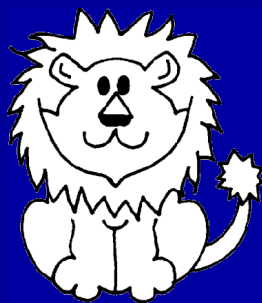


vortex

a mass of whirling fluid or air, esp. a whirlpool or whirlwind.



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

A Lion's Life Newspaper

1/31/2014

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The Write Stuff: Join Newspaper Club

By Alejandra M.

Newspaper Club is a super fun club that allows you to write and discover new ideas! There are many kids who are a part of the club, and it allows you to meet new people. Plus you get to see the *A Lion's Life* newspaper a DAY earlier than the rest of the school. You can pick to write your own article from comics to book reviews to surveys, and many, other topics. I find it very enjoyable as you can meet multiple people of different interests. I really feel like Newspaper Club is a great experience for me and hopefully for you too!

Now, let's go to what some other students think of Newspaper Club!

"At first I was like, I don't want to join the club, but then my mom and friends convinced me. I'm so happy I joined, and I LOVE interviewing people. I never want to miss a day!!" Ava M. exclaimed. Ava has been in Newspaper Club for one year.

"My favorite thing to



The 2013-2014 Spring Avenue Newspaper Club

do in Newspaper Club is type, and I learn a ton of new things! Right away I wanted to join because I'm such an awesome writer!" Joanie M. said. This is Joanie's second year on Newspaper Club.

"Newspaper Club shows your talent and you get to write so much. I love sharing what I know, and you make a lot of new friends, but the best part is just seeing the whole complete paper." Olivia W. said, who is in her third year in Newspaper Club.

For me, I believe the best part is you're writing part of a big newspaper that every-

one at the school loves and enjoys. I remember when I was younger I loved checking out the crafts and book reviews.

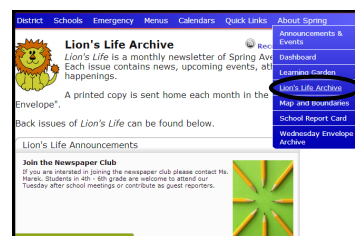
I hope after you have read this if you are in 4th—6th grade that you want to join. Even if your younger (3rd- Kindergarten) you can read it and give us ideas. If you interested in writing but are busy on Tuesdays, you can write an article at home.

Finally, PLEASE tell us what you think of *A Lion's Life*. We would love to hear your ideas, feedback, and suggestions!

Looking for More *Lion's Life*?

A Lion's Life Newspaper has been the student written newspaper for the past several years. The back issues of this publication are available on our website beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. Take a look into the past and check out some of the

incredible articles, stories, poems, artwork, comics, and more that the students at Spring Avenue have written over the years. You can access these back issues on the Spring Avenue homepage in the About Spring Tab. Look for Lion's Life Archive.



Visit us online: lions-life-archive.spring.d105.net



Principal's Corner

By Mrs. Webb

Brrrr! The weather certainly tried to get the best of us! I'm anxious to hear about how students spent their days off. Generally speaking, teachers kept working, even from home. I was able to communicate with the teachers through emails about students, plans, and lesson ideas! Speaking of which, there are times that emails are mistakenly sent to our "junk" folder, so if you email a staff member and you do not hear back, please feel free to call and alert us. We are always trying to correct that situation.

Hopefully, this winter weather is behind us. Students have enjoyed some changes we are putting into play to switch things up now and then. At recess your child may tell you that they played a game with their big buddy and then ate with them, too! They also may share with you that we are playing board games in the classrooms instead of spread out all over the lunchroom. Sometimes, just that change in routine and location really helps provide some variety. I was even challenged (and then coached) through a game of chess! We are trying to make the best of it! If you have any extra dominoes or Lego sets at home, please consider donating these to our indoor recess collection of games. Please feel free to contact me if you are still interested in being our SPOC (Special Person on Campus). This really helps at recess and lunch. You may request indoor only, if you prefer. We have moms, dads, and grandparents signed up!

Conferences are coming up! You will be receiving your child's/children's report card(s) this Friday, and we have our scheduled parent/teacher conferences next week on February 4th and 6th. Please check your schedules and let us know if you need a reminder of the times.

The most important part of conferences is a chance to talk with you about your child/children! Another important part of conferences is a chance to fulfill our need to collect the parent surveys. We know that this new state survey is not as detailed and helpful as our own D105 survey, but if we can fill a certain percentage of completion this year, then on the alternate year, we can complete our own surveys with you! PLEASE TAKE 3-5 MINUTES TO FILL OUT THE STATE 5 ESSENTIAL SURVEY. WE WILL HAVE COMPUTERS SET UP FOR YOU, AND EVEN STUDENTS TO ESCORT YOU! It's a great way to fill some time in between conferences or to stay and chat with friends afterwards. YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

Stay warm! Please contact school if you or neighbor is in need of supplies, warmth or any assistance at all. In this school community, people care and will reach out!

Warmly,
Mrs. Webb

The most
important
part of
conferences
is a chance
to talk with
you about
your child/
children!



