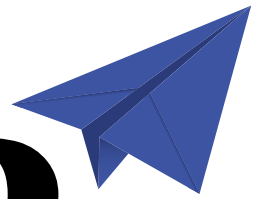


# PST11 PAPER



## Look Up At Our Building: Who Was William T. Harris??

BY LUCY FARLEY

Have you heard of William T. Harris before and do you know why our school was named after him? Have you even thought about him at all? Chances are, probably not. But he must have been a very important person who did great things to get his name on the P.S. 11 building. So, what made him great?

According to StateUniversity.com, he began his career in 1857 as an elementary school teacher in St. Louis and moved through the ranks to eventually become superintendent in 1868. He was also a philosopher who believed in free public school, and he “worked to universalize public education across class, gender, and racial lines.” He worked to universalize public education so EVERYONE could go— it didn’t matter your class or gender or race—because to Harris, the school was fundamentally a child-saving agency. He ultimately served under FOUR different presidents as the U.S. Commissioner of Education for nearly two decades.

Annabel Wyeth, a third grader at P.S. 11, is like most of her fellow students (940 currently enrolled, according to Parent Coordinator, Stephen McGill) and says she’s never heard of William T. Harris before.

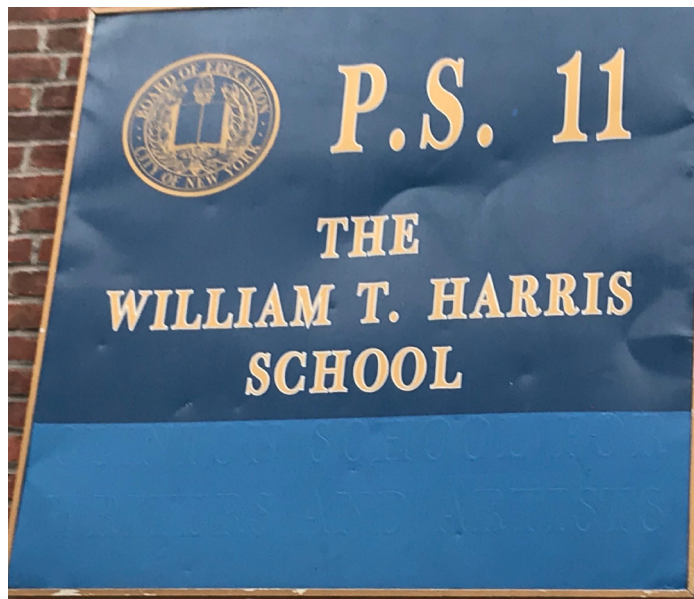


PHOTO BY NANDINI BAINS

However, every time she visits the school website, she notices that it always says P.S. 11 THE WILLIAM T. HARRIS SCHOOL at the top of the page. Until now, she has never thought AT ALL about who he was.

Lesley Doyel, former P.S. 11 parent and current Hands on History after-school teacher for the last 8 years, says she is proud to teach her students about Mr. Harris because he was so dedicated to education for everyone. “I think we could certainly use many more people of vision in the present day,” Doyel says. “I cringe when I think of the current U.S. Secretary of Education [Betsy DeVos] who does

not actually know anything about or support public school education.”

Doyel also mentioned some interesting rules (according to Chalkbeat.com) for naming a school building. “You can’t name it after someone who’s still alive,” she says, “and if your school is already named after someone, and you decide to change it, you have to tell

their relatives first. Once a school is given a new name, it usually cannot be changed for 10 years.”

Do you enjoy visiting our school’s library? You can thank Mr. Harris because he made libraries a regular feature in school buildings. He also worked to expand foreign language education and he was really outspoken on the importance of self-education.

You might still be wondering what the “T” stands for, and is he still alive? The “T” stands for “Torrey,” and Mr. Harris has been dead for more than 100 years. He was born in 1835 and died at age 74 in 1909.



PHOTOS BY NATE APPELBAUM

# Building Walls and Breaking Them Down

AVA ROSENBERG

P.S. 11 Architecture Night took place on April 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. This year, the theme was about building walls. The students gathered to listen to three volunteer architects who explained the evening's events. The instructions were to (1) draw a blueprint of your wall plan, (2) pick a location on the red tape, defined by the instructors, and

(3) use the cardboard boxes and tape to create your design.

