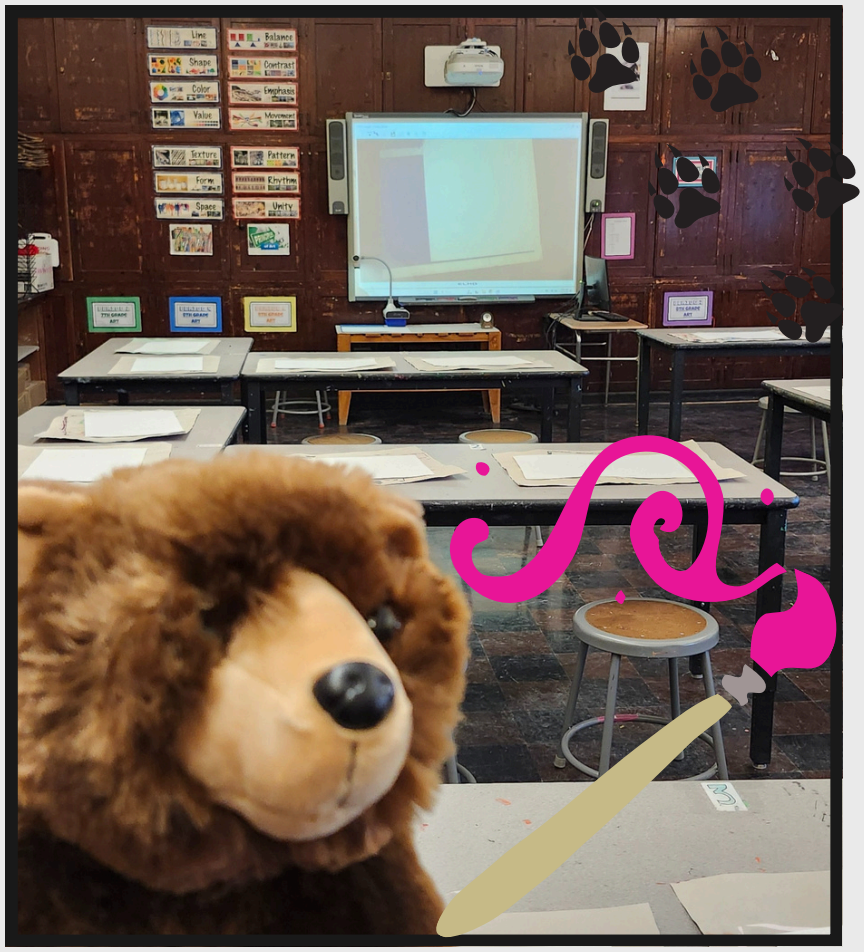
RWB JUNCTION

BREAKING NEWS

THE MYSTERIOUS ART OF THE CUDDLY BEAR

By: Sofia Santos and Kairi Soto



Oakley Jr. stumbles into the art room: “What chaos will I make today” he says chuckling. He grabs a bottle of paint, the glistening hot pink, and squeezes it all over the counter turning into a neon barbie mess splattering it and making glittery paw prints all over the counter.

But, that wasn’t enough for the delightfully mischievous bear as his eyes were submitted to the many art supplies like paint brushes, pastel, and markers. He grabbed the giant size of papers and started using the supplies to the brim.

He smiled to himself drawing many artworks of him and his dreams of wrecking havoc around the whole school. The troublesome bear suddenly realized that Mrs. Lemanquis, the art teacher, was hurrying back from her lunch break.

He soon realized that the deeds he caused will soon be discovered but he wanted to do one more thing. He grabbed his favorite colors, red and black, and painted all across the dull white room. “There! A makeover that’s the best makeover of the centuries of school rooms,” he said proudly to himself with awe.



“Aha!” Mrs. Lemanquais catches him IN THE ACT.

The bear looks stunned. He couldn’t find a hiding spot. The bear walks slowly to her covered in a rainbow mess and glittery paw prints.

“You caught me,” he said disappointedly.

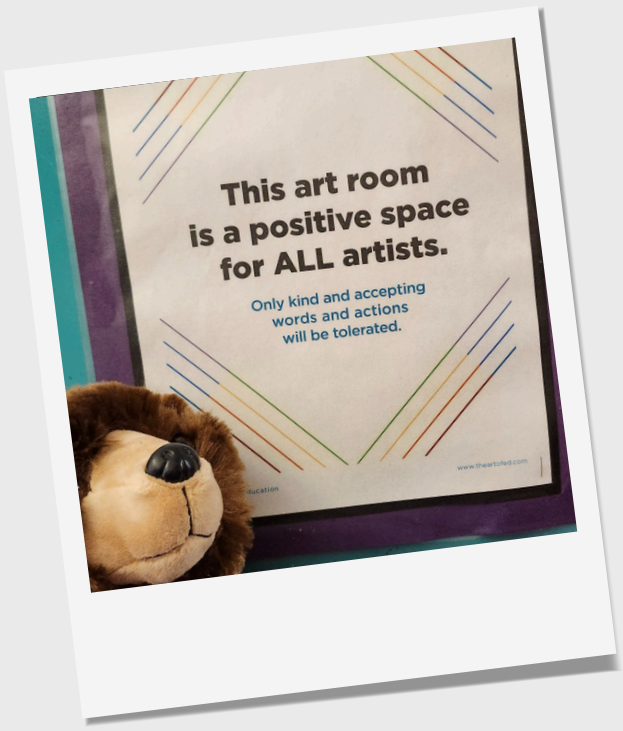
“Well, you did make my room show pride in you and that’s the best thing I could ask for Oakley Jr.” Mrs. Lemanquais replied as she cuddled him.

