

Masthead design by Kelcie Alba / Read our newspaper online at: eischools.org

Hurricane Joaquin
By Wendle Huang


Hurricane Joaquin formed in late September over the Atlantic Ocean. Joaquin was first classified as a tropical depression then formed into a category 4 hurricane the second day. The wind speed was got up to 25 mph and extended 45 miles from the eye of the storm. The whole storm was about the size of the entire Bahamas islands.



Hurricane Joaquin slammed into the Bahamas and headed towards Long Island but turned east at the exact right moment but the wind and the rain on Long Island still caused some flooding by the shores. For the Bahamas by the shore, it was a real problem. There were 12 inches of water on the streets, which is about half the size of a car wheel. People said that water was getting inside their cars. The good thing is that we are on Long Island so there were not too many worries for us.



Hurricane Joaquin also sank a cargo ship, El Faro, which was 790 feet long and carried 33 people. The ship was heading from Jacksonville, Florida to San Juan, Puerto Rico. The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board reported on October 31st that a search team had found the wreckage of a vessel believed to be the El Faro.



Congratulations to all Student Government Candidates. Each candidate should be congratulated for his/her hard work and dedication to the campaign. It was a very close election. The 2015-2016 Student Government Officers are:

President: Tyler O’Neill
VP: Victoria Miller
Secretary: Autumn Bashwiner
Treasurer: Leiah Ruotolo
Sixth Grade Representatives: Wendle Huang and David Smith

~Mrs. Zeffiro,
Student Government Advisor

Harvest Dance By Hailey LaMacchia

On Friday 10/17/15 the Harvest Dance took place in the cafeteria. Many people think that the Harvest Dance is boring, but it's really not. We had food pantry items donated to the needy, a DJ, snacks, and a raffle. The winners of the raffle were Marie Tohill, Brianna Csoban, and Griffin Wiley. The prize was a gift certificate of ten dollars to the Scholastic Book Fair, a very rewarding prize! We had many great dancers there, and many teachers and parents helping out. In my opinion, this was a great dance and I look forward to it next year!



Water on Mars

By Julian Covarrubias and Kelcie Alba

NASA revealed that there were lakes of water that existed 3 billion years ago. A new report published by NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Team points to evidence that the surface of the planet had huge lakes that have evaporated possibly into the atmosphere and space beyond. As Curiosity has explored the Gale Crater on Mars, it has found evidence of many layers of sediment - sediment that was left behind by lakes and now forms the base of Mount Sharp (or Aeolis Mons). One of the NASA leading scientists Michael Meyer said, "It's clear that the Mars of billions of years ago more closely resembled Earth than it does today. Our challenge is to figure out how this more clement Mars was even possible, and what happened to that wetter Mars."



Source: www.sciencealert.com

Attack on stress

By Julian Covarrubias and Hailey LaMacchia

The Spotlight School Store had received a new shipping of stress balls for the first time ever in October this year. The students were so intrigued by this new toy they could play with. Mrs. Doyle is the woman who sells them in the school store and she was very happy the stress balls sold like crazy in one day. She had to order another shipment of them. When the second shipment arrived, they also sold in one day! Sadly, there are no more stress balls available anymore in our school store because some students threw it at the ceiling and it stuck there.

The thumb is a finger: true or false?

By Emily LaMorte and Chelsea Dodenhoff

Have you ever wondered if your thumb is a finger or not? Well now the Oxford Dictionary has the answer.

Oxford Dictionary says that the thumb is not a finger, but a digit. A digit is another word that covers fingers, thumbs and toes on a human. The thumb is the first digit on the human hand. The thumb has one single joint and two bones, while the other fingers on your hand have two joints and three bones. The thumb is also lower on the hand than any of the other fingers.

Here are some similarities between the thumb and the other digits on your hand. All fingers plus your thumb are jointed and have nails. Our thumbs are opposable which means we can move them around easily and touch the other digits on our hand. The word thumb is from the Old-English word, "thuma" and is related to Dutch "duim" and German "Daumen."

Now you know that according to the Oxford Dictionary, the thumb is not classified as a finger.



