

PHOTO BY SENECA WALSH

The Student Council Election Situation

BY AVERY BALLANTYNE

There has been a surprising new situation with the student council election. There was supposed to be an election, with two people running for President and two people running for Vice President as usual. But now, there is not going to be any election because there was only one student who ended up running for President!

You might ask, who is going to be our President and Vice President now? It turns out, Ava, a fifth-grader, will be the President and her running-mate, Joe, will be Co-Vice President with another student, Chloe.

Could something like this happen in real life with our government? Not exactly, because there needs to

be at least two candidates running. But there is something called the “line of succession” in case something bad happens to our President. If that were to happen, our new President would be the Vice President, Mike Pence. If something bad were to happen to Mike Pence, our President would be House Speaker, Paul Ryan. The replacement list goes all the way down to our Secretary of Homeland Security. There are so many people that could replace each other!

There are two teachers that manage the student council, Ms. Sardella and Ms. Goldstick. When asked about the role of the student council, Ms. Goldstick said, “The President and the Vice President help make final decisions. They speak with Mr. Bender on behalf of the student council. They make school-wide announcements. The last thing they do is make their campaign promises a reality. There are a lot of fourth and fifth-graders on the student council. One of the kids is Julian. He wanted to be on the student council because, “you get to do different activities. You also get to learn how to become a leader. And kids look up to you.”

The fact that there are now three people running the student council (the President and the two Co-Vice Presidents) means that you are going to hear three people on the loud speakers and three people doing speeches. The school could get better with three people managing it!



PHOTO BY SENECA WALSH

The 5th Grade S-P-E-L-L-I-N-G B-E-E

BY MAXWELL TUNG

M-U-L-L-E-T. It was quiet in the auditorium while Victor uttered these letters. When the judge announced that it was spelled correctly, Victor pumped his arm. He just won the P. S. 11 5th Grade Spelling Bee! People had their eyes glued to Victor and clapped!

Twenty-four students participated in the spelling bee. Everyone took a turn to spell a word. Most people got eliminated by the 6th round. From the 6th round to the 27th round, there were only 3 students left: Victor, Karina, and Lili Li. It was a loooong night! The spelling bee lasted for about 2 hours. After a while, the judge

es started to give words that were not on the students' study list. For example, one of them was "gnaw."

Victor said it was stressful studying for the spelling bee. He spent a lot of time studying the words, but he really liked the spelling bee for two reasons: He likes competing, and he likes spelling!

Karina came in 2nd place, and Lili Li came in 3rd place. The next round of the spelling bee is the Manhattan Borough Spelling Bee in January. Victor, Karina, and Lili Li will represent P. S. 11 at the January competition. Congratulations to all the winners, and good luck!

A PEEK AT MR. BENDER

BY WILLIAM GOLDSMAN

Nov. 17, 2017 - 8:11 AM

P.S. 11: What are you doing right now?

Mr. Bender: Just finished my daily morning meeting with Ms. Gregov.

P.S. 11: Was the meeting fun?

Mr. Bender: It was just like usual.



PHOTO BY SENECA WALSH

PS11 PAPER

MASTHEAD

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OVERHEARD AT LUNCH

BY LILA JENOVA DUPUY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 12:30 PM

Do you like the pizza?

Sometimes. - Sophie, 5th grade

No, it tastes like cardboard.

- Shianne, 5th grade

How would you change the menu today?

Add mac n cheese! -

Chloe, 5th grade

Buy Dominos.

- Shianne, 5th grade

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 12:00 PM

Do you like school lunch?

I think it's fine. - Sophie, 5th grade

How would you change the menu?

I would like to add some other non-milk beverages. - Sophie

What drinks would you add?

I would definitely add apple juice. - Jack

What advice do you have for the lunch staff?

Make more vegetarian options.

- Sophie

Do you like the pizza?