“But you do need to pay for my art supplies...” she said sternly.

The bear nodded, a bit scared, but also smug. He knew he did need to pay the price of his actions. He grabbed the scattered art supplies on the floor and cleaned up the mess he had made.



He did smile, however, on the compliments Mrs. Lemanquais gave him. She also handed him an art sticker for his adorable artwork. Now Oakley Jr. is proud and cheerful for his art. He hopes to come back and make more of his beautiful art. Maybe he’ll do more antics, who knows?





Where do you think the bear will end up next?

SCHOOL NEWS



REMINDERS

- Please be sure to keep your cell phones stored away from the time you walk into the school building to the time you leave the building.
- Also, keep your hands to yourself at all times and use only kind words that will help uplift and encourage! Let's make it a great day every day!
- We have many water bottles, pencil cases, jackets, sweatshirts and eyeglasses in the lost and found. Please check in the back of the auditorium for any lost items. Eyeglasses are in the Main Office.

WHAT'S GOING ON AT RWB

Mondays:

-Math TIPS 6th Grade

Tuesdays:

-Peer Tutoring
-Science TIPS

Wednesdays:

-Skill Builder Math - 6th Grade

Thursdays:

-Peer Tutoring

RWB READS



You may have noticed the trees within some of hallways with more and more ‘leaves’ being placed on them each day. These are books you and your classmates have completed. The challenge is only beginning.

We need to re-grow the leaves in time for spring. Every time you finish a book, go to your ELA or Social Studies teacher and talk about your book. These books need to be at least one hundred pages in order to help the tree grow. After your talk, your teacher may give you your own book to fill out. Once completed, return it to your ELA teacher to be added to the tree. Every Friday, the books will be collected and added to the tree.

The ELA class that reads the most books will receive an exclusive seat to a classroom barbecue.

The grade that reads the most books will win a VIP seat to their very own movie.

The Top 15 Readers will be recognized with an award and a super secret GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED prize.

Remember to fill out a book slip every time you finish a book over 100 pages!!

CURRENT LEADERBOARD

6th Grade Book Total: 110

7th Grade Book Total: 90

8th Grade Book Total: 24

Current Top Class:

Mrs. Johannessen’s 5th Period

2nd Place (by one book):

Mrs. Arrabito’s 8th Period

Current Top Reader’s

- **Sophia Villa-** 13 Books
- **Venpa Ramesh-** 12 Books
- **Saachi Malhotra-** 12 books
- **Mikaelah Poveda-** 10 Books
- **Erin Lee-Basilian-** 10 Books
- **Samantha Restrepo Cruz-** 9 Books

SPORTS



Wrestling & Basketball

by: Isabella Baroni

Do you enjoy watching wrestling and girls/boys basketball- then keep watching. All of the teams are ready to rock and roll this season! R.W.B has amazing players with unique talents but today I will tell you about the athletes at RWB. The wrestling team has only played a few games but they are absolutely dominating. The girls played the first game and did awesome! We are super excited to see how amazing all of these athletes will be by the end of this winter season! Lets get it R.W.B!

PLAYER SHOUTOUTS

- Hunter Steelman- Wrestling
- Joseph Scala- Wrestling
- Santiago Contreras- Wrestling
- Gino Notarangelo- Wrestling
- Everett Young- Wrestling
- Colton O'Neil- Wrestling



MVP OF THE MONTH

By: Jared Jadoo & Venpa Ramesh

MRS. GEORGE

Mrs. George shows hard work and is a great teacher. Mrs. George teaches us all about science in a fun way. She is patient, inspiring, creative, empathetic, enthusiastic, and dedicated. Mrs. George takes teaching to the next level. Also, she is really funny and laughs when we make a joke.





EUREE RAE TACUT

Euree is an extremely compassionate student and puts in hard work and effort into her work. She is an invaluable, inspiring, and dedicated student. She is also a skilled baker and consistently bakes the best cookies ever!

WANNA BE THE MVP? #BE THE EXAMPLE

STUDENT NEEDS

HOW CAN WE MAKE A CHANGE?



By: Fiona Alog

At our school, food options can play a big role in how students feel during the day. When the cafeteria has only a few options, it can make it harder for students to find meals they enjoy. This is why our school should consider adding more food options for students.

I interviewed a student, who will remain anonymous, with my concerns for the cafeteria food.

Fiona: What are some things that you think the school needs?