Movie Review:
Hotel Transylvania 2
By Joelle Tomossone



The movie *Hotel Transylvania 2*, directed by Genndy Tartakofsky, came out September 25, 2015 in local movie theaters. This humorous animated comedy is rated PG, and recommended for families. Dracula is played by Adam Sandler and his daughter Mavis is played by Selena Gomez. Dracula consents to his daughter getting married to a human named Johnny, played by Andy Samberg. However, he is now faced with a new tolerance challenge when his grandson Dennis, played by Asher Blinkoff did not get his fangs in yet, making his vampire status questionable.

The deadline is coming up and Dracula is worried. Mavis starts to notice dangers at Cohorts (Dracula's hotel) and feels it is unsafe for her human baby to be around all these monsters. This prompts her interest in moving to Santa Cruz. In addition to this, Dracula takes Dennis on a mission to embrace his inner vampire. This movie is comical, thrilling and exciting. I give this movie four and a half out of five stars.

*If you want me to review a movie of your choice please write it down and put it in the slot on the door of room 114 (Mrs. Avella's room.)



Source: ign.com

Atacama Desert blooms pink after historic rainfall
By Robert Camlet

The Atacama Desert is considered one of the driest places on Earth. It is located in northern Chile, South America. At this time, it is full and bursting with a variety of colors. A rare flower blooming occurred after record amounts of rain earlier this year. The rain watered seeds that had been in the sand for years.

The Atacama Desert usually gets 0.6 inches of rain per year. Some places in the region, such as Arica, receive even less, experiencing between 0.04 and 0.12 inches per year. Back in March of 2015, rain fell in the amount of 2 inches.

Most of the time, the desert is a forbidding place of rocky landslides, salt lake, and lava flows. These rare rain showers (that often occur in the winter), nourished the seeds in the ground. As a result, the landscape of the desert turned into a carpet of pinks, oranges, yellows and purples as far as the eye can see.

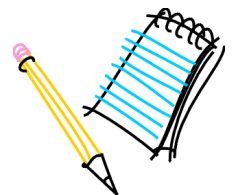


Source: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com>

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Korean sisters find each other after 40 years

By Robert Camlet

Holly Hoyle O'Brien, 46, told reporters she had searched for her little sister for more than half of her life. She and her sister were separated in a Korean orphanage when they were 5 and 7 and later adopted by American families. O'Brien was adopted by a family from Virginia in 1978, while Hughes was adopted by a New York family in 1976.

It wasn't until earlier this year that they found each other at a hospital in Sarasota, Florida. They became instant friends and became suspicious of their strong bonds. "One of the patients," O'Brien said, "told me there was another nurse, named Meagan, who was from Korea. She said "You should talk to her, maybe you're from the same town". After connecting, they realized they were not only from the same South Korean city but they shared the same Korean last name. They also had "abandonment" listed on their orphanage paperwork.

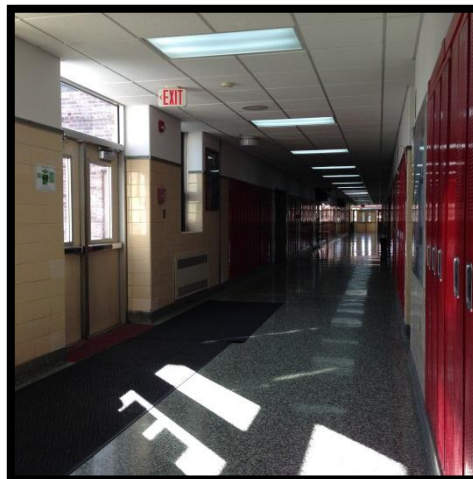
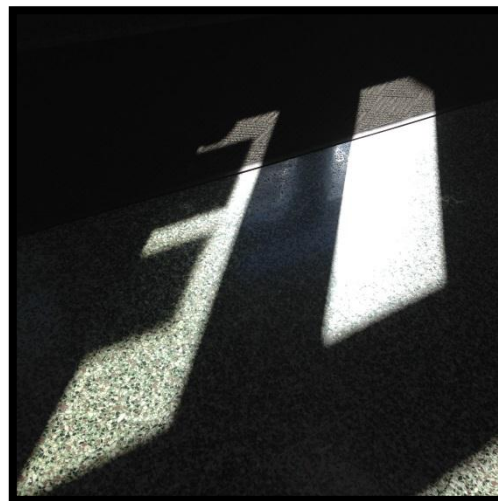
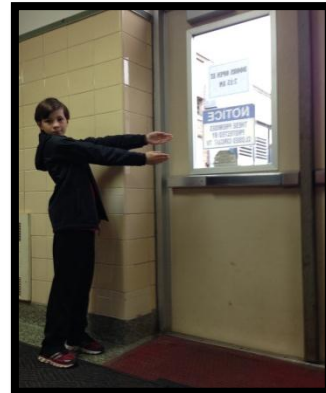
The sisters ordered DNA testing kits from Canada and submitted mouth swabs as samples. When the results came back this past August, they were left astonished by the positive results. "I'm like, this can't be," O'Brien said. "I was trembling; I was so excited, I was ecstatic."



