

PHOTO BY NANDINI BAINS



# Terrific Titanosaur

BY LUC BASMA AND JENSEN KREBS

Have you ever wanted to discover a new dinosaur? Try going to Argentina. A rancher there discovered a 122-foot long Titanosaurus. Assembled from 84 fossil pieces, it is now held in the American Museum of Natural History and is a bit too big for its

exhibit space. Nobody knows what color it was. It could have been red, yellow, black, green or some other color. What we do know is that it's one titanic discovery.

The Titanosaurus was discovered in the Patagonia region of Argentina by

a rancher four years ago. Argentina is in South America. One day, while the rancher was searching for one of his lost sheep, he stumbled upon an old and mysterious bone. Once the rancher found the bone, he went to a museum and asked paleontologists to help him look for other dinosaur bones. Of course they said, "yes," because there have been lots of dinosaur finds in Argentina and one bone usually comes along with other bones. When they were finished, not only did they find one Titanosaurus, but they found six of them in the same area.

In order to get them out, they had to build a new road, so all the bulldozers, tractors, cranes, etc. could travel from the main road to the site and back. This large machinery was used to dig down and around faster. Then, once they got near the bones, they had to transition to small tools, like small picks, chisels and dust brushes, because they might break the very fragile bones by crushing them with big tools. They knew when to transition because the outer layer's color and texture changed.

The Titanosaurus was the biggest animal to ever walk on the planet. It was 30 feet longer than a blue whale, and it could reach the top floor of a 5 story building—that's 46 feet. It would have been even bigger if it hadn't died as a young adult. It weighed as much as 10 African elephants. It lived 100 million years ago and it was a herbivore. That means it was a plant eater. It is the best pre-

*continued on page 2*

*TITANOSAUR continued*

served Titanosaur because it had all its bones when it was found.

January, 2016 was the first time they showed the Titanosaur in the Museum of Natural History. It's so big that it can't fit in a single room of the museum. Part of its 39-foot neck sticks out of the exhibit room. The display is made out of fiber glass because the real fossil bones are made out of rock and are too heavy to display. They scanned the real fossil bones to make 3-D models that are not as heavy. It took the scientists 6 months to complete the scanned model. There are 5 real fossil bones in the museum, and at the end of 2016, they will be given back to Argentina, where they found the bones. Scientists will use this dinosaur to learn new things about other dinosaurs like their size, weight, color, the foods they ate, and the size of their brain.

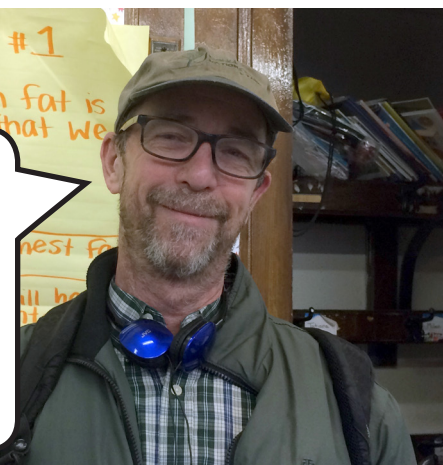
## ● St. Patrick's ● contest!

- Please print out the Paper, staple it and read every
- page. Wherever you see
- the word "**green**," CIRCLE
- IT, including the ones
- we've written here. When
- you've found 11 "greens,"
- please write your name
- and class number on the
- front page and drop the
- whole thing in the office
- Paper Box by Monday,
- April 11. We will draw from
- the entries, and if correct,
- the winners will get a
- prize! Good luck!"

PHOTO BY PAULINA BODIN

# 11 Questions with...

## Stephen Roylance



### 1. How long have you been a science teacher at P.S. 11?

11 years.

### 2. Do you have a science degree?

I have an arts degree. I took lots of science courses in college and astronomy courses.

### 3. What is your favorite branch of science?

A. Physics/Astronomy. When you think about the universe and how big it is, and how we came to be, it blows the mind.

### 4. What is your favorite book?

Whatever book I'm reading now. The Elegant Universe. A Wrinkle in Time, when I was a kid.

### 5. What is your favorite place to travel in the world?

Wherever there are lots and lots of birds, like in Central America and North America.

