

# THE REED REPORTER

*"Voices of Kindness, Courage, and Community"*



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REED REPORTER TEAM



**CHIEF EDITOR,  
ELIZAVETA**

**"WE ARE ONLY AS  
STRONG AS WE  
ARE UNITED, AS  
WEAK AS WE ARE  
DIVIDED."  
-J.K. ROWLING**

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# Student Spotlight

*"I Connect with my clients by being Personable, Charismatic, and Inviting."*

## LET'S GET TO KNOW MASON...

Mason Orantes, transferred from Brentwood School District in 2024 and has been a positive influence in our Central Islip Community. He proudly embraces his American identity, rooted in his Puerto Rican mother's and Salvadorian father's heritage. We are here to showcase Orantes' talented artistry in barbering.

This past February, while getting a haircut, Orante's barber offered to "get him clippers" to begin his 4 month barber training. "It's fun, it's like art," were Orantes thoughts on his learning journey. When asked about his nerves and scariest moments. Orantes, mentioned, "I got tips from my father who gave me encouragement" whenever he second guessed himself.

According to Orantes, "your never going to get consistent clients, unless you are welcoming to the community. You can't be shy. He continues to say, Treat everyone how you want to be treated." When asking how he leads with kindness, Orantes said "I connect with my clients by being personable, charismatic, and inviting." Beautifully said.

How have we celebrated Orantes? Our very own family at Reed, such as our Principal Mr. Coggiano and Assistant Principal Mr. Bahr made him feel seen and valued. Some teachers and security at Reed also showed him love by getting a haircut by Orantes, such as "Mr. Doscher, Mr. G, Mr. Coniker, Mr. Will, and Mr. Jake," appreciates Orantes Some even went to Ray's Barber Shop in Islip Terrance where he works.

We can continue to show Orantes some love by sharing his story, following his Instagram page @Lil\_maze\_cutz, getting our family and friends to cut with him, even buying some of his merchandise, as Mrs. Jones did, to support his ever-growing dream to own a mobile barbershop at 17 and continue to build a chain of "Lil Maze Cutz" shops. We know you will make it happen especially with your belief of "always putting God first!"

RR: Chief Editor Elizaveta &  
Co-editor Ashly



# Ms. Lennon's Highlighted Writer

## Pamela Diaz Rivera With...

### The Nightmare

Screech! The tire squealed tragically as my mom made a wrong turn,  
Outside, a torrential downpour blurred the world into gray,  
Cold late September chilled me to the bone while I stared longingly,  
Then suddenly—Boom! A cacophony erupted from nearby houses,  
Policemen rushed bravely, their figures running against the storm.  
As the injured lay on the ground, my mom pressed the gas pedal,  
Each bullet gleamed like shards of gold slicing through the dark sky,  
In a flash, one pierced our tire, swift as a shooting star,

il felt the air whoosh out, a deflating balloon of despair,  
We limped a few more miles until the reality of the flat tire hit us.  
hopped out, my pulse racing, as my mom called her sister for help,  
And there, an overturned police car caught my eye in the chaos,  
Curiosity pulled me closer—my heart thundered like a drum,  
I saw a brave officer, three bullets embedded in his chest,  
His tired eyes met mine, whispering, "I couldn't save them."  
Tears cascaded down my cheeks as blood oozed like a river,  
I turned away, desperate for a sign of people,  
Rain tasted bitter on my lips as I called for two officers,  
They rushed to his side, but fate had sealed his tragic end,  
Then all turned pitch black, a void that swallowed me whole, until I jolted awake.

## CELEBRATING CI VOICES

### Reed Reporter Gabriel Riviera's Interview with Ms. Toni Buscarino

#### Children's Librarian at the Central Islip Public Library

**Q:** What is one small act of kindness you have seen in this library that you will never forget?

**A1:** I am fortunate to witness so many acts of kindness at the library! I'll say it's really all the little moments that touch my heart. Sometimes it's the simplest gestures like sharing toys when another friend is crying or having a bad day. I have also seen many of the parents bring in clothes to help others whose little ones are growing so fast. Many families become friends by attending our programming regularly which I love to see and will even bring in birthday gifts or treats for the whole class.

