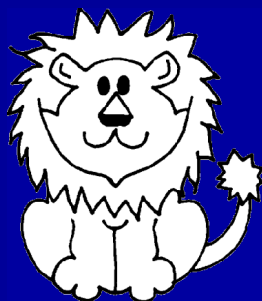


admire

to regard with wonder,
pleasure, or approval.



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 3

A Lion's Life Newspaper

2 / 1 / 2015

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District 105 Battle of the Books

By Niko S.

The Battle of the Books is a competition focused on reading books. The point of the game is to read four books, then answer questions about them. The questions are answered with the title of the book for one point and the author for another point.

This year, teachers participated in the first ever Teacher Battle of the Books. There were four teams and the Battle had a four way tie! Way to go teachers!

Spring Avenue had over 50 fifth and sixth grade



First Teacher Battle of the Books!

students participate in the School Battle of the Books.

In the School Battle, there are two teams who win. Those two winning teams go to the District Battle of the Books where they compete with the

winning teams from the other schools in District 105. The District Battle of the Books is on Friday, February 13th at Gurrie Middle School. The two winning Spring teams are the Reading LEAG with Anna B., Grace K., Lilly M., and Ella R., and the Unstoppable Readers won with Alejandra R., Emily S., Keegan C., Nina S., and Julia W. We wish all the readers good luck!

This year our Family Literacy night will be Family Battle of the Books on February 26. Look at the school website for more information.

Spring Avenue Welcomes Peter Brown

By Maggie B., Maggie K., and Ella R.

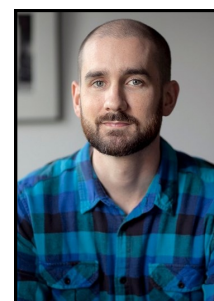
Guess who I am? I'm coming to this school. I was born in 1979. I'm an author and illustrator of children books. I'M PETER BROWN!!

After Peter Brown graduated from the Art Center, he moved to Brooklyn, New York. There Peter wrote and illustrated books and continued to love stories. He has won lots of awards for books including: Caldecott honor, a Horn Book award, two E.B. White Awards, two E.B. White Honors, a Children's Choice Award for illustrator of the year, two Irma Black

Honors, a Gold Kite Award, a New York Times Best Illustrated Book Award, and five New York Times Best Sellers.

Some of the Books Peter Brown wrote and illustrated are: My Teacher is a Monster (No I'm Not), Mr. Tiger Goes Wild, You Will Be My Friend, Children Make Terrible Pets, The Curious Garden, The Fabulous, Bouncing Chowder, Flight of The Dodo, and Chowder.

Peter Brown has also used his artistic talent to illustrate these books: Creepy Carrots, The Purple Kangaroo, Kaline Klattermaster's Treehouse, Snowbone, and Barkbelly.



Author Illustrator
Peter Brown

Peter Brown is an amazing writer and illustrator of children's books, and we're excited to welcome him to our school on Thursday, March 12. Book order forms and more information will be available in upcoming Wednesday envelopes and the Spring website.

We are having parent forums for D105 parents to come to an evening intended on building some additional awareness around the Common Core. The teachers who are presenting are quite excited about providing some examples and hands-on experiences for parents to learn alongside us:
**FEBRUARY 19TH
 AT 6:00!**



Principal's Corner

By Mrs. Webb

Dear Families,

I have had the wonderful fortune of talking with many individuals about our recent CEC visit. CEC stands for Consortium for Educational Change. Better yet, it should really stand for the need for continuous improvement, as the word 'change' implies things need fixing. The Continuous Improvement model we've adopted has been implemented with training of our administrative staff and teachers through this consortium. Many of our teachers have participated in CEC site visits for other schools and districts. We believe we learn as much examining others and being able to apply the information to our own system, as we do helping others learn more about themselves. We are official members of the CEC, and Perry Soldwedel is our facilitator. We meet with him throughout the year as he coaches us in the Continuous Improvement model. The principals are coached individually to address our needs at each school.

All the D105 schools have completed the CEC site analysis that parents, students and staff were included for our school. The results are shared in many ways. The first report came from the leaders (Perry and Dan) at the close of the 2nd day for our school staff with the analysis team present. This was a brief one hour review of some of the initial findings- 10 deltas and 10 positives for each of the three areas: Focus on Learning, Focus on Results and Focus on Collaboration. Most of the findings were not big surprises and some were great reminders. Following this, Dan and Perry will provide us with a much more detailed report and then will come to a meeting where all stakeholders are invited to join us for a verbal and written "presentation" of the results. There will also be a report posted on line. **The date for this report sharing is February 25th at 3:05 in our library. All Spring Avenue stakeholders are welcome.**

The goal and intention of this process is to take the reports and review them with the staff first. At that time, we will be able to develop an action plan that will help us prioritize some of the information. One of the biggest findings is that we are attempting to tackle too much at the same time and we need to prioritize and focus on areas that will directly impact our students and our community for improvements. Having a clear Strategic Plan (one idea and process that came from CEC in the past) has truly helped us prioritize around a shared vision. If we make sure we are using this as our skeleton or backbone, we will be able to keep our students as the major reason to do/change anything. Then we will reach out to stakeholders for additional support and to further prioritize needs. That's the kind of system I love being a part of.

Common Core awareness and confidence for all will be an ongoing focus. We are having parent forums for D105 parents to come to an evening intended on building some additional awareness around the Common Core. The teachers who are presenting are quite excited about providing some examples and hands-on experiences for parents to learn alongside us. **PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FEBRUARY 19TH AT 6:00!!** Teachers are feeling more and more comfortable about using the Common Core to build lessons, strengthen differentiation and provide a stronger foundation for students. We hope to build confidence with our parents and the use of Common Core as we go forward. This parent forum is one way.

