

The Unami Times

Newspaper

Fall Issue – November 2018

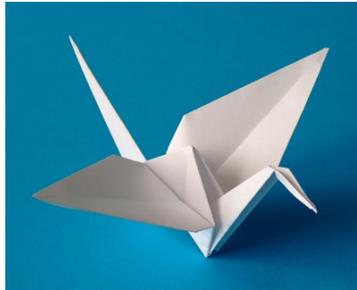
“Absolute freedom of the press to discuss public questions is a foundation stone of American liberty.”

- Who Said This? Contact Mrs. Christein with your answer!

Origami Club: A Creative Club For Everyone

Mehir Badlani

We have an exciting club at Unami continuing again this year, “The Origami Club.” All creative minds at Unami are invited to join. The students will get together in Mr. Pagano’s room, (Room Number 325) and learn how to make some popular Origami items such as the Crane, Frog, Boat, Wallet, Hat, Ninja Star, etc. This club makes good use of the students’ time. The money raised will be donated to the local charities. The time spent making Origami



counts as service hours for NJHS. This club meets from 2:30 to 3:30 pm on alternate Wednesdays on A days. Watch out for daily announcements and make sure to have a ride home. Origami is a lot of fun. It is all about symmetry and paper folding. If you feel you are creative and want to help your community, this club is a right fit for you. All Origami lovers and curious minds are invited to join this extraordinary club. Please crease, bend, flip, and fold your way to our meetings!

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From Worthless to Priceless—Bracelets for a Cause

Alexa Haidacher



Who doesn’t love music? How about spending time with friends? Helping out a good cause? Having fun? You’ll find all these things and more at the Unami Pick Project club! The Pick Project club is a non-profit club brought to our school by Mrs. Weaver where students make bracelets out of zero balance gift cards. They punch, press, and tie away those credits to transform them from boring old gift cards to uniquely beautiful pieces of jewelry! The best part is, when you purchase one of these amazing bracelets, your donation goes straight to CB Cares, a program that gives children and teens from low-income families the chance to buy a musical instrument or lessons.

This club is also a great way to earn NJHS hours for any incoming students who are looking for ways to help out! “I never knew helping the community would be so much fun!” says Thanu, a ninth grader who is an honorary member of the club. Every student, including her, was laughing, smiling, and making new friends the whole time!

If you’re interested in having a great time helping out the community with your friends, stop by Mrs. Weaver’s room and pick up an application! If you still want to help, the Pick Project members ask you to donate your old gift cards to the club. You can drop off these cards at the main office or in Mrs. Weaver’s InC room. The club thanks you for your support and hopes to see you there!

Unami Times

2018-2019

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Unami and Community News

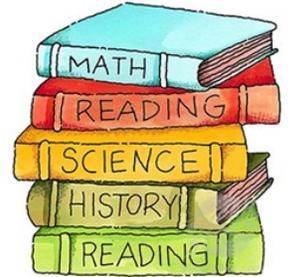
Homework... Hopeless or Helpful?

Gianna Grumer

So many students think of homework as useless. Others believe homework is helpful and important. Is homework beneficial to students, or just a waste of time? Since opinions cannot truly tell us whether homework is worth the effort, we need a lot of research.

Pros:

- ⇒ Can help develop good study habits
- ⇒ Helps students recognize that learning can occur at home, as well as at school
- ⇒ Allows a comfortable place to study
- ⇒ Reviews concepts learned in class
- ⇒ Teaches time management skills
- ⇒ Large benefits from homework with students in higher grades
- ⇒ Small benefits from homework with students in lower grades
- ⇒ 77% of studies find the link between homework and achievement positive (not including elementary students)



Cons:

- ⇒ Originally created as punishment in 1905 by Roberto Nevilis, a teacher from Venice, Italy
- ⇒ Can lead to boredom
- ⇒ Less time for leisure activities
- ⇒ Parents often get too involved
- ⇒ Parents may teach students different techniques than the teacher
- ⇒ Increases screen time in some cases
- ⇒ Geared towards benchmarks
- ⇒ May not have accurate practice provided

Stay tuned for part two in the next edition on what Unami students think of the amount of homework we receive!

Cat Tales Rescue: Animals in Need of Adoption

Tommy Balkir

Adopting an animal from a rescue is one of the best ways to give back to your community and to find a loving and cherished pet. One such local rescue is called Cat Tales. (Cat Tales, Inc.). This facility is an all-volunteer, nonprofit, no-kill rescue organization working to provide care and placement of cats and kittens who are found and brought to them.

I have visited the Cat Tales Adoption Center in Warrington on multiple occasions, and I have always been greeted by friendly and outgoing volunteers that will do anything to help you find the perfect companion. The cats at the shelter are all well cared for and perfectly suitable for a loving family that is ready to take them in.

One cat, particularly at the Warrington location, has been at the shelter for a long time and is very much in need of a home. His name is Pine Top Perkins ("Perk"), and he is a three-year-old Domestic Short Hair. He is best with older kids and is comfortable with most other cats.



Pine Top Perkins

Unami and Community News

If you are interested in adopting Perk or any of the other awesome cats at the Cat Tales Adoption Center in Warrington, the location and contact information are listed below. Please consider adopting because, while it will change the cat's life for the better, it will also change your life.

