



THE PAW PRINT CUB EDITION

March 2026

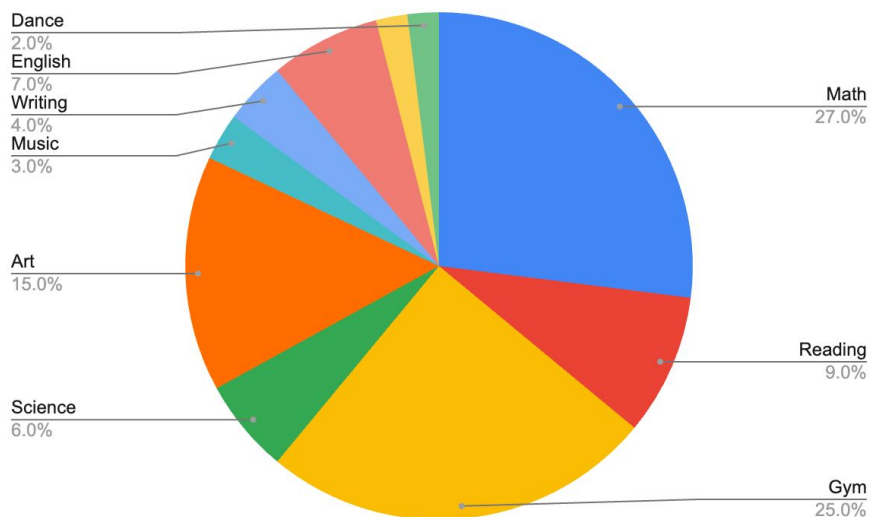
WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT?

By: Julianna Buckheit, Tire Kuju, Alianna Mora

This month we went around asking people their opinion on their favorite school subject! We went from class to class and asked students and teachers what their favorite subject is. We were surprised about some of the answers! We thought a lot of people were going to vote for dance because who doesn't like dancing? But we learned that it's not a favorite subject.

We asked 100 people their favorite subjects! This is what they voted for! Here are the top 5 subjects: In first place was Math with 27 people voting for this subject followed by 25 people voting for Physical Education. Fifteen people voted for art, 9 for reading and 7 for English. The bottom 5 subjects were Science, Music, Writing, Social Studies and Dance. Only 6 people voted for Science, and only 3 people voted for Social Studies. Four people said Writing was their favorite, only 2 people voted for Social Studies (also known as History). And the one subject we were the most surprised about was Dance! Only 2 people voted for Dance! I think we need a recount!

By asking so many people what their favorite subject was, we learned that a majority of third and fourth graders love math and gym! We also learned that Dance and Music are not popular subjects!



THE PARALYMPICS

By: Lithuli Wijenayakage

If you read my other article on the 2026 Winter Olympic Games, you probably know all about it. There was curling, figure skating, hockey, and much more. But some people can't do those things. Some people are disabled in one way or another. But who says they can't join in the fun? Who says The Olympics are only for people that are able to? No one did! So they can join in. It's called The Paralympics. Don't know what it is? I am going to let you know everything about The Paralympics.

In WWII people got injured. To regain confidence, veterans got wheelchairs to help them in their sports. That eventually led to wheelchair archery where people who have disabilities can compete in a contest with 16 of them. Sir Ludwig Guttman, a German neurologist, invented that in 1960, Rome Italy. And the first Winter Paralympics Games was very, very special.

Sir Guttman, as I said before, invented the Paralympics, not knowing it was going to be famous one day. Based on Google AI, The first Paralympic Winter Games were held in Örnsköldsvik, Sweden, in 1976. Running from February 21-28, these inaugural games featured 198 athletes from 16 countries competing in Para alpine and cross-country skiing, along with ice sledge racing as a demonstration event. Can you believe that there were 198 competitors !!!

Continued on page 10

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

By: Ava Abu Laban, E'Laysia Melendez, Mazen Sallam

Today you will guess a special teacher. We will give you hints to guess the teacher! First she is a girl. She has been teaching for 23 years exactly and never had another job before becoming a teacher.

She has taught 3rd grade every year for her 23 years of teaching.

Second, her favorite subject is ELA. Next, her favorite color is black. Also, If she could be anything other than a teacher she would be a makeup artist and an actor. Her favorite thing about Petrides is watching kids understand lessons and grow as she gets the opportunity to see kids get better at skills. This teacher loves nutella and pizza.

She has brown eyes, dark brown hair, and she mostly wears black. She has a big heart for 3rd graders and she has two dogs.



The teacher is ... **Please turn to page 5 to find out!**



THIS OR THAT

A Friendly Debate about...



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

BY E'LAYSIA MELENDEZ (YES) AND WINONA CHRISTIANSEN (NO)

I say YES to uniforms!