In addition, we are most excited to share information about your individual child/children at conferences this week! We look forward to seeing you at parent/teacher conferences on Tuesday, February 10th or Thursday, February 12th.

May I close in saying one more time- THANK YOU! THANK YOU TO all the parents who help our students in so many little and big ways- from getting them ready for school, supporting them through their studies, and helping out at school in the millions of ways that you do!

WE APPRECIATE YOU!!!

Mrs. Webb

SPORTS PAGE



Hero of Hockey: Wayne Gretzky

By Sammy K. and Adam K.

Wayne Gretzky was one of the best hockey players in NHL history. Wayne was born on January 26, 1961. He was born in Brantford, Ontario. He is currently six feet tall and weighs 185 pounds. Wayne played on four NHL teams and played in the NHL for 20 years. He played on the Edmonton Oilers (the team he is well known for playing on), the LA Kings, the St. Louis Blues, and the New York Rangers. He had a left handed shot and he played centre. Wayne was captain on every team he played on except for the Rangers. He was nicknamed the "The Great One." He also was a head coach for the Arizona Coyotes.

Wayne Gretzky had many achievements, and was considered the best player of all time by many journalists. Wayne Gretzky is the NHL's highest point scorer; in one season he totaled over 200 points. He totaled an astonishing 2,857 points in his NHL career. He holds 60 records in the NHL, only one has been beaten. It was beaten by Nathan MacKinnon on the Avalanche. It was the record of Most Consecutive Games With a Point By an Eighteen Year Old Rookie. It was MacKinnon's thirteenth consecutive game with a point. He holds the record for most records (I don't think that record exists!).

Wayne Gretzky played minor hockey which was a lev-

el way higher than the level of his peers. He was young when he played in that level. Gretzky's intelligence and reading of plays in the game were incredible. He could dodge almost all the hits thrown at him. He was amazing at setting up plays behind his opponent's net, which they called Gretzky's office.

In 1978 he signed a contract with the Indianapolis Racers of the World Hockey Association. He never played for them because he was traded to the Edmonton Oilers right after. There he played most of his career.

Each year the teams he played on either won the Stanley Cup or went really far in the play offs. This proves that Wayne really was one of the best. And who knows, maybe he was the greatest NHL player of all time.



Image Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wayne_Gretzky

Lions Juniors Volleyball Club

By Hannah E.

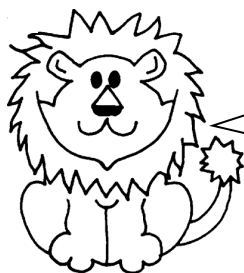
In the Lions Juniors volleyball league there is in-house league and travel team. The travel team is in the winter and spring. In-house is in fall, winter, and spring. Travel teams compete in tournaments in Illinois, and sometimes in Wisconsin and Indiana. The teams are each a color. I'm on ten red, but my uniform color is green. In the in-house league it is okay if you don't know how to play. The coaches at Lions Juniors will teach you how to play. They teach you how to: serve, bump, set, and down ball AKA spike.

I highly recommend you join the in-house league if you are a beginner. However, if you are intermediate and you've played volleyball before, you might want to try out for the Lions Junior travel volleyball. The coaches are supportive and will help you try again if you mess up. Smile! Try your best. For the



in-house league you don't have to try out. I hope you like Lions Juniors if you play.

Visit their website for more information: <http://www.lstalliancevbc.net/>.



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

SPORTS PAGE



Olympic Snowboarder Shaun White

By Roland C.

Shaun White is a good snowboarder. He lives in a \$9 million mansion in Malibu. He's nice. He was born in San Diego, California on September 3, 1986. He went to California State University for college. Shaun White's middle name is Rogers.

He won medals at the Olympics of 2002, 2006, 2010. In 2014, White came in fourth place. He inspired me to snowboard. I'm a big fan! He loves to snowboard!

Shaun spends a lot of his time snowboarding on the halfpipe course, which is like a half-circle ramp with ice and snow on it. When he is practicing and competing, he jumps and does tricks on his snowboard. He has even invented a few signature moves where he flips and twists in the air. One of them is called the Double McTwist.



Image Source: xgames.espn.go.com/athlete/3014000/shaun-white

Fastest Man Alive: Usain Bolt

By Leo W.



Olympic gold medalist Usain Bolt is widely regarded as the fastest man alive. Usain Bolt was born August 21, 1986. Usain is a Jamaican sprinter who lives in Kingston, Jamaica. Because of

his swiftness, he has earned the nickname "Lightning Bolt." He is the first man to win six Olympic gold medals in sprinting, which is one of the reasons he is the athlete that is paid the most money in the sport of Track and Field.

Usain Bolt went to William Knibb Memorial High School. He won 16 gold medals in the Olympics and three silver medals. Bolt was born in Sherwood Content, which is a small town in Trelawney, Jamaica. He grew up with his Mom and Dad, Wellesley and Jennifer Bolt, as well as his brother

Sadiki and his sister Sherine. Usain Bolt is the fastest man alive.

Fun facts about Usain Bolt:

- At age 15, Usain Bolt was the same height as he is now which is 6'5".
- Usain Bolt became professional in 2004.
- He has an app named Bolt.

Image Source: www.biography.com/people/usain-bolt-20702091

Who Am I?

By Aidan W.



Do you know who I am?
Turn to the last page to see if you're right!

