

East Islip  
Middle  
School  
Newspaper



January  
2018  
Issue

Masthead design by Chelsea Dodenhoff / Read our newspaper online at: [eischools.org](http://eischools.org)

### Buddy the Elf visited EIMS

Buddy stopped by the Best Buddies Club on December 18, 2017. Students watched the movie “Elf” and then got a chance to meet Buddy!

*Photos by Mrs. Henry*



### A visit with Broadway star Syndee Winters, from the cast of Hamilton

Mrs. Bryan arranged this visit for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade chorus students on November 16, 2017.

*Photos by Israel Malinowitzer*



## 2017 Gingerbread House Decorating Contest

By Emily LaMorte

This year's gingerbread house decorating contest consisted of 23 teams. The contest was run by Student Government with advisor Mrs. Nolan. The event was held on Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> after school in the cafeteria.

Teams were judged in three separate categories, with one winning team per category. The categories were: most festive, most creative, and best overall. Here are the winners:

### ***Most Festive, Team 15:***

Matt D' Addario, Frank Irace, Dylan Guerrero, and Alessandro Inguaggiato

### ***Most Creative, Team 16:***

Vincent Theodore, Michael Ness, Aiden Thompson, and Ryan Gannon

### ***Best Overall, Team 19:***

Alexandra Totillo, Terri Sonnonburg, and Alexandra Benavides

All winning team members received gift cards to Target. Congratulations!





*Photos on pages 2-3:  
Emily LaMorte, Mrs. Avella.*

## The Quarterly Gamer Corner By Johnathan Yankus



ねえ、ジョナサンここに別の記事と申し訳ありません  
私はしばらく記事を公開していない、oops, sorry guys,  
I'm just so excited about this story's video game! I know that  
I wasn't in the last issue of the Redmen Reporter, but I'm back  
and better than ever, and boy do I have the game to show for  
it. This game isn't even out in America yet and it features  
everyone's favorite electric mouse. I'm talking about the one,  
the only, **Detective Pikachu!** (If it wasn't already obvious  
from the picture) But here's the catch, you do not play as our  
loveable yellow friend with his big red cheeks. No, you play  
as a young boy just arriving in a new city and new hilarious  
adventures.

Now you're probably wondering how I know so much  
already when the games not even in America yet? Well it  
actually all started when I was listening to the radio while  
making my bed and I heard them say that Ryan Reynolds  
(Yes, "Deadpool" Ryan Reynolds) is supposed to be the voice  
actor for **Detective Pikachu**. I went online to get some extra  
evidence and I found the first 9 minutes of the game on this  
website: <http://www.ign.com/videos/2016/02/05/first-9-minutes-of-detective-pikachu>



## EIMS Spelling Bee January 12, 2018

Congratulations to all who participated.  
The winners are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Robert Hilbert, 7th grade  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Toniann Santamaria, 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Steven Squillante, 8<sup>th</sup> grade



## Upcoming MS Events

- Jan 22  
MS PTA Meeting 7 p.m.
- Jan 31  
MS Tri-M Music Honor Society  
Induction 7:30 a.m.
- Feb 8  
MS Putt Putt Golf Event 6-8 p.m.
- Feb 9  
MS Musical @ MS Auditorium  
7 p.m. (Little Mermaid)
- Feb 10  
MS Musical @ MS Auditorium  
2 p.m. (snow date Feb 11, 2 p.m.)

## Laptops in Class: Would It Help?

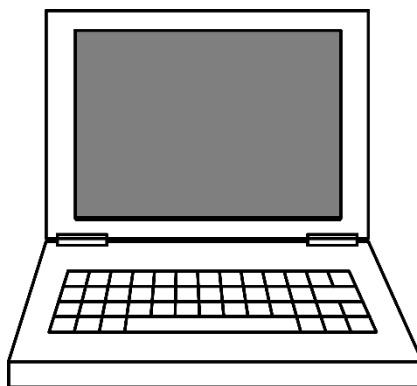
By Jenna Thompsett

The 21<sup>st</sup> century, the “technological age” keeps bringing us ways to enhance everyday activities using technology. So, is it a good idea to bring laptops into the classroom, or is that taking it too far? Let’s face it: the world is changing. Technology is taking over, and some people are wondering if it’s gone too far. In certain schools around the world, laptops are given to students! Many students across the globe are being given laptops to take notes and even complete assignments. Before you make your decision about whether this idea is totally awesome or totally unnecessary, let’s get down to the facts.

