

Precision
accurate, exact,
consistent



A Lion's Life

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

10/31/2012

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New Friends at Spring

By: Alexis H. and Nayeli V.

Have you noticed the three foot tall kids wandering around the school? Well, you see them because this year there is a preschool program going on in Mrs. Dalhin's old classroom and the room next to the kindergarten. Every day the preschoolers have circle time, centers, snack, playground time, and daily specials. They are also learning the alphabet and how to write their names. In the meantime, they are also learning how to count. The preschoolers go to school for two

and a half hours and they come from all around the district. Preschoolers are pretty much learning the basics like emotions and colors, so that they are prepared for kindergarten.

There are two preschool teachers at Spring Avenue. Ms. Halfpenny has been teaching in the district for 11 years. She has two cats, and she used to live in White Water, Wisconsin. She likes to teach preschool because the kids are young and they learn pretty quickly. The other

teacher, Ms. Morello, has a dog named Marlee, he is a boxer. When she was younger she went to Johnson Elementary school and St. Ireen's Elementary school in Warrenville. She also said, "Reading is always great." In the afternoon, kindergarten students from other schools come to Spring Avenue for kindergarten review, which helps them learn more.

We are excited to have the preschoolers in this school with us. Make sure to say hi when you see them!



Happy Halloween Spring Avenue!

Poem: Sounds of a Magical Night

By: Erin C.

WOOOSH HHHH!
WOOOSH HHHH! The eerie winds blow. The only light is a jack-o-lantern's glow.

Pit-pat, pit-pat. Footsteps of young children echo the ground. Shrieks and laughter are tonight's main sounds.

DING-DONG!
DING-DONG! Doorbells everywhere are pushed. Cobwebs are strung on every bush.

EEEEK KKK! The doors creak open by the doorbell's command. People are standing there with baskets or bins in their hands.

Crack! Crinkle!
Wrappers sound as small hands grab what the bin holds. To them, what they pull out is treasure untold!

Pit-pat, pit-pat, pit-pat, pit-pat, As the night passes on, the sound of footsteps decrease, kids vanishing every hour at least.

Finally, when the night is at its latest, all the children have disappeared. Everything is quiet, it appears.

Outside, no one lurks, but inside every house, children are at work.

They count and trade the prizes the night has brought, everything that they got.





Principal's Corner

By: Mrs. Webb

Differentiation- What is it?

Differentiation is best practices used for teaching different students with different levels, interests, abilities, and needs. Knowing that children come in different packages, with different needs that look different throughout any given day in all the different subject areas helps teachers as they plan to meet all these different needs during each day.

Maybe students need a different approach, respond in a different way, think differently or show their abilities in a different way. Well, we believe that it's our job to teach all these differences and we are constantly trying new ways to do this.

Let me say this differently. What are some ways we are using differentiation to meet different needs? Here are a few:

During lessons, teachers **ask students questions in different ways**. Teachers use who, what, where, when, how and why to help different students think differently.

In **writing**, teachers observe responses and meet with students to have them elaborate, clarify, extend, edit, revise and support their ideas.

Setting goals with students for improvement and progress or completion for writing, homework, math or reading is another way to help students increase awareness and interests in learning at their levels.

Teachers provide **pretesting and grouping** for math chapters, offering opportunities for students to show what they know and then adjusting lessons accordingly.

Leveling and grouping students for reading and having students working in partners or small groups that are appropriate for their needs provide students with that individualized approach to building reading skills.

Teachers provide opportunities, ideas, format and discussions for students to engage in **research projects** can be based on interests, motivational needs and intriguing learning styles.

Teachers provide **options for presenting information** among classmates and this helps students begin to identify their preferences in learning styles, as well as build confidence and practice for speaking and listening skills.

Teachers provide opportunities to study **challenging words** in spelling or vocabulary from content areas, and utilizing these new words in writing.

Teachers provide opportunities for **students to share/present** ideas about themselves, building ways to learn more about their interests and strengths and supporting the avenues to help this grow.

Teachers provide opportunities for students to **reflect or evaluate** upon their own, or peer's work, including developing and responding to rubrics that have predetermined criteria.