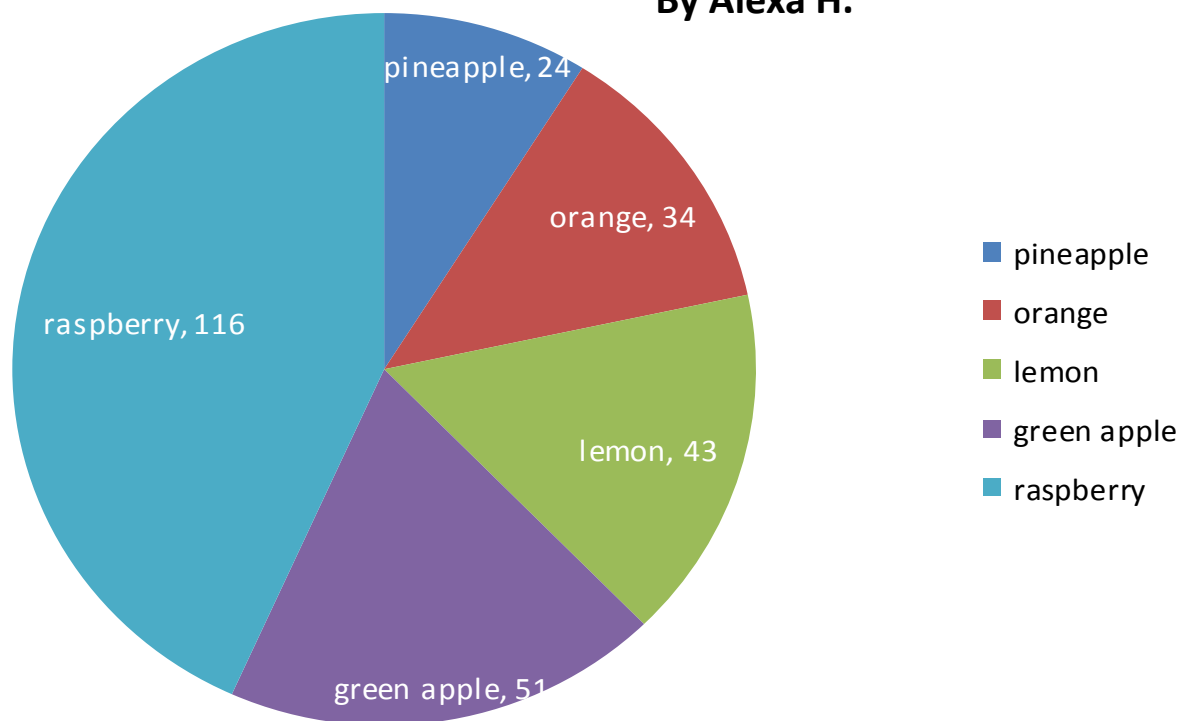
- ? I played for the Yankees.
- ? I wore the number 2.
- ? I played shortstop.

- ? I retired in 2014.
- ? I got 3000 hits.
- ? I had 11,195 MLB at bats.
- ? I got a nickname "Mr. November."
- ? I hit a walk off in my last game.
- ? I was born on June 26, 1974.
- ? I won 5 World Series.

candy SURVEYS

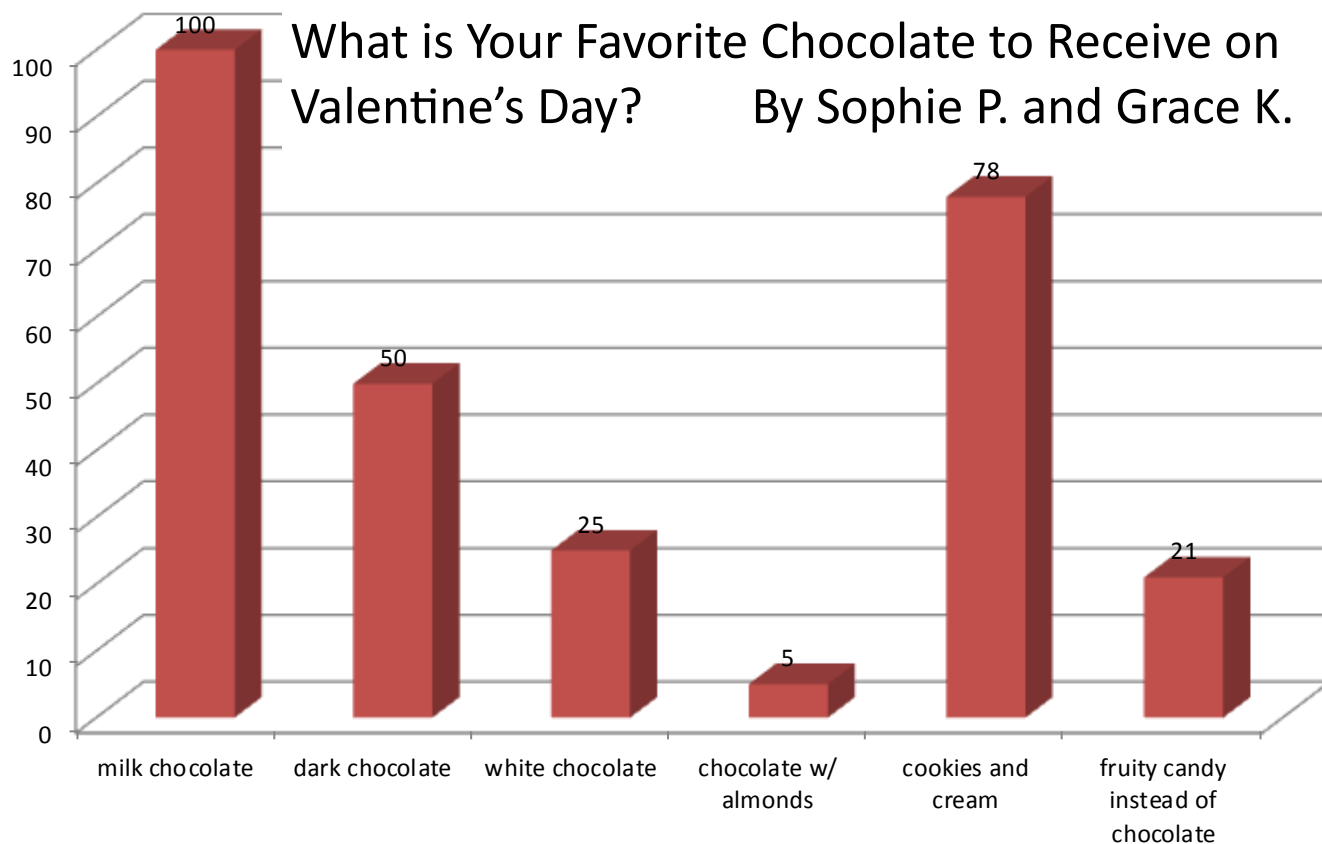
What Is Your Favorite Gummy Bear Flavor?