I think we should wear uniforms in school. Uniforms have been around for centuries. The first uniform was traced back to 1222 in London, England. School uniforms are important because they can reduce bullying by putting equality into the school. They can do this because everyone is wearing the same thing and because of that, students won't be bullied for their clothes. If there are no uniforms, then students could bully others for their fashion style. School is supposed to make you feel safe and is a place to learn. Schools have uniforms to support that idea of safety. Also uniforms are made to stop distractions for the work which is why private schools have them.

I say NO to uniforms!

I think that children should have their sense of fashion while creating their outfits and being proud of what they are wearing. Besides, who would want to wear a uniform? They are very plain and mostly boring. They are very uncomfortable too. They are very itchy, starched, or synthetic material. On the other hand, when you dress like you want to, you will get to express yourself and show the world who and what you are. Also, when you dress like you want to, you get to combine different clothing to show creativity, imagination, ingenuity, and inventiveness to the world. We all have a right to have freedom of what we choose to wear. It's called freedom of expression. Forcing children to wear uniforms goes against their rights. According to the research, uniforms don't matter to test scores or any behavior changes. Therefore, I do not agree with wearing uniforms.

CURRENT EVENTS



Staten Island St. Patrick's Day Parade

By Ashlynn Olah

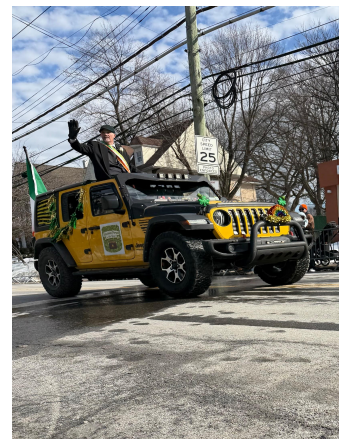
If you didn't already know, Saint Patrick's Day was March 17. If you weren't able to make it to the Staten Island Saint Patrick's day parade on Forest Avenue earlier this month, read this article to find out what went on.

What happened first is the parade actually got delayed because of a package. Everyone was standing outside forever. They cleared the package away and the parade finally started. The first thing that came was the high school marching bands. There were all different high schools marching down the street and playing their instruments.

Then a little while later all the dancers came. They were wearing pretty dresses. After that the horses started prancing down the street. Then all the police cars and fire trucks made their way down Forest Avenue. The people in them were waving and throwing necklaces and candy too.

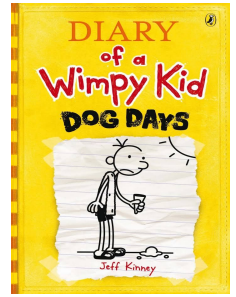
After that the floats came. There were a bunch of people on them and one even had a band playing music. There was even one guy handing out shirts. Then the important people of the city came walking down the street with banners. After that the parade was over.

Now if you weren't able to make it to the parade you have a summary of everything that happened. The parade is a lot of fun and you will most likely see people you know there. If you weren't there this year, you should try and go next year!



BOOK REVIEW

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days by Jeff Kinney



A review by Lithuli Wijenayakage

There are many books out there and everyone has their opinion which is best. There's Dog Man, Dork Diaries, even The Very Hungry Caterpillar, but there's one book series that we all enjoy. It's called Diary of a Wimpy Kid. The series is written by Jeff Kinney. There are about 20 books in the series. I think one of the best books is Dog Days. You don't know it? You can read on to find it out.

In the start of the book, Greg is seen on a video game, stating he thinks vacations are terrible. He'd rather stay inside, being lazy in one place, playing with a controller. That is why he dislikes when his mom, Susan Heffley, tells him to venture outdoors. She is not dealing with this nonsense. She wants this vacation to be valuable. He has a problem. He has to face the outdoors. Making his "well planned" summer break into a disastrous, and troublesome vacation. Read Dog Days to find out what Greg does and if he winds up liking the outdoors!

This book has 217 pages filled with laughter, packed with intensity, and it's just a great book! I think you should try out this book. If you enjoy it, you can go on to read the rest of the series! Amazon rates this book a 4.6, but I rate this book **5** stars! I highly recommend it! Claws out and have an amazing day!



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT FROM PAGE 2

The mystery teacher is Ms. Udin!





OUR ENDANGERED FRIENDS *Axolotl*

By: Abigail De Los Angeles, Daniel Selby, Elsa Wang

Hello! This is the elementary school newspaper here to tell you about the amazing and wondrous axolotl! Axolotls are named after the God of Lightning, Xolotl. They can grow 6 inches to 15 inches long but some might be 15 inches to 30 inches long! Female axolotls lay up to 300-1000 eggs. Also, Axolotls live up to around 10-15 years old. Axolotls can regrow limbs and it will take about 40-50 days. Axolotls come in different colors like blue, pink and even black!