These are just a few ideas of ways teachers work to provide the best practices of differentiation for their students. We're always working on new and better ways, too!

Knowing that children come in different packages, with different needs that look different throughout any given day in all the different subject areas helps teachers as they plan to meet all these different needs during each day.



SPORTS PAGE



GOAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAL!

By: Alex V.

My favorite soccer team is Barcelona because they score lots of goals and they won a trophy in 2011. My other favorite team is Mexico because I know all of the players. My favorite player for Mexico is Javier Hernández and for Barcelona, Messi. Every time Barcelona and Mexico play, I always watch them. I root for Mexico. I watch halftime show and the whole match.

Mexico won the Olympics this summer. Barcelona won the FIFA championships in 2011. The first World Cup was held in Uruguay in 1930. The World Cup is made with solid gold. The 1950 World Cup final at Maracana stadium in Rio de Janeiro

was attended by 200,000 people.

A Brazilian teenager named Pele became the first soccer superstar known around the world. Since then, the World Cup has become super popular. The fans are noisy and cheer like crazy. This helps the players play better.

The basic rules are easy: kick the ball into the other team's goal without getting offside. The rules are if you slide tackling someone you might get a yellow card or a red card. If a player gets a yellow card, they have to sit out for a little while. A red card means you are kicked out for the rest of the game and the next game.



Playground Games and Rules

Written and photographed by: Joanie M. and Melissa R.



4 SQUARES
Rules: One person per square at a time. You can get out by hitting the ball out or if the ball bounces in your square and you don't hit it. The best square is the King square. The second best spot is the Queen square. The third best is the Knight square. The worst square is the Fish Bowl. People/Players rotate through the squares.



WALL BALL
Rules: You have to use a tennis ball for this game. So, you have to find a wall and throw the ball against it. If you catch the ball and drop it, you have an out. You get 3 outs. If you drop the ball, you have to run to touch the wall before someone else throws the ball at the wall. When the ball touches the wall, one of the players can pick up the ball to try to get another player out. You need at least 3-5 players to play.



SHARKS AND MINNOWS
Rules: There is 1 Shark and all the others players are Minnows. The Minnows run to the other side of the play area. If you get tagged by the Shark, you become a shark too. The last one standing wins. You need at least 10 players to play.





Book Reviews



It All Started with a HEADLINE

By: Josie B.

Reynard Muldoon, or Reynie for short, was looking through the newspaper when something caught his eye. It was a headline that read: "ARE YOU A GIFTED CHILD LOOKING FOR SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES?"

Now, Reynie is smarter than other children in the orphanage where he lives and he has a tutor called Miss Perumal. She drops him off at the Monk Building where the test is. Pencil in hand, which was all it said they required. Reynie aces the first, second,

and third test and the only child left to pass all 3 tests. Then Reynie meets Constance Contraire, Kate Wetherall, and Sticky Washington. They become quick friends. Next comes The Whisperer, Mr. Curtain and TEN MEN! P.S (They're called ten men because they have 10 differ-

ent ways to get rid of you!)

Reynie is the smartest child of the group. What I mean is he's AMAZING at solving clues. Sticky is mainly a walking encyclopedia, so he's good at memorizing and reading quickly.

Next Kate is a gymnast and remarkably quick. Finally

Constance is the annoying one by writing mean poems. (When she is set off. And there's something else about Constance but you must figure that out yourself when you read the series!)

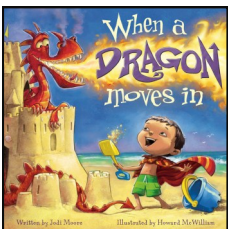
To find out more, read this first book and the following books in the series, The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey, and The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Prisoners Dilemma.

To find out more about Mr. Benedict read The Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict.

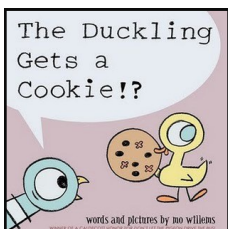


Awesome Picture Books for All Ages

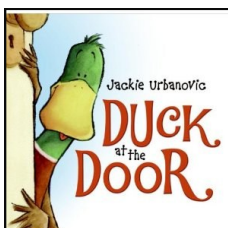
By: Sam R. and Allison T.