**Q9:** Can you describe a library program or event that successfully brought together people from different backgrounds?

**A9:** One of our most exciting events is the annual Video Game Tournament, sponsored by the local community group, Uplift Our Towns. This event has brought dozens of teens to the library for friendly competition and food. One year we had over 100 kids sign up, and students who maybe wouldn't necessarily interact at school got to compete side by side for awesome prizes. This event has awarded everything from big screen TVs to quirky gadgets and gizmos to winners and families who wouldn't normally be able to obtain such technology.

**Q10:** What role can a library play in bringing joy and connection to community members, and how do you measure that impact?

**A10:** The library is a space that brings people together through shared curiosity, creativity, and community. Whether it's a storytime that sparks a child's love of reading, a craft workshop that helps neighbors connect, or a quiet space where someone can study or reflect, the library creates countless moments of joy and belonging. Technically we measure this through tracking attendance and keeping statistics. However, it's more than numbers! We also measure impact through the stories and positive feedback people share with us. Whether it's finding someone their new favorite book, new friends made at a program, or a family that starts coming every week because they feel at home here—those personal connections and smiles are just as meaningful as any statistic.



## Bad Bunny 2026 SUPERBOWL!



OMG! We're super excited that Bad Bunny is performing at the Super Bowl in 2026...it's going to be epic!

**What to expect:** Expect insane energy with vibrant cultural staging, dazzling lights, non-stop dancing, and a full celebration of Latin culture infused with Puerto Rican vibes. His iconic Coqui Frog will likely make an appearance! Hits like "Ojitos Lindos" and "Tití Me Preguntó" will have everyone on their feet.

**Who is he?** Bad Bunny (real name Benito) is a 31-year-old singer from Puerto Rico who rose to fame on SoundCloud. His music is a unique blend of reggaeton, trap, and pop. His fun, danceable beats mostly in Spanish, mixing rap and singing that gets everyone moving! It has exploded in the U.S., turning him into a global hitmaker and cultural icon who inspires with his songs, style, and authentic personality.

**What makes him unique?** His naturalness shine brightest. Bad Bunny proves that staying true to yourself with his lyrics and style lets you connect more deeply, inspire others, and lead as a genuine icon.

RR: Karonlay, Maria, & Emely

## Pop Culture & Fashion

### KPOP DEMON HUNTERS

Korean pop culture is everywhere these days! From viral dance challenges on TikTok to cool street fashion and blockbuster movies, K-pop has totally hooked teens around the world. It's fun, energetic, and makes you want to sing and dance along! One super exciting new movie that's mixing K-pop with adventure is Huntrix. It stars three awesome girls: Rumi, Mira, and Zoey, who live a crazy double life as famous K-pop idols and secret demon hunters! Here's what makes it so relatable for teens like you:

- Feeling Different? Big Mood: Rumi's part-demon and struggles to fit in, but she learns to own it. Hits hard when you're feeling "weird" or insecure!
  - Friends Hype You Up FR: Fans give the girls real power in the climax—just like your squad gassing you up when you need it most.
  - Double Life Chaos: Hiding demon-hunting while being stars? Total vibe for juggling school, dreams, and secret stresses.
  - Music = Superpower: They fight with bops and dances, like how we blast playlists to slay bad days.
  - Korean Vibes & Drama: Fire food, fits, and sneaky demon boy band (Saja Boys)—the tea is hot!
- Huntrix mixes heart, action, and K-pop in a super real way. If you've ever hidden yourself or needed your crew, you'll be obsessed.