### 6. Do you have any advice for future scientists?

Start wondering and never stop.

### 7. Why did you want to become a

### science teacher?

I love to work with kids. I love science. I want to express my excitement with kids.

### 8. Do you think Leonardo da Vinci was more of an artist or scientist?

He was both. He was a creator, so you create in art and science.

### 9. Who is your favorite scientist in history?

Albert Einstein.

### 10. Tell me about one of your proudest moments in life.

I have lots of moments I am proud of. The first one is the teaching I do. The second one is that I can do the yoga pose "Scorpion." I play the piano every day. I'm not really proud of that, but I'm getting better at it. Also, long, silent retreats.

### 11. Why does meditation help you?

It's something I do every day. It helps me have a peaceful, open and aware mind. It helps me live in the most important time of day, which is now.

BY JULIETTE CARASSO



PHOTO BY MEERA WILLIAMS



# Leprechauns on the Loose

BY JAMIE KAURI

P.S. 11 pre-K students were on the lookout for green leprechauns rumored to visit the school on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. They made traps to catch the leprechauns, but the traps broke and did not work. One of the students, Harry, said, "It was made of a box with string and when it went under, it [was supposed to have] got trapped." Now, that's not very strong. So, you can understand what happened next. Harry's classmate, Nate, said, "The trap broke and all the chairs fell." The children said that even though they did not catch any leprechauns, it was a lot of fun setting up the traps.

Class 214 students were not the only ones having fun. St. Patrick's Day is a very popular Irish festival

to celebrate the life of a man who helped convert many people to Christianity by using green, three-leaf clovers to explain the holy trinity, which consists of the three most important figures in the religion. In Ireland, people put a green clover in their drink to celebrate, and either swallow the clover or throw it over their shoulder for good luck. St. Patrick's Day parades started in America in the 18th century and spread to Ireland in the 20th century.

Coach Rocky, a P.S. 11 after school teacher, said he "wears green" and goes "to the parade." Ms. Leonhardt, the guidance counsellor, said she "wore green and had Irish soda bread." Parent, Stephen Harding,

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## Overheard at LUNCH:

BY LAUREN ESHELMAN  
& CAROLINE STÖHRER

"Well, what I think is the chicken on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays tastes like rubber and plastic." – Leila

"Yes, please. I love pizza with or without toppings." – Charles

"Since I don't like school lunch really, I just go asking for some parts of friends' home lunch." – Briana, Grade 4

"It was good. The mac and cheese was really tasty and the apple went well with it, although halfway through, I had a stomachache and had to go to the Ryan Center." – Liliana

"I don't know. I didn't have school lunch." – Huck

"It was pretty fine, but [one kid] was running around asking for food because he was lunchless." – Chamal

"I didn't like the lunch today because there was only a cheese sandwich, and Ms. D. told me to eat the cheese, but I don't like cheese." – Sam

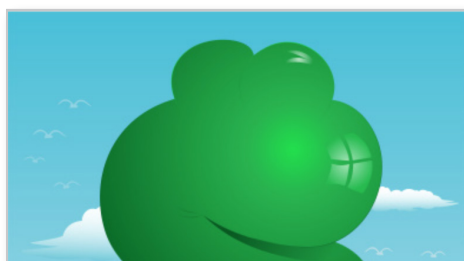
"Who's saying I have pizza? I have home lunch!" – Ian

PHOTO BY ELI PARMETT



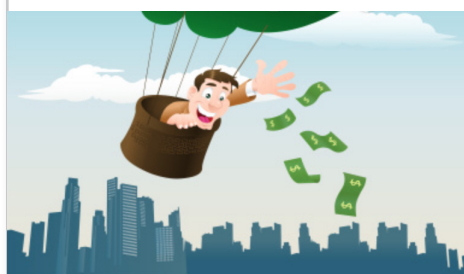
*Leprechauns continued*

marches in the parade every year because he is a chaplain with the NYC Fire Dept. "I like marching with people I work with," Harding said. "I like marching in a big parade. I like waving to all the people on the sides and it's just fun." Strangely, Otis, another after school teacher, said that he "bakes cookies and hides \$100" for himself!