When a Dragon Moves In by Jodi Moore is a great book for kids because everyone loves a good dragon story. This book is about a kid that builds a perfect sand castle and a fiery red dragon moves in. The boy did everything with the dragon from that point on from swimming to using him as a kite. They even roasted marshmallows together. The boy tried to tell his parents about the dragon, but they never believed him no matter what he did. The boy grew angry with his parents, so he sent the dragon off to go find another perfect sand castle. To this day he will never make a perfect sand castle again.



The Duckling Gets a Cookie!? by Mo Willems is a fabulous book because it shows that you should never underestimate the power of friendship. In this book the duckling asks for a cookie politely, with nuts, and he got one! When the pigeon saw that the duckling had a cookie he was furious. He wanted that cookie. So he kept asking the duckling for it until the duckling gave it to him. To this day the pigeon will always ask po-

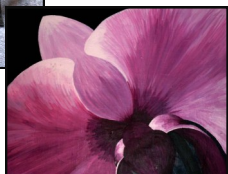


Duck at the Door by Jackie Urbanovic is a funny story about a duck named Max that left his flock behind, because he thought he would like winter as much as he liked spring. But he ended up cold and lonely until he found someone to stay with for the winter. The family started getting tired of him after a while. When spring came, Max's flock came back and he went to go with them. When Max left the family was lonely. Finally when winter came again, Max came back and he brought his flock with him, too. The family was happy to see him! From this book you'll learn that there can never be too much love to go around!

Teacher Spotlight

Are you Wearing-A-Smock Today?

By: Elizabeth T. and Olivia W.



As some of you may know we have a new face in the art room! We interviewed Ms. Wierenga to get to know her more.

Ms. Wierenga has always taken art classes and likes the creativity in art class. This is her first year at Spring Avenue. To come up with ideas for art projects, first she asks students what they want to do and then she makes the projects more challenging and interesting to do. One artist Ms. Wierenga wants to meet is Daniel Merriam because she thinks his paintings are extraordinary.

Ms. Wierenga's favorite art material to use is clay, but she also enjoys painting. She has a very crafty and creative

family. Ms. Wierenga is obsessed with the color purple, and her favorite art piece that she created was a bracelet she made in metal class. She decided art was her "thing" in third grade when she was part of an advanced art class. She loves teaching art because she thinks it's fun, and she loves watching students make sweet stuff. "I don't just like art, I LOVE it!!"

Her whole life, Ms. Wierenga has only taught art. She is from Palos Hills, IL and went to University of Illinois in Champaign for college. Ms. Wierenga wanted to add "I am thrilled to be here and I am very excited to share what I know and to learn from you."

View her artwork on the left!

Ms. Muser Brings Her Love of Music to D105!

By: Meredith B.



We welcome you to D105 Ms. Muser! For those of you who don't know her, Ms. Muser is the new orchestra director and music teacher. If you haven't met her yet, you will learn about her in this article!

Ms. Muser was born in Chicago. She went to college at University of Illinois and majored in Music. She had previously taught music and been the orchestra leader at a school in Lake Forest, IL. She has shared her love of music and playing the violin with three different orchestras, Illinois Opera, Rockford Harmony, and Illinois Philharmonic. Ms. Muser also had the opportunity to travel to China while in High School to play there.

Ms. Muser learned to play the violin when she was eight years old. At

first she didn't want to learn, but her parents encouraged her and she ended up loving it. Unlike Spring Avenue that offers music programs, growing up her grade school didn't have a music program, so she learned through private lessons. We are glad she did!

Ms. Muser enjoys many things in her free time. She loves photography, baking, performing in concerts, and hanging out with her family. Ms. Muser loves a good book, and her favorite genre is history. She also loves the story "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Her favorite movie is *Goonies*. Of course she loves to play her violin too, especially learning to play pop songs on her violin!

Now that you know more about Ms. Muser, make sure you say "Hello" when you see her in the hallways at school!

Teacher Spotlight

Welcome Mrs. Richardson

By: Sarah L. and Alejandra M.