It was completely crazy when the students began, and continued as the walls grew. Each wall was unique. Some were really tall and some, kind of small. The students took their time to think about the structure and then built, built, built.

One team was asked, "What is the

goal of your wall?" Their response was, "To make it tall! We used tall people and a good base."

Another team was asked, "What is your favorite part of architecture night?" One student said, "To make creations and build."

After the architects said time was up, all the kids went wild and started to break down the walls by punching and kicking the boxes and creating chaos. Immediately, Principal Bender stopped the students from this fun activity because they could hurt themselves. Some kids still wanted to take photos and take their walls home.

All in all, it was a fun and exciting night of building and breaking down walls. Last year's theme was about building bridges. We look forward to next year and wonder what the theme will be.

**PS11 PAPER**

## MASTHEAD

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# What is Prodigy?

BY LEAH HODOROV

Prodigy is a math game. But why did Prodigy get chosen at P.S. 11? Was it randomly picked from a hat? Or was it neck and neck and it won by 1 vote? Wait, what, exactly, is Prodigy?

Most second graders play it because most teachers want their students to do math at home, but they don't want to force their kids to do math in a way that they don't enjoy. The answer was to find a game like Prodigy.

This is how it works. Everyone gets

some kids who graduated elementary school and still play and love Prodigy. The thing is, you get this username and password in second grade only once, so you CAN'T lose it. If you don't lose the password, you can log onto different devices and keep the same progress.

This is how you play. First, you make an avatar and you stay with this avatar throughout the game. This is your avatar. Then, you meet a game guide who helps you learn all the basics. One of the things that he tells you is that there is a hand, and if you ever get lost, you touch this hand and you will go where you need to go.

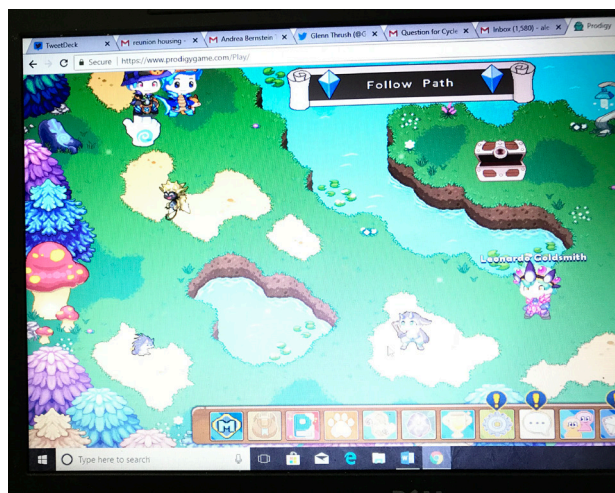


PHOTO BY NATE APPELBAUM

a username and password on a slip of paper, then they get to go home and play. Playing is optional, but a lot of kids LOVE it. There are even

needs. So, next time you want to play a video game, why not play Prodigy so you can have fun AND learn some math!



PHOTO BY AMAIRA CHAMADIA

## A PEEK AT MR. BENDER

BY ELI KAPLAN

April 17, 2018  
11:00 a.m.

### What are you doing?

Mr. Bender: I'm meeting with the school's new kindergartners.

### Why?

Mr. Bender: To get to know them and their families and to welcome them to the school. There are over 150 kindergartners who will take 5 days to meet!



PHOTO BY NATE APPELBAUM

## JOKES of the MONTH

BY RUBY LAHANA

Why was March never clean?

**A: Because April got all the showers!**

How do itches bake their cakes?

**A: From scratch.**

Why did the spaceship miss the moon?

**A: He didn't planet very well!**

PHOTO BY NATE APPELBAUM



# 11 Questions with... Cinderella

## 1. How do the characters get picked?

Ms. Golub and Ms. Wurman and Ms. Sarah had us all come to workshops in 4th Grade and made us sing a bunch of songs. I don't know how they picked, really, but they had all of us try out for every single part. And they asked, "Can you sing this part by yourself?" That's pretty much how they picked.

## 2. Was it challenging?

It wasn't that challenging when I was singing with other people. But when I was singing just by myself, it was kind of hard because I didn't want to sing by myself and I didn't think I was going to get Cinderella. I thought I was going to get a Townsperson.