Cat Tales Adoption Center
1111 Easton Rd. Suite 17, Warrington, PA 18976
Open on Saturdays and Sundays: 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Call ahead for an appointment: 215-933-6900

Fall Dance 2018 Memories

Mehir Badlani



Las Vegas Shooting Memorial 2018

Diya Hundiwala



On October 1, 2017, a true tragedy took place at the Route 91 music festival on the Las Vegas Strip in Nevada. 58 innocent lives were taken by a gunman who opened fire on the event. 851 concertgoers were injured in the shooting – their lives changed forever. It is considered the country’s deadliest mass shooting in modern history. Just earlier this month, Las Vegas commemorated the first anniversary of the shooting and paid symbolic tribute to those who lost their lives that night.

Sunrise Ceremony: To begin the anniversary, local officials hosted a sunrise ceremony in a nearby amphitheater. Many survivors spoke at the ceremony, sharing their emotional accounts of what occurred that horrendous night. Additionally, friends and family members of those who died came forward to share their stories. This event also included 58 seconds of silence – one second for each victim of the shooting.

Las Vegas Healing Garden: Later that evening, a dedication ceremony was held at the Las Vegas Healing Garden. After the shooting, a group of volunteers built a “remembrance wall” at that healing garden. The wall consists of memorial plaques and backlit text. Dozens of people showed up to pay their respects. The mayor of Las Vegas says that it is meant to last “generations.” Near the end of the ceremony, all attendees added a single rose to an arrangement of fresh flowers near the wall.

Marquees: The marquees on the gleaming Las Vegas strip dimmed their lights for three minutes on October 1st, 2018. Officials slowly read the 58 names of those that had passed away shortly after 10:05 pm (local time). At nearly the exact time twelve months earlier, the gunman had opened fire on the crowd. These names were recited in front of a silent crowd, composed of survivors and supporters.

What happened on October 1st, 2017 is a tragedy never to be forgotten. Those who passed away that night are not to be forgotten. The survivors of the attack are not to be forgotten. It is up to us to remember and honor the innocent lives lost that night. Vegas Strong.

Brett Kavanaugh Appointed to Supreme Court Among Controversy

Holly Mirales

On October 6th, 2018, Brett Kavanaugh was sworn in as a Supreme Court justice despite the allegations and protests made against him. The Senate voted in favor of him 50-48 against a backdrop of angry public outcries. Kavanaugh’s Supreme Court appointment has been an extremely divisive event that could heavily impact the upcoming midterm elections. Many Republicans supported the same-party Kavanaugh while most Democrats disapproved of him, causing the already tense party relations to inflame.

Controversy arose around Kavanaugh when Dr. Christine Blasey Ford’s allegations that she was sexually assaulted by him when the two were teenagers became public. Dr. Ford had requested to Senator Feinstein that the incident be brought up and investigated privately, but instead it became a public scandal. Dr. Ford was not the only woman to bring allegations against Kavanaugh, as two others stepped forward as well. At that time, it appeared that Kavanaugh’s appointment to the court might be in jeopardy because there were some Republican senators considering voting against him. But in the end, most senators stayed true to their party lines.

Some people believe that Kavanaugh is not fit to serve on the Supreme Court because of his behavior during his hearing regarding Ford’s allegations. Kavanaugh was contentious during the hearing and often fired back questions to the senators. Many thought his actions were inappropriate and unprofessional for someone up for a government position. People who found themselves defending Kavanaugh felt that his behavior was justified because of the fact that he was presumed guilty in public opinion.

Kavanaugh was suggested for the Supreme Court because he has served in law his whole life. He taught at Harvard Law, Yale Law, and Georgetown University of Law and served on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Kavanaugh was also a counsel to George W. Bush during his presidency and a special counsel on the Clinton investigation. His political opinions tend to stay on the conservative side.

President Trump, who recommended Kavanaugh for the Supreme Court, announced his support of the Senate’s decision in a tweet, stating: “I applaud and congratulate the U.S. Senate for confirming our GREAT NOMINEE, Judge Brett Kavanaugh, to the United States Supreme Court. Later today, I will sign his Commission of Appointment, and he will be officially sworn in. Very exciting!”



New Federal Emergency Alert System: Your Questions Answered

Diya Hundiwala

I am sure all of you heard your phones *ding!* or *buzz!* in class at 2:18 PM EST on Thursday, October 4th. "Presidential Alert," the screen said. "THIS IS A TEST of the National Wireless Emergency Alert System. No action is needed." It was the first nationwide test of the system built by the federal government and cell phone carriers to notify Americans of an emergency, like a terrorist attack or a natural disaster. Here are some things you might be wondering about this new system!

Why cellphones?: The government has been communicating alerts through television and radio for quite a long time now. The same system will now communicate alerts to cellphones! We use our cellphones way more than we watch TV or listen to the radio, therefore the government believed that it would be a good idea to send out important information through the things we use the most.

Is it a message directly from President Trump?: Sure, it may say "presidential alert," but that does not mean that the president typed up the alert on his phone and sent it out to every phone on the country. This system is run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA. FEMA would be the one selecting a pre-written message, altering it to fit the situation and send it out through their machines.

Can you turn off these alerts?: Unlike the AMBER and weather alerts you receive frequently on your phone, you cannot silence these presidential alerts. The government wants the alert to reach every single phone in the country, as the message is intended to contain "critical live-saving information." They are attempting to send this alert to phones that are not activated or do not contain a SIM card as well.



