



The Anchorzine



Volume 2, Issue 1

February 2017

My Gift to the World

By Castalia Litos

My gift to the world is fresh and clean water. I would give fresh water to poorer countries like Asia and Africa. Polluted water is very contaminated and no human should be drinking it. Most water in the world is polluted.

The world could really use fresh water because less people would die of thirst or dehydration. Millions of people all over the world, including the United States don't have fresh water. About 6-8 million people all over the world die of water poisoning every year. Lots of people and organizations don't realize that the lack of fresh water is all around the world. It is a major problem that should be fixed. Having no fresh water and dehydration can make a person's future much worse. Dirty water makes you very sick and that limits what you are able to do.

After I give this gift to the world, I hope they would distribute the water evenly and make sure everyone gets a fair amount. I would hope a lot more people are healthy and don't have to limit the amount of water they drink. That would bring more happiness and smiles. As you can see, fresh water is a very important resource that the world could really use.

My Gift to the World

By: Conor Prokopiak

If I were to give a gift to the world, I would give clothing and shelter. Clothing is essential for the world because people in this world are cold and in need of warmth. Shelter would be another necessity because people would not be homeless and they would have a roof over their heads and a place to put their families.

I would give this to the world because some people walk around in worn out and thin clothing not appropriate for the cold weather. In the winter some people do not have shelter and they could freeze. I would give shelter to the people because humans do not have fur to protect them like animals. Certain people need shelter because they are homeless and they live on the streets. Humans rest on cardboard and sometimes just cement. People need a soft pillow to sleep on. When people don't have a good night's sleep their body might shut down and they can become ill.

The world would change because people would be comfortable walking around and people would sleep with a comfortable cushion. People also would be happy because they would not freeze in the winter and they would have heat. They would not shiver in their houses. As you can see people need clothing and shelter to live a normal, happy, and secure life.

Faculty Advisor: Ms. Penny Hine

STUDENT CONTRIBUTORS:

Ethan	Bromley
Cameron	Haynes
Charlotte	Lauth
Castalia	Litos
Shane	Merchant
Raine	Parker
Veronica	Paolucci
Conor	Prokopiak
Marta	Przybylowska
Hannah	Quigley
Julia	Visconti



Anchorzine Staff

The Anchorzine was a program designed to give 4th and 5th graders an opportunity to write and publish a literature magazine. They did a different kind of writing each week and the end product was a magazine displaying their writings.

The Storyteller Times

The “Harmless” Creature



By: Hannah Quigley

“It looked harmless. “

Paul Zarro was walking through the Amazon Rainforest with his travel group when this strange little creature stepped out of the trees. “It looked harmless”, says Zarro.” So we approached him.” The little creature then sprinted at them. Zarro and his crew then turned and ran. The creature chased them into a river, and as the river swept them away, the little creature followed them with amazing speed. They reached the end of the river, then plummeted down a waterfall. When Zarro came up from underwater, he saw the creature growling down at him. “It was crazy!” says one team member. They never saw the creature again.

Lemur Surprised by carrot cupcake!

By: Castalia Litos



“Then he a did an amazing thing. ”

This lemur was brought from a San Diego outdoor glass cage to an indoor medical room where staff member Andrea Potts left a carrot cupcake on her desk. The lemur, named Peas, climbed on the desk and stared at the cupcake. “Then he a did an amazing thing,” says zookeeper Anne Calder, who takes care of Peas. Peas put his hand over his mouth and almost gasped. After that he touched it and stood up and opened his mouth wide. “An amazing feat for a lemur that has been in the zoo for about two years.” Everyone in the chemistry department thinks that because of this carrot cupcake and the lemur that science has discovered something big. This is more information that monkeys are like humans. Peas and his carrot cupcake, which he ate, could be making history!

Poppy, My New Friend



By: Julia Visconti

“And Then BOOM!!”

NEWS FLASH! New Species Found.....

Here is the story told by the young lady that found the adorable little creature that she calls Poppy.

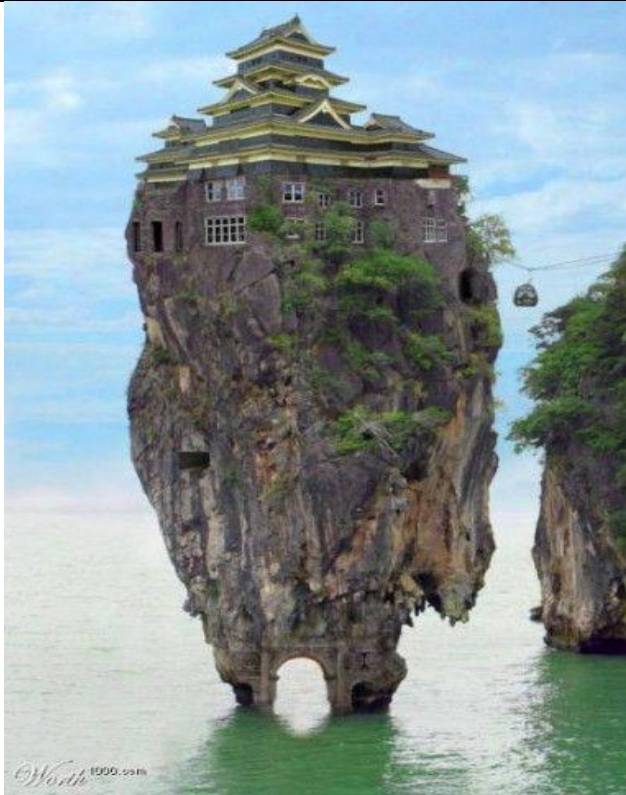
Just as I was about to collapse I heard a rustling noise. Then I heard it again. What could that be **“And then BOOM!!”** It lunged right at me! It threw me to the ground. It jumped towards my finger. I felt blood trickling down my pointer finger. I looked at my finger afraid to see what it was. It was the cutest smallest thing ever. It was like the smallest baby chinchilla ever. “Awwwww!! You are so cute!!” I cooed at the small creature while petting it. It must have felt bad for biting me because it started purring and snuggling my finger. When I said that I had to go, it wouldn’t let me leave. So I decided to hide it in my pocket. When, I finally got home, I ran up to my room and set down the little creature on my bed. It ran around my bed looking at everything in my room. It squeaked then squeaked again. I scooped her up and put her in my guinea pig Rose’s cage. They instantly started squeaking and as soon as they started, they stopped. They then started purring at the exact same time almost like they were best friends. Then the squeaking noise from the cage grew louder. This time my mom noticed the small animal and then asked where I found it. I told her that I found it when we were walking but I want to keep it.

“That’s how I got here telling you guys about my amazing discovery. Thank you for listening. Poppy would like to thank you too. You can look at her when exiting the building.”

I spent the rest of my life with that creature and she loved me and I loved her.

The Ocean Rock House

By: Ethan Bromely



“Giant House Carved into Floating Rock”

NEWS FLASH!

Giant house carved into floating rock in the ocean like it was always there:

A giant, mansion-like house is in the middle of a giant ocean! No one knows how this house was made, but it was made very well! The whole structure looks like it was built into an unknown cavern in the island. The people who live here use a wooden gondola to get to a nearby town in New York. The ride must be outstanding for the citizens who reside in this beautiful house. These lucky people are named Jenn and Mike Mcullan. They sure are lucky folks! Maybe they will become famous through this crazy house they own. Many questions about this mysterious place will be answered in the near future!

Baby Hedgehog Spotted on the Side of the Road



By: Castalia Litos

“I figured it was just another squirrel.”

A Buchanan citizen, Terry Allen, was on his afternoon hike. While walking on Montrose Point Road, he thought he saw a flash of something close. “I figured it was just another squirrel, gathering food for the winter.” says Terry, “but then I felt something. I definitely saw something close that wasn't running away, like squirrels do.” I peeked in the bush and BAM, there was the hedgehog.” Terry says he has always been an animal lover, so he picked it up and knocked on the door of the house near where he found the cute little creature.” He figured maybe it was their lost pet, but anyway felt it was the right thing to do” says Terry. The house owner 's, the McKinleys examined the hedgehog for scars or scratches, but claimed it was not theirs. They then went back into their house. Terry put signs up but no one claimed the creature. Terry then had a new pet.

Bring Your Pet to School



By: Conor Prokopiak

“Why did this alligator come to school?”

9:00am on Tuesday at F.G.L School there was a great gathering. The superintendent, Mr. Hochreiter, let the kids bring pets to school. The most interesting pet brought in was an alligator. This kid's name was Conor Prokopiak. He rode the alligator to school. This alligator's top speed is 50 miles an hour. Why did this alligator come to school? Why did this kid bring him to school? We interviewed this kid and he said, “I found it stranded in a swamp and it was crying for help, so I took him in”. Read tomorrow for further information.

Boy Rides Monster Crocodile and Survives



By: Cameron Haynes

“I just hope the boy is OK.”

We asked some people what they think and here are some responses:

“I just hope the boy is okay.”

“I couldn’t believe my eyes!”

“That was one brave boy.”

It was 10:30am and our camera crew heard screaming. They got closer to the strange noise. When they got closer to the screaming they saw a lady on the floor passed out and a boy on top of a giant crocodile. The creature snapped but the boy was still holding on. Then the crocodile rammed into the wall forcing the boy to fall off. The crew tried to help but the crocodile opened its jaw and was about to bite the boy. Then a man jumped onto the beast holding it down telling us to grab the boy to get him to safety. The man was called a hero but he left the scene without even leaving his name.

Bench Bikes



By: Veronica Paolucci

“Have you ever wanted a bike with a bench?”

“Hey have you ever wanted a bike that had a bench? Well there is one”! The first time I was on one was in Wildwood, New Jersey on vacation, there were lots of trails outside of my hotel so every morning my family rented bikes. One Morning my brother and I got a bench bike. We got on with my mom. My brother was on the wheel and he curved so much my mom got very scared. The bench bike came in any color but I’ve only seen red, blue and yellow. There were two steering wheels but only the one in the driver's seat worked. It can fit three people, one on the left, the middle, and lastly one on the right. Any age can steer so my mom taught me. It was hard at first because I’m not 16 or older but I got used to it. The most rows of seats are five and that's useful for a big family! Bench Bikes really made me smile because my family made a memory. I hope you and your family can make a Bench Bike memory too!

