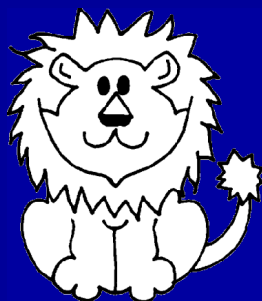


optimistic
positive thinker,
good attitude



A Lion's Life Newspaper

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Waste Free Wednesdays in April

By Zoe C. and Jade B.

In order to go green for Earth Day, Spring Avenue has been having Waste Free Wednesdays.

What is Waste Free Wednesday?

Waste Free Wednesday is teaching students about wasting less and recycling more. If we don't stop wasting, our landfills are going to be overflowing with trash. When the landfills fill up, people cut down trees and destroy natural land to make new landfills. The trash in the landfills takes hundreds of years to decompose or break down.

What do students think?

Before Waste Free Wednesday happened, people thought it was good idea.

Olivia M. said it was a "Great idea" and she said she was going to bring a



waste free lunch. To keep her lunch waste free she said she planned on bringing "containers, a lunchbox, and a reusable water bottle." She also said Waste Free Wednesdays are a great way to "teach people not to waste."

Roland C. agrees that Waste Free Wednesday is a great idea and he says "It helps nature." For Waste Free Wednesday, he is going to bring "containers and no trash."

Finally, we interviewed

Brandon H. and he said Waste Free Wednesday "might be successful." He was planning to do Waste Free Wednesday and he wasn't going to bring any wrappers.

What can you bring for Waste Free Wednesday?

You can bring in a reusable lunchbox, water bottle, silverware, cloth napkin, and containers. It is better to buy a large bag of something instead of individually wrapped items because it makes less trash. Also, when you take an individually wrapped item and put it in a container you are still making trash.

Remember we can be waste free and help the earth every day not just Wednesday! If everybody makes less trash, it helps the earth become cleaner for everything and everyone on it.

Upcoming District Events



Kane County Game

The annual Kane County Cougars baseball game, sponsored by the District 105 Foundation will be on Sunday May 3 at 1PM.

More information about the event can be found on our D105 website. All District families are welcome on this fun day at the ball-park.



D105 Dash

District 105 will have its first annual D105 Dash, a 5K Run and 1.5 Mile Family Walk. The race is scheduled for 9 AM on May 17th. Entry fee is \$25 for ages 14+ and \$15 for ages 5-13.

Please check the D105 website for more details and www.facebook.com/d105dash. Sign up at www.signmeup.com/106795.

Keep thinking,
solving
problems and
becoming that
incredible
member of
our
community
that will
make a BIG
difference! We
believe in you!



Principal's Corner

By Mrs. Webb

Dear Families,

What a FABULOUS year of events and celebrations! It all started in the fall when we were given the official news of becoming a National Blue Ribbon School! To me, this meant that the students were receiving the recognition they deserve for the hard work they were doing; the teachers and staff were receiving the recognition they deserve for the incredible planning, teaming, goal setting and rigorous instruction; and you- the members of our community, were receiving the recognition and accolades you fully deserve for helping us bring all the pieces together! Congratulations and THANK YOU!

As we have progressed through the year, we reflect on many things. The students reflect on how they conquered a problem, met a goal or began a deeper understanding of complex concepts. This is one of the most rewarding experiences to observe and watch on a daily basis! Students are also involved in many activities around the building and this, again, is with thanks to our community and staff. This includes all the students in the fall and spring running club, the 50+ students involved in our school newspaper, the students enrolled in Spanish classes, students in band, orchestra, choir, art, and ALL the students who attended one or more of the AMAZING After 3 clubs. Including students to help them find their niche or celebrate a talent is a most important goal of our school-wide community.

In January, our school completed the rigorous and important process of a site analysis from CEC (the Consortium for Educational Change). This analysis included clear criteria in specific areas for rating schools as a whole system. Through this CEC process, we were able to identify needs, establish priorities and celebrate our accomplishments so far. We will continue to keep you all in the loop about the progress for this process and the steps beyond, but THANK you to all of you who helped during this process. Students were the shining stars of this process and we salute each and every one of you!

Students, as you go forth, remember all the important lessons you have learned about owning a situation, fixing the problem with sincerity, and learning from these situations. These are the most important lessons we can provide! Keep thinking, solving problems and becoming that incredible member of our community that WILL make a BIG difference! We believe in you! Parents and Guardians, thank you for helping us all keep the focus on students at all times. Working in a school where CHILDREN truly come first is the most rewarding and important job of all. Once again, in my tenth year at Spring Avenue, I am thankful, humbled and so very proud of having the honor to be the principal.

