

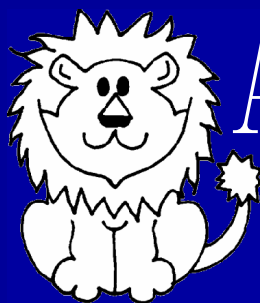
Word Power

Jubilant - (adjective)
showing great joy, satisfaction, or triumph; rejoicing; exultant.



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A Lion's Life

Spring Avenue Elementary School
Newspaper

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3, 2009

Writing is Fun with NaNoWrimo

By: Kelly M.

Mrs. Faldani's 4th grade class had to write a novel in a month. Their month started on April 1st and ended April 30th. Students wrote 1,000 words up to 7,000 words. There were a lot of creative storywriters in Mrs. Faldani's class.

NaNoWriMo stands for National Novel Writing Month. The students worked on a journal with lots of questions about the main character, the supporting character, and the villain. Each of these characters were in the final story. Some characters were humans; some were animals, even food and candy, plus more!

I wanted to know what

Mrs. Faldani had to say about NaNoWriMo. So I decided to ask her a few questions about NaNoWriMo.

Did you like NaNoWriMo and why?

"I LOVED NaNoWriMo!" said Mrs. Faldani. "I loved it because it taught about the parts of a story and the writing process. It also allowed students to write what they are really interested in."

Did your students like writing a novel?

"Well, like in many other things they do in school, some people enjoyed it and others did not. I believe most students had fun writing novels."

Are you going to do this next year with your new class?

"I am going to try very hard to do NaNoWriMo next year."

How many words did your whole class write all together?

"I don't exactly remember but I think it was about 37,690 words all together."

So NaNoWriMo is where you write a novel about something interesting to you. After we were done with NaNoWriMo, some people even asked to write another story. So NaNoWriMo was a fun thing for Mrs. Faldani's 4th grade class.

Construction Continues at Spring

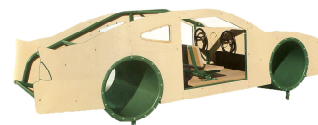
By: Thad P.

Are you wondering about the construction? Well that's why I'm here. Some kids are saying that the construction will take a year, well they are right! All teachers say that the construction will be done next year.

So far they have started building the 2 extra classrooms and took down the old playground. They haven't built the new one, and haven't

even chosen the new playground yet!

Here are some pictures of things we *may* have in our playground. Stay tuned for more information and updates on the construction and new playground.





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Principal's Corner

By: Mrs. Webb

This was the year of change! We honor and celebrate the many unique and wonderful talents and efforts from all our students. Congratulations on a great year, Spring Avenue Students! We celebrate you!

Students came together in mixed age groups to build community in our Lions' Dens. We developed important goals for all areas of our building and designed a new pledge for our school. Students learned about respect in every area and showed different and amazing efforts to become even better! We celebrate our school!

We talked about continuing ways to stay bully-free. Students shared great ways to include everyone and to try to branch out to learn about and appreciate others. We celebrate each other!

In addition, many students were involved in curriculum extenders through math leagues, setting pi records, spelling bees, the writing festival, and the Math and Science Fair. Students learned more about their personal academic goals and how to accomplish these goals through hard work and dedication. Well done, everyone! We celebrate learning!

As we continue to grow and focus on students' needs, we wish to thank our community and PTO! The support and dedication from all is something for which we are very grateful. We know we could not flourish and succeed without the support, efforts, hard work and planning from our Parent Teacher

Organization. No matter how you have contributed your time, support, and energy, we thank you! For our Summer Kick Off, Fun Nights, grants, Math and Science Nights, and involvement in many ways, we appreciate you! We celebrate our community!

We are anxious to build our future through our new classrooms and new playground, adding new hope and promise to our upcoming year! We celebrate the future!

Personally, I would like to thank the students and staff, along with the community. I have often been heard saying that I am the luckiest person alive and I couldn't do this without each and every one of you. What a joy it is to grow with all of you and to celebrate each and every one of your successes! Thank you!

A Note to Our Volunteers:

Dear Volunteers,

We need you! More appropriately, we would like to thank you! Please come to our next PTO meeting for a brief breakfast reception and presentation from the children in your honor.