6th grade and 1st grade buddies play together during indoor recess. These students also ate lunch together. Fun was had by all!

SPORTS PAGE



The Reign of King James

By Patrick S.

LeBron James, "King James," was born on December 30, 1984. LeBron plays for the Miami Heat.

LeBron is 6 feet 8 inches and 250

pounds. He has won 2 NBA championships. LeBron played high school basketball at St. Vincent and St. Mary High School. After graduating, he was selected with the first overall pick by the Cleveland Cavaliers.



Childhood and Youth

James was born to a 16-year-old mother, Gloria Marie James, who raised LeBron on her own. Growing up was hard for LeBron and his mom. LeBron's mom allowed LeBron to move in with the family of Frank Walker, a local youth football coach, who introduced LeBron to basketball when LeBron was nine years old. As a young player, James played Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball for the Northeast Ohio Shooting Stars.

High School Career

In his freshman year, LeBron averaged 21 points and 6 rebounds per game for St. Vincent-St. Mary's varsity team. In his sophomore year, James averaged 25.2 points and 7.2 rebounds per game, while also contributing 5.8 assists and 3.8 steals per game.

Football Season

Surprisingly, LeBron wasn't always into basketball. LeBron played wide receiver for St. Vincent-St. Mary's football team. His football career came to an end before his senior year when he broke his wrist during a basketball game.

Professional Career

The first team LeBron played for in the NBA was the Cleveland Cavaliers from the 2003 NBA draft, being first overall pick. LeBron played with Cleveland from 2003 to 2010. In his first pro game he recorded 25 points. That game, LeBron was player of the game. In the middle of the season he got 41 points per game and was the first player in 19 years to record more than 40 points per game.

Later in 2011, James got a six year contract to the Miami Heat. He earned the highest salary. He asked for less so that the Heat would be able to afford to get Chris Bosh and Dwayne Wade. Later, the Heat won back to back NBA championships.



VERSUS



BRIAN SCALABRINI

By: Liam R

MICHAEL JORDAN



FG%-----.783

FG%-----.497

PPG-----3.1

PPG-----30.1

MPG-----13.0

MPG-----38.3

FT%-----.783

FT%-----.835

APG-----0.8

APG-----5.3



Nickname--The White Mamba

Nickname-----MJ

Coaching-Assistant Coach for GS

Coaching-----GM for Bobcats

RPG-----2.0

RPG-----6.2

Raptors Trade puts Novak in the Drivers Seat

By Joseph P.



On December 8th, the Toronto Raptors and the Sacramento Kings agreed on a show-stopping trade. The Raptors agreed to send Rudy Gay, Quincy Acy, and Aaron Gray to Sacramento in exchange for John Salmons, Chuck Hayes, Greivis Vasquez, and Patrick Patterson. Now the big question is, who will get the most out of this trade. Well I have the answer. The Toronto Raptors. Why? Two words. Steve Novak.

If you don't remember, in the offseason the Raptors acquired the legend. Now it's Steve's time to shine. This trade will most likely put Steve Novak in the starting role. What does this mean? It means that the Raptors are now unstoppable. Novak practically can't miss a shot, and now that Rudy Gay is gone, he will get double the passes that he used to. The Raptors will now excel past the Celtics and easily move to first in the Atlantic division. The MVP race is now scorching hot between LeBron James, Kevin Love, Paul George, and Steve Novak. Steve is obviously more talented than all these players, and he is a clear choice to win. Novak is also my choice to win the scoring title, three-point percentage title, and be elected to the NBA All-Star team. Also, Brian Scalabrini does not even come close to Steve's talent, and Steve is and always will be the greatest basketball player that ever lived.

By Johnny B.



In the fourth, Trevor Knight hit Sterling Shepard for a nine yard TD, to make it 38-24. Alabama scored with 6:22 left in the game. A.J. McCarron threw a 61 yard TD pass to Derrick Henry. It was 38-31. But when Alabama got the ball back, Eric Striker of Oklahoma forced a fumble which was recovered by Geneo Grissom, and returned eight yards for a TD. Then Oklahoma went for an onside kick to seal the deal, and it worked. Oklahoma won 45-31.



By Johnny B.



We've seen two upsets already, but now a third? Yes indeed, and in my opinion, the biggest one.

In the second quarter, Bryce Petty threw a 30 yard TD pass to Levi Norwood (a fake field goal try was unsuccessful). But soon after, quarterback Blake Bortles of UCF scored his first of four TDs with a 50 yard pass to Rannel Hall, which Baylor followed up with a Bryce Petty 13 yard TD run. After that, Bortles went deep to Rannel Hall again this time 38 yards for a TD. It was 28-20 at the end of the half. Bryce Bortles made it 28-28 with a one yard TD run, and then a two yard two point conversion. Then Bortles got TD number three with a 10 yard pass to Breshad Perriman.