FEMA

Representation on Screen

Katherine He

Movies. TV shows. They are a fun way to pass time or hang out with your friends. You may prefer big screen or small screen productions. You may like comedy or action or romance, or anything else. You may watch them regularly or on special occasions. You may watch in a movie theater, on Netflix, or on your television, among some of the many medias. These forms of entertainment are all around us, and whether positive or not, we spend a great deal of time watching them. Over recent years however, we have seen a significant change in the ideas and characters shown in our favorite shows and films. Minorities are certainly more present, and there is so much support of strong women, the LGBTQ community, and important social and political topics.

Movies and big production films have received lots of coverage recently for finally casting people of color and are constantly making history for starting conversations about prominent problems in our world. For example, "Crazy Rich Asians" premiered August 15, 2018 in the U.S. and featured the first all Asian cast in Hollywood in 25 years. It is a comedy movie set in Singapore about a woman named Rachel Chu, a Chinese-American, struggling to prove herself to her boyfriend's very traditional Asian family. It has broken countless records, has received amazing reviews from critics, and has sparked incredible talk all over media. This is a great step towards more Asian inclusion on screen. Additionally, the movie, "The Hate U Give" was released on October 5th, 2018 and is the film adaptation of a book that had already been awarded and praised. It follows the life of Starr Carter, a teenage girl split between her poor, black neighborhood and the rich, white prep school she attends, who finds her whole life completely changed when her unarmed African American friend, Khalil, is killed by a white police officer. She then begins to protest and speak out for what is right. This is an extremely crucial topic that needs to be discussed, and more must be done to prevent these unjust murders of innocents. These are just two of the many films that have been released recently or are upcoming releases that have finally shown diversity in its characters and cast.

It isn't just the big screen that has become more open and accepting of all people. TV shows no longer cast only the people who fit society's mold. Many different shows now have representation of all colors, sizes, and sexual orientations. Characters are more real and relatable because they reflect the diversity that the actual world has. For example, "Riverdale," a very popular series with a large audience, includes lesbian and gay couples, strong females, and characters with diverse cultural backgrounds. Another great show is "Supergirl," which has a powerful female lead, same-gender couples, a transgender superhero, different races, important political points, and so much more. Same goes for shows like "The Originals", "The 100", "Grey's Anatomy" and etc. There are so many shows now including a more diverse cast, and it is crucial that these shows reach a large range of different people. These TV shows are so important for making their audiences aware of issues in our society. It doesn't matter what type of entertainment you prefer and which setting you like to watch it in; if you watch anything at all, you will start to notice these changes occurring. The cast is more inclusive, and important topics are no longer being covered up. This is so critical for our world to understand the necessity for less exclusion and ignorance. This industry is starting new conversations, and that is what our world most definitely needs. Pay attention the next time you watch something; the world is changing, and Hollywood is playing a vital role in it.

Sports

Descend and Rise!

Jeanette Lim

Unami's 8th-grade football team starts off the season on a rough note, with one of their starting players injured and two games already played with a loss and a tie. Sources Matt Krysko, defensive end and center, Matt Nissen, running back, linebacker, and kicker, Colin Kelly, tight end, and Skyler Speak, defensive end and offensive guard, all agree with Kelly that the team is not playing to their "full potential."

Players are feeling discouraged by their performance from their past two games and are fainthearted about their upcoming game. The team is training hard and are looking forward to their first win of the season; they are appreciative of the people who come out to the games and support them. During this time, Coach Daley is training the boys hard and improving their offensive strategies while also hoping to teach them what a team really is: a family. With high expectations, the players themselves are imagining many wins, numerous touchdowns, making it to the playoffs, and most importantly, having fun. Coach Daley and the players expect great improvement "in 4-5 weeks" according to Mr. Daley. Still early in the season, we should expect great outcomes from our 8th-grade football team.



Carson Wentz Returns to the Eagles

Tommy Balkir

Star quarterback Carson Wentz has returned to the Philadelphia Eagles after recovering from a torn ACL injury that prevented him from playing for 278 days. During this time period, the Eagles went on to achieve their first ever Super Bowl championship since 1960 with hometown hero Nick Foles filling in for Wentz in the pocket.

Wentz had torn his two ligaments in his left knee on December 10th, 2017 in a match against the Los Angeles Rams. After surgery three days later and a recovery process that seemed to last forever to Eagles' fans, head coach Doug Pederson declared that he "was impressed with how well he [Wentz] attacked his rehab throughout the off-season," and that "he's done everything we've asked him to do and he's ready to go."



Therefore, on September 23rd, during week 3 of the NFL season, Wentz returned to the field to lead Philly to a 20-16 victory over the Indianapolis Colts. Disregarding any post-injury hesitation, Wentz proved that he's the same franchise player that Philadelphia knows him to be.

With Wentz taking snaps for the Eagles again, Philly has a bright future ahead. Will Philadelphia go on another playoff tear this season? Can the Eagles be a championship contender once again? How far can the birds really go? We can't know for sure, but as long as Carson Wentz stays healthy, Philly has faith in the Eagles.

Samsung Galaxy Note 9 Review

Samuel Kim

Have you ever realized that all the Samsung's Galaxy Note phones have always been about more? There is more screen, more battery, more specs, more power, and more features. The new Samsung Note 9 is designed for you to have a great adventure with this phone.