I think it's good. - Jack



PHOTO BY ELIZA WEISS

P. S. 11 Graduates Return for Middle School Mini Fair

BY ELSA MORONEY

Fifth-graders spend most of their autumn trying to find a middle school that is best for them. They have to choose at least three different schools, and it can be very stressful. To make this time easier, 5th-graders can attend tours, open houses, and fairs. P.S. 11 hosted a Middle School Mini Fair on the evening of November 15 in the school cafeteria.

At this mini fair, current 5th-graders-entered the school cafeteria to find P.S. 11 graduates there to talk about their middle schools. Twelve different schools were represented at this fair: I. S. 289, SALK, Lab, 75 Morton, Clinton, MAT, NEST, School of the Future, East Side Middle, Wagner, Baruch, and Quest.

Many 5th-graders attended this event. Fifth-graders were amazed to see all the schools, and a lot of 5th-graders got their questions answered. Some 5th-graders even got some great advice! Lili Li Sposato said, "I like a school that works together well."

When asked how P.S. 11 prepared her for middle school, Samara Parmett, a 6th-grader at SALK, said, "They taught me all the things I need to know." Samara suggested that students should choose

a school for themselves and not just because their friends like it.

At the end of the fair, most 5th-graders seemed satisfied with what they had learned. "I loved how some schools have elevators, and I.S. 289 pretty much focuses on a lot of academic subjects," said Lili Li.

Even though autumn can be very stressful for 5th-graders, events like the mini fair help the students learn more about the schools. P.S. 11 tries to make the middle school process easier, and a mini fair is one of the ways that P.S. 11 is helping 5th-graders get ready for middle school.

PHOTO BY ELIZA WEISS

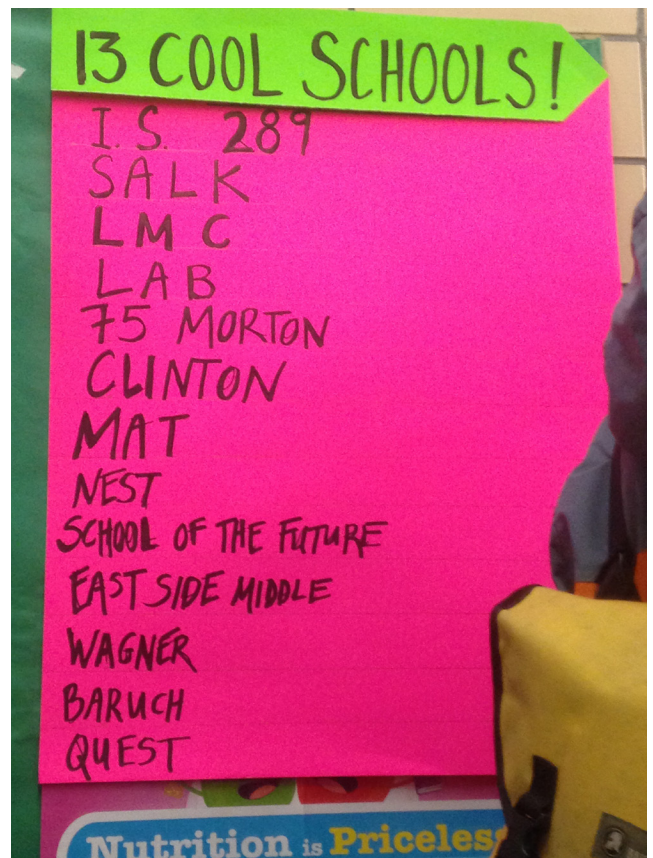




PHOTO BY ALESSANDRA VIGNONE

Turkeys Go on Strike at the Third Grade Show

BY CARMEN ROSE LACOSTA KOLSRUD

Right before Thanksgiving, students and families watched the Third Grade Show. This year, the theme was turkeys going on strike, and the “sides” felt like they were left out. During the middle of the show, people were waving their hands in the air because the song was a blast! Everyone had an amazing time!

Ms. Golub said that the third-graders had been rehearsing and practicing for a long time. It was worth it because the third-graders sang beautifully.