Source:
<http://www.newsmax.com/TheWire>

Mystery numbers **By Enzo Ditta**

You may have heard of magic, mind tricks, and even sorcery (not likely), but what I am about to tell you is the truth. On Wednesday morning, September 16, 2015 I noticed something very strange. In the hallway from the main office to the lunch doors (that really, really big hallway you walk on every day), the side doors across from room 114 make a number from the sun. Yes, I know - a number! It appears that when the sunlight hits the door window, it makes a number image on the floor. Some days, it shows the number 30. Other days, it shows the number 60. Why these numbers? No one knows for sure.



Sixth grade scoop

By Marie Tohill, Justin Martinez, PJ Thompson, Robert Camlet

For this article, seventh graders joined together to interview three sixth graders. Results are below.

Emily LaMorte - Team Onyx

Q: What do you like most about 6th grade?

A: The changing of classes and the day goes by very quick.

Q: Do you like 6th Grade more than elementary?

A: Yes!

Q: How many clubs are you in?

A: Two - FACS and Newspaper.



Chelsea Dodenhoff- Team Onyx

Q: What do you like most about 6th grade?

A: Classes being in one place.

Q: Do you like 6th Grade more than elementary?

A: Yes!

Q: How many clubs are you in?

A: Two - Student Government and Newspaper.



Ava Smith- Team Jade

Q: What do you like most about 6th grade?

A: Freedom.

Q: Do you like 6th Grade more than elementary?

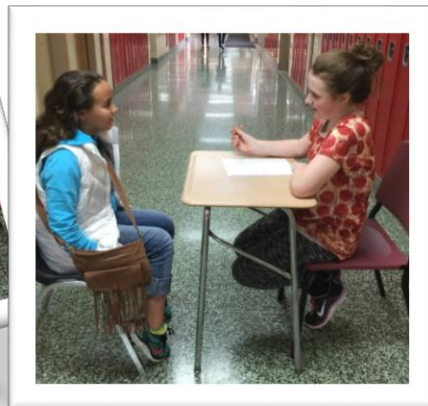
A: Yes!

Q: How many clubs are you in?

A: One – Newspaper.



The data from this interview clearly shows that 6th graders enjoy middle school more than elementary school. They also enjoy the changing of classes and great amounts of freedom. Let's hope for a good year for every middle-schooler.



Recipe: Italian Rainbow Cookie Recipe

By Emily LaMorte

Have you ever wanted to make delicious rainbow cookies? Well with this recipe now you can!

Standard Recipe Ingredients

8 oz of almond paste
1½ cups of butter
1 cup of sugar
4 large eggs **[SEPARATED]**
1 tsp of almond extract
2 cups of all purpose flour
½ tsp of salt
8 oz of raspberry preserves
6 oz of semisweet chocolate
red and green food coloring
Crisco [pan spray]

1½ Times Recipe [About 100 Cookies]

12 oz of almond paste
2¼ cups of butter [room temperature]
1½ cups of sugar
6 large eggs **[SEPARATED]**
1½ tsp of almond extract
3 cups of all purpose flour
¾ tsp of salt
12 oz raspberry preserves
9 oz of semisweet chocolate
red and green food coloring
Crisco [pan spray]



Here's How To Make Them!!!!