The new Note 9 has the biggest screen, one of the fastest processors, the biggest battery, and the largest storage. This phone starts at \$1000 and goes up to a whopping \$1,250. This is the most expensive Samsung smartphone ever sold in the US and the most expensive Android phone on the market. However, the new Note 9 has not had anything new added to it, but they turned everything up a notch. It's vibrant with a lot of color and it has a good display. The performance is fast and there is more storage than the past Note phones. One appreciated change from the Note 8 is the placement of the rear fingerprint scanner. Instead of being up near the camera, it's now below it, which makes it much easier to reach with your index finger. But because the Note 9 is such a large phone, it will still be hard to hit for those with smaller hands.

Inside, the Note 9 has more storage than any other Samsung phone: the base model offers 128GB of space, while the more expensive version has a whopping 512GB. Both versions have microSD card slots, so you can get up to a full terabyte of storage on your phone if you're willing to pay for it. It's also worth noting that Samsung is offering twice as much storage as the iPhone X at each price point. But the most important bit of more you get with the Note 9 is more battery life. At 4,000mAh, the Note 9's battery is the biggest the line has ever had, and the largest battery you can get in a Samsung phone. That's 500mAh bigger than the battery in the S9 Plus and a full 700mAh larger than the one in last year's Note 8. It's also bigger than the battery in Google's Pixel 2 XL, the iPhone 8 Plus, or basically any other phone you can think of that's for sale in the US right now. The Note 9's camera app does have a couple of new features, adopting some of the auto scene-detecting AI features other phones have shipped with this year. Point it at something and it will try to identify what that object is and optimize the camera settings for it. Samsung says the camera can recognize 20 different types of scenes, including food, portraits, pets, landscapes, beaches, sunrises and sunsets, and more. In my tests, it did a good job identifying animals, food, and plants, and it did so quicker than other phones with similar features. In conclusion, the Note 9 is a great upgrade from past phones and an excellent phone to start out with.



Technology and Entertainment

Avengers: Infinity War Theories

Rishi Suresh

Avengers: Infinity War is one of the greatest movies ever, in my opinion, came out in April this year. Thanos is motivated to eliminate pain and suffering by destroying all life. Thanos, with the snap of his fingers, could wipe out half of the universe once the stones were on his gauntlet. With the power to control time, mind, soul, reality, power, and space, he could potentially conquer the universe, but which force will oppose him and bring defeat to Thanos? Could it be Thanos himself or the new Marvel character?

About the Infinity Stones

There are six Infinity Stones and each give control for the following: The Space Stone (blue), the Reality Stone (red), the Power Stone (purple), the Mind Stone (yellow), the Time Stone (green) and the Soul Stone (orange).

First Theory: Doctor Strange's Prediction

When Tony Stark, Peter Parker, and half of the Guardians of the Galaxy are chilling with Doctor Strange on Titan, Mantis worriedly points out that Strange is acting...wait for it...strange. His face is jumping all over the place while he sits passively in a meditative pose. Turns out, Strange is using the Time Stone to check out what could happen in a variety of possible futures. He mentions he's witnessed millions of permutations of the eventual confrontation with Thanos. When Tony asks how many scenarios result in the good guys winning, Strange replies ominously, "one."

This means Strange knows there is literally only one sequence of events in which the Avengers and their allies can beat Thanos. So, everything he does after that is toward that goal. Including, outright losing. Shockingly, when Thanos is about to kill Tony, Strange gives up the Time Stone to save his life. Tony can't believe this because earlier in the film, Strange made it abundantly clear that he would let anyone die to protect the Time Stone, even young Peter Parker. So, why did Doctor Strange have a change of heart? Even Tony doesn't get it, gasping "why?"



Strange says "We're in the endgame now." This can mean only one thing: the only future Strange saw in which the good guys win, is one in which they lose first. If Strange had continued to fight Thanos and try to protect the Time Stone, that was clearly one of the futures in which they lose. But, because he gave it up, on purpose, this means whatever happens next is on the winning path.

Second Theory: The Quantum Realm/Soul World

It's commonly theorized that the souls of the dead Avengers have been consumed by the Soul Stone. There's comic book precedent for the idea; in the comics, the Soul Stone is a sentient being in own right and has a voracious desire to consume the souls of living beings. Anyone unfortunate enough to be consumed by the Soul Stone winds up trapped inside, within a realm known as the Soul World. This place is confirmed to exist in the movies when Thanos transported there and saw Gamora at the end of Avengers: Infinity War. Given its prominent position and abilities, many viewers have suggested that the souls of all Thanos' victims have been transported into the Soul Stone.

It's possible that, in the MCU, when a person dies their soul finds its way to the Quantum Realm. Though Ant Man didn't realize it, when he collected the "healing particles" he was unwittingly collecting souls. And then, when Thanos snapped his fingers, the Quantum Realm was filled with billions more. It's a haunting possibility, and it suggests the Soul World could be far more important in Avengers 4 than we thought...

