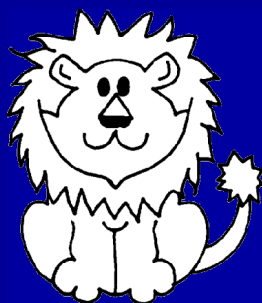


Gusto
enthusiasm,
delight, relish,
zest, spirit, fervor



A Lion's Life

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

5 / 6 / 2 0 1 1

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Flying High During the Summer Time

By Samantha R.

Are you tired of just being home all day or going to friends' houses? Are your parents always having to drive you places you want to go? Well, here are some camps and classes that you can go to while your parents finally get to rest.

You get to learn new, fun, games to play with your friends and family! These camps include field trips,

open gym, games, science experiments, arts and crafts classes, and pizza/pajama parties on Fridays at Flying High in Countryside.

Hours available to come Mondays through Fridays:

Full Day: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Field Trip Day: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Half Day: 9:00 am - 11:30 am or 1:30 pm-4:00 pm

Full Day

Member: \$40.00 per child/day

Non Member: \$45.00 per child/day

So, if your parents are trying so hard to get rid of you for at least a day, sign up NOW!

Call this number: 708-352-3099 or email
camp@flyinghighgym.com

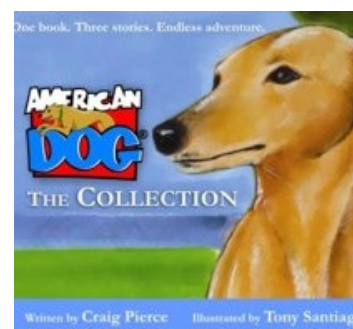
Spring Welcomes Author Craig Pierce

By Olivia B.

Spring Avenue is happy to welcome Craig Pierce to our school on May 26th. Craig Pierce is the author of 4 books all from the American Dog Series. These books are tales of working and rescue dogs, mainly for children ages 5 through 10 years old. Craig Pierce, along

with his dog, travels to libraries, bookstores and schools; luckily we are one of those schools. He enjoys talking to families and young learners.

Craig Pierce attended school in Mount Carroll, Illinois. He now lives in Genoa, Illinois along with his gentle, rescue dog, Honey.



New Date for PTO Ice Cream Social

By Alexis H. and Allison T.

The Ice Cream Social is a great time at the end of the year where you can play, eat ice cream, and hang out with your friends. Plus, when you are there you can have people sign your yearbook, and take a picture with your teacher.

Every year the P.T.O. (Parent Teacher Organization) puts in money to buy ice cream for everyone to enjoy. The Ice

Cream Social is on the second to last day of school, Thursday June 2, instead of the last day of school this year because of construction in our building.

The ice cream cart will leave around 4:00, but of course you could stay longer and talk and play with friends. Thanks PTO for a great year and for the ice cream!





Principal's Corner

By: Mrs. Webb

As fun events and on-going packing come down the lane, we ask that you continue to monitor homework, and ask about what your child is doing and learning daily.

Students continue to amaze us every day. They are truly understanding the value of hard work more and more. We watch the students from kindergarten to almost graduating and see progress of their ownership in learning through homework completion, eager participation, and real effort during testing.

PTO also continues to be wonderful! Recently, teachers received grants for classroom equipment and supplies. We thank you for your generosity to your children's classrooms and for the support of all our students and staff.

Even though our enrollment changed with some families moving out, we continue to be ever watchful. With 31 homes for sale (some with "SOLD" signs) we will be monitoring our numbers carefully from now until August 25th. Numbers will change over the summer and we will be ready to fill an additional section successfully. We wish all our departing families the best as they pack up and

move across the states to new adventures. Thank you for touching our lives in so many ways. You will be missed. If you know of any new families who will be attending Spring Avenue, please encourage them to come into school or call the office as soon as possible. This too will help us monitor our enrollment.

As fun events and on-going packing come down the lane, we ask that you continue to monitor homework, and ask about what your child is doing and learning daily. If you have some spare moments to help pack some specific areas, please contact Evelina Springer or our office to volunteer. Thank you in advance for your help with the library, kitchen, bathroom, PTO closet, and more.

Please join us for our Acknowledgement Assembly on June 1st at 10:00 am. Come hear the LT scholarship winner and celebrate our success.

Last, but not least, I'd like to personal-

ly thank you for your support and interest in our Summer CONNECT program. Even if you travel, even if your child /children are attending summer school later in the summer, even if you have summer learning ideas, please sign your child up. This extra connection will surely benefit every child involved. Spring Avenue students benefit from a little extra boost over the summer. Data shows this to be a fact! Students are encouraged to read at least 6 books at their level over the summer. I'd like to challenge them to double that!