It was 35-28. Bortles hit number four at the start of the fourth, but this was a rushing TD of 15 yards. Baylor running back Glasco Martin went nine yards to make it 42-35. Baylor wouldn't back down. Storm Johnson ran 40 yards for a TD, seeming to seal the deal. When UCF kicker Shawn Moffit made a 36 yard field goal, it was 52- 35. Seemed like game over. Bryce Petty hit Clay Fuller for a nine yard TD, but Baylor was down 10 with 1:15 on the clock. It was very hard to comeback. The game practically ended when UCF recovered the onside kick. UCF wins 52-42.



100th Rose Bowl
#4 Michigan State 24
#5 Stanford 20

The 100th Rose Bowl was a low scoring game compared to the other bowls, as Stanford looked to beat Michigan State for their second consecutive Rose Bowl. Michigan State wouldn't allow it. Running back Tyler Gaffney of Stanford scored the

was 10-7. Michigan State quarterback Connor Cook threw an interception that was returned 40 yards for a TD by Kevin Anderson . Connor Cook redeemed himself with a two yard TD pass to Trevon Peddleton. It was 17-14 Stanford at halftime. Kicker Michael Geiger of Michigan State made a 31 yard field goal to tie the game. Tony Leppet caught a Connor Cook 25 yard TD pass to give Michigan State a 17-24 lead. Jordan Williamson hit a 39 yard field goal, but Stanford couldn't come back. Michigan State won the 100th Rose Bowl 24-20.



VIZIO BCS Championship
#1 Florida State 34
#2 Auburn 31

The College Football Championship was presented by VIZIO, featured Heisman Trophy winner, quarterback Jameis Winston of Florida State and high powered running back Tre Mason of Auburn. Kicker

Robert Aquayo of Florida State made it 0-3 with a 35 yard field goal. But Auburn later responded that quarter with quarterback Nick Marshall throwing a pass to Tre Mason out of the back-field, and Mason taking it in for the score. At the end of the first, the score was 7-3, Auburn.

Nick Marshall went deep to wide receiver Melvin Ray for a 50 yard TD. Nick Marshall ran it in four yards for a TD later that quarter, and to end the quarter, Florida State running back Devonta Freeman scored on a three yard TD to make it 21-10, Auburn, at the end of the first half.

The only score in the third quarter was a Robert Aquayo 41 yard field goal. It was 21-13. But there was a high scoring fourth quarter. Jameis Winston hit Chad Abram for an 11 yard TD. Kicker Cody Parker of Auburn followed it up with a field goal. It was 26-20. On the kickoff, Levonte Whitfield of Florida State took it 100 yards for a TD. It was 26-27 Florida State. Then Tre Mason got himself a TD on a 37 yard run (PAT good). It was 31-27 Auburn. With around 15 seconds left in the game, "Famous" Jameis Winston threw a two yard pass to Kelvin Benjamin. Auburn blew a 21-13 halftime lead and lost 31-34. Florida State is your 2013 BCS National Champions.



And that is the BCS Bowls Recap.

SPORTS PAGE



Hockey Division I Conferences and Teams

By Nathan D.

Hockey is one of the fastest sports in college. There are only 59 Division I hockey teams compared to basketball's 344 teams. College hockey is probably one of the hardest championships to win because there are so few spots, and if you do not win your conference, well that makes it way harder because you have to be in the top ten of the teams who did not win their conference to get a spot.

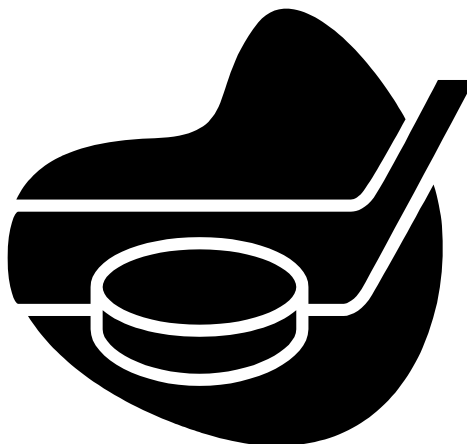
Let's start with the closest conference, the BIG Ten. This conference was just formed this year. When Penn State joined Division I hockey, there were enough teams to create a BIG Ten Hockey Conference. The BIG TEN conference includes these six teams in order of standings from first to last, Minnesota Gophers, Michigan Wolverines, Wisconsin Badgers, Michigan State Spartans, Penn State Nittany Lions, and Ohio State Buckeyes. The Big Ten Hockey Conference should be proud of themselves because in their first year as a Hockey Conference they have three teams in the top 20: Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin. While these three teams compete for the top spots in DIV I, they all look to win the National Championship.

The Atlantic Hockey Conference is not full of big solid teams who are contenders for the National Championship every year, but they do have talent. The Atlantic Hockey Conference includes these 12 teams in order of standings first to last: Bentley, Mercyhurst, Air Force Connecticut, RIT, Canisius, Holy Cross, Niagara, Sacred Heart, American International, Army, and finally Robert Morris. Since none of these teams are in the top 35 and only 10 teams make it who did not win their conference, the winner of the conference will be the only team from this conference that makes it into the NCAA tournament. Any team can win the Conference because last year the championship game was between the sixth and seventh seeds.