By Alexa H.



What is Your Favorite Chocolate to Receive on Valentine's Day?

By Sophie P. and Grace K.





Dreams of East Ocean, part 2

By Alejandra M. and Stella C.

"Rachel," Rachel's mom said softly "Wake up."

Rachel moaned into her soft white pillow. "Mom, can I have more sleep?"

Her mom sighed "Rachel, it's your first day of your new school."

Butterflies started to emerge in Rachel's stomach.

"I'm sick," Rachel gasped; Rachel's eyes glittered mischievously, indicating that she was lying.

Her mom sighed. She slowly took the cream-colored covers off Rachel's warm body. Rachel shivered and climbed out of bed.

When Rachel got dressed and she dragged herself down the stairs sniffing the aroma of freshly painted walls. She soon heard the clanking of pots meaning her dad was making oatmeal for breakfast.

Rachel's younger brother, Rex, was balancing a spoon on his nose while Rachel's older sister, Roxy was crying dramatically into her oatmeal. Rachel sighed, poking at her lumpy oatmeal with disgust.

After a dreary breakfast, Rachel scooped up her backpack and sprinted out the white wooden door. She hopped on the bus just in time.

On the bus, Rachel still wasn't thrilled about going to school. She glanced at a kid who had a baseball cap, a crooked front tooth, and a nasty look. Rachel wasn't occupied with anything so she asked for his name.

When she asked, he turned quickly and squinted with fury, "You interrupted my beauty sleep!" He exclaimed. He turned to his friends and it seemed like they were whispering about Rachel.

She thought to herself 'that's what I get for socializing.'

When Rachel got off the bus she immediately spotted Maggie's bright frizzy, burgundy colored hair. Maggie had her arm looped around a girl with long charcoal colored hair. Maggie peered over her shoulder and spotted Rachel upon seeing her she turned as red as her hair.

Rachel waved in her direction



and roared, "Hey-Maggie I finally moved, now we can be best friends again, Hey-Maggie!"

To Rachel's alarm the girl with black hair leaned in to Maggie and said in a loud whisper "Was that the girl that was constantly annoying you last year?" Maggie nodded refusing to meet Rachel's eyes.

Rachel ran inside and found the nearest bathroom. When everyone cleared out, Rachel's lip started to quiver. She bit her lip and soon felt feverish, salty tears drizzling down her cheeks.

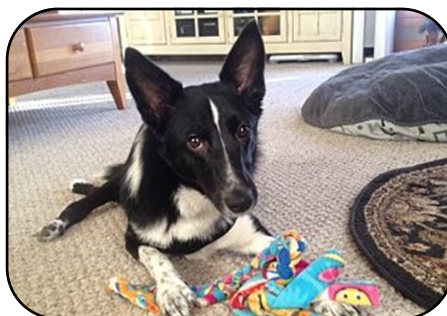
Adopt Sweet Chloe!

By Grant S.

Chloe is a Border Collie from Border Collie Rescue. She is 9 months old and is a special needs dog. When she was just a tiny puppy, she was thrown out of a car and her back legs were damaged. She has two wheels that help her walk, run, and even swim! Chloe is super dog!

If you would like to know more about Chloe, visit the Adopt A Pet website, and if you are interested in adopting her or another dog, talk to Midwest Border Collie Rescue or go to their website: <http://www.mwbcrr.org/>.

To view more cute images of Chloe, for information, and to request information on adoption visit <http://www.adoptapet.com/pet/11822457-midwest-wi-il-mn-wisconsin-border-collie>.



Dunkin' Donuts

By Sophie P. and Grace K.

Did you know that Dunkin' Donuts serves more than 3 million customers a day?

Dunkin' Donuts first started in 1950 by Bill Rosenberg in Quincy, Massachusetts. They are the leading seller of baked goods and coffee in the World.

In total, there are 1,000 menu items! Dunkin' Donuts has 52 varieties of donuts. There are 10,000 stores in the United States and 32 other countries.



Which Disney Princess Are You?

By Jeanne M.

What do you do in your free time?

- A. Read
- B. Explore
- C. Comb your hair
- D. Cook

What candy do you like best?

- A. Smarties
- B. Swedish Fish
- C. Kit Kat
- D. Hot Tamales

What is one word that describes you?

- A. Smart
- B. Adventurous
- C. Artistic
- D. Kind

Where do you want to travel in the world?

- A. France
- B. Under the Sea
- C. Forest
- D. Louisiana

What type of jackets do you like to wear?

- A. Sweater
- B. Raincoat
- C. I don't like jackets
- D. Winter coat

What animal do you like best?