## 3. Did you have stage fright?

I thought I'd forget everything, but I didn't. I was really scared when I was off the stage. But when I was on stage, I just remembered it all and it was really easy.

## 4. What did you like about it?

I liked being famous, like when kindergartners would say, "I touched Cinderella's hand!" It was cute, but then after three weeks, I was kind of bored of it. It was fun to memorize it and it was fun to play the part.



PHOTO BY AZALEA TORRES

## 5. What was your favorite part about the show?

My favorite part about the show was the part where I got to put on the big poofy dress because I'd never put on a ball dress before. That was just awesome.

## 6. What was your favorite song?

"Impossible!" because that's where I got to do a duet with Ariadne, the Godmother. And that was really fun because I got to act it out a lot.

## 7. What character would you have wanted if you didn't get Cinderella?

I would have wanted the Queen, because the Queen doesn't have

that many lines to memorize, but you still get to sing a song.

## 8. Did you feel like a celebrity at P.S. 11?

Not a celebrity, but I felt like people knew me. I didn't come into P.S. 11 in Pre-K. I came in during 2nd grade, so I feel like Ms. Golub didn't even know me. But then she saw me and recognized me, and I feel like the teachers know me better now.

## 9. Was it hard to prepare?

For first three weeks—and this is kind of a secret—I didn't memorize anything. I just went home and I watched TV. But then, the three weeks before the show, Ms. Sarah came back and I had to start doing it, otherwise, I was

going to get in big trouble, and it was easy to memorize it after I started trying. But when I wasn't trying, and I was just reading it, it was kind of hard to memorize.

## 10. Were the teachers strict?

When we were singing and actually remembering it, all the teachers were really encouraging. But when we didn't, they wondered why we didn't memorize it.

## 11. If you were to do it again, what would you do differently?

On the Saturday show, I messed up a line, so I might have wanted to practice that more.

BY TEDDY KENNEL

## MOVIE REVIEW

# A Wrinkle in Time

BY ASTRID MULKERNS CARBIN

This is a movie based on a book by Madeleine L'Engle. The story follows a family whose dad has disappeared, and involves a girl, called Meg, who was getting bullied. Charles Wallace, Meg's brother, introduces three supernatural beings into the world—Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who, and Mrs. Which. They have come to the children's house to find the kids' dad who might be still alive. Is it true? Can they find him at the end?

As they set out to find the dad, the brother, Charles Wallace (whom they adopted when he was a baby) becomes controlled by IT, a darkness that has begun taking over everywhere. The children then start traveling all over time and space in search of their dad. Each time they find a clue, the darkness gets closer to destroying them and they have to move to a different place.

Along the way, Meg finds herself trusting more people and opening up until she finds herself again. This is really what the story is about.

The things I liked about the movie were: There was lots of adventure. One example is that they were tesseracting through space to different dimensions. Tes-

sering, Meg learns, is traveling in the fifth dimension. (The first dimension is a line. The second dimension is a square. The third is a cube, and the fourth is Einstein's concept of time.) The fifth dimension is a tesseract.

But there are some improvements that I would want in the movie. I would want more scenes from the book to go into the movie. For example, in the book, they tesser to the wrong place and then have to get their brother back.

The movie is rated PG. The rating on RottenTomatoes.com was not the best. It only got two stars, which I disagree with. I would give it four because I loved it, but I wish it just had some more of the book parts.

This movie takes you on a fun but dangerous journey in which the characters search to try to find the answer and to fight the darkness. This movie is fun and exciting with lots of adventure and I recommend it because I loved it.