Don't forget – PTO will be providing each child with one free book chosen by their future teacher for the next school year! Read, write and practice math, and have a great, smart summer.

Stay tuned for one more issue of our A Lion's Life Newspaper the last week of school!

Respectfully,

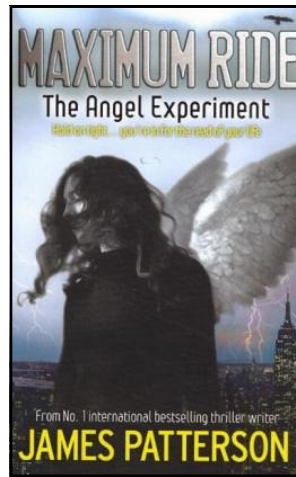
Mrs. Webb
Principal

Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment

By Kathleen C.

“Oh, great Erasers chasing me!” is a thing that is commonly said in the book Maximum Ride by James Patterson. Maximum Ride is a book about a girl named Max. Max and people that she calls her family live in a house where not many people go or visit. They are constantly being chased when they go out in public places by part-wolf-part-human things because she and her family are part-human-part-bird things, 98% human and 2% bird, so they have wings.

In the beginning of the book someone in her family gets captured! Sadly Max has to leave two of her family members behind because she thinks that the journey will be too much for them. When Max and the others are on their way, Max sees another girl in trouble, and sees the girl is being bullied. While trying to help the girl Max gets hurt by the bullies. Later she has to go to the girl's house for help. When Max does not come back right away, the others get worried, but they decide not to go on without her. Meanwhile the child that



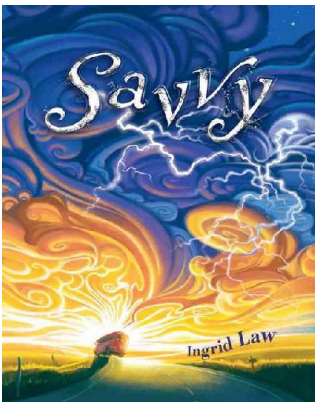
gets captured refuses to talk to the enemy even though it gets her into some trouble. While that is going on, the people who stayed at the house are hatching a plan just in case the Erasers come and attack. Still, while that is happening, Max comes back and everyone is united except the person who got captured. Then they are on their way to rescue her and the rescue mission is successful. They hear that they can get info on their own identities in New York. Then they end up together in New York they are searching for more info on their identities. Max mysteriously starts hearing voices. Suddenly they are attacked by Erasers then they end up meeting with an old-so-called-friend, and once again are running from Erasers. But they are faced with newer meaner Erasers, and Max is trying to avoid the voice but it

just keeps talking.

I recommend this book to people in the grades 4-6 or people who like long, interesting, good books like this one. If you like this book, you can read the whole series!

Will Mibs Find Her Savvy? Read Savvy to Find Out!

By MacKenzie B.



I recently just read a great book called Savvy by Ingrid Law. This book is about five kids Fish, Samson, Mibs (Mississippi), Rocket, and Gypsy whose dad is in the hospital. The dad is Mr. Beaumont. Mr. Beaumont got in the hospital because there was a really bad storm, and he was in the car, and his car flipped over, all of the windows broke too. The most important thing about this story is having Mibs find her savvy as she is almost ready to turn 13 years old. A savvy is a power that you get when you are 13 or maybe even

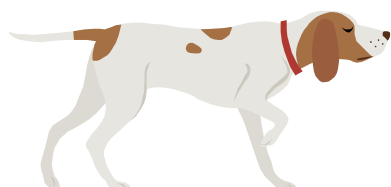
12 years old. Everyone in her family who lives in her house has a savvy, except her dad.

In the story Mibs tries everything to find her savvy. Sometimes when she is by herself she thinks that she has found her savvy. One time, when she is in the living room with her brother Samson and he thinks that his turtle is dead but it is not, it is just sleeping. She thinks this may be her savvy. But, it's not.

The kids in the family decide to try and get to the hospital where their dad is staying. The way they try to get there is pretty funny, though. The kids think that getting on this bible bus is going to get them to their dad, but it just takes them somewhere totally different. At one stop of the bus trip, they find a woman at a restaurant and they let her on the bus with them. The bus ends up going too far and they don't get to the hospital like they planned. Will they ever reach their dad? Will Mibs find her savvy? You'll have to read the story to find out!