Mrs. Detective



By: Conor Prokopiak

"when the motion sensor camera took a picture she was typing."

At 2:00pm yesterday we spotted a fairy detective. The crime scene was at 12 Flanders Drive. We assume that one of the bad fairies from her world came into our world and robbed the house on Flanders. The fairy was trying to figure who the culprit was in this robbery. We took a picture of her from this motion sensor camera. The detectives have had a theory that she has found her culprit. We think this because when the motion sensor camera took a picture she was typing. Read tomorrow for further information.

Scaredy Cat

By: Raine Parker



“Mandy Jumped and Hit the Wall.”

Mandy and her owner Olivia were going to a pet store. Olivia bought a stuffed alligator for Mandy. When Olivia and Mandy got home, Mandy went to her bed for her morning nap. While Mandy was asleep, Olivia set the alligator in front of Mandy as a gift for her to see when she woke up. When Mandy woke up, Olivia was not surprised when Mandy jumped and hit the wall. It took an hour before Mandy could fall asleep again. Next Olivia tied a string to the ceiling and tied it to the alligator and put it right above Mandy. When Mandy woke up the second time she looked around and she didn't see anything. She looked up and scratched the alligator and ran all the way to Olivia's bedroom and went under the covers. Here we have a cat so scared of her stuffed toy that her owner is thinking of changing her name to “Scaredy” cat.

The Storyteller Times

The Lost Polar Bear, Sylwia



By: Marta Przybylowska

“Is she lost? Or is she resting? Well, let’s find out!”

“I don’t know, Julia, does this polar bear look lost or like she is resting?” said Marta Przybylowska, reporter from WHAU 103.7 FM. “I’m Marta Przybylowska with my friends Hannah Quigley and Julia Visconti.

“This is Sylwia the polar bear. She seems to be lost,” said Julia Visconti.

“Yes. There was a loose tree branch, right over the deep ocean,” said Hannah Quigley.

“Out of nowhere, the branch snapped and fell into the ocean with Sylwia hanging on. She must have been scared,” said Marta.

“I can tell that she was scared. Just look at her face,” said Hannah.

“Looks like her hands are slippery,” said Julia.

“Just stay tuned to see what will happen,” said Marta.

My Gift to the World
By Hannah Quigley

My gift to the world would be schools for everyone. There are so many countries out in the world that do not have schools. Education prepares people for the future. In some countries only boys and wealthy people can go to school. This is not a fair practice.

The world doesn't have a lot of schools in certain places. Some kids have to walk more than 25 miles to get to a school. Some have schools, but don't have the supplies they need. Kids are sharing supplies and not getting the right education. In other places the students have to pay for a desk and chair. This is not good for people who don't have a lot of money. Schools and education should be free for everyone no matter gender, race, religion, or economic status.

My gift would change the world for good. Children would be more educated, and have a better chance to be a doctor, or a career that they want to pursue. It teaches kids valuable skills that they will use their whole lives. They will learn reading, math, spelling, geography, and so many other subjects. If you can't read and write, then you have very limited job opportunities. The world will have more doctors, engineers, vets, teachers, nurses, and librarians. They will help teach other kids that they can be anything that they dream of. Kids will have a lot more opportunities to learn and have an education. This will help them throughout their lives to realize their dreams and build our future. The gift of schools would change the world for the better and will have a strong influence on our future!



My Gift to The World
By: Veronica Paolucci

My Gift to the world is a cure for autism. Autism is a mental condition that is displayed in early childhood making the child have difficulty with speech, relationships, and communication. Kids with autism wouldn't have to suffer because there's a cure. There would be no special classes or service dogs, needed in schools for children with autism. It would be an autism free zone.

In schools this would really be important because these kids wouldn't get teased. They could form regular relationships with kids, share their feelings, and even be friends with all the kids without anybody looking at them differently. It would really help so that nobody feels left out or ignored. If you think about it most autistic kids wouldn't even get to drive or get certain jobs like, a doctor, teacher and lawyer. Over 2% of kids in New York have autism. You might not think that that's a lot, but it's only in New York. What about all the other countries and states they have autistic kids too.

The world would be better if it was an autism free world because everybody would communicate better and understand each other. When a kid has autism their brain has a hard time making sense and communicating, so it's hard for them to understand almost everything. Communication is the key to understanding somebody's feelings because if you can't express feelings you can misinterpret them. You would never know if somebody's feeling dark and depressed or happy and excited. I would definitely not want to feel ignored. Autism is a big problem for lots of kids in the world, and this world is definitely not an autism free zone!

Shelter for People Who Need Homes By Charlotte Lauth

If I could give the world anything, I would give the people shelter who need homes. I would give them food, water, and shelter. I think this would help the poor because it would change the people's life. For example, these people always wake up in central park or in a dumpster. It must be a hard life for these people, but it's not always their fault because many didn't make bad or wrong decisions. Many are children living with their families.

One reason why I would give them this is because that is what they need to live. Another reason why I would give them this is because shelter they need to be protected, they would need food and water to survive. They would also need homes to survive the cold and rain and snow. If I could give them money, I would so they could do whatever they wanted with it but hopefully they will make the right decisions and they wouldn't do anything bad with it.

If I could do this, I would and the world would change because people wouldn't be sitting on the side of the road in the city. It fixes people from being poor and when I'm walking on the sidewalk of the city I try and smile in a good way. I try not to stare at them. My mom always tells me to smile in a good way and don't stare. Now everywhere I look there would be happy people with all the supplies that they need



The Paper By Raine Parker

One-day Ava was going to school and on the ground she found a piece of paper. She picked it up wondering what it was and her mom did not see her pick up the paper. She said "let's go!" So she put it in her bag for later. When she got to school she showed her friend Sara the paper she found and she asked what is it?

Ava said "I don't know."

Sara said "let me see." Sara then said "have you read what it said?"

Ava answered "no, my mom said we got to go so I did not have any time. What does it say."

"It's a recipe for donuts."

"Oh Come on" Ava said "I thought there would be some adventure." After school Ava said "we got to return this to Dan. He owns the donut place down the road."

"Ok let's ask your mom to drop us off."

Ava asked her mom if they could go to the donut place and her mom said "why not, but be quick." Then Sara and Ava got out of the car and went in the donut place.

Sara walked up to Dan and asked "is this your donut recipe?"

Dan took a look and said "yes where did you find it?"

Ava said "when I was on my way to school I found it on the ground."

"Thank you so much" Dan said. "I have a surprise for you." Voila, Dan showed them and there was a big banner that said happy birthday Ava. Ava remembered it was her birthday. They spent the rest of the day celebrating.

Marta

Smart, caring, and nice
Daughter of Marzena and Maciej
Who loves friends, animals, and
gymnastics
Who feels excited about going to
middle school
Who gives kind words, warmth, and
happiness
Who fears heights, bullies, and bugs
Who'd like to see Hawaii
Who dreams of being a teacher
A student of Frank G. Lindsey
Przybylowska

Julia

Smart, caring and funny
Daughter of Patricia and Stephen
Who loves friends, animals and family
Who feels excited about middle school
Who gives love, food and kindness
Who fears heights, not getting good
grades and death
Who'd like to see Paris
Who dreams of being a marine biologist
A student of Frank G. Lindsey
Visconti

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL POETRY

Hannah

Kind, Funny and
Swawesome
Daughter of Rebecca and
Kevin
Who loves math, reading
and Thai food
Who feels excited about
math
Who give jokes, math
answers, and kind words
Who fears tinfoil, bad
words, and a horrible math
score
Who'd like to see Hamilton
A student of F. G. L.
Quigley

Veronica

Bold, Kind, Bright
Daughter of Donna & Frank
Who loves iPad, Basketball, and
Drawing
Who feels Angry about Cheating
Who gives Clothing, Books, and
Toys
Who fears Scratching Chalk,
Tarantulas, and tests
Who'd like to see Jupiter
Who dreams of Everything
A student of F.G.L
Paolucci

Shane

Awesome, cool and handsome
Son of Toni and Mark
Who loves goldfish, TV and family
Who feels awesome about math tests
Who gives care, work and fun
Who fears spelling tests, bad scores
and the basement
Who'd like to see Niagara Falls
Who dreams of going to WestPoint
A student of F.G.L
Merchant

Cameron

Fun, cool, funny
Son of Mark and Twana
Who loves food, video games, and
friends and family
Who feels happy about turning ten
Who shares my Xbox with my friends
and my room for sleepovers
Who fears death and the creatures in
the water
Who would like to see DanTDM
Who dreams of being an actor
A student of FGL school
Haynes

Conor

Easygoing, smart, calm
Son of Megan and Joshua
Who loves animals, books and
playing outside.
Who feels confused about school
Who gives love, food and water
Who fears caves, bathrooms and
bad books
Who'd like to see Dude Perfect
Who dreams of being a hero for his
future child
A student at Frank G. Lindsey
elementary
Prokopiak

Raine

Smart, happy and kind
Daughter of David and Maira
Who loves family, animals and friends
Who feels happy about school
Who gives kindness, smiles and joy
Who fears loneliness, spiders and the dark
Who would like to see dolphins
Who dreams of unicorns on Rainbows
A student of Frank G Linsey
Parker

Castalia

Smart, Athletic, and Helpful
Daughter of Carrie and Dimitri Litos
Big Sister to Demetra Litos
Who loves Hockey, the New York Rangers, and Family
Who feels Excited about Sports
Who gives Advice, Kind Words, and Clothes to Charity
Who fears Wars, Alligators, and Crocodiles
Who would like to see Mats Zuccarello
Who dreams of becoming a Professional Hockey Player
A Student of Frank G Lindsey Elementary
Litos

Charlotte,

She is kind, smart, and athletic,
Daughter of Jennifer and Dave Lauth,
Who loves basketball, lacrosse and
animals,
Who is very confident,
Who shares funny moments, love and
happiness,
Who fears heights, snakes and bees,
Who'd like to see Alaska,
Who dreams of being a vet,
Lauth

My Gift to the World

By Marta Przybylowska

My gift to the world would be more education. Right now somewhere in the world, a child isn't getting an education. I would make sure every child had the opportunity to go to school and get an education. I would provide books, and let every child have a teacher available to them.

