

THE DAILY BAYLEY

MOTHER SETON SCHOOL STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Middle Schoolers Celebrate at “Cupid’s Ball” Dance

By Lyla Doll

Many middle school students had long awaited the 2026 middle school dance, eager for the theme, date, and the opportunity to buy formal wear. This year's theme was Valentine's Day, and the dance was titled “Cupid’s Ball.” The event included a raffle, with the grand prizes being bouquets of candy. Winners of the raffle included Brooke Buser, Niko Brandall, Kelsie Krauss, and more. Many students wore beautiful dresses and suits, though most boys opted for casual wear. Attendees danced for hours without stopping and had a lot of fun. Their feet must have hurt! Sixth-grade student Gemma Common said, "I did like the dance, and I think the music was very good, and the photo booth was fun as well." Sixth grader Brooklyn Golden said, “The dance was very exciting, the music was incredible, and it was a really fun time to be there.”



Sixth grader Sadie Soule said, “I loved it. It was so fun to dance with my friends; I wish there were more dances at the school.” Sixth grader Bayley Grossnickle added, "I loved the dance. I had so much fun with my friends." Should we see if we could have more school dances? That’s for the student council to decide.

Behind The Scenes Of The Daily Bayley

By Brooke Buser

Do you like to read the MSS school newspaper, The Daily Bayley? If you do, sometimes you might think “I wonder how they get it done?”. If you think that, you’re reading the right article! Get ready for a little behind the scenes of The Daily Bayley!

All the articles are written by the Newspaper Club, run by awesome Ms. Trainor, and consisting of 5th and 6th grade students. We meet once a week on Wednesday, and we do activities and decide on articles. Our articles come out twice a month. Ms. Trainor gets them typed up, and they usually are distributed to classes the day or day after they arrive.

I interviewed a few Newspaper Club members about their favorite part of being in the club. Here is what they said: Abigail Null said she loves writing articles, and Gabriel Lucas said he likes drawing comics. Sophia Monsour said “Probably how I get to make up sudokus.” Francesca Kinnamont said “ I love all of the articles that I get to write, and I love how kind everyone is. I definitely recommend you join!”

It is so important that we get to have this amazing newspaper in our school, especially when it is written by students. Kids get to practice our writing skills, and also have a lot of fun drawing comics, or making up word searches and creative writing. It can also let students who read it keep up with events from school, and read interviews. It gives us something enjoyable to do when we want to do a puzzle, or read a comic. Just go straight to the Daily Bayley!

Fun Fact: Our name came from our school mascot, Bayley The Bear! If you have any ideas for articles or suggestions for the newspaper, feel free to contact Ms. Trainor, or talk to someone in the club. Thanks for reading, and look out for our next edition of The Daily Bayley!



Celebrating Chinese New Year: Traditions, Legends, and the Zodiac

By Elliott Brown



Tuesday, February 17 – Wednesday, March 4, is the season of Chinese New Year. During this special holiday, families come together for 15 days to eat delicious food, set off firecrackers, and perform festive dances to celebrate the coming of the New Year.

The story behind Chinese New Year goes like this: a long time ago, there was a monster called Nianshou. On the first day of each year, Nianshou would come from the ocean and attack a small seaside village. The villagers feared the New Year because it heralded the coming of Nianshou. One day, an old man told the villagers that Nianshou was scared of fire, the color red, and loud noises. The next time Nianshou came, the villagers banged drums, lit torches, and wore red from head to toe. Nianshou was so scared that he ran back into the sea and never came back. Thus, the day became a festival of celebration, prosperity, and good fortune.

On the night before the first day of Chinese New Year, families eat a delectable meal called Reunion Dinner. It is called that because families reunite on that day to celebrate together. Traditionally, the feast includes extremely long noodles called longevity noodles, to symbolize a long life; dumplings, for their resemblance to bars of gold; and meats such as beef and chicken.