Most sincerely,

Mrs. Webb

SPORTS PAGE



What Records Did Jordan Spieth Break at the Masters?

By Michael M. and Michael S.

What is the Masters? The Masters is a tournament in which the best of the best in golfing compete to see who the "Master" of golf is. The other championships differ in location but the Masters tournament is always held at the beginning of April in Augusta, Georgia.

Jordan Spieth broke many records. Going into the weekend Spieth was 14 under par with a total number of 130 shots, breaking the record set by Raymond Floyd in 1976. Spieth also tied the major championship record of lowest 36 hole score. On the opening day Spieth shot 64 the lowest score in 19 years and just one stroke off the major championship record.

Jordan was always excelling at golf when he was a kid. He also played other sports such as baseball in 7th grade and basketball in 8th grade. In 8th grade his parents got Jordan his first golf swing coach. From there he excelled into the Masters. All golfers say they are honored to be in the Masters, but to win it is hard. Lots of people are honored, but now Jordan can join the honored.



Image Source: <http://nypost.com/2015/04/08/a-21-year-old-champ-at-masters-jordan-spieths-got-next/>

USC Football

By Garrett R.



Image Source: <http://www.usctrojans.com/blog/2014/06/football-ticket-mini-plans-now-available.html>

USC football is historical. One of their biggest rivals is Notre Dame.

Last year USC beat Notre Dame by 35 points! USC is University of Southern California. USC has won 11 National Championships. USC was established in 1888.

They're in the Pacific 12 conference. USC's football

is currently coached by Steve Sarkisian.

Last year, USC had a record of 9 wins and 4 losses. They recently won the Holiday Bowl over the Nebraska Cornhuskers 45-42. I hope you like USC now.

March Madness Champs

By Charlie F., Aidan W., and Garrett R.



The March Madness Championship game was on April 6, 2015. It was a tough battle between the Wisconsin Badgers and the Duke Blue Devils. The final score was 68-63; Duke won.

The coach of the Duke Blue Devils is Coach K. It was his 5th NCAA title for Duke, and Duke's 5th

NCAA title, which makes Coach K a great coach. He also coached one of the best Duke basketball players that ever played the game, Christian Laettner. Some people liked him, but others didn't because he was so good. He also played on more than five NBA teams in his 13 year career.

Duke is a very great basketball program, and they were good enough to win the championship in 2015.

Top 5 Upsets in 2015 March Madness

By Michael M., Michael S., and Garrett R.

1. UAB beats Iowa State 60-59
2. Georgia State beats Baylor 56-57
- 3 North Carolina State beats Villanova 71-68
4. Michigan State beats Louisville 76-70
5. Utah beats Georgetown 75-64

SPORTS PAGE



Notre Dame: Basketball Vs. Football

By Patrick E. and Adam K.

Notre Dame Football and Basketball are both great teams. Notre Dame sports teams are all nicknamed The Fighting Irish. The school mascot is a Leprechaun. The colors are navy blue, green, and gold. Notre Dame University is located in Indiana.

Notre Dame Basketball team made it to the Elite Eight, but ended their season in a heartbreaking 66-68 loss against the Kentucky Wildcats. With six seconds left in the game Andrew Harrison drove through the center lane, and Demetrius Jackson tried to set a pick and moves his feet. It should have been an offensive foul because Andrew Harrison knocked him flat on his back. It was a sad loss for the Irish and all their fans.

Now the Notre Dame basketball Men's statistics.

Player	Free Throws	3 Point
Jerian Grant	.780%	.316%
Zach Auguste	.636%	.000%
Pat Connaughton	.781%	.423%
Demetrius Jackson	.745%	.429%
Steve Vasturia	.864%	.411%
V.J. Beachem	.759%	.416%
Bonzie Colson	.754%	.143%
Austin Torres	.700%	.000%
Austin Burgett	.500%	.091%
Martinas Geben	.700%	.000%
Matt Farrell	.875%	.167%
Eric Katenda	.556%	.000%
Matt Gregory	.500%	.000%

Notre Dame football has many extraordinary players. For example, William Fuller has great receiving yards and average receiving. Tarean Folston with 889 yards and an average of 5.1. Everett Golson had 256 completions and 427 pass attempts in the 2014 season.

Overall the Notre Dame Football team is a great team. Here are stats of the top two players from receiving, rushing and the number one in throwing and kicking.