Many students and even teachers endorse this idea, as laptops can help you take notes twice as fast as normal handwritten notes. Typing out notes is also more organized, saving you from having to decipher your messy handwriting the night before the big test. However, educators argue that allowing students to type out their notes will lead to “mindless note taking”, which basically means writing sentences without reading or comprehending them. When you write down notes by hand, you have a better chance of taking the time to read what you just wrote instead of mindlessly typing sentence after sentence. However, mindless note taking isn’t the biggest argument people against laptops in class. The main problem is multitasking. Students will often open other tabs while listening to a lecture or taking notes. This means some people could be playing their favorite computer game or watching a YouTube video instead of listening to their teacher. Faria Sana, an assistant professor of psychology, is mixed on the use of laptops in class. “You’re responsible for your own learning, but your actions in the classroom can affect your peers’ learning even more,” says Dr. Sana.

Despite the negatives, education professor Robin Kay believes laptops in the classroom shouldn’t lead to students being blamed. Instead, he believes the laptops can and will cause teachers and lecturers to embrace our new reality and teach more effectively. “Encouraging students to use laptops and other mobile devices to collaborate in and outside of class, such as through Google's suite of free education apps, is where professors and lecturers could be focusing their energies in a more meaningful way,” Dr. Kay says. Computers have many helpful resources for students, such as Google Classroom and Office 365. These programs allow students to complete online assignments sent by their teachers. Students can ask their teacher questions at any time while online and teachers can send out important messages such as the big test’s date or the extra help schedule. However, if we really want laptops in class, we need some restrictions. Experts say that monitors can be structured so it’s harder to switch back and forth. The teachers can also monitor the students’ screens if necessary.

So, should we really have computers in class? Whether you think it’s a good idea, it’s up to the teachers and other school officials to decide. There are multiple pros and cons, and it all depends on whether students can handle the responsibility. Laptops and technology in general can be helpful if used correctly. If students can learn to not abuse the privilege, computers in class may become the tangible future ahead of us.



## GAME CHAT #6

*With Frank Cuoco & Christopher Canabal*

### TODAYS TOPIC: Rocket League



Image from <https://twitter.com/rocketleague/>

**(Chris):** Hello everyone this is going to be a somewhat short article but hey, it's alright.

**(Frank):** Rocket League is a soccer style game that uses rocket powered vehicles as players trying to score goals. It seems like a whole new game with the improvements made since its 2015 release. It is available for Xbox One, PlayStation 4 and Nintendo Switch.

**(Chris):** Rocket League has a vast variety of item customizations, like car bodies, wheels, decals and hats. You can earn most of the items by playing online or offline matches or opening crate drops.

**(Frank):** Now, that's pretty much it. See? Chris told you it would be a short article so...

**(Both):** See everyone next time!



Images from <http://www.rocketleague.com/>

## Movie Shoppe#1: "Wonder"

By Tyler Niles

The movie "Wonder" was released on November 17, 2017. It's about a boy with a facial deformity who was homeschooled until 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and then has to deal with changes when he goes to public school. At first, he doesn't want to go to school. Then, to be strong for his family, he decides to go. He makes many friends including Jack Will, Summer, Henry, and Amos. The film is a fun, happy, and tear-jerking ride. I would give the movie four out of five stars.



Image from <http://www.chicagonow.com>

## Wonder The Novel

By Sarah Strick

Here at EIMS, students read the book *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio over the summer before starting 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Then in September, students discuss the book with their ELA teachers and complete an assignment. The book is about a 10 year old boy, Auggie who has "mandibulofacial dysostosis", which is a type of facial deformity. He's starting public school for the first time and he is trying to make friends. By reading this book, students realize that no matter what someone looks like, we are all equal and should be treated the same.

## Kindness Graffiti By Spencer Kavanagh

Sixth grade health classes with Mrs. Schwarz recently worked on a project called "Kindness Graffiti". The kind drawings in the hallways try to bring joy and happiness to students who walk past it. The kind messages might help someone who is having a bad day.



## **New planet discovered, and it might be habitable**

**By Jake Thompsett**

Everyone knows that making cities on Mars or space-stations on Jupiter is a far-fetched idea. All of that is stuff of the future. Although scientists want to place an extra-terrestrial base on the Moon by 2020, other planets are a bit over our heads. Or maybe not. A new scientific breakthrough has revealed that a new planet, titled LHS 1140b, is very similar to our Earth.