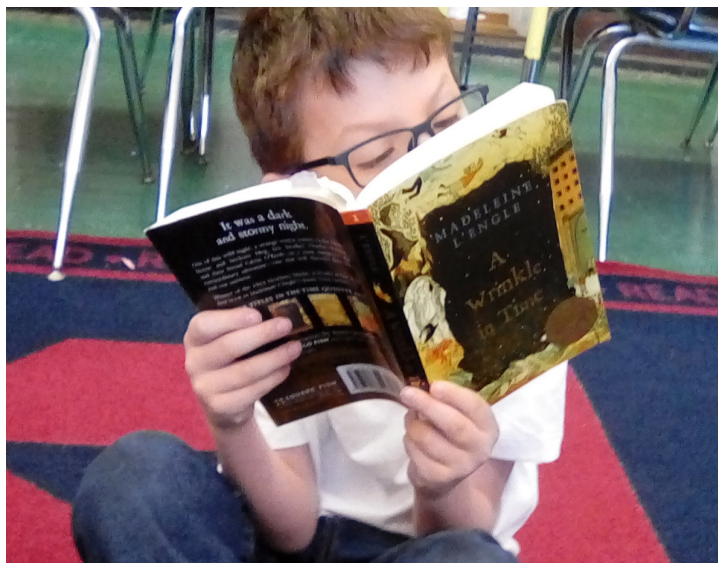


PHOTO BY NANDINI BAINS



PHOTOS BY NATE APPELBAUM

## Life when Our Parents were Kids Vs. Our Lives Now

BY AVAAN CHAMADIA

Did you ever wonder how your parents survived without a cell phone? Maybe your kids will have flying cars or vacation on Mars! My dad said he always listened to music on his Walkman and used an archaic cassette tape. He even got nostalgic about making a "mix tape!" (That's like a playlist, but you had to record each song by hand on a tape recorder.) My mom had never seen a vending machine until she was an adult.

I can't believe our parents did not have laptops or iPads or cellphones or cable TV growing up. They couldn't stream movies on Netflix and had to go to a movie theater to see the latest films or wait until it came out on video. How on Earth did they learn

*continued on next page*

*Kids vs. Parents continued*

about stuff without Google? "We researched stuff in the library and used books called encyclopedias," said my dad. That not only sounds inefficient but also like a complete waste of time! No microwaves to heat up food, no Minecraft, no Uber, no food delivery...it really sounds like they had no fun at all!

Sometimes, I look into the future and wonder if our kids will have a better life than we do. It would be so awesome if we could fly our cars to work instead of being stuck in traffic. I would be all for a robot butler to do all my chores! People would live much longer, take a vacation-rocket to a different planet, and maybe even teleport themselves to school!

What worries me the most, though, is, the way we are treating our planet like a giant dumpster and depleting all our natural resources, we may not have much of a future to offer the next generation.

So, before we look towards building flying cars and underground cities, let's see how we can stop polluting the environment, destroying our forests and draining all our natural resources. Maybe inventing a time machine may not be such a bad idea. We could go into the past and fix all our mistakes!

# P.S. 11 Students Showcase Their Art in Chelsea Gallery

BY AZALEA TORRES

The Young Artist Program (YAP) is a program available to students in 1st - 5th grade at P.S. 11. This semester, 128 kids participated in 16 different classes that were taught by parent volunteers. Some of the classes were: Graffiti, Quilt Making, The Art of Collaging, and Lotus Girls. It went on for 8 weeks, and in the end, they all showed off their work at the Young Artist Gallery.

The gallery was 326 Gallery. The school got to use the gallery because the space is owned by a friend of a P.S. 11 family. Nancy, an organizer for YAP, explained, "The entrance

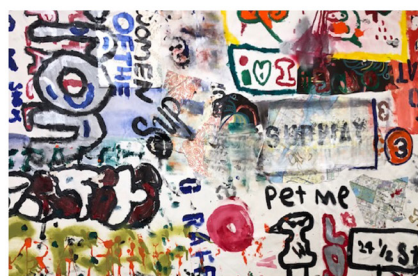
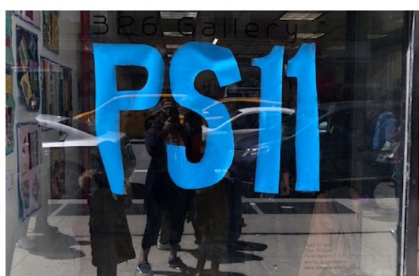
had big glass windows so you can see the art from the street, which was really cool."

Kelly Collamore, a teacher/parent said, "In the back, there was a separate room that had a big white tent that you could go into. And inside were mobiles hanging from the ceiling made by the students in the Magical Garden class."