Throwing	ATT	CMP
Everett Golson	427	256

Rushing	YDS	AVG
Tarean Folston	889	5.1
Greg Bryant	289	5.4

Receiving	REC	YDS	AVG
William Fuller	76	1094	14.4
Chris Brown	39	548	14.1

Notre Dame Basketball and Notre Dame Football are both great teams but overall in the 2014-2015 season Notre Dame Basketball was better than Notre Dame Football.



NHL Playoffs

By Sammy K.



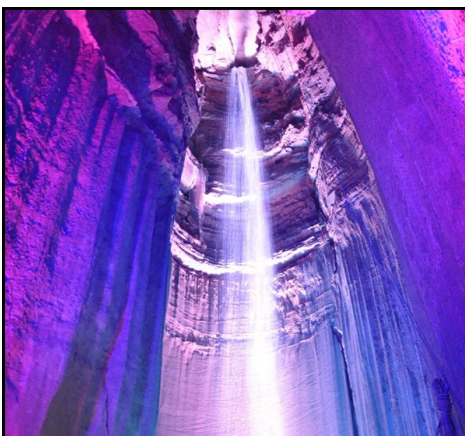
As some of you hockey fans may know the NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs have begun. One of the best times of the

year to watch hockey, it's brutal and bloody. Everyone plays harder during the chase for the Cup, but what I love are the upsets and watching the angry fans get angrier as teams that should have won lose: the upsets.

In my opinion one of the biggest upsets would be the Ottawa Senators winning the Cup. First of all they barely made the playoffs. They would need to beat so many great teams. It just doesn't seem possible.

A team I thought might win the cup before the post season was the St. Louis Blues. They have good players on every line playing every position. One player on the Blues I really don't like is Backes, so I hope there will be some big hits on him.

We will have to see what happens and which teams advance as the NHL Playoffs continue.



The Discovery of Ruby Falls

By Carter H.

In 1940 a man was digging in caves in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The man kept digging and found an even bigger cave. He got a crew together, and continued to discover these caves. They crawled for 19 hours. They found many beautiful formations and kept crawling. Finally, the crew found the falls. The leader named the falls after his wife Ruby.

FUN FACT: In 2010 the elevator broke and people got stuck in the caves all night and when they got out they got life time passes and breakfast.

Image Source: <http://planetden.com/nature/ruby-falls-chattanooga-tennessee-2>

Take a Ride at the Bush Gardens Theme Park

By Leo W.

Busch Gardens is a theme park in Tampa, Florida. Here at Busch Gardens you will find a huge variety of rollercoasters to ride. My favorite ride is the Cheetah Hunt. Take off into the ultimate thrill of the newest rollercoaster the Cheetah Hunt. The Cheetah Hunt is 4,400 feet long. It is the park's longest thrill ride attraction.

For those of you guests who do not like to wait in line, there is a vertical queue system called quick queue which you can purchase, and at a certain time for certain rides, you can get in a shorter line. It's kind of like a fast pass for those of you that have been to Disney World or land. To be able to ride the Cheetah Hunt you must be at least 48 inches tall.

Another rollercoaster at Busch Gardens is the SheiKra. In the SheiKra you climb 200 feet to the edge of a 90-degree drop that inches you over the edge and stops. After the stop, the rollercoaster drops you straight down and curves up with more drops yet to come. Also, for the unlucky visitors standing by the splash zone you will get drenched with water as the SheiKra accelerates through the splash zone below. The SheiKra is just one of the many rides at Busch Gardens.



The Splash Zone of the SheiKra ride. Image Source: <http://www.ultimaterollercoaster.com/coasters/pictures/sheikra/sheikra-5.shtml>

For children who don't like the faster rides of the theme park, there is the Air Grover roller coaster. This short but sweet ride is located in the Sesame Street Safari area.

If you are hungry while at the park, don't worry, there are snack stands with food such as giant pretzels and churros. The information from this article is from the Busch Gardens website.

Teachers' Favorite Colors

By Hannah E.

Ms. Marek: Green
 Mrs. Jones: Periwinkle blue
 Mr. Meyers: Neon Green or Electric Blue
 Ms. Lefley: Pink
 Ms. Melone: Green
 Ms. McGinnis: Anything Bright and Cheery
 Ms. Parrino: Yellow
 Mrs. Haymes: Blue
 Ms. Weiland: Lavender & Aqua
 Ms. Manganello: Purple
 Mrs. Richardson: Blue
 Mrs. Daly: Magenta
 Mrs. Dahlin: Coral
 Ms. Wiegand: Purple
 Mrs. Demer: Sea Foam Green
 Mr. Arneson: Red
 Mr. Lowry: Depends on the day
 Mrs. Tracy: Blue
 Mrs. Caylor: Yellow

A Man's Best Friend

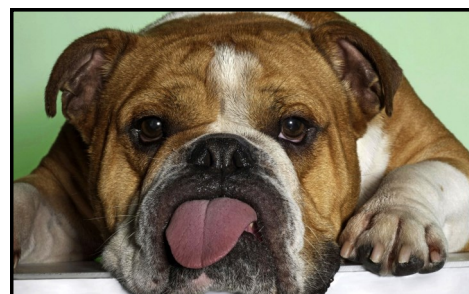
By Garrett R.