Each day of Chinese New Year has its own special tradition. For example, on the third day of Chinese New Year, it is considered unlucky to have guests. The seventh day of Chinese New Year is called Renri, or People's Day, because, according to legend, the goddess Nuwa created humanity on the seventh day. It is traditionally considered the birthday of everyone on the planet. The fifteenth day of the festival is called the Lantern Festival, when people perform dances in dragon costumes and release lanterns into the sky.



Each year celebrates a different animal. This is the Chinese Zodiac, which follows a twelve-year cycle. This year is the Year of the Horse. The cycle starts with the Year of the Rat (last in 2020, before that 2008), followed by the Ox (2021, 2009), Tiger (2022, 2010), Rabbit (2023, 2011), Dragon (2024, 2012), Snake (2025, 2013), Horse (2026, 2014), Goat (2027, 2015), Monkey (2028, 2016), Rooster (2029, 2017), Dog (2030, 2018), and Pig (2031, 2019). The year you were born tells you what your Zodiac animal is. If it is your Zodiac year, you are considered extra lucky! (Lucky me, I am a Horse!)

The Zodiac tradition began with the Jade Emperor hosting a big race to establish the order of the animals. During the race, Rat was doing well until he reached a raging river. Ox helped him across on his back. When they neared the banks, Rat jumped off to win the race! Dragon came fifth, even though he could fly, because he had to put out a fire along the way. After him came Horse, who almost took sixth place but was scared by Snake, who finished sixth instead. Pig fell asleep during the race but woke just in time to finish twelfth.

Here are three phrases to use during the festival:

- Xin nian kuai le! (SEEN-NEEAN-KWAI-LUH) – Happy Chinese New Year!
- Ma nian kuai le! (MAH-NEEAN-KWAI-LUH) – Happy Year of the Horse!
- Gong xi fa cai! (GOHNG-SEE-FAH-CHAI) – Congratulations and may wealth come your way!

Happy Chinese New Year!

Behind the Canvas: An Interview with Ms. Mag

By Ava Fout

I interviewed Ms. Mag, the art teacher, about her career, and you'll be surprised by her answers! First, I asked her why she wanted to become an art teacher, and she said, "I've always done art, and I find it very meaningful. I hope to shape future artists." Next, I asked her what her favorite part of being an art teacher is and why. She said, "I can give my students a safe space to express themselves. Art is very personal, and I like to keep this a safe space."

I also asked her what she did before MSS, and this is where it gets interesting. She said, "Costume design for performing arts. I also worked for Disney!!" Her favorite color is purple because "it's a very happy color." Lastly, I asked her why she wanted to go from art to costume design, and she said, "I went into costume design because, as an artist, designs are wearable sculptures. Not all artists have the opportunity to watch their products come to life."



3/3/26

Two Threes Make the Perfect Day: Happy 3rd Graders Day!

By Hadley Crone

3/3/2026 Do you notice anything about that date? It has two threes in it! To find more facts, I went to Mrs. Marr's class, and she gave me an article about this special day. They call it Third Graders Day. A girl named Karen heard of a Fourth Graders Day and wanted a Third Graders Day too. A teacher she knew helped her write and send a letter to the government proposing the idea. A couple of weeks later, her letter was shown in the newspaper! If I were her, I would be jumping up and down! The government approved the letter, and Third Graders Day would be March 3rd. Even though it's not an official government holiday, many schools enjoy recognizing the day because 3/3 is the perfect date to celebrate third grade! Happy 3rd Graders Day!

The Journey of a Journalist

By Bayley Grossnickle

On February 15th at 3:00 p.m., in the music room, the newspaper club members counted down the minutes until 3:00 p.m. because they had a very special guest coming in! Do you know who? If you don't, let's find out!

Miss Esther is a journalist for the Frederick News-Post, and she covers education. But what exactly does she cover? Miss Esther covers school events, awards, recognitions, the Frederick Board of Education, and other special events.