Fourth and fifth grade students were so happy to get to see the show. Lena Bonds, a 5th-grader, said that, “It was a blast! I love the

show so much, and I’m so sad that I won’t see it with my school again because I’m leaving next year.” Other audience members also said that they loved the show. It seems like the P.S. 11 community felt thankful and will remember this great Third Grade Show!

The Juice Blues

BY ADNAN ADZEMOVIC

When breakfast is being served at P.S. 11, there are a couple of juice options available. But when lunch is being served, there are NO juice options available. Why are no juices being offered at lunch?

The most likely reason is because fruit juices have high levels of sugar. For example, a cup of orange juice has 21 grams of sugar, while a cup of whole milk has 12 grams of sugar. Milk has almost half the sugar of juice!

But adding “low sugar” juice options such as “low sugar” orange juice or apple juice at lunchtime could be a good idea because some kids are allergic to dairy. Plus, some kids simply don’t like the taste of milk.

Another reason to add a juice option is that students in grades 1-5 have recess first in the morning, and after recess is over, they have less energy left to learn or to complete their daily tasks. So serving juice at lunch could be a good idea to give them back some energy. And to be fair, we should include pre-k and kindergarten students.

Let’s get ALL the students involved and take a vote to add a juice option to lunchtime at P.S. 11!



PHOTO BY ELIZA WEISS



PHOTO BY ANASTASIA VATIS

Behind the Balloons

BY ANSEL KREBS

Here I am sitting on 77th Street, shaking with joy. Tomorrow is the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. I am so excited. I only get to go out three times per year. But, come to think of it, I don't get to be inflated for long. One night of being inflated, couple of hours floating around, then, after the parade, I get deflated, and wait—folded up—until the next

event. But, I'm going to make the most of it!

The Candy Cane popped right away, which was sad, but he's a balloon, and a balloon can't last forever. Another thing I noticed is that Snoopy wasn't in the parade. I wonder what happened to him? One thing that bothered me was that over 10 balloon wranglers needed to hold me! It made me feel clumsy. A balloon wrangler is someone who holds the cords attached to me and the other balloons. One anonymous wrangler said there are over 2,000 of them in the parade. She said if she could be any balloon, she would be "Scrat because he gets a companion acorn balloon. Since he always has his balloon friend, it is like he is always playing a game."

The new balloons were Olaf, Chase, The Grinch, and Jet from SuperWings. Olaf got a huge welcome from the crowd because he was the first balloon and everyone loves him and his warm hugs, especially since it was cold outside. Though, it was warmer this year compared to other years, when it has snowed or rained. Santa also got a lot of cheers because...he's Santa!

Another new thing I noticed from my bird's-eye view was that security was much heavier. There were more police officers at the parade this year. The new security rule was that there were no chairs, umbrellas, large backpacks or coolers allowed. But I noticed people were bringing all of these things anyway. It turns out that rule was only applied at the actual Macy's store.

The parade is sadly over. Soon I'll be stuffed away and the spectators will be stuffed with turkey. However, the day has been fun, full of joy and helium.

The Sad Truth About Puerto Rico

BY LUCY JARVELA

Puerto Rico was discovered on November 19, 1493 by Christopher Columbus on his second voyage to claim land for the rulers of Spain, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. In 1493, the island was called Borinquen by the natives who lived there. But Christopher Columbus renamed it San Juan Bautista.

In 1898, the United States defeated Spain in the Spanish-American War and claimed Puerto Rico as a U.S. territory. With that claim came responsibility. Many years later, President Wilson signed the Jones-Shafroth Act under which Puerto Rico officially became a U.S. territory. This also made the people of Puerto Rico U.S. citizens.

Puerto Rico is important to the United States because it helps our economy. The island exports a lot of useful things like rum, electronics, tuna, medical supplies, and chemicals to the mainland. And Puerto Rico is a popular tourist destination, which helps us because people who want to visit have to pay the U.S. a lot of money.

In September 2017, Puerto Rico was hit with a devastating hurricane that destroyed much of the island. Citizens were left without clean water and electricity. This was right after similar hurricanes caused much damage in Florida and Texas. It's important to know the history of Puerto Rico because, as part of the U.S., it is our responsibility to help them rebuild, just like when similar storms hit Florida and Texas.