Another solid conference is the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference. Last year a member of the ECAC, Quinnipiac, made it all the way to the National Championship but lost to Yale. This year one of Quinnipiac's opponents, Union, has taken over the top spot in the ECAC and looks to do what Quinnipiac did last year (except they want to win the National Championship). The ECAC standings from first to last are: Union, Quinnipiac, Clarkson, Colgate, Cornell, Yale, Rensselaer, Brown, St. Lawrence, Harvard, Dartmouth, and last but not least Princeton. Most of the schools in the conference are from the Ivy League. Although some of the teams in the conference might not be big

schools that attract a lot of players, I still believe they have a lot of talent.

The other new conference this year is the National Collegiate Hockey Conference or the NCHC which includes these teams in order of standings first to last: St. Cloud State, Nebraska-Omaha, North Dakota, Denver, Colorado College, Miami Ohio, Minnesota-Duluth, and finally Western Michigan. My favorite team in DIV I is Miami Ohio. This year they have a great player named Riley Barber who is a sophomore. Barber was this year's captain of the USA World Junior Team. Riley Barber and junior Austin Czarnik are tied for 6th place in the leading point scorers in DIV I with 28 points. Last year the Miami, Ohio RedHawks were a member of the CCHA along with Western Michigan. The NCHC has three Teams ranked in the top 20.



The Hockey East Conference has one of the most historic teams ever in college hockey, Boston College. This year Boston College has one of the Chicago Blackhawks' top prospects Kevin Hayes. Kevin Hayes is one of the Hockey East's leading scorers along with Providence's Ross Mauermann. The Hockey East's standings from first to last: Boston College, Northeastern, Providence, Maine, New Hampshire, UMass Lowell, Vermont, Notre Dame, Massachusetts, Boston University, and finally Merrimack. The top three teams in the Hockey

East look to battle for top spots inside the top 20. Notre Dame is having a not-so-great season in their first year in the Hockey East coming from the CCHA. The Northeastern Huskies have only reached the Final Four once and look to make it this year and win it all.

Last but not least is the Western Collegiate Hockey Association. This includes a team in the top 15, Ferris State, and a team that looks to keep winning and make it into the polls, Minnesota State. These are the standings in the WCHA from first to last. Ferris State, Minnesota State, Bowling Green, Alaska Anchorage, Bemidji State, Northern Michigan, Alaska, Lake Superior, Michigan Tech, and finally Alabama Huntsville. Although four of the top 10 scorers in the WCHA belong to Minnesota State, there are still top scorers like Tyler Morely and Cody Kunyk of Alaska. As Ferris State looks to win the conference, they need to watch out for Minnesota State.

With all the battles going on in different conferences it looks like the final spots for the NCAA tournament might not be

February SPORTS Birthdays

By: Liam R

Feb. 5 Hank Aaron



Feb. 7 Matthew Stafford



Feb. 12 RGIII



Feb. 12 Bill Russell



Feb. 27 Michael Jordan



Feb. 13 Randy Moss



Feb. 20 Charles Barkley



The Weather Channel

The Weather Center

By Will K.

Peoria and Washington Tornado

On Sunday November 7th, 2013, an EF (4) tornado touched down in Washington, Illinois. There was a ton of damage left behind from the storm. The amount of homes destroyed or with major damage was 1,484. The EF (4) killed one person. There was also a bit of hail during the storm.

Winter Storm Wreck

When five winter storms come through, you would probably think it would be great, but it was not if you're driving. The roads were pretty bad. There was a thin layer of ice that was under the snow, which caused crashes and spinouts. This was a dangerous situation. The snow plows did the best that they could. Highways were the worst. When cars spun out they would fall in to ditches. The cold made things a bit worse because the snow would freeze up and become ice again. When those conditions are in place on the highway, make sure that you have an emergency kit. The cold also made bad things happen because the cars couldn't start due to the freezing temperatures. The cold also made schools close with a record breaking temperature of -49 with the wind chill, and without the wind it was well below zero.



Movie Review: The Hobbit

By Joseph P.

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug is the most recent part of the tale the Hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, who is on a journey with a company of dwarves led by Thorin Oakenshield and the wizard Gandalf the Grey.

The company's main objective on this quest is to take back the lost dwarf city of Erebor. After tackling many obstacles in the previous movie, they are very close to their destination, The Lone-

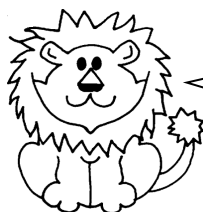
ly Mountain. A pack of orcs led by Azog the Hunter, who is determined to foil Thorin's plans, are still in hot pursuit of the company and poses as a threat everywhere they go.

During most of the movie, the company is trying to get past a kingdom of Elves where many new characters are revealed. As you can tell from the title, this movie's main focus is on Smaug the Dragon. The trickery of the

ring Bilbo found in the previous movie does not fool the mighty Smaug.

This movie will keep you on the edge of your seat throughout the whole thing. The stunning special effects will take your breath away, especially Smaug.