- A. A Beast
- B. Fish
- C. Chameleon
- D. Frogs

If you got mostly D's you are *Tiana*.
You love cooking and frogs, sort of. Sugar and Spice, Everything Tastes Nice!

If you got mostly C's you are *Rapunzel*.
You love your chameleon. Pastel and you are very artistic.

If you got mostly B's you are *Ariel*.
You love your fin-tastic sea creature friends. Also, you love a good adventure.

If you got mostly A's you are *Belle*.
You are smart and care about others.

Read All About It: Doggie News

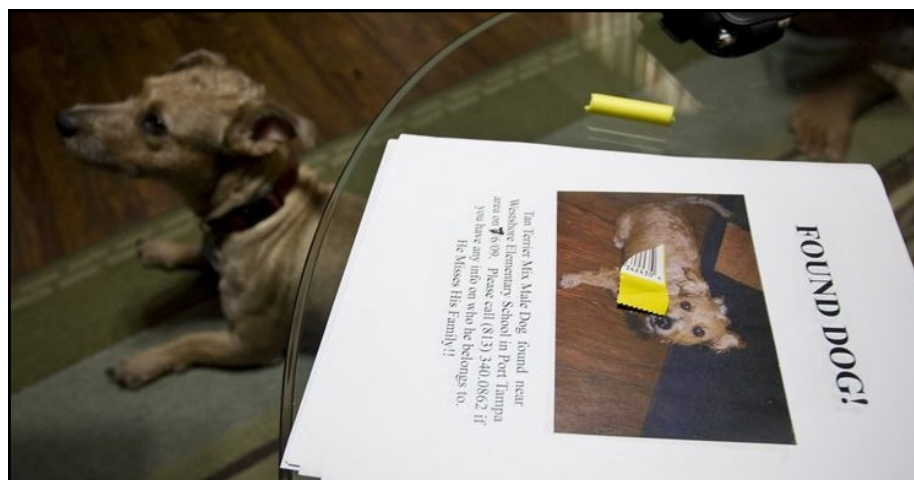
Found by Jade B. and Audrey H.

This story, image, and others can be found at mashable.com/2013/03/12/dog-mans-best-friend

One morning Yolanda Sevogia's neighbor, Stacey Savige, knocked on her door asking if she could keep an eye on a lost terrier she found roaming around the local elementary school. She said she would watch him for one day. The two of them started to take a bunch of pictures of the dog to make FOUND fliers so that everyone knows that the dog has been found and that they need to stop looking.

Meanwhile, Yolanda went to the dollar store to get some dog food. She told her two sons to not get too attached to the dog. One of her sons is Azaiah-10 years old, her other son Christian-21 has Down Syndrome and an assortment of other ailments and recently had kidney and heart surgeries.

After four days passed, she was still looking after the terrier. They named him Raelee (Riley). When Yolanda got home from work she saw the dog fling itself against the screen door and started to bark insanely at her. She fol-



lowed the dog into the boys' room and found Christian on the floor. As soon as she bent over to help her son the dog went completely silent. If he hadn't come to get me Christian would be dead by choking on his own blood. She had to tell Tampa Bay Times about this heroic canine. She had to keep him because she had no reason not to, plus nobody had called to claim him.

The very next morning, Stacey had gotten a call about a man

named Randy who recognized the dog and said he was coming to get him. She started to cry and said "That dog saved my friend's son."

He went to pick up the dog until he saw the sad faces on Christian and Azaiah then finally said maybe you were supposed to find this family Odie, you keep him. When she heard him say that, their faces were filled with glee.

And this is how a dog can be a hero to human beings like you.



Mythology: Zeus

By Brandon H.

Myths are stories about heroes, battles, monsters, gods, titans, good and bad creatures, and quests. Myths are entertaining. If they weren't entertaining, they wouldn't be passed down through generations!

Zeus: son of the titans Cronus and Rhea, king and queen of the titans, siblings are Hestia, goddess of the hearth, Hades, god of the underworld, Poseidon, god of the seas, Hera, goddess of marriage, Demeter, goddess of agriculture. Zeus is male. He led the Olympians to victory in the Olympian-Titan war. He loves to have children with mortal women and anger Hera. He freed his uncles from Tartarus.

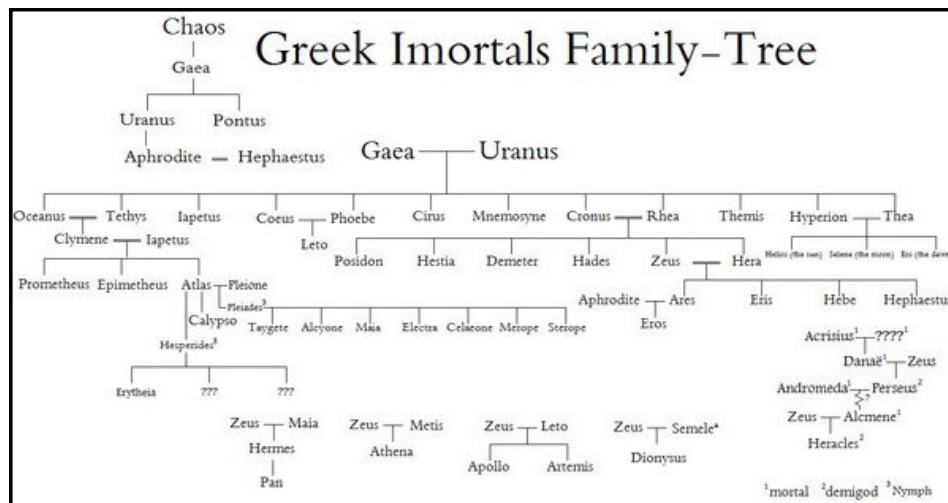
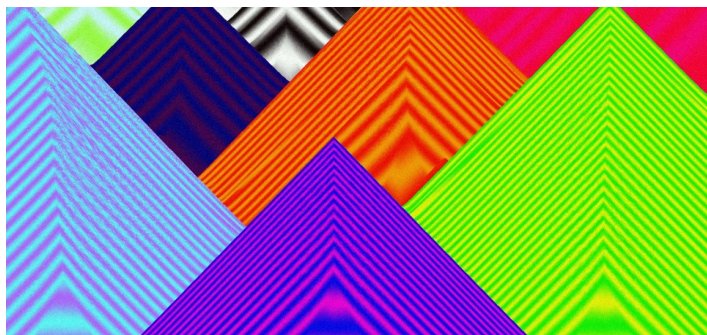