Axolotls are carnivores. When they find prey, they can catch them very quickly. Axolotls are critically endangered. They are endangered because they live in Lake Xochimilco in Mexico City, which is polluted. You can help the Axolotl population by spreading awareness and making donations to habitat restoration organizations. We hope you guys enjoyed our facts about Axolotls!!

THE CUTEST COOKIE

By: Lithuli Wijenayakage

On March 23, the fourth graders went on a trip to the school cafeteria to make very cute cookies! Walking in, everyone could see how beautiful the cookies were set up. There were cups of frosting with paintbrushes beside them. Here was the process:

First, we see everything set up. Blue table cloths are on the cafeteria table, three cookies are in a clear plastic bag, with frosting cups of red, yellow, green, blue, and black. The cookies are waiting to be decorated. As soon as children sit down, they eagerly wait for instructions. Meanwhile, they admire their plain, undecorated cookies. Soon, the Cutest Cookie employees are giving instructions.

Soon the cafeteria fills with chatter and giggles from fourth graders while they rip open their bags to start decorating. As soon as the cookies are out, people pick their frosting. The employees say aloud, "First open your frosting cup and mix it with the brush. You must do it with all of the cups. Second, have fun! Also, you should spread a lot of the frosting, or else you can't decorate it with sprinkles. You all know what to do now?" "Yes..."

Finally, everyone's finished decorating! Their cookies look fab and cute. Get it? Cutest Cookies? Anyways, you can go on instagram to check out how cute the decorated cookies are! Claws out, and have an amazing day.



SIBLING TIME

By: Leo Mezzacappa

If you are an only child who wants a sibling, or who will be having a sibling soon, this article is for you! You see, having a little sibling is a lot of responsibility. I was an only child who just recently got a little brother. I love it! Just so you know, **it takes a lot to be a big brother or sister!** Here are some things you need to know: Babies are very small and an average newborn is about 7 pounds! They also go through a lot of diapers. They wake up during the night and cry because they're either hungry, need a diaper change, or they are tired. They also need love and attention. You may need to help your mom and dad with these tasks. They are totally dependent on their families; they can't do anything on their own. Even though it's a lot of work, having a baby sibling is the best! And remember, this newborn stage doesn't last forever. They'll be playing with you in no time!



ELEMENTARY EVENTS

March

By: Winona Christensen

Mark your calendars! March 17th 2026, our second grade friends will be going to the Atrium theater to see Goat. I hope the movie is good! Also, March 19th 2026 is a half day of school for all Petrides students. Dismissal will be at 11:20am. We are having a half day because it is Parent Teacher Conference week! After this half day, on March 20th 2026, there will be a day off to celebrate Eid al- Fitr. So, get ready and relax! Next, on March 23rd 2026, the fourth graders will be going to the Petrides cafeteria to decorate their own three cookies from Cutest Cookies!! Hope they turn out good and pretty! Now after this cookie event, the Pre-K children will have a special project. They will be making a birdhouse building while painting and decorating it! Parents will come in to help.(At the Petrides K building) How cute!! Next is the kindergarten! On March 31st 2026 , our kindergarten friends will be having a fashion show in the Petrides theater, at 9:00 am. Make sure to wear a dressy outfit!

That's it for our March calendar, but there will be one in April!

AROUND THE WORLD

Great Wall of China

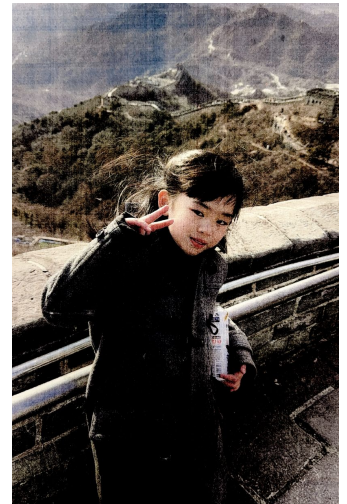
One of the Seven Wonders of the World

By: Abigail De Los Angeles, Daniel Selby, Elsa Wang

Hi! This is Elsa, Abigail, and Daniel here! Today we will be learning about The Great Wall of China! The Great Wall of China stretches across 13,171 miles. Also, the Great Wall of China stretches across MANY different places. The creator of the great wall of China was Qin Shi Huang. It took 500 years to build it. The wall was built to protect China from its enemies. Some people have walked the whole great wall of China! It would take 18 months to walk the whole wall. The Great Wall of China is between 15 and 46 feet tall! That's taller than the Petrides School!

My Visit to The Wall

My name is Elsa, and I visited the Great Wall of China! So let's talk about it. When I went to The Great Wall of China, I went with my mom, dad, and brother. The Great Wall of China looked so big when we saw it in person! At The Great Wall of China the climb up was pretty steep also, some of the tiles were not even at ALL. We took a break at this place on the Great Wall of China. It had a couple food stands selling all kinds of food there. Also there were a few tables and chairs to take a break or eat food.