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug is one of the best movies of the year, but I would recommend that you read the book first. This movie will definitely leave you wanting more.



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

Teacher Spotlight

Chocolate 101

By Zoe C. and Shea W.

We asked teachers what their favorite type of chocolate was dark, milk, or white, and if they like any toppings or fillings with it.

Ms. Parrino = milk chocolate

Mrs. Richardson = white chocolate with
cookie dough

Mrs. Walsh = dark chocolate with
caramel

Ms. Melone = milk chocolate with
caramel

Ms. Eck = dark chocolate

Mrs. Haymes = milk chocolate with
raisins, caramel, or nuts

Mrs. Demer = dark chocolate with salt
and caramel

Ms. Folliard = dark chocolate with
hazelnuts

Ms. Charlton = milk chocolate with
caramel

Mrs. Wanta = dark chocolate with
caramel

Mr. Meyers = dark chocolate with
caramel

Mrs. Webb = dark chocolate with
peanut butter, or Frangos

Ms. Gorman = dark chocolate with
peanut butter and salt

Mrs. Jones = milk chocolate with caramel

Ms. Weaver = dark chocolate

Mrs. Manganello = milk chocolate with
caramel

Teachers' Dream Vacations

By Audrey M. and Anna W.

Can you imagine the most beautiful place on earth? Well our teachers sure can. Here are some teacher dream vacations.

Mrs. Webb: Ireland and Germany

1st Grade, Mrs. Caylor: Hawaii with
unlimited funds

1st Grade, Ms. Parrino: African Safari

2nd Grade, Mrs. Daly: Hawaii

3rd Grade, Mrs. Dahlin: Bora Bora

3rd Grade, Ms. McGinnis: Travel the
world

3rd Grade, Ms. Melone: exploring Italy
and beach vacation in Hawaii

4th Grade, Mrs. Haymes: Bora Bora and
staying in a hut

4th Grade, Ms. Eck: a trip around the
world

4th Grade, Mrs. Mindy: anywhere that
has a beach and sand

Gym, Ms. Weaver: Hawaii

Music, Mrs. Lukritz: Hawaii

Reading, Mrs. Manganello: Australia

6th Grade, Ms. Charlton: A year in
Europe and Asia

Janitor, Mr. Jinx: Telluride, Colorado

Teachers' Favorite Holidays and Why

By Selma B. and Ava P.

Mrs. Caylor: Christmas because traditions like the trees and songs.

Ms. Parrino: Christmas because I get to celebrate it with family.

Mrs. Richardson: Christmas because I get to spend time with family

Mrs. Daly: Christmas because I get to listen to music

Mr. Wydra: New Years because I get to start fresh and see family.

Mrs. Dahlin: 4th of July because it is warm, and I get to spend time with my family. I like fireworks.

Ms. McGinnis: Thanksgiving because of the gratitude and food.

Ms. Melone: 4th of July because of fireworks and warm weather.

Ms. Eck: Thanksgiving because all the family get together and the meal together.

Mrs. Haymes: Halloween because of the candy, the weather, and you because you can be anyone you want to be.

Mrs. Mindy: Christmas because I love to give gifts and there is lots to do!

Mrs. Demer: Christmas because I get to see all of my friends and family.

Ms. Folliard: Christmas because it gives me an extra chance to show my friends and family how much they mean to me. It also reminds her to carry the "Christmas Spirit" in my heart all year long. And lastly I love to play in the snow.

Mrs. Wanta: Christmas because of the decorations and being nice to people.

Ms. Charlton: Thanksgiving because it's full off family and friends.



Creative Writing: Winning Goal



By Oliva W.

I stand dumbfounded in front my so-called “friend,” Shannon Baker, shocked at what had just come out of her mouth.

“Well, Mary Ellen?” Shannon says with a clever smirk on her face.

I wish I could’ve wiped that silly smirk off her face right there and then. I close my eyes and breathe deeply. Over the years, I have learned that I can’t trust Shannon with my secrets.

“I don’t want to answer that question.” I reply confidently, although my insides feel like a wreck.

Shannon rolls her eyes and stomps away furiously with her little group of friends. “Why does she have to be so annoying?” I think. I shake my head and walk over to my group of REAL friends. I’m glad I didn’t tell Shannon that I play hockey on a boy’s team. That would’ve been a disaster.

“Hi Mary Ellen! How’s hockey going?” my friend, Rylee asked.

“Shhh! And it’s going fine. Shannon almost found out I play hockey, and you all know how bad that would’ve turned out. Everyone in the school would’ve found out,” I replied with a whisper.

Rylee’s, and my other friend, Dana’s, eyes opened wide. The bell rang and we all headed inside. My class rushed to the classroom and packed up all our stuff.

“Okay class; for winter break you have.....absolutely NO HOMEWORK!!” Mrs. Rustenburg exclaimed.