Reviews

SpiderMan: A PS4 Must-Own

Carter Forman

Insomniac's PS4-exclusive game, known simply as "Spider-man," provides a fresh and exciting new look at one of the world's most loved superheroes. Spider-man's story is one of the games main selling points, as it includes some of the most well-known characters and plenty of heartbreaking moments. Without spoiling, the games lineup includes Peter Parker, Aunt May, Miles Morales, James Jonah Jameson, and many exciting villains. The main story follows Peter Parker as he tries to stop a certain super-villain from releasing a bio-weapon on all of New York. Another exciting feature is the actual gameplay. This includes some fun, yet repetitive, puzzles, to action-packed fights with Peter Parker as Spider-man. The fights are always new and exhilarating, and there are plenty of different combos, which all flow perfectly together, that always mix up the gameplay. Another key aspect of all Spider-man games' gameplay is the web-slinging, which this game pulled off beautifully. After ten hours of gameplay, the web-slinging still always feels exhilarating to perform. As always, the New York environment resembles the real world very well, with lots of Marvel Easter eggs sprinkled throughout. One of the few flaws is that boss battles can sometimes feel repetitive in nature and clunky in gameplay. However, this does not overshadow the general excellence of this game. All in all, I would recommend Spider-Man to any PS4 owner.



Venom Movie Review

RJ Pitman

Venom was a great film because the animation captured Venom's sinister look very accurately, and the emotions and scenes in the movie were well balanced—not too scary, not too happy, not too little action. The actors were very convincing, making the story seem as if it happened in real life. Furthermore, the voice of Venom was very impressive, and the fight scenes were awesome. The whole movie seemed believable, and it was interesting how the writers (SPOILER ALERT) chose to include the fact that Venom is an alien from the race "Klintar" and not a genetic mutation experiment gone awry.

Overall, the movie was great and thrilling, and I would definitely see it again.

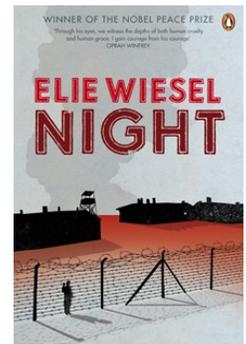


Night by Elie Wiesel: Book Review

Chakrika Aluri

Elie Wiesel was a mere 15 years old when the Nazis came for over 10,000 Jews in his hometown of Sighet, Transylvania (Which was, during that time period, a part of Hungary) in May of 1944. Upon their arrival in the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, Wiesel's mother and sisters were murdered within the first hours, while Wiesel and his father were immediately put to work as slave laborers. Many months later, the Germans evacuated their camp and forced the survivors on a march that ended at Buchenwald. Wiesel was one of the few prisoners that remained alive when the Americans came in April of 1945.

In this chilling true story, Elie Wiesel illustrates the horrifying accounts of the second world war that he was forced to be a part of, and that will truly haunt him forever.



Gone Book Review

Varun Rao

Imagine you're sitting in a classroom on a Tuesday morning. The seconds on the clock are just ticking by until the bell rings and you have the opportunity to hit the beach with your friends after school. You can't even pay attention, when something incredible happens. The teacher who was just lecturing your class about history has suddenly disappeared. Poof. Gone.

Reviews

Gone Book Review (Continued)

Varun Rao

If you think that that's weird, crazy, or for some reason, awesome, then you should check out the book *Gone* by Michael Grant. This book is full of twists and turns and supernatural things you could never even see coming. Everything starts when the kids of Perdido Beach and the Coates Academy kids, known for their troublemakers, are hit with an astonishing event. Suddenly, everyone over the age of 15 is gone. As the people of Perdido Beach come to their senses about all that is gone, they take inventory of all that is gone and all that is new. They realize that while they still have electricity and hot water, their WiFi is gone. And suddenly, no one knows how to make food other than what is already made. Everyone turns to a boy named Sam Temple, who they all think would be the natural leader and to one to lead them through this catastrophe. Sam enlists help from his best friend, Quinn, and newcomer named Edilio, and a girl named Astrid. For 2 days they figure out how to keep the town running, through making food at the McDonald's, taking care of the "littles," and making sure the rules are being enforced. They find out more about the mysterious wall surrounding them, and the area inside, nicknamed the Fallout Alley Youth Zone also known as the FAYZ. But just as they start to get into a rhythm, the kids of Coates Academy come and seize control. Their leader, Caine, isn't who he says he is, and they quickly realize that something else is at play. A mysterious force has granted some people powers beyond the human imagination. But Caine and his followers will do anything to make sure that they are the ones in charge, including harming someone. In this adventure novel, anything goes. On the streets of Perdido Beach, it's the bullies who rule. Animals are transforming. And some will do whatever it takes to stay alive.



Gone is a fantasy/adventure novel that has a mysterious feel to it. The book is impossible to put down, because every single page, you are learning something new about their mysterious new world, the FAYZ. The book is non-stop action and you will never find yourself bored, because the plot starts on the first page! People who like this book are usually those you find themselves enjoying action/mystery books. If you enjoyed books like the *City of Ember* or the *Maze Runner* series, you'll find lots of similarities. If you're looking for a novel that is easy-going, this might not be the best book for you. And not only that, this book is a series, so if you really like it, there are more books for you to read. *Gone* is certainly one of the best books I've read in a long time, and I hope that you will enjoy it too!