Image Source: http://www.greekmythology.com/pictures/Titans/Rhea/76402/greek_imotals_family_tree

Website Review: This Is Sand.com

By Aidan W.

This is Sand is a very cool website where you can build sand castles, designs, and you can also try to fill the sand to the top. It's very fun to see how long it takes you to get to the top with sand or to see what different and cool designs you can make. Here's a picture of a design made by a someone on ThisIsSand.com. It's a fantastic website for passing time or just having plain old fun. It is a great website for fun or artistic people. Find it at www.thisissand.com.



What Am I?

By Carter H.



Do you what I am?
Turn to the last page to see if you're right!

- ? I think everything is awesome.
- ? With me what you think can come true.
- ? I can be customized.
- ? I am in a movie.
- ? I have the worst idea ever.
- ? My friends are masters of building.

Two Interesting Places to Visit

You Should Definitely Visit These Two Places!

By Selma B. and Olivia M.



Japan

Japan has so many things to offer such as amazing cuisine and beautiful clothing.

Cuisine

Japan has many interesting food choices that we normally wouldn't eat here in America. One popular dish is sushi. It is basically rice, and other things like fish, vegetables, and caviar wrapped in seaweed.



Another popular dish in Japan is Soba. It is buckwheat noodles that are always served cold with a hot topping such as wasabi.

The drinks in Japan are very creative and different compared to the things we drink in America. In Japan the teacups don't have handles but since they don't make the tea out of boiling water there is no way of burning yourself. In Japan they have something called Japanese soda. In some ways it is similar to the soda here. To open the soda you push the marble down. As you drink it, the marble constantly moves around.

Clothing

Japanese clothes are beautifully made with colorful designs. One traditional dress in Japan is



called a kimono. Kimono means "things to wear." They are now usually only worn on special occasions since the Japanese like to wear something that moves around easier now. They are made out of silk and have extremely large sleeves that go from the shoulder to the heels.



Ecuador

Ecuador is an environmental place and has so many beautiful sights that you can't miss.

Cuisine

Ecuador's varieties of food are very large, usually people start with a ceviche (a type of seafood salad). Ceviche is also accompanied with chulpi (toasted corned, baked bananas, and popcorn.) Soup is also very common as an appetizer, locro de papa is very famous (potato soup). There is a large variety of potatoes in Ecuador, over 300, and locro de papa is usually made by combining many types of potatoes. The main dish is usually roasted pork or empanadas (puffed pastries stuffed with a meat or cheese). Lastly its the dessert which is usually rice pudding or flan, like a jello.



Fruits

Fruits are a huge part of Ecuadorian cuisine. Some of my favorites are granadilla (passion fruit) and dragon fruit. Juices also are made from the freshest fruits: mora, guanábana, frutilla, limonada, mango, naranja y naranjilla, blackberry, soursop, strawberry, lemonade, mango, orange, and naranjilla).



Clothing

Ecuadorians usually wear similar clothes to those worn in the U.S., but the traditional clothes are still worn by the native indigenous people are made of cotton tops with hand embroidered designs, accompanied by blue skirts or pants. The style and length of the skirts vary by region. For example in Cuenca the skirts are knee length and in Quito they are ankle length.



Fun facts:

- Japan has more than 50,000 people who are over 100!
- Ecuadorians tend to be slow talkers!
- About 24 billion pairs of chopsticks are used each year in Japan!
- The latitude in Ecuador's capital, Quito is 0! Quito is the second highest capital in the world.

Who Am I?

By Charlie F.



Do you know who I am?
Turn to the last page to see if
you're right!

- ? I was the 38th president of the U.S.A.
- ? I am the president who lived the longest (1913-2006, age 93 1/2).
- ? I was in office from 1974-1977.
- ? I joined World War II as a soldier from 1944-1945.

Teacher Spotlight

Mrs. Tracy, Resource Teacher

By Gabriella L. and Sophie M.



Mrs. Tracy is one of Spring Avenue's Resource teachers. Her office is in the library with Mrs. Podgorski's. She enjoys working at Spring Avenue School.

Mrs. Tracy's husband's name is Eric. She got married on December 13, 2014. They got married at a hotel in Lisle, Illinois. Mrs. Tracy and her husband dated for four years. They met at University of Illinois in Champaign- Urbana.

She has no pets currently, but will be getting a puppy in May. They don't know what they are going to name it. They also don't know what breed or age, they just want a girl, probably.

We learned a lot about Mrs. Tracy and can't wait for you to learn too.

The U.S. Needs To Bump Up Education Levels

By Stella C. and Alejandra M.