The U.S. administration responded to the storms in Florida and Tex-



PHOTO BY ALESSANDRA VIGNONE

as by sending the U.S. army there to provide shelter, clean water, food and medical care to many citizens. They also helped many evacuate. But when it came to the storm in Puerto Rico, they took a long time to respond and when they did, there wasn't much that was done. This was completely unfair because Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens just like people from Texas and Florida.

New York State Representative Nydia Velazquez said of the response to the disaster, "The most fundamental responsibility of the President of the U.S... is to show up and provide the assistance and the relief that American citizens need." She also said, "To kick fellow citizens while they

are down is shameful."

Carmen Yulin Cruz, Mayor of San Juan in Puerto Rico said, "Lives are at stake. This is not about politics. This is not about your ego. This is about the people of Puerto Rico."

People who have family in PR are very upset as well. Fifth-grader, Carmen Lacosta Kolsrud is scared, "because my aunt who lives there could die and she just had her baby." Of how the administration handled the situation, she said, "If you're going to help someone, you might as well help everyone. It's not fair to have your island taken over by some other president then ignored when you need the most help. Today, over half of the

continued on next page

Puerto Rica continued page
island is still without electricity and clean water. Many people have died or become ill.”

P.S. 11 5th-graders, Ciel Calvert, August Eaves, Violet Sheffer-Stevens, Alexa Furino, Esther Errera, Lucy Jarvela, and Maximo Furino have put up signs, raised money and done everything they can to help the people of Puerto Rico. Please think about what you can do, too. According to Fema.com, the most effective way to help is to support recovery of communities affected by hurricane Maria by donating money to trusted voluntary and community-based charitable organizations. Please do this quickly because lives are at stake. People in PR are dying every minute.

WEATHER: FAST FACTS

- Average November rainfall for NYC: 2.72 inches. This year: 4.72 inches
- Average November high temperature for NYC: 54°. This year: 58°.
- Average November low temperature for NYC: 41°. This year: 39.44°.
- The National Weather Service defines a hurricane as “an intense tropical weather system with well-defined circulation and sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or higher.”
- Average wind speed for November in New York City: 9.6 MPH. This year: 4.9 MPH
- Hurricanes are rated according to intensity on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.
- The 1-5 scale estimates potential property damage.
- A Category 3 or higher is considered a major hurricane.

11

Questions with... Vice Principal Gregov

1. What is your favorite color?

Black.

2) What is your favorite flavor ice cream?

It is so hard to pick just one. I'll go with mint chocolate chip.

3) Do you have any pets?

No pets, yet, but someday I hope to get a dog.

4) What is your favorite food that is served in P.S. 11?

I love the kale salad.

5) Did you teach at another school before P.S. 11?

I taught at two schools before I came here, one elementary school and one middle school, but P.S. 11 is my favorite.

6) Why did you choose to come and teach at P.S. 11?

P.S. 11 seemed like a caring, happy community where everyone is respected. It still feels that way to me today.

7) What is your favorite thing about being vice principal?

Visiting all the classrooms and seeing all the amazing work that's been going on by teachers and students.

8) How do you like being vice principal compared to being a 5th-grade teacher?

I will always miss being a 5th-grade teacher, but I like that I can make a bigger difference in people's lives.



PHOTO BY SENECA WALSH

9) How did you react when Mr. Bender asked you to be vice principal?

It was such a surprising moment that I don't remember clearly, but I'm pretty sure I cried tears of joy.

10) When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

It changed every year—a doctor, a lawyer, a politician, a therapist— but the very first thing I wanted to be was a teacher.

11) What do you like to do out of school?

I like to travel, shop, go to SoulCycle, spend time with my friends and family, read and try new restaurants.

BY KARINA GUPTA



PHOTO BY ANASTASIA VATIS

What if Kids Ran the School?