RAMADAN KAREEM

(Generous Ramadan)

By: Ava Abu Laban and Haven Weah

Do you know what Ramadan is? If not, we are going to tell you all about it!

Ramadan began on Tuesday, February 17 and ended on Friday, March 20. The end of Ramadan is called Eid al-Fitr which means "festival of breaking the fast". Muslims celebrate this holiday and culture is very important. Usually Ramadan and Eid are all about the moon and the stars. They represent new beginnings and knowledge. Fasting is also a part of Ramadan. Fasting is another way of celebrating Ramadan. Fasting means you don't eat anything and during Ramadan, those who celebrate fast from sunrise to sunset. The reason for fasting is so we feel how the less fortunate feel. Then, the food that you eat during Ramadan is also important. Some of the amazing foods we eat to break fast are Shawarma, whatida, fool [a dish with beans], laban, humus, and other amazing foods. Now you know about Ramadan and Eid!



Women in History

Sally Ride

By: Yasmin Buschmann and Ashlynn Olah



Introduction

March is Women's History Month. It is a time to celebrate the most important women in history. We are going to tell you about an important woman named Sally Ride. Sally was the first woman to go to space. If you want to learn more about Sally Ride, read this article.

Sally Ride's early life

Sally Ride was born in Los Angeles, California, May 26, 1951. Sally Ride liked sports. Sally had one sibling named Karen Ride. Sally's dream was to be a professional tennis player and was in the top 20 tennis players in Southern California. Sally's father worked as a political science professor, and her mother worked as a volunteer counselor at a women's correctional facility.

Sally Ride's adult life

Sally was very good at science and went to Stanford University and has a degree in Physics. In 1978 Sally Ride joined NASA. In 1982 she married Steve Hawley. A year later, on June 18, 1983, Sally Ride went to space at the age of 32. She was the youngest astronaut to go to space. NASA awarded her the NASA Space Medal twice.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we hope you enjoyed learning about Sally Ride. We hope after reading this article you learn about more important women in history.

THE LEGEND OF THE RING TAIL

A Short Story Series by Leo Mezzacappa

Chapter 1: Stormy Start

Wind whooshes, thunder booms. Little 8 year old Elijah was in her room reading her diary out loud. Her little brother, Max had been playing outside Elijah's door. Max burst into Elijah's room, "Come on play with me! It has been hours since you have left this room," Max said. There was a giant **BOOM** outside the door. The storm was so bad there was a flying penguin outside their door. "Lunch is ready guys," Mom shouted. Elijah and Max both yelled, "Coming!" They looked outside and saw their mailbox on fire, due to a lightning strike. Grandpa Henry came in with the biggest smirk you can see on a 98 year old man's face. "Gather up, gather up people, I have a map to the legend that has been told for centuries! Its not a myth, its real," Grandpa Henry said. "Is it the one and only Ring Tail?" Max asked. "Why yes it is little man! Were going out on an adventure!" Grandpa Henry said before doing his celebratory dance. Grandpa Henry loved adventures and of course, his boring ol' newspaper. Grandpa Henry was filled with excitement, and also nervousness. He hid the nervousness though. The lightning hit their house and before their house was destroyed, "Come in the secret bunker!" dad said and he opened the secret bunker door. Grandma was grabbing some tea and just realized about the house. By then, she was flying in the air going back and forth.

Pick up next month's Cub Edition to read more!

Paralympics continued from page 2

The Winter Paralympics have developed in a good way since then. According to Google AI, since then, the Games have grown into a massive international event, with 2026 expecting 650+ athletes from 50 nations, and will include diverse sports like snowboarding and wheelchair curling. It's similar to the regular Winter Olympics, with just less sports. Also, I want to give a shout out to China for winning and the USA for coming in second!

Well, now that you know all about it, can you answer these questions?

1. Who invented The Paralympics?
2. When were the first games held? How many competitors were there?
3. What games were held?

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

Joke of the Month

By Seth Destajo, Tire Kuju, Tiwa Kuju, Alianna Mora

How many letters are in the alphabet?

How Many Alpha Letters



THE PAW PRINT CUB EDITION

MARCH WORD SEARCH

By Abigail De Los Angeles, Seth Destajo, Tiwa Kuju, Mazen Sallem, Haven Weah

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

WORD BANK

BLOSSOM	CLOUDS	EID	FASTING	FLOWERS
GIFT	GOLD	GREEN	MONEY	NATURE
PRAY	RAIN	RAINBOW	RAMADAN	SAINT PATRICKS
SPRING	SUNLIGHT	SUNNY	TRAP	WISHES