Mrs. Richardson is a new teacher at Spring Ave. She teaches first grade. She loves the color blue! "I like it because it reminds me of the ocean, and I love the ocean" said Mrs. Richardson. "I think that the ocean is a fun vacation!"

Mrs. Richardson's favorite holidays are the 4th of July and Christmas. She likes these holidays because she gets to spend time with her family and her friends. The thing I remember most about my first grade teacher is that

she made birthdays very special. "She traced my classmates bodies when it was their birthday and then my classmates signed the paper she traced us on!" Were happy to have Mrs. Richardson at Spring Ave!!!

Welcome Ms. Melone

By: Sarah L. and Alejandra M.



Ms. Melone is the new third grade teacher at Spring Ave. Her favorite colors are pink and green. The thing Ms. Melone remembers most about her third grade teacher is that she read Boxcar Children books to her. Ms. Melone's favorite vacation is to go to Florida! She likes it because Florida is very warm!

Ms. Melone loves Christmas because she gets to spend time with her family and friends. She also enjoys relaxing over the winter break.

Her favorite thing about Spring Ave is her students. She likes her students because they make her smile all the time! Welcome to Spring Ave Ms. Melone, we're glad you're here!

Fall Word Scramble!

By Abbey P.

Unscramble the words
and put together the
underlined letters to
make another fall word!

allf _____
elnaholwe _____
nspiumpk _____
aycrs _____
guohsl _____
oknsetsle _____
nydac _____
usmcotes _____
unf _____

"You really _____ed me!" said **Frankenstein**
to a ghost!

Look for the
answers on the
back page of
A Lion's Life!

Halloween Costumes: How Crazy Can you Get?

By: Jennie B. and Devon W.

Halloween. What does everyone think when they hear that word? Candy, spooks, haunted houses, decorations, pumpkins, or most popular of all, COSTUMES! What would All Hallow's Eve be without the costumes? No fun, that's what. And there are so many different things you can be too! A few students ideas were.....

Kate H., grade 6: Amy Pond from Doctor Who

Sean M., grade 6: Morph Suit

Abby F., grade 5: Doll

Steven O., grade 5: Barbarian

Olivia M., grade 4: Nerd

Nick P., grade 4: Inflatable Morph Suit

Shea W., grade 3: Clawdeen Wolf from Monster High

Alex L., grade 3: Michael Jackson

Lillian D., grade 2: Witch

Aidan C., grade 2: Spyro from Skylanders

Isabel W., grade 1: Punk Rock star

Will B., grade 1: Punk Rocker

That was just to give you an idea of some of the rather interesting ideas some people in our school have thought up. It's always good on Halloween to be as creative as possible. Whether you're entertaining a popular cliché, or if you're being original, Halloween is always going to be one of our favorite holidays. There's just so many different ideas!

Halloween Safety Tips

By: Grace B. and Angelina G.

- Go with an adult and friends.
- Bring a flashlight.
- Get home early.
- Be kind to little kids.
- Make sure candy is wrapped
- Do not ride bikes/ other rides in the dark.
- Wear bright colors and reflectors on your costume.
- Walk on the side walk or side of street.
- Look for cars while crossing street.

Who are you on Halloween?

Find out here!

- What do you like to do most?
 - Dance
 - Pranking
 - Do art
- What's your favorite bird out of these?
 - Chickadee
 - Mocking bird
 - Woodpecker
- What's your kind of humor?
 - What do dentists play in the marching band? A tube of toothpaste!
 - Knock knock, who's there? Woodu. Woodu who? Woodu please open the door!
 - What did the scarf say to the hat? You go ahead while I go around!
- What do you do most at the pool?
 - swim to the music
 - splash people
 - suntan
- How do you spend winter time?
 - Stay inside and dance
 - throwing snowballs at someone
 - Building an igloo or snowman
- What's your favorite thing to do in the spring?
 - sing on the grassy hills
 - climb a tree and throw a leaf in someone's hair
 - paint a scene outside

look over here!! ----->

Teachers' Favorite candies

By: Grace B. and Angelina G.