As you know, we could not flourish and succeed without you. There are so many little (and big) activities, events and support that you provide that simply would not happen without you! You are the heart of our building. As said one Friday evening at the auction and four years ago to a reporter: you are one of the main reasons we are #1!

For all the times you helped decorate, read, do art awareness, run an event, run an errand, provide a treat, plan an activity, call for helpers, come

to a meeting, donate your time, donate your money or talents, encourage others to volunteer, **WE THANK YOU!!** We are humbled by the amount of energy, gifts and kindnesses you bestow upon us all!

We'd like to take this time to share with you our expressions of thanks. Come see a short presentation from the children and staff and allow us the opportunity to thank you! You are also welcome to stay for the recognition assembly at 10:00. Our Spring Avenue graduate, Katie Schoder, will also be reading her winning scholarship essay. Children will be honored for the many accomplishments they have had this year!

Writing Festival

32 students from District 105 read their own pieces of writing at Border's Book Store on May 28, 2009. This was our 4th annual Writing Festival and the turnout was fabulous! Parents, teachers, grandparents, and administrators turned out in high numbers to hear the children read their pieces. At Spring Avenue our own winners were: Steven O., Natalia Z., Will S., Mac C., Kate H., Maria M., and Katie L. Spring Alumni included Amy B.! The writing pieces were outstanding and students writing included seasonal poems, adventure stories, emotional stories and a letter to our president. Congratulations to all!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Webb Peterman
Principal

What is your favorite?

By: Anna S and Abby Y

Spring Avenue Students, do you remember that survey you took about the summer?

Well, here are your results! For the Favorite Ice Cream poll, Cookies and Cream got 17% or 27 votes of 154 students, Chocolate got 16% or 25 votes, Vanilla got 14% or 23 votes, Strawberry got 6% or 10 votes, Mint Chocolate Chip got 16% or 25 votes and with 28% or 44 votes. **Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough is your winner!**

For the favorite thing to do in the summer reading got 5 votes or 3%, playing with friends got 35 votes or 22%, going on vacation got 56 votes or 36%, swimming got 38 votes or 24%, spending time with family got 9 votes or 5% and

going to a summer camp got 11 votes or 7% of the 154 students at Spring Ave. **The winner is going on vacation with 36% or 56 votes.**

And finally the results for the "What would be your favorite vacation?" survey are in 6th place with 8 votes or 5% is going a family members house, summer house got 20 votes or 13%, tropical island received 50 votes or 32%, a big city got 9 votes or 6%, foreign country got 14 votes or 9%, and **our winner is Disneyland or Disney World with 53 votes or 34%.** What a surprise!

Thank you for participating in this student survey! We hope you enjoyed hearing the results. Have a great summer!

Warriors: Into the Wild

By: Sarah O.

The book I am going to tell you about is called Warriors Into The Wild. This is about a kittypet (that means house cat) named Rusty. He is a part of a prophecy. The prophecy is Fire alone can save our clan.

There are four clans, Riverclan, Windclan, Shadowclan, and Thunderclan.

Rusty is a kittypet who wanders into the forest and soon meets the Thunderclan leader, Bluestar. He soon betrays his soft kittypet life to become an apprentice. He received his apprentice name, Firepaw.

There are 3 stages, kits older than six moons become apprentices, they train to learn how to defend their borders that separate the clans, and they will give their life to defend their clan. The apprentices also learn how to hunt in the forest. The apprentice has a mentor that teaches him how to fight and hunt. If the apprentice is ready and old enough he/she can be

given their warrior name. The leader of the clan has a deputy, and if the leader dies the deputy will become leader and he/she will pick a warrior to become deputy. And if the deputy dies the leader must pick a new deputy before moonhigh. Firepaw now has two best friends. Grey-paw and Ravenpaw.

I liked this book because there was action in every page. You might like this fabulous book too. I forgot to mention that there is an evil cat named Tigerclaw he is a threat to all cats of all kinds.

Firepaw, Ravenpaw, and Greypaw get into a lot of mischief when it comes to those three. In fact I can't name all the adventures that almost killed them! Greypaw and Firepaw met while hunting. Ravenpaw and Firepaw met when Ravenpaw came out of a battle.

