to regular house parties if you're lucky. If your social life changes hugely, you're going to feel better now that you have new friends to hang with. Some tips on making new friends are to be confident, be yourself and see what they like. Maybe if you talk to people and figure out they live nearby, you can hang.

Speaking of making new friends, you might meet some new people from different

schools who like the same things you do. Your new friends might not be interested in some of the old activities you used to do, so if you find someone who likes those things still, maybe you should befriend them. Don't be scared if you lose some of your old friends from elementary school. Feelings change and people change. You should have no worries when it comes to making friends in middle school.

In order to make friends in middle school you should be yourself and display confidence. Confidence always helps, and with it you can achieve a lot in your life. When it comes to your social life, making friends is part of it and they both come together to make two good years at middle school. Friends help you all the time and they are good to have around to help you with challenges.

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Even though you're moving on to a new place full of interesting people, always remind yourself that you shouldn't let go of your old friends. Remember to be yourself and choose your friends carefully. If you choose the wrong friends all you'll get is gossip and people talking behind your back. If you're ever in a situation like that, the guidance counselors are always really helpful because they're always there for anyone with a problem. If you ever need any help go to a teacher, but the best person to go to is an eighth grader because they've been there longer and they probably know everything about the school. They've been through it all.

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A worry many incoming seventh graders have is about their social life. There are many questions you may ask yourself coming into a new school. Will I make new friends? Will I be able to go out on the weekends or will I have to stay home and study? As long as you are yourself, you will make friends without a problem. You should put yourself out there. Maybe you can join a club or do a sport. You will become friends with the people on your team or club.

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Unfortunately, gossip happens everywhere, especially in middle school. However, it doesn't have to be a big deal. Don't let it bother you. Gossip can only hurt you if you let it, so show people that you don't care. Also, don't believe everything you hear. Most rumors are just that, *rumors*. Don't spread around anything. It can be hurtful and ruin someone's reputation. If it's something that really concerns you, go to the people themselves and find out if it's true.

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A huge bonus that comes with going into a new school is meeting new people. Many new students have trouble making new friends because they fear what people will think of them. There are going to be plenty of new students just like you that are going to feel the same way. If you come into middle school with an open mind, making

friends will be a lot easier. You will have a blast with the new people you meet and you will never forget them.

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A constant worry most kids that are graduating elementary school have is their friends. You probably are going to lose some friends in middle school that you had in elementary. But that's okay because you are going to make so many new friends that you'll probably feel are a lot better. It isn't something to stress out about because the people are going to be just as eager to make friends as you are. Go in with a positive attitude and a smile on your face, and you're almost guaranteed to make a new friend.

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Making friends can be easy. When trying to make new friends just be yourself. Friends are great things to have. Friends can be helpful with lots of things like being there for you. Try to find friends with common interests. It's a good strategy that works. Making new friends will help you in your everyday life.

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When meeting new people, you have to have trust in each other and at least have some of the same interests. Not getting along can be because of false information being spread. When that happens you have to handle it well and not let it bring you down.

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A friend is a person to lean on during tough times, and will always be there no matter what. Take a look around you. Who are your friends? Odds are they will unfortunately not be your friends through middle school, and yes, this goes for guys and girls. In middle school one day a person could be your best friend and the next day your worst enemy. A big group of friends is a good idea because you will most likely not be left alone by anybody. Friends are very important, so don't isolate yourself, but don't get caught up in drama either. Make time for studying, friends and family. You can't go through middle school without making new friends. So, you should introduce yourself at any chance you get. Take this advice; it may help you along the way.

You hear a whisper from the back corner and razor sharp eyes dart your friend's way. It's somebody spreading a rumor about your friend. These people who spread rumors are not the most intelligent when it comes to hiding it. Yes, people talk behind your back and it will be hurtful words, but they aren't worth your tears. In this situation you can do one of two things. One, you can tell your guidance counselor or two you can confront them. When confronting them you need to tell them that what they did hurt you and why. Another way to stop gossip from

starting about you is don't tell anyone anything you don't want the whole school to know. In middle school, rumors can spread like disease. So stay away from the drama and rumors and if you hear them, don't spread them.

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Not only is middle school overwhelming academically, but socially as well. There are about 500 kids in each grade at MAMS, coming from five elementary schools. Take advantage of this and make new friends. Yes, you can keep old ones, but adding new friends into your clique is both interesting and fun. You never know who will be your friends in five or even ten years. For all you know, they could be right in front of your face. Don't just sit back and ignore everyone that walks the halls. Talk to them! Friends are so important throughout middle school, and any chance you get to talk to new people will help you survive middle school.