Pet Parade Reminder

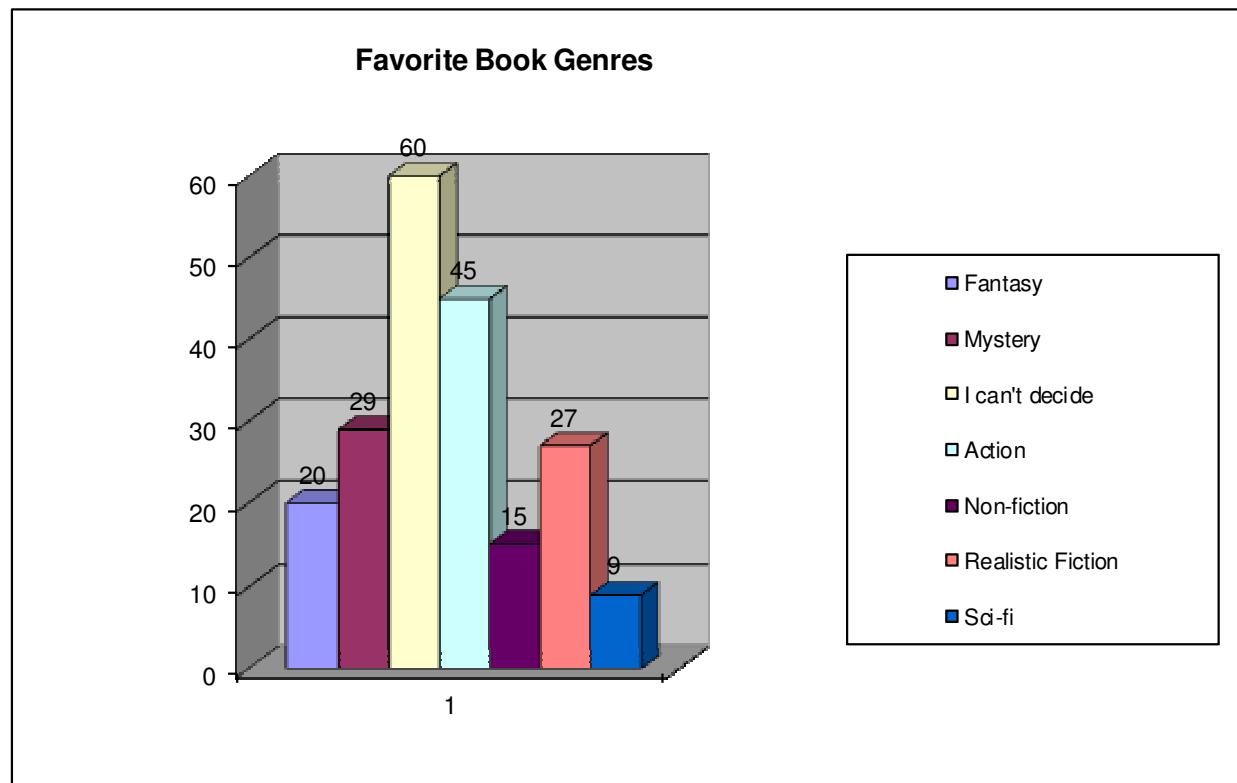
By Kelly C.



The 64th annual La Grange pet parade will be on June 5th 2011. It starts at 9:30 am. Come to the Pet Parade! It will bring you fun filled memories to add to your old ones, or to make new ones if you haven't already been there. Be sure to bring your pets, watch the weather and be prepared! Have fun!