Education is helpful and lucky to have. Some kids aren't lucky and could use an education. They would be taught math, ELA, social studies, science, and reading. Teachers usually are there to teach you. Even your parents can teach you if they are educated themselves. Education leads to a future with career choices. Without an education a child is limited.

Education would change countries around the world if I could give this great gift. It would change these countries because everyone would have more opportunities. They would have a teacher, or a parent or even a sibling who is educated to teach them what they have learned. With my gift, I am giving every child an opportunity to a future of choices.

My Gift

By Julia Visconti

My gift to the world would be a book for everyone. Most kids don't learn to read until they are adults. Some kids never learn how to read. The key to success is learning how to read. Reading will definitely help children later in their life. It is one of my favorite things to do and I can't imagine going through life without books.

Reading is very important in every child's life. Tests involve reading, signs involve reading, careers involve reading!! If you can't read, you are unable to even read a cereal box!

Reading definitely affects the world. It affects us. We wouldn't get smarter. In school kids use textbooks. If they can't read how will they learn new things. Books can also take you anywhere in the world like a journey to the bottom of the sea or a trip to Mars. Knowing how to read is an accomplishment. It takes you anywhere in the world. You can go to the moon, London, the earth's core, the past the present or even the future. I feel proud knowing that I can read. This gift will make everyone around the world proud because they will be able to read too.

My Gift to the World

By: Raine Parker

My gift to the world is no more littering. Here are some reasons why my gift to the world is no more littering.

One reason my gift to the world is no more littering is because If there is no more littering the world would be better for animals If the world is cleaner it is safer for animals then animals will live a better life. Another reason is that animals in the sea sometimes get stuck in the trash people leave and they can get hurt or even killed.

Another reason is that if there is no more littering it would make the world cleaner. If the world was cleaner there would be less pollution. My last reason is If there is less litter then less people will get sick. If less people get sick the world will be a happier place. If people litter too much it might get into the water and then if you drink it, you will get sick.

Those are the reasons why my gift to the world is no more littering.

My Gift to the World
By Cameron Haynes

If I could give a gift to the world, it would be to stop animal cruelty. Animal cruelty needs to stop because people don't treat and feed animals correctly. For example, they beat pets, treat them poorly, they don't feed them, or they don't give them shelter and warmth. Sometimes they chain their pets up all day or just don't give them attention. Animals need to feel love too.

I would give this gift to the world because animals deserve better. They deserve to get food and water, a good, warm shelter, and should not be left outside to starve. They need to feel love and needed.

After I give my gift to the world, people and animals would treat each other with kindness and respect. They would get along with each other and live happy lives. Animals can't talk so we need to talk for them and help them to smile.

My gift to the world
By: Shane Merchant

If I could give the whole world one gift, I would give the gift of books. The gift of books is important to the world and to people everywhere.

I would give people books because it will give them an education. People need education because it helps with jobs. Some people take books for granted but they don't know that you limit yourself if you don't have an education. They must have an education because lots of jobs require you to be able to read. For example, to be a lawyer you need to read. To be a teacher, you need to read and so many other professions need you to be able to read too.

The world would change if I give them books because a lot of poor people will be able to make a living and will be able to get jobs. Another reason the world would change is that everyone would have an education and no one would look at them differently because they have a job just like you. My gift to the world would help people around the globe read and get a job.

My Gift to the World
By: Ethan Bromley

My gift to the world is democracy. A Democracy means a place governed "For the people and by the people." People would make the laws in their own country and not be told what to do. This would be critical for people that don't have a say in the making of laws. Citizens of certain countries will love this gift of freedom.

This would be an amazing gift because people in some places are forced to do things that they don't believe in. They would choose a different lifestyle if given the opportunity. They need democracy to pick what they want to do for careers and to believe what they want to believe (Like religion). My country has a democracy and some countries have a dictatorship or communist leader. Dictators and Communist leaders are people or governments who have complete power of an area in the world. People do not have a voice for laws in these types of government. The choice for a job, school, or religion will be a narrow possibility in these terrible places. Someone picks what they can do and what they can believe in. Sometimes these choices can be very dire. This is a perfect gift for people like this that need a voice for freedom.

The world will change with my gift because citizens of all countries will be more peaceful (even though there will be disagreements with decisions). They will live more fortunately with a government that enforces the citizens' laws. People will be very delighted to have a say in our laws and leader instead of a ruler. This will give people a more pleasant life with the things they need. My gift will be an amazing difference that will help this world.

Poetry Corner

Pink

By Veronica Paolucci

Pink tastes like cotton candy
Pink has the smell of flowers
Pink has the sight of bubbles
Pink has the sound of violins
Pink is touching a fluffy
cloud
Pink

Yellow

By Castalia Litos

The brightness of the sun
Shining upon your skin
Blinding and guiding the way
To future
To greatness
To lift
To flight
And to life



A Pink Rose

By: Marta Przybylowska

It looks like a pink twirl.
It smells like candy.
It sounds like leaves moving.
It tastes like raspberries.
It feels like prickles.
It reminds me of flowers.
It makes me want to touch it.
It makes me feel good and happy.
It is a beautiful small flower.

Tiger

By Conor Prokopiak

**Orange and Black stripes over a predator.
Meat dangling in its teeth.
Running after an elephant.
Running at a top speed of 30-40 miles an hour.
Located in Asia and Africa.
Its body is symmetrical.
This animal is a tiger!**

Snowflakes and Rain

By Julia Visconti

Snowflakes
Unique, pretty
Stinging, sparkling, blinding
Tiny, crystal, water, refreshing
Chilling, drizzling, pouring
Drops, wet
rain

Pink

By Marta Przyblowska

Pink is the color of a rose
Pink is the feeling of a gentle breeze on my
cheek
Pink is the sweet taste of strawberry ice
cream
Pink is the smell of a tulip
Pink is the sound of a leaf falling off a tree
Pink is drifting off to bed after a really long
day
Pink is me

Drip
By Raine Parker

Drip Drip
Drip Drip Drip
The sound you hear
As rain falls on your window.
Drip drip drip you hear again as
the cold airs blow a chill goes by.
There you spy a cat run through your
yard to get out of the rain and hide at
Your house from the fierce storm. you
Smell the scent of soggy grass
And you have a feeling that
the rains about to end the
sun peeks through the
clouds and you were
right it stopped
raining

Raindrop Poem
By Castalia Litos

A
drip
drop
a single
thing from
the bright and
beautiful sky, that in
a blink of an eye will have
fallen downwards but will go places to
nourish, to apply everything to a good Life
and to help feed, grow and give a chance to many
people, plants, animals, and any living organisms. It
will save oceans, rivers, lakes, ponds and a pretty waterfall
It will make the grass muddy, make things wet, and clouds.
we will miss the sun and though it will be out, we will not be
able to see it, then we will make fun of it. splash, splish, boom.
kids will do this till the rain stops, they will love the pitter pat
Pattern on the roof and windows. they will listen to the
thunder, counting it as they try to fall asleep giving
a warm, almost comforting feeling to the children
That is very recognizable to many people and
it shall never ever stop as long as earth
will go on and go down in history as
a amazing little thing that forms
a something as big as an ocean
With some help from pals to be
A strong, useful, and quick,
RAINDROP

Drip Drop
By Charlotte Lauth

Drip.
Goes the
Rain drops on
My window. The rain
Makes everything wet.
The rain makes big puddles
In the street and driveway. It
Makes the grass all muddy.
Sky all gray it even makes
Me very sad. I hope and
Hope the sun will come
back soon and light
Up my day



Blue
By Charlotte Lauth

Blue,
Blue is the color of the beautiful sky on a bright and sunny day.
Blue is the feeling of cold water against your skin.
Blue is the sour taste of fresh blueberries.
Blue is the smell of the cold ocean water.
Blue is the sound of dripping leaves after a rain shower.
Blue is drifting to sleep after a long day.
Blue is life!

A star
By: Veronica Paolucci

Yellow is the color of the stars
It looks like a bright angel
It smells like the sunset
It sounds like a chirping owl
It tastes like your dream
It feels like a soft pillow
It reminds me of my favorite day
It makes me want to look deeper
It makes me feel amazing
It is the most beautiful creation
you've ever seen!

Jumpy

Unique

Laughter

Interesting

Always weird

Blue
By Raine Parker

Blue
Blue is the color of gentle skies greeting you.
Blue is the felling of little waves touching your toes.
Blue is the sweet taste of blueberries.
Blue is the smell of the sea.
Blue is the sound of dolphins singing.
Blue is world peace.

The Main BERRIES!
By: Veronica Paolucci

Bright, Juicy and definitely delicious, I'm thinking berries!



Strawberries: Strawberries are bright red with little seeds covering this extremely juicy berry. They are best ripe in Spring, Summer and Fall, Winter is mostly when any berry or vegetable is growing. To plant strawberries there is no specific size garden you need, it all depends on how much strawberries you want to grow. They need full sun and will grow in any condition or type of soil. It's a lot easier to grow a strawberry root which has been already in the soil.

Blueberries: These little plump blueberries are sweet and Tart. They're delicious in pie, just thinking about it makes me hungry! Blueberries are bold blue and are about 1 cm in length. To be grown they need full sun and will grow in any condition or type of soil. When they are picked and ripe, they will just melt in your mouth.

Wizardopolis!
By Ethan Bromley

It was a cloudy, and gloomy day in 2222 BCE (AD). A boy named Zane was dozing on his apartment couch in New York City. His apartment was a three-roomed place that was gray on all sides. He spent all his time inside because he had no friends in this new apartment area.

You see, Zane just moved from his old home in Montrose NY a month ago. He did not have school yet so he did not know anyone. He was leading a depressed life at the moment.

It was 7:00 in the morning when Zane heard a few taps on his apartment door. Zane unfolded his eyes and walked lazily to the door. He twisted the doorknob and pulled.

The next thing he saw was a plump kid with a green shirt. "Hello?" Zane said curiously.

"I'm Brendan! Nice to make your acquaintance!" the stranger said with enthusiasm. "I just moved here from Mahopac and I wanted to meet someone."

"Okay..." Zane said cautiously with a raised eyebrow. "You can come in I guess; my mom wouldn't care."

"Thanks!" Brendan said and waddled on to Zane's couch. He plopped himself on the couch and Zane doing the same right afterwards. "Do you have video games?" Brendan asked.