At first, a planet possibly habitable that's close to our very own sun (our sun is called Proxima Centauri) could exist. Then, we found a solar system only 39 light years away. The length of a light year would take a year to traverse at light speed. Yes, light years are a unit of measurement, not time. In other words, it would take one year traveling at light speed to travel one light year. Now, our subject, discovered in this very year, has been revealed to us. It revolves around an M-dwarf star which lies only 41 light years away from us. It takes exactly 25 days to revolve once. The planet is larger than Earth, and by very much. Experts say it could be as much as 8.5 times larger when we're talking about mass. The type of star that it revolves around is a red giant. Red giant stars are expected to survive multiple trillions of years, longer than how old our Universe is currently. LHS 1140b receives half of the sunlight which Earth receives from our Sun.

Although a new planet seems amazing, some are quarrelling over whether it really is "habitable" or not. They say that, from a distance, any planet can look "Earth-like". Venus looks pretty similar to Earth, but we aren't exactly sending space ships there. However, it is the right distance away from its respective star, meaning it could contain water and good conditions. It also likely holds a habitable atmosphere. In that case, although it might look different on the surface, we might have a new planet.

Although there is debate on whether this possibly new and habitable planet is truthfully livable, it sure is cool to think that new planets are out there. And who knows, there might even be another species in the Universe with us too. Photo below provided by SciNews.com.

Link: <http://www.sci-news.com/astronomy/lhs-1140b-super-earth-04792.html>







*By Kaitlyn McCall*

## **In order to save the land, you need to confront danger...Face to Face**

A few years ago, Nintendo developed a game based off of sitcom drama called "Tomodachi Life". The game was...ok. 5/10. I will not lie. But the game starts to get boring as nothing progresses. And the soundtrack is more of elevator music. Because, let's be honest here guys, sitcom drama and comedy is BORING after a while. But then fast forward to 2017, summer vacay.

Nintendo made a new video game featuring the 'Mii Characters' which are characters you can add in your 3DS or Wii U, that represent people in real life, or fictional characters. They are also the citizens of Tomodachi Life. But Nintendo took that idea to a whole new level and created an RPG Adventure.

At the start of the game, you have to assign a Mii character to the role of the main protagonist. This is the one character that you will be able to have full control over in battle, so choose your protagonist wisely. Throughout the game you may have to assign other roles, such as allies, royalty, elves, villains, travelers, etc.

When assigning a role for an ally or your protagonist, two things you should keep in mind are Personality and Classes. Personality affects how a character acts in battle, like a stubborn person wouldn't be satisfied with attacking once so they attack twice or a kind person would spare a monster, causing the monster to flee battle. Classes define the role of someone in battle, like Healers, Fighters, Magic Users, or others. Most are obtained as the game progresses but two (Elf and Vampire) have to be earned by completing quests.

There are also perks in battle, like sprinkles, which are little jars that have special sprinkles! They come in 5 varieties, HP Recovery to recover HP from getting hit, MP to restore points for magic attacks, Life to recover dead teammates, Hyper to upgrade attack strength and anyone inhabited by the sprinkles will go first next turn, and Shield makes a barrier to protect a person until the barrier gets broken. There are also Weapons and Armor which are either found in chests or bought with money found in chests. There are certain weapons and armors reserved for each hero class. There is also grub. Grub is food you pick up after killing a monster, they can raise the stats of anyone's HP, MP, Speed, Magic, Attack, and Defense. The increase of stats gets a boost if the consumer likes the food, but a decrease if they don't like it. Relationships help in battle, like two people attacking at once, someone sacrificing themselves for another, avenging a fallen one, and so on.

All in all, Miitopia is a riveting journey that I recommend you play, available now for the 3DS!!!