Bulldogs are truly a man's best friend. Bulldogs are very sleepy, and they also like to eat a lot.

Bulldogs are a man's best friend, because they'll follow their owner almost anywhere they go. A Bulldog's owner is basically its master.

Their tongues are so big, that they can almost touch their foreheads with it. Now you understand why a bulldog is truly a man's best friend.

Image Source: http://bcod.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/bcod_bulldogpic.jpg



The Story Behind Team Scorpion

By Rhys W.

An “average” person has an IQ, or Intelligence Quotient (on a test made to measure intelligence) of 100. A person with an IQ of 130 is considered “gifted.” When it comes to REALLY smart people, most people think of Albert Einstein. Albert Einstein’s IQ was 160. Walter O’Brien, a genius computer hacker, has the fourth highest IQ ever recorded: 197!

Walter O’Brien was born and raised in Ireland, and always demonstrated great computer skills. At age 16, Walter O’Brien was first in national high speed computer problem solving competitions. At age 18, he completed the World Olympics for Informatics, where he ranked as



sixth fastest computer programmer on the planet!

In addition to competing, Walter O’Brien created a company at age 13 called “ScorpionComputerServices.com” (also my source for information in this article). He called it this because his computer hacker name is “Scorpion.” His company is so well known, people from all over the world work with him.

Joining him on Team Scorpion are Harold Charlap (Canada), Logan Allin (Germany), and Stacey Casey (USA). They also have eight other specialists working with them.

Walter O’Brien himself has created over 177 unique projects! In fact other people found him so interesting, that they used it as a model for a TV show about Team Scorpion. While they do very interesting work, the TV show has much more imagination. Walter O’Brien is a very interesting person. I hope you think so too.

Source: scorpioncomputerservices.com (Accessed April 21, 2015)

Around the World: Istanbul, Turkey

By Niko S.

Turkey is a wonderful country. In Turkey they have mosques, which are like domes. Turkey used to be ruled by a Greek ruler, but the country got their independence during World War Two. Now you can see the Greek ruins in Turkey. Another thing about Turkey is the bazaars. A bazaar is like a store that sells all kinds of things such as food, toys, and antiques. Also, they have the hot springs. It looks like a bunch of icebergs together except it’s not ice.

The Leanders Tower is another cool spot. It is a well-known tower that has been around for hundreds of years. Also, in Turkey you can find wetlands, woodlands, and tons of mountains!

Finally, the common birds are a Serin, who lives in the woodlands, an Adult Golden Eagle, which lives in northern Europe (which is still in Turkey). And an Alpine Chough, which lives in the mountains. Turkey is a very nice place for a vacation!



Image Source: www.simplyistanbul.org/istanbul/maps-of-istanbul

Phobias (Can you Pronounce All of Them?!)

By Lindsey P. and Emme M.

Aulophobia- Fear of flutes

Chionophobia- Fear of snow

Ambulophobia- Fear of walking

Eosophobia- Fear of dawn or daylight

Bibliophobia- Fear of books

Cathisophobia- Fear of sitting

Zelophobia- Fear of jealousy

Catoptrophobia- Fear of mirrors

Clinophobia- Fear of going to bed

Triskaidekaphobia- Fear of the number

13

Thermophobia- Fear of heat

Dikephobia- Fear of justice

Domatophobia- Fear of houses or being in a house.

Telephonophobia- Fear of telephones

Eleutherophobia- Fear of freedom

Cyberphobia- Fear of computers or

working on a computer

Ideophobia- Fear of ideas

Gerascophobia- Fear of growing old

Athazagoraphobia- Fear of being forgotten or ignored or forgetting

Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia - Fear of long words (Ironie)

For more information on these and other phobias, visit hphobialist.com.

Recipe: Homemade Caramels

By Lindsey P.



If your Easter candy stash is running out, then this article is good for you! Note: You need a candy thermometer!!!! For this recipe

and others, visit www.allrecipes.com.
Work with an adult when using the stove.