"Yes." Zane said and walked over to his computer. He logged into his computer and clicked on an icon. "Come on over!" Zane said and Brendan came and sat on the extra seat. "This is a wizard game with spells!" Zane said excitedly with a grin.

"Okay, ready!" Brendan replied.

As soon as Zane started the game, there was a strange voice. It said, "I know you are there!"

"Who does?" Zane said with a non-scared voice.

"Me! The voice of the game!"

"Yeah, right!" Zane said sarcastically.

"You DARE be sarcastic to me!?" The voice said. "You will pay!"

"CRASH!" The sound came from the screen.

"Uh, the screen turned white...." Brendan said nervously.

"WHAT!?" Zane said as they both felt a weird pull on their bodies. "What's going on?" Zane said as he felt himself being pulled closer to the screen.

"Good luck boys," the voice said "See you soon."

"AHHHHHHHHHH!!!!" the two boys screamed as they were sucked through the screen into a strange, black space.

Zane blinked his eyes open. He was confused. He looked down at his body. He was wearing green and blue striped robes. "What the," Zane said as he saw an old man running to him.

"Are you okay?" the man said to him and the boy Brendan who Zane realized was next to him.

"We're okay but, where are we?" Zane said.

"Why you're in Wizardopolis, of course!" The man said. "Oh, you must have annoyed Gemma!"

"Whose Gemma?" Zane asked.

"She's my owl in the back room." "Oh, I forgot! I am Murnir, the teacher at this place."

"Teacher?" Brendan asked.

"Yes" Murnir said. "This is the school of lazirim, the magic school."

"Wait, this is my game?" Zane said excitedly.

"Yes, this is a half-game. Look up." Murnir said.

The boys looked up and saw a barrage of kids who play the game.

"Wow," Zane said. "Wait, they can't see us." Zane said. There was a snap and the people disappeared.

"They are in a different part of this game. This is the actual world of the spiral." There were people without labels and not questing. They were having fun. "The real spiral is much different." "There is actual school." Murnir said. "It is time to get you guys enrolled." Murnir said suddenly.

"I will walk you outside."

"Okay!" Zane said as they walked out the door. Outside, there were paved roads and tons of wizards and witches. Murnir walked them through the area and to a gateway to the school houses in Lazarim. "Welcome to the school houses." Murnir said happily.

"Wow!" Brendan said, astonished.

"Yes, it is pretty cool." "I am going to call every student here to meet you in half an hour. You can meet your teachers at that time."

"Let's go! Follow me!" Zane said and walked to a classroom with a tree symbol. Brendan followed Zane in and closed the door with a click.

"Huh?" Said a goat in the front of the room. "OH, hello!" "My name is Gotun. "I am the life magic teacher.

"WOW!" Brendan said. "A talking goat!" "I'm taking this school." Brendan said as he waddled over to learn a spell.

"Suit yourself!" Zane said and ran to the school he knew and loved.

Zane sped through the road to a purple and white school, it had thunderbolts all over. Zane turned the doorknob of the school and stepped in.

Zane walked across the hallway to a small dog in a black suit. "Hello, sir!"

"WHAT!?" "WHO'S THERE?" "I have a wand and am not afraid to use it!" The dog said, pointing his umbrella-like wand at Zane.

"Whoa, there, doggy! I am only here to join the tempest school." Zane said with nervous teeth.

"Oh, I thought you were an intruder." The dog grunted. "I'm Charles. Nice to meet ya." "I'll give you your first spell. Let's get to learning'."

Zane sat down and listened to his first lesson.

A couple minutes later, Zane waved his wand in a thunderbolt shape and out came a thunder-cat. It ran to Zane and said "I will guard you now!"

"WOW! It talks! Zane said excitedly. "Thank you, thank you!" Zane said and ran out the door with his thunder-cat.

Outside, there were curtains everywhere and Murnir was standing with everyone in the school.

"Here they come." Murnir said pleasantly. Zane and Brendan ran from both sides. "Welcome everybody!" "We are here to welcome our newest students, Zane and Brendan!"

"Hello-" Zane and Brendan stammered as a crash made everyone's feet tremble. A body emerged from a purple cloud near Murnir.

"Ahhhhhh!" it said. "Nice to be out!" "Hello! I am Lysandre and I am here to take over the spiral!" "I Will destroy you all, starting with Murnir!" He summoned a lightning bolt that hit Murnir square on and Murnir was still. Everyone screamed as they ran away to their houses.

"We need to follow him!" Zane said and took Brendan's hand. They ran to a giant statue door and went through a passage. They followed Lysandre out into a door and into a journey they would never forget.

.....Stay tuned to a local news magazine near you for the next installment of Wizardopolis!

Pink Nail Polish
By Hannah Quigley



“OMG! I don’t have any pinker nail polish!” screeched Victoria. “Mom! What did you do with my nail poli-” She suddenly stopped and stared at her party guests. “I’ll be right back. Hehehehehe.” She ran out of the room and then slammed the door behind her.

“She is sooo cool!” gushed Sylvia.

Sigh. I couldn’t believe I was here. My mom had RSVP’d without telling me. Again. Let me introduce myself. I am Ally. I moved away from Victoria three years ago, and now I was at her birthday. I sigh once more. The girls were still gushing over Victoria. When Victoria came back, the girls stopped.

“Ok, everybody. We’re going to be giving Ally a makeover!

Yay!” she said. And then all the girls ran towards me. And I sprinted out of the door. She ran into their basement and hid behind a big box. The girls came down and Victoria ran right to the box.

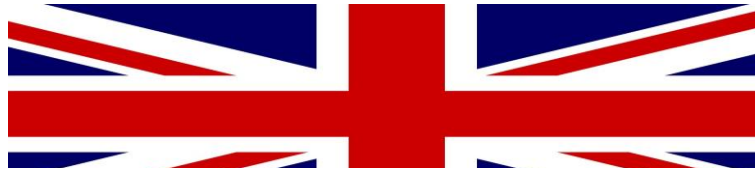
“Found her!” Victoria crowed happily. All the girls congratulated her and then they took Ally prisoner. They marched her upstairs and then fluffed her hair, and did her makeup. When they finished, even though Ally is very against makeup, she had to admit, she looked kind of good.

Then Sylvia said, “Guys! We should watch a horror movie!”

“Poop. I hate horror movies. I screamed my head off. It was called The Evil Dead. It as the scariest movie EVER. To me, at least. I screamed my head off. After that her mom made us go to bed.” I went to bed almost immediately, while the other girls giggled and gossiped. I woke up at 3 a.m. The girls were still up, and they were watching a horror movie. It was super scary. Then I went back to bed. The next morning when I woke up, I went to rub my eyes. But all I found was a hard crustiness. It was (drumroll please) pink nail polish. The girls had plastered my face with pink nail polish. Wonderful. I went to the bathroom and got cleaned up. Then we went to the kitchen and got a pancake. In it there was pink nail polish flakes. That was it. The last straw. I got up, packed up everything, and then walked out of the house. I got to her home at 7 a.m., and I never saw Victoria or Sylvia again. Whoop!

THE NEW GIRL

By Julia Visconti



"Settle down class, settle down." exclaimed Ms. Burberry. It was a cold January morning and the class had just hurried inside the classroom as the warning bell rung. Everyone was talking, gossiping and planning their weekends. Everyone except Sara. Sara sat there thinking about the night before.

"Sweetie it's going to be okay you will meet a lot of new kids at your new school." Sara's mom was trying to calm down her crying daughter.

"Bu..Bu..But mom I..I don't want to go to a new school!! First dad couldn't come with us to America then then...." stammered Sara.

"Oh mom, I'm so sorry I forgot that well um you know....." Sara replies quietly looking sideways at her mom.

"It's okay sweetie I know that you didn't mean it that way." Sara watches as her mom forces a smile on her face. "I'm okay."

Sara's trance is broken when her teacher calls out her name for the fourth time.

"Sara, Sara, Sara, SARA!!!!" Ms. Burberry exclaimed.

"Do you think that you can share some things about you and your old school. Is it true that you came all the way from the United Kingdom?" questioned Ms. Burberry.

"Yes it is true. Some things about myself are that I like to read, be outside and I love spending time with my mom." replied Sara in a quiet voice.

"Is that all?" Ms. Burberry questioned the quiet girl.

"Yes" replied the girl in almost a whisper.

"Can you tell us what your parents did when you were back in London?" Ms. Burberry was questioning the quiet girl wanting more out of her.

"Um, well my mom owns a cafe and my dad works in the military but sadly he couldn't come with us to America," sadly answered the girl in her thick British accent.

"Very nice, well who wants to be Sara's welcome buddy?" asked Ms. Burberry.

"I will!" shouted Tiffany the most popular girl in class. She was determined to pull Sara in her clique of girls.

Tiffany walked over and stuck out her hand toward Sara but after studying her outfit she quickly pulls it back in.

"Like, hi! I'm Tiffany but you can call me Tiff! All my friends do and you are like my friend, right!?" almost shouted Tiffany.

"Well you already know my name is, ummm I think that Ms. Burberry wants you to show me around the school." Sara replied.

As the girls walked down the halls Tiffany pointed to all the classrooms and told her all of the teacher's names but had a snarky remark about almost all of them.

"That is Mr. Mastel, O.M.G he is like, sooo annoying it's like he can never stop talking." remarked Tiffany.

"Sara? Is like that girl gone? Oh My God. She is like the worst. When I invited her to the mall she like said she couldn't go because she had to study can you believe it studying I don't study and I get umm well never mind." snapped Tiffany.

“Tiffany, that wasn’t nice she looks nice and you can’t blame her for wanting a good grade on a test.” quietly replied Sara

“Umm excuse you, you can’t talk to me that way no one talks to me that way got it! I only took this job because I get to miss first period but trust me I’d rather be with anyone but you right now!!” screamed Tiffany.

Tiffany had stormed off leaving Sara out in the hallway alone.

When Sara got home she drops her bag and flops down on her couch with her dog Daisy. She waited until her mom got home to tell her about her eventful day.

“You are so lucky Daisy. You don’t have to worry about mean girls.” Then Sara confessed everything into her dog.

When Sara’s mom came home it was already 5:00 pm and when she walked through the door Sara was sprawled on the floor with Daisy by her side.

“Hey sweetie how was your first day of school?” questioned her mom.