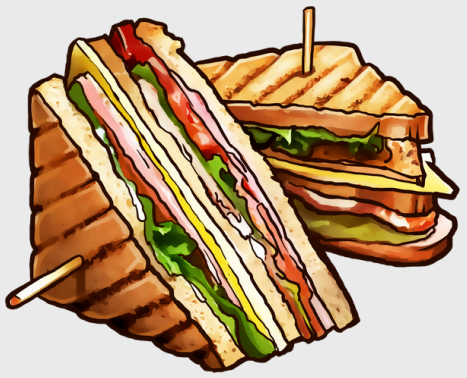
Student: “I think the school needs more food options.”

When the student said this, I asked them to explain further. What exactly did they mean by more food options and why.

Student: What if kids are really picky and do not like this food? They can choose a different type and eat that instead. If we had more options then I have a chance to choose a different food everyday making lunch more enjoyable.

Do you want to see a change in the cafeteria?

Vote now by clicking the sandwich! ----->



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Mr. Rotante
RWB Principal

Interview By: Fiona Alog

Q1: Who am I here with?

A: You're here with Mr. Rotante, the principal of Roy W. Brown Middle School—someone who believes in kids, relationships, and creating a school where everyone feels connected and supported. I believe that every single student has potential, purpose, and the power to grow into something great.

Q2: Why did you become a principal?

A: I love working with students and teachers, and I wanted to help build a school culture where kids feel safe, challenged, and proud of who they are and where they go to school and live. I am a Bergenfield Bear and I want them to be Proud to be a Bergenfield Bear. You know once you are a Bear, You are forever a BEAR and will meet other Bergenfield Bears everywhere you go, no matter what continent you are on!

Q3: What is a typical day for you here at school?

A: No two days are the same! My day usually includes greeting students in the morning, visiting classrooms, supporting teachers, meeting with students, talking with parents, handling problem-solving, and making sure the school is running smoothly—always with the goal of helping all of you succeed.

Q4: Why do you go outside every day playing music?

A: Because everyone loves music! Playing music outside sets a positive tone, brings energy to the school, and helps students, staff and the people waiting at the bus stop start their day in a good mindset. It reminds us that each day is a fresh start and that school can be a place of energy, positivity, and connection. It's about creating a vibe that says, "This is a great place to be and also that I am grateful to be your Principal!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Q5: What's your hidden talent that we wouldn't know about unless you told us?

A: From the last question you already know that my talent is NOT dancing. I love flying and taking pictures with drones. I enjoy trying to capture whales at the Jersey Shore during the months of September through November.

Q6: What is your go-to song to get ready for something?

A: Anything upbeat with a strong rhythm—something that gets you focused and confident. Music that makes you feel like, "Alright, let's go." Recently I have been enjoying the song Bonita by Daddy Yankee as my get ready song.

Q7: If you were 13 again, what would you do?

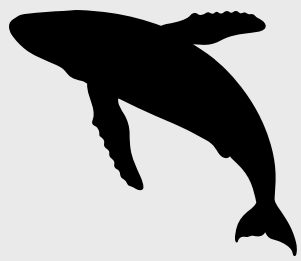
A: If I were 13 again, I would listen more to my parents and to the trusted adults in my life. Everything they say comes from experience — from mistakes they've made and lessons they've learned. They don't want to control your life; they want to make it better. I'd understand that their advice is really about helping me avoid unnecessary struggles and become the best version of myself. I'd believe in myself more and worry less about what other people think. I'd take more chances, try new things, and remember that mistakes are part of growing.

Q8: What's the best thing about being the principal?

A: The students—100%. Watching you grow, succeed, overcome challenges, and become better versions of yourselves every day is the most rewarding part of this job. Working with young adults reminds me every day that growth is happening right in front of us. It reminds me that potential isn't something you're born with—it's something you build through effort, mistakes, and believing in yourself. Your energy, your questions, and your resilience push me to be better, too. Many times you all are very funny and do not even realize it!!







7TH GRADE



MEDIEVAL TIMES PERMISSION SLIPS ARE DUE MARCH 1ST!

Short Story

The Snow Globe of Surprises

By: Hannah Pazheparampil & Leilany Sanchez



It was a nice chilly evening in the Johnson cottage. Ella was spending her winter with her Grandma, since her mom was on a work trip.
“Wow! I forgot how big your cottage was! “ Ella exclaimed when her eyes first laid on the cottage. The cottage had this cozy vibe you instantly got just by looking at it.

The sounds of the fire crackling, and the smell of her grandma’s signature chocolate chip cookies coming from the kitchen.
“ Make yourself at home honey, you will be staying here for a while anyway. Your room is upstairs, right below the attic.“ Grandma May told Ella.

When grandma May finished, a question popped into Ella’s head. *How come Grandma never allows me to go into the attic? Is it really that bad up there?* She decided to stop thinking about it for now, and talk more about it later at night. Even though it sounded like Ella had it all planned out, she didn’t. She didn’t even had time to eat dinner, but at least she had a plan. At 12 AM when Grandma was sleeping she would secretly go up to the attic to see what was really there. Then, she would immediately go back downstairs like nothing happened.

But, before all of that, she had to go through the most dreadful part of this process, waiting. Ella didn’t like to wait, she was known for being very impatient in elementary school. As soon as the clock struck 12, Ella shot right out of bed going straight to the attic door. At first it was quite a struggle to open, but when it did it made a loud noise. Surprisingly, it didn’t wake Grandma up, so quietly Ella went up the stairs of the attic she had feared for many years. She was quite confused to see that the only thing up in the attic was a little snow globe.
“You’re telling me all this time, there was just a snow globe here?”