Research shows that the U.S. is ranked between 14th-19th for education in the World in 2014 but now, this is 2015, so we can bump it up. As an individual, all you have to do is try your best and maybe this year we could be in the

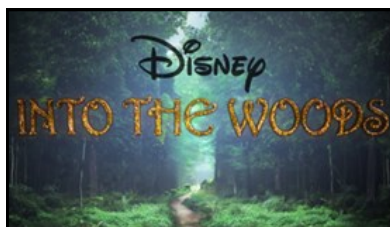
top. In every subject, too! In math you would think we would be at the top but, unfortunately we are 35th. We are 17th in literacy and 18th in reading. The worst part is we are above average spending and below average education! Make the money worth it!

Our national education budget is 1.3 trillion dollars. If we have the money, we can go from 19th to 1st maybe. The only thing standing in our way is your own mental thinking. Some of you are doing your part and you should be a proud member of the U.S. but if you're not trying your best, think worldwide. Remember when you are doing a boring test and you start to guess the answers because you're bored, think that if you keep trying hard, you can make a difference and always check the charts to see if we are any higher than 19th yet.

The best website to check it out for more information would be <https://rankingamerica.wordpress.com/category/education/> and keep scrolling down and see lots of U.S. rankings.

Movie Review: *Into the Woods*

By Jade B., Emme M., and Shea W.



Originally a Broadway show, *Into the Woods* is now a Disney movie. *Into the Woods* is a stupendous movie that keeps you at the edge of your seat the whole time.

It stars Anna Kendrick:

Cinderella, Meryl Streep: the Witch, Emily Blunt: the Baker's wife, Chris Pine: Cinderella's prince, James Corden: Baker, Lilla Crawford: Little Red Riding Hood, and Daniel Huttelstone: Jack (and the beanstalk).

This fantasy movie takes you along the journey of a childless baker and his wife. All of these famous tales are brought together weaving into a beautiful story each character with their own reason to venture into a "well-known path," but they're about to find out exactly how unknown the woods are.

The baker and his wife must find 4 objects: 1. A cow as white as milk, 2. A cape as red as blood, 3. Hair as yellow as corn, and 4. A slipper as pure as gold.

In the end will they manage the hard task ahead or fall behind? With several surprising twists at the end, *Into the Woods* will keep you entertained the whole time.

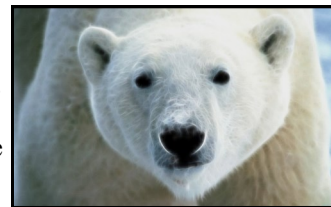


Staff Advisor: Ms. Keillor

Polar Bears Are Going Extinct

By Ava M. and Ava P.

Did you know that Polar Bears are endangered? The reason for this is glob-



al warming, pollution of their food stock, and people hunting them for their fur and meat. Read on to learn more information about polar bears going extinct and how people are trying to help save their lives.

Rising temperatures in the world's oceans are causing the ocean's ice to disappear for longer periods of time during the late summer, leaving polar bears with hardly any time to hunt their prey. Polar Bears are threatened everywhere in the world in which they live. The population of polar bears in Alaska and the North West Territories is down 40% from 2001-2010, decreasing from 1,500 to 900 bears! This means that 600 polar bears have disappeared from our world!

Polar bears can only survive in areas where the oceans freeze, allowing them to hunt seals living under, on, or in the frozen polar ice cap, but if their beloved homes are being destroyed, how are they supposed to get food and survive? The best way that we can help polar bears is by reducing the amount of pollution/gas and working with National Wildlife Federation to campaign for reductions in global warming pollutants. For more information, visit www.nwf.org/wildlife/wildlife-library/mammals/polar-bear.aspx.



How Plants Help Living Things

By Hannah E. and Jeanne M.

The first way plants help living things is plants take in carbon dioxide and let out oxygen so humans and animals can breathe. That reason is very important because they take away poison so we don't die and give us oxygen back—kind of like a trade.

Another way plants help living things is plants give us medicine for our health. One plant that gives us medicine is the willow tree; it helps make aspirin. Did you know that the leaves from mint help make throat medicine, nasal spray, creams, cough syrup and itching creams? Dandelion root helps cure hunger. One challenge about finding medicine from plants is that scientists can't keep up exploring the rainforest to find these plants before it is ruined by deforestation. Scientists around the world are trying to find more plants with medicines so they can find more cures for people who are really sick and



Image Source:
thewildpapaya.com/?p=2094

really need medicines.

Plants also give shelter to other plants and animals. We use tree branches as wood for our houses and living space. Little plants make homes for lots of animals in the rain forest. One bad thing is people are cutting down the trees where animals live so they don't have a home then. Also, some plants are becoming extinct such as the Jade Vine. The Jade Vine is becoming extinct due to the destruction in its home country of the Philippines.

This plant is so gorgeous but people either pick or pull it out.

Think about it: If we keep cutting down plants and trees we won't have any left. Then, if that happened we could get really sick from not getting the medicine we need. Then, everybody could die from not getting any oxygen. Remember if you kill a plant, you kill life. #don'tkillplants



Save the Trees!

By Carter H.

Ok to start, if you say you're saving the trees because you're not hurting them, you are very wrong, because to save the trees you need to help them. To really help trees you have to stop throwing away paper and other recyclable items. Every sheet you throw away add up and could potentially be as much as a tree. You could be hurting nature, but you might not know. A good way to help nature is to draw on white boards or after you finish with paper don't be lazy and just take a few steps to the recycling bin. Also do you have a favorite book? Well a piece of paper you recycled could have gone into that book. Thank you for your time.

The Pika

By Zoe C. and Lindsey P.

Global warming is a big problem for many animals such as the pika. Pikas are adapted to cold weather in the mountains but as climate change happens the pikas habitats are getting too warm. As the temperature rises the pikas can't adapt to the heat. When the temperature gets up to 78°, they may even die. This is why pikas are decreasing.