“Umm what’s the word? Oh yeah, horrible,” shouted Sara.

“Was it really that bad??” replied her mother.

For the rest of the night Sara was very quiet. Even when her mom made her favorite: spaghetti and meatballs. Sara didn’t even finish her dinner when she got up and went to her room and didn’t come out until the morning.

The next few weeks were all the same: go to class, avoid Tiffany, hang out with Catherine and Penny and do homework. Sara’s birthday was coming up she was so excited. It was her 11th birthday.

When her mom walked down stairs to the kitchen to make breakfast she, instead found her daughter dressed and breakfast made.

“Well you must be excited for your birthday!” said Sara’s mom as she poured herself a glass of orange juice.

“I am, I am!!” replied the excited girl.

Later at school Ms. Burberry and the rest of the class were singing “Happy Birthday” to Sara.

“Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, happy birthday to Sara happy birthday to you.” exclaimed the whole class except Tiffany who sang happy birthday to dorkface. Even though everyone heard it they ignored it because they were stuffing their faces with the cupcakes that Sara’s mom had made.

Later that night while driving to Sara’s favorite pizza place, Mrs. Smith glanced over to her daughter and then turned back to the road.

“Sara I have something to tell you.” stated Sara’s mom.

“What is it, what is it!!!” shouted Sara.

“I can’t tell you it’s a surprise!” replied her mom

When they came home Sara raced to the kitchen table so she could open her presents. She got a phone and some spending cash. After she thanked her mom she heard a loud knock coming from her front door.

“Hello, who is it?” asked Sara through the door.

“I think you know who it is.” boomed a loud voice.

It was Sara’s dad! He had come to see Sara for her birthday!

“Dad! You came! I can’t believe it! I missed you so much!” yelled Sara.

“I missed you to.” said Sara’s dad as he wrapped her in a giant hug and all was good again.

The Creation Gone Wrong

By Cameron Haynes

Beep...Beep...Beep The alarm goes off and I jump off my bed in a fright screaming "I'm late!" I run to the bathroom to brush my teeth and comb my hair. I am going as fast as I can. Then I go down to the kitchen to make breakfast. After my breakfast I grab my bag and run. "Just in time" said Max.

"Like I would miss it!" I respond. Max is my best friend. He is so funny in so many ways and he helps me when I'm in big trouble. Like the time I was in detention. He asked the teacher if he could show her something and right when she took her eyes off of me I ran out as quietly as possible.

At the bus stop we were talking about this thing that we were going to build during science but when we started talking about it a girl named Petra who had a crush on me but I don't like her showed up. She is mean and just rude but do you know who does like her Max. He keeps talking about her when he sees her. It's just a pain in the neck but he is my friend. The bus arrives just before Petra says anything to me. At school two figures creep behind me when I walked in" BOO" Danny and Olivia both scared me half to death.

"WHAT WAS THAT FOR!" Danny said"

"Happy Halloween!" Olivia said"

"It's not even October!" Then the bell rang and we all of us went to science.

In science Max, Olivia, and Danny and I all looked at each other and we all knew that we were going to work together. When Mr. Newberg said go, all four of us hovered over my desk and started spitting out ideas.

Danny said "let's make something life size."

Max said "let's do something with a snake."

Olivia said "let's make a robot."

Then I said "let's make a life size robot snake. After school all of us went to my house and we all asked our parents if we could sleep over and it was a definite yes. Then after six straight hours, it was magic somehow we were able to create our creation without my parents hearing. We turned it on but then the eyes turned red it turned around and swung its tail and hit me and Danny against the fence then Olivia saw a rope and she started pulling on the snake with the rope and Max hit the snake with a shovel. Danny and I both got up.

Danny looked at me and I looked back at him and we both nodded. Olivia said "I can't hold on any longer you know!" Danny ran up to me and lied down on the grass and I grabbed his legs and threw him onto the snake.

The snake opened its jaws "just like we planned." I said. The creature's jaws opened and Danny stretched out his legs and arms and stopped the jaws from closing then I started spinning around then I jumped up in the air and kicked it. It hurt really bad but it worked! I turned around and I saw two people recording what just happened.

Olivia said "did you guys see all of that?"

The two boys named Harry and John both said "yes."

Then a girl named Castalia, Olivia's best friend walked by and she saw the snake and her mouth dropped when she saw it and she said "what...what... WHAT HAPPENED!"

Olivia said "we had a problem."

Castalia said "I'm just going to go okay."

Then I turned around and said to Harry and John "you know what you should go tell everybody at school tomorrow"

John said "that's what we were going to do" It was the next morning and we walked in normally like nothing happened yesterday and right when we opened the doors everybody started clapping and cheering and all of us just stopped and we said what are you guys clapping?

One girl named Monica and a boy named Justin said "that snake you fought was that...."

Monica interrupted Justin saying "Do you have gummy bears?"

She said "Never mind about that, was that true about that giant worm or snake whatever it was.

I said "no" Monica figured I was lying to her.

She said "I know you're lying." One boy screamed out snake killer in a good way. That boy's name was Liam. He always starts something like that. After three hours all of us went home and all of us would remember that moment and that day for the rest of our lives. We all knew the truth.

Colossal Squid

By Castalia Litos and Cameron Haynes



Have you ever heard of the Colossal Squid? It is an amazing underwater creature that is fun to learn about and this article will teach you a ton!

First, let's talk about its offense. When going to catch prey, it will put its arms and tentacles above its head and shoot, like a bullet at the meal, and then grab it with its arms, and then scratch with its hooked tentacles.

Next is its body. The Colossal Squid is about 90 feet long and has a head span of 27 cm across. It weighs 490 kg while an average man weighs about 191 lbs.

The arms and tentacles are also very important in a Colossal Squid's life. They have 2 tentacles and 8 arms. Each arm is 0.85 to 1.15 meters and the tentacles are longer. They are about 2 meters.

Tentacles are used for choking and grabbing its prey, while arms are used to seize it. Both of them are pinkish-red like its whole body. The Colossal Squid has a plentiful diet. It includes Patagonian tooth fish, sperm whale, bottlenose whale, pilot whale, and elephant seal.

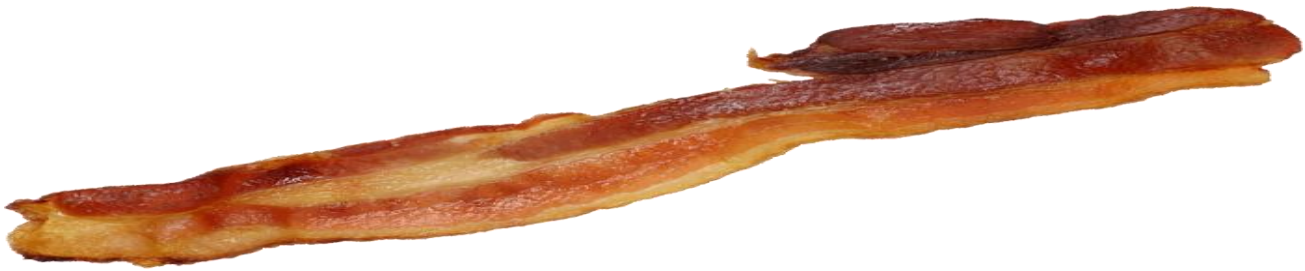
Finally, we would like to share some fun facts about the Colossal Squid. Did you know a Colossal Squid has three hearts and is color blind!

I hope you liked our article and learned a ton about Colossal Squid! I hope you enjoyed our story!



A human compared to a Colossal Squid

The Bacon Trance
By Hannah Quigley



Once upon a time, there was a princess. She was beautiful, with long flowing hair and bright green eyes and she wore a dress made out of bacon. Yes, you heard me right, Bacon. She was Princess Bacon, and she was in charge of the Breakfast Islands. She was always looking for the perfect prince to marry, and to help run the kingdom with her. One day a wicked old witch named Vegetarian heard of this Princess Bacon. She decided to come and trick the young princess. She dressed up, and became a very handsome, young prince. She rode to the castle on an elegant horse and said to the guards that she wanted to marry the young princess. When she went to see Princess Bacon in her throne room, she gave the Princess a piece of crispy bacon, and asked her for her hand of marriage. The princess said she would think about it. When the princess ate the bacon later, she fell into a deep sleep, and was to only be awoken when her true love walked into the room. Prince Eggs heard of this beautiful sleeping princess, and went to see her immediately. When he got there, the kingdom was in chaos. People were running around, and one person was asking about the floral arrangements for her funeral. Prince Eggs was about to go home when he heard this, but he heard another person scream that she wasn't dead yet. When Prince Eggs heard this, he rode up to the castle bravely, and when he walked into the room with the princess inside, he became very scrambled at the beauty of the Princess. She woke very suddenly. She saw who walked in, and knew that he was her true love. The next week they were married, and over time they had a daughter, Princess Pancakes, and a son, Prince Waffles and lived happily ever after.

Stray
By Julia Visconti

Crash! Crash! Crash! Then a whimpering noise. What could that be? I was walking down a city street minding my own business when something touched my leg. I looked back and there was nothing there. Strange. I kept walking and then it happened again but I looked back and there was nothing there. Then I heard it: the whimpering. It sounded like a dog but it couldn't be, who would leave a dog in the middle of the city without food or water? I sure wouldn't! But when I felt it again I started walking back to where I first felt it. My mom called out my name but I didn't listen. I needed to see what had touched my leg. "Stella! Get back here! Come back!" but I didn't hear anything. I had to see what touched me because if it was a dog, I needed to help it, and fast. I heard it again the whimpering. It grew louder and louder and then I could hear it clearly. That's when I realized that it was a dog. She was a very small golden retriever and was very, very, skinny, almost like she hadn't eaten in days. She walked up to me and sniffed my sneaker.

"Hi girl, it's okay. I won't hurt you." I tried to say it in my calmest voice but she ran further away from me. Finally, she walked a little closer then more and more until she was back to sniffing my sneaker. I bent down and saw that she had no collar or anything that said who she belonged to. I felt really bad for her but luckily I had a piece of food in my pocket, well it was actually leftovers from the restaurant that we went to. It turns out that this dog really likes and I mean really likes medium done steak. I held it out in front her and then I walked back. She followed me and I kept walking until I bumped into my mom who scolded me for running away. However, when she saw the dog following me she understood. I have always loved animals even from when I was little!