Without thinking Ella went up to the snow globe, and gave it a good shake. Next thing she knows, she passes out on the floor. Then, she wakes up in a winter wonderland, snow falling in every inch of the land.

“ Wait this place looks familiar. No way! I’m in Grandma’s snow globe! I have to get back home before Grandma notices.”

Ella tries to look around to see if she can find any shelter, when she sees a penguin talking.

“ Excuse me! Sorry to interrupt, but do you know how to get out of here?”

“Well of course I do! This isn’t the first time something like this has happened to someone before.” The penguin replies.

“ Perfect! Can you tell me so I can go home!” Ella says having the desire to go home.

“ Sorry, but you have to earn your way out of here.”

“ Really, just tell me it’s not that hard. “

“ All you have to do is try to stop a polar bear from stealing all the hot chocolate for himself. Not that bad if I say so myself.”

“ WHAT! I literally have a fear of those white beastly things.”

“ To bad to sad, random human. I have to go, but I can give you a map of the place so you know where you are going. Even though the place might look small, it’s a lot bigger than most people think it is.” The penguin tells waddling away to their other penguin friends.

“ Bye I guess... Thanks for the map! Wait how do you use a map? This isn’t GPS how do I work this thing!”

But before she could get an answer the penguin was out of her sight. Ella had to walk up several mountains, still figuring out how to use a paper map. Finally she had made it to the Polar Bear Hill,

“the place where all polar bears live.

“ HEY! I”M HERE BECAUSE SOME OF YOU SELFISH BEARS DON’T KNOW HOW TO SHARE! “ Ella screamed, forgetting the fact that she had a life long fear of them.

“ What did that tiny little human just say to us?” One of the polar bears asked.

“ Why can’t you share some of your hot chocolate with the other animals that are living here?” Ella asked in a serious tone.

“ Because we need more hot chocolate than everyone else, we are the biggest animals here.” The leader polar bear said.

“ You guys literally have a thick layer of blubber underneath your fur, just to keep you warm. Ya’ll knew that right? Basically, you guys are overheating yourselves while the others are freezing to death. “ Ella yelled trying to convince them.

“ I actually never thought of that.” one polar bear said.

“ Yeah, me too, okay we accept your offering.”

“ Thank you, I thought it would take so much longer to get you bears to agree with me. “

With that Ella sprinted back over to Penguin Valley, where she was before.

“ Hi, so guess what! I got you guys hot chocolate from the bears. You guys better be happy.”

“ Really? Thank you, as an award for your bravery today, you will be rewarded with a trip back home.”

“ Thank you! I’m so glad to go back home again.”

When she woke up, she saw herself in her bed like nothing had happened. Now she calls that exact snow globe, the snow globe of surprises.

The End



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

By: Thomas Morrell

Most people think of January 19th as just another day off of work, which is a great reason to celebrate, but is not the true meaning of the day. We take this day to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr., a civil rights activist who helped shift the public's perspective on segregation along with other characters like Malcolm X.

Born in 1929, King led peaceful protests (most notably the "March on Washington", where he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech inspired by Gandhi and his own faith as a Baptist minister. He tragically passed away after being assassinated in Memphis in 1946 while supporting striking workers. His monumental movements are remembered with a day and a statue in Washington, D.C.

"The time is always right to do right"
— Martin Luther King Jr



"I say to you today, my friends, though, even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream.

It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up, live out the true meaning of its creed:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

— Martin Luther King Jr



ASK ALICE

I'M READY FOR THE TEA



BestfriendvsBoys

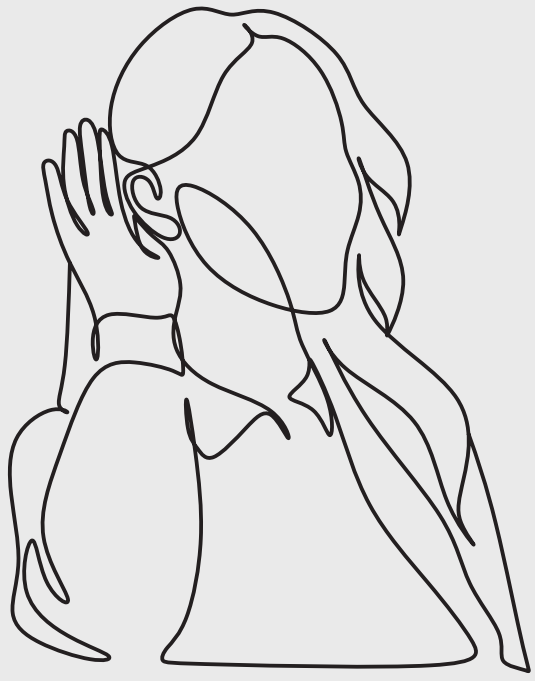
Hey Alice, my best friend and I like the same guy. What should I do?

Alice: Hey! That's tough, I think the most important thing is to be totally honest with your friend and protect the friendship first. Guys come and go, but best friends are harder to replace!