The class jumped for joy. All the girls hugged Mrs. Rustenburg, and the boys thanked her and ran off. I was the last one to leave the classroom. My mom was waiting outside for me right where she told me to meet her. I hopped into the blue minivan and saw all my hockey gear stuffed into the back of the car. We sped home so I could get ready for my state championship hockey game. I got all my gear on and we drove off to Chicago. My all-boy team was already there warming up. Our team name is the Liberty Bell Lions. I changed into my skates, and skated out to my team, who was now in a huddle. I listened to our coach who was giving us words of encouragement. I missed the entire warm up because the warm ups started at 2:30, and I got out of school at 3:00. My mom doesn’t want me to leave school early. I sat out the first period because I wasn’t at warm ups.

By the end of the first period, we’re down 1-0, and the coach started me at left wing. Our team won the faceoff and the puck was passed directly to me. I faked out the right defense and made a decent pass to the middle. The center took it in and shot. The puck was blocked, so I skated quickly and slap shot it in. Cheers arose from all corners of the stadium. It was the 3rd period and was still tied. Our coach huddled us up, and told us that we should try our best and to remember to have fun. I sat out for a few minutes and then coach put me in as left defense. We played for 10 hard minutes, and the other team called a timeout.

“Okay! Listen up! Mary Ellen is going in at left wing, and whoever has the puck, pass it to her immediately,” Coach said sternly.

All the boys nodded and gave me a thumbs-up. I skated out to my position and got ready to receive the puck. Three minutes go by, and I’ve had three shots, one wide, and two were deflected. At the 30 second mark, the puck came shooting to me. I brought it around the goal and passed it to the right wing. He made a wonderful pass to the center who passed it right back to me. There are 10 seconds left. I skated up to the goal and shoot....DEFLECTED. The center got the puck and passed it straight to me right away. The crowd is now chanting.

“5.....4....”

I made a fake pass and got closer to the goal.

“3.....2...”

I shoot, the goalie lunged but missed by a centimeter! GOOOOAL! My team erupts in screams of joy. Inside I am joyous. I raise my stick in the air with victory.

Visit Graue Mill for History and Your Health

By Grant S.

Graue Mill is a water mill, and it has a lot to offer. It opened in 1852, but now is a place to visit in Oak Brook. It has a museum. The museum has old rooms that look they did back then. If you walk in Graue Mill you feel like it is the old days. Why? It has an original set up including a safe house and carriages. It has a path along the I & M Canal. There are many animals on the trail like ducks and geese. Sometimes you can see deer and coyotes. Walking at Graue Mill is good for you because walking is good for your health.

Graue Mill is open Tuesday-Sunday from 10:00AM to 4:30 PM. You should go to Graue Mill because you will have fun.



Graue Mill, Oak Brook < IL

Dog Breed Profile: Hug a Pug!

By Grace K. and Lilly M.

Stop clowning around!

Do you want entertainment 24/7? If so, the pug dog is a perfect pet for you. Pugs are very energetic pets. Their job is to entertain their owners and do funny tricks! Pugs are also very loyal to their owners and want to be with their owners as much as possible. They love sitting on your lap because they are very small and cuddly.

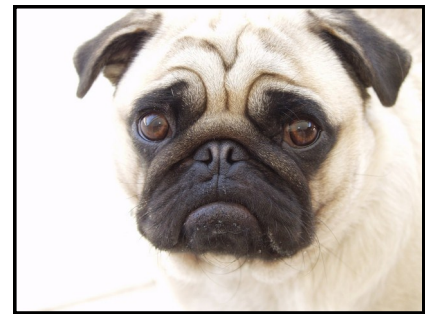
2,500 years old?

Researchers and dog breed experts think the pug is from China and has been around for 2,500 years! The Chinese called the dog "lo-size" (low-zoo). The lo

-size are like today's modern pug because they have wrinkles, short faces, and a short coat of fur. When the Dutch started to trade with the Chinese, the Dutch brought a lo-size, or a pug, back to the Netherlands. The Dutch royalty loved these dogs. They got the name pugs in the 1600's. The pugs also started competing in dog shows in 1861.

Pet Care

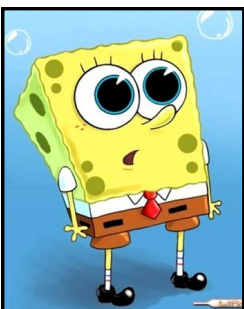
Keeping your pet healthy is important! Pugs don't need a lot of exercise, they only need a little. A short walk each day will do. These KIND HEARTED small dogs will follow you



around your house. If you want to run with your dog, then the pug breed is not the dog for you. They can't get too much exercise because if their nose gets very hot, they can't breathe properly.

SpongeBob Squarepants

By Michael M.



Stephen Hillenburg created what would be a hit kids show, SpongeBob Squarepants. SpongeBob is a yellow sponge who lives underwater in the ocean.

There are also other characters in the show. Patrick Star is SpongeBob's friend. SpongeBob's boss at the Crusty Crab is Mr. Crabs. SpongeBob also has a neighbor Squidward. (Those two aren't the best

of friends if you've seen the show.) Patrick and SpongeBob are always annoying Squidward. This all takes place in the Bikini Bottom in the Pacific Ocean. Their world down there is just like ours; for example, they have houses like us, but instead of automobiles they drive boatmobiles. SpongeBob and Patrick always chase after Jellyfish. That is their hobby most of the time. The first episode aired on May 1, 1999.