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. Separate the eggs and put the whites in the fridge. Break up the almond paste. In a large bowl, beat the butter and then add the broken up almond paste, sugar, egg **YOLKS**, and almond extract. Beat with an electric mixer on med/high until fluffy.
3. In another bowl, stir together flour and salt and then gradually beat into the batter. In another separate bowl, beat egg **WHITES** until stiff [make sure batter is clean and dry and egg whites remained cold until this step]. Fold stiffened whites into the batter with wooden spoon.
4. Generously grease three 10½" x 15½" x 1" pans with Crisco, line with parchment paper and then grease the paper.
5. Divide the batter into thirds in three small bowls. Color one bowl of batter red and another bowl green. Leave the last bowl untouched. Transfer the batter into the pans (1 pan for each color).
6. Bake until lightly golden on edges [about 8-12 minutes], checking frequently. Invert pans over wire racks. Peel off parchment paper and let cool.
7. Heat raspberry preserves in a saucepan on low. Spread ½ the preserves over the red cake layer. Carefully place the white cake layer on top of that and then spread the remaining preserves over the white cake. Next, carefully place the green cake layer on top and then wrap the whole thing in plastic. Chill in the fridge overnight with weight on top. [I put the whole thing on a cutting board with a cookie sheet and phone book on top].
8. The next day, remove cookies from fridge, unwrap and trim edges. Melt the chocolate pieces over medium heat in saucepan that is in a larger pot filled with water [a double boiler]. When chocolate is completely melted and smooth, spread evenly over the top and sides of the cookies. Once chocolate dries, slice as needed. Store in refrigerator.

Recipe: Edible Cookie Dough

By Samantha Panzella

Do you love eating cookie dough?

Well here is a way to make it at home and whisk your life.

Ingredients:

- 1 stick unsalted butter, softened
- 3/4 cups packed brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1/2 cup mini chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup milk chocolate chips



Source: www.centercutcook.com

Directions:

1. With your mixer, cream together butter and brown sugar. Add in vanilla and salt, mix.
2. Add in flour. The mixture is going to be crumbly at this point.
3. Add in 2 tablespoons of milk and mix. Now the dough will look like the cookie dough you're used to seeing.
4. Fold in 1/2 cup mini chocolate chips and 1/2 cup milk chocolate chips.
5. Store leftovers in the refrigerator. Freeze for up to three months.
6. Enjoy!! 😊

COMICS

GOOD JOB, RACHEL.....???

BY KELCIE ALBA



East Islip Idol By Hailey LaMacchia

On Friday 10/23/15, EI Idol took place in the HS auditorium. I asked many of the students what they thought about the performances. Ava Smith said “It was exciting and they got us up on our feet”. Contestant Joelle Tomossone said “It was a really great experience. I felt nervous at first, but when I was on stage I felt invincible.” Contestant Enzo Ditta said “I felt like the world froze in time and I felt so good I sang my heart out.” The winner of EI Idol was Madison Latronica, and the runner-ups were Thomas Locke, Halle Trahey, Olivia Pause, and Gia Gremaux. Congratulations to all the people who won and to those who made it in!!!!

Hailey LaMacchia and
Madison Latronica



Hailey, Madison, Mia Lembo



Hey East Islip Middle School:
I'm back and better than ever!
I, for one, know being in
middle school can be hard but
I'm here to help. Write me
and you might see your letter
in the next newspaper issue.
Here's what to do:

Write a letter to me and sign
it with an alias (example –
Stressed Out 6th Grader).

Next, put it in the slot on Mrs.
Avella's door (Room 114,
cafeteria hallway).

Then, look in the next issue of
the **Redmen Reporter** for your
letter.

From your friend,
Red Girl

WALRUSES

By Taryn Kilrain

Walrus are adorable sea creatures. They live in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. There are two types of walrus: Atlantic walrus and Pacific walrus. As you can see, they like the cold hemisphere. Walrus have



large tusks. The male walrus has thicker and larger tusks than females because they use them for fighting, while the females and young stay behind. Their overgrown tusks help them pull their chubby bodies from the water. Walrus are related to all types of seals.

Walrus are sociable animals. Their herd is led by the stronger males. The females and their young follow. They break into groups of at least 10 walrus so there is less competition. Walrus commonly breed in the months of January and March. When baby walrus are born they don't have their tusks because they haven't grown yet. They have to drink milk for six months, and then eat solid food.