Homemade Caramels - 4 to 5 dozen

You will need:

- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup corn syrup
- 1 cup evaporated milk
- 1 pint heavy whipping cream
- 1 cup butter
- 1 1/4 teaspoons vanilla extract

Directions:

- ⇒ Grease a 12x15 inch pan.
- ⇒ In a medium-size pot, combine sugar, brown sugar, corn syrup, evaporated milk, whipping cream, and butter.
- ⇒ Watch the heat of the mixture with a candy thermometer while stirring.
- ⇒ When the thermometer reaches 250 degrees F (120 degrees C) remove the pot from the heat.
- ⇒ Stir in vanilla.
- ⇒ Transfer mixture to the prepared pan and let the mixture cool completely.
- ⇒ When cooled, cut the caramel into small squares and wrap them in wax paper for storage.

Book Review: *Ungifted*

By Ava P.

I recommend *Ungifted* by Gordon Korman. It is a very interesting and unique book. It consists of 280 pages, so it is a short and quick read.

Donovan Curtis is one BIG troublemaker at Hardcastle Middle School. After he pulls a tremendous and potentially deadly prank, he thinks he went too far. His name accidentally gets written down on the gifted list instead of the expulsion list. He

knows he's not a genius, but he'll do anything to get out of trouble and fines. He goes to the Academy for Scholastic Dis-



tion (ASD).

At ASD, most of the kids like him, but others don't think he belongs. That changes when Donovan helps out the robotics team by driving the robot and doing something the kids NEVER thought of, giving it a name.

Will Donovan ever fit in among these kids and find his inner gift? Read the book to find out!

This book was on the 2015 Rebecca Caudill

List. Our library has many copies of this book, and you can read it on a Kindle, too.

Recipe: Homemade Ice Cream

By Lilly M. and Ella R.

I Scream, You Scream, We all Scream For Bagged Ice Cream!



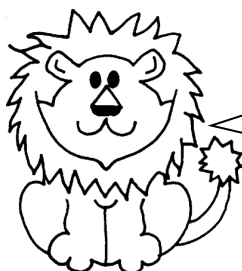
Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/2 cup milk, cream, or half and half
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract (or other flavoring)
- 6 tablespoons salt (Ordinary table salt will work, but salt that has larger crystals, such as kosher salt or rock salt, will work much better.)
- Enough ice to fill the gallon-sized bag halfway
- 1 gallon-sized Ziploc bag
- 1 pint-sized Ziploc bag

Directions

Put the ice in the gallon-sized bag and mix the salt around in the ice and set aside. Put the sugar, milk and vanilla extract into the pint-sized bag and seal tightly. Put the pint bag into the gallon bag. Make sure the pint bag gets buried in the ice. Seal the gallon bag. Shake the bags vigorously for five minutes. You might want to use a towel to hold them, since they will be very cold and slippery from condensation.

For this recipe and more science-based recipes, visit <http://science.howstuffworks.com/innovation/edible-innovations/ice-cream3.htm>.



Check out past issues of this newspaper on our Spring Avenue Website: About Spring, Lions' Life Archive.

Quiz: What Books/ Series is Best for You

By Maggie K. and Sophie P.



What word best describes you?

- a. brave
- b. independent
- c. perseverant
- d. feisty

What is your favorite color?

- a. red
- b. blue
- c. pink
- d. green

What do you do in your free time?

- a. explore places
- b. play with my pet
- c. try something new
- d. play sports

What is your favorite animal?

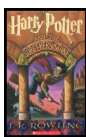
- a. lion
- b. dog
- c. bunny
- d. giraffe

What type of book do you like?

- a. adventure
- b. realistic fiction
- c. non-fiction
- d. sad stories

Answers

If you have mostly a's...



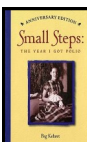
You are adventurous and love to take risks. The best book for you is the *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling.

If you have mostly b's...



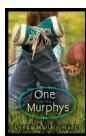
You love animals and playing outside. You are independent. The best book for you is *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio.

If you have mostly c's...



You are not afraid to share your opinion and love meeting new people, and also trying new things. The best book for you is *Small Steps: the year I got Polio* by Peg Kehret.

If you have mostly d's...



You love sports and playing with your siblings. The best book for you is *One for The Murphys* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt.

*We greatly recommend all of these books!

Quiz: Which DISNEY Character Are you?

By Grace K., Meah L., and Ava M.

What character trait best describes you?

- a. talkative
- b. caring
- c. funny
- d. jumpy

What do you do in your free time?