Image from <https://mynintendonews.com>



Illustration by Erin Kroupa



Illustration by Spencer Kavanagh

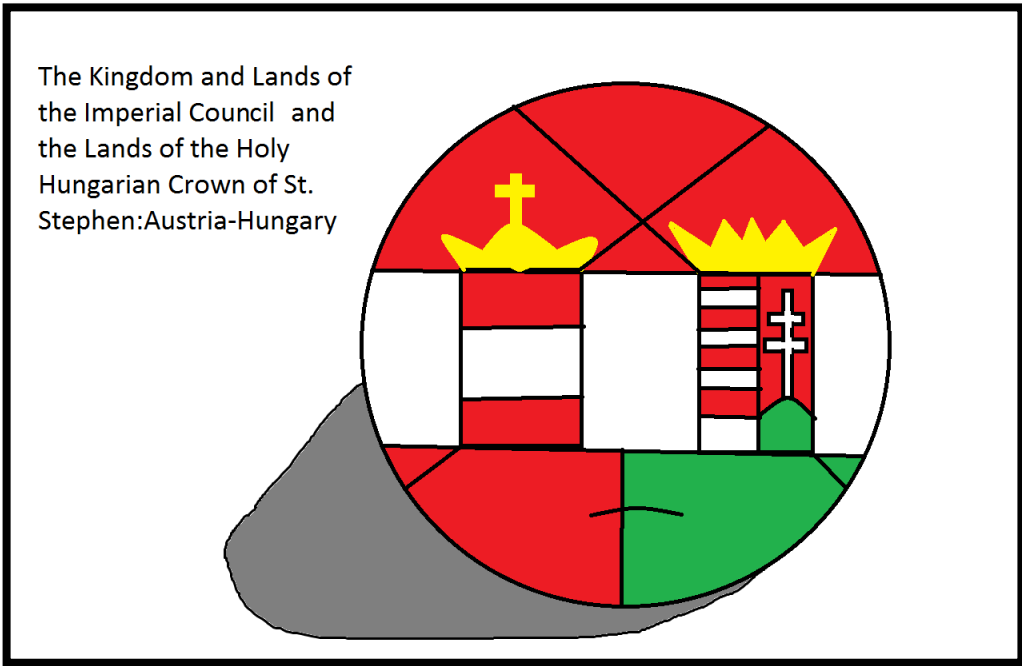


Illustration by Ruelin Man-Martinez

# Winter Word Search

## By Nicholas Williams

H S I T S A N T A L K A S H G F  
 E N L I A E J I K R Q L D O N N  
 S O C E W B O O T S L H I T I F  
 S E J Y D H P W A A V X L C I Z  
 X N E Y A D T N B P N A T O K Y  
 T A O X N S I W N S X C L C S D  
 R N S W E E O N D Y N F I O W M  
 H B V J O N M X G G N I T A K S  
 R Z K L S E K W W I Z V G M T X  
 E Y P J P K A Z O N Q P Q A P Q  
 S N O W P A N T S N D P O F I S  
 D C O P Z G L G L A S C H Z L P  
 M W Z S G N I X D N Q G A L B D  
 U F W K B D F L W B I L T F O W  
 D I W X H L Z T P D D O S N Q G  
 T Q S E V C I I N O H R E A E S



BOOTS  
 COATS  
 HATS  
 HOTCOCOA  
 ICE  
 NEWYEAR  
 SKATING  
 SKIING  
 SLEDDING  
 SNOW  
 SNOWBALLS  
 SNOWMEN  
 SNOWPANTS



## Winter Word Scramble By Kira Novotny

ROTFS    

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 NOWS    

○	○	○		
---	---	---	--	--

  
 TENWIR    

			○	○	○
--	--	--	---	---	---

  
 WAMNONS    

○	○	○		○	○		
---	---	---	--	---	---	--	--

  
 WYIND    

○				○
---	--	--	--	---

--	--	--	--	--

	H	
--	---	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Unscramble each of the clue words.  
Take the letters that appear in 

--

 boxes and unscramble them for the final message.

**Created by [Puzzlemaker](http://www.puzzlemaker.com) at [DiscoveryEducation.com](http://DiscoveryEducation.com)**



### Staff List

- Brooke Bruno
- Chris Canabal
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- Frank Cuoco
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- Katie Donnelly
- Liam Geraghty
- Robert Graziano
- Jordyn Harrynarine
- Sebastian Higgins
- Spencer Kavanagh
- Taryn Kilrain
- Erin Kroupa
- Brendan Kroupa
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- Melissa Lubitz
- Ruelin Man-Martinez
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- Tyler Niles
- Kira Novotny
- Michael Orgera
- Amanda Romano
- Sarah Strick
- Jake Thompsett
- Jenna Thompsett
- Patrick Vasquez
- Adan Villanueva
- Nicholas Williams
- Johnathan Yankus