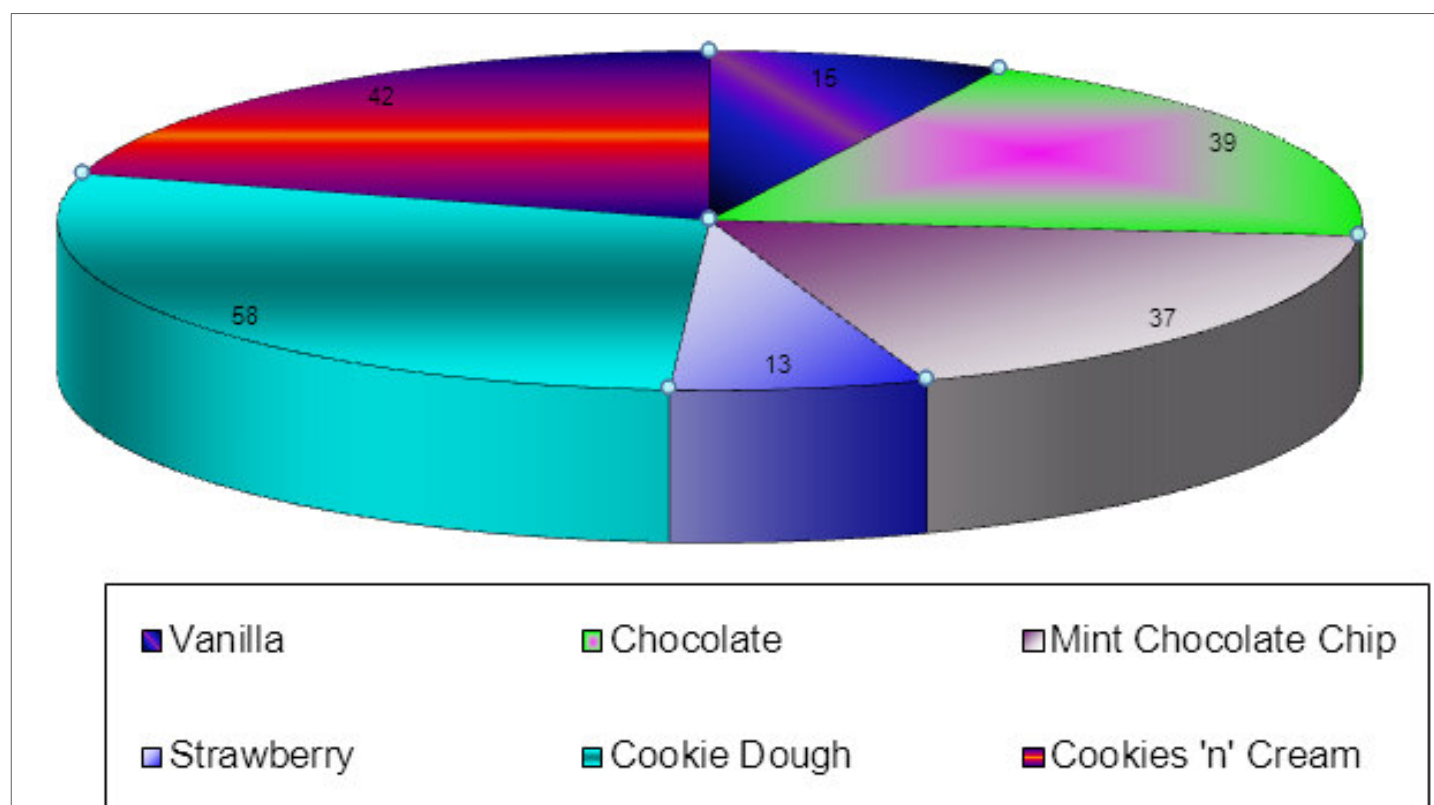
We Asked You: Spring Avenue's Favorite Book Genre

By: Katie W. and Joanna Z.



We Asked You: Spring Avenue's Favorite Ice Cream

By: Clare C.



Fun, Interactive Game Show: The Wheel of Wisdom

By Olivia B. and Danielle N.

Some kids may remember the Wheel of Wisdom that came 3 years ago. We are very lucky to have it come back again this year! The Wheel of Wisdom has been around since 1985 and will be visiting Spring Avenue on Friday, May 27th. This is a fun, interactive game show for the whole school! Some kids get the privilege of participating with and against their peers during the fun game show.



There are 4 ten-minute games, all different grade levels. 6 contestants, 12 wheel spinners, and 3 crowd players per round, with a total of 24 contestants, and 48 wheel spinners. Plus 12 crowd players in a whole 50 minute game. The questions will be asked on things such as

reading, science, drug education, problem solving, and school trivia. The host may also throw in questions that have to do with family fun and more. Incorrect answers go to the crowd to try and answer. If they get it right, the crowd member may pick their favorite team to give the points they earned. Teachers may play too if they would like. Thanks Spring Avenue PTO for hosting this fun event!

Smencils are Coming!

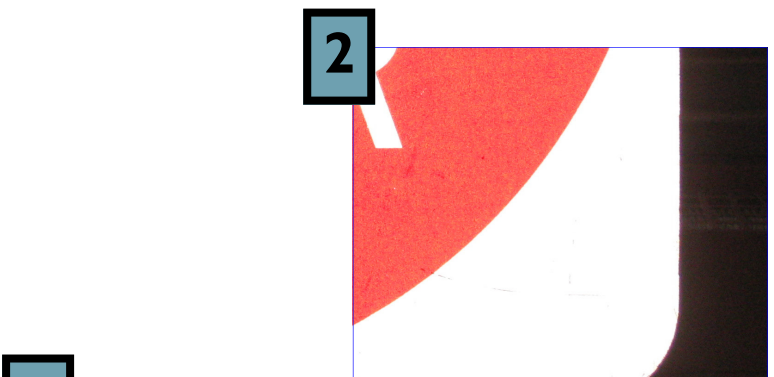
Everyone's favorite smelling pencils are coming back to Spring Avenue! Student Council will be selling Smencils at the end of May. The pencils cost \$1 each, and students may purchase a total of 2. Stay tuned!



Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

By Kendall F. and Jovita B.

Look closely, can you guess what the objects are below? To find the answers, go to the back page. Good Luck!



Who Am I?

By Karol G.

- ? I wrote a series of books.
- ? My books are based on childhood memories.
- ? I was born in Maryland in 1971.
- ? In 1998 I started writing down ideas for my books.
- ? My book was the #1 best seller in 2006.
- ? I live in Massachusetts with my wife and I have 2 children.

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



Summer CONNECT Program



Did you know that over the summer you lose some of what you learned the last school year?

The summer is a time that is supposed to be relaxing and fun, but if you add just a little bit of math, reading, and writing each day you will be ready to start the school year smarter than ever.

Sign up for the **CONNECT** Program to work with a teacher this summer. The teacher will give you math problems that will make you think and recommend books that you will like.

Best part: you can do it all from home over email, the phone, and letters. Make it a smart summer, sign up for **Summer CONNECT**.

Visit www.d105.net
to sign up.

Check out these Cool Animals!

By Keely S.



This awesome looking reptile is a **Frill-necked Lizard**. They can mostly be found in Australia. When the lizard is frightened, it gapes its mouth, exposing a bright pink or yellow lining. The frill flares out as well. It can reach sizes of 91.4 cm long which is pretty big. Its skin is a darker color than its frill. They eat beetles and cicadas and also termites. Their favorite food is butterflies and moths. The only time they go into the ground is in for search of food. So, that means they spend most of their time in trees. They can be kept in captivity like zoos.



This funny looking animal is a **Proboscis Monkey**. These poor little guys are threatened, which means they are endangered animals. Males are much larger than females. The males' noses can reach about 7 inches long. They have a large belly because of their diet. Their belly weight is about a quarter of their body weight. They mostly eat leaves and also seeds. You can find some of them in 16 protected areas. When males get mad their noses swell with blood.



This is a **Flying Fox** which is a bat. They are the largest bat in the world. They also can be called fruit bats. One of their toes they have sharp curved claws. They have a wing span of 6ft. their weight is 1.5kg or 3.3lbs. They do not have a tail. They are frugivores, which means they eat fruit. They are mammals.

The Red Tip Piranha

By Kendall F.



The **Red Tip Piranha**, also known as *Pygocentrus nattereri* (its more scientific name). These little guys are really expensive to keep and to feed because they require large tanks and prefer to eat live food instead of fish food pellets.

The red tip piranha is known for its carnivorous capabilities. Eating meat and fish all within seconds.

Bruno Mars Sings, Writes, and Produces Songs

By Jovita B.

Peter Gene Hernandez, otherwise known as Bruno Mars, was born on October 8, 1985 in Honolulu, Hawaii. He was raised by a family of musicians and moved to Los Angeles to pursue a music career after graduating high school. Bruno Mars started producing songs for other artists and became recognized after co-writing the hooks for the songs "Nothin' On You" by B.o.B, and "Billionaire" by Travie McCoy. He also co-wrote the hits "Right Round" by Flo Rida featuring Ke\$ha, "Wavin' Flag" by K'naan, and "Forget You!" by Cee Lo Green.

Bruno Mars was raised in the Waikiki neighborhood of Honolulu, Hawaii. Mars had five siblings and grew up in a family of musicians. One of Bruno's idols was Elvis Presley. As a little boy, he often impersonated him. He was known as 'Little Elvis' when he was a boy. Mars moved to Los Angeles, California at the age of seventeen to pursue a musical career. After being unsuccessful with Motown Records, he signed a deal with Atlantic Records.

Bruno Mars received several nominations and won two awards for his songs. One of them was a Grammy for



Best Male Pop Vocal Performance for the song "Just the Way You Are." His second award was a Soul Train Music Award for Song of the Year for "Nothin' on you."

Barking Buddies! Which Dog is Right for You?

By Devon W.

You know how sometimes you want a dog? You want one really badly, but your parents say, "Not unless you can take care of him or her," and you really have no idea how to? Well, with this article, you'll be snuggling with your furry friend soon! The first thing you need to know is what dog to choose. In other words, which breed is right for you and your family? Don't know? This survey will help you find out!

Which personality are you?

Go-go type { }

Lie around type { }

Both { }

How much time is someone home?

Lots { }

A little { }

Depends { }

How many kids are there at home?

1-4 { }

4-7 { }

More { }

How old are they?

1-8 { }

8- 14 { }

Older { }

How much land do you own?

A lot { }

A Little { }

Don't know { }

Do you have expensive furniture?