Talking2Him:

Hello Alice! I've been in the talking stage with a boy for two months but he keeps talking to another girl. What should I do?

Alice: Hi, If it is bothering you, you should ask him where you stand...



...You deserve clarity, and if he can't give you that, then it might be better to step back and focus on yourself more.

StarInTraining:

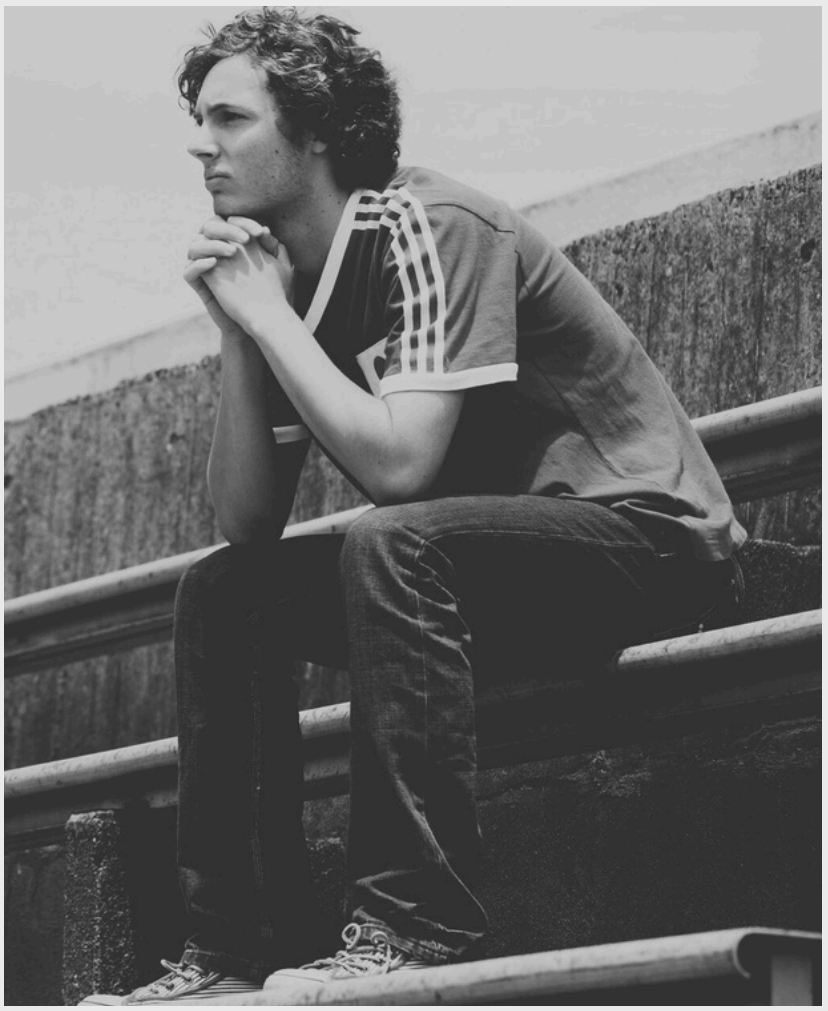
Hi Alice, I want to try out for the volleyball team next year but I'm nervous. How can I overcome my fear?

Alice: Hello, being nervous is totally normal! Try practicing a little at a time and remind yourself that trying is already a win. Even if it doesn't go perfectly, you'll be proud you went for it.

Have questions for Alice? Leave a note in the box next to RM 202!

MESSAGE MAX

I MIGHT HELP... OR NOT



DudeInTrouble:
Whatsup Max, how do I get good grades?

Max: What's up! Stay organized, do your homework on time, and don’t be afraid to ask for help. Little effort every day adds up to success!

CookedDude:
Max, I’m a 6th grader and I secretly have a crush on an 8th grader. Should I talk to her?

Max: You can talk to her, but keep it casual and friendly. Don’t rush anything, just be yourself and see how it goes.

Have questions for Max? Leave a note in the box next to RM 202!



DudeInNeed:

Hey Max, how do I make new friends at school?

Max: Just be open and kind. Join clubs, talk to people in classes, and don’t overthink it, most people are looking for friends too.

DudeWhatsAlgebra:

Sup Max, how can I do better in math?

Max: Practice is key. Ask questions when you’re confused and try watching short videos or doing extra problems. It really helps things click.

ALICE & MAX

Alice and Max would like to remind all students that they love giving advice to everyone, and will answer any questions they receive. However, Alice and Max are not professionals and certain questions they don’t have the answer for.

Please keep in mind, if you have a serious question or situation- the best person to talk to would be the RWB counselors. They are here to support you with any situation.



RISING JOURNALISTS

6th Grade Journalism ‘How-To’ Articles

Classic Grilled Cheese Sandwich

By: Amara Corsano



Grilled cheeses are one of the most popular, classic sandwiches in America. They’re a good snack, and they’re very easy to make. It’s good to be able to cook one if you’re running short on time or you’re just hungry and don't want to prepare a huge meal.