**ADVISOR: Mrs. Avella**

### EIMS Administration

- Principal: Mr. Bernard
- Asst. Principal: Mr. Bilotti
- Asst. Principal: Mr. Stanton



**MS Newspaper Club Officers**

President:     Robert Graziano

Vice-President: Sebastian Higgins

Co-Secretary: Tyler Niles

Co-Secretary: Erin Kroupa

Read this issue and past issues at our website:  
[http://www.eischools.org/schools/redmen\\_reporter](http://www.eischools.org/schools/redmen_reporter)

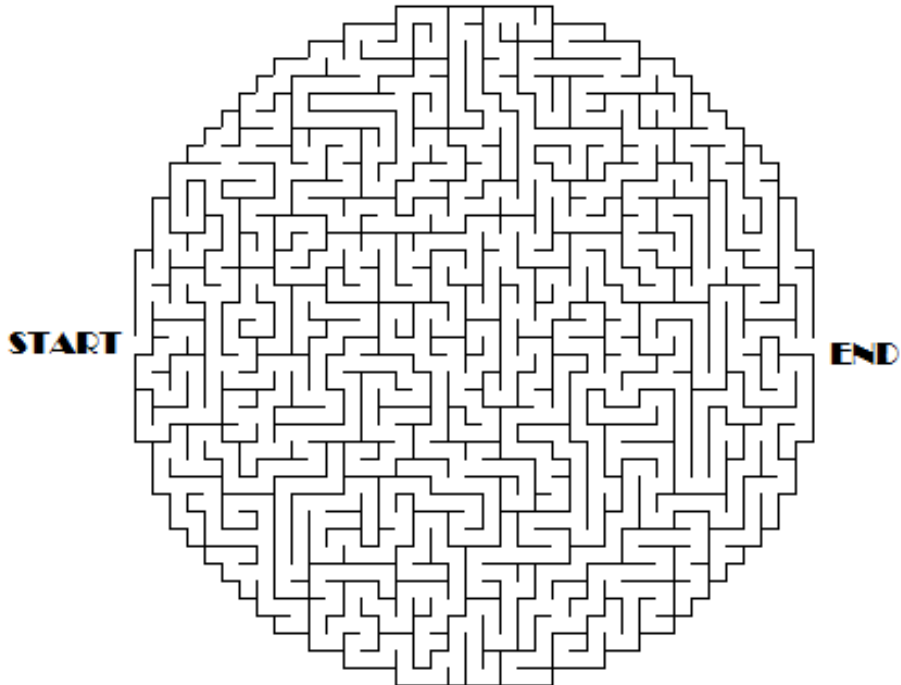
Look for our next issue in March 2018.

**Winter Wonderland Word Search**  
**By Sebastian Higgins**

N N C S H S J S R S Q W O P S  
 N U L A L P N B U C D E R E E  
 E E T E R O L A B C A O E P L  
 D E G C W O L O H B E T I P C  
 F N R M R C L R D S R E N E I  
 A E A T A A I I K U B L D R C  
 E N S T S S C G N A R T E M I  
 H L N T T A O K L G E S E I T  
 P A V M I H M P E U G I R N R  
 S Y A E B V A T V R N M J T S  
 Q S B J S Y E R S E I K O O C  
 C H I M N E Y O O I G I F T S  
 D E C O R A T I O N R I K S N  
 E N A C Y D N A C V E H R L O  
 S U G A R P L U M V N M C G W

- |                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ANGELS<br>CANDYCANE<br>CAROLING<br>CHIMNEY<br>CHRISTMAS                                        |
| FESTIVE<br>GIFTS<br>GINGERBREAD<br>ICICLES<br>MENORAH<br>MISTLETOE<br>NUTCRACKER<br>PEPPERMINT |
| REINDEER<br>RUDOLPH<br>SANTACLAUS<br>SKI<br>SLED<br>SNOW<br>SNOWMAN<br>SUGARPLUM               |

**HARD MAZE**



By Brendan Kroupa

**THE EAST ISLIP MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PRESENTS**



**WHEN:** Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 2pm (Meet and greet after the show)  
(Snow Date: Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm)

**WHERE:** The East Islip Middle School Auditorium

**TICKETS:** All ticket sales will begin on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>

**PRICE:** \$10.00 per ticket.

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\*You can buy tickets during lunch hours in the cafeteria. You can also purchase tickets before & after school with Ms. Tripi or Mrs. D'Aversa