One time I saved a baby bird's life. The bird fell out of its nest and I found it and cared for it until the bird could take care of itself. So ever since, I have always felt something special towards all animals. But no matter how hard we tried we couldn't find any signs that said: MISSING DOG, with a picture that matched this dog. "Mom! We need to keep this dog. We don't know who she belongs to and we can't leave her on the streets or she will starve. I just can't let that happen!!" I picked up the dog and held her in my arms.

"Sure sweetie but first let's take her to a vet to get her checked out and everything." replied her mother leading the dog to the place where they parked. The drive to the vet was one hour long and the dog and I slept the whole way. The next thing I knew we were pulling into a parking lot of a doctor's office with a sign that said: Em's Vet Care Facility. We walked in and saw a few pet owners sitting in the waiting room. I sat down with the dog while my mom made an appointment. In about ten minutes we were called up and went into room number four. The room was colored neon green and almost blinded me because it was so bright.

The doctor came in with a shiny nametag that read Doctor Emily. "All right, what seems to be the problem," The doctor then pointed at the puppy lying at my feet, "with this little puppy here?" I started telling her while she was examining the dog.

"We found her in the streets of New York City and we couldn't find the owner. I couldn't let her starve out there so we decided to keep her. We need you to check her out and give her shots and clean her up so we can take her home." After saying all that I was out of breath.

"Well she seems okay but she is a little shaken up I am going to get her vaccinated and give her a bath," she gestured to a back room "then you can give this little girl a name and pick out a tag." We all stood up and Doctor Emily picked up the puppy and brought her into a different room and shut the door. I felt bad that she had to get shots but who knows what bit her or what she ate.

"Have you picked out a name for this puppy yet?" my mom asked.

"Yes I have I am going to name her Lizzie." I answered back.

"That is such a cute Name, Lizzie, I love it! Oh speaking of little puppies here she comes!" my mom stated. About 15 more minutes passed and then the doctor came out holding Lizzie. She was whimpering

and as soon as the doctor put her on the ground she ran over to me and looked into my eyes in a sad but happy way.

“She was such a good girl but she had to get a lot of shots. Here is a treat,” the doctor held out the treat and Lizzie slowly went up and took the treat from the doctor “let’s go in the back and pick a tag and a name.” We followed the doctor into the backroom where I picked out a tag. I picked out an aqua colored tag with black writing on it that said Lizzie’s name and our address on the back. It was shaped like a bone. I went outside with Lizzie and tossed a ball around that the doctor gave us, while my mom was paying for the vet trip.

“Okay Stell let’s go.” said my mom as she put her credit card back into her wallet.

“Come on Lizzie,” I said as I gestured to the car with the door wide opened “Let’s go home.”

Christmas Catastrophe

By Hannah Quigley



Abby woke up excited. It was Christmas Eve day! Tomorrow was the day that she looked forward all year! Lots of presents, and she usually got one huge gift, like a laptop or tickets to her favorite show on Broadway. She smiled as she got dressed. She was going to see her cousins today, and she was hosting her entire family tomorrow.

Her mom came in and said, “Sweetheart, I know that today is Christmas Eve, but you really need to stop daydreaming! Your kitten had an accident right under the tree, and spoiled some of the gifts! Go clean it up!” Her mom gently pushed her out of the room. When she walked into the living room, she saw that the entire room had been destroyed.

The tree was ripped apart, couches were ripped open, books were everywhere, and all the presents were ripped open. “Mom! The cat had a little bit more than an accident!” She called to her mother, who came rushing in and nearly fainted.

“The couch!” The books! What! Abby! Did you do this!” she said faintly.

“Mom, would I do something like this? It’s the day before Christmas! Santa’s watching!” Her dad came in and saw the mess that the cat had made.

“Whoa! Did a hurricane hit this room?” he joked, then became serious. “Really. We’re going to have to buy a new tree, new couches, brand new books, nearly everything! Abby, come with me, we’re going to Target, and to Alex’s to get a new tree and new Christmas ornaments.”

We hopped into the car, and drove to Alex’s. We walked in and explained that our kitten had ruined our Christmas tree. The employee had laughed and said they would give them a free tree. Abby and her dad placed the tree on the roof and went to Target. When they got to Target, they found out that they had no ornaments, so they decided to have a tree that only had lights. When they got outside, they found out that their tree had been stolen. So they drove back to Alex’s, and got another tree, this time no free tree. Then they went to Home Goods and bought three couches. They got back and told Mom of what had happened.

She groaned and said, “How much money did you spend today?” When Dad told her the number, she nearly fainted once more. When Dad was bringing in one new couch, he dropped it, and the cover ripped. “You know what? We only need two couches this year.” He grumbled. When we finally put up the tree, and decorated the tree. The lights were all tangled, so Mom spent half her day untangling them. By the next day the living room looked amazing! You never would’ve guessed that yesterday it was in pieces.

The Cookie War By Marta Przybylowska

"Welcome to 'The Cookie War!' I'm your host, Johnny Smith. Let's go over to one of America's best bakers, Baylee Collins! So, Baylee, what do you think you're going to make for us today?" Johnny Smith asked.

"Well," I said. "I think I'm going to make a cookie/brownie called 'Brownie Crinkles.'"

"What does it look like?" Johnny asked.

"Well it's shaped like a cookie, but is a brownie on the inside. It is covered in confectioners' sugar. My mom used to always make them when I was little. Now I can make them for her."

"If you make it into the finals, what will you make?"

"I will probably make a cookie called 'Lemon-Lime Cookies' if there will be lemons and limes on the tray. These are one of my favorite cookies that I know how to make."

"Well thank you for your time, Baylee Collins. I would love to see you in the finals next week! Good luck!"

Then he went to a boy named Jacob. He was very short for his age. I am 4 years older than him. I wonder if he is a good cook, I thought.

"Welcome, young cooks. I'm Philip Turner the judge of your dessert. There are 8 of you amazing cooks. Only half of you will advance to the finals next week. If you do, there will be ten ingredients on a tray. You are going to have to choose at least one of the ingredients on the tray. I will not tell you what is on the tray." said cook Philip Turner.

"You have 90 minutes to complete a batch of cookies. You will go to the shop and get your ingredients. Is everyone ready?"

"Yes!!" everyone exclaimed.

"On your mark, get set, go!!"

I ran to the store to get all the ingredients. Then I spread my ingredients. I was the first one to start baking. After I mixed all the ingredients, I put the brownies in the oven. It has only been 20 minutes. The judge came over to me. "Are you done, Baylee?" the judge asked.

"No. After my cookies cool off, I'll decorate them with smarties and candies." The timer went off. I went to take out my brownies.

"How is your baking going?" said Jacob.

"Great," I said. "I hope I get into the finales."

Then the judge went to the stage. "Fifteen minutes."

I decorated fast. "I'm done!" The judge came over to me. He put my cookie in his mouth.

"Mmm, very good. I'll tell you in five minutes. Five minutes, cooks!"

The timer went off. "Hands in the air! Form a line with your cookies," the judge said.

We formed a line. Jacob was first. "This is good." He tried all of the cookies. "I have decided. Sarah McNeil..."



What would we do if we did not need to eat food?

By Shane Merchant

What would we do if we did not need to eat? For me life would be so boring right. Here are some reasons why life would be boring without eating. We wouldn't be able to have lunch during school because we wouldn't need to eat. We wouldn't be able to spend time with your family at dinner time and because what would your mouth do.

At school you would have less time to relax from the work inside school and they would just have 20 minutes of recess.

At home, during every dinner time, I spend it with my family and we talk but when you don't have to eat what do you do to play a game or watch TV by yourself.

If I did not eat what would your mouth do other than talk and that would be boring. Just talking really, I would rather eat than just talk

Big money

By Shane Merchant

If I had a hundred dollars and I could not keep it, I would give it to charity instead of a person. I would give it to an important charity. I would rather give it to a charity because charities need more money than we do. Another reason I would give it to a charity instead of another person is because I have an Xbox, TV's, clothes and lots and lots of food and water and charity doesn't have any of those things. They take the money and they assist other people to get what they need. Lastly I would rather give it to charity instead of another person because it feels good to give money to charity and help people that don't have what you have.

Homework madness

By Shane Merchant

I was walking to the bus stop. I get there and the bus had just arrived. I got on the bus and while I was walking to the back everyone looked sad and mad. I got to the back and my friend who is always happy was mad. I asked him what was wrong and he showed me a piece of paper that said Homework fun. I read the whole piece of paper and it said that if you give kids a lot of homework you will be a genius in a few days. The whole bus was looking at that paper and I was shocked. The bell rang in school and I went to my class hoping my teacher didn't read that paper. The day passed and our teacher gave us a pile of homework. The biggest pile that I have ever seen. The most homework in my life. I asked the teacher why we have this much and she said "because of homework fun." I didn't want to argue because I had to get home and finish this homework. The next day when I arrived at school I was so tired that when I got to class I almost didn't hear there was an assembly today. I got to the assembly and I was surprised to see that there was a sign that said no more homework fun. At the end of the assembly there was no more homework fun or as they called it homework madness. That is no way to become a genius!

Without Cell Phones?

By Veronica Paolucci

Have you ever wondered how your parents, grandparents and family survived before phones came out? Our generation today uses phones 24/7, instead of actually talking face-to-face with a person they either text, chat, tweet or post. Well here's a story about what it would be like without cell phones!

In 1964 on a hot summer day, Aurora a 15-year-old girl living in NY experienced a time when she wondered "how would this be different with something to communicate with"? One-day Aurora came home from school with her brother Philip and his friend Noah. When they entered Aurora and Phillip's house Aurora asked Noah, "Hey Noah! can you open that window over there it's getting really hot?"

"Yes" Noah exclaimed. A couple hours later Noah had to go home,

"Bye Noah"! Aurora and Philip said! Noah walked out with a glimpse of the window and a big memory of it being opened.

2 Days Later

One day when Aurora and Philip were at the mall, Noah made a stop at their house. First Noah rang the doorbell just to make sure that Aurora and Philip weren't there. RRRRRR IIII NNNN GGGG! Nobody answered the door so Noah entered the house through the back window.