Some places she has covered include Mount St. Mary's, Mother Seton, Hood College, and Frederick Community College. Miss Esther brought a presentation about the Frederick News-Post to talk about her job. She started off with an icebreaker and asked us about some of our favorite articles that we have recently written. This was a super fun way to start the presentation. Next, we played a game called Real vs. Fake. It taught us which websites and articles to trust and what signs to look for to know if something is fake. Miss Esther then talked about the Code of Ethics, which is a code journalists use in their work: seek the truth and report it, minimize harm, act independently, be accountable and transparent. Miss Esther has worked at the Frederick News Post for a year and a half. She has written 630 articles so far because it is a daily print. Miss Esther said she wrote her first article in high school about standardized testing.

At the end of the presentation, I got to interview Miss Esther to hear more about her job! She told me more about how she got in to journalism. "In middle school, every morning I would watch the news, and I loved when people would interview each other. I loved how they shared their stories. I love talking to other people and hearing from their hearts. I love writing about students, sharing their stories, and making an impact on the public," Miss Esther said. When I asked what her favorite article she has ever written was, she said it was on Christmas at the Frederick Rescue Mission, where volunteers were feeding people who couldn't afford a Christmas dinner. "I just loved seeing the joy and so much love and how everybody came together for a lot of laughs and friendships." Miss Esther has been in journalism since 2015, her freshman year. Now, she writes about 35-40 articles a month! She went to Earle B. Wood Middle School, Rockville High School, University of Maryland College Park, and Northwestern University. Miss Esther wasn't always the biggest fan of the newspaper growing up. "I enjoyed watching the news more. I wasn't the biggest newspaper fan, but I loved reading books." I would like to say a special thanks to Miss Esther for letting me interview her.



Student Council Info and Updates

By Francesca Kinnamont

Hello, everybody! I'm back with some student council meeting announcements. If you didn't know, I'm one of my classroom's representatives along with Caleb del Olmo. You may not know this either, but the president of our student council is Ranye Nzekwesi. The vice president is Kelsie Krauss, the secretary is Brooke Buser, and the treasurer is Morgan Fogle. The student council is run by Mrs. Tayler.

Student council usually meets at about 12:15 every month or so. We like to talk about the newest announcements for the month and sometimes vote on options. I enjoy student council because it helps me know about announcements a bit earlier than the school as a whole, and I can sometimes help with emergencies before they become a big problem. Speaking of announcements, there are a few I'd like to share! There are a lot of topics, so let's start with the latest word on the street, or at least in the middle school hallway:

The Middle School Dance (Valentine's theme):

We had a photo stand and backdrop. There were streamers and table centerpieces, and a raffle with various gift cards and door prizes. Students brought their best Valentine's-themed dress, and there was even a best Valentine's dress prize!

The Daddy-Daughter Dance (or Girls' Night Out):

The dance was Wicked-themed. Girls brought a Wicked-themed or colored outfit and danced the night away with their dads!



Fundraising:

Using the money we raised from the Christmas Bake Sale and Spirit Week, we decided to buy a tree to provide more shade on the playground, and we chose a Swamp White Oak.

Other:

Too young for the middle school dance? Wishing one year, two years, or even more years would pass quicker? Well, students had another fun event to look forward to! Board game day on February 27th was a big break. Students played all sorts of games with their friends (my idea of an amazing day, second only to the dance)!

Thank you so much for reading! And thanks to Mrs. Tayler and the other student council members for making all of this possible!

Spring Haiku

By Mara Bond

Pink and purple blooms.
Flowers sprouting from the ground,
Spring is on the way.