That is why you should read this book. I give this book 5 book marks. Definitely read it.



Teacher Spotlight

By Kelsey S.

MRS. DEMER



Why do you like teaching?

I love working with kids. My favorite part of my job is when my students have learned something new and make connections with something in their life.

How many years have you been teaching?

I have been in the classroom for 15 years and also was a sub for 5 years when my kids were younger.

What subjects do you teach?

I teach advanced SAIL reading at Seventh and Ideal schools, and Accelerated Math at Spring.

How many different schools do you or did you teach at? What are the names of them?

Spring Ave., Ideal, and Seventh Ave. I also taught at St. Damian in Oak Forest, as well as Tonti School in Chicago.

What is your favorite thing to do over the weekend?

I love to watch my children play whatever sport they are currently in. Right now I'm watching softball, soccer, and baseball games.

What are you most looking forward to over summer?

Relaxing with my family and taking my daughter Molly to the beach!

MRS. MANGANELLO



Why do you like teaching?

I don't like teaching — I LOVE teaching! The best part about my job is watching children succeed and knowing I made a difference in their lives.

How many years have you been teaching?

I have been teaching for 11 years!

What subjects do you teach?

I teach reading!

How many different schools do you or did you teach at? What are the names of them?

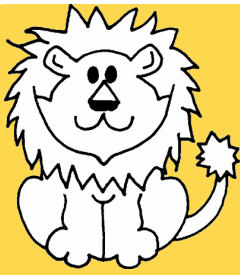
I taught at Our Lady of the Mount in Cicero, IL for 2 years. I have been at Spring Ave. since 2000.

What is your favorite thing to do over the weekend?

When the weather is nice, I love to play outside with A.J, Natalia, and my husband. If the weather is bad, I love staying inside and reading a book while my kids take their naps.

What are you most looking forward to over summer?

The thing I'm looking forward to most this summer is playing outside everyday with AJ and Natalia.



Lion Listeners

Dear Lion Listeners,

What would you do if your BFF doesn't really hang out with you anymore?

- *Lonely*

"Find a new friend."

— Katie F., 4th Grade

"I would think real hard about what happened, then ask them if I did anything wrong, then talk about ways that we could fix it."

— Mrs. Webb, Principal

Dear Lion Listeners,

I'm being bullied. He knows stuff about me and uses it against me what should I do?

- *Hurt*

"I would go to an adult or teacher and tell them how you feel. First ask them to stop."

— Mrs. Zale, 1st Grade Teacher

"I would go to a teacher tell them about it or ignore them."

— Brandon H., 5th Grade

Melancholy

By: Tuck M.

Melancholy is gray like the fog on a boring, gloomy, cloudy day.

And also like sitting mindlessly, watching miserably at the upset rain.

It collapses through the gray lightless atmosphere.

It reminds me of when my dad and I accelerated in our car through the depressing, trembling, down pour.

It makes me feel despondent like a lone wolf dashing through the down-hearted, cloud bursting, forest.

It makes me want to sprint to my room, slam my door and lie on my bed lifelessly and with nothing else to do but watch the drizzling, downpour on the pitch black, black top.



Important Dates

By: Brenna S.

June 3 — Kindergarten Graduation

10:45am and 2:30pm

June 3 — 6th grade Stepping Up 6:30-8:30pm

June 4 — PTO mtg. Volunteer Recognition

June 4 — Field Day (rain date)

June 5 — LAST DAY!!! 8:30-9:30

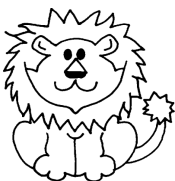
9:30-10:00 BLOCK
PARTY!!!!!!!!!!!!



Lost & Found

Found:

- Blue/white "Verbatim" flash-drive, 1 GB, initials "T.M" on it.
- Black "Geek Squad" flash-drive, 2GB



A Lion's Life Newspaper Staff

Reporters:

Hannah B.

Hannah M.

Kelly M.

Tuck M.

Sarah O.

Maddy P.

Thad P.

Anna S.

Kelsey S.

Abby Y.

Photographer:

Toni M.

Editors:

Abby Y.

Brenna S.

Layout/Design:

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Kelsey S.

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