Materials: Frying pan, Stove, Spatula, and a Plate
Ingredients: Two slices of white bread and Two slices of American cheese

Instructions:

- Turn on your stove, put your pan on it, and set it to medium heat.
- Once the pan is relatively warm, place a slice of white bread in it. Then, put your two slices of American cheese on top of the slice, and cover that with another piece of bread. It will look like a sandwich.
- Leave the sandwich cooking for about three minutes, or until the side facing down is slightly golden-brown, and then flip it to the opposite side using a spatula. The cheese should be melted enough that the sandwich stays together. If it’s not, leave the sandwich to cook on the first side for a couple more minutes.
- Let the second side of the sandwich cook for about three minutes as well. Once both sides are perfectly golden, use your spatula to transfer it into a plate.
- Let your grilled cheese cool for a minute or so, then you can eat it!

Hot Chocolate

By: Vanessa Quintero

Today we will be talking about how to make a home made hot chocolate. This is a sweet treat during the holidays, especially at Christmas. It's important to know how to make hot chocolate because you might feel cold after playing in the snow or maybe you just want a warm chocolate drink to sip on.



Ingredients: milk, powdered chocolate, marshmallows, a cup for your hot chocolate, whipped cream, measuring cups, a spoon, a straw, and powdered cinnamon.

Instructions:

- 1. Grab your cup and pour 2 ½ cups of milk into it so that it's not over flowing with milk.
- 2. Put the cup of milk in the microwave and put it for 2-3 ½ minutes. Make sure when you take out the cup make sure you have gloves so that you don't burn yourself.
- 3. When the milk is hot, you can now add your powdered chocolate into it and stir it with your spoon. When you are done you can drop some marshmallows in there as well.
- 4. Next (this is optional from this point) you can put your whipped cream on top of your cup and add your cinnamon on top of the whipped cream.
- 5. Now you are done with your home made hot chocolate! Enjoy!

Have You Scene It?

Greenland 2: Migration

by **Gabriella De Leon**



In mid-2020, the release of a movie titled Greenland was introduced to the cinematic world. The highly anticipated sequel, Greenland 2: Migration, was released as of early 2026. Greenland is a disaster-survival thriller that focuses less on fantasy, and more on normal day-to-day people trying to escape extinction.

In Greenland 1, a gigantic comet, named Clarke, is thought to be heading towards Earth. In the beginning, scientists believe that it'll be harmless, and at most, only fragments will fall, creating a mesmerizing meteor shower. But they couldn't have been farther from the truth. As the comet gets closer and closer, it begins to break apart, as huge pieces start slamming into Earth, causing chaos across the planet.

The sequel of this franchise continues the story, as the world is still in recovery from a global catastrophe. Survivors on Earth are forced to migrate after the aftermath of the disaster. They must travel long distances in search of shelter, resources, and safety.

This film has strong themes on relationships whether it be, neighbor or family. It focuses on how families and communities help each other in danger and in difficult situations. This movie isn't all just action and danger, but it's also able to pry emotions out of the watcher due to how real and emotional this feels. This flick highlights how people migrate away from danger and into a safer, more suitable environment for them like how birds and other mammals adapt to a better lifestyle.

Overall, Greenland 2: Migration delivers important themes and messages about resilience and accepting things the way they are. It reminds the audience that even in the most difficult times, having hope and supportive people by your side, can help people move forward and get past the hard times.





Have You Scene It?

Over the Moon

by Samaira Joseph



Some movies are fun to watch and also teach an important lesson, and Over the Moon is one of them. This animated Netflix movie came out in 2020 and is based on the Chinese legend of the Moon Goddess, Chang'e. The story is about a curious and determined girl named Fei Fei who goes on an unforgettable journey to the Moon. Through her adventure, the movie shows themes of love, change, and learning how to let go while still honoring memories.

As the movie continues, viewers see Fei Fei dealing with the loss of her mother and adjusting to changes in her family. After her dad brings a new woman into the house, Fei Fei doesn't like her. Later at dinner, her relatives laugh at her for believing in the Moon Goddess.



She feels like she's the only one who still believes in the Mood Goddess, and she wishes her mom was still with her. So she decides to go to the moon and meet Chang'e and prove her relatives wrong. When she reaches the Moon, she meets Chang'e, who is also struggling with sadness and loneliness. Together, they learn to move forward. The movie stands out because of its colorful animations, catchy songs, and emotional message.

Overall, Over the Moon is a touching film that promotes hope, strength, and creativity. It is a great choice for anyone who enjoys animated movies with meaningful stories and positive messages. This movie shows that it is okay to feel sad after losing someone you love. This is a movie you can watch with your family or friends.

TLDR CURRENT EVENTS

By: James Lenart



New Guinness world record for tallest living female dog. Minnie, a dog that's not so "mini"

As of January 13th we have a new Guinness world record for tallest living female dog! Meet Minnie, a Great Dane standing at 3 feet and 2 inches from her front paw to where her neck and shoulders meet. But, Minnie started out small like the rest of us. Minnie at a few days old pictured alongside a current photo of Minnie at 3 ½ years old.