RR: Yarely



**"Essentials and Sp5der hoodies with Nike Tech are it!" - Jeffrey Martinez (8<sup>th</sup> Grader)**



**"Oversized everything!" - Somaya Corrasco (8<sup>th</sup> Grader)**

**Teen Boy Fashion is a mix of streetwear and casual vibes. Comfort, comfort, comfort!**

- Oversized hoodies paired with joggers or jeans
- Aviator/flight Jackets
- Collard bombers, ¼ zip
- Layered Outfits
- Tracksuits, cargo pants
- Neutral Tones
- Scarves and beanies

**Teen Girl Fashion is playful, cozy, vintage and 80's influenced. Its all about comfort.**



- Brown Everything
- Pops of color like pink and red
- Baggy oversized pants
- Denim patterns
- Faux Fur,
- Plaid and animal print
- scarves
- Seakerinas, Uggs, slouchy boots
- crew socks with shoes

RR: Gabriela, Jennifer, & Marjorie

# Highlights Of Last Quarter

Halloween and Day of the Dead are both awesome holidays in fall, but they're super different! Here's a fun comparison with some cool details:



## Halloween

- Fun and fantasy with scary stuff to be afraid of (like witches and werewolves!)
- Was founded or created in Ireland (from old Celtic traditions).
- They give sweet treats like candy when you trick-or-treat!
- Is on October 31.
- Decorations are monsters, ghosts, and scary jack-o'-lanterns.
- You can go trick-or-treating at night.
- Think entertaining and fun!

## DI A DE LOS MUERTOS

- Remember people that died in the past (your family and loved ones).
- Was founded or created in Mexico (ancient traditions).
- Instead of candy, they give pan de muerto (special sweet bread).
- Starts on October 31 and ends on November 2.
- Decorations are skeletons, marigolds, sugar skulls, and colorful altars (ofrendas).
- Instead of trick-or-treating, you go to cemeteries to visit and honor them.
- Embrace death as a natural part of the life cycle..
- Think happy and loving!

RR: Jheremy



Trunk or Treat started in the late 1990s in the United States. It was created mostly by churches as a super safe way to go trick-or-treating. Instead of going house to house, people decorate their car trunks in big parking lots and hand out candy to kids...no dark streets or strangers!

On October 25th, Central Islip SD organized an awesome Trunk or Treat for the community right at our very own Ralph Reed Middle School! It was a huge success. There were tons of parents and kids showed up in the cutest costumes, and teachers plus community members all joined in the fun!

There were so many amazing car themes! Like Mario Brothers with all the fun characters, groovy disco vibes, crazy clowns to make you laugh or scream, a fire department haunted house where kids walked through with creepy sound effects and spooky decor, Nightmare Before Christmas, Cookie Monster and Hot Wheels for the little ones, cute photo stations with hay sacks, fall flowers, and pumpkins, even a "brush your teeth" trunk from local dentists to remind us about healthy smiles after all that candy!

Of course, our Reed PTA was there too! There were yummy treats for sale to raise money for future activities and youth programs. It was the perfect safe and exciting day. Everyone had a blast! Can't wait for next year!

RR: KENSY & TEAM

## Trunk O Treat



The Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration on October 23 at our school was So many Central Islip teachers jumped in to highlight our students' cultures through fun reading and writing projects. Kids created My Identity Presentations, I AM poems, world travel suitcases or passport designs, research on famous Hispanics, detective files, childhood memories, and lots more!

These awesome projects were led by our super ELA and Spanish teachers like Ms. Brideau, Ms. Silva, Ms. Ramos, Ms. Lopez, Mr. Lee, Mr. Carolan, Mrs. Swystun, Mrs. McDonald, Mr. Pamphile, Ms. Britt, Ms. Fernandez, and Mr. De Los Santos – just to name a few!

"I love Hispanic Heritage Month and I think it's a month that we can celebrate our people that are Hispanic," said Mrs. Swystun.

The Drama Club performed a fun Cinderella twist set in Washington Heights, with Philip Ramos as guest Deputy Speaker. There was also a walkthrough Art Gallery showing all the students' cool projects!

"I love Hispanic Heritage Month because it is a wonderful chance to honor and appreciate the various rich traditions of Latinos in our community. I love to listen to Hispanic music like Bachata, salsa, merengue, and others. It's a great time to appreciate the delicious food and a time to practice speaking some Spanish," said Mrs. Jennings.