Smallfoot Movie Review

Vibha Iyengar

For a long time, we have heard tales of Yetis and monsters such as Bigfoot, who lives in the Himalayas. The movie *Smallfoot* puts a twist on the famous monsters' story. It tells the tale of Migo, a yeti who lives in a village atop a mountain in the Himalayas. In the village he lives in, everyone follows the teachings of ancient stones that are interpreted by the Stonekeeper. While learning how to ring a gong with his head one morning, Migo gets distracted by Meechee, the Stonekeeper's daughter, and stumbles upon a plane crash. Here, he encounters a human (or as he calls it, a Smallfoot). He comes back to tell everyone in the village about his discovery. However, it is stated on the ancient stones that there is no such thing as a Smallfoot. Due to this, Migo is banned from the village until he agrees with the stones. However, he is soon recruited by the Smallfoot Evidentiary Society (S.E.S) and is convinced to go beneath the clouds to attempt to find a Smallfoot. There, he meets Percy Patterson, a wildlife documentary filmmaker who has lost his integrity. The two embark on a journey together and the story commences.



The movie had incredible acting, which was no surprise due to the star-studded cast. It featured the talents of people such as Channing Tatum, Zendaya, James Corden, Common, and Danny DeVito. With such a superb cast of actors, I would have been surprised if the acting was anything short of fantastic. The music was enjoyable as well. The songs were fun to listen to and would probably be fun to dance to as well. The soundtrack featured songs by Common, Niall Horan, and Channing Tatum. It had many types of music, including a catchy parody of Queen's "Under Pressure". Aside from the music and acting, the story wasn't too bad either. It was what you would expect of a children's movie and had some themes about curiosity and following what you believe. It was funny enough to make me laugh and smile, but it also had enough drama and action to keep me interested in the story. Overall, the movie won't be breaking new ground, and it probably won't become your favorite movie of all time, but it's definitely worth a watch if you enjoy children's movies or want a light and enjoyable movie.

No One Wins: The White House's Trade Policy With China

Allison Zhuang

The United States and China have sparred repeatedly over trade, in a tit-for-tat skirmish that has shown little sign of abating. Both countries have been threatening further tariffs in recent days, but beneath the acrimony, the citizens of both sides have been suffering. In very basic terms, a tariff is a tax on imports and exports between countries. So far, the United States has imposed tariffs on \$34 billion of Chinese technology goods and \$3 billion of Chinese steel and aluminum, with another \$16 billion in the offing. Trump's trade team argues that the duties are needed to force China to improve its protection of intellectual property and reform its trade policies more generally. So far, however, the brinkmanship has yielded nothing positive. Brinkmanship is the art or practice of pursuing a dangerous policy to the limits of safety before stopping and is typically used in politics. China has responded in kind, outlining its own plan on Wednesday for measures on \$16 billion of American goods. The point here is that the U.S. is losing money, and lots of it.



These policies have drawn loud complaints from U.S. companies that have become reliant on Chinese imports, and a recent World Bank study confirms that neither side will win this trade war. At the current level of tariff retaliation, the World Bank estimates that each country will suffer a drop in annual exports of about \$40 billion. If retaliation escalates to include all two-way trade in goods and services, Chinese exports to the United States would fall by \$190 billion and U.S. exports to China by \$166 billion.

If you have no idea what any of that meant, in a nutshell, it means that both China and the U.S. are predicted to lose a lot of money in this trade war. Like, a lot. If the trade war results in a half-percentage point drop in investment as a share of gross domestic product, as the World Bank quite reasonably assumes it could, the already-substantial damage would be even further multiplied. Such a worst-case scenario would result in a \$426 billion loss to the Chinese economy and a \$313 billion loss to the U.S. economy. The biggest losers in the United States will likely be agriculture, chemicals, and transport equipment. It will be cold comfort to Americans who lose their jobs and their businesses that our loss is somewhat smaller than what our government inflicts on China.

No one wins in a trade war, unless you count being slightly less bankrupt and ruined than the other side. And I don't know about you, but that doesn't seem like a win to me.



The Hate U Give: It's More than a Movie

Ava Harvest

Starr Amara is a powerhouse. She takes her grief and hatred and turns it into a movement, her voice the spearhead of something far greater than herself. She finds herself and her power through pain and fighting a war that she never wanted to fight. Starr may not be real, but her story is.

Not only is *The Hate U Give* a well-executed and entertaining work of art, it also sheds light on the ugly truth of police brutality that has been plaguing American communities for decades and exposes teens to this devastating epidemic that they may have never considered. This book is a way for teenagers to understand what police brutality is while still being entertained and inspired; this is a story of finding your voice, and there is truly something that everyone can take from it. It is a raw, honest, and beautifully crafted work that expertly orchestrates the appalling reality that too many people wish to ignore.

People are dying at the hands of those who are meant to protect and serve for the mere “crime” of existing as a person of color, and it is our responsibility as citizens to recognize what police brutality is and hold the people accountable who take things too far. *The Hate U Give* is a way for teens to begin to understand the gravity of this issue and be in a position to take a stand against it.

Police brutality is defined as one of several forms of police misconduct that involves unnecessary force or violence by police officers. It is a vast and multi-faceted issue that is much deeper than “cops are evil” or “cops are angels.” And while “all cops are bad” is a grossly inaccurate and overstated generalization, it cannot be ignored that there is a statistically proven racial bias that puts African Americans at a higher risk of police brutality. The fact of the matter is that based upon where we live, it is all too easy for us to turn a blind eye to the fact that hundreds of people – primarily people of color – are having to handle the horrible repercussions of police violence across the country.