- a. hang with your friends
- b. spend time with the family
- c. swim
- d. jump (while wishing to fly)

What is your favorite color?

- a. white
- b. pink
- c. blue and/or yellow
- d. grey

What is your favorite hobby?

- a. all winter sports
- b. saving the world
- c. swimming
- d. trying to fly

What do you do on Friday nights?

- a. watch movies
- b. play board games
- c. go to swim practice
- d. go to downtown La Grange

What is your favorite snack?

- a. s'mores
- b. fruits
- c. fish & chips
- d. candy

Where would you like to live?

- a. Hawaii
- b. California
- c. Florida
- d. New York

What is your favorite Disney movie?

- a. Frozen
- b. Big Hero 6
- c. The Little Mermaid
- d. Dumbo

If Santa surprised you in your house... what would you do?

- a. give him a bear hug
- b. tell your parents
- c. take a selfie with him
- d. scream with joy

Answers



Mostly A's

You are Olaf! You love others and long for summer. You love hugs and are nice to everyone who will be nice to you! Keep being yourself!



Mostly B's

You are Baymax! You're loveable and huggable! You will do anything to make the world a better place! Keep doing what you love!



Mostly C's

You are Flounder! You love sports and have a great attitude toward everything. You also love to support your friends! Never change that supportive and wonderful attitude!



Mostly D's

You are Dumbo! You love to be the center of attention and have a happy attitude! You also have great hearing! Keep it up!



Cancer Awareness



By Emme M. and Shea W.

We are raising awareness for cancer. Many people die from this terrible disease. We thank the people who have raised money for this cause. Cancer awareness is important to us and many others because our loved ones have died from this. The facts below will hopefully make us all more aware and inform you about cancer.

Cancer is when abnormal cells in your body spread. Thirty percent of cancer can be avoided by a healthy lifestyle. This includes staying away from tobacco and alcohol, eating a healthy diet, and participating in physical activity. There is also a vaccine that protects against some types of cancer.

There are 100 different kinds of cancer, and you can be affected by it in any part of the body. Over 20,000 people die per day because of cancer. Cancer causes more deaths than AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria COMBINED.

In just one cigarette there are 4,800 chemicals, 69 of which can cause

cancer. More skin cancer cases are caused by indoor tanning than lung cancer cases from smoking. Pilots and flight attendants are more likely to get skin cancer due to higher exposure to UV rays. Breast cancer kills 450 men each year. Plants can get cancer. If you could live long enough no matter what, one of your skin cells will get cancer.

Trained dogs can sniff out prostate cancer with 98 percent accuracy. In the U.S. one in eight women will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer in their lifetime. (fact source: www.factslikes.com/s-Cancer.)

Doctors and scientists still haven't found a cure for this but we hope they do soon. You can raise money for the research or for the cancer families. There are different color ribbons representing all of the kinds of cancer.

We know many students at Spring Avenue raise money for different diseases, we hope you can put some of it toward finding a cure for cancer.

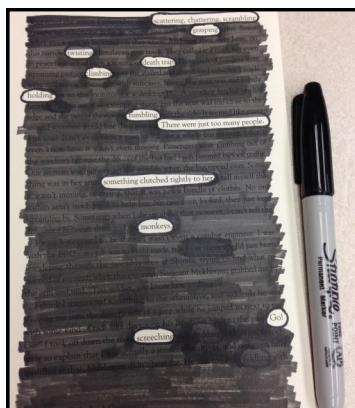


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Blackout Poetry

By Maggie B.

To celebrate National Poetry Month, try a new way of writing a poem! Blackout Poetry is when you box out any words you want to use in your poem on the page with a pencil. Then with a Sharpie marker, color in the rest of the page in the given page from Harry Potter. You will keep the words you want and then blackout out the rest of the words. Try it at the right. See an example below.



THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

All those times we were in that bathroom, and she was just three toilets away," said Ron bitterly at breakfast next day, "and we could've asked her, and now . . ."

It had been hard enough trying to look for spiders. Escaping their teachers long enough to sneak into a girls' bathroom, the girls' bathroom, moreover, right next to the scene of the first attack, was going to be almost impossible.

But something happened in their first lesson, Transfiguration, that drove the Chamber of Secrets out of their minds for the first time in weeks. Ten minutes into the class, Professor McGonagall told them that their exams would start on the first of June, one week from today.

"Exams?" howled Seamus Finnigan. "We're still getting exams?"

There was a loud bang behind Harry as Neville Longbottom's wand slipped, vanishing one of the legs on his desk. Professorr



Staff Advisor: Ms. Keillor

Three Interesting and Endangered Animals

By Gabby L., Sophie M., and Lillian P.