RR: Brittany

# Hispanic heritage Celebration



# HOLIDAY CAMERA SHOTS

**"OUR SCHOOL IS BLESSED WITH AN INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY! FROM TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS TO STAFF, AIDES, AND CUSTODIANS, WHO ALWAYS GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO BRING EXTRA JOY AND KEEP OUR ENERGY ALIVE!" – MS. RAMOS, RR ADVISOR**

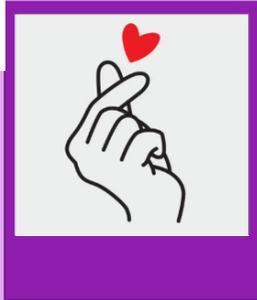
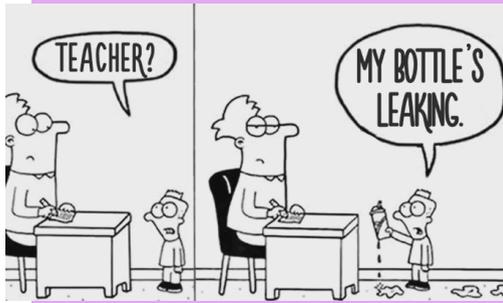


# NEW YEAR'S EVE

## WORD SEARCH



- BALLOONS
- CALENDAR
- CELEBRATE
- CHEERS
- CLOCK
- CONFETTI
- COUNTDOWN
- GOALS
- HAPPY
- JANUARY
- MIDNIGHT
- NEW YEAR
- NOISEMAKER
- PARTY
- RESOLUTION



# Sudoku

Moderate

2	4					9	8
3						2	
	8			1	7		
	3			9	4	5	2
						3	
		6	4		9	7	1
		1		7	3	6	4
6			3		5	8	
		5	4			1	9

# TRENDING, FUN, & EXTRAS

RR: TEAM

67

## WHAT DOES THE # REALLY MEAN AND WHO KNOWS AT REED?

- Ms. Foley.....yes
- Mr. Luchono.....no
- Mr. LaRocca..... yes
- Ms. Jacobowitz.....no
- Ms. Flynn.....yes
- Mr. Saltus.....yes
- Ms. Lagarde.....no
- Ms. Rexach.....no
- Ms. Nydagger.....yes
- Mr. Ingoglia.....yes
- Ms. Strigaro.....yes
- Ms. Swystun.....yes
- Ms. Cid.....yes
- Ms. Ramos.....no

9/14 teachers know what "67" means. There are so many stories: Highway roots, slang term from old gangs, or a cult chant for chaos...to name a few Who truly knows?

RR: GABRIEL

## JOIN A CLUB & MAKE NEW FRIENDS

CLUBS	ADVISORS	DAY/LOCATION
Yearbook Club	Ms Brideau	Mon/Café 1
Newspaper Club	Ms. Ramos	Thurs/Rm 221
Jazz Ensemble Club	Mr. Ingoglia	Tues/Rm 6
Vocal Club	Ms Nydegger	Wed/Auditorium
Vocal Club	Mrs. Reiners	Wed/Auditorium
Band Club	Mr Ingoglia	Mon/Band Room
English Club	Ms Foley	Wed/Rm 106
Math Club	Ms. Nazzaro	Mon/Rm 124
Social Studies Club	Mr. Reduto	Tues/Rm 202
Science Club	Ms. Alexander	Mon/Rm 108
Art Club	Ms. Harris	Tues/Rm 206
Home Economics Club	Ms. LaRocca	Mon/Rm 112
WeatherBug Club	Ms. Rios	Mon/Rm 227
Performing Arts Club	Ms. Strigaro	Thurs/Auditorium
NJHS Club	Ms. Rinaldo	Tues/Rm 214
Robotics/LEGO League	Mr. Cianfrogna	Mon/Rm 205
Spanish Club	Ms. Swystun	Mon/Rm 221
French Club	Ms. Cornell	Mon/Rm 130
Industrial Technology	Mr. Cornell	Tues/Shop 1
Intramurals	Ms. Swystun	Fri/Gym

RR: ADRIAN, SOLIBEL

**DID YOU KNOW...YOU CAN CREATE 207 WORDS WITH THE LETTERS IN HERITAGE? HOW MANY CAN YOU MAKE?**



RR: ADRIAN, SOLIBEL

## REED SPORTS

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Football
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Cheer
- Cross country
- Swimming
- Track and field
- Badminton
- Bowling
- Unified basketball
- Unified bowling