Walrus eat mostly clams and organisms from the sea floor. They spend 8 minutes under water searching for food. Then they come up for air for 2 minutes and continue in different spots looking for food. They spend several hours searching for food. Walrus have fur, which covers all their body except their fins. Under their fur they have a thick layer of blubber (body fat). This protects their body from cold water and cold winds when they lay on the ice. Walrus love to be around each other, and make sure that they're okay.



When walrus are in captivity their tusks are removed so they won't get bacteria or infections since the waters don't get clean that often. The walrus that are in captivity are injured. Sadly when they are in captivity their life span will shorten. Millions of dollars are spent to make their habitat more comfortable, to get the right medication and to get special milk for the calves.

Word Search – Baseball

By Joseph Graziano

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

BALL
 BASE
 BASEBALL
 BAT
 BRAVES
 DUGOUT

FOUL
 GLOVES
 HOME PLATE
 HOME RUN
 JERSEY
 LOSE

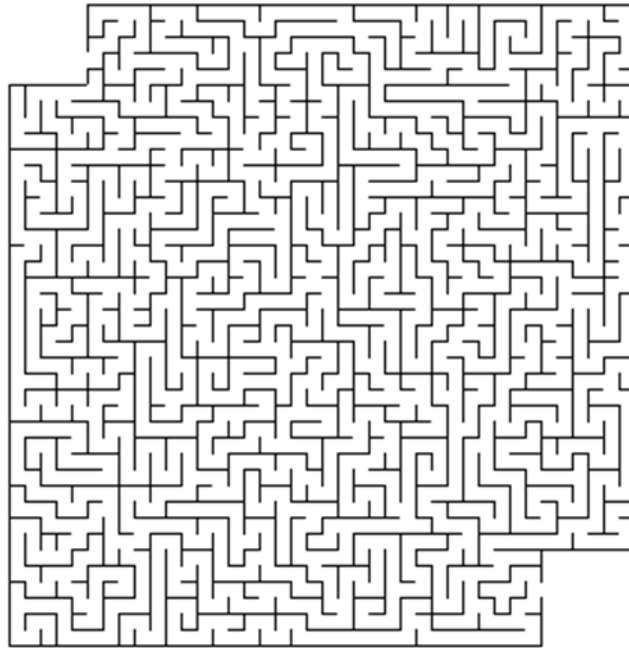
METS
 PIRATES
 UMPIRE
 WIN
 WORLD SERIES
 YANKEES

7	14	8	14	12
2	4	0	5	11
0	6	2	1	9
0	0	2	4	6
5	4	4	4	17
14				



Solution to Blocks of Confusion on page 12

Puzzles by Markus Higgins
Are You a True Maze Runner?



Blocks of Confusion

				14
5				17
	0	2		6
0		2		9
	4	0	5	11
7	14	8	14	12

Try to fill in the missing numbers.

The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 7.

The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right.

The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom.

The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right.

(NOTE - Solution is on page 11.)

Word Search
By Robert Camlet



Back To School

Good Luck!

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

BACKPACK
FRIENDS
PENCIL

BINDER
HOMEWORK
SHOES

FOLDER
PEN
TEACHERS



Spotlight School Store



East Islip Middle School 2015-16

Spiritwear for Sale with EI logo on the item

T-shirt, short sleeved (black, red, or white)	\$12
T-shirt, long sleeved (black or red)	\$15
Pennant T-shirt, long sleeved (grey)	\$30
Hooded sweatshirt (black, red or grey)	\$28
Hooded sweatshirt (black with contrasting hood, red inside)	\$30
Hooded sweatshirt, zip-up (black)	\$28
Crew neck sweatshirt (red)	\$20
Sweatpants, black (no pocket), REDMEN on leg	\$28
Sweatpants, black (w/pocket)	\$28
Jacket with hood (black or red)	\$45
Mesh Shorts (black or red)	\$10
Reversible tank (red and black)	\$10
EI baseball hat (black or red)	\$20
East Islip backpack, red	\$25
EI string backpack (black or red)	\$12
East Islip tote bag, red	\$10
East Islip lunch bag, red	\$5
East Islip socks, white	\$3



Payment → Cash or checks are accepted. Please make checks payable to:
East Islip School District
and write Spotlight School Store in the memo.