Staff Advisor: Ms. Keillor

Warmer Oceans

By Zoe C. and Lindsey P.



Higher water temperatures cause coral to bleach. Bleaching happens when corals respond to the stress of warmer temperatures by

getting rid of the algae that live in them. Increasing amounts of carbon dioxide in the ocean can cause additional damage to coral. When carbon dioxide goes in the water, it changes the other chemicals in the ocean. For example, when water becomes acidic, it keeps the coral and other animals from building their skeletons and shells.

Climate change is an effect of global warming. Greenhouse gases contribute to climate change. Carbon dioxide is the most important. Carbon dioxide is a gas that is released into the atmosphere by burning fossil fuels. It traps heat and acts as a blanket to warm the planet. The atmosphere gets overloaded with carbon dioxide and more heat is trapped. We need a little carbon dioxide (to help keep our planet the right temperature), but too much causes global warming (climate change).

Every one of the past 37 years has been warmer than the 20th century average. Over the past 130 years, the global average temperature has increased 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit.

Climate change contributes to more powerful hurricanes, forest fires, droughts, floods, and severe weather. Global warming is causing glaciers to melt. With glaciers, the sun will reflect off the ice. Now that the glaciers are melting, the darker land absorbs sunlight and makes the Earth warmer.

Black carbon is also a problem. It is created by burning organic materials, burning coal, and burning fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are used by humans. Black carbon is a particle in soot that absorbs heat.

What can we do to help? The best way we can reduce global warming is by using less energy. To conserve



electricity, people can turn off the lights when they don't need them, use energy efficient light bulbs, and try to use less heating and air conditioning. To conserve gasoline, people can walk or bike to school, carpool, take public transportation, and drive a more fuel efficient car.

If everyone helps, we can make a difference!

For more information check out the following websites:

<http://www.ucsusa.org/our-work/global-warming/science-and-impacts/global-warming-science#.VKxWGNLF9QA>

<http://www.nrdc.org/globalwarming/gsteps.asp>

<http://www.nwf.org/Wildlife/Threats-to-Wildlife/Global-Warming/Effects-on-Wildlife-and-Habitat/Pika.aspx>

<http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/co2/story/What+is+Ocean+Acidification%3F>
<http://ocean.nationalgeographic.com/ocean/critical-issues-ocean-acidification/info>

<http://animals.pawpation.com/krill-1503.html> info

<https://www.msu.edu/~seremji1/krilldepletion.html> info

Krill

By Zoe C. and Lindsey P.

Krill, a small animal found in oceans, is also being affected by the large amount of carbon dioxide in the water. Krill breeds in pack ice, and when there is less ice, there are less krill. Krill is at the bottom of the food chain, which means many other animals eat it. When the krill dies, the animals that eat it also die.





Hey Kids! Welcome to the Mr. Alligator Show!



I'm your host, Mr. Alligator.



And this is —



Sorry kids, looks like Polly got into the ice cream cellar again.



Let's go see if she would get back to normal.



But first, I need my gear on.



Later



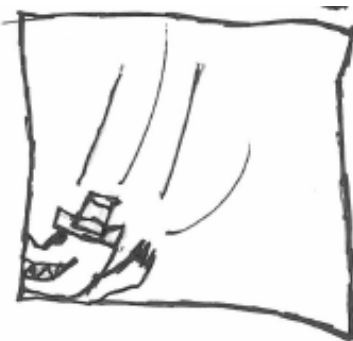
OK, time to get Polly back to normal.



But first I need an idea.



Wait! I know!



Uh oh! I better get my umbrella.



Look it worked!

The End!

Who Am I Answers:



PAGE 4: Derek Jeter



PAGE 5: Marian Hossa



PAGE 9: Emmet from
the Lego Movie



PAGE 10: Gerald Ford

Important Dates

February 10, 12 — 2:00 dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences

February 11— PTO Meeting, 8:45

February 13— District Battle of the Books, Valentine's Parties

February 16 — President's Day, No School

February 19 — Common Core Parent Forum, 6:00

February 20 — Peter Brown book order forms due

February 23 — Board of Education Meeting, Gurrie, 7:30

February 25 — CEC Report, All invited, 3:05 in the Library

February 26 — Family Literacy Night: Battle of the Books!

February 27 — End Trimester #2

March 2-27 — PARCC Testing

March 4— Half Day, 11:45 Dismissal

March 11 — PTO Meeting, 8:45, Fun Lunch

March 12 — Author Visit—Peter Brown

March 19 — Math and Science Night, 6:00-8:00pm

March 23 — Board of Education Meeting, Gurrie, 7:30

March 27 — Spring Flying High Night, 7:00-10:00

March 30-April 3 — Spring Break!



Family Battle of the Books: February 26 at 6:00

List A

The Curious Garden by Peter Brown

Henry and the Buccaneer Bunnies by Carolyn Crimi

Mercy Watson to the Rescue by Kate DiCamillo

Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum by Meghan McCarthy

List B

Frindle by Andrew Clements

Moonshot by Brian Floca

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library

by Chris Grabenstein

Animal Heroes by Sandra Markle

A Lion's Life Newspaper Staff

Jade B.
Maggie B.
Selma B.
Drew C.
Zoe C.
Roland C.
Stella C.
Emma 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.
Gabriella L.
Jeanne M.
Emme M.
Olivia M.
Alejandra M.
Lilly M.
Sophie M.
Ava M.
Ava P.

Lindsey P.
Sophie P.
Cano R.
Ella R.
Niko S.
Grant S.
Leo W.
Shea W.
Rhys W.
Aidan W.

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