Three endangered animals that we thought were interesting are red pandas, river dolphins, and chimpanzee.

Red pandas are endangered because of deforestation which is when trees are being cut down for human resources. River dolphins are endangered for many reasons including dam-building, entanglement in fishing nets, pollution and a few more reasons. Finally, chimpanzees are endangered because of habitat loss.

Red Pandas



Here are five facts about the cute red pandas. First of all they live in the Eastern

Himalayan Mountains: Nepal, Burma and China.. Second, they weigh seven pounds-fourteen pounds. Third, their coats are red, brown, and white. Our fourth fact is

there are less than 3,000 red pandas left in the wild. The last fact for red pandas is they eat bamboo, berries, and eggs. One way you can help red pandas is to recycle and not buy things from the Himalayas.

River Dolphins



Next up we have five interesting facts about river dolphins. First of all

their scientific name is the "Platanistoidea." Second, they live in rivers, lakes, and estuaries in the tropical Southern Hemisphere. Third, there are only four species of river dolphins left in the wild. Fourth, they eat crabs, fish, and catfish. Fifth, sadly not many animals prey on river dolphins other than humans! One way you can help save the river dolphin is to research river dolphins.



Chimpanzees

Finally we have some info on the cute, strong, and smart chimpanzee. First

of all, their scientific name is "Pan troglodytes." Secondly, their habitat is the Tropical forest and woody savanna. An average chimpanzees weight is 57 lbs-154lbs. Chimpanzees are omnivores (which means they all sorts of food). They live for up to 50-60 years. One way you can help is by buying sustainable products.

There are the three endangered animals and we hope you enjoyed our piece.

Image Sources:

Red Panda: www.worldwildlife.org/species/red-panda

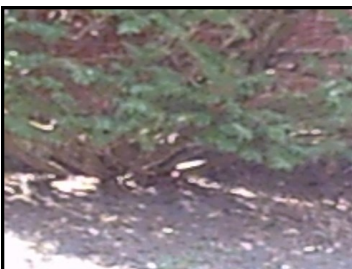
River Dolphins: www.factzoo.com/mammals/pink-amazon-river-dolphin.html

Chimpanzee: www.wildchimpanzees.org/press/photo03.php

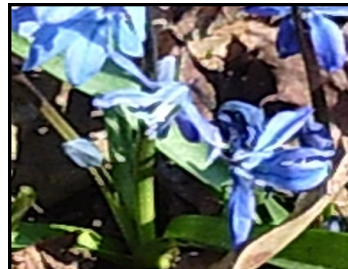
Nature Guess: Can You Identify What's in the Picture?

By Roland C.

Answers on last page!



Green and small, you see them around town.



This blue flower starts with an "S." You can see some on Waiola.



Guess! What is it? It's brown, it is everywhere.



Staff Advisor: Ms. Keillor

Earth Day Success!

By Mrs. Webb

A special thanks to our Earth Day / Green Club leaders, Mrs. Walsh and Mr. Meyers for organizing a special Earth Day Clean Up Celebration. Along with about 75 more kids, and a bunch of parents, we were able to clean up, plant, dig and take care of our earth. It's looking good out there - we just need some SUN!

Freaks of Nature: Top 10 Strangest Animals

By: Cano R. (Creator of My Grandpa Is A Monster)



#10: The Maned Wolf
Not only looking like a hybrid of a wolf, hyena, fox, and deer, this thing is actually a part of the

canid family but it's even not related to those things actually!



#9: The Yeti Crab
Also known as the Kiwa Hirsuta, this crustacean has 15 CM (5.9 In) of

white blonde silky fur covering its whole claws!



#8: The Thorny Devil
Not only does this desert animal squirt blood from its eyes, it can get

water by going to damp swamps and waiting under a plant while drops of water fall on its back!



#7: The Narwhal
Not only do these things look like a unicorn and a whale morphed together,

but also that little horn on its head is not a tusk but it's actually a tooth, and they use it for everything!



#6: The Hammerhead Bat Nightmare
fuel anyone? Not only looking like if a bat wore a horse mask,

This thing is said to be the largest bat in the whole wide world! Also this thing is looks like it could be related to the hammerhead shark actually!



#5: The Jeroba
Also known as the kangaroo Mouse, this thing actually is related to the kangaroo by having the long ears and even having the same speed as one!



#4: The Emperor Tamarin
This thing not only has what looks like a white mustache, also has a 35 centimeter tail that comes in handy a lot!