## JOKES of the MONTH

BY AADITYA MATHUR



**Q:** What do you call the richest kind of air?

**A:** A million-aire.

**Q:** Why did the robber wash his clothes before he ran away with the loot?

**A:** He wanted to make a clean getaway.

# P.S. 11 Lego Robotics Team Wins Award

BY OWEN KIVETT

The P.S. 11 Lego Robotics team took home the Inspiration Award at the FLL NYC Regional championships held at the Javits Center. This competition is the year's biggest Lego event in NYC. A total of 80 teams from all five boroughs competed in the 4th to 8th grade age group. The P.S. 11 team included just 4th and 5th graders. Teams had to qualify at a local tournament, first. Only about half the teams at the Horace Mann School event in the Bronx qualified, including P.S. 11.

This year's theme was Trash Trek. It's all about getting kids into recycling, composting and making the world green. The P.S. 11 team got to show the judges their research on recycling and core values, and their teamwork. They also ran missions on the mat using a robot the team pro-

grammed.

Each team got three chances to run missions in front of the judges. There was a huge crowd of spectators watching. The crowd chanted, "3-2-1 Lego," and then the team pressed the button to start the robot.

Coach Melinda Dibner commented, "Learning to cooperate and be there for each other and respect each other's ideas at such a young age is a huge challenge and our team does it wonderfully well." Many of the challengers were in Middle School, but P.S. 11 still earned 30th place in the mat part of the competition and a third place award for "Core: Inspiration." At the end of the day, P.S. 11 cheered and high-fived all the judges as the team received a trophy made of Lego bricks and got their picture taken.

PHOTO BY ELI PARMETT





PHOTO BY PAULINA BODIN



## “HEY P.J.”

BY MAXIMILIAN STÖHRER

Do you like to get dressed for school every day? If not, then you probably look forward to the school’s annual Pajama Day. Probably the most famous of the Student Council sponsored Spirit Days, Pajama Day was celebrated on Friday, March

4, 2016. It is a day when every student eagerly awaits seeing Principal Bender greet them in his black and white splotched Dalmatian dog (or was it a cow?) one-piece PJ’s. This year, the Student Council also declared it Stuffed Animal Day, so be-

sides pajamas, the school was full of cuddly critters normally reserved for the bedroom.

The most interesting pajamas included a sunrise with a rainbow over water. The craziest were a T-shirt and shorts. The most popular stuffed animals sported were bears, ponies, bunnies, dogs and horses. The most unusual was a giant, stuffed gorilla named Jeff, dressed in a T-shirt and shorts.

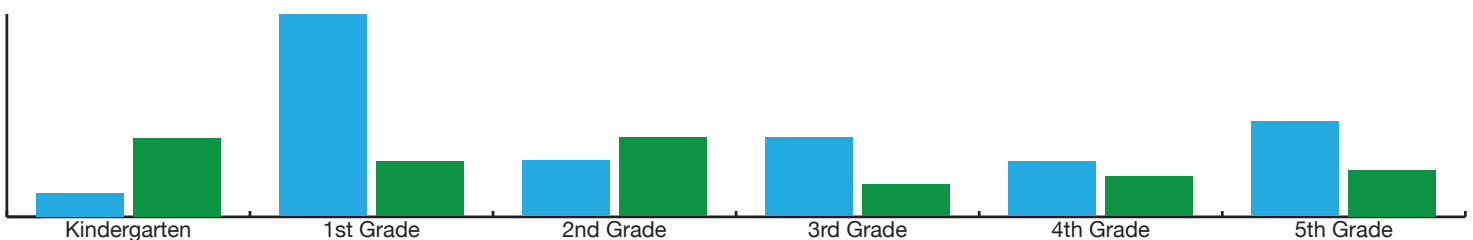
The weather on Pajama Day was drizzly and cold, averaging 35°, with mountains of snow still on the streets. This presented unique challenges for pajama-determined students. Most wore their pajamas under warmer clothes on their way to school and changed in the classroom.