1st grade

Mrs. Caylor = Fannie May Mint
Melt Aways

Mrs. Richardson = Twix

Ms. Parrino = Regular m&m's

2nd grade

Mrs. Haymes = Chocolate

Mrs. Daly = Jujubes

Mrs. Walsh = Swedish fish, m&m's, Snickers

3rd Grade

Mrs. Dahlin = Skittles

Ms. McGinnis = Twix/ Kit Kat

Ms. Melone = Reese's Peanut Butter
Cups

Mr. Meyers = Butterfingers

4th grade

Ms. Eck = Dark Chocolate

Mrs. Faldani = Reese's Peanut
Butter Cups

5th grade

Mrs. Demer = Dark Chocolate

Ms. Folliard = Chocolate Covered
Turtles

Mr. Wydra = Take5

6th grade

Ms. Charlton = Swedish fish

Mrs. Wanta = m&m's

Mrs. Webb = Peanut Butter m&m's

Mrs. Jones = Chocolate Carmel

Mrs. Blazek = Almond Joy

Ms. Marek = York Peppermint Patties



mostly A's

you are a skeleton!

You love to dance and listen to music. Sometimes, you like to make music with your own body!



Mostly B's

You are a witch!

You love playing pranks on people! If they do something to you, you do some revenge!



Mostly C's

You are a pumpkin!

You love to be creative and do stuff creative like painting, sketching, and many more!

Disaster Downtown

By Gabby S.

You may not have heard but a favorite hangout downtown LaGrange was destroyed early this summer. Yep the famous LaGrange fountain ... destroyed. The LaGrange fountain had always been a place for teens and adults to hang out, chat, and eat yogurt. And who can forget splashing or dipping their feet in on hot summer days when they were younger.

You are probably wondering what indeed happened to the fountain. Well I'll tell you, but you better sit down. A sixteen year-old male was trying to climb the stacked basins that the water flows through. Not able to support his weight, the fountain broke. Without the layers for the water to flow through the fountain is pretty much useless. Pretty bad huh? I know. But the best news is yet to come.

The fountain is supposed to be up and running before winter. I will be hoping, along with many others, - that the fountain will always be here to enjoy for generations to come.



LaGrange Fountain in Downtown LaGrange, IL.

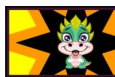
Video Game Pets: Meet the Characters

By Abbey P.

Moviestarplanet.com



FURBALL- What I think is the cutest pet, and one of the best for people who aren't members.



DRACO- One of my favorite membership pets. These come in not only different colors, but shapes too!



PUPZ- These little guys come in all colors and designs! They are not only cute, but get lots of people to "pet" them.



BOONIES- Little puffballs that grow in size every time you level them up.

Zelda



EPONA- She's your trusty horse and when you ride her you can also fight with your sword on her against monsters.



NAVI- A fairy that's not so fun. HEY! LOOK! LISTEN! WATCH OUT! All she says! She's annoying and everyone who has played with her in the game says so to.

Zoom, Zoom, Zoom



By: Josie B. and Gabrielle S.

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

1



2



3



Exotic Pets to Consider

By: Daniel C.



Have you ever had a pet? Well if you did, what kind was it? Maybe you thought it wasn't that cool because everybody had it. I will explain to you all about some exotic pets!

There are all different shapes and sizes. From big to small, I think that if you are looking for an easy pet to maintain, it would be a Betta fish. You might be wondering, why a fish? That's because all you need is a tank, a filter, fake plants, food, gravel, and of course the fish. So if you are looking for a nice, low-key pet, then I recommend a Betta fish.

You still might be wondering what other animals are there? Well you should think about reptiles. Reptiles are related to the dinosaur, which means they look really cool. One of my all time favorite reptiles is the Jackson's Chameleon. I think that they are really amazing creatures because the males have three awesome horns on their head.

If you want one of these amazing animals you have to be a dedicated pet owner. You have to have a lot of time on your hands.

There are millions of different species of animals; you just have to find the right one for you.



The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess Video Game Review

By: Abbey P.

Before you judge the word "princess" in the title, remember "twilight." But not that Twilight, like Breaking Dawn and stuff like that. This twilight, is a representation of evil. Or, twilight realms.

In the beginning of the game, Link, your guy, finds out he is the chosen hero by the gods. His friends get kidnapped by bokoblins (BOK-ob-lins) are evil monsters and king bokoblin is the chief of the twilight).