According to “Mapping Police Violence,” 69% of victims of police brutality in the United States who are African-American were suspected of a non-violent crime and were unarmed. Additionally, one out of three people killed in police shootings in any given year is black. These statistics are incredibly jarring and absolutely unacceptable. There is a clear and deadly racial bias still deeply ingrained in American society. All too often, innocent men and women are killed by people who – because of their badge – don’t get held responsible. This issue is real, even if in our community we don’t see it first-hand.

That’s why *The Hate U Give* is so important. It allows teenagers of all backgrounds to be educated and prompted to act against the deep injustice that is rampant in communities across the country. Everyone should read this book, not only because of the vital message it provides, but also the sheer entertainment value of an expertly crafted work of literature. While the book was published in 2017, a feature film based on the book is out now in theaters.

Read this book. See this movie. Become informed about the world around you even if you can’t see it yourself. It is so important to expose yourself to the – quite literally – fatal flaws in the American justice system and begin to show you the complexities of this issue. This movie will open a door to an entire generation of citizens to see the ugly truth and be politically informed future voters. It’s our responsibility as citizens to hold each other accountable and if necessary, stand up against what isn’t right.



Get to Know the Staff

Dr. Watters Interview

Ava Harvest

Dr. Watters is a man that we all, at this point in the year, know well. From lunch-time dance lessons to showing off colorful socks, it can definitely be said that our new principal is having no trouble assimilating into Unami. After a whopping 21 years of working with elementary aged kids, he seems surprisingly comfortable working with such a drastically different age group – going from giggling nine-year-olds to a group of occasionally cynical and confused teenagers could be a bit of a shock to anyone, but Dr. Watters says he’s more at home than he’s ever been. “I feel like I can be more of who I am here than I could at the elementary level. I love joking with [students], hearing your stories, and helping you feel like you have a voice, because your voice is louder now. [Students] are figuring out who they are and what they believe in, and that’s such an exciting time to be a part of someone’s life...I feel like I’m exactly where I’m supposed to be right now.” Dr. Watters made it very clear to me that making students feel like active members of their school community is incredibly important to him. He wants us to be able to have open communications with the staff and with each other because to the core of his being, he truly loves this school and the students in it. “The most wonderful thing about education is that every day matters, and the most difficult thing about education is that *every day matters*. So, to think that I had some small part as a positive influence or course corrector in a kid’s life – that’s huge.”



Dr. Watters – though he admits he has a lot to learn and remember about what it is to be a teenager – understands and values our individuality. He wants us to succeed, but most importantly, he understands that success means something different for every student. He accepts that listening and open communication is the only way to truly connect to student culture and make a true difference. “We aren’t making widgets. We’re not selling stocks. We’re interacting and helping to shape who a person is, and that’s pretty cool.” When discussing school culture and his hopes for the students’ impression of Unami, he says that he wants it to be a place where students are respected above all else. “Something that Mr. Boyle and I say to the staff a lot is ‘Assume the Best,’ and we continue to work on that. When you leave here, four or five years from now if someone were to ask you: What did you hear Dr. Watters say a lot? [I would hope] you would say ‘he trusted us.’” The thing that sets him apart from other administrators is the value that he places upon having faith in students’ abilities and their word. He sees us as people with fully formed opinions and valid emotions – not cattle to be herded. “[My vision for Unami] is for kids to have sentiments like ‘he empowered us’ or ‘he believed in us’ about myself and other staff [once you’ve left here].”

When prompted to think big picture about what he wants Unami to be, he said this: “...a place where parents want to send their kids, that kids love to come to, and that teachers from everywhere wish they worked at. [My hope is that] teachers don’t *have* to work [at Unami] – they *get* to. I love my job, and I want everyone who works here to feel the same. My mission here is to make that be a reality.”

It is wildly evident to me and to many that Dr. Watters truly loves what he does. His enthusiasm within this month has been unprecedented, and there is one driving force behind everything he does and what makes him passionate: us. When asked what his favorite part of his job was, he didn’t even blink. “[My favorite part] is the kids. Learning your names...is a visible way for kids to know that I *see* them. [I think that] students need to feel connected...I want every kid to get what they need, and that looks different case-by-case. Some people are of the mind that if a student does something, [there is a default response]. And it can’t be that black and white. As much as people want consistency...we’re humans.”

New Teachers

Mr. Boyle Interview

Mehir Badlani

During the middle of October, I had the privilege of interviewing our new Vice Principal, Mr. Boyle! I think Mr. Boyle is very caring and thoughtful. He is a very kind and enthusiastic person, I think Unami will benefit from having such a great Vice Principal! Here's the interview:

1. Where are you from?

I was born in Abington, but I grew up in Warminster

2. Where did you go to school?

William Tennent High School

3. What did you want to be growing up?

I always knew I wanted to be an educator- when I was the Dean of Students at Unami I knew that I wanted to go into Administration

4. Where did you go to College?

I went to Bloomsburg University, got my Masters at Temple University, and I got my Principal Certification at Delaware Valley University

5. How long have you been teaching?

20 years- 13 years as a teacher and 7 years in administration

6. Have you ever taught a subject, like math?

Business and Computer Applications at the middle level and I have also taught at the high school level

7. Where did you work before Unami?

I was originally at Unami, then I spent 1 year at Lenape, then I was Vice Principal at Tamanend for 5 years, and now I'm back at Unami