#3: The Angora Rabbit
This thing's fur is used for lots of fabric, and also when it's shaved it looks pretty normal.

But in its natural form... IT LOOKS SO FLUFFY I CAN'T HANDLE IT!



#2: The Blobfish
This fish is unique mainly because of how it eats. It just floats in the water with its mouth gaping open

while things just go in its mouth, and let's not forget that when it's on land, it just looks like a blob—hence its name!



#1: The Axolotl
Sometimes called the Mexican Walking Fish, it is invincible mainly because it can take off its arms, legs, and even its own head! It can

even trade body parts to other Axolotls! It's Nature's little monster! Scientists have done experiments on Axolotls to see if they can learn how they do it.



Make Every Day Earth Day!



Ride a bike
Compost
Unplug unused appliances
Shop with a reusable bag
Use rechargeable batteries
Unplug unused appliances
Turn off the water when brushing teeth

Put trash in the trash cans (don't litter)
Turn off your computer at night
Donate clothing that's too small
Plant a tree
Carpool with a friend or neighbor
Write on both sides of the paper
Take shorter showers

Use a reusable water bottle
Grow vegetables in a garden
Use reusable snack containers
Reduce
Reuse
Recycle
Encourage others to do the same things!

Comic

By Selma B., and Stella C., Alejandra M., and Olivia M.

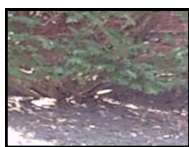


Important Dates

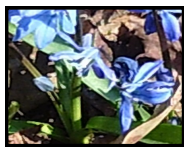


April 27-May 8 — PARCC Testing Window
 April 30 — Kindergarten Tea, 1:45
 May 3 — Kane County Cougars Game
 May 5 — Spring Band Awards Concert, 1:25 and 7:00
 May 6 — National Teacher Appreciation Day
 May 6 — Concert Orchestra/Gurrie Choir School Tour
 May 6 — Jazz Band Performance at American Legion
 May 7 — Spring Orchestra & Choir Concert, 1:25 and 7:00
 May 8 — ECE Participation Day
 May 8 — Concert Band School Tour
 May 13 — PTO Meeting, 8:45
 May 13 — District Musical, 7:00
 May 14 — District Musical, 1:15 and 7:00
 May 17 — D105 Dash
 May 20 — Student Half Attendance Day, 11:45 dismissal
 May 25 — Memorial Day, No School
 May 27 — LaGrange Public Library Summer Reading Talk at Morning Kick Off
 May 27 — PTO Meeting, 8:40, Volunteer Breakfast/Awards Assembly, 9:40
 May 28 — Writing Celebration, 9:00
 May 28 — Kindergarten Graduation, 10:30 and 2:15
 May 28 — Writing Festival, LaGrange Public Library, 6:00
 June 1 — Stepping Up, 6:00 pm
 June 4 — Last Day of School

Nature Guess Answers



bush



squill



bark

Garden Illustration Contest

Sponsored by the Spring Ave PTO



Get creative by designing a sign for our School Garden! The winner of this contest will have the honor of painting their original design on a sign to be displayed in the garden (with an artist's help).

Here are the rules:

- Drawings should be done on a 9x12" piece of paper using colored pencils. Use the whole area of the paper (as though it were a sign). Your teachers have the paper to use.
- The sign must include the words "Spring Avenue Garden." Also, in smaller print somewhere on the sign, include the words sponsored by the PTO."
- Include images of the wildlife the garden supports: birds, butterflies, and bees, for example. Also plants include plants such as native prairie plants (grasses and flowers), sunflowers, marigolds, and veggies. Not all of these elements need to be included but some of them should.
- Use your imaginations and get creative!
- Entries must be turned in to your teachers by Friday, May 8.

A Lion's Life Newspaper Staff

Jade B.
 Maggie B.
 Selma B.
 Drew C.
 Zoe C.
 Roland C.
 Stella C.
 Emmett D.
 Patrick E.
 Hannah E.
 Charlie F.

Olivia G.
 Carter H.
 Alexa H.
 Brandon H.
 Audrey H.
 Grace K.
 Maggie K.
 Sammy K.
 Adam K.
 Meah L.
 Gabriella L.

Jeanne M.
 Michael M.
 Emme M.
 Olivia M.
 Alejandra M.
 Lilly M.
 Sophie M.
 Ava M.
 Ava P.
 Lindsey P.
 Sophie P.

Lillian P.
 Garrett R.
 Cano R.
 Ella R.
 Niko S.
 Michael S.
 Grant S.
 Leo W.
 Shea W.
 Rhys W.
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