Yes { }

No { }

Yes and No { }

Okay, here are your results:

If you answered mostly the first boxes, then an energetic breed such as Greyhounds, Boxers, or Pit bulls will be the best for you.

If you answered mostly the second boxes, then a lap-dog breed such as Spring-Welsh Corgis, King Charles Spaniels, or a Papillion are for you.

If you answered mostly the third boxes, then mix breeds are your right choice!



Facts about Coyotes, Be on the Look Out

By Keely S. and Samantha R.

Coyotes are all over, they are even in our neighborhood. Not that long ago eye witnesses Keely S. and Samantha R. noticed that a family of coyotes lived in the field right next to their houses. Keely and Samantha are nervous that a family of coyotes live right next to their houses and both of them have dogs! If you notice a coyote by your home tell someone like a parent, and have your parents call the town so they can re-locate the coyotes. If you are not sure if it is a coyote here are some things you can use to decide if in fact it is a coyote:

- Long Tail
- Pointy Ears
- Tan or light brown fur
- Long snout

Also, if you see a coyote don't try calling it to come over to you, If you see pups, don't touch them or take them because the mother might be around. Plus, you should always stay away from animals you don't know.

Here are some interesting facts:

They can live from 10 –18 years in captivity (that means in places like zoos).

They are carnivores, which means they eat meat.

When a coyote is running to catch prey, it can reach speeds of 43mph.

When they jump they can reach a distance of more than 13ft.

Most coyotes travel in a pack.

Coyotes become full sized within their first year.

Our Teachers' Pets

By Kelly C.



I interviewed a few teachers at Spring Avenue and asked them about their pets. Here is what they had to say:

"Miles, my cat, is a black, brilliant cat who would never lie to me. I got him from the Anti Cruelty Society and he is about four years old."

— Ms. Marek

"My dog Buddy is a smart, playful puppy that can do funny tricks."

— Mr. Tooth

"Hawkeye is a Gordon Setter who gets into trouble. He chases rabbits, and birds, and is three and a half years old. He can open our gate, the front door, and also the back door."

— Mrs. Demer

"I have two frogs. One is albino and it lives under water and my other frog lives in shallow water. I also have a sucker fish."

— Mr. O'Connor (Jinx)

"I adopt dogs for short periods of time from PAWS the animal shelter."

— Miss McGinnis

"My dog Rusty, a Brittany Spaniel, loves to swim. He also can be very generous with my daughter Lily."

— Mrs. Podgorski

"I have three cats Buster, Dexter, and Maui. They are all domestic shelter cats."

— Mrs. B

"I have two golden retrievers who are six months old. Addison is light red and Clark is yellow. They are named after the two streets outside of Wrigley Field. We call them the naughty toddlers."

—Mrs. Webb

"My dog Lola is a Boston Terrier mix who is 3 years old. She weighs 10 pounds. Lola is black and white, and she only sleeps under blankets. My other dog Delilah is a Jack Russell Terrier. She is black and white and is 8 months old. Delilah is a big troublemaker, and she is very curious and has a ton of energy."

—Mrs. Bocek



Dance at the Dance Center of LaGrange

By Alexis H. and Allison T.

The Dance Center of LaGrange is a place where you can take different kinds of classes such as hip hop, jazz, ballet, modern, and tap. Also you can take a mixture of classes like: ballet and jazz, jazz and tap, jazz and hip hop, ballet and tap, and a couple other classes. For younger dancers, classes are 45 minutes, and for older dancers, classes are one hour. You can trade in old shoes to get new ones that are your size. You can