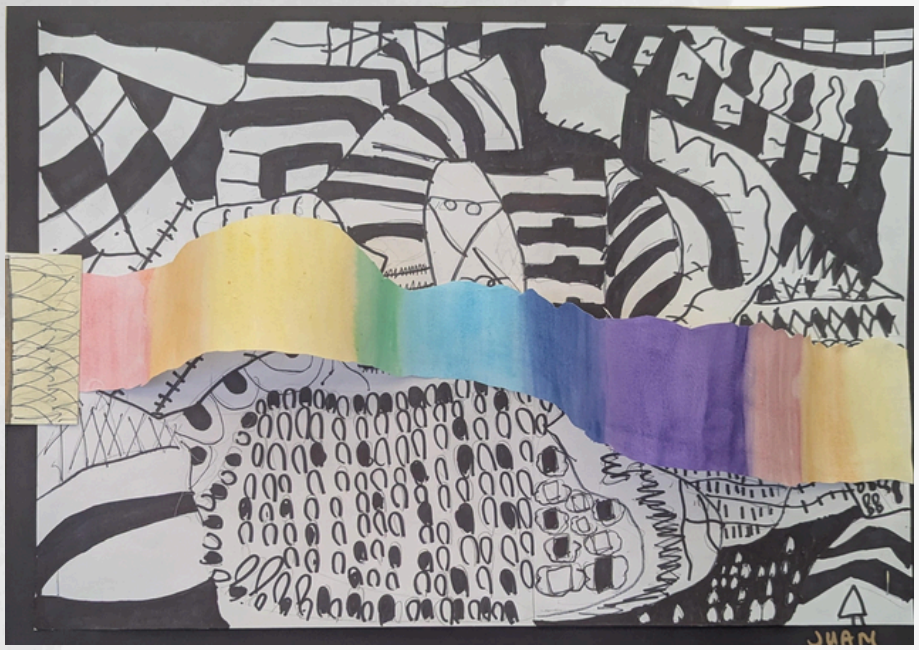
Wallaby goes wild for Walmart in Williamstown!

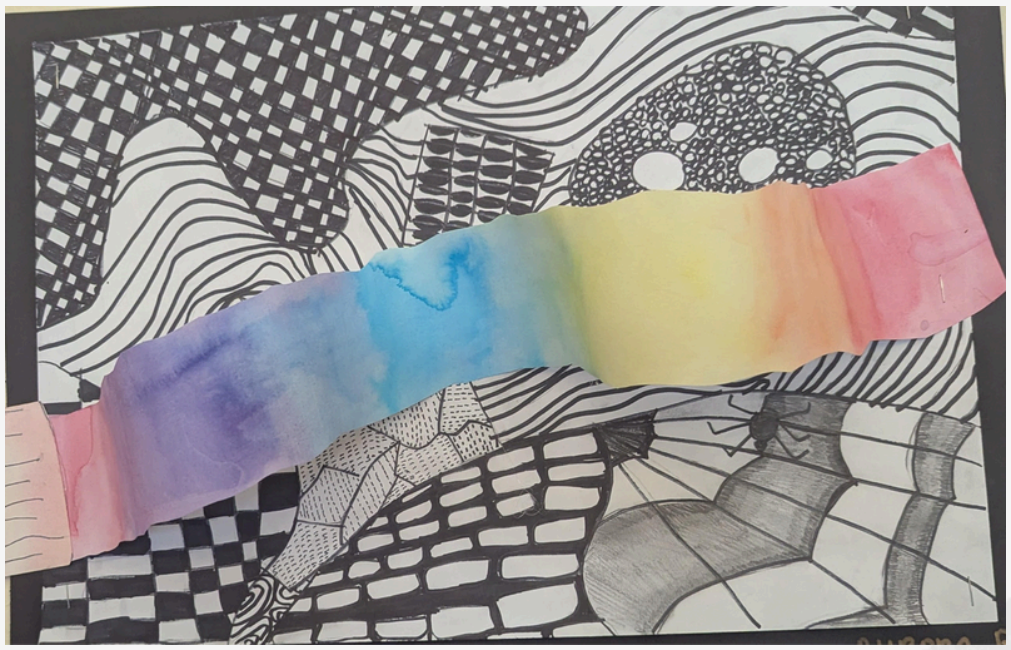
Customers at a Walmart in Williamstown, New Jersey spotted a wallaby hopping around in the parking lot on New Year's Eve. A 3-foot-tall wallaby named Rex had escaped the Lots of Love Farm animal sanctuary earlier that day and went on a shopping spree at a local Walmart. It is not known what he purchased, but he was back safely to the animal sanctuary that same day. Pictured below is Rex hopping around the Walmart parking lot, and Rex safely back home with his stuffed animal.