The popular characters are voiced by Tom Kenny (SpongeBob), Bill Fagerbakke (Patrick Star), Clancy Brown (Mr. Crabs), Roger Bumpass

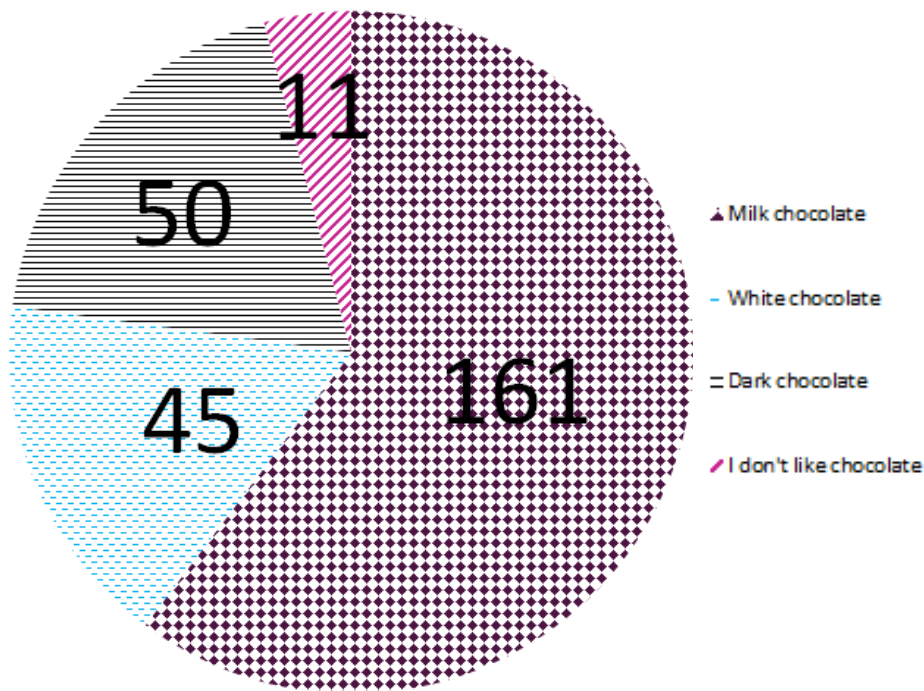
(Squidward Tentacles), and Carolyn Lawrence (Sandy Cheeks).

As I said earlier, SpongeBob works at the Crusty Crab and LOVES his spatula. He loves flipping the meat patties. When he is done with the meat patties, he hands them to Squidward through the window and Squidward brings the food to the tables. As you may know, Mr. Crabs loves money. So when he gets the money, he goes bananas.

Most of all, this is a great show for kids, because adults aren't really interested. You can watch this show on the Nickelodeon channel.

Happy Valentine's Day Spring Avenue!

Valentine's Day Survey- Favorite type of chocolate!



Valentine's Fun

By Ava M. and Emma C.

Do you love Valentine's Day? Do you love crafts? If you do, you will love crafts made by kids your age, too!

Mustache Maniacs

You need:

- Colored paper (red, black, pink)
- Googly eyes
- Scissors
- Writing utensil
- Glue



Directions:

Use scissors to cut a heart shape out of red or pink paper. Then, cut a mustache shape out of black paper. Next, glue two googly eyes on the top of the heart, and glue the mustache underneath the eyes. Add other accessories in black paper. On the back, put a to-from sticker, write to-from or place a Valentines note on the back. Now, enjoy and send!

Pipe Cleaner Pencils

You need:

- An unsharpened pencil
- Red, pink, or silver pipe-cleaners



Directions:

Take the pipe cleaner and wrap it around a pencil. Then you take the pipe cleaner and slowly slide it off the pencil. After that all you do is tie a knot from the end of the pipe cleaner to the pencil.

For the heart you take the pipe cleaner and make a heart shape. Then all you do after that is take the pipe cleaner at the bottom and tie it to the pencil. Now you have your own cute pipe cleaner pencils!

What Am I Poem

By Josie B.

*I am strong on the inside,
but weak on the outside*

I am thought to be beautiful by many.

I represent love and am a gift to many lovers.

I am emerald and ruby.

I am common, yet cherished.

Once picked I am alive

till I wilt and pass into death.

What am I?



Activities for Winter Fun

By Maggie K. and Sophie P.

OUTSIDE

Snow fort – (You don't only have to do snow forts with snowball fights!) You will probably need: Snow of course! Spray bottle of water, Buckets, A smooth surface.

Snow slide – (A tall, smooth pile with snow to slide on!) You will need: Snow, a smooth surface, shovel (you can use it to smooth the slide out).

Snow Angel – (A figure made by yourself in snow) you will need: Snow, your body, and warm gear.