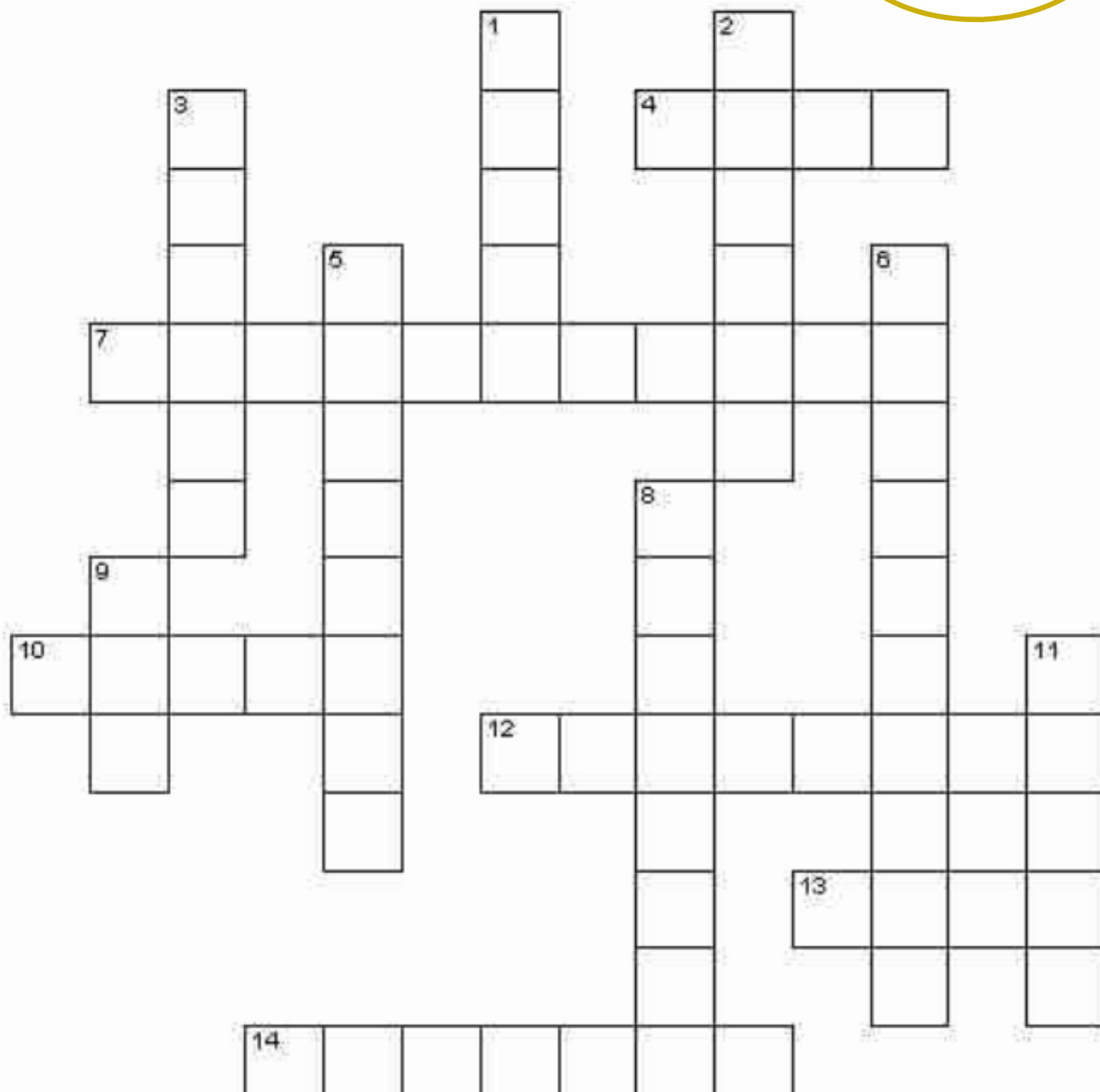
buy things like buckles for tap shoes, t-shirts, leotards, and more things. Every year there is a recital and there is always a theme that the teachers have to follow. This year the theme is Dreams and Nightmares.

There are classes every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. If you need any other information go online to www.dclagrange.com.

A Lion's Life Crossword Puzzle

By Taylor S. and Nora W.

Read the articles in this newspaper to find the answers to the crossword.



Across

- 4 when you can't find something it is ____.
- 7 one of the 7 wonders
- 10 a category, characterized by a particular style
- 12 an ugly, slimy fish
- 13 a sticky strip of material
- 14 Ride is girl's last name

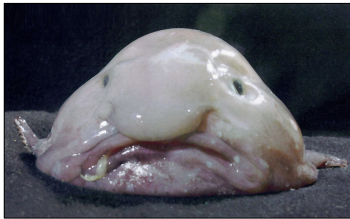
Down

- 1 the company that makes iPods and iPhones
- 2 type of canine
- 3 a person that writes books
- 5 a yummy treat that comes in different flavors
- 6 vacation
- 8 where Bruno Mars was born
- 9 animal that you keep at your house.
- 11 something that spins

These Weird Animals Will Blow Your Mind!

By Toni M.

The blob fish is a freaky animal that lives in the deep sea. You rarely will see a blob fish. It lives at depths of 800 meters. They can be found off the coast of Australia and Tasmania. You can catch them with nets (they are vulnerable against being caught) when you're bottom trawling, which is dragging a net across the sea floor. They are facing extinction from over fishing in the deep sea. They can grow to 12 inches. They eat sea urchins and mollusks. They lay one thousand of eggs at once.



The star nose mole is very interesting. It's very small and it has a thick brown waterproof fur. The adults measure 15 to 20 cm long. They weigh about 55 grams. They have 44 teeth. They have scaled feet and a long tick tail (their tails are used to store fat). It has pairs of pink fleshy points on their nose. They use the points to feel the food because they're blind. They can be found in the wet low areas in eastern Canada and the north eastern United States. They are semi-aquatic mammals. These moles dig tunnels under ground. They eat insects, and worms.