RWB ART 6th Grade

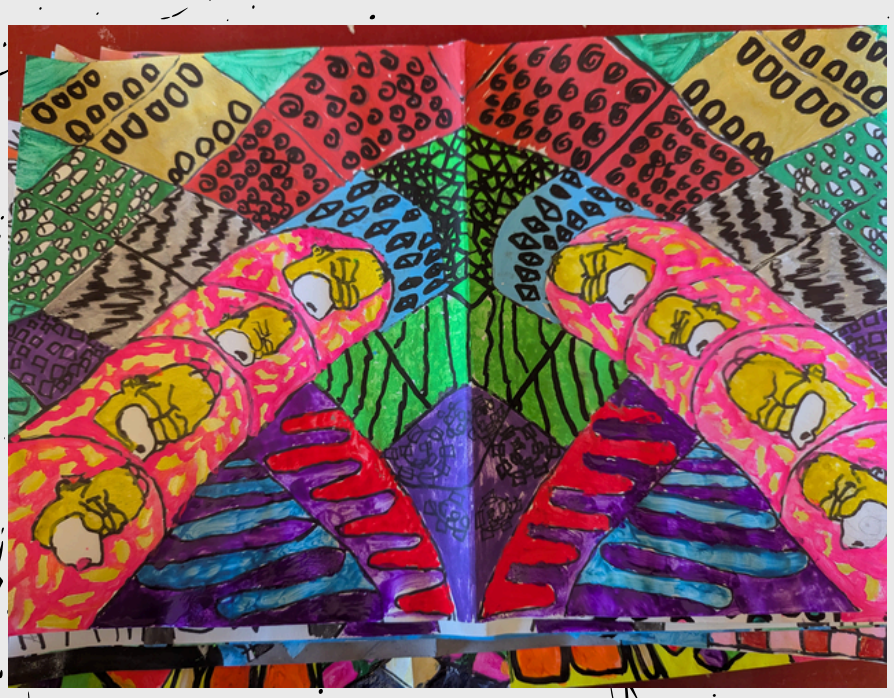






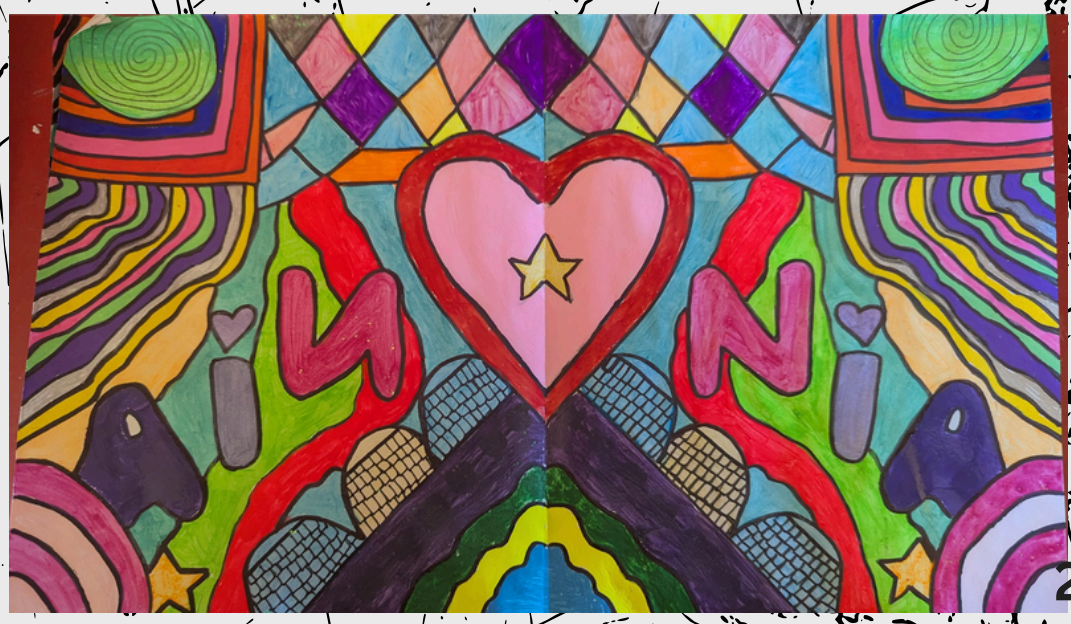


RWB ART 7th Grade









8TH GRADE ART







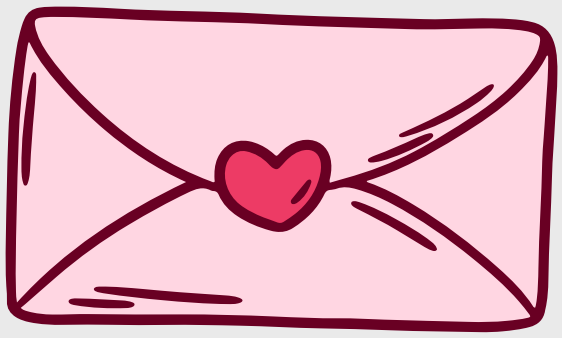
WE CHALLENGE YOU

Do you have a passion for writing? Ready for the whole school to see your writing skills?

The RWB Newspaper is calling for submissions to next month's newspaper. We want to see who can write the best poem featuring love, family, or friends in honor of Valentine's Day!

The top three winners will earn a spot in next month's newspaper and 25 bear bucks!

To enter: Submit your information and writing to the Google Form below by clicking the envelope:



You may also send your submission to Ms. Gollihue: vgollihue@bergenfield.org.

Please include your name, the title of your poem, and the poem itself within the email.

All entries must be submitted by February 13th!

IMPORTANT DATES

End of the Second Marking Period: **January 30th**

i-Ready Superbowl Ends- **February 6th**

RWB Paint & Dine- **February 12th**

Half Day: **February 13th**

No School- **February 19th**

7th Grade Medieval Times Permission Slips Due- **March 1st**