Students had different ideas about Pajama Day. Some thought it was fun. “It is good because, finally, I can stay cozy all day,” said 2nd grader, Dylan. Classmate, Grace, added, “I have an extra layer of clothes to keep me warm!” And Ms. Forschein said it felt like she was “at home all day long.” Others thought it was bad and embarrassing. “Not good, because I’m not allowed to wear underwear to school,” said 2nd grader, Ari.

## Monthly Poll:

What would you do with leprechaun gold, save it or spend it?

■ Save ■ Spend



POLLSTERS: JULIETTE CARASSO, LAUREN ESHELMAN, AADITYA MATHUR AND CAROLINE STÖHRER.”

PHOTO BY PAULINA BODIN



# Politics, Presidents and the Election Process

BY ROGER CARASSO AND KARINA GUPTA

What do you know about politics? Right now is a really important time in the United States. It is almost time for a new President. The President runs one of the three branches of government, is in charge of foreign policy and is the commander of the military. Our country picks a new one every four years. It is a long and complicated process.

The Constitution was written in 1787 and lays out how our country will be run. The judicial branch is headed by the Supreme Court. This branch of government is responsible

for reviewing laws and interpreting the Constitution. This means that the people involved in this branch have to make sense of the laws and help us understand how it applies to our lives. The legislative branch is headed by Congress. Congress has two houses: the House of Representatives and the Senate. They help to create laws. The executive branch is headed by the President. Do you want to become president? Here is what you need to do it!

You have to be at least age 35. Fun Fact: JFK was 43 when he was

elected President in 1961. You must also be born in the United States. However, if you were born outside of the U.S. and one of your parents was born in the U.S., you might be eligible to become President. Fun Fact: Ted Cruz, one of the current presidential candidates, was born in Canada, but his mother was born in the U.S. He belongs to the Republican party.

A Political party is a group of people who share the same ideas about the way the country should be run.

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*ELECTION continued*

Throughout history, there have been different parties. Of the forty-four U.S. Presidents, sixteen were Democrats, eighteen were Republicans, and four belonged to both parties. Those four Presidents were Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe and John Quincy Adams. Also, in the 19th century, there was a party called the Whig party (no, not a WIG, A WHIG!). They got their name from the American Soldiers who fought for Independence in 1776. They didn't like what President Andrew Jackson did, so they created a new group that fought against his Indian Removal act. They didn't like anything he said. There are currently two main parties in the race for President, Republican and Democratic, though there are other, smaller parties, too.

The process of running for President has many steps. First, you have to decide if you want to run or not. Most candidates who run are from the government already. This means they have experience and aren't green. Then, the candidate has to make an official announcement that they are running. Then, they start the "campaign." It used to be that candidates only "stood" and others campaigned

for them. These days, candidates give speeches, hang up signs, start commercials and all stuff that will make people vote for them. Next, the two main parties fight against each other; Republican against Republican, Democrat against Democrat. However, they use words to fight. This is called debating. They do debates in some states. Then, people from certain states vote for the person they like the best in their party. In the summer, when the debates are done, each party holds a convention, where the delegates count each candidate's number of votes and the person who has the most votes from each party gets to represent their party in the Presidential election. A delegate is a representative of the state. For example, Mayor De Blasio is New York City's delegate.

This year's election is unique because Hillary Clinton could be the first female nominee to run under one of the main parties—democrat or republican (a woman named Victoria Woodhull ran in 1872, under the Equal Rights Party). The top two candidates in the Republican Party are Donald Trump and Ted Cruz. In the Democratic party, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders are the only two now running.

## A PEEK AT MR. BENDER

BY JULIETTE CARASSO

**March 24, 9:51 A.M. -**

**What are you doing?** I am watching Ms. Mueller count the ELA books and talking to parents.

**Do you do this every day?** No, because the time of the test is only one time of year, but right now I am going to write the staff newsletter, which I do every week.

**What happened to your foot?** I ripped the muscle under the ball of my foot, but I am not sure how I did it.

PHOTO BY MEERA WILLIAMS



### VIDEO LINK

## Young Artists Program

<https://youtu.be/XEcNeWseudU>

VIDEOGRAPHY BY NANDINI BAINS



# Featured Artwork

ART EDITOR: MATILDA FRIED LEVENSTEIN    BY NANDINI BAINS, 3RD GRADE



If you would like to submit artwork to be considered for our next edition, please draw, paint or write it on 1 sheet of letter-sized paper (one side only), then drop it in the News Box in the Main Office. Make sure to include your name and class on the back. You may also submit article ideas, jokes or poll questions.