The pink fairy armadillo is 90 to 115 mm long. They have a long tail. They have a pale rose or pink color. The pink fairy armadillo can burry itself in seconds if frightened. This animals is nocturnal. They burrow in small holes by ant colonies. The pink fairy armadillo eat ants, and ant larvae, and sometimes they eat worms, snails, insects, and larvae. They spend most of their time underground.



The Long-eared Jerboa is a nocturnal animal. They are a mouse like rodent. They have a long tail. Also they have long hind legs for jumping. The long-eared jerboa has large ears (it says it in their name!). They live in a desert habitat like the Gobi desert in Mongolia. Their length is 70mm to 90mm. The tail measures 150mm. The long-eared Jerboa can jump 40mm high and it weigh 23.7 grams. Their predators are owls.



The Patagonian Mara is the 4th largest rodent. It's also known as the Patagonian Cavy. It lives in central and south Argentina. It lives in the grassland, scrubs desert and it burrows. They eat grasses and other vegetation. They are mammals. The head to body length is 75cm. The weight is between 9 and 16 kg. They are related to guinea pigs. They have 3 sharp claws. They resemble long eared rabbits.

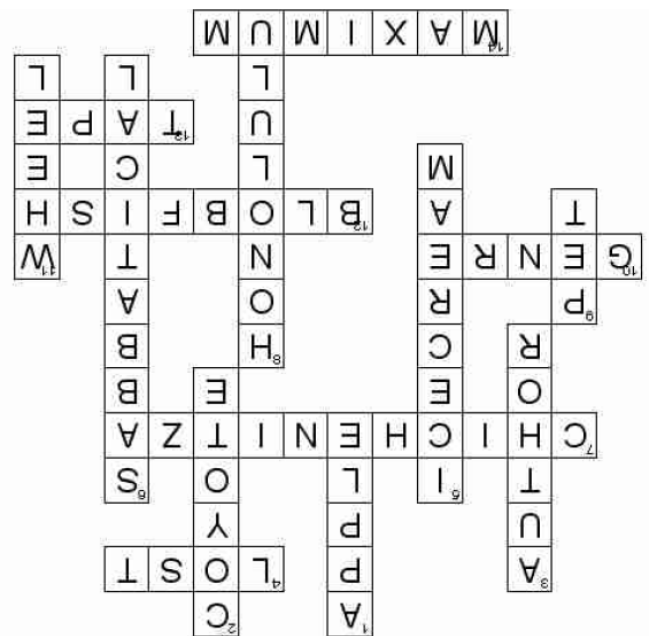


The sea lion has ear flaps, long front flippers and they can walk on all four legs. Sea Lions have hair that is short and thick, and they have winged feet. These animals live in the tropical waters of the world in both the northern and southern hemisphere, and in the northern Atlantic



ocean. The sea lion is classified as a marine mammal. The males are called bulls, and the females are called cows; their babies are called pups. A large group of sea lions are called colonies. Can you believe they can dive up to 600 feet? They can stay under water for 40 minutes before they have to breathe again. They can swim as fast as 25 mph. They usually only move as fast as 10 mph unless there's danger.

Crossword Puzzle Answers



Important Dates

May

May 11 — PTO Meeting, 8:45 am
 May 18, 19 — District Musical
 May 25 — Student Attendance Half Day
 May 26 — Author Craig Pierce visits
 May 26 — Stepping Up, 6:30 pm
 May 27 — Wheel of Wisdom
 May 30 — Memorial Day, No School
 May 31 — Field Day

June

June 1 — Acknowledgement Assembly, 10:00 am
 June 2 — Ice Cream Social
 Jun3 3 — Last day of School

Lost and Found

There is an abundance of Lost and Found items in the office. If you have lost something, please come into the office to claim your items.

New specific items:

A lanyard that says "The Game" and 2 keys attached.

A pink coat with a small cat on it.

Written by Clare C.



Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

Answers



1

Egyptian Drawing



2

Do Not Enter Sign



3

Mrs. Webb's Door



Who Am I?

Jeff Kinney



Reader Feedback

Please share your thoughts!
 Email the advisors:

Ms. Marek
 jmarek@d105.net

Mrs. Faldani
 vfaldani@d105.net

A Lion's Life Newspaper Staff



Reporters and Photographers:

Jovita B.
 MacKenzie B.
 Olivia B.
 Erin C.
 Clare C.
 Kathleen C.
 Kelly C.
 Rowan C.
 Kendall F.
 Owen F.
 Karol G.
 Alexis H.

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