Snowballs and Snowball fights – (Don't

do this when you are walking home from school or at school) you will need: Lots of snow, snow gear, gloves, friends, and a snow fort if you want.

INSIDE

Build a fort – (the bigger the better!)– You will need: Pillows, blankets, chairs, something heavy.

Sardines (hide and seek with a twist) This game is a variation of "hide and seek." It is best played indoors.

"Sardines" can be played with three or more players. One player is "it" and he or she goes off to hide while the

other players count to 100 by 1's 2's or 5's.

When the other players have finished counting, they call out, "ready or not here I come!" (or something similar to warn the player who is hiding).

Everyone goes off to find "it," seeking separately.

As each player finds "it," he or she hides in the same space, until finally, all the players are squeezed into the hiding place.

The first player to find "it" becomes "it" for the next game.

Read—(Snow better time to read!) you will need, a comfy and quiet place, and good book to read.

January Poem

By Grace B.



The snow falls gently onto everything in sight.
Everything is covered in a blanket of white.
Everyone sleeps peacefully dreaming of a snowy world.
Moms everywhere make sure everyone bundles up for the cold.
Kids everywhere waiting for school to get out,
So they can drink cocoa that's oh so hot!
Skating on the ice is for the old and the young.
While people listen to winter songs being sung.
People love the season everyone has felt,
But some people are waiting for the ice to melt.
Sledding down hills in the sun,
while snow melts on the cement.
Waiting for spring to come and the blossoms to bloom,
thinking of the flowers sweet smelling fumes.
Winter is passing day by day,
thinking that spring is still faraway.

Top 5 Non-Violent Video Game Heroes

By Jennie B.



In the video game world, you can find millions upon millions of heroes, all unique in their own special way. Old eight bit ones, or new high definition ones. But there's one thing that every kind of hero strives to be: the best. So, which five are on my list? The following are my top five (family friendly) video game heroes.

- 1) Sora: Sora is an amazingly well thought out character from the Kingdom Hearts game series. Not only is he an amazing design for a character model, but he can own when it comes to the actual game.
- 2) Chell: When needing an excelling puzzle solver, just call Chell! Not only can she get through rooms upon rooms of mazes, but she can do it all with a brave face. Plus, she gives off amazing inspiration, especially considering how much dialog she gets.
- 3) Mario: Let's be real here, everyone loves this hero. He's been around since the beginning of games, his character model is only getting better, and he can rock every spin-off he's put in. Also, the determination to continue for endless sequels just sweetens the deal.
- 4) Sonic: With his sonic speed and memorable look, there's no wonder this hedgehog keeps landing sequels! As an ancient of the video game world, he has a lot of nostalgia behind him. But even without it, he can still keep speeding through traps and earning a spot on my top five list for the rest of time.
- 5) Phoenix Wright: This hero fights with logic, not weaponry. In a game about being a law attorney, this hero earns his keep in the amazing game with his witty arguments, charming dialog, and overall spectacular style.

Bl. Anna
+ Sophie

How to draw a cartoon

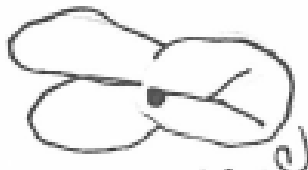
1. draw a person
with no arms



2.



3. draw a circle around the head



4. draw a small circle + a bigger circle

dog



5.



shade in the bigger oval - that



draw a circle around that



draw ears



Lastly, draw legs, a body and a tail

Important Dates

February 4, 6 — 2:00 Dismissal,
Parent Teacher Conferences
February 12 — PTO Meeting, 8:45 am
February 14 — Valentine's Day Parties
February 17 — Presidents' Day, No School
February 20 — Family Literacy Night, 6:00-7:30
February 22 — PTO's Trivia Night
February 25 — Winter Band Concert, 7:00 pm
February 27 — Winter Choir / Orchestra Concert, 7:00 pm
March 12 — PTO Meeting, 8:45 am, Fun Lunch
March 12 — Kindergarten Roundup, 7:00 pm
March 18 — SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DAY—to make up
for snow day.
March 20—Math and Science Night, 6:00-8:30
March 24-28 — Spring Break, No School

Lost and Found

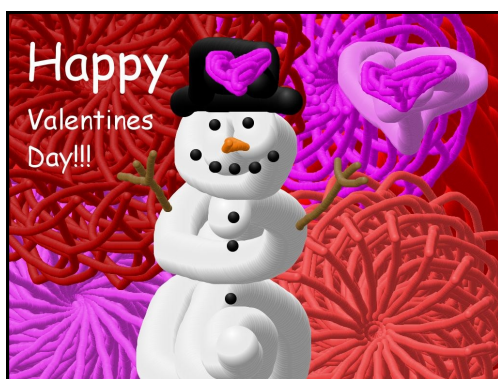
The Lost and Found Items will be out
at Parent Teacher Conferences.
Please check for any lost items.



What Am I Poem Answer:



A Rose!



Reader Feedback

Please share your thoughts!
Email the advisors:

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A Lion's Life Newspaper Staff



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