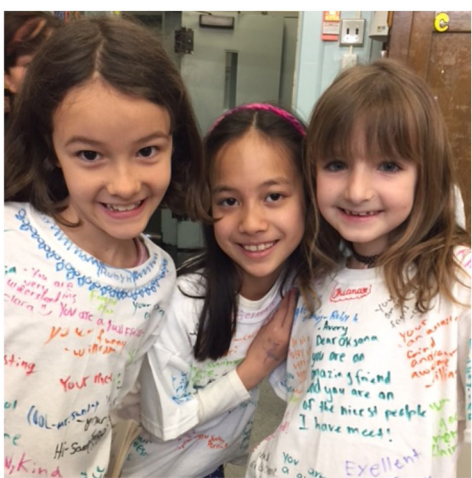
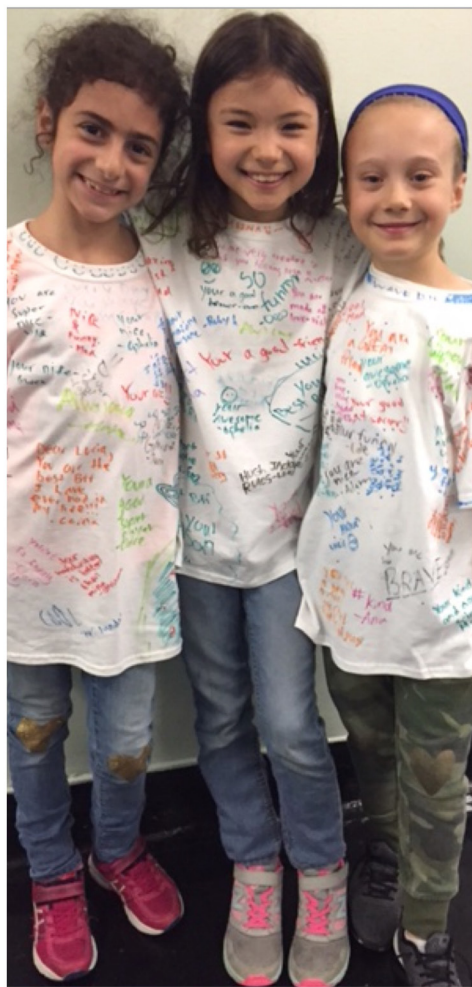
Nancy, the organizer, said the best part about being part of the program was the gallery show. About 400 people attended the show! Jenny Sheffer Stevens, another P.S. 11 parent and volunteer art teacher, reported,

"The whole gallery event is so much fun! I love seeing the amazing work from all the classes. There's such a wide variety of art forms represented in YAP. The teachers and students are incredibly creative. And getting to show the work in a real Chelsea art gallery is very cool."

Sadarshan Bains, a third grader who was in the Art of Collage class, says he enjoyed seeing other people's work because he got to see what other people were doing in their classes. It sounds like parents and students agree that YAP was a huge success this year!



PHOTOS BY AMAIRA CHAMADIA



PHOTOS BY AMAIRA CHAMADIA

# K & G Compliments

BY JORDANA WEISS

Compliment Day was Friday, April 27. The Amazing P.S. 11 PTA provided white T-shirts for every student and fabric markers so that kids could write compliments on each other's shirts.

How do students feel when they receive compliments? Kindergartner, Annabelle, proclaimed that she feels "good" about it. Rae, another kindergartner, said compliments make her "happy."

What can we do to make other people feel good? Rae said, "We can write kind things on other people's shirts," and, "When somebody is sad at recess, you can play with them." Annabelle said, "if someone falls or gets hurt, then you can help them up."

Compliment Day is one of the best and most fun days of the school year and everybody loves it!

# Feelin' Good!

BY MAYA SANZEL

Wow! I sure am Feelin' Good! After the 2nd-grade show. Though, who wouldn't be? The 2nd graders showed how you have to take responsibility for your actions to help you feel good. Read on to learn more!

Fifth grader, Seth, explained that his favorite part of the show was the song about how eating healthfully is important. Third grader, Adam, said that his favorite part was "Let's Dance." Parent attendee, Laura Sanzel, said, "I liked the show!"

The 2nd graders sang about how playing, dancing, eating healthy, finding your talent, visiting doctors, going to the dentist, bathing and sleeping can help you feel good! Ms. Sarah said, "They worked incredibly hard during rehearsals and at home." Second grader, Jordana, said, "It was very fun to perform."

Parents, students and teachers alike were happy with the show and were definitely Feelin' Good!



PHOTO BY SADARSHAN BAINS