BY NINA COHEN

What if kids ran the school? Some people might think that it would be a disaster. Some people might think that it would be awesome. What do you think? What if kid teachers could teach any subject? What if a kid were the principal? What if kids

chose what was served in the cafeteria for school lunch? Keep reading to find out what five P.S. 11 students would do.

If you could teach any subject what would you teach?

Third-grader, Sophie Cohen, said,

"I would teach soccer." Marlowe Collamore, also a third-grader, said, "I would teach Minecraft." Ruby Lahana, another third-grader, said, "I would teach animal science." Third-grader, Hilda Liang, said, "I would teach art." Lastly, fifth-grader, Samuel Cohen, (who is not Sophie's brother) said, "I would teach nature skills."

What would you do if you were the principal?

Sophie Cohen said, "Have really good food for school lunch." Marlowe Collamore said, "I would allow video games in school." Ruby Lahana said, "I would make the school environmentally friendly." Hilda Liang said, "I would have more events in school. Samuel Cohen said, "I would greatly enforce candy in the cafeteria."

What would you serve for school lunch?

Sophie Cohen said, "Fruit, sushi, and dessert." Marlowe Collamore said, "Sushi, tacos, and dessert." Ruby Lahana said, "Dessert and watermelon." Hilda Liang said, "Ice cream sundaes and brownies." Samuel Cohen said, "Shake Shack and candy."

What would you do? What do you think, disaster or awesome? Maybe one day you will be the principal of a school. You just have to work hard to get it!

JOKES of the MONTH

By Alejandra Garcia

What is a tornado's favorite game to play?

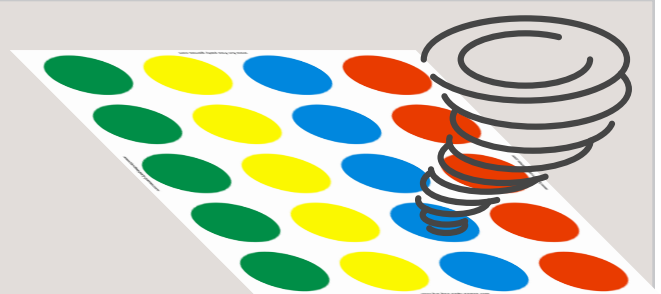
A: Twister.

What do you say to a mouse who tries to steal your cheese?

A: Hey! That's nacho cheese!

How did Benjamin Franklin feel when he harnessed lightning?

A: Shocked.



26.2 – Is it for you?

BY CARMEN ROSE LACOSTA KOLSRUD

Have you ever walked around the entire block where P.S. 11 is located? If so, you've walked one-half mile. Imagine walking around that block more than 52 times! That is the distance you would have to run to complete a marathon, which is 26.2 miles long!

On November 5, about 55,000 people completed the New York Marathon on a damp and drizzly day. Most people ran, some people walked, and some people were in wheelchairs. Isn't that amazing?! The marathon is a very long race, so before you run the marathon, you have to train by running a lot!

When Jeffrey Kolsrud was asked

about how he felt about running, he responded, "I love running, and when you get up there on the road, the spectators give you so much energy, and the runners feed off that!"

Jana Juhasova, a spectator, said, "My fiancé is running the marathon, and I can't wait to see his smile."

The marathon is a big deal for

everyone involved. Spectators get to see their family and friends running, and the runners get the feeling of happiness and relief and exhaustion! Imagine yourself running a marathon – 26.2 amazing miles! Everyone is a winner if they just believe it!