30 Minutes Later

Aurora arrived back at her house, but Philip stayed at the mall. She took out her keys and opened the front door. Suddenly she heard a noise. She thought "It couldn't be my parents because they are at work"? Then Aurora had a flashback, she saw a window and Noah together. "Oh My Gosh", it has to be Noah! But wait it can't be, well It could, but how could he betray Philip and me? Aurora quietly, RACED out of the house to go to the Police Station just a block away.

5 Minutes Later

Aurora rushed to the Police station, opened the door and screamed, "SOMEBODYS ROBBING MY HOUSE"! Then 5 different police officers ran up to her and starting asking Aurora tons of questions. Aurora screamed "ONE AT A TIME, please".

The police officers first asked Aurora, where do you live, do you know who it is, and how many people are robbing your house?

She answered, "Summer Lane, yes and 1. Then they got in a police car and drove to the house.

5 Minutes Later

The police and Aurora arrived back at her house and they separated amongst the house. "Aurora I want you to go in the house so that he hears you, then say who's in here". "Then if he doesn't come down say the signal "ALIVE", said the head police officer Ray.

Aurora steps into the house and screamed "Come out, I know you're in here". Then Aurora hears footsteps coming down the stairs. "THUMP, THUMP, THUMP". Noah comes down and stares at Aurora for one quick second. Then he ran through the living room and jumped out the window.

Aurora screamed "ALIVE"!!! Police officers ran to the window but wait, somebody already caught Noah! Who could it be, I wonder? "OMG"! "Thank you so much, that was perfect timing"!

Now you might be wondering who could this be, a brave hero, just among thee? Now think to yourself who could this be, tell me what you think and you will see!

The Lonely Tree

By Hannah Quigley



Once there was an old, sweet and kind man walking down a pathway in a park. He was carrying a bag of acorns to take to the garden store down the road. There was a small hole in the bag and a very small acorn dropped through. Over the years the tree grew, and he was very happy with the place where he was. He loved it when the squirrels inside him ran around and tickled him. He then laughed and some leaves fell off him. He was happy. But as the years passed, the tree grew lonely. He longed for someone to laugh with him, and talk with him. One day a young lady was walking with her mom through the park. She noticed the huge tree and asked her mom if she could read under it. When her mom said yes, she sat down and started to read. She looked up at the tree and said, "You look lonely." Then she stood up and walked away. The next day she returned with a shovel and an acorn. She dug a hole next to the tree, and dropped the acorn in. Then she looked up and smiled at the tree. Over the years the new tree grew, and the old tree was very happy. They laughed together and talked together. They were the happiest trees alive.

A Dream or a Nightmare? By Shane Merchant

One day I went to sleep in my home and when I woke up I wasn't in my house I was on top of a robot. A real robot! I looked down and I was 50 feet in the air. I jumped up and there was a hole in the robot. I jumped into the hole and there was so much technology. There was a tiny little hole in the front. I peered through it and I saw my home destroyed. I heard a noise behind me and it was getting hot really... really hot. I turned around and saw a red beam about to fire. I jumped out of the way and the beam just missed me. There was a loud thump and I climbed out of the robot and saw that another robot destroyed by this robot's beam. There was a tree and that was my chance to get away. I jumped off the robot and just barely grabbed the tree and climbed down.

I ran into the forest and found a nice tree to sit next to. I was wondering how I got on top of that robot and how the robots got there and where my family was. I shook my head and started looking for shelter. I found a broken down robot and climbed inside it. I was safe in there for now. It was night time so I slept in the robot. It was not to comfy but I found a way to fall asleep.

I woke up I was in my bed I saw my room and I saw my house. I sat on my couch and turned the TV on. I started watching the news when I realized one thing was missing... my family. I look through the entire house but I couldn't find my family. I looked at the news again and I saw the robots that I saw in my dream or at least I thought it was a dream. I rushed back to my bed and fell asleep and I woke up and I was in the robot as I was before.

I got up and thought that maybe every time I fall asleep I go somewhere else. But that couldn't be, I saw my house destroyed. I didn't get it but right now I had to survive. I saw one of the old stores I used to walk to, to get breakfast. It wasn't destroyed so I went in and there was food. I was thinking it was stealing but the robots are taking over as far as I know so I took it anyway. I went back to the robot and on my way there I saw two robots having a war. It took me a while, but I did it. It was already night time so I went back to sleep. The day went really fast and I fell asleep thinking how can I get home.

I woke up and I was on my couch watching the news and my family was eating breakfast. I was so happy to finally be home. I hugged my parents and they said that my breakfast was on the table. I started eating and realized that it was all a dream.



How Average Penguins Turned into the Evilest Penguins Ever

By Hannah Quigley

Dr. Vilemai was walking down the street. He was strutting, to be exact. Dr. Vilemai had just finished plotting the greatest crime of the century. He was going to manipulate penguins using the ControlPenguins6000, and then he was going to make them crawl into a jewelry store and have them steal a chair. Yes, a chair. It was a chair needed for him to sit on. Not a park bench, or a bus seat, but a chair that came from a jewelry store. It was going to be magnificent. He would have the chair he had always dreamed of. When he walked past a school, three kids walked out. "I can't wait for the London Zoo trip!" Emma exclaims. "It's going to be so cool!"

Noah huffs "It won't be fun! We all have been to the zoo a million times!"

"It won't be that bad. We are seeing a new show, and we will be the first class in a public school to see it!" Liam exclaims.

"Cheer up, Noah!" Emma says. "It will be better than the *Romeo and Juliet* play we saw awhile back."

"Bye, guys. Here's my house. See you in the morning." Noah stomps up to the front door, and then walks inside.

The next morning the three friends were standing outside the school with the other 76 kids in their grade. All the teachers were frantic and the bus drivers were grumpy. When they finally got to the zoo, Emma, Liam and Noah all ran right to the penguins. But they were all staring at the crowds, almost mesmerized. One of the penguins opened its mouth and out came, "Hello all! I would like to politely ask you to move, because there is about to be a big missile, and you don't want to die!" There was a screeching, and out of the penguin's mouth came a big missile. It rammed into the barrier, and Emma and Noah were thrown into the penguin's sanctuary. They all jumped into a hole in the ground.

"Noah! I'm following them!" Emma jumped into the hole, and went shooting down it. She came shooting out into the jewelers, and then she tackled one of the penguins, and as she looked up, Noah came flying. He tackled all of the penguins, and then Emma and Noah wrapped them up in rope.

Dr. Vilemai ran in. "What the-" he said. But he didn't have a chance to finish because at that moment police came in. They arrested Dr. Vilemai and awarded Emma and Noah with statues of them in the park.

"You know what?" Noah said. "I don't think that was the worst field trip ever anymore."

THE CANDY CANE THIEF

By Marta Przybylowska



"Settle, down class," Mr. Lennon said. "Today is the day you've all been waiting for, Secret Santa!" The class cheered. "I will go by rows. If you pick out your own name, just tell me." If you haven't realized, Mr. Lennon is the nicest teacher ever. I have 27 students in my homeroom class. The best part about my homeroom class is that all my friends are in it, June, April, Winter, Lily, Jessi, and Tricky.

I'm sorry if I didn't introduce myself. I'm Taylor.

Mr. Lennon came over to my desk. I reached my hand in the bowl. I picked one, then opened it so no one would see it. OMG! I thought. I got April! I hope that my friends are happy with who they got.

At lunch, I was thinking what to get April. That gave me an idea!

"Guys, wouldn't it be fun if we just did a Secret Santa, just the seven of us?" I asked my friends.

"I definitely think it would be fun. We can pick out names tomorrow," I said.

"Yeah, that would be fun," Winter said.

"Let's pick out names at the end of the day," Lily said.

The bell rang. All of us went in different directions. April and Jessi were also headed where I was. I was headed to Mrs. Napolitano's Italian class. She was one of my favorite teachers and I never want to upset her.

I heard a buzz. Probably my phone. I looked at my message. It said:

Hi, Taylor. Do you know what I can get for my Secret Santa? It's a Girl. Answer me as fast as you can. See you in class.

From,
April

She's probably already there. I looked at the time. 1 minute until class starts! I walked as fast as I could to Mrs. Napolitano's room.

At the end of the day I went back to homeroom. Mr. Lennon said, "Remember, Secret Santa gifts are supposed to be given by next Friday!" Tomorrow is the day I will get April her gift. "And tomorrow you can buy candy canes for friends!" he added.

The next day, I went to homeroom still thinking, what should I get for April? Then I thought, April loves my homemade Christmas cookies!

The fifth bell rang. Time for lunch! I almost ran downstairs to the lunch room taking out my



bagged lunch. I had a sandwich, two cookies and water.

When I entered, I saw the 8th graders were selling candy canes. If you bought one, you were to write a friend name and put it into their homeroom bag. The day before Christmas break, they would sort them by name and hand them out.

I would buy a candy cane for each of my friends. I would get my Secret Santa an extra one not signing my name.

I went to the candy cane stand. There was a tall boy standing at the stand. "Hello, I would like to buy 6 candy canes."

He handed me 6 candy canes. "Write their name and homeroom class on the tag," he said. "I'm Liam Morley."

Once I finished writing the names, I went outside to my friends. "What took you so long?" asked Tricky.

"I was, just um, just seeing how much the candy canes cost." and it was true. I was just going to see how much they cost and ended up having three dollars in my pocket. So I bought six. "Don't worry, you'll get one from me," I added.

At the end of math class, Ms. Rossi told the class, "After Christmas break is the 6th grade math test. Start studying!" Then I rushed to the candy cane stand to buy a candy cane for my Secret Santa with my friends.

"Hi, can I buy a candy cane and take it with me?" I asked Liam, who was the only one there.

"Sure," he said giving me a weird smile. I handed him two quarters. He handed me a candy cane. "Why exactly do you want to take this candy cane with you?" Liam asked.

"Don't tell anyone. It's for Secret Santa."

"I won't," he promised.

Then I skipped to the main lobby, where Jessi and Lily were waiting. "Taylor, can you text our friends who aren't here, and ask them where they are?" Lily asked.

"Sure," I said. I took out my phone.

June, April, Winter, and Tricky:

Where are you? Answer me as fast as possible.

April and Winter answered really fast. They both said the same thing:

In the bathroom. Be there in 3 minutes. :):):):)

I just want to see who I will get. I put my backpack down. Then my phone buzzed. I checked my text. It was from Tricky. She said "In the library. Coming down. I can't wait to start the Secret Santa!" :):)

After I read Tricky's text, April, Winter, and Tricky came. "We just need to wait for June," Winter said.