When Link chases them, he finds himself trapped out of the Faron Woods. Then, a mysterious hand grabs him in the twilight realm and when he finds the shadow being that grabbed him, the trifold on his hand glows and the shadow being gets blinded and throws him.

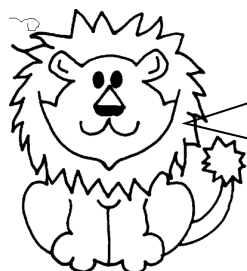
That's when it happens. Link can't get up off the

ground. Everything he sees throbs with a purple glow.

Then that's when he transforms. Not into a shadow being. A wolf. As he falls on the ground, unconscious, the shadow being that grabbed him drags him to a mysterious dungeon which I'm not going to say the name of.

But when he wakes up, he finds himself chained to the floor. On the other side of the cell bars, is a shadow girl, Midna. She is a nice girl, but very demanding. When the twilight realm you're in survives through the search of light tears, Midna will ride on your back. But when the light spirits turn you back to regular Ordonian Link, she is not her true self anymore.

This is a fun, thrilling video game from Nintendo, and I truly recommend it if you're up for a challenge. Defeat bosses, gather light tears, and transform into a wolf in this awesome video game.



Hey, 4th-6th graders,
there is still time to
join Newspaper Club!
Talk to Ms. Marek or
Mrs. Faldani!

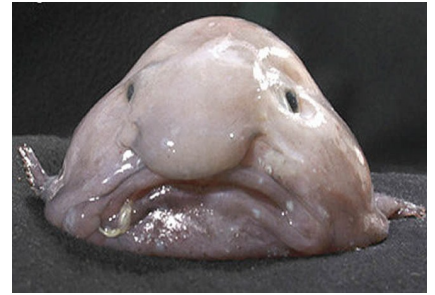
Let Us Introduce to You: The Blobby Fish

Article and Comic By Sam M. and Will T.

This crazy sea dweller is the BLOB FISH!!!!!! They live in the bowels of the Australian Seas. They live between 600-1,200 meters below sea level! They are very close to extinction because of deep sea fishing or bottom trolling destroying their habitats.

The blob fish doesn't exactly have flesh, more like a gelatin mass. Blob fish are not very attractive. Another name for the blob fish is Blob Sculpin. They are about two feet long. Blob fish were discovered in 1978. The Blob fish is basically a big lump of jelly because it has no muscles. Good thing they can just float around and don't have to swim. Blob fish can have pink eggs, and in numbers up to 10,000. Blob fish usually have eggs and stay near the eggs until they hatch. Blob fish eat invertebrates, such as crabs and Sea pens.

The blob fish's "Scientific" name is *Psychrolutes Micropodus*. To be honest, I think the blob fish might not move because they're too tired to move. It takes 5 facial muscles to smile, and 48 facial muscles to frown. Especially because the blob fish is all face. Though the blob fish may be somewhat "scary," if you think about it, you may start to feel sorry for them. But, they do make you laugh, and who knows? Maybe that's their goal.



Important Dates

November 5 — Early Dismissal, 2:00, Book Fair, Parent Teacher Conferences
 November 6 — Teacher In-service
 November 7 — Early Dismissal, 2:00, Book Fair, Parent Teacher Conferences
 November 14 — PTO Meeting, 8:45 am
 November 21-23 — Thanksgiving Holiday Break
 November 27 — Primary Music / Open House, 6:00-7:30
 November 29 — Intermediate Music / Open House, 6:00-7:30
 December 3-21 — MAP Testing
 December 7 — Parents Day Out
 December 12 — PTO Meeting, 8:45 am
 December 20 — Holiday Parties
 December 24- January 4 — Winter Break

Lost and Found

Check with the office during conferences if you are missing any items.



Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

Answers



1



Scarecrow

2



Vampire Smiley Face

3



Salad Bar

Fall Word Search Answers

Fall, Halloween, Pumpkin,
 Scary, Ghouls, Skeletons,
 Candy, Costumes, Fun

You really tricked me!

Reader Feedback

Please share your thoughts!
 Email the advisors:

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Special Thanks to
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