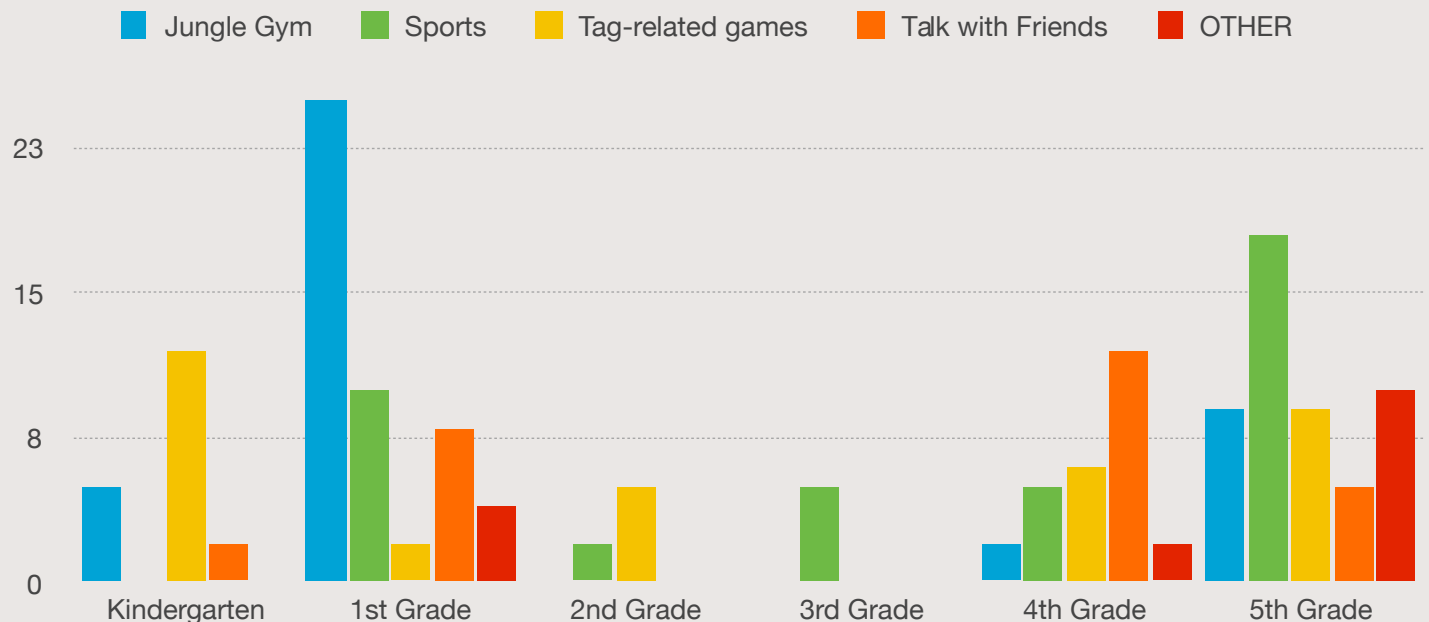


PHOTO BY ANASTASIA VATIS

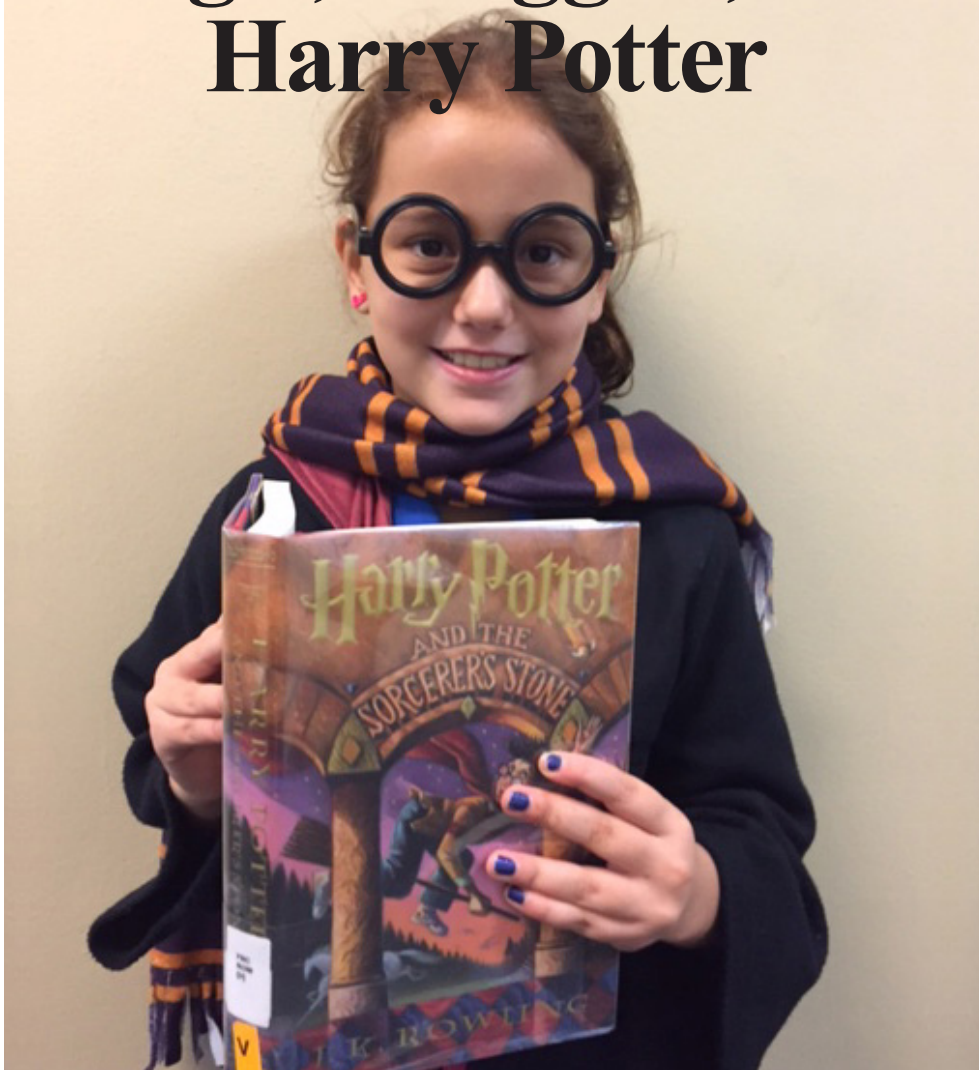
MONTHLY POLL:

What do you like to do for recess?

POLLSTERS: ALEJANDRA GARCIA, WILLIAM GOLDSMAN, KARINA GUPTA, LILA JENOVA DUPUY



Magic, Muggles, and Harry Potter



BY MEERA BANDREDDI

Harry Potter is among the most popular book and film series in the world. The adventurous, bespectacled wizard, Harry Potter, the knowledgeable witch, Hermione Granger, and the friendly, red-headed wizard, Ron Weasley, have become the most memorable characters FOREVER.

But why has this children's series become so popular, not just with children but with adults, too? Author J.K. Rowling has created a wonderful fantasy world of characters that so many people can relate to—right from children to adults. Starting in

1997 when the first book was published, Rowling has written a total of seven Harry Potter books, and eight films have been created based on these books. The children who read these books grew up with Harry and his friends (and enemies!) and are now sharing them with their younger siblings.

It's been known to happen that once someone starts reading the first book, they end up reading ALL the books because Rowling maintains suspense till the VERY LAST book. For example: Is Professor Snape a hero or a villain? Will Harry defeat Voldemort or not?

Some students and adults at P.S. 11 said their favorite book in the series was *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (#4) because they found the tasks in the competition between the three wizarding schools very exciting. The second most favorite book was *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows* (#7). And coming in third most popular was *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (#1).

While many readers may already know a lot about the books and their famed author, here are a few FUN FACTS you may not have known:

- More than 400 million copies have been sold worldwide.
- The books have been translated into 67 languages.
- Rowling is richer than the Queen of England. The author's net worth is estimated at \$1 billion, while the Queen's is estimated at \$500 million!
- She is the first author in literary history to earn a billion dollars.
- Universal Studios created a theme park in Orlando, FL called "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter" in the summer of 2014.

Some might argue that the MOST exciting fact of them all is that the Harry Potter series is NOT OVER YET! Rowling has hinted that she may write about an American school of witchcraft and wizardry.

Everyone agrees that the British-based series is very popular and loved. But if Rowling were to actually release an American-based book—especially if it took place in New York City—it would likely be universally loved as well. Everyone says they hope she writes such a book. EXPECTO PATRONUM!!!!