A Day in the Life of a Pitbull

By Aiden Moore

Usually people describe pitbulls as mean and vicious, but not all of them are! A pitbull is a nice and caring breed, and back in the 1800s, they were sometimes called a “nanny dog.” They were known for being gentle with children. In fact, I have a nanny dog myself. Her name is Maggie, and this is what she does in a day. Usually they will always be silly and crazy. In the morning, a pitbull will sleep in until 8:00, and once they wake up, you're in for a fun day. Mostly they want to go outside and play for 2 hours, then go back inside and once you do tricks, it's around lunch time and it's time to make lunch. When you're making lunch, let's say grilled cheese. My dog loves cheese. After that, your pitbull might get bored. What do you do? You can always play inside and not outside. Finally, it is around 3:00, and your pitbull is tired and then they will wake up and ask for food at the dinner table. I would like to give a shout out to Arthur Stumpf because his dog was taken away to a new home a few weeks after they got him, and I would like you to recognize how hard that must have been.



PRAYER CORNER

"Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took the cup and after giving thanks he gave it to them saying, "drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my fathers kingdom." This is my favorite bible verse because, it shows us that Jesus, is going to die, not for his sins or for ten peoples sins, but for all of our sins.

Matthew 26: 26-29 By Abigail Null

"The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" — Psalms 118:6

By Morgan Fogle



By Maximilian Field

Kids Heart Challenge

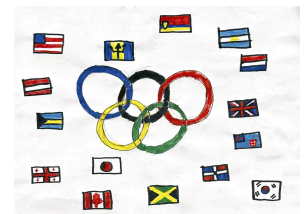
By Patrick Sheffer

The other day at school we had an assembly to kick off this year's Kids Heart challenge. This is one of the best fundraisers of the school year. The goal of this fundraiser is to raise money for kids with unhealthy hearts. To make it fun, you can earn prizes as you collect donations. The prizes include keychains, socks, balls, and shirts. This year's characters are robo dogs. We do different exciting events during the week to celebrate the challenge and learn how to keep our hearts healthy. In PE we start the ninja jump rope challenge. The 8th grade challenges the teachers to a Have a Heart Volley Ball game. If you raise the most money, you get to be the PE teacher for a day. And the cherry on top of it all, is if you raise enough money you get to be a teacher in the face! But the best part of the Kids Heart Challenge, is that each year we are helping others and learning how to be healthy ourselves.

My Australian Shepherd

By Piper Seiss

Hi my name is Piper Seiss. I recently just got an Australian shepherd. Here are some things to know about them. They have a lot of energy and need to get it out. They also love to be clean. They will get dirty but will be clean a little while later. Like every dog they love attention. They are also herding dogs so they will want to run around. They are very fast learners and you can teach them to do tricks fairly easily. Lastly there are multiple colors of their breed. I hope you enjoyed learning about Aussies.



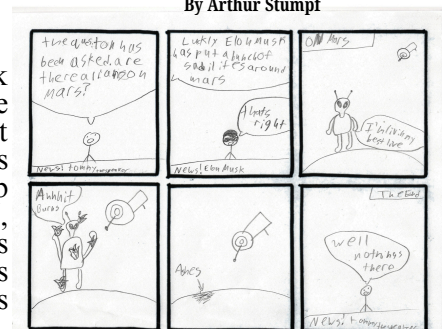
By Arthur Stumpf

My Favorite Rock Climber; Janja Garnbret

By Sadie Soule

My favorite rock climber Janja (Pronounced Yanya) Garnbret is a Slovenian rock climber. She is 26 and her birthday is March 12, 1999. She is 5'5 which is the average height for a young female rock climber. She is widely considered the greatest competitive female climber, holding two Olympic gold medals (Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024), 10 IFSC (International Federation of Sport Climbing) world championship titles and over 45 World Cup victories. She has dominated the sport starting in 2015, winning 10 overall World Cup season titles. Janja started climbing when she was seven. Before she began formal training, she always climbed trees, doors, and closets at home! She started competing at age eight. When she is not climbing, Janja enjoys trying new restaurants, relaxing with friends and spending time in nature.

Janja Garnbret is actively targeting the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.



By Sophia Monsour

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