8. How do you like Unami?

I love Unami

9. Do you like a certain grade?

I just like the Middle School level better in general

10. What is your favorite part of the day?

After School when I get to see kids being passionate and doing the things they love

11. What is your favorite food?

Steak

12. Do you have a hobby?

I love being outdoors, I also like sports, I've coached Soccer, Basketball, and Lacrosse at the Middle School Level and I've coached Volleyball at High School and College

13. When is your Birthday?

June 19th

14. Is there anywhere you would like to visit?

Italy

15. What are some of your favorite movies?

Wonder and *Field of Dreams*

16. Do you have a favorite superhero?

Batman

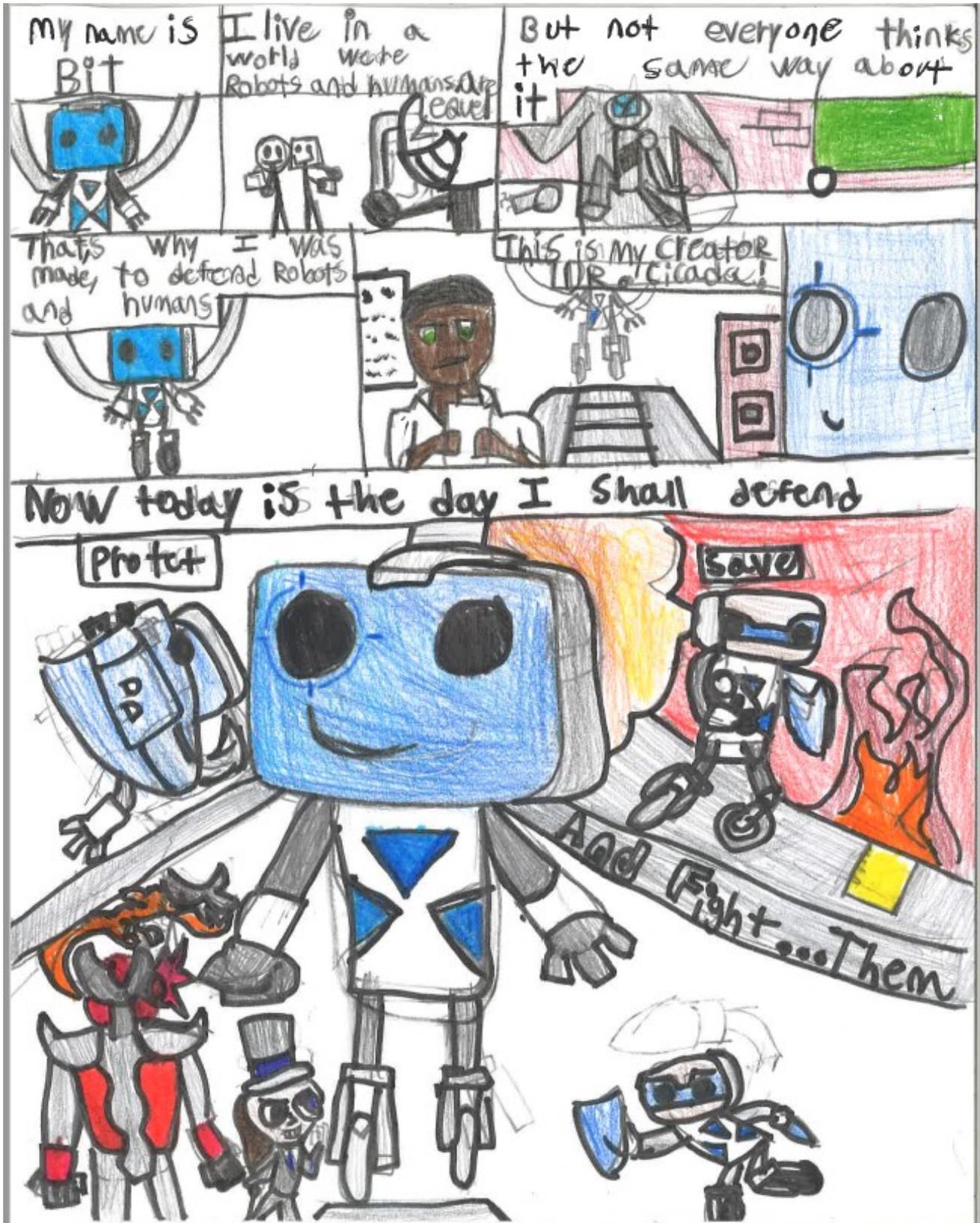


Thanks to Mr. Boyle for letting me interview him! We have a great Vice Principal! Have a great day Warriors!

Game Page

Comic Strip

RJ Pitman



Game Page

Fall Crossword

Julia Schofield and Grace Neumann

Fall Fun Crossword!

S	P	O	O	K	Y	C	A	I	M	I	O	P	P
A	E	S	I	A	N	S	T	C	C	A	I	O	U
K	O	O	E	M	P	W	L	A	N	E	A	U	M
A	O	V	U	C	A	E	E	Y	T	G	R	L	P
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GLOVES
WITCH
VAMPIRE
SPOOKY
AUTUMN
LEAVES
BOO
SWEATER
APPLE
SCARECROW
CANDY
GHOST
HALLOWEEN
PUMPKIN

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