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Friends will come and go. When you enter middle school you lose some, gain some, and you'll find out who your true friends are. Most friends change a lot! Be careful whom you choose as friends! Some are real, while others are fake. The real ones will be there for you no matter what. Fake ones will most likely not.

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Making new friends is something that everyone thinks about. It's not something to worry about because it can be very simple. A tip to help you is to be friendly and confident. Those two characteristics will make it easy for you to talk to other kids. It will also make kids want to approach you for friendship rather than you going up to them. Another thing you can do to make new friends is to join a club or team. You will meet people with a common interest, which could spark a conversation. Even if you don't make the specific team, tryouts may bring you close to some new people. Making new friends may sound scary, but it's nothing to be nervous about.

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In middle school you will experience many different relationships. In middle school you may even meet that special someone. In September you might feel unsure about yourself but by June you will feel comfortable. In middle school you may be shy about dating. This is how relationships work. Here's a tip: find someone who loves the way you are. Ask lots of questions to see whether you have the same interests. Another tip if your heart gets broken is don't feel bad, just move on to someone who gets you and understands you better. This happens all the time. It hurts but don't be upset. Other kids feel the same way. The last tip is to take things slow; maybe the kid that catches your eye likes you, too.

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As you're walking into school, you may look for a familiar face. There are so many people around. The room is packed and there are too many things to focus on. Don't worry! You will definitely find a friend in class. Whether you are meeting new friends, or hanging out with your old ones, you'll always have a chance to have some awesome friends. First, make sure you keep in touch with your old friends. Not everyone will be in your classes, so it's good to find time to see everyone. Also, remember to be yourself. Making new friends is easy when you are confident in who you are. If you act like yourself, you'll find people that have interests in common with you. No matter who is in your class, you'll always find that one good friend.

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Friends are one of the biggest things to know about in MAMS. The reason why it is one of the biggest subjects is because there are so many people - big, small, short and tall. You have to pick though people that you have a good time with and people that you can trust. If you forgot one piece of homework, you can rely on them to help you learn the material. But friends also have to be responsible. If you hand your friend something one period and he doesn't have it the next period, then you probably don't want to be friends with them.

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Making friends is one of the issues kids worry about going into middle school. There are fake friends and real friends; find friends that fit your personality. Be yourself when you make friends; tell them what you like to do. Don't worry about what they will think of you, just be yourself and that's how you gain friends. Your friends will comfort you so don't worry; friends are key in middle school. Once you get friends don't worry, now you have people to go to when you have any problems. Friends - they are the people to share jokes with, so make a lot of friends and have fun.

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Don't be overdramatic. You may get into many situations, but just stay calm. EVERYONE has his or her own problems. Just handle it calmly and maturely, and remember it could be worse. Your years here will go more smoothly and you will be happier if you just move on. If you get upset, all you're doing is causing more stress to yourself. If you look back at these problems, they will seem like nothing.

Try to be friendly and nice. Most people are drawn to someone who is friendly and outgoing. That will hopefully give a good impression. If you give a good impression by being nice to people, they have no reason to not like you. Be yourself. Do what you want to do. You're not trying to impress anyone. Embrace who you are. A suggestion is joining electives, because it says what you like, and what you're good at. You will also be around people who you know like the same things. Don't worry if your friendships take a while. Either they're shy, or you need to put yourself out more.

Don't get caught up in your social life. Though friendships are important, so is your schoolwork. Try to do both evenly.

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Merrick Avenue Middle School is a great way to make new friends and have a lot of fun. Making friends is very easy once you are yourself. Being yourself will show other people that you are a great person and friend to hang out with. Also, by being yourself you won't have to go looking for friends, since they will come up to you, wanting to be your friend. Lastly, no matter what, you will make new friends in all of your classes. For example, people in the same classes as you will find the same interests as you, and that is how you will find new friends. Even if you don't find new friends you will still have your friends from your old school. A last word of advice: don't ever forget about your friends from your old school because they will always be there for you.

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It's not too hard to make new friends and you will be friends with a lot of new people pretty quickly. Since there are hundreds of new kids to be friends with, you will probably be able to find a group to fit in with very quickly. But one thing is don't be quiet, don't be afraid to make fun of yourself, and joke around. Your language also can change a big part of who is in your classes, because in seventh grade your team is determined by the language you take. Therefore, try to have some friends take the same language you take.