Then, June appeared. "Yay! We can start now! Who wrote the names?" Jessi asked.

"I did," said June. "That's what took me so long."

June picked a name out of the plastic bowl first. Then April picked. After April, I did. I got Winter. Winter was an easy person to shop for. I put the slip where I put the candy cane. Oh no! The candy cane isn't there! I was so worried that I didn't know what order my friends were picking in. I was determined to find out who stole this candy cane. I know exactly where to start.

First, I made flyers, so the thief would know that I'm looking for him. The flyer was beautiful.



There is a Candy Cane Thief on the Loose!
Beware!! He might steal your candy canes!

By Taylor Bailey

"Did you make that flyer?" asked a 7th grade girl.

"Yes. That candy cane was supposed to be for my friend. I had it in my backpack. My friends and I were picking out Secret Santa. I was going to put it where the candy cane was. When I opened my pocket, it wasn't there!" I told her.

"Go ask the boy at the candy cane stand," she said.

"That was where I was about to go," I told her. "I better get going. Thanks!"

I didn't have enough time to ask Liam before homeroom, so I'll just have to do it at lunch.

"Good morning, Mr. Lennon. Did you hear about the 'Candy Cane Thief'?"

"I sure did," he said, "and who do you think stole it?"

"I think Liam Morley stole my candy cane, Mr. Lennon."

"Well, Taylor, you are one of my favorite students, and I know you will figure out who stole this candy cane," he said. The bell rang. "Ok students! Listen up. Taylor-"

"What happened with Taylor?" Lily asked.

"Well, Taylor had a candy cane and someone stole it. Taylor would you like to tell the class what happened?"

"Sure. So, my friends and I were picking out names for Secret Santa. I had a candy cane in my backpack. I was going to put it where the candy cane was, and I realized that it wasn't there!"

"Who do you think stole it?" asked Jessi.

"The boy at the candy cane stand, Liam Morley," I said. "I'm going to ask him if he knows anything about it."

The bell rang. Everyone stood up and ran out of the classroom. "Taylor?" asked April.

"Yes?" I asked.

"What do you think I should get a smart, intelligent girl for Secret Santa?"

"It depends what she likes. If she likes math, get her a math book."

"Thanks, Taylor."

I headed down the hall to math class, by myself. I was still thinking about that candy cane. What happens if it isn't Liam? Then I'm in trouble. That candy cane was supposed to be for Winter. At lunch, I went to the stand. Like always, Liam was there. "Hi. Did you hear of the candy cane thief?"



"I sure did. I wonder who is the thief," he said smiling.

"You're the thief!" I yelled. "Liam Morley is a thief!" All the students in the lunch room were staring at Liam.

That day, Liam went to the principal and returned my candy cane.

I figured out what to get April. I got her a phone case because the other day she complained about her phone case. I also made her cookies.

I got Winter a new binder and also made her a batch of cookies and I gave all of my friends a candy cane.

The Diner Disaster By Hannah Quigley



"Ok, everyone! We need to get ready! A food critic is coming today! We need to have the best food ready when he gets here!" I yell to the diner crew. We are BB's Diner, and everybody loves us. Except the news. They are always saying that we don't have the right "ways" of doing things, and that we aren't a "classic" diner. Completely wrong. We look like one, act like one and our food reflects it.

"He's here!" one of my waiters says. I rush out to him. The critic has a curly mustache and is very tall and skinny.

"Hello, sir. What would you like to drink today with your meal?" I ask, my hands shaking. "

Hmmm..... I would like the mango and strawberry smoothie and a coffee." he replied, looking over the menu. I ran back to the kitchen, but just before I got into the kitchen, I fell. On my back. Hard.

"Youch!" I cry. One of the waiters tries to help me back up, but he falls, too. But this waiter was holding a bowl of soup. The steaming soup falls on my head, and I yelp in pain. The food critic hides a small smile. I get up and walk into the kitchen, and then yell at my cooks and waiters about leaving banana peels out on the floor. The chefs carefully assemble the smoothie and make our best coffee. I *slowly* walk out to him, as not to trip once more. As I set the smoothie down on the table, my hand slips and I start to hobble around the table so I can balance the smoothie. I finally set the smoothie down, and the critic smiles at me. When he smiles, his mustache makes a frown.

"I would like your triple cheeseburger and the french-fries. I would also enjoy your bacon and chocolate milkshake, if you please." I quickly write down the order and then go back into the kitchen, and my chefs start working immediately. When I bring the food out, he looks at it and says,

"This is chicken fingers and onion rings, and a strawberry milkshake. This is not my order.

"I smack my forehead. "Of course". Never had a mix-up in this diner's life and when the food critic comes, it happens. "I'm so sorry, sir. We will give you a refund." I rush into the kitchen and come back with the correct food. "This is yours, sir. I'm positive of it.

He nods his head and says, "Thank you." When he finishes I come back out and quickly clean the table with a towel and a bucket of water. But when I get to the table, I slip and the water gets all over him. I quickly give the critic a towel and apologize.

"I'm so sorry. I think I have a growing spree, because I'm tripping over everything today!" I ramble on, and he starts to look bored.

"I would enjoy the ice cream sundae for dessert." he says.

"I'll make it myself, sir." I reply and then rush to the kitchen. "Ice cream, hot fudge, chocolate chips, cherry, bowl, spoon." I mumble to myself. When I come out, I hand the ice cream to him. "Wait a second. That's not him!" I think. Then I grab the sundae and race back to the kitchen. Oh, poop. That was him! I go back and say, "I'm sorry sir, I thought you were someone else."

He smiles and says, "Don't worry."

When he pays I blurt out, "I hope you give us a good review in the newspaper."

He stares at me. "What are you talking about, son? I'm not a food critic. I work for a cable company. I'm not lying." And then he walks out.

Sigh. "All that hard work for nothing."

The Last M&M
By Marta Przybylowska



I'm a girl who loves M&Ms. When I heard about this news, I went bonkers.

"What! Sarah, there can't be just one M&M in Miami. There just can't," I said.

"Cate, I know you think I'm crazy, but I saw it in the news. The company said they don't make a lot of money for making M&Ms in Miami. They said the person who gets the last M&M will have to prove that they have it to someone and then get a jumbo pack of M&Ms. This M&M could be anywhere. It could be in the school, in someone's locker."

"I get it." The bell rang. "Let's go to math."

"To multiply fractions, you have to..." Mrs. Fernandez said. I couldn't concentrate. "For homework you have to do what we just did. Multiplying fractions. I want every one of you to do your homework. Bye!" I went to my locker to get ready for science and something fell out. I was small and green. I think that's that last M&M! I thought. I picked it up and closed my eyes. Please let it be the last M&M. When I opened my eyes, I saw a piece of paper. I opened it up. It read:

Dear Cate McNeil,

Meet me after school in the cafeteria. I have to give you something.

Secret Admirer



I already knew that it was a boy. But who? It couldn't be Adrian. All the girls like him. He is interested in Mia Caldwell. He says his dad is the mayor. It can't be Adam. He is interested in Maya Fisher. Who could it be? I went to science class. "Good morning, Mr. Hartley," I said politely.

"Good morning to you," he said. Mr. Hartley is my favorite teacher and he teaches my favorite class. When Mia Caldwell came in, her face was red, as if she was crying.

"Mia, are you ok?" I asked.

"No! Adrian broke up with me! All he did was say, 'Hey, Mia, I'm breaking up with you.' He didn't say why." She started crying.

At the end of class, I went to Adrian's locker. He was surprised to see me there.

"What are you doing here?" he asked me.

"I'm here to talk about Mia. Mia is a great girl and-"

"I can explain. Yesterday, I saw Mia hanging out with Matthew. So I decided to find a new girl."

"Ok. I have to go to lunch. By the way, I already have a secret admirer." after lunch I went to the rest of my classes. When buses were departing, I went to the cafeteria the only person I saw was Adrian. The boy who broke up with Mia.

"You're here. I asked you to come because I found the last M&M. I want you to have it, well because, umm, I like you, Cate. You're a great girl. You get perfect grades," he said.

"Wait, you like me?" I blushed. Not until now, I realized that I liked him. "Thanks for the M&M."

After a couple of days, I talked to him. I never told him that I liked him. One day I'll tell him, I thought, one day. I also managed to prove that I have the last M&M. I got a jumbo pack of M&Ms and gave some to Adrian as a thank you.

The Talent Show
By Hannah Quigley

Nancy must have been the most nervous person waiting backstage. The annual school talent show was about to begin, and Nancy was worried she would forget her tap number. She had rehearsed with her best friend, Katie, all month. Over and over they had gone over it, until it was nearly perfect. As Mom said, "Nothing is perfect." Nancy took those words seriously.

She had been tapping since she was 6, and thought she was good. When Nancy heard the announcer say, "And now we have the one and only, Nancy Cather with her amazing tap dancing moves!" he finished with a flourish, and then stepped aside for Nancy to come out. Nancy heard Katie whisper in her ear, "You can do it! Rock that stage, girl!" She stepped out onto the stage, and was greeted by thunderous applause. Nancy took her spot in the center of the stage and waited for the music to begin. When the music began, Nancy flapped to the front of the stage.

Just then she realized that the microphones didn't work. You see, the janitors had installed speakers so the audience could hear Nancy's taps. They just broke. Arugh! thought Nancy. "I'll just have to tap really loud". She continued on with her performance, and when she finished, she bowed, and stepped off the stage.

She was greeted by Katie's screams. "You did soooo good! Oh my gosh! When the speakers broke I thought for sure you were doomed!" Katie and Nancy sat together until the talent show ended.

Then, Mrs. Henderson stepped onto the stage, and said, "We had a very close competition! Everybody did great! And now for the winners. For third place is Lizzy Levy, congratulations! Lamont Cranston for second! The judges loved your comedy, Lamont. For first place, the audience was silent waiting for the announcement. It was so close, contestants, so close. First place goes to..... Nancy Cather!" After that Nancy felt like she was walking on clouds. She was given a trophy, and a prize of \$200. That was one of Nancy's best days of her life.

"That was amazing!!!!!!! Thank you."





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Thank you for reading our magazine.
We hope you enjoyed our writings!