# The Man-Eating Cupcake Monsters

BY SADIE HOWARD



BY PAULINA BODIN, 4TH GRADE.

"Free Cupcake Day at the Perfectly Special 11 Bakery!" the flyer said. "Bring your pets, too. \*Dog treats will be served." "Ooh, that seems SO cool," Lianna pointed at the sign. "Oh my gosh. Yes, we are TOTALLY going," Melody responded excitedly. They weren't the only ones. Soon, a small crowd had formed around the sign. "Let's go before the baker runs out!" Lianna, her poca, Nelly, and her friend, Melody, walked quickly to the bakery.

When they arrived at the shop, it was really crowded. "I guess we aren't the only ones who love cupcakes," Melody whispered. "So what flavor do you want?" "I don't know," Lianna responded. Suddenly, Nelly leaped out of Lianna's arms and started to meow-bark at the baker. Nelly meow-barks because she is a poca, a cross between a dog and a

cat. She has the body of a miniature poodle, and a snout like one, too. But, she has cat ears, tail, and mouth. Her fur is wavy—a mix of curly poodle fur and straight cat fur."

"Nelly, OFF," Lianna said sternly. Turning to face the baker, she apologized. "We're really sorry." "Oh, no, it's fine. I love animals," the baker said, taking Nelly into his arms. "Wait, this is a strange animal," The baker turned away from Lianna and Melody and examined Nelly more closely. "Oh, yes, you will be perfect," he whispered to Nelly. She growled at him. "What would you like today?" the baker asked. "Hmm," Lianna said, as she and Melody inspected the case of sweets. The baker took advantage of the distraction and the crowd and whisked Nelly into his surprisingly big back room. It was filled with strange

devices that would have looked less out of place in a highly experienced scientist's lab. The baker put Nelly onto a counter and hooked her up to a device. The monitor said, "DNA Pattern: UNKNOWN." "Excellent," the baker whispered. Then, he hooked her up to another machine that made her hiss-cry. Nelly's tail started to twitch wildly and her dog-tongue hung out.

Meanwhile, Lianna and Melody had chosen their sweets. They stood up to discover that the baker and Nelly were gone. "Where's Nelly?" Lianna fretted.

"I don't know," Melody said uncertainly. "Ugh, I should have known Nelly would get lost in this crowd," Lianna moaned.

In the back room, Nelly was not the only thing hooked up to those machines. So were giant, twenty-foot cupcakes. The baker was using mutated pets' DNA to give cupcakes a brain that would only do evil! He was using the machine to feed Nelly's DNA to the cupcakes! And the baker was not only a baker, but an evil scientist whose life's ambition was to rule the world with an army of man-eating cupcake monsters under his command! Nelly was the final link.

Moments later, Lianna and Melody heard screams and crashes outside. Giant cupcakes with rainbow sprinkles were causing chaos. "What the—" "RUN! THEY'RE COMING TOWARDS US!" shouted Melody as she sprinted out. But Lianna didn't run away. She slipped into the evil baker's back room. She ran towards the machine that Nelly was hooked

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*CUPCAKES continued*

up to and unplugged her. The cupcakes, without the mutation DNA supply, exploded, covering the block in icing. Sprinkles rained on cars, and when some of the Saint Patrick's Day themed cupcakes exploded, green temporarily clouded Lianna's vision.

As for the fake baker, when one cupcake exploded in his lab, it broke the machines, so he got electrocuted. When he was found, he was put in



jail. Lianna and Nelly were put in the *New York Times*, while Melody was disgraced for running away and not putting up a fight against the cupcakes. But best of all, the once-upon-a-time small town got to be famous for it's cupcake festivals on Saint Patrick's Day, when Lianna and Nelly are celebrated world-wide.

BY AMANDA BALLAS, 3RD GRADE

## P.S. 11 Paper Staff - *The Cubs*

